


Council OPEN Meeting

Schedule	Friday 28 January 2022, 8:30 — 10:30 AEDT
Venue	Morning Room, Booloominbah & Zoom Video Conference
Organiser	Pamela Neil

Agenda

1. MEETING OPENING	1
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1.1. * Reconciliation Action Plan - Acknowledgement of Country	2
<p>The University of New England respects and acknowledges that its people, courses and facilities are built on land, and surrounded by a sense of belonging, both ancient and contemporary, of the world's oldest living culture. In doing so, UNE values and respects Indigenous knowledge systems as a vital part of the knowledge capital of Australia. We recognise the strength, resilience and capacity of the Aboriginal community and pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future.</p> <p>Presented by James Harris and Joe Fraser</p>	
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1.2. * Apologies	3
<p>Presented by James Harris</p>	
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1.3. * Conflict of Interest Declaration and Disclosed Register of Interest	4
<p>Council members are asked to disclose any material interest, consistent with Schedule 2A Clause 5 of the University of New England 1993 Act (NSW).</p> <p>Council members are asked to update their Disclosed Register of Interest with the Secretariat as required.</p> <p>Presented by James Harris</p>	
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1.4. * Order of Business	6
<p>Council is asked to ACCEPT the order of business and ADOPT non-starred items.</p>	

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Presented by James Harris and Simon Evans	

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2.1. Confirmation of Minutes	9
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Minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2021 were approved as a true and correct record via email on 25 January 2022

A signed copy of the minutes is available for viewing in the Convene Document Library.

Presented by James Harris

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Presented by James Harris	

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Council is asked to NOTE the Chancellor's report OPEN to Council, report #22055.

For Noting - Presented by James Harris

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The Vice-Chancellor will provide an update via a presentation at the meeting.

Council is asked to NOTE the Vice-Chancellor & CEO's report to Council, report #22061

For Noting - Presented by Brigid Heywood

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<p>Council is asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. APPROVE amendments to the Terms of Reference (Council Approved) – Research Committee; 2. NOTE the appointment of Deputy Chair, Associate Professor Robyn Cox, as Acting Chair of Academic Board from 13 December 2021 to 26 January 2022 pursuant to cl 42 of the Terms of Reference (Council Approved) – Academic Board; 3. NOTE the 2022 Academic Board and Committee meeting dates as approved 06 December 2021; and 4. NOTE the Chair of Academic Board's report to Council, report #22001. <p>For Noting - Presented by Robyn Bartel</p>	
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<p>Council is asked to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NOTE the report on Council Policies, report #22067; 2. APPROVE the following policies: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Proposed Delegations Guidelines ii. Proposed Governance Framework Rule iii. Governance Integrity and Standards Policy iv. Code of Conduct 	

v. Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom Statement
vi Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom Guidelines
For Approval - Presented by Gabrielle Price

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6.2. * Council Induction Update #22079 198

Council is asked to NOTE the update to the Council Induction, report #22079.

For Noting - Presented by Gabrielle Price

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Presented by James Harris

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The next Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 31 March 2022.

Presented by James Harris

1. MEETING OPENING

1.1. * Reconciliation Action Plan - Acknowledgement of Country

The University of New England respects and acknowledges that its people, courses and facilities are built on land, and surrounded by a sense of belonging, both ancient and contemporary, of the world's oldest living culture. In doing so, UNE values and respects Indigenous knowledge systems as a vital part of the knowledge capital of Australia. We recognise the strength, resilience and capacity of the Aboriginal community and pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future.

Presented by James Harris and Joe Fraser

1.2. * Apologies

Presented by James Harris

1.3. * Conflict of Interest Declaration and Disclosed Register of Interest

Council members are asked to disclose any material interest, consistent with Schedule 2A Clause 5 of the University of New England 1993 Act (NSW).

Council members are asked to update their Disclosed Register of Interest with the Secretariat as required.

Presented by James Harris

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

Council members are asked to disclose any material interest, consistent with Schedule 2A Clause 5 of the [University of New England Act 1993 \(NSW\)](#).

5 Disclosure of material interests by Council members

(1) If:

(a) a member of the Council has a material interest in a matter being considered or about to be considered at a meeting of the Council, and

(b) the interest appears to raise a conflict with the proper performance of the member's duties in relation to the consideration of the matter, the member must, as soon as possible after the relevant facts have come to the member's knowledge, disclose the nature of the interest at a meeting of the Council.

(2) A disclosure by a member of the Council at a meeting of the Council that the member:

(a) is a member, or is in the employment, of a specified company or other body, or

(b) is a partner, or is in the employment, of a specified person, or

(c) has some other specified interest relating to a specified company or other body or to a specified person,

is a sufficient disclosure of the nature of the interest in any matter relating to that company or other body or to that person which may arise after the date of the disclosure and which is required to be disclosed under subclause (1).

Council Members should also regularly disclose to the University Secretary (via the Secretariat secretariat@une.edu.au) any additions or changes to their Register of Interests statement.

Keeping this "Register of Interests" statement up to date, includes providing details of changes to:

- Subsidiaries of the University of New England of which you or a close family member is a member of the key management personnel.
- All other entities of which you or a close family member is a Director or Board member (or equivalent) and that entity has, or there is a reasonable probability it may have, a material dealing involving or affecting the University or its controlled entities.
- Employment of you or a close family member by the University or a subsidiary of the University, including consultancies or other income for services rendered, during this financial year.
- Ministerial appointment of you or a close family member to statutory bodies.
- Material Business ownerships or part ownerships by you or a close family member, where a business has, or has a prospect of having, transactions with the University or a subsidiary of the University.
- Material Shareholdings in public and private companies by you or a close family member, where a company has, or has a prospect of having, transactions with the University or a subsidiary of the University.
- Any other transactions undertaken by you or a close family member, with the University or any of its subsidiaries during the financial year.
- Gifts, sponsored travel or hospitality received by you in the course of undertaking the duties of a Council member or Senior Executive that are received from a company, business or other entity undertaking transactions with the University or a subsidiary.
- Any other material interest where a conflict of interest or an appearance of conflict of interest with your duties as a Council member / Senior Executive could foreseeably arise.



1.4. * Order of Business

Council is asked to **ACCEPT** the order of business and **ADOPT** non-starred items.

For Approval

Presented by James Harris

1.5. Introduction: DVC Simon Evans

Presented by James Harris and Simon Evans

2. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2.1. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2021 were approved as a true and correct record via email on 25 January 2022

A signed copy of the minutes is available for viewing in the Convene Document Library.

Presented by James Harris

2.2. * Action Items

Presented by James Harris



Action items arising from
Council OPEN Meeting
Friday 28 January 2022, 8:30 — 10:30 AEDT

Agenda	Action	Due Date	Assigned To	Status
2.2. * Action Items	<p>3.2 Vice-Chancellor & CEO's Report #21051 Anthony Smith, Executive Principal Brand, Partnerships and Business Development and Shelley Kinash, Executive Principal, Student Experience to provide a report on student retention to Council on 28 January 2021 including to consider opportunities for process changes to enable future students marketing teams and student experience to work in parallel for improved experience for students and conversion from offers to enrollment.</p> <p>Response provided by Anthony Smith in slide pack titled, Prospective Student Conversion - Attachment 6 of VC & CEO Confidential Report #22025</p>	28 Jan 2022	Anthony Smith, Shelley Kinash, Elizabeth Taylor, Lisa Burr	Outstanding
2.2. * Action Items	<p>5.2 WHS Due Diligence Obligations #21081 Chief Operating Officer to include in the next report detail of those hazards which might fall into the 'other' category.</p> <p>Details of those hazards which might fall into the 'other' category have been included in the Due Diligence WHS report #22073 in the list 'Hazard by Type' for the Council meeting on</p>	28 Jan 2022	Peter Creamer, Tracey Lye, Elizabeth Taylor, Lisa Burr	Completed

Agenda	Action	Due Date	Assigned To	Status
	28 January 2022			

3. CHANCELLOR'S REPORT

3.1. * Chancellor's Report OPEN to Council #22055

Council is asked to NOTE the Chancellor's report OPEN to Council, report #22055.

For Noting

Presented by James Harris

Authority	COUNCIL OPEN	Date	28 January 2022
Report Ref	#22055	Item No	3.1
Proposer	Mr James Harris, UNE Chancellor		
Developed with	Specialist, Governance Liaison		
Authorised by	Mr James Harris, UNE Chancellor		

#22055 – Chancellor’s Report to Council

Report Purpose & Origin

Purpose	To provide Council with the Chancellor’s Report for the January 2022 Open Council Meeting.
Origin	Standing item
Governance focus	Council Policy : Providing strategic leadership to the University. TEQSA Act 2011 Ref: 6. Governance and Accountability: 6.1.3a (Corporate Governance).
Accountability	UNE Council

Resolution

Council is asked to NOTE the Chancellor’s report to Council, report #22055.

Executive Summary

This report provides an update on the following:

- UNE Life awards ceremony;
- 2022 Research Block Allocations & Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC) 2020 Research Income;
- External review of Council;
- Update on Council Member vacancy;
- Council Member professional development;
- 2022 Council meetings & proposed schedule of Council activities; and
- Summary of Chancellor’s activities – November 2021 to January 2022.

<i>Authority</i>	COUNCIL OPEN	<i>Date</i>	28 January 2022
<i>Report title</i>	Chancellor's Report to Council	<i>Report Ref</i>	#22055

Key Information

UNE Life Award Ceremony

The evening prior to the November Council meeting, I attended an award ceremony hosted by the Vice-Chancellor to thank UNE Life staff and volunteers for their service to the University and New England community through support of the UNE Life COVID-19 vaccination clinics.

At the ceremony, over 50 UNE Life staff and volunteers were presented with a Vice-Chancellor's Service Award in recognition of the role they played in protecting the greater New England region.

It was an honour to be invited to address attendees and express thanks and gratitude on behalf of the Council. I take this opportunity to also thank the Vice-Chancellor for arranging such a wonderful, heart-warming event; it was a thoroughly enjoyable way to end the year, and I was pleased that Council members were able to attend in person and experience the passion that our staff have not only for our University but for our local communities.



Image: UNE Life award recipients – photo: Matt Cawood, UNE Corporate Communications

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<i>Report title</i>	Chancellor's Report to Council	<i>Report Ref</i>	#22055

2022 Research Block Allocations & Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC) 2020 Research Income

The Vice-Chancellor prepared a briefing note for Council Members in late December to advised that the 2022 Research Block allocation had been announced which provided a very positive message for UNE Research and Researchers.

She notes that UNE performed well, exceeding our own more conservative estimates. When UNE data are processed with Australian HE Sector research income summaries for 2019 and 2020 (the latest two HERDC reporting years used to calculate the 2022 RBG allocations), there is a clear improvement in UNE performance, most notably in relation to total Category 1 competitive research income.

UNE has moved up five ranking places from position 22 and is now placed at position 17 in absolute terms. When these data are adjusted for relative size of institution, UNE has moved from position 11 to position 9, jumping above ANU. This is a great result and UNE our staff are to be warmly congratulated for achieving this result under such challenging circumstances.

The full briefing note is available in the *Council Only Reference Material* folder in Convene.

External review of Council

As reported in November, the external review process is close to completion and will be finalised in January with recommendations considered and adopted as appropriate. The next review will be conducted in 2024.

Update on Council Member vacancy

The Nominations Committee has considered applications received for the Council Member vacancy, and will provide recommendations to the Council for consideration. It is anticipated a new Council Member will be confirmed at the January meeting, with a formal announcement made to the University community soon after.

Council Member professional development

The Australian Institute of Company Directors have not yet confirmed the new dates for the *Foundations of Governance* course, however advise that additional courses will be scheduled to make up for the cancellations in 2021. As AICD's governance instructors are located in Brisbane, there have been issues with accessing training due to border closures and other requirements due to COVID-19. My office will ensure new Council Members are enrolled as soon as the new dates are confirmed.

If you have suggestions for alternative professional development activities, please send these to my office via chancellor@une.edu.au for consideration.

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2022 Council meetings & proposed schedule of activities

Whilst we hope that meetings can recommence in person for 2022, we acknowledge that some Council members may prefer to join via Zoom given individual circumstances and so we will remain flexible in terms of virtual attendance.

Consistent with feedback from the external review, Attachment 1 provides a proposed schedule of activities that will precede and follow every Council meeting for the remainder of 2022.

We will be holding meetings in Sydney and Tamworth, and potentially Taree or Moore later in the year, again taking into consideration COVID-19 and other unforeseen circumstances that may develop as the year progresses.

Please note this document is subject to change pending Council member feedback, COVID-19 and other factors, however Council is asked to note that events will be held prior to and following every Council meeting. A significant amount of organisation and energy goes into the planning of these events by staff and students from across the University; I encourage you to attend and factor these events in to your travel plans for 2022. Once events are confirmed a diary placeholder will be sent to assist with planning.

If Council members have any suggestions for activities or events they would like to participate in or experience, please send these to my office via chancellor@une.edu.au so that they can be incorporated throughout the year.

A final version of the proposed schedule of activities will be finalised following feedback and circulated to Council members in early February.

Summary of Chancellor's activities – November 2021 to January 2022

In addition to my regular meetings with the Vice-Chancellor, I have attended the following meetings and events since the November meeting:

- On 25 November I attended the UNE Life award ceremony to acknowledge and thank UNE Life staff and volunteers for their service to the University and New England community through support of the UNE Life COVID-19 vaccination clinics.
- On 1 December I attended the official opening of NOVA, the new home of the UNE Smart Regional Incubator (SRI) which is now located at the Old Armidale Library building.
- On 10 December I met with the Chair of Academic Board for a wrap up of 2021; we agreed to meet regularly in 2022.
- On 11 January I met with Mr Ewan Evans, Director Education Quality, who will soon be leaving the University.
- In January I also met with candidates as part of the process to fill the current Council Member vacancy.

I remain hopeful that I will be able to once again attend meetings and events in person in 2022, including several that are expected to be rescheduled due to COVID-19.



<i>Authority</i>	COUNCIL OPEN	<i>Date</i>	28 January 2022
<i>Report title</i>	Chancellor's Report to Council	<i>Report Ref</i>	#22055

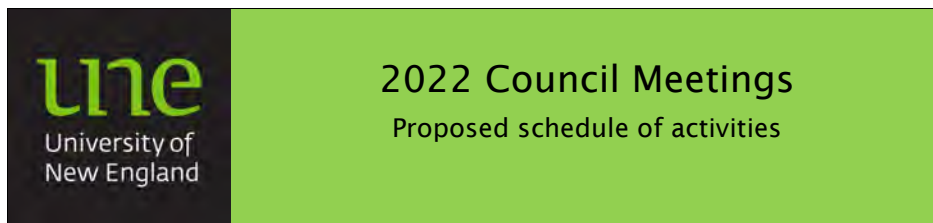
Future Fit Alignment

- Goal 1: Crafting, adapting and supporting learning journeys that are distinctive in their accessibility and flexibility.
- Goal 2: Creating and sharing knowledge to make a difference locally, regionally and globally.
- Goal 3: Committing to environmental, social and financial resilience for the University, our staff, our students and our communities.

Appendices / Supporting Documentation

- Attachment 1 – 2022 Council meetings – proposed schedule of activities

Attachment 1 – 2022 Council meetings – proposed schedule of activities



Meeting / Theme	Location	Activities	Notes
28 January 2022	Zoom and Armidale campus	None – informal lunch provided for on campus attendees.	Light meeting so no activities planned
31 March 2022 <i>Academic</i> Financial Statements	Armidale campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lunch with Armidale based students, informal location – include SCC <p>Activities/tour following meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital+ demo of LMS, upcoming projects Tours held over from June 2021 Retreat Tour of storm damage – update of works, buildings that are being demolished 	
28-30 April 2022 Committees & Graduation	Armidale campus	<p>Graduation ceremonies</p> <p>29 April – SABL</p> <p>30 April – HASSE & MH</p>	Attendance in person encouraged
27 May 2022 <i>Places & Spaces</i>	Tamworth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cocktail event with Tamworth stakeholders evening prior Lunch with local students and centre staff/SRI <p>Activities/tour following meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tour of Velodrome site – make good works on site and/or design presentation 	
30 June 2022 Retreat	Parramatta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dinner/alumni function evening prior Lunch with Sydney based students <p>Activities/tour following meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tour of new centre? Rob Field's team in occupation but no building works at this point Tour of NRL Centre – via Rob Field or Dave Schmude 	<p>Facilitator required? If yes, to be organised in March</p> <p>Chancellor suggestion: intensive session re Academic Board, Education Quality, TEQSA</p>

Commented [AO1]: From Mike Wilmore: Steve Warburton could identify some exemplars of units that have had LMS redevelopment over the past few years [demo before and after]. Ideally, these should be units that have had improved student outcomes so Council can understand how improved learning design is put into action via the LMS. This will help them understand why investment in a new LMS and large-scale uplift of units is essential.

2022 Council Meetings

Proposed schedule of activities

29 July 2022 <i>People & Culture</i>	Armidale campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cocktail event with local stakeholders (ARC, local Councils, SRI, key gov & industry contacts, etc) evening prior Lunch with staff - SLT to nominate staff from each directorate/business unit to participate <p>Activities/tour following meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demo work commenced and Deer Park remediation completed (weather dependant) Campus Master Plan presentation Boilerhouse inspection (construction site) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workforce plan Lunch in an informal location
25-27 August 2022 Committees & Graduation	Armidale campus	<p>Graduation ceremonies</p> <p>26 August - HASSE & MH</p> <p>27 August - SABL</p>	Attendance in person encouraged
30 September 2022 <i>Operations</i>	Moree or Taree TBC Depends on what is happening in Moree/Taree come Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lunch with key stakeholders - industry, local connections, etc <p>Activities following meeting:</p> <p>If Moree:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Miron/Naomi Nielsen to provide presentation/update 	
30 November 2022 <i>Sustainability</i>	Armidale campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> End of year dinner evening prior Lunch with staff & students involved in sustainability projects <p>Activities/tour following meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lake Zot Solar Farm Demo works SIM lab Boilerhouse - construction site Campus Master Plan tour/presentation 	

Commented [AO2]: From Mike Wilmore:
We should highlight how Time for Change is leading to changes to teams that support critical functions, e.g. Admissions, CAM, etc.

2022 Council Meetings

Proposed schedule of activities

8-10 December 2022 Committees & Graduation	Armidale campus	Graduation ceremonies 8 December – SABL 9 December – HASSE 10 December – MH	Attendance in person encouraged
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4. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

4.1. * Vice-Chancellor & CEO's Report #22061

The Vice-Chancellor will provide an update via a presentation at the meeting.

Council is asked to NOTE the Vice-Chancellor & CEO's report to Council, report #22061

For Noting

Presented by Brigid Heywood



Authority	COUNCIL OPEN	Date	28 January 2022
Report Ref	#22061	Item No	4.1
Proposer	Professor Brigid Heywood, Vice-Chancellor and CEO		
Developed with	Chief of Staff, Office of Strategy Management (OSM)		
Authorised by	Mr James Harris, UNE Chancellor		

#22061 – Vice-Chancellor and CEO’s Report

Report Purpose & Origin

Purpose	To provide the Council’s open session with an update regarding the performance, management and operations of the University.
Origin	Standing item
Governance focus	Council Policy : Monitor the performance of the University and Vice-Chancellor/CEO. TEQSA Act 2011 Ref: 6. Governance and Accountability: 6.2.1 (Corporate Monitoring and Accountability).
Accountability	UNE Council

Resolution

Council is asked to NOTE the Vice-Chancellor and CEO’s report to Council, report #22061.

Executive Summary

The Vice-Chancellor and CEO will present the attached slides at the OPEN session of Council.

Future Fit Alignment	Contribution of this initiative
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goal 1: Crafting, adapting and supporting learning journeys that are distinctive in their accessibility and flexibility.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goal 2: Creating and sharing knowledge to make a difference locally, regionally and globally.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Goal 3: Committing to environmental, social and financial resilience for the University, our staff, our students and our communities.	



<i>Authority</i>	COUNCIL OPEN	<i>Date</i>	28 January 2022
<i>Report title</i>	Vice-Chancellor and CEO's Report	<i>Report Ref</i>	#22061

Appendices / Supporting Documentation

Attachment 1: #22061 VC and CEO OPEN report Attachment One Presentation



Vice-Chancellor and CEO Open Report

January 2022



Acknowledgement of Country

The University of New England respects and acknowledges that its people, courses and facilities are built on land, and surrounded by a sense of belonging, both ancient and contemporary, of the world's oldest living culture. In doing so, UNE values and respects Indigenous knowledge systems as a vital part of the knowledge capital of Australia.

We recognise the strength, resilience and capacity of the Aboriginal community and pay our respects to the Elders past, present and future.



Pictured: **Warwick Keen** "Always was, always will be" 2008
Gifted by the artist to UNE in 2008

Topics

Agenda

General Updates

- Environmental Scan
- COVID update/Business Continuity
- Recovery from Supercell
- 2021 Budget pre-audit update.
- Ministerial Shifts and Portfolios/Local Elections ARC, TRC

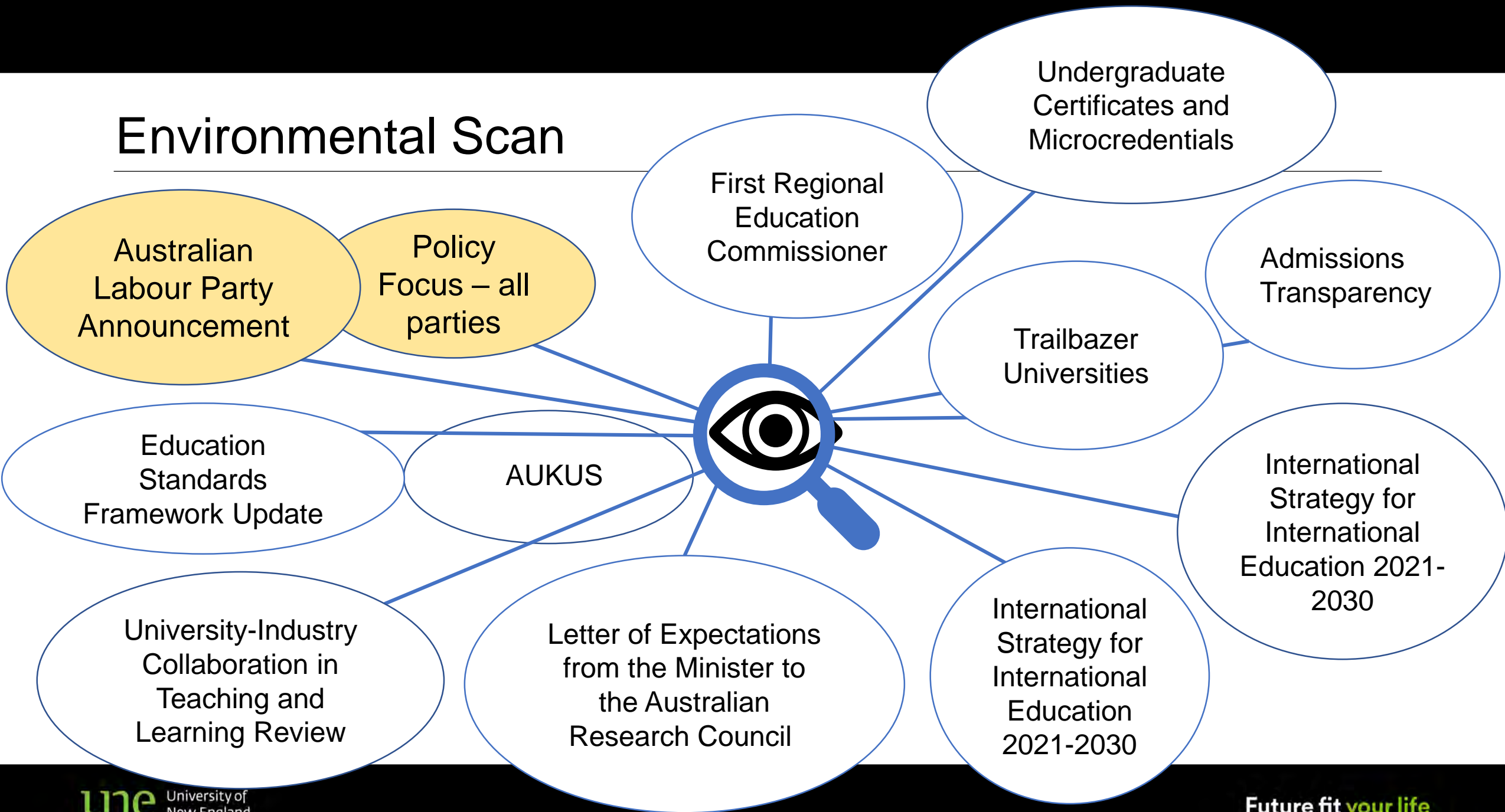
Sustainability Plus

- Student Load
- Recruitment
- Retention and Attrition 2021 update

People Plus

- Employment Matters
- Implementation of Academic Workload Model
- Promotions 2021

Environmental Scan



Update Supercell Event: 14-10-21

- On 10 December 2021, UNE was able to move back to business continuity, with the campus moving out of “red/green zones” to an impaired area that includes part of Ring Road, car parking around buildings E015, E016 and E017. The following buildings are also fully or partially impaired: C006, C008, C014, C015, C016, C018, C019, C037, E006, E007, E008, E015, E016, and E017.
- Testing via a qualified hygienist is currently being undertaken in the affected buildings due to the emergence of mould in some of these buildings. Access to the buildings (particularly E007) will be limited and monitored until this report is received.
- The Armidale Recovery Committee (lead by Resilience NSW and Armidale Regional Council) “agreed that the Committee will now only meet by exception on a need’s basis” at their final meeting on 7 December 2021.
- Alternative accommodation locations for staff and teaching/research impacted by the impaired buildings is progressing well.



Reinstating campus – a positive outcome from the supercell event

Estate and Built Environment (EBE) have been working with colleagues from the School of Environmental and Rural Sciences (ERS) to reinstate habitat on campus following the tornado that impacted hundreds of trees on site.

120 hollows will be installed across the campus in locations identified by ecologists from ERS. (Trees with green and pink markers are a part of the trial).

The locations have been selected to satisfy criteria that will inform future research in the use of artificial hollows, with the potential to be one of the more extensive studies in this field. These hollows will also provide an excellent teaching and learning resource for students, creating a living laboratory right here on campus.

At the end of 2021, 10 clusters had been created in both dead and living trees which will introduce a range of variables for research. In the tornado clean up, EBE preserved as much natural habitat as possible which will allow ecologists to compare the utilisation of natural versus artificial hollows. Studies have indicated that artificial hollows have a greater uptake than nesting boxes due to the greater protection they provide from predators and also the natural insulation from the tree.



UNE Storm Damage Overview

Supercell 83-2122 hit Armidale overnight on Thursday 14th October 2021. It cut a 40km path and a 4km wide swathe through rural, residential and educational domains in Armidale.



Damage to the Armidale Academic Campus:

17.6
Hectares impacted*

Campus area impacted

175,645.8
Square meters impacted



*area of Academic Campus 134 Hectares



Tree Damage:

250 require removal

150 of these are native

74 Koala habitat and food source trees require removal

70 will require habitat pruning



Business Impact:

Estimated considerable loss from lost productivity, building damage, business interruption and interruption to commercial activities:



25 buildings impacted (24% of buildings)

14 days emergency closure to all staff and students

472 staff displaced by building damage

2 weeks of intensive teaching cancelled or postponed

Green Zone/Red Zone strategy in place - damaged Red Zone still closed

Waste removed from Campus to January 2022:



700+ tonnes of green waste

28 tonnes of building waste

NOTE: detailed analysis of business impact pending

Vaccine Clinics

UNE will recommence the activity of making safe and vaccinating the community in 2022. This will begin with a mass "drop-in" paediatric clinic, for 5 to 11 years, on January 29th 30th at Sport UNE. UNE Life has partnered with the New England Division of General Practice, and with support from the Hunter New England, Central Coast, Primary Health Network, will again visit towns and cities throughout our region with both paed and booster vaccines, to lift vaccination across the state.

Interest in UNE delivering these clinics has spanned from Gunnedah, to Moree, and many smaller towns in between which is a testament to the confidence that our region has in our University to deliver these clinics, and connect with our communities.

There will also be a drop-in clinic for a Pfizer Booster at the UNE Medical Centre, 110 Butler Street Armidale, on Saturday February 5th which will follow the same format of other successful clinics.



Vaccine Clinics – Resourcing

It is great to note that UNE is getting offers of help from clinical staff from the central coast and Newcastle for the clinics in our region. Further dates and clinic specifics are being developed over the following week, and a schedule should be available soon.

In addition, UNE Life have approximately 7 x 4th/5th year UNE medical students helping at the Armidale 5-11yr Covid-19 vaccination clinic. Their role (supervised by the academic members of the School) will be to assist/inform/Q&A parents about the vaccinations as they sign up. UNE hopes to extend this medical school partnership/experience to other towns across our region during the 5-11yrs vaccination rollout.



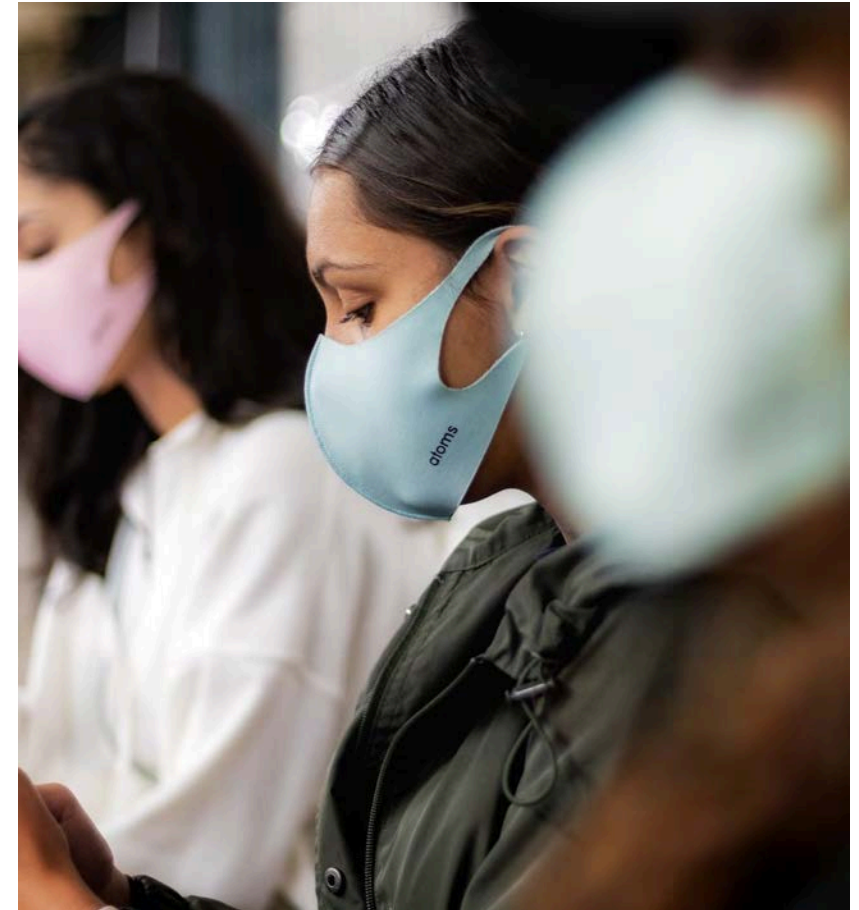
COVID-19

Over the holiday break and at the beginning of January, further work has been done to the COVID-19 framework to respond to the Omicron strain. It should be noted that the framework has shifted from a centralised to a decentralised model given case numbers.

Since 4th January, 32 Covid-19 events have been reported and managed through this decentralised framework.

The Executive are focussed on reviewing business continuity plans again, to account for a potential for higher sick leave and isolation numbers arising from Omicron.

SIG and CART continue to meet regularly to review UNE's response



Load

Overall domestic applicants for T1, 2022 admission are currently +5.2% (+352 applicants) above the equivalent time last year and +1.4% higher than 2022 budget target.

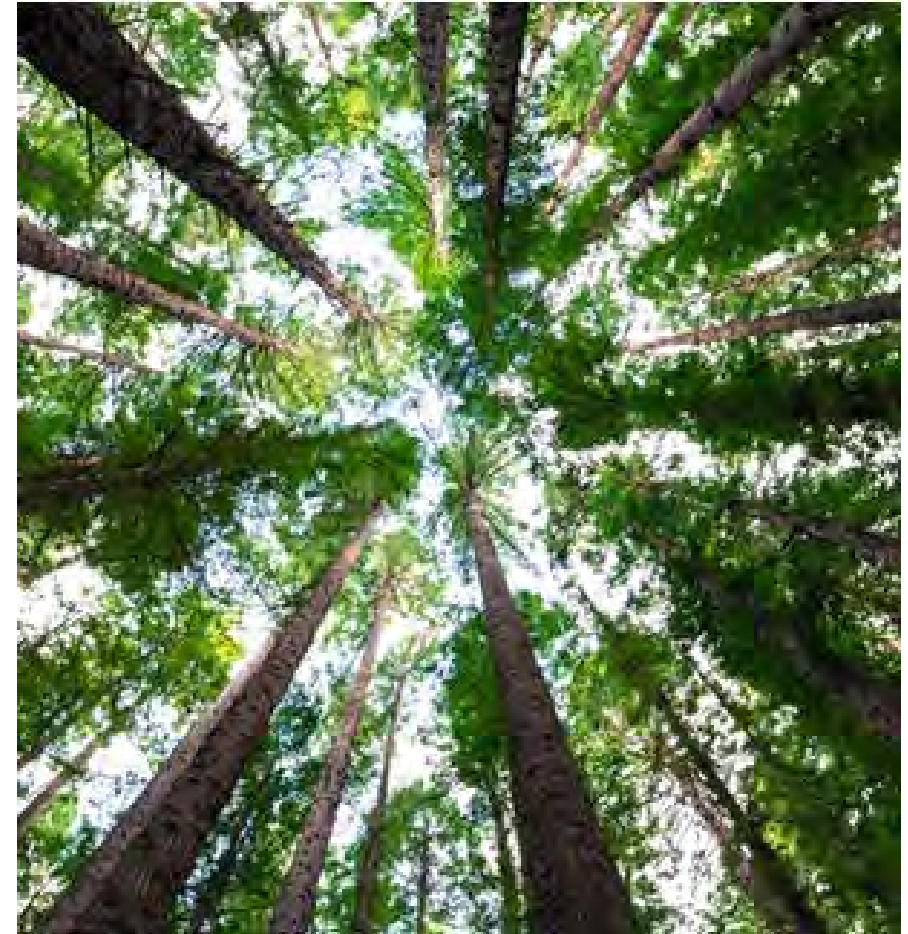
Undergraduate applicant numbers are +11% (+452 applicants) higher than last year and 8.7% above 2022 budget target, while Postgraduate Coursework applicant numbers are -4.6% (-92 applicants) lower than last year and -15.1% below 2022 budget target.

The overall positive variance has deteriorated in the first weeks of 2022 from a position of +9.4% higher than the equivalent time last year, and +5.6% higher than budget target.

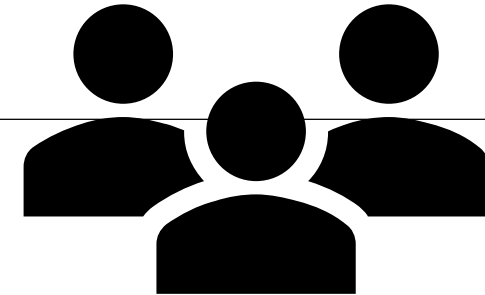
Delivery and Growth

At the beginning of 2021 we launched our [Future Fit strategy](#) – our guiding light for the next decade. It has been well received. The rest of 2021 was committed to coping with a pandemic and defining in detail the business plans for the projects as the Future Fit strategy unfolds. These plans are now locked and loaded with substantial investment committed to them. 2022 will see UNE focus on ‘delivery’.

Growth must be the number one priority as this will unlock our ability to invest in our future with confidence. Key here is the master planning of our Armidale campus with a necessary focus on ‘refresh and renew’. [STEM Q](#) has been launched to create the underlying blueprint and again it has been very well received.



Executive Recruitment



Role	Candidate Appointed	Start Date
Deputy Vice Chancellor	Professor Simon Evans	10 January 2022
Pro Vice-Chancellor Indigenous	Dr Joe Fraser	5 January 2022
Dean, Faculty of Medicine & Health	Dr Jennifer Williams	14 February 2022
Dean, Faculty of Science Agriculture Business & Law	Professor Birgit Loch	22 November 2021
Chief Financial Officer	TBA	4 March 2021

Recruitment is now underway for a DVCR (Deputy Vice Chancellor Research) as Professor Heiko Daniel retires at the end of the first quarter 2022 and for the appointment of a new Director People and Culture.