

Together

2023 DONOR IMPACT REPORT

UC



University of
Canterbury
Foundation

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UC
UNIVERSITY OF
CANTERBURY | 150 years
1873-2023

Thanks for
Your Support

Tēnā koe

From its inception in 1873, Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury has been committed to serving the community, making higher education accessible, and encouraging talent without barriers. For 150 years our community has walked side by side with us on that journey.

We remain grateful for your steadfast support, trust, and friendship.

In 2023, we celebrated our 150th anniversary on four continents with thousands of community members — alumni, donors, and friends.

We lit Ōtautahi Christchurch up in red for the Chancellor's fundraising gala dinner, where we announced more than \$1 million in support for the new Te Kakau a Māui scholarship, making the dream of tertiary education come true for hundreds of students.

To galvanise innovation and research, \$1.2 million was donated to the Faculty of Science. This donation supports Antarctic research and a new scholarship for postgraduate students. Further funding will support wellbeing, monitoring the effects of climate change, and much more.

With nearly \$5 million raised for research, scholarships, and campus priorities large and small, our donors helped drive impact globally, and right here in our own backyard.

Your unwavering support for UC's vision and belief in our students' and researchers' abilities enables them to directly help people in the community.

So here's to you, and the next 150 years of UC.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koe!
In gratitude,



Thea Kleiber
Kaihautū | Director of Advancement



Barry Ramsay
Chair of the Board

◀
The graduating class of 2023 parade through the city.

Your Support Matters

Canada

USA

In this publication, you'll read stories of what you, our donors and supporters, have made possible. From scholarships that open doors for driven and committed students, to gardens that grow health, happiness, and connectedness — your support matters.

\$4,809,414

Funds raised by the University of Canterbury Foundation New Zealand for research, scholarships, and programmes

1,145

Donations received

478

Students supported through scholarships



17 countries

Donations received from supporters in 17 countries

\$50

Median gift

156

Number of new donors

Understanding Antarctica's rapid environmental changes is vital for Earth's future. An injection of \$1.2 million into the Faculty of Science, with earmarked funds for Antarctic studies, will galvanise researchers' ability to make more accurate predictions about the frozen continent.

Waking the Ice Giant



▲ Associate Professor Daniela Liggett's research focuses on Antarctic geopolitics and tourism.

“

We know that the environment is changing, but how fast is it changing? How long before it has an impact on us? We need better predictions so we can plan.

— PROFESSOR WOLFGANG RACK

Antarctica – a frozen continent larger than Australia and virtually untouched by human habitation. A region storing 90 percent of the world's surface freshwater, with icy seas and vast frozen landscapes that determine Earth's weather and ocean currents.

“Antarctica was long regarded as the sleeping giant in the South, but now we are witnessing this giant's awakening,” says UC Gateway Antarctica Director Professor Wolfgang Rack. Part of UC's School of Earth and Environment in the Faculty of Science, Gateway Antarctica is a research centre dedicated to Antarctic studies, from climate and ecosystems to geopolitics and international law.

“Antarctica and its surrounding oceans are one of the most biodiverse areas in the world, and currently absorb human-generated carbon emissions and warmth to offset climate change,” says Associate Professor Daniela Liggett from UC's School of Earth and Environment.

Christchurch is one of only a few cities in the world with the designation of being a Gateway to Antarctica. Along with New Zealand's national Antarctic programme, the US, China, and many other countries use the city as a launchpad for expeditions. This gives Ōtautahi the rare status of being a convergence point for some of the best minds in Antarctic research. Recently, an anonymous donation of \$1.2 million was made towards UC's Faculty of Science, a portion of which is earmarked for Antarctic studies.

“This donation will make a difference for the new generation in Antarctic science and research,” says Associate Professor Liggett.

It's vital to have more researchers established in the field of Antarctic studies because of the continent's importance in world climate and ecosystems. Worldwide, three billion people rely on the fisheries industry to make a living. Warming ocean temperatures, melting ice sheets, and ocean acidification from increased carbon absorption are now disrupting the delicate processes that feed this vital industry.

“We know that the environment is changing, but how fast is it changing?” asks Professor Rack. “How long before it has an impact on us? We need better predictions so we can plan.”

Along with producing vital research, Gateway Antarctica has strong links to decision makers, ensuring that its research will have real world impact.

“In adverse conditions, Kiwis are up for the challenge,” say the donors. “Science is about facts and through our gift, we wish to hand the microphone to the scientists and support personnel doing the important work on the ground. By being there and performing well, our people have a more solid platform to speak from on behalf of the Antarctic.”

Professor Sarah Young, Amo Matua Pūtaiao | Executive Dean Science, emphasises the impact of this gift.

“A contribution of \$1.2 million to science at UC is truly transformative, allowing us to empower the brightest minds who are at the crux of important discoveries. We're particularly thrilled by the allocation of funds for Gateway Antarctica, as it will enable us to nurture emerging researchers in the field of Antarctic studies.”

The anonymous gift also supports the endowed Marken Postgraduate Science Promotion scholarship, the Beatrice Hill Tinsley scholarship, and research into penguin ecology, behaviour, and conservation at UC.



▲ Associate Professor Daniela Liggett at Scott Base during the summer Antarctic season.

Incipi' qd' Ego Thomas Gifford de Snopham dodi' comoss
da' confirmam Johi Gody totum tenent' meum cu' dno
et s'ntibz sup' p'tm in vill' et in campo de Elpoffol
q'nd' me' habm' cu' alijs de dono et f'p'p'mento Galfred
de Oke
Gond' et tenend' totum p'tm tenent' cu' s'ntibz
Johi Gody et s'nt' d'p'p'm' imp'p'm' G'p'p'm' G'p'p'm'
na' m'de d'p'p'm' et de me' com'p'm' q'nd' t'm' p'p'm' t'p'm'm'
l'm' m'de d'p'p'm' h'p'm' t'p'm' Ric' d'p'p'm' d'p'm'
d'p'm' Galfred' Gody Johi Gody et p'p'm' Gody et
p'p'm' d'p'm' d'p'm' Gody d'p'm' Gody
d'p'm' Gody post conquestu' Gody



New Life for Old Things

Creased with folds, its red wax seal cracked and broken, the black ink of the document's script has faded somewhat since a scribe living during the Wars of the Roses put pen to parchment.



▲ Professor Emeritus Geoff Rice (right) presents the manuscript to Macmillan Brown Library's Fiona Tyson at the 2023 History Awards.

A serendipitous encounter in a San Francisco bookshop brought this manuscript, written in 1465, to Ōtautahi Christchurch. Last year, UC Emeritus Professor Geoff Rice ONZM donated it to the Macmillan Brown Library.

“I thought it was a great example for students of medieval history to practise deciphering pre-modern handwriting,” he says.

“I was coming back from leave in San Francisco, and I came across the most marvellous antiquarian bookshop, and saw the framed manuscript hanging there. It was from the estate of an old collector in Los Angeles who had a scattering of English manuscripts, and this was the last of the collection.”

Professor Rice bought the document and shipped it to Christchurch, “where it has been under my bed for the last 10 years,” he adds with a laugh. “I thought it would be better for it to be in the Macmillan Brown Library.”

The document, a land grant in Latin, is written in Cursiva Anglicana – a cursive style typical of legal documents of the era – and contains many abbreviations.

“Our collection of culturally valuable materials has been built by donations,” says UC Macmillan Brown Library’s Kaiwhakahaere Taonga Tuku Iho Manager Fiona Tyson. “These gifts enable us to support students and academics at UC.”

◀ The 15th century land grant, written in Latin, will be used to help students practise reading pre-modern handwriting.

“

Our collection of culturally valuable materials has been built by donations.

—
FIONA TYSON

Along with primary materials such as rare manuscripts, archives, and artworks, the library also holds many secondary sources in its published collections that help students and academics make sense of primary resources, such as the manuscript donated by Professor Rice.

That’s incredibly important for learning and understanding, says Professor Rice, who considers the highlight of his time teaching at UC to be that moment when students’ eyes light up when “the penny drops” and they understand something they didn’t before.

Six other books written and donated by Professor Geoff Rice:

A Scientific Welsh Eye-Surgeon: the short life of Llewellyn Powell, MD (1843-79), Christchurch’s First Medical Officer of Health

Doctors Divided: Medical Societies in Christchurch (1865-97)

Nedwill: That ‘Peppery’ Irish Surgeon: New Zealand’s Outstanding Public Health Pioneer

Frankish: the Rise and Fall of a Prominent Christchurch Physician: the Life of John David Frankish MD (1842-1913)

Coward: Christchurch’s Controversial Coroner: the Life of John William Smith Coward (1815-88)

Quackery in Christchurch, (1850-1900): Alternative Remedies and Marginal Practices

Giving the Gift of Community Wellbeing

The act of growing fruits and vegetables nourishes more than just bodies, embracing a holistic approach to wellness by strengthening minds and fostering social and cultural connections.

“

Gardening is very traditional in Fijian culture. Unlike running or going to the gym, it's a form of exercise that anyone can do.

—
DR ESALA VAKAMACAWAI

“Let's bring in some taro and potatoes and other things that our people need,” Vaka Tautua Canterbury and Otago Regional Manager Toleafoa Malu Tulia suggests to UC PhD candidate Esala Vakamacawai as she pulls weeds.

Broccoli, spinach, and chard line the four planter boxes in a cleared lot where the old Science Alive! building used to be in Ōtautahi Christchurch.

“Gardening is very traditional in Fijian culture,” says Dr Vakamacawai, who had been a practising surgeon in Fiji. “Unlike running or going to the gym, it's a form of exercise that anyone can do.”

This community garden grew out of Dr Vakamacawai's research for his PhD at the University of Canterbury's Macmillan Brown Centre for Pacific Studies.

Funded with a gift of \$5,000 from Pegasus Health, the first community garden he created was a case study for his thesis on using traditional Fijian and Pacific culture to mitigate Type 2 Diabetes in Fijians living in Christchurch.

The participants in this initial case study experienced increased physical activity from gardening, and they were also able to access free,

“

There’s cultural wellbeing and social wellbeing. We’ve always done gardening in the villages so we’re just continuing that. As Pacific people, we work collectively, and through gardening together, we’re able to do that too.

—
DR ESALA VAKAMACAWAI

fresh vegetables. His research aims to change minds and habits, and help people gain health literacy.

The project was so successful that he partnered with *Vaka Tautua*, with support from the Christchurch City Council, to create another garden project focused on wellbeing for people living with disabilities—or, as they call themselves, *Tagata Sailimalo* (people pursuing success).

This includes people who have experienced strokes, are living with cardiovascular disease, knee replacements, chronic joint pain, traumatic brain injuries, or are in the late stages of cancer and kidney disease.

Each week, a group of *Tagata Sailimalo* come together to care for it, share harvests, and talk about “everything and anything,” says *Toleafoa Malu*.

“There’s cultural wellbeing and social wellbeing,” says *Dr Vakamacawai*.

“We’ve always done gardening in the villages so we’re just continuing that. As Pacific people, we work collectively, and through gardening together, we’re able to do that too.”

“From the point of view of health promotion, the garden has helped a lot

with understanding nutrition. In the last session, group members brought in vegetables they’d grown at home and talked about growing and cooking them,” *Toleafoa Malu* shares.

“It’s a way for the young ones to learn from the elders. Many elders have been in New Zealand for a long time, and many are married to *Pākehā*. They educate the younger ones and newer arrivals to Christchurch about growing and eating crops that are available in New Zealand.

“It’s also a great opportunity for the younger generation to learn about their language, culture, and the stories and histories from home,” she adds.

Through the group, both *Toleafoa Malu* and *Dr Vakamacawai* have learned about new produce. Recently, *Toleafoa Malu* tasted her first fig that someone had brought in, and *Dr Vakamacawai*’s first experience with a *fejioa* was also through the group. “They smell and look the same as guava,” he says.

“But soft,” adds *Toleafoa Malu*, who loves them.

Going forward, *Dr Vakamacawai* is looking forward to helping members of the group start their own vegetable gardens at home.



▶
Dr Esala Vakamacawai (left) and *Toleafoa Malu Tulia* pull weeds at the new community garden.

A

SINGLE

DROP

OF

*kind
-ness*





▲ Tan Sri Datuk Siew Nam Oh rode his bike every day to university.

滴水之恩， 當湧泉相報

“There’s an old Chinese saying: *‘A single drop of kindness ought to be repaid with a welling spring.’* It means: Pay it forward.”

Those are the words of an anonymous engineering alumnus and donor who graduated in 1983. To give back, he recently helped establish the Singapore Colombo Plan Alumni Scholarship for Kiwi engineering students.

The donor went on to explain: “The original Colombo Plan scholarship, provided as bilateral aid by the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs, enabled many young Singaporeans to receive a quality university education during Singapore’s formative years.

Without this scholarship, many of us, due to family financial constraints, would not have had the opportunity to study abroad.”

His story parallels those of hundreds of students from Singapore, Malaysia, Vietnam, Indonesia, and other Asia-Pacific countries who came to UC on the Colombo Plan scholarship for tertiary study.

Conceived in 1950 at the Commonwealth Conference on Foreign Affairs held in Colombo, Ceylon (now Sri Lanka), the Colombo Plan for Economic and Social Development in Asia and the Pacific was launched on 1 July 1951. It aimed to support countries in the Asia-Pacific region economically and socially through aid from other nations including New Zealand. Part of the plan provided scholarships for students to undertake tertiary studies in more developed nations.

In the 1960s, Singapore wasn’t the economic powerhouse it is today. It was facing unemployment and a declining trade-based economy while grappling



with a rapidly growing population.

High-rises were just beginning to sprout amongst dense neighbourhoods of traditional two-storey shops and residences with wooden shutters and kampongs of thatched-roof cottages.

Pedestrians and bicycles mingled with cars and rickshaws. Peddlers sold everything from textiles to vegetables from woven baskets on the street. Hawkers cooked and served fragrant rice and noodle dishes, satay skewers, and other street food delicacies under lines of washing hung out to dry.

Upon returning home, Singaporean Colombo Plan scholars contributed to the country's rapid development in the 1980s. This was the decade that saw the opening of the world-renowned Changi Airport and the construction of many of the high-rise apartments and skyscrapers that characterise Singapore's skyline today.

"After graduating, the majority of Colombo Plan scholars returned home to serve in government offices, various ministries, and other key sectors, contributing significantly to the nation's development. Therefore, commemorating this scholarship programme with creating one of our own is indeed a worthy cause,

celebrating the profound impact it had on our personal lives and on the growth of our country," the generous donor says.

Many other Colombo Plan alumni have been equally generous in their desire to give back to the University. They helped rebuild the University of Canterbury Students' Association building after it was damaged in the 2011 Christchurch earthquake. They've established scholarships for domestic and international students and supported initiatives that have strengthened UC and Waitaha Canterbury communities.

"If I hadn't gotten the Colombo Plan scholarship, I wouldn't have completed university," says Tan Sri Datuk Siew Nam Oh from his home in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

"The British colonial government came out with a bursary proposal for studying at the University of Malaya in Singapore." While there, he covered all his expenses until the bursary was dispensed.

It was 1957, the year of Malaysia's independence. Tan Sri Oh was Chinese Malaysian and not Malay, so he lost his bursary due to the new government's change in policy.

THE
**COLOMBO
 PLAN**
 SCHOLARSHIP



Welcoming

STUDENTS FROM
 THE ASIA
 PACIFIC
 REGION



to the
 UNIVERSITY OF
 CANTERBURY
 CHRISTCHURCH
 NEW ZEALAND



◀ Like many Colombo Plan scholars, Mr William Ng studied Engineering because there was a huge demand for engineers in Singapore, Malaysia, and other countries in the region that were developing rapidly at the time.

“

After graduating, the majority of Colombo Plan scholars returned home to serve in government offices, various ministries, and other key sectors, contributing significantly to the nation’s development. Therefore, commemorating this scholarship programme with creating one of our own is indeed a worthy cause, celebrating the profound impact it had on our personal lives and on the growth of our country.

—
ANONYMOUS DONOR

“I was stuck in Singapore with no income and no resources,” he recalls. “I thought I would have to leave if I didn’t get a scholarship. I would’ve had to give up.”

To make ends meet, he began walking to university to save the bus fare and gave haircuts to other students at his hostel for 90c each. “At that time, all the hairdressers were Indian. I was the only Chinese,” he says. “I’d get one or two cuts a day. People

took pity on me and gave me a dollar and told me to keep the change.”

Despite these efforts, he was eating into his savings, as he also needed to support his family after his father’s death.

Then he saw the Colombo Plan scholarship advertised in the newspaper. “And,” he says, “it changed everything.”

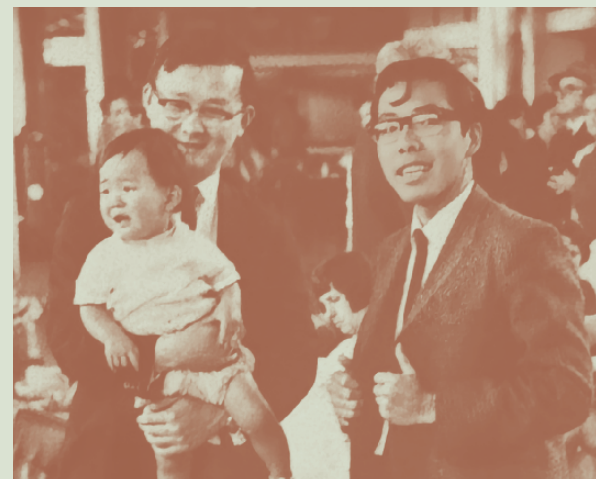
While in Christchurch, Tan Sri Oh discovered many of UC’s Malaysian students weren’t receiving scholarships but were instead being funded by their families.

“And, while they’re studying in New Zealand, something tragic might happen, like a parent might die or lose their job, or something like that, and they can’t continue,” Tan Sri Oh says. “It would be a pity for them to have to drop out and come home after they’ve already completed part of their studies.”

Motivated by his experiences of losing his father and his bursary, he created the Oh Family Scholarship in 2016 to help similarly impacted students finish their degrees.



Mr Joseph Yong carries his son as they await the flight back home.



◀ Mr William Ng immersed himself in social life alongside his academic studies. Pictured here enjoying dinner with classmates.

For Mr Joseph Yong, another Malaysian Colombo Plan scholar, the scholarship enabled him to pursue tertiary education and more.

He'd had the choice of studying in London, Australia, or Canterbury.

"I chose Canterbury because I knew a girl who'd gone to study at Christchurch Polytechnic (now Ara Institute of Canterbury)," he says. That girl was Cathy Soon. They married in 1967, one year after Mr Yong arrived in Christchurch, and had their first child while he was still at UC.

During his time in Aotearoa New Zealand, the Treaty of Waitangi and Māori culture made a deep impression on him.

After returning home to Malaysia, the Yongs emigrated to Vancouver BC, where Mr Yong worked for the Canadian Public Works Department. There, he drew on what he'd learnt about the implementation of Treaty principles. Working with government departments and officials, he encouraged the involvement of First Nations people in decision-making.

“

The Colombo Plan scholarship and UC gave me a university education, which enabled my family to move to Canada where there were opportunities that weren't available to me in Malaysia.

—
MR JOSEPH YONG

"The Colombo Plan scholarship and UC gave me a university education, which enabled my family to move to Canada where there were opportunities that weren't available to me in Malaysia," he explains.

"I'm grateful for what the scholarship has given me, and I want to make these opportunities available for the generations to come."

He now donates towards UC's Areas of Greatest Need Fund annually.

At a celebration marking the Colombo Plan's 10th anniversary, UC's Vice-Chancellor at the time, Dr Leslie



◀ Tan Sri Datuk Siew Nam Oh at his graduation parade, April 1962.



▲ Mr Joseph Yong returned to Christchurch for a visit in 1993. He made many happy memories here, including starting a family with the love of his life, whom he followed to Christchurch despite being offered a place at Oxford University.

Pownall, noted that the benefits of the Colombo Plan went both ways. “Asia benefited from the Colombo Plan, but New Zealand and Christchurch benefited from having students from those Asian countries. We are not giving anything more than we are

getting in exchange by your being here.” (*The Press*, 4 July 1961, Pg 9)

He concluded: “It is a two-way traffic. No one lives in isolation in this world. I thank you for what you have given us and, above all, for the friendship that you have so willingly shown us. Thank you for coming to our land and being so patient with our parochialism and helping us to understand the tremendous problems in the outside world.”

Today, our Colombo Plan alumni continue to make a difference for UC and the world, acting as bridges between Canterbury and Asia-Pacific, effecting change in society, and giving future UC students the opportunities they received when they were studying here.

We are enriched by their friendship and generosity.

These are just a few of many Colombo Plan alumni stories that illustrate the impact of the scholarship programme.

If you are a Colombo Plan alum and would like to share your story, we'd love to hear from you. Please feel free to get in touch with us at ucfoundation@canterbury.ac.nz.

A continuously updated version of this story is published online: www.canterbury.ac.nz/colomboplan

Currying flavours

Tan Sri Oh found Kiwis were mostly friendly, welcoming, and open to trying new things. In his second year, he stayed at Rolleston House, where the hostel kitchen served mainstream Kiwi cuisine that included a lot of boiled potatoes.

It wasn't something that he and the other Malaysian students were used to.

“So, we would ask our parents to send us curry powder. We'd find a leg of lamb, and we'd cook it in our rooms,” he recalls.

Other students residing there would smell the curry and come to investigate what was cooking.

“Of course, according to Asian hospitality, if someone comes around when you're about to eat a meal, you say: ‘Come, come join us! Come and try some rice and curry!’ So there was never enough for us.”

The Malaysian students thought of a novel solution. “Kiwis at that time were not used to eating curry and spice,” Tan Sri Oh says with a laugh. “So, we added more chilli powder and they would just try a bit.”



Investing in Futures

The results speak for themselves —
Te Kakau a Māui programme one year on.



Second year law student Ashlin Chandra, pictured here with Te Aratai College Tumuaki-Principal Richard Edmundson.

“

Through Te Kakau a Māui, more than 300 students have begun their tertiary education at UC, building a living legacy that stays true to the vision of UC’s founders.

—
BRETT BERQUIST

“Te Kakau a Māui works because it doesn’t end when you’re chosen for it — the programme stays with you,” says Law student and scholarship recipient Ashlin Chandra.

Te Kakau a Māui scholarships are our way of investing in students from across the South Island. As Chancellor Amy Adams has said, these scholarships are a way of giving back to our community following 150 years of community support.

Te Kakau a Māui is the first scholarship of this scale in Aotearoa New Zealand where applicants are not filtered based on their academic grades but rather more holistically, considering their resilience and commitment to making a positive change in their communities.

Recipients are from low decile schools, and many are the first in their family to attend university.

“The University was founded on principles of accessible education, service to the community, and the encouragement of talent without barriers,” says Assistant Vice-Chancellor Engagement Brett Berquist. “Through Te Kakau a Māui, more than 300 students have begun their tertiary

education at UC, building a living legacy that stays true to the vision of UC’s founders.”

Te Kakau a Māui provides students with comprehensive pastoral support along with full tuition. It puts students in an environment where they get exposed to further education – formal and social – that they can carry forward into the world.

The enrichment programme focuses on career pathway planning, success coaching, and building a community of support. Students are connected through social hubs called homebases to build bonds and create a deeper sense of belonging.

Ashlin says she would struggle without the support programme. “The homebase is like a safety net where you can go for guidance. My homebase leader has been very helpful in the transition to university life.” She adds that Senior Success Coach Angus Howat is “there for everyone in the programme and makes sure we are all doing okay.”

In a recent article for *Times Higher Education*, Howat wrote: “Authentic connection to the campus, to people, and to purpose is critical to any new student support programme, particularly if an aim is to reduce the success equity gap.”

Ashlin’s dream of tertiary education, along with that of many other rangatahi (young people), was made possible by our community.

▼ John and Marcy McCall MacBain of the McCall MacBain Foundation.



▲ Christiane McLeod, second-year Engineering student.

A significant investment of \$825,000 from the McCall MacBain Foundation helped launch the pastoral support programme.

“We know that talent is everywhere, but opportunity is not.

“We know that students from low socio-economic backgrounds may be less likely to see themselves as scholarship candidates, or even as candidates for higher education.

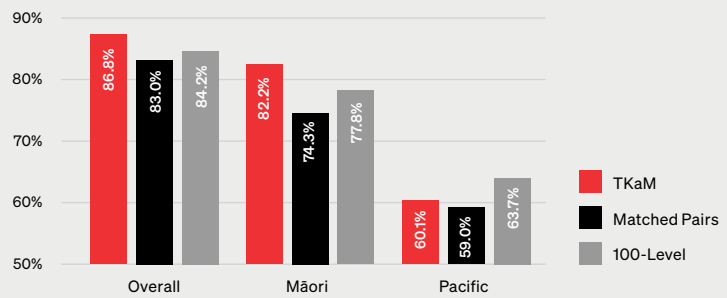
Te Kakau a Māui scholarships seek to change that by investing in young people who will go on to contribute positively to their communities and to society over the course of their lives,” says McCall MacBain Foundation CEO Alexandra Conliffe.

The results speak for themselves. Compared to control groups from the same demographics, Te Kakau a Māui scholars have higher GPAs, higher pass rates, and more of them have gone on to their second year of study. But it’s about more than just grades, scholarship recipient Christiane McLeod, now in her second year of Engineering, says: “I’ve learnt a lot more about success than just academics. Mainly, that there’s no achievement without people to share it with. In the long run, the scholarship isn’t just supporting me; it’s supporting everyone I walk with along the way.”

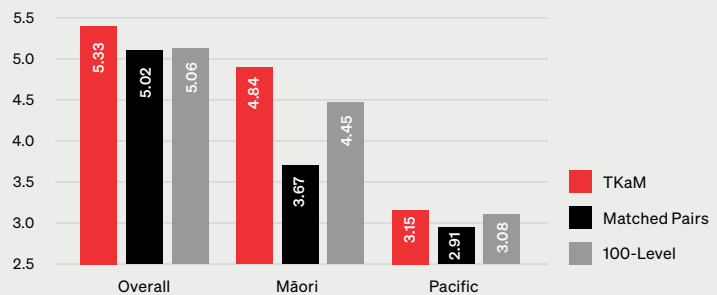
The second cohort of 153 students started their degrees at UC through Te Kakau a Māui in 2024. Several of the scholarship recipients from 2023 have become mentors for the new students, while the support programme



Te Kakau a Māui Pass Rates



Te Kakau a Māui GPA



continues for those students entering their second year of study.

We gratefully acknowledge the McCall MacBain Foundation and the hundreds of other generous donors who are helping open doors to tertiary education for students like Christiane and Ashlin.

If you would like to join a community of donors supporting Te Kakau a Māui, please get in touch with us. www.canterbury.ac.nz/tkam

▶ Penelope Wilson's picture hangs in a prominent place in her mother's home.



A Mother's Gift of Love



“

I hope the internship grant allows students to travel, even if it just funds a trip while they're doing their internship. It's for anything extra they might need so they can have an authentic experience.

— ANNE WILSON

“Determined” is the word Anne Wilson uses to describe her daughter, UC alumna Penelope (Penny) Wilson. “She was always able to see things through, and she thought over everything. If ever you thought you needed to give her advice, she'd have covered all the bases anyway.”

Sadly, Penny passed away from cancer in 2017.

Now Penny's mum, Anne, has made sure her daughter's legacy will live on through the Penelope Wilson Art and Culture Internship Grant.

Penny had visited and lived in many countries, beginning with family holidays as a child. After graduating from UC in 2002 with a Master of Arts in Art History, she travelled to the United Kingdom to undertake a museum internship and earn her Master of Arts from the University of London.

The opportunity to travel around Europe while she was working and studying allowed Penny to immerse herself in different cultures and histories. For the Wilson family, education was about learning while

having fun. Anne wanted to honour Penny's memory and help other Arts students to have the same opportunities for cultural experiences, ensuring Penny's spirit of adventure could continue.

“I hope the internship grant allows students to travel, even if it just funds a trip while they're doing their internship,” says Anne. “It's for anything extra they might need so they can have an authentic experience.”


Anne says Penny was very happy about going to the UK and made a lot of meaningful connections there. “There's so much correspondence from all the people she met.” Anne has piles of farewell cards and well wishes from her daughter's former colleagues and friends.

“She was a fearless explorer as a child and that continued into adulthood,” Anne says. “She had no apprehension relating to new places, settings, or people because all her earlier travel experiences had shown she could deal with anything arising.”



Shaping Leaders for the Future

BY PROFESSOR CHERYL DE LA REY



On behalf of Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | University of Canterbury, I extend my gratitude to all our donors, alumni and friends. Your generosity has been instrumental in making our 150th year a success marked by milestones in academic excellence, groundbreaking research, and student achievement.

A standout of our 150th anniversary celebrations was the launch of our Te Kakau a Māui scholarship and enrichment programme that provides access and support to students who might otherwise not have considered a university education.

Supported through the generous contribution of hundreds of donations large and small, these scholarships have empowered school-leavers from under-represented backgrounds to excel in their tertiary studies and contribute positively to their communities, both locally and globally. The inaugural Te Kakau a Māui cohort, who completed their first year of tertiary education in 2023, has already surpassed expectations with higher completion rates and grade point averages compared to their peers. With your support, we have made a huge difference for young people who may not have attended university otherwise.

Throughout these pages, there are inspiring stories of collaboration between donors, UC staff, and students who have

brought remarkable initiatives to life. Generous donations for Science are empowering early career researchers in Antarctic studies to make impactful contributions to the world. Seed funding for Dr Esala Vakamacawai's PhD study led to the establishment of a new community garden initiative benefiting individuals with disabilities. And our Colombo Plan Scholarship alumni are fostering a rich legacy of giving that continues to support students from across the Asia-Pacific region.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our donors, whose generous support has profoundly impacted our university.

Together, we are fostering a vibrant, innovative, and inclusive academic community that is shaping the leaders and thinkers of tomorrow.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment and support. We look forward to continuing this journey with you.

Professor Cheryl de la Rey
Tumu Whakarae | Vice-Chancellor



▲ Tā Tipene O'Regan at the opening of the Twelve Local Heroes Trail on campus



▲ 150th Anniversary Fundraising Gala

Celebrating 150 Years of UC

Ka titiro whakamuri, ki te anga whakamua.
Guided by the Past, Shaping the Future.



▲ Celebrations in Sydney, Australia



▲ Honouring our emeritus professors



▲ Alumni all the way from Malaysia celebrating at the Alumni Reunion Weekend





Celebrations in Kuala Lumpur ▲



UC Chancellor (R) and Vice-Chancellor (L) meet with the Dean of Christ Church, Oxford at celebrations in the UK. ▲



Celebrations in Singapore ▲



UC's leaders celebrating the anniversary on June 16 2023 ▲



Opening of the 150th Exhibition at The Arts Centre ▲



The Young Alumni Awards Winners ▲

Thank you to all our Foundation Trustees for their time,

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VICE-CHANCELLOR

Hon Amy Adams



Professor Cheryl de la Rey



Mr Graham Ewing



Mr Simon Flood

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Mr Robin Mann



A Big Thanks to C

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Mr Michael Aldridge



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commitment, and expertise.



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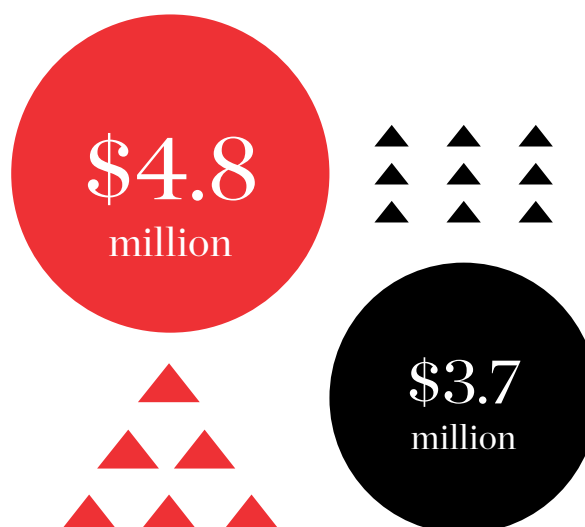


The University of
Canterbury Foundation
in America Inc.



The University of
Canterbury NZ Trust -
United Kingdom

Financial Report



In 2023, the University of Canterbury Foundation received \$4.8 million in gifts, and made distributions of \$3.7 million.

Summary statement of comprehensive revenue and expense

For the year ended 31 December 2023	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Total philanthropic revenue	4,809,414	2,964,723
Distributions	(3,712,144)	(2,998,533)
Operating expenditure	(119,553)	(112,574)
Net operating surplus/(deficit)	977,717	(146,384)
Investment revenue	1,512,620	1,226,604
Fair value unrealised gains less losses *	1,527,609	(3,715,086)
Net surplus and total comprehensive revenue and expense	4,017,946	(2,634,866)

* These are the net movements from the market to market valuations recognised through surplus and deficit as required by accounting standards in New Zealand. In 2022, in common with many institutions holding investments, these losses were entirely due to the poor global financial markets at the time.

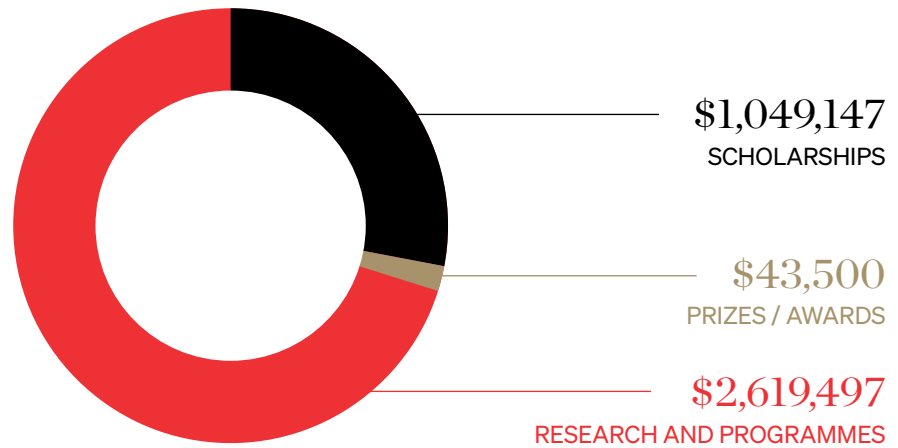
Consolidated summary statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 31 December 2023	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Equity at the beginning of the year	38,153,532	40,788,397
Operating Surplus for the year	4,017,946	(2,634,866)
Equity at the end of the year	42,171,478	38,153,531

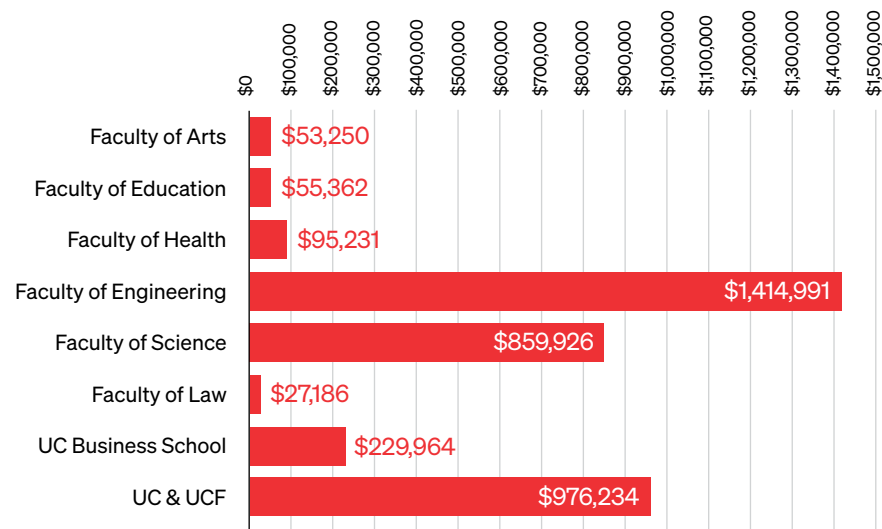
Consolidated summary statement of financial position

As at 31 December 2023	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Current assets	17,925,050	7,383,728
Non-current assets	26,077,684	31,284,533
Current liabilities	(1,831,256)	(514,729)
Equity at end of year	42,171,478	38,153,532

Distribution summary



Distribution of philanthropic funds per faculty



* These summary financial statements have been extracted from the Foundation's 2023 audited financial statements but are themselves unaudited. They are provided to give interested persons a succinct overview of the Foundation's financial performance. The full and audited financial statements are available online at www.canterbury.ac.nz/2023report or may be requested from Thea Kleiber, Director of Advancement, University of Canterbury, Private Bag 4800, Christchurch 8140.

Thank You to Our 2023 Donors

It's not about the depth of your pockets, but the width of your heart. Whether you gave a little or a lot, your contributions collectively shape the future of the University of Canterbury.

Among the hundreds of donations received this year, many gifts were from passionate and visionary donors whose realised bequests continue to inspire the next generation of students, innovators, educators, researchers, and more.

Thank you for believing in us, supporting our mission, and making a difference.
For all this and more, we are forever grateful.

“

No words can express my gratitude to the donors. Their generosity had an impact on my life and future opportunities. I am truly humbled and thankful for the support and contribution to my studies.

Anonymous donors (73)

Carol Abraham

Amy Adams

Simon Adkins

Chris Akroyd

Adnan Ali

Berys Amor

Adrian and Maria Anderson

Brendon Anderson

John and Molly Andreae

Debra Angus

Jayne Austin

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 Elizabeth Cunningham

“

My scholarship is one of the main reasons why I am at university and I could not be more grateful for it.

Richard Denton
 Mark Dineen
 Una Diver
 Pat and Anne Dolan
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 Nick Hodson and Rachel Hopkins
 Sum Kwai Hooi and Poh Chin Khoo
 Carl Horn
 Peter Hosking
 Graham Hulston
 Jessica Huynh
 Russell Ingram-Seal

“

Being a recipient of a scholarship has inspired me to push my abilities in and outside of UC.

I could never come close to reciprocating the generosity of the donor.

Shanyn Curry
 Stephen Dahnke
 Lianne Dalziel
 Anne Daniel
 Sue Davies-Young
 John Deely

Kirsten Forsyth
 Ian Foster and Angela Smyth
 Gill Fowler
 Patrick Fraher
 Shelley and Gary Frost
 Ian Fulton



My voice is just one of many supported by these donations but from my whole heart I can't be thankful enough. Every time I attend university, I'm reminded how it wouldn't be possible if it wasn't for the support and kindness of others.

David Jack

Simon James

Geoffrey Jameson and Beth Taylor

Paula Jameson and John Clemens

David and Chris Janett

Chris Jenkins

Derek and Margaret Johns

Jeff and Karen Johnson

Karenne Johnston

Ivan Jones

Bonnie Kaplan

Adela Kardos

Joe Kaufman and Janet Korins

Ho Meng Kho

Gavin Kingsley

Thea and David Kleiber

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Cheong Yew Koo

Joana Kuntz

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Tony Menzies

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Nigel Oliver

Simon Olliver

Rachel O'Neil

John and Jennifer Packer

Sally Page

Kate Parsonson

Stuart Payne

Robert and Andrea Peach

Allan Pearson

Barbara Peddie

Shelley Perfect

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 Jenny Wily and Adrian Hawkes
 Alison and Hamish Wilson
 Andrew Wilson and Karen England
 Grant Wilson
 Steve and Janey Wilson
 Alene Wilton

“

Your contribution not only reflects your great character and generosity, but enables a new generation of people to access education and achieve their goals. Not only do your donations remove financial barriers, they open up new opportunities for us students.

Christina Troup
 Nick Tunnicliffe
 Barbara Turner
 Matthew Turnbull and Kaylene Sampson
 Charu Uppal and Ross Imbler
 Phil and Diana Veal
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I don't think there is a word that expresses how deeply I want to thank you. The financial support I've been given has changed my life and will no doubt go on to change the lives of others. Donations like these are helping so many different people achieve far more than they previously thought possible.

Caliber Design	Jacobs	Riccarton Rotary Youth Trust
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		Waters Kraus Paul & Siegel
		Whaka-Ora Healthy Harbour
		WIDE Trust
		Wynn Williams

Share Your Story

UC alumni are making waves all over the world. Showcasing what you have achieved since completing your studies inspires us all. Your story can highlight different career paths and opportunities that are possible for students and graduates.

Email alumni@canterbury.ac.nz if you would like to share your story with us. We would love to hear from you.

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Vice-Chancellor Engagement**

Brett Berquist

Kaihautū | Director of Advancement

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**We would love to
connect with you.**

Email: ucfoundation@canterbury.ac.nz

Phone: +64 3 369 3999

Points of Pride

Key statistics that put UC above the rest.



Top 100

Best Student City
(Christchurch)



#2

In New Zealand for
employment outcomes
and employer reputation



Growing Waitaha Canterbury

Second Largest Employer

in Waitaha Canterbury, with
4,000 staff.

\$500 million

Since 2019, UC has spent
more than \$500 million in
Canterbury, 65% locally.

49%

of UC graduates who work in
Aotearoa NZ are employed in
Waitaha Canterbury.

Serving Waitaha Canterbury

\$5 million

committed for 150 Te Kakau a Māui
scholarships in 2023 & 2024, to
fund course fees and support 300
students from Te Waipounamu
South Island who are keen to make
a change in their world.

450 new teachers

UC graduates 450 new teachers
each year, with 60% of whom choose
to teach in Canterbury schools.

Enriching Waitaha Canterbury

80%

of Ōtautahi Christchurch
residents surveyed say UC
is important to them.

95,768

Since it opened in 2017, thousands
have visited the Tece Museum of
Classical Antiquities.

