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The ACU National Annual Report 2008

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annual report 2008

Australian Catholic University **annual report 2008**



Contacts and website

Australian Catholic University (ACU National) was established in November 1990 through incorporation as a public company limited by guarantee, registered in the state of Victoria. It was subsequently recognised as a university under the *Australian Catholic University (Victoria) Act 1991* and provides this report to the Victorian Minister for Skills and Workforce Participation.

The University was formed through the amalgamation of the Catholic College of Education (NSW), the Institute of Catholic Education (Vic), McAuley College (Qld) and Signadou College of Education (ACT). Today, ACU National has six campuses nationally: Brisbane (McAuley at Banyo), North Sydney (MacKillop), Strathfield (Mount Saint Mary), Canberra (Signadou), Ballarat (Aquinas) and Melbourne (St Patrick's).

The University is a public university, recognised and funded by the Commonwealth Government, and is open to students and staff of all beliefs.

Visit www.acu.edu.au/publications to view this report online.

For more copies of this report or enquiries, contact University Relations: email editor@acu.edu.au phone + 61 (0)2 9739 2363

Letter of transmittal

2 April 2009

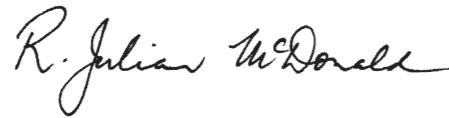
The Honourable Jacinta Allan MP
Minister for Skills and Workforce Participation
Level 36, 121 Exhibition Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Dear Minister

In accordance with the requirements of regulations under the *Financial Management Act 1994*, I am pleased to submit for your information and presentation to Parliament the Australian Catholic University Annual Report for the year ending 31 December 2008.

The Annual Report was approved by the Australian Catholic University Senate on 2 April 2009.

Yours sincerely



Brother R Julian McDonald CFC AO
Chancellor

The ACU National Annual Report 2008 is published by University Relations, whose contact details are:

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Annual reports online

The 2008 report and those for 2004–2007 are available on the website www.acu.edu.au/about_acu/publications/annual_reports

Campus contacts

The contacts for each of the Australian Catholic University's six campuses are available on the back cover of this report.

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catholic





Brother R Julian McDonald
Chancellor CFC AO

Chancellor's foreword

As we begin 2009, it is my pleasure to report on the first full year of Australian Catholic University under the leadership of our new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Greg Craven, who joined us with an already distinguished career in academic, legal and public life. Professor Craven has built upon the extraordinary work of his distinguished predecessor, Professor Peter Sheehan AO.

As a notable social commentator, Professor Craven joins a strong tradition of ACU staff, including Professor Father Frank Brennan SJ, Professor Raimond Gaita, Dr Neil Ormerod and Professor Jude Butcher CFC, commenting incisively on Australian life and its practical and moral dilemmas. It is significant that both Professor Craven and Professor Father Frank Brennan were both invited to participate in the Prime Minister's Summit held in Canberra in April.

This year, Australian Catholic University has had its own summit discussions. Numerous inclusive meetings have been held, discussion papers circulated and staff ideas elicited. It has been a year of review for the Vice-Chancellor, opening the way for him to initiate constructive change, particularly in the University's administrative structure and in the introduction of new courses and programs.

Most of these changes will not become completely effective until 2009 and they will be included in the 2009 Annual Report. Some significant changes, however, have already been introduced. Among these was the Early Achievers' Program. This was designed to attract wider enrolment interest in the University, while demonstrating its Mission in a commitment to community.

The program takes into account documented involvement in church, school, cultural and sporting endeavours for both school leavers and non-school leavers, as well as university entry scores or, in the case of older applicants, professional experience and tertiary study capacity.

The inclusion of community engagement among entry criteria is in keeping with the underlying ethos of a Catholic university – the unity of faith and reason, of strong academic learning and purposeful social action, of a concern for intellectual and cultural growth with an equal Christian concern for those less fortunate.

The program, itself innovative in the Australian university scene, has been met with great interest by the broad community, with a far greater number of applications than anticipated and, as detailed by the Vice-Chancellor, a substantial growth in enrolments for 2009.

A second significant initiative has been the establishment of the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy in recognition of a central area of the University's research, teaching and traditional strengths. All our endeavours are enriched by the University's commitment to theology and philosophy, crucial to a Catholic university's very existence. It is fitting therefore to have a faculty where our long-standing teaching, research and outstanding staff in philosophy and theology are to be focused on a new tradition of opportunity and achievement. This, our fourth faculty, will begin offering courses in 2009.

There has been a focus during the year on research, in each of our three faculties – Arts and Sciences, Health Sciences and Education – as well as in our research centres, flagships and institutes. A significant proportion of this research has been collaborative, with academics at other universities

and institutions, with our partners in Catholic education and health, or with other overseas and local community partners.

This research and related awards are detailed in the pages of this report. Whether the research has been into methods of raising the numeracy levels of indigenous children in northern Queensland or into improving screening practices for depression in heart-attack victims in Melbourne, it is gratifying to note that it is imbued with the University's Mission and values.

I express my gratitude to all who have worked so hard to make the year of 2008, with its challenges and changes, a shared success. I commend this annual report of The Australian Catholic University as, not just a financial document of the institution's year, but as a clear picture of the community we value so greatly.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Julian McDonald". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brother R Julian McDonald CFC AO
Chancellor

Professor Greg Craven
Vice-Chancellor



Vice-Chancellor's report

This year has seen Australian Catholic University continue to explore its fundamental dual reality that it is inextricably both Catholic and a university, with each element mutually reinforcing the other within the oldest of Western university traditions.

As Vice-Chancellor, my first year has been one of challenge and experience. I am deeply grateful for all the assistance I have received and hope that the University's staff, students and supporters will continue to support me in the future.

The year has been one of significant innovation within the University, while also laying the groundwork for yet more exciting developments over the next period. After many years of discussion, Senate approved the establishment of a Faculty of Theology and Philosophy, emphasising a fundamental characteristic and strength of the University.

This was only one important component in a fundamental restructure of the University. Closely connected to the creation of the new faculty was the establishment of a Directorate of Identity and Mission to drive the University's character as a Catholic university.

In terms of management, the restructure saw fundamental change to the roles of the Pro-Vice-Chancellors, with new portfolios in the areas of Research, Students, Learning and Teaching and Administration and Resources being created. All the Pro-Vice-Chancellors will be co-located at the North Sydney Campus with the Vice-Chancellor for the first time, from 2009. Senior management responsibilities for the campuses will reside with Associate Vice-Chancellors (Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane) and Campus Deans (Canberra and Ballarat).

Even more widely, the University has moved to greatly enhance and develop its planning capacity. An Office of Planning and Strategic Management has been established and a new Strategic Plan developed.

The University is also moving to ensure that it has an appropriate and attractive suite of offerings for prospective students. In particular, it has commenced the process for the establishment of further courses in the field of allied health, including courses in physiotherapy and occupational therapy.

The University was greatly engaged in World Youth Day in Sydney, with about 400 of our students taking part as pilgrims and 100 as volunteers. This was a unique opportunity for the University publicly to express its character to the Church and the nation as a whole.

A major initiative has been the establishment of the Early Achievers' Program, which has allowed early selection of students, both school leavers and non-school leavers, with strong academic results or professional experience, and equally strong records in community engagement. More than 1,000 applications were received in the first year of the scheme's operation and this partly underlies what appears to be an exceptionally strong enrolment performance into 2009.

Next year will see similar levels of activity, to a significant extent building upon directions established in 2008.

A vital matter for the University will be to respond effectively to the recommendations of the Bradley Review of Higher Education. Our enhanced capacity in strategic planning will be vital in this respect.

There will be extensive work involved in the full implementation of the University's restructure. One of the first important aspects of this will

be the roll-out of the Directorate of Identity and Mission and its commencement of work in such contexts as formation and core curriculum.

Fundamental to the University's success will be the embedding next year of a faculty-connected research culture under the leadership of the new Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research). This will see the University increasingly focusing its research into designated areas of speciality: theology and philosophy; health, with an emphasis upon care and the disadvantaged; education, especially in relation to the poor and vulnerable; and social justice and the common good.

The University will also look towards the establishment of its fifth faculty, with the national School of Business being translated to faculty status with a corresponding review of its operations and programs.

Major physical expansion of the University will be also under consideration. The strength of demand for places, in particular at the Melbourne Campus, will necessitate new developments and initiatives.

In a challenging higher education climate, the University is well placed in terms of human resources, offerings, finance and prospects to make a major contribution to Catholic higher education in Australia.

Professor Greg Craven
Vice-Chancellor

6 campuses

Foundation

Australian Catholic University represents the accumulated achievements of 150 years of Catholic tertiary education. Growing from a historic base in teacher education, it now educates approximately 17,000 students across a variety of disciplines.

It is Australia's only university with a national dimension, with campuses in three state capitals – Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane – as well as in Canberra, and a regional campus in Ballarat. By Australian standards, it is a medium-sized university, but with six relatively small campuses it is able to offer a personalised education to its students.

The University's teaching operations are closely focused on disciplines classically falling within the Catholic intellectual tradition. These include theology, philosophy, education, health, the liberal arts and business. As a unifying theme, all are centred on human relationships.

Correspondingly, the University's research is specialised in the areas of theology and philosophy, health (with a particular emphasis on care of the vulnerable), education and the multi-disciplinary field of social welfare and social justice.

History

Australian Catholic University (ACU National) opened in January 1991 following the amalgamation of four Catholic tertiary institutions in eastern Australia. It was recognised as a university under the *Australian Catholic University (Victoria) Act 1991*.

The institutions that merged to form the University had their origins in the mid-1800s, when religious orders and institutes became involved in preparing teachers for Catholic schools and later nurses for Catholic hospitals.

Objectives

The objectives and powers of the University are provided through the Constitution of Australian Catholic University Limited, which was incorporated as a public company, limited by guarantee, registered in the state of Victoria, in November 1990. See www.acu.edu.au for a detailed list of objectives.

The University is a public university, recognised and funded by the Commonwealth Government, and as such its students are eligible for the Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS-HELP). The University is open to students and staff of all beliefs.

Campuses

The University has six campuses in Australia (right).



Brisbane
McAuley at Banyo



North Sydney
MacKillop



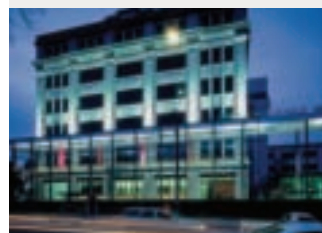
Strathfield (Sydney)
Mount Saint Mary



Canberra
Signadou



Ballarat
Aquinas



Melbourne
St Patrick's

The University had three faculties in 2008 – Education, Arts and Sciences and Health Sciences.



Faculties and areas of study

The Australian Catholic University at its Australian campuses and overseas, in 2008 offered courses, both undergraduate and postgraduate, in three faculties. The curriculum was university-wide but not all courses were offered at each campus. The establishment of a fourth faculty, of Theology and Philosophy, has been passed by the University Senate and its courses are being planned for 2009.

Faculty of Arts and Sciences

- Accounting
- Arts
- Asian Studies
- Australian Studies
- Behavioural Science
- Business
- Catholic Studies
- Chemistry
- Communications
- Computing
- Counselling
- Creative Arts and Culture
- Drama
- East Timor Language and Cultural Studies
- Economics
- Environmental Studies
- Ethics
- Gender Studies
- Geography
- History
- Human Services
- Indigenous Studies
- Information Systems
- Interfaith Relations
- Languages
- Legal Studies
- Liberal Studies
- Literature
- Management
- Mathematics
- Media
- Ministry
- Music
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Politics
- Psychology
- Science
- Sociology
- Social Sciences
- Social Work
- Study of Religions
- Technology
- Theology
- Visual Arts and Design
- Youth Work

Faculty of Education

- Early Childhood Education
- Educational Leadership
- English as a Second Language for Teachers K–12 and for Adults
- Inclusive Education and Disability Studies
- Indigenous Education
- Primary Teacher Education
- Secondary Teacher Education
- Religious Education

Faculty of Health Sciences

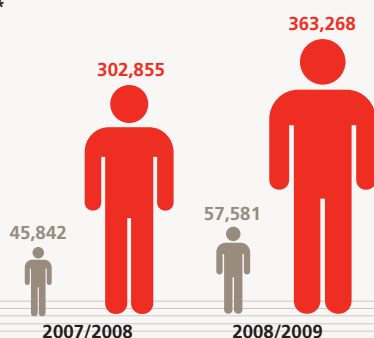
- Exercise Science
- Nursing
- Midwifery
- Nursing Leadership
- Paramedicine

Steady growth over the past five years is evident, and is forecast to continue

Increase in applications*

Total preferences
19.9% growth

Total 1st preferences
25.6% growth



16,934 students

Growth

The University was greatly encouraged by very strong growth in enrolments in 2008 for 2009.

Steady growth over the past five years is evident from some key statistics below, and is forecast to continue following an increase in enrolments for 2009, as noted above.

The 2008 figures of nearly 17,000 students and more than 1,200 staff, compared with those of 2004, represent, in round figures, growth of 40 per cent for student numbers and 28 per cent for staff, with a 31 per cent increase in academic staff. The corresponding growth in total income has been almost 53 per cent.

	2004	2008	Growth
Total students	12,156	16,934	39.3%
Equivalent full-time student load*	8,816	11,513.66	30.6%
Total staff FTE†	1,002.5	1,284	28.1%
Total academic staff FTE†	532.8	697.7	30.9%
Total income	\$116.3m	\$177.6m	52.7%
Government grants (including HECS)	\$79m	\$117.6m	48.9%
Fees and charges	\$19.8m	\$37.5m	89.4%
Other income	\$17.5m	\$22.5m	28.6%

*Figures as at 10 December 2008

† Full-time equivalent

Highlights of 2008

The Vice-Chancellor's reflections on significant events during the year include:

- 2008 being an important year of transition for ACU National with the institution in a favourable financial position, with strong working capital, to meet future challenges in the higher education sector
- the success of the University's Early Achievers' Program with more than 1,000 applicants and first-preference applications for 2009 increasing by an average of 26 per cent
- recommendations from the Bradley Review of Higher Education, to which the University made a submission
- establishment of the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy and proposal to consider the feasibility of establishing a Faculty of Business during 2009
- good progress with senior management restructure
- University Relations staff acting on recommendations of external review – activities such as market research and a comprehensive marketing strategy underway.

Modern buildings of the Melbourne Campus in Victoria Parade Fitzroy.



Strategic priorities

The *Strategic Plan 1999–2008* came to an end this year. It was updated mid-term following the 2002 Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) review of the University. The plan sought to bring a Mission-based focus to all the activities of the University and to set a large number of strategic priorities to advance the University over this 10-year period.

The *Strategic Plan 1999–2008* had identified the following priorities among 24 goals:

- enhancing the Mission-based focus of all the University's activities
- implementing different mechanisms for University funding that relate meaningfully to and derive benefit from the Crossroads policy initiatives that have just been formulated
- conducting ongoing structural reform
- targeting internationalisation and international education more effectively
- placing an increased emphasis on flexible learning
- working to enhance and further integrate the culture of research within the University
- increasing the range and depth of community engagements and collaborative partnerships
- enhancing ACUcom activity (see page 37)
- embedding quality more obviously across all the University's endeavours and working to communicate efficiently a sense of that to all staff and to all units
- developing a "culture of evidence" across the University in support of its decision making.

Most of the main targets were achieved, substantially achieved or, in some instances, over-achieved (for example, growth in non-Government revenue). As the 2008 AUQA review noted, however, reporting against all of the 24 indicators was not achieved, due to the absence of comprehensive data for a number of the indicators and in some instances the lack of specificity of the indicator.

The new Office of Planning and Strategic Management (OPSM) will be responsible for ensuring the analysis of data for measuring strategic objectives.

The Faculty of Education's *Teaching and Learning Plan (2006–2008)* also drew to a close, with an acknowledgement of substantial progress in each of the targeted outcomes:

- students demonstrate progress towards the achievement of graduate attributes
- academic programs reflect the Mission of the University
- academic staff demonstrate quality teaching and learning.

Government reviews

The University contributed full submissions to the Bradley and Cutler reviews of higher education. In addition, the Vice-Chancellor joined 13 other vice-chancellors of non-aligned universities, comprising a critical mass of Australia's higher education sector, to express their wish for a future government plan for the tertiary education sector that is equitable, visionary and sustainable.

The Vice-Chancellor made public comments on the Bradley Review when it appeared in December 2008. He approved of the emphasis on wider, more equitable access to tertiary education and on an overall quality system, rather than an over-concern with world rankings for a small number of universities, and agreed with the necessary hope for major increases in federal funding. He did, however, foresee major consequent disadvantages from a suggested voucher system of funding for students, which is likely to affect smaller, regional and more vulnerable universities.

The Cutler Review gave a compelling argument for extra funding of Australian universities since, as Federal Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Minister Kim Carr said, "by international standards (of innovation) we have been slipping: if we don't improve we won't be able to maintain living standards." Cutler recommends the distribution of more than \$600 million in research block and research training funding on real research performance, as measured by the government's Excellence in Research for Australia audit.



strategic plan

developed for 2009–2011

Planning for the future – proposed strategic directions

Vice-Chancellor's initiatives

In 2008, the new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Greg Craven, established an Office of Planning and Strategic Management (OPSM). A draft *Strategic Plan for 2009–2011* has been prepared. Building on the experience of the previous plan, this one is shorter, with a more manageable number of targets and corresponding indicators. It is designed to give very clear guidance as to the directions of the University and the expectations of organisational units and staff.

New strategic priorities have been set for research and internationalisation, and several major internal reviews initiated for such areas as management structure, the disciplines of nursing and exercise science, marketing and the ACUcom arm of the University.

In addition, a new *Learning and Teaching Plan for 2009–2111* was adopted, reflecting renewed focus on graduate attributes, generic skills, improved learning outcomes for students and professional development for staff.

For the year of 2008, the Vice-Chancellor produced a paper titled *Implementation of 2008 Strategic Priorities*, which noted:

- a need to re-emphasise the connection of the Mission to our Catholic identity
- the establishment of an Office of University Properties
- the development of a strategic research plan for 2009–2111
- the establishment of the Office of Planning and Strategic Management to implement the plan
- the introduction in 2008 of the Early Achievers' Program (see page 27)
- a need to focus on growth of enrolments
- a need for a review of the roles of Pro-Vice-Chancellors
- a need for a new overall emphasis on student experience
- the establishment of a fourth faculty (of Theology and Philosophy) for 2009
- the founding of a Public Policy Institute in Canberra to begin in 2009, with Professor Father Frank Brennan SJ as Director, to inform and influence public policy from within a Catholic intellectual tradition
- the establishment of new courses for 2010 in physiotherapy (in Brisbane and North Sydney) and in 2011 occupational therapy (in Melbourne).



2 Governance

governance

Company structure

ACU National is incorporated in Victoria as Australian Catholic University Limited, a public company limited by guarantee. The Catholic Archbishops of the Archdioceses of Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Canberra and Goulburn, the Bishops of the Dioceses of Ballarat and Parramatta, congregational leaders of a number of religious institutions and nominees of the Archbishops, and the Bishop of Ballarat are the Company members.

Its constitution may be viewed on the University's website: www.acu.edu.au.

The University Senate is the governing body of the University and its members are the Board of Directors of Australian Catholic University Limited.

Four Chapters, based in Victoria, the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and Queensland, provide an interface between the University and the local community. Chapters act as advisory bodies to the Senate. The local Archbishop appoints members of each Chapter. While the Chapters have no direct governance role in the University, the Chair of each Chapter annually advises the Annual General Meeting of the Company on the attainment in its state of the Objects of the Company. His Eminence Cardinal George Pell AC is the President of Australian Catholic University Limited.

Senate members

The 16 members of Senate – that is the Board of Directors – are appointed in different ways. Three are ex-officio members (Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor); four are elected by Members of the Company; four by Members of the Company from a panel of nominations provided by Members and Senate; three by academic staff; and one each from general staff and students.

The Chancellor and Pro-Chancellor are selected by the Members of the Company, while the Vice-Chancellor is appointed by the Senate.





Directors' membership of external boards

Bishop James Foley

Trust Corporation of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Cairns

Mr Paul Cuthbert Hoy

(term of office expired 23 May 2008)
Church and Commercial Insurances Ltd (CCI Insurances Ltd)

Br Robert Julian McDonald

St Stanislaus' College Bathurst
Encompass Australasia Limited
Trustees of the Christian Brothers
Trustees of the Christian Brothers (Queensland)
The Christian Brothers Inc
Christian Brothers in Western Australia Inc
Christian Brothers Victoria Property Ltd
Trustees of the Christian Brothers New Zealand
Brigidine College St Ives

Associate Professor Marea Nicholson

Rosebank College

Mr Stephen Noel Elder

Catholic Education Commission of Victoria Ltd
Catholic Capital Grant (Victoria) Ltd

Committees

Senate Committees

- Standing and Finance Committee
- Audit Committee
- Nominations Committee
- Honorary Awards Committee

Standing Committees of Academic Board

- Academic Board Standing Committee
- Academic Regulations Committee
- Admissions Committee
- Non-Award Courses Committee
- Teaching Development Grants and Awards Committee
- Teaching and Learning Evaluations Committee
- Teaching and Learning Committee
- University Medals Committee
- University Research Committee

Committees reporting to Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs)

- Academic Board
- Academic Staff Promotions Committees
- Ceremonial and Protocols Committee
- Goals Committee
- Library Committee
- Management Advisory Group
- Flexible Teaching and Learning Committee
- Outside Studies Program and Internal Research Secondment Committee
- Probation Committee
- University Galleries Committee

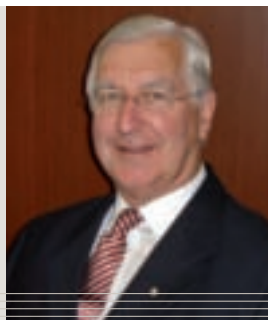
Management structure

The chief executive officer of the University is the Vice-Chancellor. There are three Pro-Vice-Chancellors (located in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne) with delegated responsibility for assigned areas of University policy. There are Rectors at Canberra and Ballarat.

The Vice-Chancellor is also assisted by the Deans of the three faculties, the Executive Director University Services, the Dean of Students, the Academic Registrar and six Directors with national portfolios.

Each campus has a Student Association, and there is a national student body, Australian Catholic University National Students' Association (ACUNSA), which looks after the welfare of students and provides a voice for them.

Principal officers of the University in 2008



Chancellor

Brother R Julian McDonald
CFC AO BA DipEd (Syd) CertRelFormation
(St Louis) GradDipLangInEd (CSU)

Brother Julian was appointed Chancellor of ACU National in November 2000. He has been a member of the University Senate since 1992, and was previously Pro-Chancellor from 1995–2000.

In October 2002, Brother Julian concluded a 12-year term as Province Leader of the Christian Brothers in NSW, ACT and Papua New Guinea. He is currently a member of the Leadership Team of the Christian Brothers, Oceania Province, and a consultant to the National Committee for Professional Standards – a committee of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia.

Brother Julian was made an Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia in 2003.

He joined the Christian Brothers in 1960 and went on to gain a Bachelor of Arts and Diploma of Education at the University of Sydney. He later received a Certificate of Religious Formation from St Louis University and a Graduate Diploma in Language in Education from Charles Sturt University. In 1973 he became Director of Christian Brothers Formation at Strathfield NSW and held this position until 1981. Brother Julian spent two years (1988–1990) in Rome as Director of Christian Brothers' International Renewal Program. He has an honorary doctorate from Divine Word University, Madang, PNG.

Pro-Chancellor

Edward Exell
BA (Hons) (Melb) BEc (ANU) AM

Mr Exell has been Pro-Chancellor of the University since November 2000 and is a previous Business Manager of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. He is Chair of the Standing and Finance Committee of the University.

Mr Exell was born in Melbourne and educated at Xavier College, Melbourne, Loyola College, Watsonia, as a Jesuit scholastic, and at the Australian National University.

Before joining the Catholic Archdiocese he was Deputy Managing Director of the Australian Trade Commission. Mr Exell has served on the National Board of Employment Education and Training, the Mercy Health and Aged Board and as a member of the School Council of Xavier College. He was made a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia in 1988.

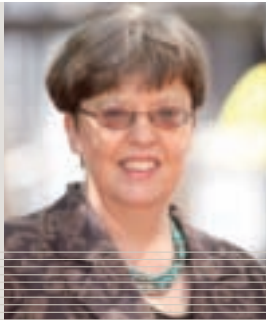
Vice-Chancellor

Professor Greg Craven
BA (Melb) LLM (Melb)

Professor Craven, lawyer and academic, commenced as Vice-Chancellor of ACU National in February 2008. An expert in public and constitutional law, he has published numerous journal articles and four books, including *Conversations with the Constitution* (University of New South Wales Press, 2004). A regular commentator in public debate, he is a columnist for *The Australian Financial Review* and a contributor to numerous other newspapers, journals and public forums.

Professor Craven most recently served as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategy and Planning) of Curtin University of Technology in Western Australia, where he also held the position of Professor of Government and Constitutional Law, and as Executive Director of the John Curtin Institute of Public Policy.

Formerly Foundation Dean and Professor of Law at the University of Notre Dame Australia, Professor Craven was earlier a Senior Lecturer and Reader in Law at the University of Melbourne. He acted for three years as Crown Counsel to the Victorian Government, in which position he oversaw major legal policy reforms for the Victorian Government.



**Pro-Vice-Chancellor
(Academic Affairs)**

Professor Gabrielle McMullen
BSc (Hons) PhD (Monash) FRACI

Professor McMullen has held her current appointment as Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs) since 2000. She is responsible for the ACU National faculties, library, online education and academic staff professional learning, as well as for the Victorian operations of the University. She was previously Rector of the Ballarat Campus for five years.

Before joining ACU National, Professor McMullen worked at the Chemical Institute of the University of Freiburg, Germany, as a postdoctoral fellow and then in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Monash University. She was also Dean of Mannix College at Monash University. She has held fellowships from the Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung and the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, and is a Fellow of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute. Professor McMullen's current research interests include Catholic higher education.



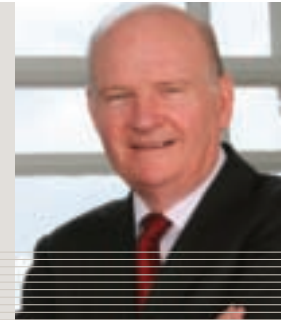
**Pro-Vice-Chancellor
(Research and International)**

Professor Peter Wilson
BA (Hons) PhD (UNSW)

Professor Wilson took up the position of Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and International) in May 2006 and ended his time at ACU National at the end of 2008. With degrees in psychology from UNSW, he had previously been Professor and Head of Psychology at Southern Cross University where he established a new school of Psychology.

His research has been in the area of clinical and health psychology. He is well-known internationally for his research on the psychological aspects and management of tinnitus and has also published in the area of cognitive-behaviour therapy for depression. He has held NHMRC grants for research in tinnitus and diabetes and received a Distinguished Career Award in 1998 from the Australian Association for Cognitive and Behaviour Therapy.

Professor Wilson has been a member of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International) sub-committees of the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee, Chair of the Heads of Departments and Schools of Psychology Association (2002–2003), National President of Australian Behaviour Modification Association (1986–1987) and a member of the Professional Development Accreditation Advisory Group of the Australian Psychological Society.



**Pro-Vice-Chancellor
(Quality and Engagement)**

Professor John O'Gorman
BA (Hons) PhD (Qld) FAPS

Professor O'Gorman commenced as Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Quality and Engagement) in February 2004, based on the Brisbane Campus, and retired at the end of 2008.

Before joining ACU National, Professor O'Gorman was Foundation Professor of Psychology at Griffith University, where he was also Dean of Health Sciences for almost 10 years. Prior to that he was at the University of New England, Armidale, where he was for three years Dean of the Faculty of Arts.

Professor O'Gorman is a Fellow of the Australian Psychological Society, a former Chair of the Psychologists Board of Queensland (1992–1998) and a former editor of *The Australian Journal of Psychology* (1991–1994).



Executive Director, University Services

John Cameron
MCom (UNSW) CPA AAIMM

Mr Cameron has held his appointment as Executive Director, University Services since 2000. He is responsible for all non-academic administrative service and support functions in the University. Mr Cameron is the Company Secretary and Public Officer of Australian Catholic University Limited. In that role he is also Secretary to the governing Senate and its committees and is responsible for all governance and legal matters including copyright and privacy.

Mr Cameron was previously the Director of Finance for two years. Before joining ACU National, Mr Cameron worked at the University of Technology, Sydney, from 1987–1998 as Director, Financial Services, and from 1973–1987 at the University of New South Wales in several administrative positions. He has a total of 34 years experience in higher education administration.

Rectors

Canberra – Professor Peter Camilleri
BSocStud (Syd) MSc (Surrey) PhD (Flin)

Ballarat – Associate Professor Anne Jean Hunt B Sc (Melb) DipEd (Melb) BEd (Monash) BTheol (YU of MCD) MSc (Ed) (Fordham) MA Theol (Catholic Theological Union, Chicago) DTheol (MCD)

Deans

Dean, Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
Professor Gail Crossley BSc PhD (Melb)
DipEd (SydCAE) – North Sydney

Dean, Faculty of Education:
Professor Marie Emmitt TITC (Toorak)
BA BEd MEd (Monash) MACE – Melbourne

Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences:
Professor Pauline Nugent
RN BAppSci (La Trobe) MEdSt (Monash)
FRCNA (North Sydney) – Melbourne and
North Sydney

Acting Dean of Students and Director
of Ministry: Anne Cummins
BEd (CanberraCAE) GradDipEd Syd Cath
Coll) MA (Macquarie) MEdL (ACU) – North
Sydney

Directors

Director of Finance: John Ryan
BBus (UTS) CPA – North Sydney

Director of Information Technology:
Paul Campbell MBT (UNSW) – North
Sydney

Director of International Education:
Valerie Hoogstad BA (Syd) MA (Macq) –
North Sydney

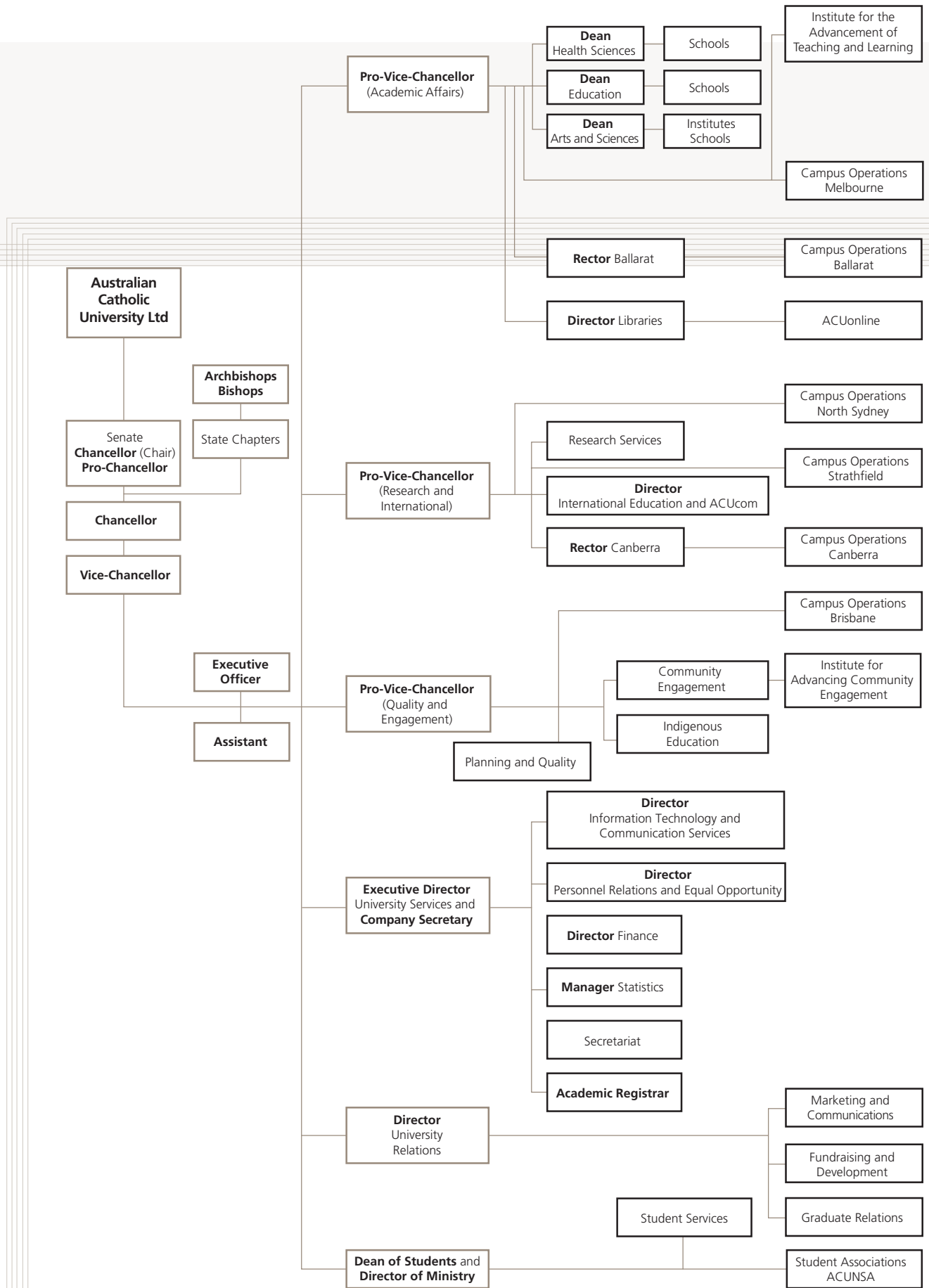
Director of Libraries: Christopher
Sheargold BA (Syd) AALIA – Melbourne

Director of Personnel Relations and
Equal Opportunity: Dr John Barclay
BA DipEd DipLib (UNSW) MEd (Syd) PhD (Lough)
GradDipEmpRels (UTS) – North Sydney

Director of University Relations: Patricia
Ruzzene BA (UNSW) Grad Cert TCHG (UTS)
MACommMgt (UTS) – North Sydney

Academic Registrar: Gabrielle
Westmore BA (Qld) – Brisbane

Organisational chart



3 Mission and identity



Mission statement

Australian Catholic University shares with universities worldwide a commitment to quality in teaching, research and service. It aspires to be a community characterised by free inquiry and academic integrity.

The University's inspiration, located within 2,000 years of Catholic intellectual tradition, summons it to attend to all that is of concern to human beings. It brings a distinctive spiritual perspective to the common tasks of higher education.

Through fostering and advancing knowledge in education, health, commerce, the humanities, the sciences and technologies, and the creative arts, Australian Catholic University seeks to make a specific contribution to its local, national and international communities.

The University explicitly engages the social, ethical and religious dimensions of the questions it faces in teaching, research and service. In its endeavours, it is guided by a fundamental concern for justice and equity, and for the dignity of all human beings.

Australian Catholic University has a primary responsibility to provide excellent higher education for its entire diversified and dispersed student body. Its ideal graduates will be highly competent in their chosen fields, ethical in their behaviour, with a developed critical habit of mind, an appreciation of the sacred in life and a commitment to serving the common good.

Community engagement

Bradley discussion paper emphasis

This important paper in 2008 discussed in some depth ideas of community engagement which have been incorporated into our University's approach in this area, as follows.

Higher education contributes to Australia's economic, social and cultural capital most directly through its two core functions of teaching and research. Over the last decade national and international commentators have also noted a significant trend among many universities towards a third function, which has been described using a range of terms such as "knowledge transfer", "community service", "community engagement" and "the third stream"...

...The Third Stream is about the interactions between universities and the rest of society... The Science and Technology Policy Research Unit argues that this goes beyond the commercialisation of research. Universities make contributions to government and civil society as well as the private sector, assisting not only with economic performance but also helping to improve quality of life and the effectiveness of public services.

As the *Bradley discussion paper* notes, this important function of universities is now recognised by UK and US classifications to include "community engagement", as well as being an important component of university activity in the Australian National Protocols for Higher Education Processes.



Stand Up and Be Counted, a banner for the Make Poverty History campaign, supported by ACU National students.

Activities towards Mission and identity

AUQA commendation

The Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) in 2008 reviewed the University for the second time (see page 26). Its report noted that:

“There is a high awareness and shared understanding of the Mission, which gives the inspiration and impetus to the provision of quality learning experiences, including pastoral care for students and a responsive and positive interaction with the wide range of ACU National community partners. There are a number of laudable community engagement activities in which staff and students participate.”

Australian Catholic University shares with universities worldwide a commitment to quality in teaching, research and service. It aspires to be a community characterised by free inquiry and academic integrity.

Informing all undertakings

The Mission informs all the University's undertakings, bringing considerations of ethical and social justice issues into the core activities of both research and student learning.

The research centres founded on concerns of quality of life for all communities and individuals are detailed on page 44, and student involvement in community and social justice activities is explored on page 32.

There are numerous ongoing distinctive social justice programs at the University, such as the Karen Refugee Project (see page 39), the Clemente Australia program (see page 39) and the emphasis in both research and teaching on improving educational and health outcomes for Indigenous Australians. There are also a host of student initiatives, awards for Community Engagement (see pages 31 and 43) and public discussion forums.

Specific catalysts

There are, in addition, two specific bodies within the University which are particularly charged with the responsibility of enacting the Mission of the University:

- the Goals Committee, whose aims are to embed the University's Catholic identity into its structures, functions and practices and to address the many challenges of the University's Mission statement
- the Institute for the Advancement of Community Engagement (IACE), with its ongoing programs in areas Beyond Difference, Beyond Disadvantage and Beyond Borders.

serving the common good



Sarah Forgan Doane,
Education graduate and
postgraduate student,
working in Namibia.



Dr Kamran Mofid (4th from left), founder of the Globalisation for the Common Good Initiative, at the forum held at the Strathfield Campus, with inter-faith representatives.

Public forums

Most of the following engagements with the community, consistent with the University's Mission, were initiatives of the two driving forces of the Goals Committee and the IACE, which inspired willing participation by ACU National staff, students and the wider world:

- forum at the Melbourne Campus, coordinated by the University's Institute of Legal Studies and Students for Awareness, with keynote addresses by Julian Burnside QC and Phoebe Knowles, on the question "How have the anti-terrorism laws impacted on human rights in Australia?"
- forum at Strathfield on Globalisation for the Common Good with Oxford founder of the initiative, Dr Kamran Mofid, world-renowned globalisation, economics and inter-faith specialist, and representatives of a number of inter-faith, Islamic and Columban Mission centres
- historical studies conference Childhood Rediscovered, organised by Professor Margot Hillel OAM and Professor Shurlee Swain, held at the Melbourne Campus
- children's literature conference at Strathfield, hosted in partnership with the Edmund Rice Centre, centring on the values of literature that "speaks of justice", and involving award-winning Australian authors, ACU National students and more than 120 visiting school teachers, librarians and academics
- first international youth forum for the Maronite Church, with 100 global visitors including the Maronite Patriarch and bishops, at the Strathfield Campus
- seventh annual Colloquium of the Golding Centre for Women's History, Theology and Spirituality at the Strathfield Campus
- social justice youth forum for senior secondary school students, held at the Brisbane Campus, with the keynote address being given by Father Chris Riley of the Youth off the Streets program
- Conscientious Objection symposium at the Melbourne Campus, providing an opportunity for reasoned discussion of the Victorian Government's Abortion Law Reform Bill
- VII International Abraham Conference in Central Hall, Melbourne Campus, a collaborative conference organised by the University's Asia-Pacific Centre for Inter-religious Dialogue, together with the Australian Inter-cultural Society, the Australian Centre for Jewish Civilisation, Monash University and its Centre for Studies in Religion and Theology, and the Ecumenical Inter-faith Commission
- a series of public lectures on the theme One God in a Divided World, presented by ACU National with Catenians, and international fraternity of Catholic laity, to discuss the road to goodwill from different religious perspectives
- Young Muslims Leadership Program, at the Strathfield Campus
- social justice forums, Dare to Make a Difference, presented by Adjunct Professor Robert Fitzgerald on all campuses, as a response to the Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement of 2008
- forum Calling for Climate Justice, where Indigenous peoples of Pacific Islands spoke publicly on their experience with rising sea levels, hosted by Strathfield Campus, the University's Institute for Advancing Community Engagement, part of the Pacific Island Partnership, an initiative of the Edmund Rice Centre
- public forums to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights – Transforming Education: a right for people, communities and nations.

Recognition

The University received an Award for Excellence in Academia from the Australian Intercultural Society, in recognition of the University's contribution to interfaith relations. The award was presented at a Ramadan Iftar dinner in September, hosted at Melbourne's Government House by the Governor of Victoria, Professor David de Kretser AC.

The University, as seen elsewhere in this report, has hosted numerous interfaith conferences, has interfaith staff and courses and has developed a new curriculum for schools to promote interfaith education, all of which were considered as grounds for the award.

ACU National also awards a national prize in the community engagement arena – the Eureka Prize for Research in Ethics (of \$10,000) every year for "serious, intellectual investigation of theoretical or practical ethical issues contributing to the understanding and development of ethical standards". This year the prize went to Garrett Cullity, the author of *The Moral Demands of Affluence* (Oxford University Press), which examines whether, and to what extent, well-to-do individuals are obliged to help others less fortunate.

4 Resources



General income and expenditure

The full financial statements of the University's operations in 2008 are to be found on pages 56 to 59.

Federal government allocations

The Commonwealth Government's Better Universities Renewal Funding (BURF) of \$5.9 million, received by the University, was allocated as follows:

- \$2 million was used for projects in student amenities across all six campuses
- \$3.9 million was allocated to upgrading of information technology infrastructure, renovations of classrooms and lecture facilities and library refurbishment.

Impact of government proposals

The University anticipates that it may experience a decrease in the enrolment of international students which, together with the federal government's decision to discontinue full-fee-paying undergraduate places, is likely to mean a decline in revenue. The Vice-Chancellor has emphasised the consequent need for expenditure restraint.

Australian Catholic University Foundation

Donors

The achievements of the University have been due in significant part to the many donors and supporters who have honoured the University with their trust. This support has been focused on, and managed through, the Australian Catholic University Foundation.

Through the Foundation, donations are received to support the University's academic initiatives, teaching and research projects, community engagement activities, student scholarships and bursaries, as well as to support its capital development program and facilities.

ACU National's commitment to the development of partnerships with the community has been strengthened through the work of the fundraising and development team within the University Relations Directorate.

In 2008, the University updated its policy framework to provide a comprehensive guide to fundraising and development efforts by articulating new policies on:

- acceptance and treatment of donations
- honouring donors and benefactors through naming
- external funding of chairs and other academic posts
- naming of buildings, facilities and spaces
- scholarships, bursaries, prizes and other awards.



Scholarships endowed

A key priority for the University is to provide scholarships for students. Today, students pay more for their education than at any other time in Australia's history.

The support of the University's donors has enabled it to remain committed to social justice and to continue to provide the transformational experience of education to as many students as possible. In turn, the University has helped students to carry its Mission into the wider world, serving the common good.

New scholarships and awards established in 2008 were:

- Aloysius Morgan and Canberra Southern Cross Club Scholarships, funded by the Canberra Southern Cross Club for commencing students in the ACT
- Canberra Southern Cross Club PhD Scholarship at the Institute of Child Protection Studies, Canberra Campus
- St Vincent de Paul Society (ACT) Indigenous Scholarships to encourage Indigenous students in professional fields at the Canberra Campus
- Kevin Moyle Award for Liturgy or Ministry Studies at the Canberra Campus, donated by Mrs Janet Moyle Grad Dip RE (1993), MTheo (2001) in honour of her late husband
- Staff Options Scholarship established by Staff Options to recognise and reward a student who can demonstrate their commitment to and leadership in disability care at the Brisbane Campus
- St Vincent's and Mercy Private Hospital Wurundjeri Scholarship, established in the spirit of reconciliation and as a response to the National Apology made in Federal Parliament on 13 February 2008 for Indigenous commencing students enrolled in the

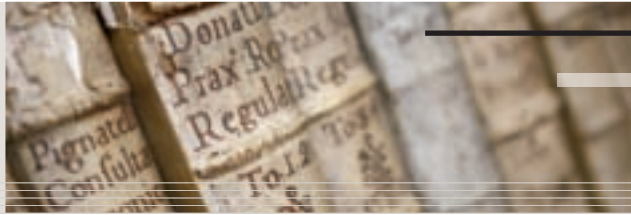
Bachelor of Nursing or Bachelor of Midwifery course at the Melbourne or Ballarat Campus

- Gill Family Foundation Indigenous Nursing Scholarship for a first-year undergraduate Indigenous student in Victoria
- Karen Agnew Prize, awarded to a social work student for excellence in social work practice in their third year, established by staff and students in the School of Social Work (NSW), supported by family and friends, to honour the memory of Karen Agnew, who died tragically on an overseas holiday in July 2007, the prize paying tribute to her qualities as a student social worker
- Prize in Science and Technology established by family, colleagues and friends in honour of the late Terry Harrison, a Coordinator of the Bachelor of Education (Primary) program at the Strathfield Campus and a Lecturer in Science and Technology, to honour his commitment to the welfare of his students and their education in science and technology, to be awarded to a student who has achieved excellent results in science and technology and has shown a demonstrated commitment to environmental issues
- Northside Group Mental Health Services Prize (Ramsay Health Care) established by Ramsay Health Care to encourage excellence in the provision of mental health nursing care, awarded to a nursing student in NSW
- Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Mental Health Service Prize established to encourage excellence in the important area of mental health nursing, awarded to a nursing student in NSW.

These are in addition to 42 other scholarships and bursaries previously established for ACU National students.

Major projects involving fundraising and partnerships

- Professor Ismail Albayrak was appointed to the Fethullah Gullen Chair in the Study of Islam and Muslim-Catholic Relations, School of Arts and Sciences, based at the Melbourne Campus. The Chair is the result of a partnership with the Australian Intercultural Society and is supported by the Society and by members of the Islamic community in Australia.
- Funding to refurbish and upgrade the Central Hall at the Melbourne Campus was secured under the federal government's Better Universities Renewal Funding (BURF) program. The refurbishment had commenced in 2006 with significant support in the form of a matching grant from the Ian Potter Foundation.
- A major feasibility study was undertaken into potential support for a Chair in Identity and Curriculum in Catholic Education, to be located at the Brisbane Campus. Following the identification of significant levels of support, a fundraising campaign was commenced, and is expected to be completed in 2009.
- ACU National welcomed the eMerge Foundation as a new partner in its support of the Catholic Teachers' College in Baucau, East Timor. Representatives of the Foundation travelled to Baucau in October to attend the 2008 graduation ceremony and gained a first-hand understanding of the needs of the College and its students. The trip was supported by Campus Travel, the University's official travel agent, and staff and students at the Strathfield Campus also conducted fundraising activities, which enabled two new scholarships to be granted to students at the College.



Australian Catholic University Foundation supporters

ACU National is deeply grateful for the generous support of the trusts, institutions and individuals who contributed to the support of the University and its students in 2008.

These include:

- the University's staff and students
- individual benefactors
- philanthropic foundations
- Catholic organisations including Catholic Education Offices, religious congregations, hospitals and dioceses
- corporations
- community and service groups.

Many have also contributed artworks and books to the University's collections. These gifts are highly valued and much appreciated. In the course of the year, the Vice-Chancellor met several groups of donors and other supporters to thank them personally for their support to date and to outline his vision for the future.

The achievements of the University have been due in significant part to the many donors and supporters who have honoured the University with their trust.

Support for national projects

A Lam Yan Foon
 Alain Chung
 Alban Wong Too Yuen
 Allan J Myers
 Andrew Chan
 Annette Ellis
 Archdiocese of Melbourne
 Australian Intercultural Society
 Bea Brickhill
 Ben Himpoo
 Boyd Webster
 Bruno Yvanovich
 Burke Fund
 Campus Travel
 Chantel Ng
 Clare Keady
 David Sugarman
 Diocese De Port Louis Appeal Fund
 Dorothy Byrne
 E Byrne
 Staff and Students East Timor Support Group (Strathfield Campus)
 eMerge Foundation
 Gabriel Radzyminski
 Helene Lam
 Hilda Henrisson
 J Brunet
 Kim See
 Kong Li-Kim-Moy
 Leticia J Medwell
 Lincoln Lee
 M Broudou
 M Lin
 Marcus Vowels
 Margaret Cusack
 Marie Marchand
 Merry Chung
 Micheline Leung Shing
 Nick Feng
 Pierre Commarmond
 Quan Li
 Reg Lam-Po-Tang
 Reginald Wong
 Ron Pirola
 Serge Lee
 Solange Wong
 Sophie Tong
 Tony Ah-Koon

ACT and SE NSW

Canberra Southern Cross Club
 Catholic Education Office Canberra and Goulburn
 Janet M Moyle
 Sisters of St Joseph, Goulburn

Victoria

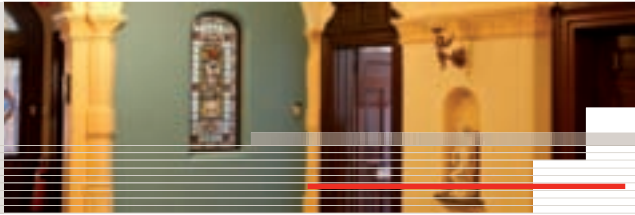
Cabrini Health
 CPA Australia, Victorian Division
 Frawley Family
 George Alexander Foundation
 John and Barbara Ralph
 Marlene Smith
 Peter and Margaret Gill
 St Vincent's and Mercy Private Hospital
 St Vincent's Hospital (Melbourne) Ltd
 The Ian Potter Foundation

NSW

Alan Luby
 Antonio Brucculeri
 Carroll & O'Dea Lawyers
 Centacare Catholic Community Services
 Christine Agnew
 CPA Australia
 Dr John C Hennessy
 Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club
 Flagship Communications
 Jeanette Woods
 Jennifer Pace-Feraud
 John Skoczylas
 Linda McKeone
 Lorraine Norton
 Lurline Grace
 Margaret Beck
 Margaret Macmillan
 Marist Brothers
 Michael Keogh
 Minter Ellison Lawyers
 Moore Stephens Sydney Pty Ltd
 Northern Sydney Central Coast Area Mental Health Service
 Northside Group Mental Health Services (Ramsay Health Care)
 NSW Minerals Council Ltd
 Patricia Hansen
 Richard P R Chadwick
 Richard Thomas
 RSL LifeCare Ltd
 Ruby Agnew
 Shoni Nagel
 Siloam Korean Presbyterian Church
 Sisters of the Good Samaritan
 Susan Hill
 Council of Catholic School Parents (NSW)

Queensland

Greg Sunter
 Order of Malta
 Rita Cleveland
 Sisters of Mercy
 Staffing Options



Entrance hall of the historic Edmund Rice Building at the Strathfield Campus, whose restoration won a heritage award from Strathfield Council.

There are a number of donors who do not wish to be publicly acknowledged, but whose generosity is greatly appreciated by the University. Their support and commitment to ACU National Foundation continue to enhance educational opportunities for many.

Scholarships and bursaries

The University continued its commitment to finding ways of assisting students with particular financial pressures, as well as those from rural and regional areas, to study at the University, and gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organisations that provide support for our students through the direct awarding of established scholarships, prizes and bursaries.

Alexander Family
 Association of Catholic School Principals Inc
 Australian & New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses Inc
 Australian Catholic Historical Society
 Australian College of Educators (NSW Chapter – Parramatta/Hills Regional Group)
 Australian College of Midwifery
 Australian Computer Society Inc (NSW Branch)
 Australian Confederation of Paediatric and Child Health Nurses
 Australian Council for Educational Leaders Inc
 Australian Council of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, NSW
 Australian Government Department of Education, Science and Training
 Australian Human Resources Institute
 Australian Literacy Educators' Association (Vic)
 Australian Nursing Federation
 Australian Psychological Society Ltd
 Ballarat Diocesan Schools Board
 Ballarat South Rotary Club
 Callinan Family
 Capicchiano Family Trust
 Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst (Bendigo)
 Catholic Education Office, ACT
 Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Sale
 Catholic Education Office, Parramatta

Catholic Education Office, Sydney
 Catholic Schools Office, Broken Bay Diocese
 Centaur Memorial Fund for Nurses
 Elsevier Australia
 GreaterGood (Capital Region Community Foundation)
 Institute of Industrial Arts and Technology Education
 John Wiley & Sons Australia Ltd
 Johnson & Johnson Pacific
 Loreto Sisters Australia
 Maria Myers
 Mark McCall and family
 Mathematical Association of New South Wales Inc
 McGraw-Hill Australia
 NSW Minerals Council
 Queensland Community Foundation
 Queensland Orthopaedic Nurses Association
 Presentation Sisters (Qld)
 Rotary Club of Ballarat South
 Royal College of Nursing, Australia
 Royal Life Saving Society Australia (NSW)
 Salesians of Don Bosco
 Sports Medicine Australia (NSW Branch)
 St John of God Health Care, Ballarat
 St Vincent de Paul Society, Broken Bay
 St Vincent de Paul Society, Canberra and Goulburn
 St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney
 The Pratt Foundation
 Wexford Senate, Australia
 Zonta Club of Sydney North

Infrastructure

Award

The University's Strathfield Campus received a 2008 Heritage Conservation Award from Strathfield Municipal Council for its "outstanding heritage conservation and restoration of the Edmund Rice Building".

Additions

- Major refurbishments were carried out at the Strathfield and Ballarat campuses.
- Additional space was leased for the Melbourne and North Sydney campuses.
- During the year, progress was made on a new building to provide further facilities for the Faculty of Health Sciences at the Brisbane Campus. The building will be known as the Peter Sheehan building, named in honour of the previous Vice-Chancellor.

Libraries

- The University library staff conducted its fourth major survey of client attitudes, the previous surveys having been in 2002, 2004 and 2006.

Results were very good for the categories of service quality, service delivery, staff and online, but not for facilities and equipment, where growth in student numbers had not been met with a corresponding increase in library space, resulting in serious overcrowding in a number of campus libraries.

Most Australian and New Zealand libraries use the same survey so benchmarking is possible, and in the overall "weighted performance index", which pulls all the categories together, ACU National finished in the top quartile, compared with the rest of the sector.

- Library loan figures continued to grow, while there was also much stronger growth in the number of visitors to each library.

Federal Treasurer Wayne Swan and ACU National's Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Quality and Engagement) Professor John O'Gorman inspect the progress of the new Health Sciences building at the Brisbane Campus.



- Acquisitions expenditure reached \$2.8 million in 2008 (compared with \$1.4 million in 2004) and this has greatly strengthened collections, especially in the provision of electronic resources.
- At the same time expenditure on print books increased by 50 per cent since 2004.
- The libraries have also been purchasing perpetual access to back-issues of electronic journals, which will greatly improve capacity to support the research activities of the University.
- There was significant refurbishment of each library, including repainting and recarpeting, provision of more student-use computers and more group study areas.

IT and distance learning

See also page 32.

- With campuses in three states and the ACT, there is extensive use of video and phone conferencing and online materials for administrative, faculty and university relations purposes and for wider discussions and forums.
- The libraries are electronically linked and a video network joins all campuses.
- The University's eLearning website was launched in July and new interactive facilities have been incorporated.
- Some courses are taught online and on-campus courses have access to the Learning Management System (LMS) to supplement face-to-face teaching. This adds flexibility and interactivity since materials can be accessed at any time, from any location. No special software or equipment is needed.

Environmental sustainability

Australian Catholic University is committed to making a substantial contribution to environmental sustainability through the development of its physical infrastructure, recycling of materials and efficient use of all resources. As one example, the University is investigating opportunities for increasing the use of renewable energy sources, including the feasibility of installing solar panels at each of its six campuses.

In common with many other institutions, the University has its stock of old and "architecturally challenging" buildings, but all new major construction and renovation projects have an Environmental Management Plan. The largest building project undertaken in 2008 was the construction of Building H at the Brisbane Campus and environmentally sustainable design was at the forefront of the planning process, ranging from such matters as consideration of the most efficient insulation to reduce noise and provide thermal mass for temperature control, through to the specification of glass frontages for offices to maximise the amount of natural light.

Further illustrations of environmentally sustainable design in recent projects include:

- low-VOC paint used for new and maintenance painting
- recycled rubber flooring
- extensive use of carpet products that attract 100 per cent Green Star points
- rainwater collection
- water tap flow restrictions
- waterless urinals
- modification of air-conditioning controls to reduce power consumption
- movement sensors to control lighting and "time out" for air conditioning
- high-efficiency compact fluorescent lighting
- efficient waste disposal.

The appointment of the Director of Properties, commencing in early 2009, as part of the University restructure approved during 2008, will provide further impetus for policy development in this most important area.

\$2.8m
library acquisitions expenditure



5 Academic review

academic review



AUQA audit

The Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA), the national agency that promotes, audits and reports on quality assurance in Australian higher education, reviewed the University for the second time, the first having been in 2002. This Cycle 2 quality audit looked at the areas of Learning Outcomes and Community Engagement.

The University submitted its Performance Portfolio to AUQA in May and its responses to 25 specific questions in July.

The Performance Portfolio was divided into three chapters:

- Overview and Outcomes since Cycle 1
- Learning Outcomes
- Community Engagement.

Chapters 2 and 3, relating to the two agreed themes, contained both achievements and areas for improvement.

The audit panel of five members was chaired by Professor Charles Webb, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Charles Darwin University. The panel visited three of the campuses (Brisbane, North Sydney and Melbourne), spoke to 309 members of the University community and reviewed 169 documents in addition to the Portfolio and Progress Report.

The AUQA report was received by the University in December 2008. Visit www.auqa.edu.au/qualityaudit/universities/#acu to view the full report.

Comments from the Vice-Chancellor

The Vice-Chancellor commented on the AUQA audit report as follows.

AUQA's report focuses on the two themes of Learning Outcomes and Community Engagement, which were nominated for audit by the University.

In summary, the audit report includes:

- *eight commendations (areas where we are doing well)*
- *nine affirmations (areas that need improvement, but which we are already working on)*
- *and seven recommendations (areas in which we need to make improvements).*

The University's focus on graduate attributes, our support for Indigenous students (and their academic outcomes), our library and academic support systems, and our commitment to enhancing our planning, quality and management systems were all positively recognised in the report. The diversity and effectiveness of our engagement partnerships with the community were also recognised, as were our efforts to develop and extend our understanding of, and approach to, community engagement.

In terms of improvement, AUQA has recommended, for example, that we move to resolve a number of existing workforce planning issues and establish regular staff satisfaction surveys. The audit report also recommends that we review our assessment policy and procedures and consider the issue of risk management when establishing community engagement partnerships.



Many staff and students were involved in the audit panel visits to Brisbane, Melbourne and North Sydney campuses and in the briefing sessions that preceded these visits. It is noteworthy that the report explicitly recognises the commitment, loyalty and dedication of staff as a key feature of the University.

The audit panel also noted the inclusive and participative nature in which we had prepared for the audit and were heartened by feedback from staff about the opportunity afforded by the audit to promote institution-wide discussions on key institutional activities.

The report is a positive endorsement of the University that gives us much to be proud of, several things that we need to improve, and an overall indication that we are doing many things well.

Suggestions for improvement

The AUQA review made suggestions for improvement which included the following:

- In workforce planning the review found the University had not made serious strides since the 2002 audit and needed to give urgent attention to the "appropriate balance between permanent and sessional staff, replacing ageing staff and succession planning."
- "While the audit panel were left in no doubt as to the genuine connection of academic staff to the university mission and the embedding of research and scholarship into teaching and learning, the university failed to document this and needed to urgently implement a staff satisfaction survey."

Institutional Assessment Framework (IAF) visit

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) team, led by Mr Colin Walters, Manager of the Higher Education Group, visited the University during the year to discuss areas including strategic direction, research strategy, partnerships, financial viability, student load and trends, equity issues, quality issues and staff profile.

Entry programs

New entry scheme – the Early Achievers' Program

The University this year introduced an early entry scheme for both school-leavers and non-school leavers, designed to recognise the wider achievements of applicants, including their community service and involvement and, in the case of non-school leavers, their employment experience.

School leavers who apply under the program are assessed on their demonstrated capacity for tertiary study before completion of their Year 12 studies, and non-school leavers are similarly assessed early, on their potential for university study.

Successful applicants receive an early provisional offer of a place in their course of choice. Further information about the early entry scheme is available at www.acu.edu.au/earlyachievers.

The success of this initiative was shown by the more than 1,000 applications in this, its first year.

Other flexible entry programs

- The UniAccess program offers possible entry pathways after reviewing the previous learning of applicants who do not have conventional entry qualifications.
- Mid-year entry is a popular option for undergraduate and postgraduate students, both local and international, and is available in an increasing number of courses.

"The message that service is a core part of a student's identity and of a university education resonates strongly with students"

Professor Greg Craven,
Vice-Chancellor

Nursing teaching and research at the University benefits from many partnerships with Catholic health providers and joint research centres.



New MOUs and partnerships

- A new Memorandum of Understanding was established between the University's Brisbane Campus and the Brisbane College of Theology (BCT) for collaboration in research, which will promote scholarship and research in theology and related fields and will provide students from both institutions with full borrowing rights for books and access to electronic resources in both collections.
- An endorsement was made by the Queensland bishops and the Senate of Australian Catholic University to work towards the integration of St Paul's Theological College with the University's School of Theology in Queensland by January 2009.
- New MOUs were established with partners of the new Clemente Australia program at the Ballarat Campus: ACU National, the University of Ballarat, the City of Ballarat, Ballarat City Library, Centacare and the Smith Family.
- The Memorandum of Understanding with RSL LifeCare was renewed in April 2008 for a further five-year period, with Professor Tracey McDonald in the Chair of Ageing funded by RSL LifeCare.
- The Memorandum of Understanding for the Plunkett Centre with St Vincent's and Mater Health Sydney was renewed in December 2007 for a further five-year period.
- A successful partnership was established with Catholic Health Australia to deliver the Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Catholic Culture at multiple locations.
- Professor Linda Worrall-Carter was re-appointed for a second year as Professor of Nursing Research and Director of the Centre for Nursing Research at St Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne.

- A partnership was established between ACU National and various Catholic Education Offices, which obtained funds from the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) for a pilot scheme in the Northern Territory and Western Australia for a project, Leading Aligned Numeracy Development (LAND), designed to improve numeracy achievement in disadvantaged communities.

Amalgamations

- The schools of Business and Informatics in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland were amalgamated to form the National School of Business, following an external review of the programs in these areas.
- The schools of Exercise (NSW) and Exercise (Vic) were also joined to form a new National School of Exercise, as part of the recommendations of a 2007 review of the School.

New places and courses

New places

(equivalent of full-time student load)

Early Childhood Education

Brisbane Campus	20
Melbourne Campus	15
Strathfield Campus	25

Nursing

Melbourne Campus	55
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Nursing/Paramedicine

Brisbane Campus	30
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New courses and course reviews

- There was an internal review of the Bachelor of Nursing program and the Master of Nursing (Management) and Master of Nursing (Practice) courses: recommendations were pending as at 31 December 2008.
- The Faculty of Education's proposals, passed by the Academic Board, included the review of the Bachelor of Teaching (Primary) and related courses for the collaboration with the Catholic Teachers' College in Baucau, East Timor.
- New units were offered, including Reasoning and Communications and Applied Business Information, for the new Bachelor of Business Information Systems degree, designed during 2008 for 2009 (double degrees of Arts/Business and Business/Business Information will also continue).
- A new Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Paramedicine was introduced at the Ballarat Campus.
- New undergraduate degree courses in Midwifery and Paramedicine were approved across other campuses, to commence in 2009.
- New Master of Clinical Nursing and Master of Nursing (Practice Enquiry) degrees were approved by the Faculty Board for introduction in 2009.
- A new Master of Psychology (Clinical) course was approved for the Brisbane Campus from 2009; staff were appointed in 2008 in preparation for this development.
- A Diploma of Exercise Science was introduced.
- The Human Resource Management Major offered in the Bachelor of Business was accredited by the Australian Human Resources Institute for three years from August 2008.
- The Faculty of Arts and Sciences commenced a Postgraduate Certificate in Human Services for the professional development of the staff of Caritas Australia, and a Graduate Certificate in Arts (Applied Ethics), offered to the staff of St Vincent's and Mater Health Sydney (SVMHS).

145
new places



6 Students

Students



Student statistics*

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total students	12,156	13,754	14,572	15,813	16,934
Equivalent full-time student load	8,816	9,529.59	10,034.17	10,873.77	11,513.66

Enrolments by state

NSW	4,813	5,576	6,054	6,272	6,598
Victoria	4,033	4,380	4,545	5,152	5,508
Queensland	2,714	3,079	3,050	2,716	2,839
ACT	596	719	680	699	741
Virtual (off campus)	N/A	N/A	243	974	1,248

Enrolments by faculty

Arts and Sciences	3,798	4,479	4,295	4,409	4,716
Education	4,931	5,400	5,620	5,789	6,051
Health Sciences	2,361	2,847	3,276	4,002	5,365
Combined	702	1,028	1,026	1,275	454

Enrolments by course level

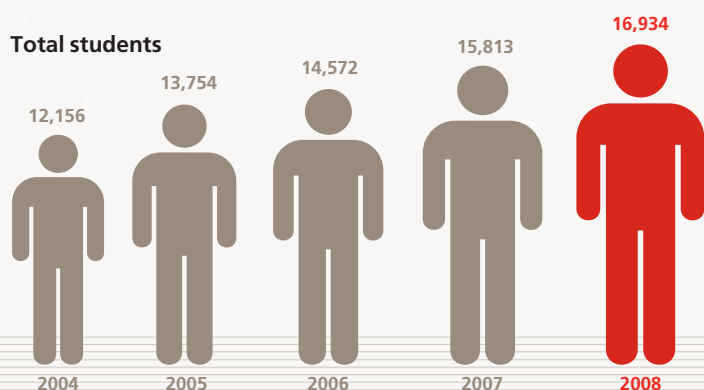
Higher degree research	364	370	355	338	348
Higher degree coursework	1,438	1,750	1,874	1,925	2,041
Other postgraduate	1,220	1,545	1,817	1,909	1,906
Bachelor	8,352	9,116	9,594	10,317	10,980
Other undergraduate	224	234	239	287	825
Non award	558	739	693	1,037	834

Students on campus

Female	8,486	9,608	10,300	11,231	12,248
Indigenous	282	278	310	349	359
Postgraduate	3,022	3,665	4,046	4,172	4,295
Full time	7,214	7,907	8,247	8,794	9,393
International	1,173	2,003	2,293	2,922	3,433

*Statistics as at 19 December 2008

Total students



The University's AFL team at the Australian Universities Games

Student achievements

Student achievements in 2008 include:

- Alison Stary, a Bachelor of Education student from the Ballarat Campus, was chosen to represent Australian Universities in Korea at the Asia-Pacific Model UN Conference
- Christine King, a PhD student in the School of Social Work at the Canberra Campus, was chosen to attend the Indigenous Issues group at the federal government's *Australia 2020 Summit* in April
- four ACU National students – Coral Bentley, Carmen Marton, Bethany Walsh and Krystal Weir – represented Australia at the Olympic Games in Beijing
- Strathfield student Vanessa Forcella was selected as one of six Australian students to go to Rome with Cardinal Pell to collect from Pope Benedict XVI the Sedes Sapientiae icon for world students, commissioned by Pope John Paul II in 2000
- Vanessa was also chosen, together with Andrew Profilio, to attend the National Leadership Forum on faith and values, held at Parliament House in September

- ACU National's Student Award for Outstanding Community Engagement 2008 was won by Maria Boulatsakos, a Bachelor of Exercise Science student at the Strathfield Campus, for many involvements including entertaining children in hospital, taking part in an Edmund Rice holiday camp for disadvantaged Indigenous children and co-ordinating the Make Poverty History campaign on her campus.
- Spencer Jarrett from Strathfield presented a paper at the Anti Smoking for Youth Conference in Singapore
- Ballarat student Rebecca Huf was awarded one of the two Roy Aitken Memorial Prizes for students in Victoria who have gained reports of clinical excellence in their rural clinical placement while undertaking their Graduate Diploma in Nursing.

Scholarships won by ACU National students

In addition to the University's own scholarship awards (see page 22 for new scholarships established in 2008), ACU National students held (as at second semester 2008) 279 Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarships, 118 Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships, one Indigenous Access Scholarship and five Institution Equity Scholarships.

Student experience

The extra-curricular life of students includes:

- student representative committees, clubs, choirs, dramatic and musical groups
- ACU National Games, which comprise a large number of sporting competitions with teams from each of the six campuses
- ACU Alive, a national showcase of students' musical and theatrical talents
- The Big Event, a national conference to workshop ways to make a difference in local, national and international communities
- strong opportunities for work experience and community service.

Intervarsity activities

As well as having a vigorous extra-curricular life on campus and with other ACU National campuses, the University encourages participation in wider activities with other Australian universities.

This year, the University entered a team of 96 students, from all six campuses, in the Australian University Games, which attracted more than 7,000 students. They entered the sections for Australian Rules Football, Touch Football, Netball, Lawn Bowls, Taekwondo, Athletics and Swimming and were pleased to win three first places, one second and six thirds.

Similarly, the choirs of some campuses took part in the 2008 Australian Intervarsity Choral Festival.

Student headcount by age

	2006	2007	2008
19 and below	3,026	3,423	4,011
20 to 24	5,332	5,687	5,913
25 to 29	1,950	2,198	2,341
30 to 39	2,093	2,203	2,288
40 to 49	1,465	1,509	1,507
50 to 59	585	660	733
60 and above	121	133	141
Grand total	14,572	15,813	16,934

Statistics as at 19 December 2008



Students in the community

The University's emphasis on community engagement meant that most students took part in such activities during 2008.

Some courses have a compulsory requirement for community involvement. These include a practice requirement in all undergraduate education courses, completion of a unit of volunteer experience in the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Visual Arts and Design, a professional experience unit in the Bachelor of Business and community placements in social work courses.

There are, in addition, numerous voluntary community opportunities for students, which included in 2008:

- education courses at the Brisbane Campus, which offered students opportunities to help with a literacy project for Sudanese refugee children and to teach in Korea during the holidays
- a second-year nursing elective working in Broken Hill with Indigenous health workers
- nursing study tours to Vanuatu, China and the Philippines
- a first-year education (Brisbane Campus) program for students to help with bush regeneration
- volunteer tutoring for homework clubs
- training soccer teams of young people who are homeless for the Homeless World Cup.

World Youth Day

This year, the University was also greatly involved with World Youth Day (WYD), with students providing financial sponsorship of pilgrims from East Timor and Papua New Guinea, volunteering to welcome, accommodate and guide visitors and to assist with young people with disabilities, as well as hosting a number of associated events, from interfaith forums and discussion groups to art shows and musical and dramatic youth festivals.

The influence of WYD on those who attended was researched during the year in the project Pilgrims' Progress 2008, by Professor Webber and Dr Father Michael Mason CSSR of the University's Quality of Life and Social Justice Flagship, with Dr Andrew Singleton of Monash University, with large-scale surveys and interviews involving up to 112,000 young people, both before and after the event.

Student support

ACU National campuses provide:

- first-year experience coordinators
- programs to improve study skills
- chaplaincy
- mission engagement
- qualified counsellors
- careers advice
- equity and disability support
- pre-enrolment courses to prepare students for tertiary study
- special support units available to Indigenous students.

Innovations in online services

ACU National established a careers service for students on each campus in 2008, and is now moving towards an online employment service.

The counselling service has developed creative, interactive online blackboard resources to help students in their academic and personal lives as well as with their future careers. The Live Smart resources comprise three sections.

- Self Smart covers self-talk, health and happiness building.
- Talk Smart nurtures skills in listening, assertiveness, negotiation and emotional control.
- Plan Smart includes problem-solving skills such as decision making and budgeting, as well as careers advice on resumes, interviews, job searching and workplace culture.

Students Services now offers an online system 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for booking appointments with staff members. This online booking service gives students direct access to Student Services staff schedules and allows them to book their own appointments to suit their own schedules. This system protects student confidentiality better than a public sign-up sheet, and makes access more available to those studying in online units.

Student Connect continues as a useful web-based self-service facility for enrolments, fees and results.

Online learning

ACU National has been delivering courses online since 2000, the majority being postgraduate courses. Other courses generally have a web-enhanced presence on the Learning Management System (LMS) to supplement campus teaching.

Training for online teaching is available via workshops conducted by the University's Institute for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning (IATL).

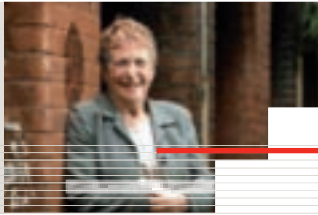
There are 38 online courses available at Masters' or Doctorate level, as well as Graduate Certificates in all the major disciplines offered at the University.

Equity and diversity

Equity and diversity programs at ACU National include those for students with disabilities, the Clemente Australia program and specific provisions for Indigenous education.

Students with disabilities

There were 579 students registered with the Equity and Disability Unit's disability service, 31 per cent of whom were at the Melbourne Campus, with 23 per cent at Strathfield, 18 per cent at Brisbane, 13 per cent at Canberra, 11 per cent at North Sydney and 4 per cent at Ballarat. Of these, 218 registered for the first time in 2008.



left to right:
The Brisbane Campus choir

World Youth Day with which
the University was greatly
involved

Lizzie Robinson, Brisbane
graduate in Liberal Studies
through the Clemente
Australia program

The Equity and Disability Unit coordinates a wide range of services for students with disabilities.

A highlight in 2008 has been a major project, together with the library, to develop an in-house system to provide materials in alternative formats to students with print disabilities. Using sophisticated software bought by the library, books and other print resources are produced in the format needed, and uploaded to a student's own password-protected web page. In its first year of operation the service was provided to 25 students who reported enthusiastically on the difference it made to their studies.

Clemente Australia program

The Clemente Australia program aims to break the cycle of poverty, inequity and social injustice among disadvantaged people in Australia by offering them university-level education. The project is a partnership between ACU National, Mission Australia and the St Vincent de Paul Society. The 2008 graduations included students who had completed a Certificate of Liberal Studies through the Clemente Australia program.

Education for Indigenous students

ACU National was one of 10 universities Australia-wide that received five stars for Indigenous Participation in the 2008 report for the 2009 *Good Universities Guide*. Generous provision continues to be made for Indigenous people entering the University, as well as ongoing support for continuing Indigenous students.

There were 359 Indigenous students enrolled in 2008, a 3 per cent increase from the previous year, and 59 Indigenous students graduated during the year.

Awards and honours for Indigenous students

- There are a number of scholarships specifically for Indigenous students at ACU National, including:
 - the Nano Nagle Scholarship, which in 2008 went to Masters in Business Administration student Phillip Attell
 - the Gill Family Foundation Nursing Scholarship, awarded to Melbourne campus Bachelor of Midwifery student Bianca Lopez
 - the St Vincent's and Mercy Private Nursing Scholarship, awarded to a Bachelor of Nursing Student in Melbourne, which was won by Kylea Sinnett
 - the Wexford Bursary, open to postgraduate Indigenous ACU National students, which was awarded to Stephanie Jacobs of the Brisbane Campus.
- Auntie Delsie Lillyst won the Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council's prestigious 2008 Indigenous Elder Award for lifelong contribution to Indigenous people in higher education in Australia. A Gunditjmarra woman from south-west Victoria, she works as an Indigenous Education Officer with the Catholic Education Office in Melbourne and is also a part-time student in the Bachelor of Education at our Melbourne campus.
- Auntie Joan Hendriks of the Ngugi people won the ACU National Indigenous Research Scholarship to further her research into the possibilities of dialogue on creation spirituality in the Indigenous and Christian traditions.

- Christian Thompson, one of our Indigenous research students, won a scholarship to study at Das Arts Academy in the Netherlands.
- Robyn Gaulton and Rosemary Barclay, Indigenous Education graduates from our Brisbane campus, won prestigious Queensland Government Pearl Duncan Teaching Scholarships (worth \$20,000 each).
- Indigenous students formed part of the ACU National student body attending World Youth Day and Indigenous staff and Indigenous elders associated with the University formed part of the guard of honour for the Pope on his arrival.
- An ACU National Indigenous student, Matthew Ross, was selected to captain the Australian University students Rugby League Team.

Community involvement in our Indigenous programs

An Indigenous Health Symposium was held during the year for health educators and workers, together with nursing and social work students at the Brisbane Campus. The focus of the symposium was "What universities can do to support better health outcomes for Indigenous Australians".

Guest Speaker Dr Stefan Girola presented his PhD research on Early Church Relations with Indigenous People.

Indigenous poet Lisa Belleair was the University's writer-in-residence during Indigenous Week in October. Aboriginal poets Ken Canning and Yvette Holt were guest speakers at a tribute to her.

Graduate outcomes for ACU National Indigenous students

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Full-time employment	80%	71%	82%	69%	88%
Further full-time study	20%	7%	18%	23%	12%
Seeking full-time employment	–	21%	–	8%	–



International programs

ACU National is involved in three different types of international programs:

- 1 programs offshore – where the University has partnerships with overseas institutions (see right) and delivers, or helps deliver, courses or examines and awards degrees
- 2 international students onshore – full-fee-paying international students, onshore, at our Australian campuses
- 3 international exchanges – arrangements for our students to study overseas and for the partnering institution's students to study here.

1 Programs offshore – partner institutions

- Baucau Catholic Teachers' College (ICFP), East Timor
- Caritas Francis Hsu College, Hong Kong
- Catholic Institute of Theology, Auckland, New Zealand
- De La Salle University Health Sciences Campus, Dasmariñas Cavite, Philippines
- Institut Catholique de L'île Maurice
- Manila Doctors' College, the Philippines
- Notre Dame Institute of Education, Karachi, Pakistan
- Online courses for Karen refugees on the Thailand–Burma border
- Shanghai Institute of Health Sciences, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China
- Wellington Catholic Education Centre, New Zealand
- Yun Yang Medical University, China

2 International students onshore

The University has students from more than 83 countries, with business, information systems, arts, education and nursing the most popular fields of study.

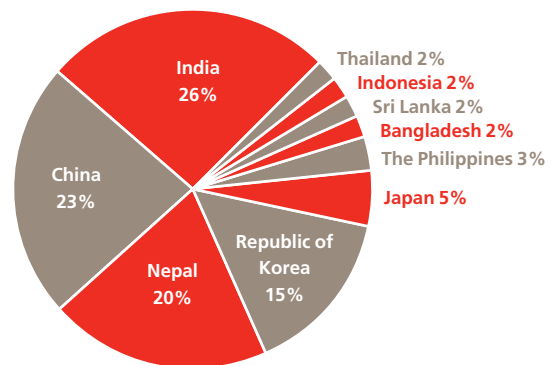
Major source countries

The pie chart below shows the top 10 nationalities currently represented in degree programs at ACU National. In 2008, India overtook China as the top source country, and Nepal moved into third place over Korea.

Onshore and offshore international enrolments by level of course (Full-time equivalents)

	2005	2006	2007	2008
Onshore students				
Higher Degree Research	16.00	13.00	11.00	9.50
Higher Degree Coursework	256.11	310.13	308.13	296.75
Other Postgraduate	47.55	46.25	45.63	46.63
Bachelor	812.24	1,006.25	1,285.56	1,409.56
Other Undergraduate		0.25	0.13	233.13
Non Award	202.86	213.81	280.00	154.63
Onshore students total	1,334.76	1,589.69	1,930.44	2,150.19
Offshore students				
Higher Degree Research	2.00	0.75	1.50	1.25
Higher Degree Coursework	13.13	13.63	8.38	7.00
Other Postgraduate	60.13	81.63	94.50	93.50
Bachelor	51.38	178.90	126.65	103.28
Other Undergraduate	0.38	0.13	0.25	0.50
Non Award	4.50	4.13	13.00	1.25
Offshore students total	131.50	279.15	244.28	206.78
Grand total	1,466.26	1,868.84	2,174.72	2,356.96

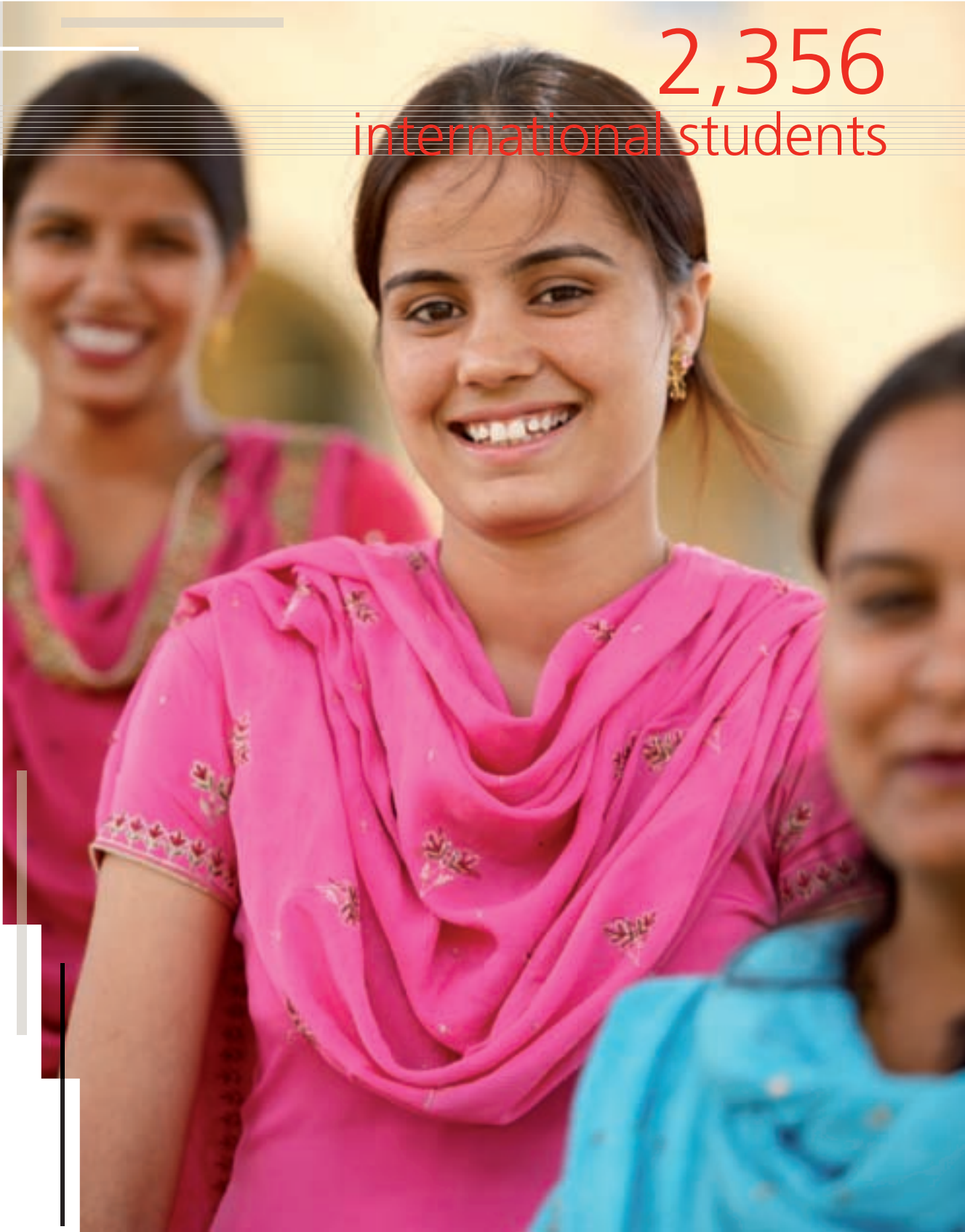
Top 10 source countries 2008



International exchanges 2008

Incoming	
Students from overseas studying at ACU National	181
Outgoing	
ACU National students studying overseas	26

2,356
international students



Education students from the Brisbane campus who spent time teaching in Korea during the year.



Online international student recruitment

In 2008 a new website for international students' enquiries was launched – www.acu.edu.au/international – resulting in an increase in average monthly enquiries and in applications received. Further refinements are to be implemented to direct applicants to a wider range of courses and to reach a broader geographic network.

Research into needs of international students

In 2008, a summary was published of research conducted at the North Sydney Campus (where 55 per cent of all degree and diploma students were international students), involving 48 international students and 23 key stakeholders, including academic and general staff as well as students in representative positions.

Analysis of the data identified five core themes:

- personal and interpersonal issues, such as feelings of loneliness, isolation, lack of belonging, stress with work–life balance, issues with communication, pressures to succeed and academic and cross-cultural issues
- meeting basic needs, such as financial, transport, accommodation and employment necessities, and navigating cultural differences
- risks to psychological and physical wellbeing, such as concerns with personal safety, exploitation, childcare/parenting issues, health (physical and psychological) and discrimination on campus
- organisational/campus issues, such as concerns with campus facilities, support (most reported positive experience here) and cross-cultural staff
- stories of resilience – numerous inspiring personal stories.

Recommendations included suggestions that:

- international student home country flags be permanently displayed on campus with Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags

- campus social activities be increased
- ACU National fund a mentoring scheme to integrate international and local students to reduce experiences of loneliness and isolation and to increase a sense of belonging.

A number of the recommendations were implemented during the year, to improve the response to meeting the psycho-social needs of international students. The 2008 AUQA Report noted this research, commenting that “the challenge remains to ensure that all campuses benefit from the findings of the report”.

3 International exchanges

ACU National students are able to spend a semester overseas at any of the 102 universities with whom we have exchange programs, and whose students may come to ACU National for a semester. The partner universities are in Europe, Asia and North and South America.

To be considered for an exchange, a student must have completed at least one year of study, with a good academic record, and have the exchange approved by their course coordinator.

Exchange partner institutions

Canada

Nipissing University, Ontario
St Thomas University, Fredericton, New Brunswick
Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario

United States of America

College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Baltimore
Georgia College and State University, Georgia
Nazareth College of Rochester, New York
Regis University, Denver, Colorado
Santa Clara University, California
St John's University, Jamaica, New York
St Norbert College, De Pere, Wisconsin
State University of New York, Oswego
University of Massachusetts, Boston
West Virginia University
The University of North Carolina, Greensboro
The University of St Thomas, St Paul, Minnesota
The University of St Thomas, Texas

Mexico

Universidad de Monterrey
Universidad Iberoamericana, Puebla
Universidad Panamericana Guadalajara

Chile

Universidad Santo Tomas





England

University of Bradford
University of Cumbria, Carlisle

Ireland

Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick

Finland

Rovaniemi Polytechnic

Sweden

Lund University College of Health Science
Malmo University
University of Gavie

Germany

Research Universities:

- University of Freiburg
- University of Heidelberg
- University of Hohenheim
- University of Karlsruhe
- University of Konstanz
- University of Mannheim
- University of Stuttgart
- University of Tuebingen
- University of Ulm

22 German universities of applied sciences (connected to business)

8 universities of cooperative education (university/company partnerships)

10 universities of music, arts and media

6 universities of education

11 State of Hessen university partnerships with the State of Queensland for students at the Brisbane Campus.

The Netherlands

The Hague University
VU University

France

ESPEME School of Business (campuses in Lille and Nice)
Université Catholique de Lille
Université Catholique de Lyon

Austria

FH Kufstein-Tirol University of Applied Sciences

Poland

John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin

Turkey

Fatih University

Japan

Hijiyama University, Hiroshima
Kagoshima Immaculate Heart University
Nagoya University of Foreign Studies
University of the Sacred Heart, Tokyo
Sophia University

South Korea

Catholic University of Korea, Seoul
Catholic University of Daegu

ACUcom

The University offers a range of continuing education courses and educational services to the wider community through ACUcom, which has offices at the Brisbane, North Sydney and Melbourne campuses. Such courses include business, vocational training, LOTE (Languages other than English) and international programs.

ACUcom and international students

ACUcom delivers pathway courses for overseas students in ELICOS (English language) and programs for entry into diploma courses and later into degree courses in Nursing, Business, Educational Studies, Environmental Science, Information Systems, Liberal Studies, Social Science and Visual Arts and Design.

Applications from international students are assessed on the basis of:

- academic qualifications
- proficiency in English.

The academic level required is the satisfactory completion of the equivalent of 12 years of schooling at a comparable level to that applying to local Australian students. A pass rate of 50 per cent is the minimum academic requirement.

For language proficiency, an academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS) overall result of 5.5 (with a minimum of 5.0 in all bands) or Testing of English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) score of 525 (190 computer-based score) is the minimum entry requirement to diploma courses.

Review of ACUcom

A thorough review of the ACUcom arm of the University was held in 2008 in preparation for amendments in 2009.



7 Graduates



Graduate statistics

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total graduates	2,743	3,157	3,480	3,881	3,936

Graduates by state

NSW	1,116	1,246	1,393	1,613	1,595
Victoria	923	1,033	1,223	1,229	1,359
Queensland	584	729	668	845	676
ACT	120	149	196	194	176
Virtual	-	-	-	-	130

Graduates by faculty

Research	15	27	35	47	35
Arts and Sciences	768	889	1,080	1,159	1,122
Education	1,369	1,533	1,560	1,701	1,548
Health Sciences	591	708	805	974	1,231

Graduates by course level

Higher Degree – Research	15	27	35	47	35
Higher Degree – Coursework	432	443	445	553	524
Other Postgraduate	616	728	719	952	912
Undergraduate	1,680	1,915	2,265	2,293	2,403
Other Undergraduate	-	44	16	36	62

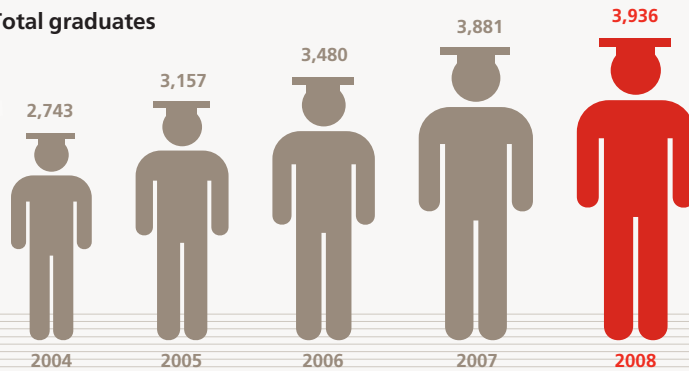
Graduate satisfaction with their student experience

Good teaching	82%	84%	84%	84%	84%
Clear goals and standards	80%	82%	83%	81%	81%
Appropriate workload	72%	75%	73%	75%	71%
Appropriate assessment	82%	83%	79%	81%	77%
Generic skills	88%	88%	87%	88%	87%
Overall satisfaction	89%	90%	88%	89%	87%

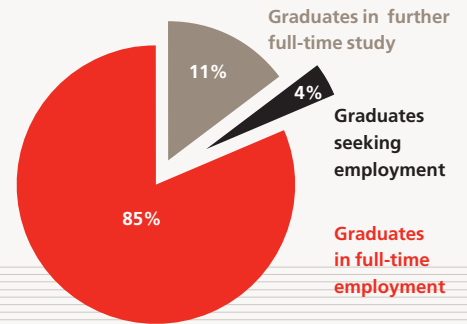
Graduate outcomes

Full-time employment	85%	91%	86%	86%	85%
Further full-time study	11%	7%	11%	11%	11%
Seeking full-time employment	4%	2%	3%	3%	4%

Total graduates



Graduate outcomes 2008



Honorary doctorates

The 2008 recipients of the University's highest honour, the award of Doctor of the University (*honoris causa*), were:

- Reverend Tim Costello AO in recognition of his outstanding commitment to social justice in Australia and internationally
- Brother Kelvin Canavan FMS AM for his outstanding contributions to Catholic education in Australia and internationally
- Li Cunxin in recognition of his contribution to the arts, and to ballet in particular
- Francis Sullivan for his advocacy of and contribution to the health and aged-care sectors both in Australia and internationally
- Justice Lex Lasry QC in recognition of his contributions to social justice, particularly in the area of law
- Eugene John Cullity AM QC in recognition of his outstanding service to the juvenile justice system and also of his community service to the people of Victoria
- Margaret Vider for her outstanding contribution to the profession of nursing, nursing administration and Catholic health care
- Sister Mary McDonald SGS in recognition of her outstanding contribution to lifelong learning and community engagement in the fields of education, spirituality, ecology and women's development
- Sister Mary Ronayne SGS in recognition of her outstanding contributions to Catholic education in Australia

- Terry O'Connell OAM in recognition of his service to the community, especially through his work in restorative justice; as a policeman in Wagga, he introduced a system of policing which focused on all parties affected by crime, and spent much time in classrooms working with children to help them understand the principles underlying restorative justice.

Graduate awards

- Dr Mauri Hamilton, a Doctor of Education graduate, won the Beth Southwell Research Award, awarded by the NSW Institute for Educational Research, for her thesis *We grow in the shade of each other: a study of connectedness, empowerment and learning in the middle years of schooling*.
- Dr Noah Riseman was awarded the prize for the best article by a postgraduate student published in the *Australasian Journal of American Studies* for 2006–2007. Following the 2008 award of his PhD, Dr Wiseman joined the School of Arts and Sciences at the Melbourne Campus as a lecturer.
- Norma Fakhouri won one of the 76 Australia-wide federal government scholarships for career advisers, and will use the scholarship to undertake the Postgraduate Certificate in Education (Career Development) at ACU National next year.
- Jean Madden, a Brisbane graduate in Arts, Education and Theology, and the inventor of the "streetswag" for people who are homeless, initiated the Big Sleepout held at the Sydney Cricket Ground, with sponsors including Macquarie Bank, Qantas and Visa, who raised \$12,000 to provide streetswags for people who are homeless.

Graduates beyond campus

Five Karen refugees from the Thailand–Burma border graduated in August with a Certificate in Theology. Because the refugees cannot leave their camps, education opportunities are severely limited. The University has seen the provision of online courses, in business and theology, to these people as a contribution it can make. A Diploma in Liberal Studies was also introduced late in the year, in partnership with various Jesuit universities.

Other overseas students who graduated with ACU National degrees were 38 Bachelor of Teaching graduates from the Baucau Catholic Teachers' College, East Timor, and 17 Business Studies graduates from the Caritas Francis Hsu College of Hong Kong.

Graduate connections

The University's Graduate Association offers graduates continuing opportunities for social contact and information about further education and employment. Staff members support this function, as well as online facilities on the University's website. During 2008 the Association launched a newsletter to be emailed to graduates three times a year.

8 Staff



Staff statistics

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total staff (FTE*)	1,002.5	1,078.8	1,168.1	1,218.5	1,284.0
Total academic staff (FTE*)	532.8	600.6	656.7	676.9	697.7

Academic staff (FTE*) by level

Professor Level E	15.5	21.0	23.7	26.7	35.3
Associate Professor Level D	35.1	37.7	55.2	50.0	48.9
Senior Lecturer Level C	109.7	103.8	91.5	101.7	105.1
Lecturer Level B	248.2	263.7	261.7	269.9	277.7
Associate Lecturer Level A	120.3	170.4	220.7	224.6	226.7

Staff (FTE*) by state and territory

NSW	339.8	459.3	492.7	535.4	548.7
Victoria	265.2	347.9	386.7	396.3	429.0
Queensland	179.9	221.3	233.7	227.8	241.3
ACT	38.2	50.3	55.0	59.0	65.0

Staff (FTE*) by appointment term

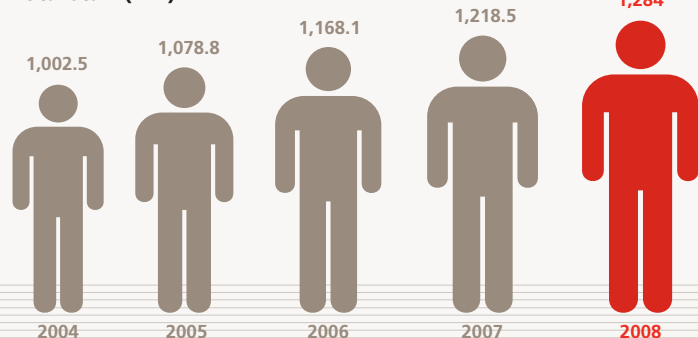
Full time	676.6	708.0	734.0	780.0	828.0
Full time fractional	146.4	151.4	148.7	147.8	165.3
Casual	179.5	219.4	285.4	290.7	290.7

Staff (FTE*) by overall function

Other function	491.5	509.1	537.5	560.7	605.1
Research only	11.6	8.3	8.1	13.3	18.9
Teaching and research	343.9	363.3	364.1	386.6	402.1
Teaching only	155.4	198.1	258.5	257.9	257.9

*Full-time equivalent

Total staff (FTE)



	Academic	General	Total
Staff (FTE) function by organisational unit 2008			
Vice-Chancellor	1.0	2.0	3.0
Student Services	1.6	41.8	43.4
University Relations	–	29.3	29.3
Academic Affairs	6.2	18.4	24.6
Faculty of Arts and Sciences	237.7	45.9	283.6
Faculty of Education	145.5	35.5	181.0
Faculty of Health Sciences	220.3	47.5	267.8
Library	–	90.0	90.0
Quality and Engagement	5.9	12.3	18.2
Indigenous	10.2	7	17.2
Research and International	18.7	54.7	73.4
ACUcom and Elicos	50.6	15.9	66.5
University Services	–	186.0	186.0
Total	697.7	506.3	1,284

Staff qualifications

The Good Universities Guide's five-star rating for staff qualifications compares favourably nationally.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Greg Craven has attributed much of the improvement in enrolment figures to the commitment of staff members to providing a quality and responsive learning environment.

Staff policies

A number of statutory policies, such as those on occupational health and safety and on "whistleblowers", are included in Additional Information (see pages 99–100).

Federal Minister for Education Julia Gillard wrote during the year to the University advising that the Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements (HEWRRs) are no longer a condition of funding under the Commonwealth Grants Scheme, and that the government is continuing

to work towards the removal of the National Governance Protocols as a condition of funding.

Australian Catholic University has one of the country's most generous paid parental leave schemes, offering mothers 12 weeks' full salary followed by 60 per cent of their wage for 40 weeks. Fathers are offered three weeks' paid leave. There will be no reduction in provisions, with the promise of Commonwealth policies in this area.

Internal revision of staff policies

ACU National's Director of Personnel Relations and Equal Opportunity advised staff during the year of the consultation procedure for human resources management and related policies that had been adopted as interim policies.

There was a revision during the year of the Workload Policy for Academic Staff. The policy now explicitly recognises all aspects of the work of an academic – teaching, research and

scholarship, community engagement, administration and professional activities.

Following consultation with the University community and the Australian Catholic University Staff Consultative Committee (ACUSCC), there was a revision of many human resources policies, including those on:

- personal leave
- classification standards for academic and general staff
- clinical academics titles
- flexible working arrangements for general staff
- general staff position titles
- expected responsibilities of professorial fellows
- misconduct and serious misconduct
- income maintenance
- separation from ACU National for medical reasons
- acceptable use of ITCS facilities
- visitors on University premises at invitation of staff
- reimbursement of expenses
- entry to workplaces by statutory officers
- job rotation, overtime and performance development for general staff
- post-retirement contract policy.

In continued streamlining of administration, staff course administrators in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences were appointed to work with the Faculty's Schools on each campus and to assist with improving administrative procedures and developing effective marketing of courses.

Academic staff were offered for the first time a Graduate Certificate in Higher Education, with the first three graduates completing the course this year.



Significant appointments at the University

- A member of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences staff, Professor Duncan MacLaren, a former Secretary General of Caritas International (a worldwide Catholic social justice agency), was appointed as co-ordinator of the Karen Refugee Project.
- Professor Sandy Middleton of the School of Nursing (NSW and ACT) was appointed as foundation Chair of Nursing Research, jointly with Australian Catholic University and St Vincent's and Mater Health Service Sydney.
- Professor Paul Oslington, with qualifications and disciplinary expertise in both Economics and Theology, was appointed jointly to the School of Business and the School of Theology and Philosophy, bringing with him a \$450,000 Templeton grant from the US John Templeton Foundation to investigate setting up an international centre for research into the links between economics and theology, seen as particularly timely at the end of 2008.
- Professor Kim Walker was appointed as foundation Chair of Nursing (Applied Research) jointly with Australian Catholic University and St Vincent's Private Hospital, Sydney.
- Associate Professor Mick Bezzina, Head of the School of Educational Leadership, was appointed to the role of Director, Flagship for Creative and Authentic Leadership.
- Professor Brian D'Netto accepted the position as inaugural Head of the new National School of Business, to be based at the North Sydney Campus.
- Professor Ross Fitzgerald was appointed as a Professorial Fellow, on a part-time basis in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. An emeritus professor at Griffith University, with a previous personal Chair in History and Politics, Professor Fitzgerald is a well-known political commentator and has helped produce historical documentaries *The Legend of Fred Paterson* and *Red Ted and the Great Depression*.

- Rabbi John Levi AM and Dr Daniel Madigan SJ took up their positions as Adjunct Professors to the Asia-Pacific Centre for Inter-religious dialogue (APCID) based at the Melbourne Campus.
- Dr Sue Kildea accepted the position of Foundation Professor of Midwifery, a joint position with the Brisbane Campus and the Mater Mothers' Hospitals.

Honours and awards to staff

- Professor Frank Brennan SJ was appointed as Chair of the Federal Government's Committee on Human Rights. As Professor of the University's Institute of Legal Studies, Father Brennan developed (with Honorary Fellow Annemarie Devereux), and teaches, its graduate certificate and diploma courses in International Human Rights.
- Adjunct Professor Greg Smith was appointed to the federal government's Henry Tax Review.
- Professor Marie Emmitt, Dean of Education, was appointed to the National Curriculum Board.
- Dr Vaughan Monamy of the School of Arts and Sciences (NSW) was appointed to the Australian Government's Gene Technology Ethics and Community Consultative Committee.
- Associate Professor Philip Clarkson was invited by the International Commission on Mathematical Instruction (ICMI) to join an international group for a study on "Resourcing the teaching and learning of mathematics in multi-lingual contexts".
- Dr Terry Bowles was elected to a Fellowship of the Australian Psychological Association.
- The School of Psychology was invited to a major conference of the Australian Psychological Association.
- Dr Carolyn Broadbent was selected as an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Council Educational Leaders.

- Vince Geiger was appointed as Secretary of the Mathematics Education Research Group of Australasia.
- Associate Professor Marea Nicholson was selected as President of the NSW Teacher Education Council (TEC).
- Dr Nereda White was appointed to the Indigenous Advisory Board of the Queensland Indigenous Foundation, to provide advice on the development of education scholarships, as part of the development of a strategic plan for the use of monies from the former Aborigines Welfare Fund and unclaimed funds from the Indigenous Wages and Savings Reparations Scheme.
- An inaugural public lecture "Framing a Global Rule of Law" by the Allan Myers Chair of Law, Professor Spencer Zifcak, was delivered at the Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane Campuses
- Monika Bhatia, social researcher in Health and Ageing at the University, was appointed to the NSW advisory committee on Home and Community Care (HACC).

2008 Business/Higher Education Round Table (B-HERT) awards

Two of the seven Australia-wide awards were won by ACU National projects:

- Best Education and Training Collaboration for the *My Science* program, a primary school science and technology program, was awarded to ACU National's Associate Professor Marea Nicholson and Mrs Anne Forbes, who were part of the NSW-based project team recognised for their creation of a sustainable model of collaboration between schools, industry and universities.
- Best International Collaboration in Education and Training was won by the University for delivering tertiary education to refugees on the Thai-Burmese border.

For more than four years, ACU National has offered a Diploma in Business and a Certificate in Theology to camp-based refugees on the Thai-Burmese border. Recently, Open Universities Australia and the Association of Jesuit Colleges and



Jimmy Number Two with Professor Father Frank Brennan, visiting the Daley River

Universities joined the project, which has seen students completing the programs and moving to university courses or employment in Thailand, the US and Australia.

"Many camp refugees return after study to work for NGOs to help their own people," said the University's Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Gabrielle McMullen. "This educational opportunity is truly life-changing for the participants."

Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC) awards

Five Citations for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning in the Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC) awards (valued at \$10,000 each), formerly known as Carrick awards, were awarded to:

- Professor Peter Camilleri, Associate Professor Morag McArthur and Dr Joanna Zubrzycki, for development of innovative and flexible programs engaging workers in Corrective and Child Protective Services in partnerships with government agencies over a decade
- Dr Robert Compton and Ellen McBarron for developing a replicable and sustainable model that delivers empowering tertiary education to camp-based refugees
- Laurine Hurley for commitment to improving the transition to higher education through increasing accessibility to science, peer monitoring and leading the First Year Experience program
- Dr Judith Mulholland for international collaborative scholarship in science education that has influenced and enhanced the teaching and learning of science for pre-service primary teachers and their students
- Dr Caroline Smith and Dr Lyn Carter for leadership in the development and implementation of an education for sustainability focus within teacher education and professional learning programs.

University's own awards to staff

Excellence in Teaching award for 2008

Dr Tanya Ueburgang from the School of Arts and Sciences (Melbourne Campus) was honoured with this award for 2008.

Outstanding Community Engagement award to a staff member

Dr Ann Gervasoni, Senior Lecturer in Education at the Ballarat Campus, received the 2008 award for her active role in the founding of the Ballarat Learning for Life project (the University in partnership with the Smith Family), which involves maths clubs for disadvantaged children. She was honoured also for her part in the new Clemente Australia program (see page 35) in Ballarat and for supporting the Friendship Schools in East Timor and the annual forum for school leaders from Ballarat and East Timor.

Teaching Development Grants

A draft was drawn up for 2009 for re-developed guidelines and procedures to bring them into line with the Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC), formerly the Carrick Institute.

Grants for 2008 were awarded to:

- Dianne Cullen of the School of Education (Victoria), for the project *Maximising quality learning and teaching for first year students studying linguistics* (funding \$2,850)
- Dr Anne Drabble of the School of Education (Queensland) and Dr Nereda White of the Weemala Indigenous Unit, for the project *An infusion of confidence to facilitate Indigenous students' use of WebCT* (funding \$5,000)
- Donna Gronn of the School of Education (Victoria), for the project *Information and communications technology necessities for ACU Education students* (funding \$4,642)
- Dr Anne Scott and Adam Staples of the School of Education (Victoria), for the project *Partnerships in pre-service teacher education* (funding \$4,000)

- Dr Antoinette Collins of the School of Theology, for the project *Meeting world religions face-to-face* (funding \$2,500)
- Judy Fromyhr of the School of Arts and Sciences (Queensland), for the project *Using the medium of radio broadcasting as an effective assessment tool in an educational setting* (funding \$4,433)
- Dr Alanah Kazlauskas of the Learning and Teaching Centre, for the project *Using podcasting and listening skills development to enhance student learning* (funding \$4,942)
- Dr Jennifer Kelly and Judith Gonda of the School of Nursing and Midwifery (Queensland) for the project *Creating scholarly learning opportunities for final semester students through mentorship* (funding \$5,000)
- Associate Professor Violeta Lopez and Jane Allnutt of the School of Nursing (NSW/ACT) and Associate Professor Wayne Maschette of the School of Exercise Science (Victoria), for the project *Implementation and evaluation of inter-professional learning in nursing and exercise science students* (funding of \$5,000).

Teaching and Learning Enhancement Scheme (TALES)

Ann Downton, Donna Gronn, Dr Anne Scott, Mellita Jones and Karen McLean, of the School of Education (Victoria), won the award of \$10,000 for the project *Student-centred teaching and learning with interactive whiteboards*.

Inaugural Faculty of Education Community Engagement award

Dr Michael Buchanan of the School of Religious Studies, at the Melbourne Campus, won this award for his program for children of refugee and migrant parents on the Atherton Gardens Housing Estate; the prize money was used to fund the homework club there.

9 Research

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research



Dr Bronwen Neil of the Centre for Early Christian Studies who won a Humboldt-Stiftung Fellowship to the University of Bonn.

Areas of research

Australian Catholic University has priority areas of research as defined by its Flagships, Research Centres and Institutes. Research is promoted by the Institute for the Advancement of Research, whose members include ACU National researchers and visiting scholars from Australian and international institutions.

Flagships

- Flagship for Creative and Authentic Leadership
- Mathematics and Literacy Education Research Flagship
- Quality of Life and Social Justice Flagship

Research Centres

- ACT Centre for Science, ICT and Mathematics Education for Rural and Regional Australia (SIMERR ACT)
- Centre for Early Christian Studies
- Centre for Environmental Sustainability and Stewardship
- Centre for Lifelong Learning
- Centre of Physical Activity Across the Lifespan (CoPAAL)
- Centre for Research into Ethics and Decision-making in Organisations (CREDO)
- Golding Centre for Women's History, Theology and Spirituality
- Plunkett Centre for Ethics in Health Care and Biomedical Research
- National Centre for Clinical Outcomes Research, Nursing and Midwifery, Australia (NaCCOR)

Institutes

- Institute for the Advancement of Research
- Institute for Advancing Community Engagement
- Institute of Child Protection Studies
- Institute of Legal Studies

Research statistics

Research income

Commonwealth Government	\$756,099
Private industry and other	\$1,051,506
Other public sector	\$790,022
Total	\$2,597,627

Research outputs*

Books, authored research	8
Book chapters	41
Refereed journal articles	86
Refereed conference papers	62
Total	197

*2007 figures. Research publication data for 2008 being collected during the first quarter of 2009 for transmission to Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations



Environmental Science lecturer Dr Jennifer Taylor (centre) who has been working on conservation projects in Fiji with Taronga Zoo scientists, volunteers and the Fijian National Trust.

Research grants and partnerships

Australian Research Council (ARC) grants

Associate Professor Peter Howard and Professor Jude Butcher won an ARC–Linkage grant (\$120,000 over three years) with partners Mission Australia and the St Vincent de Paul Society for a project entitled *Social inclusion through community embedded, socially supported university education*.

The following other staff members won ARC Discovery grants with researchers from other universities:

- Professor Craven with a University of NSW project *Federalism for the 21st century*
- Professor Elizabeth Warren and Professor Tom Cooper of Queensland University of Technology, for their project *Young students' generalisation in arithmetic and algebra*
- Professor Peter Rendell with a University of NSW project *Everyday cognition in older adulthood*
- Professor Shurlee Swain with Monash University research into the *History of adoption in Australia*
- Professor Peter Camilleri and Associate Professor Morag McArthur with Latrobe University's project *A national assessment of Australia's children's courts*
- Professor Geraldine Naughton and six other researchers, for a project *Unleashing the power of play*.

Other awards

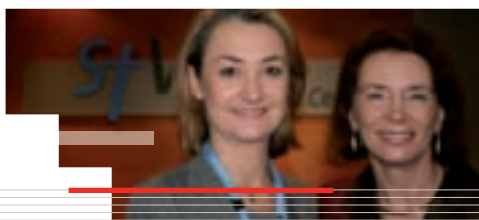
- An Alexander von Humboldt-Stiftung Fellowship to the University of Bonn was awarded to Dr Bronwen Neil of ACU National's Centre for Early Christian Studies, to work on her project, *Leo the Great and poverty in fifth-century Rome*.
- A federal government Endeavour Executive Award was received by Dr Rhonda Faragher (senior lecturer, Education, at the Canberra Campus) for her program to improve the educational outcomes of children with Down syndrome in Singapore and Australia, working with colleagues at the National Institute of Education and the Down Syndrome Association of Singapore.
- A federal government grant was awarded to a consortium involving University staff and Catholic Education Offices in Western Australia, Ballarat, Sale and Sandhurst (\$1,319,200) for the project *Bridging the numeracy gap for students in low SES and Indigenous communities in regional Victoria and Western Australia*, with chief investigator ACU National senior lecturer and researcher Dr Ann Gervasoni.
- National Health and Medical Research funding of more than \$480,000 went to ACU National's Professor Naughton and Professor Anita Bundy of the University of Sydney, for their project *Playgrounds: a simple intervention for childhood obesity*.
- An Australian Government Department of Health and Ageing grant was awarded to Professor Naughton and six researchers from other universities for their project *Healthy eating and physical activity guidelines for early childhood settings*.

- DEEWR funding was awarded to Dr Toni Noble, School of Education (NSW), and the Flagship for Creative and Authentic Leadership, in collaboration with Erebus, for a scoping study on wellbeing to direct education in all Australian schools.
- A NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change grant was awarded to Dr Vaughan Monamy of the School of Arts and Sciences (NSW).
- An ARC grant (more than \$800,000 for three years) was won by the University of Melbourne with ACU National's Professor Shurlee Swain, School of Arts and Sciences (Victoria), as chief investigator for the project *Who am I? The archive as central to quality practice for current and past care leavers (Forgotten Australians)*.
- An AusAID Australian Leadership Awards (ALA) Fellowships program grant (\$445,500) was received by the Flagship for Creative and Authentic Leadership for a project titled *Seeking influential and authentic leaders: a professional development program in capacity strengthening for educational leader*.

The goal of the ALA Fellowships is to develop leaders who, in the short-to-medium term, will be in a position to advance key regional policy issues. A total of 14 fellows from Nepal, India, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, PNG and the Philippines attended the professional development program at the Strathfield Campus in July.

- A grant was awarded to Professor Elizabeth Warren in partnership with the Queensland Catholic Education Office for more than \$300,000 from the Commonwealth Government for a research proposal, *Closing the gap – students experiencing success (SES) in mathematics*, aimed at improving the development of children's mathematics skills throughout the Catholic Dioceses of Cairns, Rockhampton and Toowoomba.

Professor Linda Worrall-Carter, Director of Melbourne Campus's centre for Nursing Research, with visiting Fulbright scholar Nursing Professor Barbara Riegel of the University of Pennsylvania.



- A grant of \$100,000 from the Catholic Education Office (CEO) Melbourne was awarded to Professor Clarke, A Downtown, J Brown, Professor P Clarkson, Associate Professor M Horne, A McDonough, A Roche and Dr A Scott for the project *Research and professional development for contemporary teaching and learning of mathematics*.
- Grants totalling nearly \$100,000 from St Vincent's Clinic Foundation were awarded to Professor Sandy Middleton and team of the Nursing Research Centre in Sydney, which includes newly appointed Professor Kim Walker and ACU National PhD students, for projects encompassing management of acute stroke, thromboembolism prevention and intensive care practice.
- Beyond Blue, an organisation that supports research on depression, awarded a \$78,365 grant to the University and St Vincent's Health Melbourne to study multidisciplinary ways of alleviating depression and anxiety among patients with heart disease, *Improving depression and anxiety screening of patients with heart disease: implementing a multidisciplinary clinical pathway*.
This project, to be led by ACU National's Professor Linda Worrall-Carter and colleagues in the Centre for Nursing Research, aims to improve screening practices for depression in addition to the identification of depression in those admitted to hospital with a heart attack. The study will link hospital care with the community by involving nurses, general practitioners, cardiologists, mental health service professionals and consumers.
- A \$60,000 grant was awarded to ACU National by the Australian Government's Whole of School Intervention Strategy for Building a Foundation for the University's Literacy and Numeracy Cluster Program, which aims to enhance literacy and numeracy outcomes for Indigenous children in the early years of schooling.

Publications by ACU National staff

Publications by staff include:

- *Vatican II: did anything happen?* co-authored by Professor Neil Ormerod
- *Matthew and his Christian contemporaries* co-edited by David Sim
- *The resurrection effect: transforming christian life and thought* by Anthony Kelly CSSR
- *The Scots in Australia* by history lecturer Malcolm Prentis
- *An investigation into the equity and efficiency of Australia's higher education system* by economics lecturer Dr Sarah Wright
- *Leading a digital school* co-authored by Michael Gaffney (Educational Leadership)
- *Catholic schools: hope in uncertain times*, a volume of articles co-edited by Dr Anne Benjamin, Adjunct Professor at ACU National and Dr Dan Riley (University of New England)
- *Journal of Business Ethics*, a significant paper by Dr Philip Cheng
- four co-authored books by Associate Professor Joseph Zaijda – *Nation-building, identity and citizenship education; Education and social inequality in the global culture; Comparative information technology; Comparative and global pedagogies: equity, access and democracy in education*.
- *A Well-founded Fear*, a documentary film on visiting former detention centre inmates after their return to Afghanistan, by Phil Glendenning, Director of the Edmund Rice Centre, ACU National's partner in much research and social justice activity.

Visiting researchers

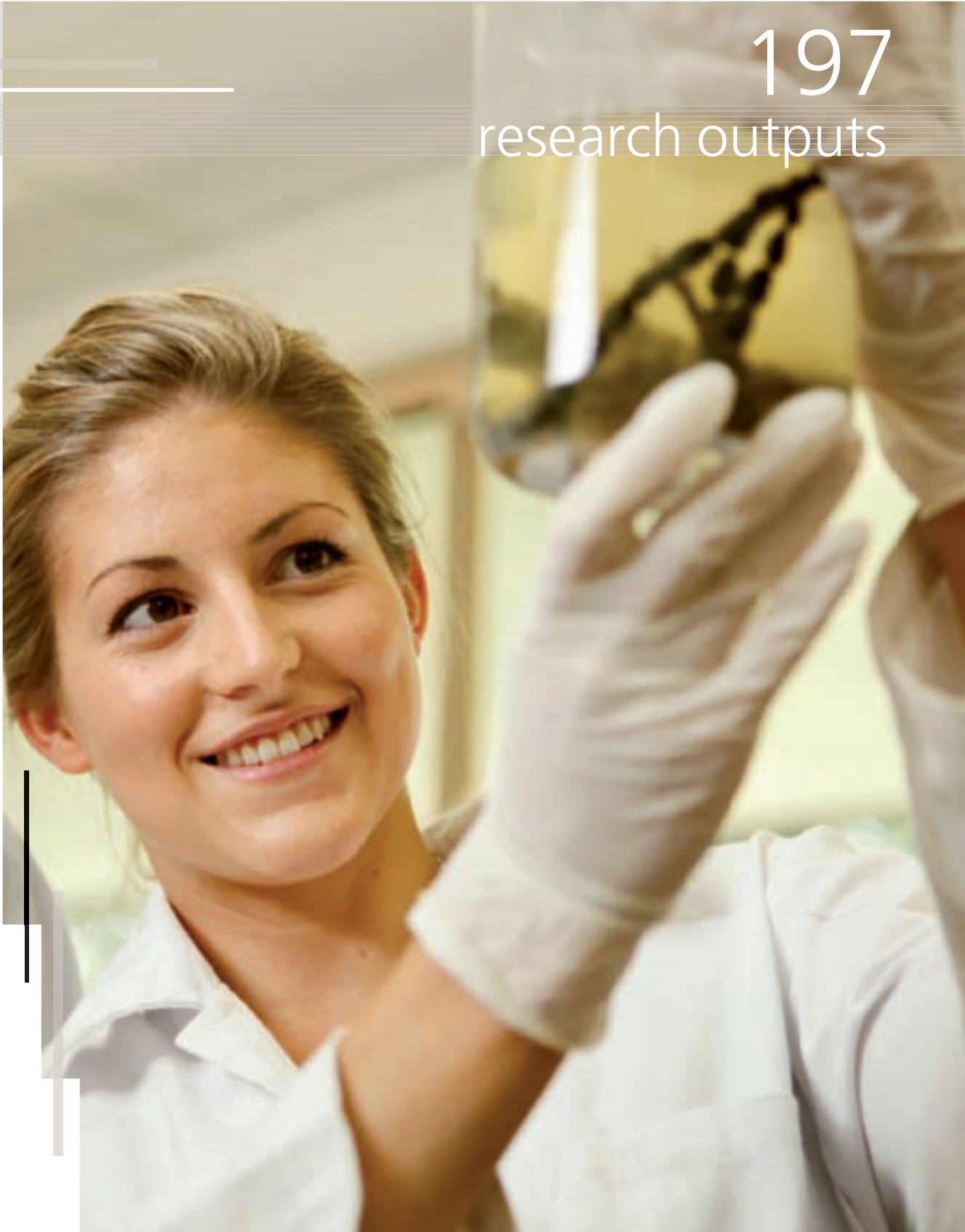
Research visitors to the University included:

- Medical Professor Jeremy Grimshaw, of the University of Ottawa, visiting Australia as part of the federal government-sponsored National Institute of Clinical Studies Visiting Experts Program
- Nursing Professor Barbara Riegel, of University of Pennsylvania, who spent a semester as a Fulbright scholar with the Centre of Nursing Research, the Melbourne partnership centre of ACU National and St Vincent's Hospital.

Looking to the future

- ACU National decided to form its own Early Career Researchers group under the lead of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and International), Professor Peter Wilson. It is hoped that this will help research development in younger or less experienced members of staff.
- The Academic Board defined an "active researcher" during the year to fit in with DEEWR/DIISR categories and make research progress clearer.
- There was agreement also on the desirability of having a greater number of projects where ACU National is the lead university in a research partnership, and the necessity of working towards this improvement.

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research outputs



10 External relations

external relations

Relations with government

2008 saw government visits to ACU National:

- Hon. James Melino, Victorian Minister for Sport, Recreation and Youth Affairs, on 27 March, opened the Australian Association for Exercise and Sports Science conference at the Melbourne Campus.
- Hon. Wayne Swan, Federal Treasurer, on 6 October, visited the Brisbane Campus, after the announcement of 50 new Commonwealth-supported nursing and early childhood education places for the University. Mr Swan inspected the developing building of Health Science and met Indigenous staff and students, following the research grant from the Whole of Schools Strategy, won by ACU National's Brisbane Campus (see Research grants and partnerships, page 45).
- Hon. Maxine McKew, Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Early Childhood Education, on 4 August, gave an address at the Ballarat Campus to 120 industry representatives and community members on Government plans related to her portfolio.
- Hon. Julia Gillard, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Education, on 16 December, visited the Melbourne Campus to inspect the site for future expansion and to better understand the University's operations.

Relations with stakeholders

With founding institutions

There are a number of founding institutions, particularly those which formerly trained teachers and nurses for Catholic schools and hospitals, which are very interested to remain informed of the University's activities. Their representatives are frequently invited to various functions such as book launches, art exhibitions and concerts on our campuses, our social justice forums and special occasions, such as the 2008 unveiling of a bronze statue of Mary MacKillop at the North Sydney Campus.

With the wider Catholic Church

- There are numerous partnerships in learning and in research with Catholic agencies, schools, hospitals, welfare and social justice groups, detailed in many parts of this report.
- In addition, there are continued campus opportunities for students who are Catholic to confirm their faith and take part in church occasions and retreats. At the same time students who are not Catholic may find the various University forums on religion and general inter-faith relations very enlightening.
- The widespread participation in World Youth Day 2008 is detailed on page 32.
- A joint project to make important church documents accessible online was also launched during the year, by Church Resources (a charitable trust established by the Bishops of the Catholic Church) and the University. The documents, written in Latin by a number of Popes and covering such subjects as faith, humanity, life and religion, are to be translated, summarised and interpreted in their historical context by ACU National academics with expertise in theology, philosophy and religious education.



University Relations, the communications, media and marketing arm of the University, produces numerous publications, in print and online.



Hon. Julia Gillard, Deputy Prime Minister, with the Vice-Chancellor Professor Greg Craven on her visit to the Melbourne Campus.

Teachers, students and anyone wanting a deeper understanding of the teachings of the Catholic Church are expected to benefit.

With alumni and graduates

The University's Graduate Association is discussed on page 39.

With benefactors

There is information on the Australian Catholic University's Foundation and its donors on pages 20 to 23.

With prospective students

Each campus offers University Experience Days as well as the more usual Open Days/Nights and extra information sessions about change of preferences, at the appropriate times in each state.

An easy-to-use website (www.acu.edu.au) and a phone number (1300 ASK ACU – 1300 275 228) are advertised widely.

In addition, University Relations staff make annual visits, with current students acting as student ambassadors, to schools and major educational expos.

Schools visited

	2006	2007	2008
Queensland	114	121	164
NSW	139	145	147
ACT	32	50	61
Victoria	124	148	161
Total	409	464	533

Public relations

University Relations is the name of the department of the University in charge of media, communications and marketing. This expanding section has its own Director, who is involved in strategic thinking and planning within the University, and its own staff on each of the six campuses, who have regular telephone and video conference meetings to ensure a coordinated approach.

Publications include:

- numerous course guides for undergraduates, postgraduates and international students
- a magazine, *acunique*, produced three times a year, both in hard copy posted to the University's stakeholders and online
- an online fortnightly news *Update*
- frequent topical media releases
- periodic special publications, such as a current one on the art and architecture of the University
- annual reports.

Visit www.acu.edu.au for copies of the above publications.

Participation in major career expos

	2006	2007	2008
Queensland	12	16	20
NSW	32	32	33
ACT	3	8	9
Victoria	13	14	16
Total	60	70	78

Community relations

Cultural contacts

In line with the University's Mission, its art galleries have exhibited works of women prisoners in Queensland and clients from Ozcare's Lucinda House in Sydney, which offers a detoxification and rehabilitation service. The Strathfield Campus also encourages art in Sydney Catholic schools with its annual show of the Clancy Prize competition.

ACU National Choirs in Brisbane and Melbourne have also performed with community and cathedral choirs in the cities and taken part in occasions such as the Royal School of Church Music services.

Community comment

A number of staff members are frequently sought for social and intellectual comment on the issues of the day and to write pieces for metropolitan newspapers. These include, but are by no means limited to, Vice-Chancellor Professor Greg Craven, Legal Studies Head Professor Father Frank Brennan SJ, Philosophy Professor Raimond Gaita, Professor of Theology Neil Ormerod, Director of the Institute for Advancing Community Engagement Professor Jude Butcher and Professor of Careers Education and Development Jim Bright.

Community engagement

Throughout this report of operations, there has been much detail given of the University's Mission directing learning, research and community engagement, in particular in chapters 3, 6, 8 and 10. Such details of vigorous community involvement driven by the University's Mission are important to the record of the University's year.



1 Directors' report

for the year ended 31 December 2008

Australian Catholic University Limited

(Company Limited by Guarantee)
ACN 050 192 660

The directors present their report together with the financial statements of Australian Catholic University Limited (the Company) for the year ended 31 December 2008 and the auditors' report thereon.

Directors

The directors of the Company in office at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

Mr John Joseph Carroll

BBus MAppFin CPA MAIPM
Financier
Appointed 19 May 2006

Professor Judith Dorothy Chapman AM

BA DipEd (Melb) BEd (LaTrobe)
EdD (NthColorado) FACE FACEA FWAIEA
Academic
Appointed 23 May 2008

Professor Gregory Joseph Craven

BA LLB(Hons) LLM (Melb)
Vice-Chancellor
Appointed 1 February 2008

Mr Alan Edgar Druery OAM

BA BEdSt MEd(Admin) (Qld) FQIEA FACE
FACEA DUniv (QUT)
Retired Educational Administrator
Appointed 1 January 1991

Mr Stephen Noel Elder

BEd (Vic Aust) DipEd (LaT) FAIM
Educational Administrator
Appointed 23 May 2008

Mr Edward William Exell AM

BA (Hons) (Melb) BEc (ANU)
Retired Administrator
Appointed 30 September 1996

Most Reverend Bishop James Foley

DD DPh (Leuven)
Catholic Bishop
Appointed 30 September 1994

Ms Josephine Frawley

BA (Adel) DipTeach (Adel TC) GradDipTESL
(SA CAE) Registration Certificate, Library
Association of Australia
Librarian
Appointed 20 August 2007

Professor Peta Goldberg RSM

BA MusEd (QldConservMus) GradDipRE (ACU)
MEd (ACU) MASTheol (UQ) PhD (N'castle)
ASDA LSDA ATCL
University Lecturer
Appointed 19 May 2006

Associate Professor Margot Lesley Hillel OAM

TPTC BA (LaTrobe) MA (Melb) PhD (Monash)
University Lecturer
Appointed 19 May 2006
Resigned 23 May 2008

Mr Paul Cuthbert Hoy

LLB (Melb)
Solicitor
Appointed 1 January 1991
Resigned 23 May 2008

Br Robert Julian McDonald CFC AO

BA DipEd (Syd) CertRel Formation (St Louis)
GradDip Lang in Ed (CSU)
Religious Brother
Appointed 30 September 1992

Ms Moira Therese Najdecki

BA DipEd GradDipRE MA MEdLeadership
Educational Administrator
Appointed 19 May 2006

Dr Marea Nicholson

TC BA (Macq) Med (Syd) DipTeach (N'cleCAE)
GradDipEdSt (NepeanCAE) PhD (Syd)
University Lecturer
Appointed 19 May 2006

Mr David Brian O'Connor AM

BA (UNE) PACert (Syd Tech Coll)
Retired Public Servant
Appointed 14 April 2000

Ms Susan Mary Pascoe

BA DipEd GradDip Special Ed MEd (Hons)
(Melb) FACE FACEL FAICD FAIM FIPAA
State Commissioner
Appointed 20 September 2001

Br Anthony Philip Robinson FMS

BA (N'castle) MA (Macq) MEdAdmin (UNSW)
MA (Dayton)
Province Secretary
Appointed 26 May 2005

Ms Sarah Rose

Student
Appointed 1 January 2008
Resigned 31 December 2008

Professor Peter Winston Sheehan AO

BA PhD (Syd)
Vice-Chancellor
Appointed 1 February 1998
Resigned 31 January 2008

Mr James Wood

Student
Appointed 1 January 2009

Senior executive

The senior executive of Australian Catholic University Limited on 2 April 2009, the date of its Senate approval of this report, are:

Vice-Chancellor

Professor Greg Craven
BA LLB (Hons) LLM (Melb)
Appointed 1 February 2008

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic)

Professor Gabrielle McMullen
BSc (Hons) (Monash) PhD (Monash) FRACI
Appointed 16 October 2000

Pro-Vice-Chancellor Research (Acting)

Professor Gail Crossley
BSc (Hons) PhD (Melb) DipEd (SydCAE)
Appointed 8 December 2008

Pro-Vice-Chancellor Administration and Resources and Company Secretary (8 yrs)

Mr John Cameron
MCom (Hons) (UNSW) CPA
Appointed 1 January 2009

Dean, Faculty of Theology and Philosophy (Acting)

Professor Janis (John) Ozolins
DipEd MSc PhD (Melb) GDipEdAdmin
Appointed 1 March 2009

Dean, Faculty of Arts and Sciences (Acting)

Associate Professor Theda Thomas
Bsc (Hons) HED Msc (UNISA) PhD (Pretoria Uni)
Appointed 8 December 2008

Dean, Faculty of Education

Professor Marie Emmitt
TITC (Toorak) BA BEd MEd (Monash) MACE
Appointed 19 January 2004

Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences

Professor Pauline Nugent
RN BAppSc NEd (LincolnInst) MEdSt (Monash)
Appointed 12 March 2007

Directors' meetings

The number of directors' meetings (including meetings of committees of directors) and the number of meetings attended by each of the directors of the Company during the financial year are shown below.

	Senate meetings		Standing and Finance Committee meetings		Honorary Awards Committee meetings		Audit Committee meetings	
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B
Mr JJ Carroll	4	4	5	6	–	–	3	3
Professor GJ Craven	4	4	6	6	1	1	–	–
Professor JD Chapman	3	3	–	–	–	–	–	–
Mr E Druery	3	4	6	6	–	–	–	–
Mr SN Elder	2	3	2	3	–	–	1	1
Mr EW Exell	3	4	6	6	–	–	–	–
Most Reverend Bishop J Foley	2	4	–	–	–	–	–	–
Ms J Frawley	3	4	–	–	–	–	–	–
Prof P Goldberg	4	4	6	6	–	–	–	–
Assoc Prof M Hillel	0	1	–	–	–	–	–	–
Mr PC Hoy	1	1	2	3	–	–	1	1
Br RJ McDonald	4	4	1*	6	1	1	–	–
Ms M Najdecki	4	4	6	6	–	–	–	–
Dr M Nicholson	4	4	–	–	–	–	–	–
Mr DB O'Connor	3	4	3	6	1	1	2	3
Ms SM Pascoe	3	4	–	–	1	1	–	–
Br Anthony Robinson	4	4	–	–	–	–	–	–
Ms S Rose	3	4	–	–	–	–	–	–
Professor PW Sheehan	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Mr James Wood	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

A Number of meetings attended

B Number of meetings held during the time the director held office throughout the year

*Br RJ McDonald is an ex officio member of the Standing and Finance Committee and is not required to attend each meeting.

Principal activities

The principal activities of Australian Catholic University during the course of the financial year were those of a university operating at both an undergraduate and a postgraduate level on six campuses across the states of Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory. The University also undertook formal entrepreneurial activities through the conduct of special non-award and fee-paying courses including offshore programs in Hong Kong. The University has links in a number of other countries including the United States, Indonesia, Pakistan and East Timor. In the opinion of the directors there were no significant changes in the state of the affairs of the Company that occurred during the financial year under review.

Review and result of operations

There was a positive result for the year ended 31 December 2008 of \$8.838m (2007 \$18.03m). Significant increases in revenue include Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance – Commonwealth Grants Scheme \$6.45m, HECS HELP \$6.06m and Fees and Charges \$1.57m. Significant increases in expenditure include Employee benefits of \$15.65m, and Other expenses of \$6.22m.

It will be noted from the Supplementary income statement provided on page 99 which separately identifies revenue and expenditure for both operating activities and capital activities that there was a positive result for the year in relation to Operating activities of \$3.01m and Capital activities of \$5.83m.

A reduction in investment earnings for the year impacted on the operating result with earnings of \$1.81m in 2008 in comparison with \$2.82m in 2007, a reduction of \$1.01m. This largely reflects the impact of the ongoing world-wide volatility of investment markets on the value of the managed funds component of the University's investment portfolio. (During the second part of the year the University redeemed its managed funds and all investments are now held in government-guaranteed bank deposits and bank bills.)

There was an improvement in the cash and investments position of \$4.40m partly due to revenue exceeding expenditure but also as a result of the receipt of the federal government's Better Universities Renewal Fund (BURF) Grant in advance of expenditure on approved capital projects.

Significant changes in the state of affairs

A major capital expansion program is currently in place with significant capital expenditure expected during 2009 and 2010. The program is the result of a major review of both the short-term and long-term capital planning needs of the University and is designed to address a critical shortage of teaching and administrative space identified in relation to campuses in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. Funding of the expenditure will be from University cash reserves, augmented from external loan finance if required.

Financial highlights

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Commonwealth Government Grants	121,330	108,716
Deferred Superannuation Contribution	354	(1,184)
Other Operating Revenue	53,314	52,139
Finance Income	1,806	2,817
Salary (excluding transfer to Provisions)	(108,784)	(94,212)
Non-Salary Cash Expenses	(48,146)	(40,785)
Non-Cash Expenses (Depreciation, Amortisation and Provisions)	(11,036)	(9,458)
Net Operating Profit	8,838	18,033
Working Capital Surplus	36,978	33,763

Environmental regulation

The Company's operations are not subject to any significant environmental regulations under either Commonwealth or state legislation. However, the directors believe that the Company has adequate systems in place for the management of its environmental requirements and is not aware of any breach of these environmental requirements.

Matters subsequent to the end of the financial year

There are no items, transactions or events of a material or unusual nature that have arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report which are likely in the opinion of the directors to affect significantly the operations of the Company, the results of these operations or the state of the Company in subsequent financial years.

Directors' interests and benefits

Directors' interests and benefits are set out in Notes 19 and 20.

Indemnification of directors and officers

During the year the Company renewed an agreement with its insurers to provide indemnification for all the directors and officers of the Company (as listed in this report), against all liabilities to another person (other than the Company) that may arise from their position as directors and officers.

Directors and officers liability cover

During the year, the Company paid insurance premiums of \$49,686 (2007: \$42,370) in respect of Directors and Officers Liability insurance contracts for directors and officers of the Company. The insurance provides cover against claims made by reason of any wrongful act committed or alleged to have been committed by a director or officer of the Company during the year. The Company has not entered into an agreement indemnifying the current auditors, KPMG, against any claims by third parties.

Proceedings on behalf of the Company

There are no proceedings being pursued on behalf of the Company.

Lead auditor's independence declaration

The lead auditor's independence declaration is set out at right and forms part of the directors' report for the financial year ended 31 December 2008.

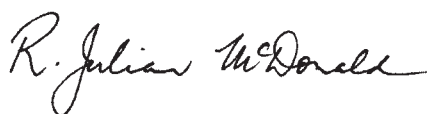
Rounding off

The Company is of a kind referred to in ASIC Class Order 98/100 dated 10 July 1998 and, in accordance with that Class Order, amounts in the financial report and directors' report have been rounded off to the nearest thousand dollars, unless otherwise stated.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors:



Professor G Craven
Director
2 April 2009
Sydney



Br RJ McDonald
Director
2 April 2009
Sydney

2 Lead auditor's independence declaration

Lead auditor's independence declaration under Section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001*

To: the directors of Australian Catholic University Limited

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit for the financial year ended 31 December 2008 there have been:

- i no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- ii no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

KPMG



Julian McPherson

Partner
2 April 2009
Sydney

3 Audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2008

Income statement for the year ended 31 December 2008

	Notes	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Revenue from Continuing Operations			
Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance Excluding HECS–HELP	2.1	78,017	71,564
Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS–HELP)			
Student Contributions	25.2	5,968	5,826
Commonwealth Payments	2.1	33,655	27,740
FEE–HELP	2.1	3,690	3,586
State and Local Government Financial Assistance	2.2	24	24
Fees and Charges	2.3	33,826	32,259
Superannuation – Deferred Government Contributions		354	(1,184)
Consultancy and Contract Research	2.5	2,571	2,554
Other Revenue	2.6	16,893	17,302
Total Revenue from Continuing Operations		174,998	159,671
Expenses from Continuing Operations			
Employee Benefits	3.1	112,294	96,648
Depreciation and Amortisation	3.2	7,526	7,022
Buildings and Grounds Maintenance	3.3	4,781	3,742
Other	3.4	43,144	36,924
Total Expenses from Continuing Operations		167,745	144,336
Operating Result from Continuing Operations		7,253	15,335
Finance Income and Expense			
Finance Income	2.4	1,806	2,817
Finance Expense	4	(221)	(119)
Total Finance Income and Expense		1,585	2,698
Operating Result Before Income Tax		8,838	18,033
Income Tax	1(c)	–	–
Operating Result for the Period	17	8,838	18,033

The income statement is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements set out on pages 60 to 94.

Financial Statements are expressed in the nearest dollar except where the total assets, or revenue, or expenses of the institution are greater than:

- \$10,000,000, the amounts shown in the financial statements may be expressed by reference to the nearest \$1,000; and
- \$1,000,000,000, the amounts shown in the financial statements may be expressed by reference to the nearest \$100,000.

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2008

	Notes	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	6	1,834	690
Trade and Other Receivables	7	5,935	2,869
Other Financial Assets	8	56,072	52,821
Other	10	3,698	2,108
Total Current Assets		67,539	58,488
Non-Current Assets			
Other Investments	9	1,135	1,308
Property, Plant and Equipment	11	116,816	109,101
Intangible Assets	12	48,545	49,365
Other	10	14,312	13,958
Total Non-Current Assets		180,808	173,732
Total Assets		248,347	232,220
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	13	5,097	4,470
Employee Benefits	14	8,698	8,163
Other	15	16,766	12,092
Total Current Liabilities		30,561	24,725
Non-Current Liabilities			
Employee Benefits	14	25,250	24,487
Other	15	6,594	5,731
Total Non-Current Liabilities		31,844	30,218
Total Liabilities		62,405	54,943
Net Assets		185,942	177,277
Equity			
Reserves	16	185,942	177,277
Retained Earnings	17	–	–
Total Equity		185,942	177,277

The balance sheet is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements set out on pages 60 to 94.

Statement of changes in equity
for the year ended 31 December 2008

	Notes	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Total equity at the beginning of the financial year		177,277	159,155
Changes in the Fair Value of Available For Sale Financial Assets	16	(173)	89
Net income recognised directly in equity		(173)	89
Profit for the year		8,838	18,033
Total recognised income and expense for the year		8,665	18,122
Total equity at the end of the financial year		185,942	177,277
Total recognised income and expense for the year is attributable to:			
Members		8,665	18,122
		8,665	18,122

The statement of changes in equity is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements set out on pages 60 to 94.

Statement of cash flows
for the year ended 31 December 2008

	Notes	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Grant Revenue			
Commonwealth Government		86,722	74,162
Higher Education Contribution Scheme			
Student Payments		5,968	5,826
Commonwealth Payments		33,427	27,395
Other Inflows		52,782	53,889
Cash Receipts in the Course of Operations		178,899	161,272
Cash Payments in the Course of Operations		(161,773)	(135,264)
Interest Received		1,806	2,817
Interest and Other Costs of Finance		–	(119)
Net Cash from Operating Activities	24(ii)	18,932	28,706
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Payments for Property, Plant and Equipment		(14,481)	(9,958)
Proceeds from Sale of Non-Current Assets		42	117
Payments for Investments		(14,400)	(19,461)
Proceeds from Investments		11,151	–
Net Cash Used in Investing Activities		(17,688)	(29,302)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Repayment of Loans and Borrowings		(100)	(900)
Net Cash (Used in)/Provided by Financing Activities		(100)	(900)
Net (Decrease)/Increase in Cash Held		1,144	(1,496)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Financial Year		690	2,186
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Financial Year	24(i)	1,834	690

The statement of cash flows is to be read in conjunction with the notes to and forming part of the financial statements set out on pages 60 to 94.

4 Notes to the financial statements

notes to

1 Statement of significant accounting policies

The directors of the Company comprise the Senate of the University and the terms Senator and Director are interchangeable. Australian Catholic University Ltd (the Company) is domiciled in Australia. The financial report was authorised for issue by the directors on 2 April 2009.

The significant policies which have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report are:

(a) Basis of preparation

Statement of compliance

The financial report of the Company is a general-purpose financial report which has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (AASB's) adopted by the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the *Corporations Act 2001*, and the disclosure requirements within the Guidelines for the Preparation of Annual Financial Statements for the 2008 Reporting Period by Australian Higher Education Institutions issued pursuant to the *Higher Education Funding Act 1988*.

The financial report of the Company complies with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and interpretations adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).

The annual report of Australian Catholic University is prepared in accordance with:
FMA Financial Management Act 1994 (Vic)

Use of estimates and judgement

The preparation of a financial report in conformity with Australian Accounting Standards requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Information about significant areas of estimation uncertainty and critical judgements in applying accounting policies that have the most significant impact on the amount recognised in the financial statements are described in: Note 14 measurement of defined superannuation obligations; and Note 1(g) measurement of make good/rectification costs.

Functional and presentation currency

The financial statements are prepared in Australian dollars, which is the Company's functional currency.

Historical cost convention

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of historical costs except for freehold land and buildings and financial instruments classified as available for sale. These have been stated at fair value.

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified to achieve consistency in disclosure with current financial year amounts and other disclosures.

The accounting policies below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements except where stated.

(b) Revenue recognition

Commonwealth Government financial assistance

Commonwealth Grant Scheme and HECS–HELP income is recognised on an accrual basis whereby it is credited to the University's income statement in the financial year in which the goods and services are provided in exchange for the grant received.

Higher Education Loan Program (HELP)

In 2005 the Commonwealth Government introduced the Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) which is made up of three schemes:

- The Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS)
- FEE HELP for local postgraduate and undergraduate students in full-fee courses
- OS HELP for students completing a component of their course overseas.

Revenue is recognised in the period to which the payment relates.

Other tuition fee income

Other tuition fee income is generated from fee-paying courses for local and overseas students. Generally revenue is recognised when funds are received; however, any pre-payments for courses being held in the next teaching year are carried forward and treated as revenue in the following financial year.

Donations and bequests

Donations and bequests received, which are not subject to conditions under a specific trust deed, are recognised as revenue when they are received.

Interest income

Interest income is recognised as it accrues using the effective interest method.

Asset sales

The net gain on asset sales is included as other income and the net loss as an expense. The profit or loss on disposal of assets is brought to account at the date the unconditional contract is signed.

(c) Taxation

The Company is a university and the Commissioner of Taxation has granted it an exemption under section 50-5 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

The Company is not subject to income tax or capital gains tax but is liable for other taxes in accordance with federal and state legislation.

(d) Cash

Cash at bank is carried at face value of the amounts deposited or drawn. The carrying amount of cash at bank approximates net fair value.

(e) Trade and other receivables

Student assistance program

Student loans are generally settled within a 12-month period and are carried at amounts due. The collectability of debts is assessed at balance date and bad debts are written off directly to the income statement. Specific provision is made for any doubtful accounts. The carrying amount of student loans approximates net fair value.

Sundry receivables

Sundry receivables are recognised when expenditure is incurred by the Company and requires reimbursement by a third party. The carrying amount of sundry receivables approximates net fair value.

(f) Investments

Interest bearing deposits, debentures and bank bonds

If the group has the ability to hold debt securities to maturity, then they are classified as held to maturity. Held to maturity investments are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less impairment losses.

Interest-bearing deposits, debentures and bank bonds are classified as "held to maturity" securities and are carried at amortised cost.

Bank bills

Bank bills are classified as "held to maturity" investments and carried on the balance sheet at amortised cost. The carrying amount of bank bills approximates their net fair value.

Managed funds

Managed funds are classified as held for trading securities and carried on the balance sheet at their fair value. The carrying amount of managed funds approximates their net fair value. Changes in fair value are reflected in the income statement (see page 56).

Other companies

Investments in shares are classified as "available for sale" securities and are carried at fair value (see Note 1(p)). Changes in fair value are recorded in the Share Revaluation Reserve except for impairment losses which are recorded directly through the income statement.

When shares governed by a trust deed are sold, the profit or loss on disposal is recognised against a trust fund liability. All other share profits and losses on disposal are recognised in the income statement.

(g) Property, plant and equipment

Freehold land and buildings are shown at fair value, based on periodic, at least triennial, valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation for buildings. Any accumulated depreciation at the date of revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation of freehold land and buildings are credited to the Asset Revaluation Reserve in equity. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease previously recognised in the income statement, the increase is first recognised in the income statement. Decreases that reverse previous increases of the same asset class are first charged against revaluation reserves directly in equity to the extent of the remaining reserve attributable to the asset class; all other decreases are charged to the income statement.

All other property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset. Cost also includes those costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to its working condition and an estimate of the cost of dismantling and removing the asset. The estimate of dismantling costs is based on prior experience in exiting similar sites or locations.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Company and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the income statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Land is not depreciated. Depreciation on other assets is calculated using the straight line method to allocate the cost or revalued amount, net of residual value, over the estimated useful life, as follows:

Depreciation

Depreciation is recognised in the income statement on a straight line basis over the estimated useful lives of each part of an item of property, plant and equipment. The depreciation rates used for each class of asset in the current and comparative year are as follows:

Freehold buildings	3%
Improvement to intangible rights to occupy buildings	3%
Furniture and fittings	20%
Computer equipment	33%
Plant and equipment	20%
Motor vehicles	10%

The assets' residual value and useful life is reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

An asset's carrying amount is impaired to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount (see Note 1(h)).

Gains and losses on disposal are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These are included in the income statement (see page 56). When revalued assets are sold, it is Company policy to transfer the amounts included in the Asset Revaluation Reserve in respect of those assets to retained earnings.

Works of art

Acquisitions are carried at cost and no depreciation is charged in respect of these assets.

Leased plant and equipment

Leases of plant and equipment under which the Company assumes substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership are classified as finance leases. Other leases are classified as operating leases.

Finance lease assets are capitalised. A lease asset and a liability equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments are recorded at the inception of the lease. Contingent rentals are written off as an expense in the accounting period in which they are incurred. Capitalised lease assets are amortised on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease, or, where it is likely the Company will obtain ownership of the asset, the life of the asset. Provisions for the make good of leased premises are also amortised over the term of the relevant lease. Lease liabilities are reduced by repayments of principal. The interest components of the lease payments are charged to the income statement.

Leases in which a significant portion of the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases are charged against profits in equal instalments over the accounting periods covered by the lease term, except where an alternative basis is more representative of the pattern of benefits to be derived from the leased property.

(h) Impairment of assets

Impairment arises when an asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. Recoverable amount is defined as the higher of an asset's (or cash-generating unit's) fair value less costs to sell and value in use. Value in use is (i) the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash generating unit or (ii) the depreciated replacement cost of the asset when the future economic benefits of an asset of a not-for-profit entity are not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate net cash inflows and where the entity would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits.

Assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised in the income statement unless an asset has previously been revalued in which case the impairment loss is recognised as a reversal of the revaluation with any excess recognised through the income statement. For assets with an indefinite useful life the recoverable amount is estimated at each balance date.

(i) Intangible assets

Intangible assets consist of the rights to occupy land and buildings that have been granted at nominal rates for a determined period or in perpetuity. The intangible rights are initially recorded at their fair value. Rights to occupy buildings are amortised at the lesser of 3 per cent or the period of the term of the agreement where their use is available in perpetuity. Where a right of occupancy agreement exists and stipulates the time period, the asset including rights to occupy land is amortised over the period of the right. Indefinite life intangibles are tested annually for impairment.

(j) Trade and other payables

Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods or services received, whether or not billed to the Company. Trade accounts payable are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying amount of accounts payable approximates net fair value.

(k) Borrowings

Other loans

Other loans are carried on the balance sheet at amortised cost. Interest expense is recognised on an effective interest basis.

(l) Employee benefits

Wages, salaries, annual leave and sick leave

The provisions for employee entitlements to wages, salaries and annual leave represent the amount which the Company has a present obligation to pay resulting from employees' services provided up to the balance date.

The provisions have been calculated based on wage and salary rates at which they are expected to be paid and includes related on-costs. The carrying amount of the provisions approximates net fair value.

Long service leave

The liability for employee entitlements to long-service leave represents the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made by the employer resulting from employees' services provided up to the balance date. The liability is calculated from a staff member's commencement date allowing for the probability that the member will complete seven years of service.

Liabilities for employee entitlements which are not expected to be settled within 12 months are discounted using the rates attaching to national government securities at balance date, which most closely match the terms of maturity of the related liabilities. The carrying amount of the provision approximates net fair value.

In determining the liability for employee entitlements, consideration has been given to the Company's experience with staff departures. Related on-costs have also been included in the liability.

Superannuation funds

The Company contributes to a range of employee superannuation funds. Company contributions are recognised within employee expenses in the income statement. (See also Note 14.)

Unfunded superannuation

An arrangement exists between the Australian Government and the respective state governments to meet the unfunded liability for the beneficiaries of the Emergency Services and State Superannuation Scheme on an emerging cost basis.

This arrangement is evidenced by the *State Grants (General Revenue) Amendment Act 1987, Higher Education Funding Act 1988* and subsequent amending legislation. By letter dated 15 December 2005, DEST confirmed that the Australian Government considers the current arrangements have established a pattern of past practice and future intent that has created a valid expectation on the part of universities that the Department on behalf of the Australian Government will discharge the superannuation liability.

Accordingly the unfunded liabilities have been recognised in the balance sheet (see page 57) under provisions with a corresponding asset recognised under non-current assets. The recognition of both the asset and the liability consequently does not affect the year end net asset position.

(m) Funds held in trust

Donations and bequests received which are subject to conditions under a specific trust deed, are held in trust on behalf of that specific donor and are not recognised as revenue by the Company. Unless specified in the trust deed, any net earnings on these funds are recognised as revenue by the Company.

(n) Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which contemplates continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and the settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business.

(o) Goods and services tax

Revenues and expenses are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of the acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of the GST included.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as a current asset or liability in the balance sheet.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis. The GST component of cash flow arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is classified as an operating cash flow.

(p) Fair value

Fair value of an asset is the amount for which that asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction.

The fair value of financial assets and financial liabilities must be estimated for recognition and measurement or for disclosure purposes.

The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets (such as publicly traded derivatives, and trading and available-for-sale securities) is based on quoted market prices at the balance sheet date. The quoted market price used for financial assets held is the current bid price; the appropriate quoted market price for financial liabilities is the current ask price.

The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market (for example, unlisted shares) is determined using valuation techniques with assumptions that are based on market conditions existing at each balance date.

The market value of property is the estimated amount for which a property could be exchanged on the date of valuation between a willing buyer and a willing seller in an arm's length transaction after proper marketing wherein the parties had each acted knowledgeably, prudently and without compulsion. The market value of items of plant, equipment, fixtures and fittings is based on the quoted market prices for similar items.

(q) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

The following standards, amendments to standards and interpretations have been identified as those which may impact the entity in the period of initial application. They are available for early adoption at 31 December 2008, but have not been applied in preparing this financial report:

- Revised AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements* introduces as a financial statement (formerly "primary" statement) the "statement of comprehensive income". The revised standard does not change the recognition, measurement or disclosure of transactions and events that are required by other AASB's. The revised AASB 101 will become mandatory for the Company's 31 December 2009 financial statements. The Company has not yet determined the potential effect of the revised standard on the Company's disclosures.
- Revised AASB 123 *Borrowing Costs* removes the option to expense borrowing costs and requires that an entity capitalises borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of a qualifying asset as part of the cost of that asset. The revised AASB 123 will become mandatory for the Group's 31 December 2009 financial statements and will constitute a change in the accounting policy of the Company. In accordance with the transitional provisions the Company will apply the revised AASB 123 to qualifying assets for which capitalisation of borrowing costs commences on or after the effective date. Therefore, there will be no impact on prior periods in the Company's 31 December 2008 financial statements.

2 Revenue

	Notes	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
2.1 Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance			
Commonwealth Grants Scheme and Other Grants			
Commonwealth Grants Scheme	25.1	66,712	60,594
Indigenous Support Fund	25.1	1,321	1,068
Equity Support Programs	25.1	175	193
Workplace Reform Program	25.1	875	760
Learning and Teaching Performance Fund	25.1	–	500
Superannuation Program	25.1	875	1,007
Capital Development Pool	25.1	–	851
Transitional Cost Program	25.1	445	–
Diversity and Structural Adjustment Fund	25.1	100	–
Improving the Practical Component of Teacher Education Program	25.1	1,251	–
Total Commonwealth Grants Scheme and Other Grants		71,754	64,973
DEEWR Scholarships			
Australian Postgraduate Awards	25.3	328	264
International Postgraduate Research Scholarships	25.3	55	67
Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarships	25.3	938	797
Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships	25.3	774	963
Indigenous Scholarships	25.3	65	18
Total DEEWR Scholarships		2,160	2,109
DIISR Research			
Institutional Grants Scheme	25.4	674	683
Research Training Scheme	25.4	1,440	1,260
Infrastructure	25.4	150	161
Australian Scheme for Higher Education Repositories	25.4	252	128
Implementation Assistance Program	25.4	70	35
Commercialisation Training Scheme	25.4	–	21
Total DIISR Research		2,586	2,288
Better Universities Renewal Funding (BURF)	25.5	254	–
Total BURF		254	–
Total DEEWR excluding HELP (a)		76,754	69,370

	Notes	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Higher Education Loan Programs (HELP)			
HECS-HELP Commonwealth Payments	25.2	33,655	27,740
FEE-HELP	25.2	3,690	3,586
Total Higher Education Loan Programs		37,345	31,326
Total DEEWR including HELP		114,099	100,696
Australian Research Council			
Discovery Projects (Large grants)	25.6	282	294
Discovery Fellowships	25.6	–	(2)
Linkage Projects	25.6	125	222
Total Australian Research Council (b)		407	514
Other Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance			
DEEWR		856	1,680
Total Other Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance (c)		856	1,680
Total Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance		115,361	102,890
Total Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance Excluding HELP (a + b + c)		78,017	71,564
2.2 State and Local Government Financial Assistance			
Deferred Government Grant (Properties)		24	24
2.3 Fees and Charges			
Fee-Paying Overseas Students		26,089	24,657
Fee-Paying Non-Overseas Postgraduate Students		3,921	3,418
Fee-Paying Non-Overseas Undergraduate Students		1,677	1,893
Other Non-Overseas Students Undertaking Non-Award Courses		379	269
Rental Charges		718	507
Charges for Student Accommodation		420	337
Registration Fees		402	953
Library Fees		88	88
Late Fees		132	137
Total fees and charges		33,826	32,259

2 Revenue continued

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
2.4 Finance Income		
Interest	4,326	2,817
Managed Funds Disposal Loss	(2,520)	–
Total Finance Income	1,806	2,817
2.5 Consultancy and Contract Research		
Consultancy Fees	670	494
Industry Research Grants	1,901	2,060
Total Consultancy and Contract Research	2,571	2,554
2.6 Other Revenue		
Offshore Programs	362	282
Other Program Income	10,591	10,739
Other Grants	568	1,119
Bookshop and Publication Sales	156	202
Donations and Bequests	1,122	1,244
Net Gain on Disposal of Property, Plant and Equipment	3	1
Other Income	4,091	3,715
Total Other Revenue	16,893	17,302

3 Expenses

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
3.1 Employee Benefits		
Academic		
Salaries		
Academic	51,573	45,070
Contributions to Superannuation and Pension Schemes		
Deferred Employee Benefits for Superannuation	204	(683)
Emerging Cost	724	875
Funded	6,897	5,893
Payroll Tax	2,737	2,380
Workers' Compensation	684	238
Long-Service Leave Expense	1,213	1,906
Annual Leave	80	422
Other	–	1
Total Academic Employee Benefits	64,112	56,102

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Non-Academic		
Salaries		
Non-Academic	38,133	33,017
Contributions to Superannuation and Pension Schemes		
Deferred Employee Benefits for Superannuation	150	(501)
Emerging Cost	246	194
Funded	5,021	4,526
Payroll Tax	1,992	1,828
Workers' Compensation	497	183
Long-Service Leave Expense	1,477	1,017
Annual Leave	386	275
Other	280	7
Total Non-Academic Employee Benefits	48,182	40,546
Total Academic and Non-Academic Employee Benefits		
Salaries		
Academic	51,573	45,070
Non-Academic	38,133	33,017
Contributions to Superannuation and Pension Schemes		
Deferred Employee Benefits for Superannuation	354	(1,184)
Emerging Cost	970	1,069
Funded	11,918	10,419
Payroll Tax	4,729	4,208
Workers' Compensation	1,181	421
Long-Service Leave Expense	2,690	2,923
Annual Leave	466	697
Other	280	8
Total Employee Benefits	112,294	96,648
3.2 Depreciation and Amortisation		
Depreciation of Buildings – Freehold	416	411
Amortisation of Intangible Rights to Occupy Buildings	820	820
Depreciation of Improvements to Intangible Right to Occupy Buildings	2,605	2,502
Amortisation Leasehold Property Improvements	710	474
Depreciation of Furniture and Fittings	234	197
Depreciation of Plant and Equipment	2,682	2,557
Depreciation of Motor Vehicles	59	61
Total Depreciation and Amortisation	7,526	7,022

3 Expenses continued

	2008	2007
	\$'000	\$'000
3.3 Buildings and Grounds Maintenance	4,781	3,742
3.4 Other Expenses		
Advertising, Promotions and Publicity	1,354	754
Cleaning and Waste Collection	1,934	1,697
Computer Software and Services	2,348	1,819
Consultancy Fees	2,897	2,337
Excursion Expenses	425	414
Hire of Equipment and Facilities	818	389
Insurance	1,016	741
Library Acquisitions	2,613	2,196
Net Loss on Disposal of Property, Plant and Equipment	20	48
Non-Capitalised Equipment	711	1,024
Offshore Administration	2,695	2,175
Operating Lease Rental Expenses	1,692	2,258
Printing – Outside Printers	751	722
Publications, Subscriptions and Memberships	817	621
Rent	2,143	1,395
Scholarships and Prizes	2,024	1,341
Security Services	952	793
Stationery	445	488
Telecommunications	1,371	1,015
Travel, Staff Development and Entertainment	6,973	6,245
Utilities	1,835	1,668
Other	7,310	6,784
Total Other Expenses	43,144	36,924

4 Finance expenses

	Notes	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Archdiocesan Development Fund Loan		–	24
Blackfriars Purchase Unwind of Discount		22	26
Sydney Management Fee Unwind of Discount	15	145	69
Make Good on Leased Premises Unwind of Discount		54	–
Total Finance Expenses		221	119

5 Auditors' remuneration

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Audit Services	90.85	90.50
Other Assurance Services		
Grant/Research Acquittal	17.40	21.94
Other (Includes Credit Card and Fees Compliance Audit)	28.75	29.56
	46.15	51.51
Other		
Recruitment Assistance	53.33	–
Total Auditors' Remuneration	190.33	142.01

6 Cash and cash equivalents

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Cash on Hand	27	25
Cash at Bank	1,807	665
Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,834	690

7 Trade and other receivables

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Current		
Sundry Receivables	836	813
Accrued Income	5,081	2,032
Students Assistance Program	18	24
Total Trade and Other Receivables	5,935	2,869

8 Other financial assets

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Current		
At Call	1,086	–
Bank Bills	14,705	19,085
Interest-Bearing Deposits	40,281	20,067
Managed Funds	–	13,669
Total Other Financial Assets (Current)	56,072	52,821

9 Other investments

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Non-Current		
Available for Sale – Investments in Other Entities		
Shares in Listed Companies	630	803
Shares in Other Companies	505	505
Total Other Investments (Non-Current)	1,135	1,308

10 Other assets

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Current		
Prepayments	3,698	2,108
Total Current	3,698	2,108
Non-Current		
Right to Reimbursement from Commonwealth Government for Unfunded Superannuation Liability	14,312	13,958
Total Non-Current	14,312	13,958

Refer to Note 14 for an explanation of the right to reimbursement from the Commonwealth Government for the unfunded superannuation liability.

11 Property, plant and equipment

	Notes	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Land – Freehold			
At Directors' Valuation		22,662	22,662
	11(a)	22,662	22,662
Buildings – Freehold			
At Directors' Valuation		14,115	13,639
Accumulated Depreciation		(827)	(411)
	11(a)	13,288	13,228
Improvements to Intangible Right to Occupy Buildings			
At Cost		93,090	84,190
Accumulated Amortisation		(24,429)	(21,824)
	11(a)	68,661	62,366
Leasehold Improvements			
At Cost		5,425	4,083
Accumulated Depreciation		(1,272)	(562)
	11(a)	4,153	3,521
Furniture and Fittings			
At Cost		2,773	1,877
Accumulated Depreciation		(1502)	(1,267)
	11(a)	1,271	610
Plant and Equipment			
At Cost		19,018	20,414
Accumulated Depreciation		(13,040)	(14,495)
	11(a)	5,978	5,919
Motor Vehicles			
At Cost		608	639
Accumulated Depreciation		(296)	(248)
	11(a)	312	391
Works of Art			
At Cost		491	404
	11(a)	491	404
Total Property, Plant and Equipment		116,816	109,101

Basis of valuation

An independent valuation of freehold land and buildings was carried out as at 31 December 2006 by Edward Rushton Australia Pty Ltd, using different valuers in each state. The Directors have considered the fair value of the properties in the light of that valuation, any changes in use of the Company's properties, current market fluctuations and any acquisitions made during the year (see Note 1a). Any subsequent additions and alterations have been included at cost.

11 Property, plant and equipment continued

(a) Reconciliations

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment are set out below

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Land – Freehold		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	22,662	21,915
Additions	–	747
Carrying amount at end of year	22,662	22,662
Buildings – Freehold		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	13,228	13,039
Additions	476	600
Depreciation	(416)	(411)
Carrying amount at end of year	13,288	13,228
Improvements to Intangible Right to Occupy Buildings		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	62,366	61,770
Additions	8,900	3,098
Depreciation	(2,605)	(2,502)
Carrying amount at end of year	68,661	62,366
Leasehold Improvements		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	3,521	1,744
Additions	1,342	2,251
Depreciation	(710)	(474)
Carrying amount at end of year	4,153	3,521
Furniture and Fittings		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	610	611
Additions	895	196
Depreciation	(234)	(197)
Carrying amount at end of year	1,271	610
Plant and Equipment		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	5,919	5,623
Additions	2,752	2,872
Disposals	(11)	(19)
Depreciation	(2,682)	(2,557)
Carrying amount at end of year	5,978	5,919
Motor Vehicles		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	391	442
Additions	29	155
Disposals	(49)	(145)
Depreciation	(59)	(61)
Carrying amount at end of year	312	391

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Works of Art		
Carrying amount at beginning of year	404	365
Additions	87	39
Carrying amount at end of year	491	404

12 Intangible assets

	Notes	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Intangible Right to Occupy Land			
At Cost		40,411	40,411
Accumulated Amortisation		(4,469)	(4,469)
	12(a)	35,942	35,942
Intangible Right to Occupy Buildings			
At Cost		28,383	28,383
Accumulated Amortisation		(15,780)	(14,960)
	12(a)	12,603	13,423
Total Intangibles			
At Cost		68,794	68,794
Accumulated Amortisation		(20,249)	(19,429)
	12(a)	48,545	49,365

(a) Reconciliations

Intangible Right to Occupy Land			
Carrying amount at beginning of year		35,942	35,942
Additions		–	–
Carrying amount at end of year		35,942	35,942
Intangible Right to Occupy Buildings			
Carrying amount at beginning of year		13,423	14,243
Amortisation		(820)	(820)
Carrying amount at end of year		12,603	13,423
Total Intangibles			
Carrying amount at beginning of year		49,365	50,185
Additions		–	–
Amortisation		(820)	(820)
Carrying amount at end of year		48,545	49,365

Under the terms of the trust deeds between the Company and the owners of the properties held in trust, the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Church for the Archdioceses of Brisbane, Canberra and Goulburn, Melbourne and Sydney, the Company has a right to occupy the properties in perpetuity if used for educational purposes.

13 Trade and other payables

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Accrued Expenses	5,019	4,298
Sundry Creditors	78	172
Total Trade and Other Payables	5,097	4,470

14 Employee benefits

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Current		
Provision for Annual Leave	6,567	6,101
Provision for Long-Service Leave	2,131	2,062
Total Current Employee Benefits	8,698	8,163
Non-Current		
Provision for Long-Service Leave	10,938	10,529
Provision for Superannuation	14,312	13,958
Total Non-Current Employee Benefits	25,250	24,487
	2008	2007
Number of Employees		
Number of employees at year end	993	928

Superannuation

The Company contributes to the following employee superannuation funds:

Fully Funded Schemes

- UniSuper
- National Catholic Superannuation Fund
- Catholic Superannuation and Retirement Fund (QLD)
- VicSuper

Partly Funded or Emerging Cost Schemes

- State Authorities Superannuation Scheme (Part 2) (NSW)
- Emergency Services and State Superannuation Scheme (Formerly State Superannuation Fund of Victoria)

Employee contributions are based on various percentages of their gross salaries. The Company contributions are similarly based on gross salaries for fully funded schemes and on an emerging cost basis for emerging cost schemes. Company contributions to defined contribution plans are charged to the income statement as incurred.

UniSuper

UniSuper adopted the multi-employer provisions of the standard in the provision of information to employers. The multi-employer provisions allow employers with defined benefit obligations to report on a defined contribution basis, with some additional information. AASB 119 states that this is the appropriate solution in cases where:

- the employer does not have access to the information required; or
- there is no reliable basis for allocating the benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers.

Clause 34 of the UniSuper Trust Deed

The University has been advised by UniSuper that Clause 34 of the UniSuper Trust Deed requires a reduction in members' benefits on a fair and equitable basis in the event of UniSuper assets being considered by the Trustee to be insufficient to provide benefits payable under the Deed.

The University has been advised by UniSuper that it is clear that the UniSuper DBD is a defined contribution fund for the purposes of AASB 119, although it does remain a defined benefit fund for other purposes and continues to require actuarial oversight.

Additional information required by AASB 119

As at June 2008 the assets of the DBD in aggregate were estimated to be \$323m (2007: \$1,683m) in excess of vested benefits. The vested benefits are benefits which are not conditional upon continued membership (or any factor other than leaving the service of the participating institution) and include the value of CPI indexed pensions being provided by the DBD.

As at 30 June 2008 the assets of the DBD in aggregate were estimated to be \$1,456m (2007: \$2,587m) in excess of accrued benefits. The accrued benefits have been calculated as the present value of expected future benefit payments to members and the CPI indexed pensioners which arise from membership of UniSuper up to the reporting date.

Additional information not required by AASB 119

Information provided to members on 14 November 2008 shows that the Vested Benefit Index (VBI) fell to 92.8 per cent and Accrued Benefit Index (ABI) fell to 105.4 per cent at 7 November 2008. This was the result of the significant fall in financial markets due to the global financial crisis. The VBI is a statistical index of the financial position of the DBD. It measures the capacity of the DBD to pay out all members' benefits from existing assets in the unlikely event that they were all to leave the DBD at the same time. The ABI is considered to be a more realistic measure of the DBD's financial position than the VBI, as it takes into account the expected pattern of members' actually joining, contributing to and leaving the Fund against assets required to ensure that all members' benefits are available when they fall due.

- (i) The vested benefit and accrued benefit liabilities were determined by the Fund's actuary Russell Employee Benefits using the actuarial demographic assumptions outlined in their report dated 13 July 2006 on the actuarial investigation of the DBP as at 31 December 2005. The financial assumptions used were:

	Vested benefits	Accrued benefits
Gross of tax investment return	7.25% pa	8.5% pa
Net of tax investment return	6.75% pa	8.0% pa
Consumer Price Index	2.75% pa	2.75% pa
Inflationary salary increases	3.75% pa	3.75% pa
Inflationary salary increases next three years	5.00% pa	5.00% pa

Additional promotional salary increases are assumed to apply based on past experience.

- (ii) Assets have been included at their net market value, i.e. allowing for realisation costs.
- (iii) Clause 34 Reductions to Division A and Division B where UniSuper assets are insufficient if:
- after an actuarial investigation and valuation of UniSuper, the Trustee considers that UniSuper is or may be insufficient to provide benefits payable under the Deed, the Trustee must notify each Employer.
 - after the next two succeeding actuarial investigations and valuations of UniSuper (made in a period of not less than four years) the Trustee still considers that UniSuper is or may be insufficient to provide the benefits payable under the Deed, the Trustee must reduce the benefits (including benefits in the course of payment) payable under Division A and Division B on a fair and equitable basis.
 - notwithstanding anything in this Clause 34, the Trustee believes that UniSuper is or may be technically insolvent, the Trustee must comply with Superannuation Law.

14 Employee benefits continued

Emergency Services Superannuation Scheme (formerly State Superannuation Fund of Victoria)

The latest actuarial investigation of the Emergency Services Superannuation Scheme was conducted on 30 June 2006 by D Knox (Mercer), FIAA. As at that date the scheme carried total liabilities, including liabilities for members' benefits in excess of the value of the scheme's assets. Hence, unfunded superannuation liabilities exist which are recognised in the financial statements of the scheme.

The notional share of the scheme's unfunded liabilities attributed to the Company was assessed by the Government Superannuation Office to be \$14,312,000 at 30 June 2008 (\$13,958,000 at 30 June 2007). Information of the scheme's position is provided at 30 June.

An Arrangement exists between the Australian Government and the respective state governments to meet the unfunded liability for the beneficiaries of the State Superannuation Scheme on an emerging cost basis. This arrangement is evidenced by the *State Grants (General Revenue) Amendment Act 1987*, the *Higher Education Funding Act 1988* and subsequent amending legislation. By letter dated 15 December 2005, the Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST) has confirmed that the Australian Government considers the current arrangement establishes a pattern of past practice and future intent that has created a valid expectation on the part of universities that the Department on behalf of the Australian Government will discharge the superannuation liability. Therefore a non-current receivable equal to the scheme's unfunded liabilities attributed to the Company has been recognised. DEEWR provides annual supplementation (2008: \$875,000; 2007: \$1,007,000) to the Base Operating Grant to cover emerging costs of the Emergency Services Superannuation Scheme.

The following information has been provided by the Emergency Services Superannuation Scheme in accordance with the requirements under AASB 119.

	2008 \$'000s	2007 \$'000s
Net Liability		
Assets	3,930	3,859
Accrued Benefit Liability	(16,598)	(16,913)
Investment Tax Liability	0	(33)
Net Liability Before Contributions Tax	(12,668)	(13,087)
Tax Liability on Future Contributions	(1,644)	(871)
Total Net Liability	(14,312)	(13,958)

15 Other liabilities

	2008 \$'000s	2007 \$'000s
Current		
Grants Received in Advance	7,997	2,605
Fees Received in Advance	6,248	7,516
Bonds – University Residences	–	16
Funds Held in Trust	1,524	1,551
Net GST Payable to ATO	228	276
Other Income Received in Advance	645	4
Loan – Purchase Blackfriars site Canberra	100	100
Deferred Grant Income (Properties)	24	24
Total Current	16,766	12,092

	Notes	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Non-Current			
Loan – Purchase Blackfriars site Canberra		263	341
Management Fee Sydney Campuses Payable		2,768	2,624
Deferred Grant Income (Properties)		744	768
Lease Liabilities		1,188	780
Leasehold Make Good Provision	15 (a)	1,631	1,218
Total Non-Current		6,594	5,731

(a) Reconciliation

Leasehold Make Good Provision

Balance at Beginning of Financial Year		1,218	637
Provisions Made During the Year		359	567
Provisions Used During the Year		–	–
Unwind of Discount		54	14
Balance at End of Financial Year		1,631	1,218

16 Reserves

	Notes	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
General Reserve			
Balance at Beginning of Financial Year		110,380	92,347
Add: Transfers from Retained Earnings	17	8,838	18,033
Balance at End of Financial Year		119,218	110,380
Asset Revaluation Reserve			
Balance at Beginning of Financial Year		9,360	9,360
Balance at End of Financial Year		9,360	9,360
Available for Sale Financial Assets Revaluation Reserve			
Balance at Beginning of Financial Year		579	490
Add/(Subtract) Revaluation Increment			
Listed Shares Revaluation Reserve		(173)	89
Balance at End of Financial Year		406	579
Contribution from Members			
Balance at Beginning of Financial Year		56,958	56,958
Balance at End of Financial Year		56,958	56,958
Total Reserves		185,942	177,277

16 Reserves continued

Nature and purpose of reserves

General

The amount standing to the credit of the general reserve includes the accumulation of prior period and current year profits for non-specific purposes and revenue for Capital Grants even though assets acquired may not be fully written down.

Asset revaluation

The asset revaluation reserve includes the net revaluation increments and decrements arising from the revaluation of freehold land and buildings.

Available for sale financial assets revaluation reserve

Share revaluation reserve includes increments and decrements arising from changes in fair value of shares classified as available for sale.

Contribution from members

The amount reflects the contribution by members of rights to occupy and use land and buildings not owned by the University.

17 Retained earnings

	Notes	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Retained earnings at beginning of year		–	–
Net profit		8,838	18,033
Transfer to general reserve	16	(8,838)	(18,033)
Retained earnings at the end of the year		–	–

18 Commitments

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
(a) Capital Expenditure Commitments		
Capital Expenditure Commitments not provided for in the financial statements and payable:		
Within one year	762	–
	762	–
(b) Non-cancellable Operating Lease Expense Commitments		
Future operating lease commitments of premises, plant and equipment, not provided for in the financial statements and payable:		
Within one year	3,922	2,815
One year or later and no later than five years	10,108	5,702
Greater than five years	3,854	3,354
	17,884	11,871

The Company leased equipment and machinery under operating leases expiring in a range from one to five years. The Company also leased commercial premises with an expiry range of one to 10 years.

19 Directors and key management personnel disclosures

Remuneration of board members

No directors' fees are payable. The number of directors of the Company whose compensation from the Company or any related party falls within the following bands:

	2008	2007
Nil	13	12
\$30,000 – \$39,999	–	1
\$70,000 – \$79,999	1	1
\$80,000 – \$89,999	–	1
\$90,000 – \$99,999	1	–
\$100,000 – \$109,999	–	1
\$110,000 – \$119,999	–	1
\$130,000 – \$139,999	1	–
\$140,000 – \$149,999	1	–
\$150,000 – \$159,999	1	–
\$410,000 – \$419,999	–	1
\$420,000 – \$429,999	1	–
\$530,000 – \$549,999	1	–
	\$	\$
Total compensation paid, or payable or otherwise made available to all directors of the Company from the Company or any related Party	1,567,885	836,208

Remuneration of key management personnel

In addition to the board members, other Key Management Personnel of the Company receiving compensation from the Company or any related party falls within the following bands:

	2008	2007
\$200,000 – \$209,999	–	2
\$210,000 – \$219,999	2	–
\$230,000 – \$239,999	–	1
\$240,000 – \$249,999	1	–
\$270,000 – \$279,999	1	1
\$410,000 – \$419,999	–	1
\$420,000 – \$429,999	1	–
\$530,000 – \$539,999	1	–
	\$	\$
Total compensation paid, or payable or otherwise made available to all executive officers of the Company from the Company or any related Party	1,896,829	1,319,886
Short-term employee benefits	1,687,660	1,152,994
Post-employment benefits	209,169	166,892
	1,896,829	1,319,886

The reported amount for 2008 includes the remuneration of the Vice-Chancellor (to allow comparability the 2007 figure has been adjusted accordingly). There is no compensation paid to directors or key management personnel of the Company that is not disclosed in this report.

20 Related parties

Directors

The names of each person holding the position of Director of the Australian Catholic University Limited during the financial year are:

Mr J Carroll, Professor JD Chapman, Professor GJ Craven, Mr AE Druery, Mr SN Elder, Mr EW Exell, Most Reverend Bishop J Foley, Ms J Frawley, Professor P Goldberg, Associate Professor ML Hillel, Mr PC Hoy, Br RJ McDonald, Ms MT Najdecki, Dr M Nicholson, Mr DB O'Connor, Ms SM Pascoe, Br AP Robinson, Ms S Rose, Professor PW Sheehan, Mr James Wood.

Details of Directors' compensation are set out in Note 19.

Mr PC Hoy, a director of the company until 23 May 2008, has an interest as a partner in the firm Gadens Lawyers. This firm rendered legal advice to the Company while Mr PC Hoy was a director. All dealings with the firm were in the ordinary course of business and on normal commercial terms and conditions. Fees paid to Gadens during the year were \$15,531 (2007: \$34,508), out of total company payments for legal services of \$275,350 (2007: \$248,943).

21 Financial instruments disclosure

Interest rate and liquidity risk

Interest rate risk

The following tables indicate average effective interest rates at the reporting date in respect of income-earning financial assets and interest-bearing financial liabilities and the periods in which they mature. The Company manages fluctuations in interest rates by placing funds in both long (greater than one year) and short term (less than one year) deposits across a number of institutions.

Liquidity risk

The following tables also contain the contractual maturities of financial liabilities, including estimated interest payments and excluding the impact of netting agreements.

	Effective interest rate	6 months or less \$'000	6 to 12 months \$'000	1 to 2 years \$'000	2 to 5 years \$'000	More than 5 years \$'000	Non- interest bearing \$'000	Total Carrying Amount \$'000
2008								
Financial Assets								
Cash	3.94%	1,807	–	–	–	–	27	1,834
Trade and Other Receivables	–	1,279	–	–	–	–	4,656	5,935
Other Investments	8.13%	26,220	7,641	9,500	12,711	–	–	56,072
Other Financial Assets	–	–	–	–	–	–	1,135	1,135
		29,306	7,641	9,500	12,711	–	5,818	64,976
Financial Liabilities								
Trade and Other Payables	–	–	–	–	–	–	5,097	5,097
Loans	–	–	–	–	–	–	363	363
Management Fee Payable	–	–	–	–	–	–	2,768	2,768
Grants In Advance	–	–	–	–	–	–	7,997	7,997
Fees In Advance	–	–	–	–	–	–	6,248	6,248
		–	–	–	–	–	22,473	22,473
2007								
Financial Assets								
Cash	5.76%	665	–	–	–	–	25	690
Trade and Other Receivables	–	447	–	–	–	–	2,422	2,869
Other Investments	6.56%	38,662	14,159	–	–	–	–	52,821
Other Financial Assets	–	–	–	–	–	–	1,308	1,308
		39,774	14,159	–	–	–	3,755	57,688
Financial Liabilities								
Trade and Other Payables	–	–	–	–	–	–	4,470	4,470
Loans	–	–	–	–	–	–	441	441
Management Fee Payable	–	–	–	–	–	–	2,624	2,624
Grants In Advance	–	–	–	–	–	–	2,605	2,605
Fees In Advance	–	–	–	–	–	–	7,516	7,516
		–	–	–	–	–	17,656	17,656

The Company does not account for any fixed-rate financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit and loss. Therefore a change in interest rates at the reporting date would not affect profit or loss. A change in interest rates of 100 basis points would have increased or decreased the Company's equity by the order of \$561,000 (2007: \$528,000).

Foreign exchange risk

Given the minimal exposure to foreign currencies, it is the current policy of the Senate not to hedge foreign exchange risk.

Credit risk exposure

Management has a credit policy in place and the exposure to credit risk is monitored on an ongoing basis. Credit evaluations are performed on all customers requiring credit over a certain amount. The entity does not require collateral in respect of financial assets.

Investments are allowed only in liquid securities and only with counterparties that have a credit rating equal to or better than the Company. Transactions involving derivative financial instruments are with counterparties with whom the Company has a signed netting agreement as well as sound credit ratings. Given their high credit ratings, management does not expect any counterparty to fail to meet its obligations.

At the balance sheet date there were no significant concentrations of credit risk. The maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying amount of each financial asset, including derivative financial instruments, in the balance sheet. These are detailed in the table below.

Net fair values of financial assets and liabilities

The carrying amounts of on-statement financial assets and liabilities approximate fair value.

Carrying Amount	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Cash	1,834	690
Trade and Other Receivables	5,935	2,869
Other Investments	56,072	52,821
Other Financial Assets	1,135	1,308
Total	64,976	57,688

22 Equity

No share capital has been issued by the Company as it is a company limited by guarantee. The number of members of the Company as at 31 December 2008 was 23 (2007: 23). The liability of each member is limited to \$50.

23 Segment information

The University is a member of the Unified National System of Higher Education established by the Commonwealth Government of Australia. As an education provider it operates on six campuses across three eastern mainland states and the Australian Capital Territory. The University also conducts courses in Hong Kong, Singapore, New Zealand and China.

In the opinion of the directors, the Company only operates in one segment.

24 Notes to the statement of cash flows

(i) Reconciliation of Cash

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and at bank. Cash as at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows.

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Cash on Hand	27	25
Cash at Bank	1,807	665
Total Cash	1,834	690
(ii) Reconciliation of Operating Profit After Income Tax to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities		
Operating Profit After Income Tax	8,838	18,033
Add/(Less) Items Classified as Investing/Financing Activities:		
(Profit) on Sale of Non-Current Assets	(3)	(1)
Loss on Sale of Non-Current Assets	20	48
Add/(Less) Non-Cash Items:		
Depreciation of Plant and Equipment	2,975	2,815
Depreciation of Property	416	411
Amortisation of Intangible Buildings	820	820
Depreciation to Improvements to Intangible Buildings	2,605	2,502
Amortisation of Leasehold Improvements	710	474
Discount on Blackfriars Loan	22	25
Unwind Discount on Make Good Provision	199	–
Amounts Set Aside to (Utilised from) Provisions:		
Employee Entitlements	944	1,455
Make Good of Lease Premises	213	582
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities Before Change in Assets and Liabilities	17,759	27,164
Change in Assets and Liabilities:		
(Increase)/Decrease in Accrued Income	(3,049)	(672)
(Increase)/Decrease in Sundry Debtors	(23)	142
(Increase)/Decrease in Prepayments	(1,590)	281
(Increase)/Decrease in Students Assistance Program	7	(21)
Increase/(Decrease) in Grants in Advance	5,392	(952)
Increase/(Decrease) in Fees in Advance	(1,267)	2,922
Increase/(Decrease) in Management Fee Payable for Sydney Campuses	144	69
Increase/(Decrease) in Accrued Expenses	720	295
Increase/(Decrease) in Sundry Creditors	(94)	(304)
Increase/(Decrease) in Funds in Held in Trust	(27)	47
Increase/(Decrease) in Bonds – University Residences	(16)	(6)
Increase/(Decrease) in Other Income in Advance	640	(718)
Increase/(Decrease) in Deferred Income (Properties)	(24)	(24)
Increase/(Decrease) in Net GST	(48)	(111)
Increase/(Decrease) in Lease Liabilities	408	594
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	18,932	28,706

25 Acquittal of Commonwealth Government financial assistance*

25.1 Commonwealth Grants Scheme and Other Grants

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Commonwealth Grants Scheme		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	66,211	59,694
Accrual Adjustments		
2006 Load adjustment payable	–	478
2007 Load adjustment receivable	(422)	422
2008 Load adjustment receivable	923	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	66,712	60,594
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	66,712	60,594
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(66,712)	(60,594)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–
Indigenous Support Fund		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	1,321	1,068
Accrual Adjustments		
Current Year Grants Carried Forward	–	–
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	1,321	1,068
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	1,321	1,068
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(1,321)	(1,068)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–
Equity Support Programs		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	175	193
Accrual Adjustments		
Current Year Grants Carried Forward	–	–
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	175	193
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	175	193
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(175)	(193)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–

*Financial statements comply with the *Financial Statements Guidelines for Australian Higher Education Providers* issued by DEST.

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Workplace Reform Program		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	875	760
Accrual Adjustments		
Current Year Grants Carried Forward	–	–
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	875	760
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	875	760
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(875)	(760)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–
Learning and Teaching Performance Fund		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	–	500
Accrual Adjustments		
Current Year Grants Carried Forward	–	–
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	–	500
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	–	500
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	–	(500)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–
Superannuation Program		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	875	1,007
Accrual Adjustments		
Current Year Grants Carried Forward	–	–
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	875	1,007
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	875	1,007
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(875)	(1,007)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–

25 Acquittal of Commonwealth Government financial assistance continued

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Capital Development Pool		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	–	851
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	–	851
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	–	851
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	–	(851)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–
Transitional Cost Program		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	445	–
Accrual Adjustments		
Current Year Grants Carried Forward	–	–
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	445	–
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	445	–
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(445)	–
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–
Diversity and Structural Adjustment Fund		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	100	–
Accrual Adjustments		
Current Year Grants Carried Forward	–	–
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	100	–
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	100	–
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(100)	–
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Improving the Practical Component of Teacher Education Program		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	1,251	–
Accrual Adjustments		
Current Year Grants Carried Forward	–	–
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	1,251	–
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	1,251	–
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(1,251)	–
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–

25.2 Higher Education Loan Programs (HELP)

HECS–HELP

Financial Assistance Received During Reporting Period	33,427	27,395
Plus Contributions Actually Received from Students	5,968	5,826
Total Received	39,395	33,221
Accrual Adjustments		
2006 upfront HECS–HELP receivable	–	(184)
2007 upfront HECS–HELP receivable	(529)	529
2008 upfront HECS–HELP receivable	757	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	39,623	33,566
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds available for Reporting Period	39,623	33,566
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(39,623)	(33,566)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–

FEE–HELP

Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	3,740	3,763
Accrual Adjustment		
2006 FEE–HELP receivable	–	(657)
2007 FEE–HELP receivable	(423)	423
2008 FEE–HELP receivable	256	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	3,573	3,529
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds available for Reporting Period	3,573	3,529
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(3,573)	(3,529)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–

25 Acquittal of Commonwealth Government financial assistance continued

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
OS-HELP		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the Programs)	117	52
Accrual Adjustment		
2006 OS-HELP Payable	–	5
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	117	57
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	6	–
Funds available for Reporting Period	123	57
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(83)	(51)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	40	6

25.3 Scholarships

Australian Postgraduate Awards

Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	328	264
Accrual Adjustments		
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	328	264
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	328	264
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(258)	(264)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	70	–

International Postgraduate Research Scholarships

Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	55	67
Accrual Adjustments		
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	55	67
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	20	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	75	67
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(57)	(47)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	18	20

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarships		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	938	722
Accrual Adjustments		
Current Year Grants Carried Forward	–	–
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	75
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	938	797
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	261	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	1,199	797
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(593)	(536)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	606	261

Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	774	781
Accrual Adjustments		
Current Year Grants Carried Forward	–	–
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	182
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	774	963
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	433	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	1,207	963
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(494)	(530)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	713	433

Indigenous Scholarships		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	65	18
Accrual Adjustments		
Current Year Grants Carried Forward	–	–
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	65	18
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	18	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	83	18
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	–	–
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	83	18

25 Acquittal of Commonwealth Government financial assistance continued

25.4 Commonwealth Research Financial Assistance

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Institutional Grants Scheme		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the Programs)	674	683
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	674	683
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	674	683
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(674)	(683)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–
Research Training Scheme		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	1440	1,260
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	1,440	1,260
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	1,440	1,260
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(1,440)	(1,260)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–
Infrastructure		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	150	161
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	150	161
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	12	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	162	161
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(148)	(149)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	14	12
Australian Scheme for Higher Education Repositories		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	252	128
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	252	128
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	128	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	380	128
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	–	–
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	380	128

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Implementation Assistance Program		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	70	35
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	70	35
<i>Plus Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year</i>	31	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	101	35
<i>Less Expenses for Current Period</i>	–	(4)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	101	31

Commercialisation Training Scheme		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	–	21
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	–	21
<i>Plus Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year</i>	21	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	21	21
<i>Less Expenses for Current Period</i>	–	–
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	21	21

25.5 Better Universities Renewal Fund

Better Universities Renewal Fund		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	5,889	–
Accrual Adjustments		
Current Year Grants Carried Forward	(5,635)	–
Prior Year Grants Brought Forward	–	–
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	254	–
<i>Plus Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year</i>	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	254	–
<i>Less Expenses for Current Period</i>	(254)	–
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–

25 Acquittal of Commonwealth Government financial assistance continued

25.6 Australian Research Council

	2008 \$'000	2007 \$'000
Discovery Projects (Large Grants)		
Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	282	294
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	282	294
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	99	46
Funds available for Reporting Period	381	340
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(249)	(241)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	132	99

Discovery Fellowships

Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	–	(2)
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	–	(2)
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	–	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	–	(2)
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	–	2
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	–	–

Linkage Projects (Including Strategic Partnerships with Industry and APAI)

Financial assistance received in cash during the reporting period (total cash received from the Australian Government for the programs)	125	222
Revenue Attributed to Reporting Period	125	222
<i>Plus</i> Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	86	71
<i>Adjustment</i> to Surplus/(Deficit) Prior Year	59	–
Funds Available for Reporting Period	270	293
<i>Less</i> Expenses for Current Period	(183)	(207)
Surplus/(Deficit) for Reporting Period	87	86

5 Directors' declaration

In the opinion of the Directors of Australian Catholic University Limited:

- (a) the financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 56 to 94, are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2008 and of its performance, as represented by the results of its operations and its cashflows, for the financial year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporation Regulations 2001; and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and
- (c) the amount of Commonwealth grants expended during the reporting period was for the purposes for which it was granted.

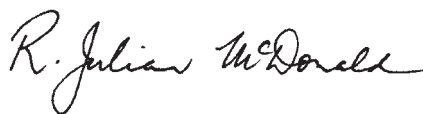
In addition, we are not aware at the date of signing these statements of any circumstances which would render any particulars included in the statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

Dated at Sydney this 2nd day of April 2009.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors:



Professor G Craven
Director



Br RJ McDonald
Director

6 Independent auditors' report to the members of Australian Catholic University Limited

Report on the financial report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Australian Catholic University Limited (the Company), which comprises the balance sheet as at 31 December 2008, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration set out on pages 60 to 95.

Directors' responsibility for the financial report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Act 2001*. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances. In Note 1, the directors also state, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*, that the financial report, comprising the financial statements and notes, complies with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Auditors' responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We performed the procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations), a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Company's financial position and of its performance.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

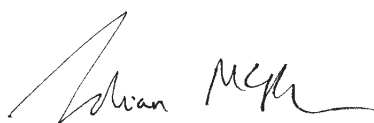
Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Auditors' opinion

In our opinion:

- (a) the financial report of Australian Catholic University is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 December 2008 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the Corporations Regulations 2001.
- (b) the financial report also complies with International Financial Reporting Standards as disclosed in Note 1.



Julian McPherson
Partner

KPMG
Sydney
2 April 2009

7 Disclaimer

The additional financial information presented on page 99 is in accordance with the books and records of Australian Catholic University Limited which have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our statutory audit of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2008. It will be appreciated that our statutory audit did not cover all details of the additional financial information. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on such financial information and no warranty of accuracy or reliability is given.

In accordance with our Firm policy, we advise that neither the Firm nor any member or employee of the Firm undertakes responsibility arising in any way whatsoever to any person (other than the Company) in respect of such information, including any errors or omissions therein, arising through negligence or otherwise however caused.

KPMG
Sydney
2 April 2009

8 Supplementary income statement for the year ended 31 December 2008

	Notes	Operating \$'000	Capital \$'000	Total \$'000
Revenue from Continuing Operations				
Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance Excluding HELP	2.1	71,112	6,905	78,017
Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS-HELP)				
Student Contributions	25.2	5,968	–	5,968
Commonwealth Payments	2.1	33,655	–	33,655
FEE-HELP	2.1	3,690	–	3,690
State Government Financial Assistance	2.2	24	–	24
Fees and Charges	2.3	30,132	3,694	33,826
Superannuation – Deferred Government Contributions		354	–	354
Consultancy and Contract Research	2.5	2,571	–	2,571
Other Revenue	2.6	16,893	–	16,893
Total Revenue from Continuing Operations		164,399	10,599	174,998
Expenses from Continuing Operations				
Employee Benefits	3.1	112,294	–	112,294
Depreciation and Amortisation	3.2	2,975	4,551	7,526
Buildings and Grounds Maintenance	3.3	4,781	–	4,781
Other	3.4	43,144	–	43,144
Total Expenses from Continuing Operations		163,194	4,551	167,745
Operating Result from Continuing Operations		1,205	6,048	7,253
Finance Income and Expense				
Finance Income	2.4	1,806	–	1,806
Finance Expense	4	–	(221)	(221)
Total Finance Income and Expense		1,806	(221)	1,585
Operating Result for the Period		3,011	5,827	8,838

Additional information

Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001 (Vic)

ACU National has developed policies and procedures for reporting disclosures under the

Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001 (Vic). No disclosures were made to the University during 2008.

No disclosures were referred during 2008 by the University to the Ombudsman for determination as to whether they are public interest disclosures.

No disclosed matters were referred to the University in 2008 by the Ombudsman.

No disclosed matters were referred during 2008 by the University to the Ombudsman to investigate.

No investigations of disclosed matters were taken over by the Ombudsman from the University during 2008.

No requests were made under section 74 during 2008 to the Ombudsman to investigate the disclosed matters.

There were no disclosed matters that the University declined to investigate during 2008.

There were no disclosed matters that were substantiated on investigation.

Freedom of information

The University did not receive any applications under the Freedom of Information provisions of the *Victorian Health Records Act 2001*. The FOI provisions of this Act apply to all private sector organisations located in Victoria.

Associates/commercial ventures

The institution has no associates/commercial ventures for consideration in risk management.

Australian/New Zealand Risk Management Standard

The late notification of this requirement has not allowed the opportunity to assess nor alter the University risk management processes to meet provisions of the Australian Risk Management Standard AS 4360. To ensure processes are in place for 2009, a review of the Standard will be carried out with recommendations to the University Audit Committee.

Risk management

The University is committed to effectively managing risk. Overall responsibility for risk assessment rests with the Vice-Chancellor's Strategy Group, which oversees the process of incorporating continuous risk assessment in strategic planning, and the Audit Committee of Senate, which reviews risk management practices. The University acknowledges that risk management requires continuous assessment by all managers

Risk management practices are designed to minimise losses and maximise opportunities in line with best practice. The risk management program utilises a logical and systematic method of establishing the context of risks and identifying, analysing, evaluating, optimising, treating, monitoring and communicating risks associated with each activity, function and process.

The review and development of the University's *Risk Management Framework (RMF)* looks at changes to the higher education environment, including government policy and legislation; comments by State Auditors-General in relation to sector risks; and current best practice. The RMF identifies and prioritises key risks that may prevent the University from realising its strategic goals and outlines progress on planned on-going management of the key risk elements. Risk type is classified as internal (those that can be controlled by the University) or external (inherent to the business environment in which the University operates). The University has direct control over Strategy and Policy, Core Business Processes and Resource Management Processes. External risks are also identified, analysed and monitored, to ensure that exposure

is consistent with a clearly articulated risk threshold.

During 2008 the University began the process to draft a new University Strategic Plan. Part of that process was to isolate specific areas of uncertainty facing the University. The new *Strategic Plan 2009–2011* is a critical element of the University's Risk Management Framework.

Grievance management/complaints

Staff continued to undertake compulsory online training programs related to Workplace Behaviour. These covered discrimination, harassment and bullying. The aim of this program is to improve the knowledge and understanding of University staff of these issues in order to prevent discriminatory or bullying behaviour from occurring in the University's workplace and learning community. At the end of 2008, 92 per cent of staff had completed the Workplace Discrimination and Harassment unit, and 93 per cent had completed the Workplace Behaviour – Bullying unit.

The University also supports the education of staff in a number of areas focused on staff relationships and communication skills in providing a better understanding of how to work cohesively, not only as a team, but as an individual within the University Community. In 2008, the following courses were held at most campuses; Cross Cultural Communications, Dealing with Difficult Behaviour, Leadership Essentials and Managing Performance Appraisal.

Grievance procedures in place

ACU National cannot use the Ombudsman because it is not a government body. In the place of such ombudsman referral for staff and students, the University has established the position of University Visitor, who is at present Hon James Macken AM. He dealt with one student appeal during 2008.

The full policy and procedure of the University Visitor is to be found on the website: www.acu.edu.au/110945

Grievance procedures are at: www.acu.edu.au/110845

Occupational health and safety

ACU National supports the health, safety and well-being of its staff and students. Local OH&S Committees continue to address a variety of OH&S issues that arise throughout the year and their local and corporate contributions towards making ACU National a safer and healthy workplace is significant. The development and implementation of the National Critical Incident and Emergency Management Policy occurred in 2008 following consultation with the University's peak staff consultative body, the ACU Staff Consultative Committee.

OH&S training and induction continues to play an important role in orienting staff with important OH&S information. A number of OH&S Induction sessions were conducted across the University during 2008. OH&S Compliance on-line training further supplements the OH&S Induction sessions and since its launch on 31 March 2008, ACU National has achieved a compliance rate of 83 per cent for the OH&S – Legal Compliance Course and 66 per cent for the OH&S Management Course.

During 2008, an important wellbeing initiative was introduced across the University, namely a Staff Influenza Vaccination Program. The program's implementation was well received by the University community, with a total of 412 staff receiving vaccinations. The success of the program will likely see this initiative continued to be offered on an annual basis.

The University's Employee Assistance Program continued to provide access to confidential professional counselling services for staff and their families and provide assistance to staff with any personal or work-related problems. Utilisation of the service is in line with industry average which is approximately 4.7 per cent for 2008, a slight increase in utilisation when compared to 2007, and is closely monitored to assist the University to better manage health and safety.

Public funds

Public funds allocated to the University have been spent for the purposes specified by the Government or other public funding body.

Trade practices

ACU National acknowledges its obligations under the *Commonwealth Trade Practices Act 1974* (the Act) and National Competition Code. All staff have been made aware of the University's obligations and their personal obligations under the Act. The University has committed to establish a staff program to facilitate compliance with the Act.

Quality assurance and ESOS Act

Australian Catholic University complies with the *Education for Overseas Students Act 2000* and with the *National Code of Practice 2007 for Registration Authorities and Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students*.

National competition policy

The University practises competitive neutrality in relation to relevant significant business activities. Staff are required to undertake trade practices legislation training to keep up to date with competition policy.

Consultancies

The University engaged 376 consultancies with total payments during 2008 of less than \$100,000, totalling \$2,881,866. No consultancies with total payments during 2008 of greater than \$100,000 were made.

Financial Management Act 1994 (FMA)

Financial Statements:

- contain such information as required by the Minister;
- are prepared in a manner and form approved by the Minister;
- present fairly the financial transactions of the department or public body during the relevant financial year to which they relate;
- present fairly the financial position of the department or public body as at the end of that year; and
- are certified by the accountable officer in the manner approved by the Minister.

Building Act

All building works are designed to comply with the *Building Act 1993*. To ensure that all new buildings and works relating to existing buildings comply with current building standards and codes, where required the projects are referred to an independent building surveyor for certification. When certified, the plans are lodged with the local municipal council for information.

When required, building surveyors issue a Certificate of Occupancy or a Certificate of Final Inspection upon completion of works.

When building practitioners are engaged to carry out works for the University, only registered building practitioners are used and registration is confirmed prior to the engagement. Registration is maintained during the engagement and there have been no cases of building practitioners becoming deregistered while engaged by the University.

Works carried out by external consultants or contractors are not exempt from the 10-year liability cap. Works performed wholly by University staff are covered by the University's professional indemnity insurance, up to a limit of \$10 million per any one claim.

Additional information available on request

As required under the *Financial Management Act 1994 (Vic)*, details on the following items are available on request from:

Mr John Cameron
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Administration and Resources)
ACU National North Sydney Campus,
PO Box 968, North Sydney NSW 2059:

- Changes in prices, fees, charges, rates and levies
- Declarations of pecuniary interests
- Overseas visits
- Shares held by senior officers
- Industrial relations
- Other relevant information.

Compliance index

The annual report of The Australian Catholic University is prepared in accordance with:

FMA	<i>Financial Management Act 1994</i>
FRD	A-IFRS Financial Reporting Directions
SD	Standing Directions of the Minister for Finance issued under the <i>Financial Management Act 1994</i>
AAS	Australian Accounting Standards
AASB	Australian Accounting Standards Board
ETRA 2006	<i>Education and Training Reform Act 2006</i>
PAEC	Decision of Public Accounts and Estimates Committee of Parliament
RUG	Victorian Government response to the Review of University Governance
ESOS	<i>Education Services for Overseas Students Act 2000</i>
DEST	Commonwealth Government Department of Education, Science and Training

No.	Clause	Disclosure	Page(s)
Standing Directions for the Minister for Finance (SD)			
1	SD 4.2(g)	Report of Operations contains general information about the entity and its activities, highlights for reporting period and future initiatives and is prepared on a basis consistent with financial statements pursuant to the <i>Financial Management Act, 1994</i> .	3–100, 60
2	SD 4.2(h)	Report of Operations is prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Directions	60–61, 96–97
3	SD 4.2(j)	Report of Operations is signed and dated by Chancellor or equivalent and includes date of Council Meeting at which Annual Report was approved	95
4	SD 4.2(a)	Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Accounting Standards (AAS and AASB standards) and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; • Financial Reporting Directions; and • Business Rules. 	60 65 96
5	SD 4.2(b)	Financial Statements available, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balance Sheet; • Statement of Recognised Income and Expense; • Cash Flows Statement; and • Notes to the financial statements. 	57 56 59 60–94
6	SD 4.2(c)	Signed and dated statement by Accountable Officer stating that financial statements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present fairly the financial transactions during reporting period and the financial position at end of the period; • Were prepared in accordance with Standing Direction 4.2 (c) and applicable Financial Reporting Directions; and • Comply with applicable Australian Accounting Standards (AAS and AASB standards) and other mandatory professional reporting requirements. 	95
7	SD 4.2(d)	Financial Statements are expressed in the nearest dollar except where the total assets, or revenue, or expenses of the institution are greater than: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$10,000,000, the amounts shown in the financial statements may be expressed by reference to the nearest \$1,000; and • \$1,000,000,000, the amounts shown in the financial statements may be expressed by reference to the nearest \$100,000. 	56

Australian Catholic University Limited
Compliance index continued

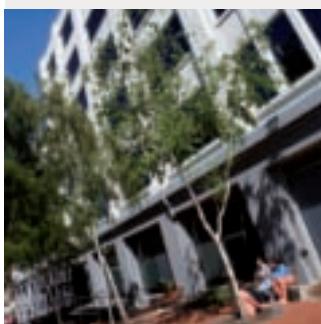
No.	Clause	Disclosure	Page(s)
8	SD 4.2(e)	The financial statements were reviewed and recommended by the Audit Committee or Responsible Body prior to finalisation and submission	95–97
9	SD 4.5.5 (NEW)	Attestation on compliance with the Australian/New Zealand Risk Management Standard	99
A-IFRS Financial Reporting Directions (FRD)			
10	10	Disclosure Index	101–103
11	11	Disclosure of Ex-gratia Payments	n/a
12	07A	Early Adoption of Authoritative Accounting Pronouncements	n/a
13	17A	Long Service Leave Wage Inflation and Discount Rates	68–69
14	19	Private Provision of Public Infrastructure	n/a
15	21A	Responsible Person and Executive Officer Disclosure in the Financial Report	81–82
16	22B	Standard Disclosures in the Report of Operations	83–84
17	25	Victorian Industry Participation Policy in the Report of Operations	n/a
18	26A	Accounting for VicFleet Motor Vehicle Lease Arrangements on or after 1 February 2004	n/a
19	102	Inventories	73–75
20	104	Foreign currency	84
21	106	Impairment of assets	63
22	107	Investment properties	n/a
23	109	Intangible assets	64
24	110	Cash Flow Statements	59, 84–85
25	112A	Defined benefit superannuation obligations	76–78
26	113	Investments in Subsidiaries, Jointly Controlled Associates and Entities	n/a
27	114	Financial Investments	62, 72
Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR)			
28	FRD 22B DEEWR	Analysis of the achievement of the entity's operational and budget objectives for the financial year; should include comparative analysis of indicators such as enrolments, graduations, student performance and satisfaction, staff profile, research performance and performance position	3–49
29	DEEWR	Information with respect to the governance and administrative structure of the university, specifically council members and occupants of senior officers.	10–15, 51, 95
30	DEEWR	Outline of student and staff grievance procedures and number of complaints made to and investigated by the Ombudsman	99
31	DEEWR	Details of information available on institution's website, including locations of current and previous Annual Reports	105
32	DEEWR	Compliance of financial statements with the <i>Financial Statement Guidelines for Australian Higher Education Providers for 2007 Reporting Period</i> issued by DEST.	86–94

No.	Clause	Disclosure	Page(s)
Financial Management Act 1994 (FMA)			
	FMA 1994	Financial Statements:	100
33	49(a)	• Contain such information as required by the Minister;	
34	49 (b)	• Are prepared in a manner and form approved by the Minister;	
35	49 (c)	• Present fairly the financial transactions of the department or public body during the relevant financial year to which they relate;	
36	49 (d)	• Present fairly the financial position of the department or public body as at the end of that year; and	
37	49 (e)	• Are certified by the accountable officer in the manner approved by the Minister.	
Government Response to the Review of University Governance (RUG)			
38	RUG	Statement outlining that public funds allocated to the University have been allocated to the purposes specified by the Government or other public funding body. Statement is audited by the Auditor-General.	100
39	RUG	University Council's risk management strategy	99
40	RUG	Summary of financial performance of Associates and Commercial Ventures	n/a
Educational Services for Overseas Students Act 2000 (ESOS)			
41	ESOS (National Code 2007 – Sections C and D)	Statement indicating compliance with ESOS Act 2000 and the National Code of Practice for Registration Authorities and Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students (National Code 2007)	100
Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (ETRA)			
42	ETRA 2006, s. 3.2.8	Statement on compulsory non-academic fees, subscriptions and charges payable in the preceding financial year.	n/a
Decision of public accounts and estimates committee of parliament			
43	PAEC (December 1997)	Financial and other information relating to institution's international operations	67, 34–37

Victoria-specific index



Ballarat
Aquinas



Melbourne
St Patrick's

ACU National has two campuses in Victoria, one in Ballarat and one in Fitzroy, Melbourne. Since the University is run as a single entity, with six campuses in four states and territories, the financial information is not broken down by state.

Much other general information is divided on state lines or has mentions of different relevant states.

The following index gives a list of such general information about the Victorian campuses, and where to find it.

Topic	Page
Campuses	5
Outreach – social justice forums	19
New scholarships endowed	21
Victorian Foundation supporters	22
Building additions	23
New places, new courses	28
Enrolments by state	30
Student achievements	31
Disadvantaged and Indigenous students' awards	33
Graduates by state	38
Staff by state	40
Staff awards	43
Staff research grants	46
Government visits	48
Cultural links	49