

**THE VICE-CHANCELLOR
IS [REDACTED] TO CUT
[REDACTED] FROM THE
[REDACTED] DEPARTMENT.
TO COMMENT [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] ***

*** The rest of this message is
available only to those staff
directly affected.**

DON'T BE SILENCED.

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**TERTIARY EDUCATION UNION
Te Hautū Kahurangi o Aotearoa**

The Vice-Chancellor is silencing debate at the University of Auckland by including a confidentiality clause in change proposals

In other words, you cannot share or talk about what's on the table – unless you are directly affected. Professor McCutcheon says you owe him 'fidelity and loyalty'. But we bet when you joined the University, you thought you were making a commitment to the future of your profession, not fidelity to the Vice-Chancellor.

Professor McCutcheon is undermining the very core of what universities are about

It's bogus to suggest 'fidelity and loyalty' to an employer trumps the legal obligation staff have to act collectively as critic and conscience. Added to this, his silencing of debate through use of his confidentiality clause is contrary to good employment practice and sound decision-making.

Professor McCutcheon is undermining the University's own mission

The University of Auckland mission includes a "commitment to serve its local, national and international communities." The Vice-Chancellor's rejection of public debate undermines this commitment.

Professor McCutcheon is failing to abide by the University's policies

University of Auckland Policy states that change management is to be conducted in a fair and transparent way. There is no transparency for any group in the university community if staff, students, and other stakeholders are prohibited from speaking about the change proposal.

Professor McCutcheon's actions are an affront to the legislated role of critic and conscience

Under the Education Act, staff at the University of Auckland have the right to question and test any 'received wisdom' including that of senior management. Staff are also protected in debating matters relating to teaching.

Professor McCutcheon is contravening domestic and international conventions

In other words, it is accepted internationally that staff will challenge their own institutions in order to ensure the 'advancement of higher education' and to contribute to the ongoing development of 'humanity and modern society'.

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