

## **UNITEC-MIT BOARD MEETING KEY ISSUES 29 April 2021**



This bulletin contains insights into the key issues before the Board at its monthly meeting allowing staff to gain insights into discussions raised and decisions being made.

### **MIT TECHPARK OFFICIAL LAUNCH**

In his update, Chief Executive Gus Gilmore said he was delighted with the opening of the new trades and engineering campus in Manukau on 23 April attended by the Prime Minister and Education Minister Chris Hipkins. The highlight, he said, was the support of Mana Whenua with Tainui ‘front and centre’ at this event.

After the launch, institute leadership received messages from representatives of Kiingitanga and the iwi expressing appreciation for the recognition they were afforded in the programme.

### **UNITEC ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIALS**

The Board thanked staff for the delivery of Unitec’s Annual Report.

In the report, the Board Chair and Chief Executive noted that despite the impact of COVID-19 on international ākonga enrolments and revenue, as well as the continuing focus on reducing costs; Unitec maintained its operating surplus of \$2.4M for the 12 months ending 31 December 2019 and the year ending 31 December 2020.

The net deficit has improved with a reduction from \$11.5 million for the 12 months ended 31 December 2019 to \$8.9 million for the 12 months ended 31 December 2020.

These financials received an unqualified audit from Audit New Zealand.

### **GROUP DEBT FINANCING AND TRANSACTIONAL BANKING ARRANGEMENTS**

The Board received further details on how Te Pūkenga will operate financially.

The 16 ITPs will work together, pooling resources to jointly invest cash and consolidate debt creating cost savings across the network.



## **DIVERSITY AND EQUITY REPORTS**

The presentation of data on diversity and remuneration of staff at both institutes generated lively discussion around the table on how more representative teaching staff and leadership could support priority learner outcomes.

At MIT, New Zealand European is the largest ethnic group of staff with 36%, Pasifika 17%, 12% Indian and 10% Māori.

While 8% of leadership at Manukau identifies as Māori and 19% Pasifika.

At Unitec, New Zealand European - Pakeha represent 43% of employees, 12% are Māori, 11% Pacific and 9% Indian.

There 9% of senior management is Māori and 6% Pacific, while 12% of Academic staff are Māori and 12% Pacific.

The Board received the information while wanting to know what the next steps are to address any gaps that exist in using diversity as a means of increasing student success.

## **ENROLMENTS**

The Board thanked staff at both institutes for the work they have done to meet the strong growth in demand after hearing 85% of annual budgets for 2021 had been met already.

However, the Chairman stressed it was important this strong work continue to deliver to the current demand for skills training in Tāmaki Makaurau.