
2015 ACU ANNUAL REPORT

Australian Catholic University (ACU) was established in November 1990 through incorporation as a public company limited by guarantee, established and set up with the resources of the Catholic Church and incorporated pursuant to the *Corporations Act*. It is a national university which operates in a number of states.

It is regulated by the *Corporations Act* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act* and lodges its *Annual Report* in accordance with those statutory requirements.

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

A public university, recognised and funded by the Commonwealth Government, ACU is open to students and staff of all beliefs.

To view this report online visit acu.edu.au/annualreports

Letter of transmittal

April 2016

Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission
GPO Box 5108,
Melbourne VIC 3001

In accordance with the requirements under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act*, I am pleased to submit for your information the Australian Catholic University Annual Report for the year ending 31 December 2015 and the 2015 ACU Review of Results and Audited Financial Statements.

The Financial Statements and Directors' Report (contained in the Annual Report documents) were approved by the Australian Catholic University Senate in April 2016.

Yours sincerely,



The Honourable John Fahey AC
Chancellor

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHANCELLOR AND THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

2015 International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU), Event dinner, Melbourne

REFLECTING ON 25 YEARS

Australian Catholic University (ACU) commemorated its 25th year in 2015. Young as we are, these celebrations gave us the opportunity to reflect on the excellent position in which we find ourselves and consider how we wish to shape our future.

We have strong and confident leadership here at ACU. It has always struck me that good leaders never tell people to do things, they ask them. That kind of mutual respect and courtesy is prevalent here. It reflects a quiet consciousness of mission. We find it in the collegial approach taken to our teaching and our research as well as the administration of the organisation.

In little over a year as Chancellor I've been reminded that universities have a more important task than training a professionalised workforce. Rather than simply educating lawyers, nurses, teachers, and so forth, we are shaping the next generation of good citizens, future generations of Australians living according to our Catholic values; Catholic, that is, in the sense of universal values such as commitment, perseverance, tolerance, and respect.

As we contemplate the University's next 25 years and beyond, it is worth remembering Newton's observation that we stand on the shoulders of giants. I'm speaking of those



organisations and religious orders – the Christian Brothers, for example, who trained their own teachers – that ceded responsibility to us to do collectively as a university what they were doing individually. The challenge they presented was to build a united organisation with a single national focus.

And we have done so, strengthening that foundation to become Australia's only truly national university. We have a strong national focus that directs the University as a whole while making sure we preserve the remarkable individuality of our diverse campuses. In celebrating our 25-year history, we are also thanking those orders for having faith in us.

In that light, let us consider this year's many achievements. There was the seemingly effortless success of the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU) conference, which brought more than 500 delegates from 40 countries to ACU's doorstep. Then there was the opening of the

Rome Centre, which provides the University with unprecedented opportunities for interdisciplinary and intercultural scholarship while placing ACU at the heart of the Catholic Church. Finally, following the establishment of seven new research institutes in January 2014, ACU is already attracting world-class researchers and enhancing our reputation as a national trailblazer in research.

So I feel confident that I can say to each of those orders and organisations that contributed to ACU's foundations that you can rest easy in the faith that you demonstrated in us back then. Our shared mission is alive and well.

Chancellor, The Honourable John Fahey AC

COMPREHENSIVELY EMBEDDING EXCELLENCE

Australian Catholic University has come a long way in a short time. Celebrating a significant milestone in 2015, the year was also marked by remarkable achievement.

In 2015, the University's direction was shaped by the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan.

Central to the plan is a decision to take ACU from being a developing Catholic university in Australia to being a significant force as a university in Australia and a leading Catholic university internationally.

The three dimensions of this change in 2015 comprised of continued strong enrolments, a heightened presence in Catholic Higher Education and the establishment of ACU as a genuine research university.

ACU's outstanding Excellence in Research Australia (ERA) results catapulted the University to 21st place on the Australian Government's research rankings.

Our commitment to excellence in research translated to world class ranking for all four of the University's priority research areas. Five sub-disciplines were ranked well above world class, these included Nursing, Public Health and Health Services, Human Movement and Sports Science, Psychology and Psychology and Cognitive Sciences.

Five sub-disciplines ranked above world class.



These were Medical and Health Sciences, Specialist Studies in Education, Philosophy, Religion and Religious Studies, and Philosophy and Religious Studies. Twelve sub-disciplines were ranked world class. These were Education, Education Systems, Curriculum and Pedagogy, Business and Management, Studies in Human Society, Political Science, Sociology, Law and Legal Studies, Law, History and Archaeology, Applied Ethics, and Historical Studies.

ACU was also named equal top University in the sub-discipline containing Theology (Religion and Religious Studies).

Success in research was grounded in a research intensification strategy that included the establishment of new research institutes.

Decisions taken by ACU's executive team also put the University on the world map as a leading international Catholic university in 2015. These included the opening of the University's very own Rome Campus in collaboration with The Catholic University of America and the successful delivery of the International

Federation of Catholic Universities conference in Melbourne.

Our heightened presence in Catholic higher education was also furthered by embedding strong relations with major Church organisations such as the Congregation for Catholic Education and world-class Catholic universities such as the Pontifical University of Chile, Louvain.

Continued growth in student enrolments also underscored the University's commitment to providing more people with an opportunity to better their chances of success in life through higher education.

Investments in teaching and physical infrastructure also furthered ACU's commitment to providing an excellent student experience.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Greg Craven

ACU AT A GLANCE

KEY MILESTONES

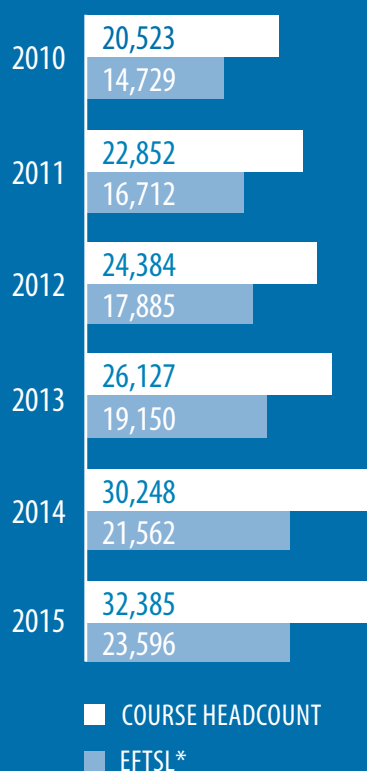
In 2015, ACU:

- proudly celebrated its 25th anniversary
- hosted the 25th General Assembly of the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU) on the Melbourne Campus, engaging with more than 500 delegates from 57 countries
- opened the doors to the Rome Centre, the University's first overseas centre.

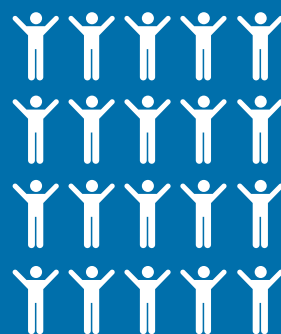


2015 BY THE NUMBERS

STUDENTS



Graduate students:
5,714



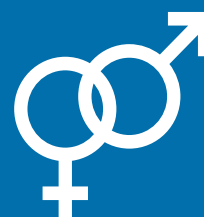
ACU alumni:
> 85,500

2015 STAFF

Total staff FTE:
2,257.9



Recognised as an
Employer of Choice
for Gender Equality
for the fourth time



RAMPING UP RESEARCH



- Recognised as the most improved institution in the country according to the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) results.
- Increased 'excellence index' ranking from 35th to 21st in the nation.
- Received eight Australian Research Council (ARC) grants.

ACU ABROAD

International students studying at ACU campuses represented

98 COUNTRIES

More than 400 ACU students engaged in overseas exchange programs



The Rome Centre launched with the Core Curriculum as its first program



ROME

PREPARING GRADUATES TO MAKE AN IMPACT

Within four months of graduation, 93 per cent of ACU graduates find employment*

93%

* Of those ACU graduates available for full-time employment, Graduate Destination Survey 2015

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Students participating in international community engagement:

20	120
in 2014	in 2015

PAVING THE PATH TO HIGHER EDUCATION

To encourage diverse students from all backgrounds to pursue higher education, Equity Pathways expanded its reach:

- Outreach to Grade 4 to Year 12 students increased from 14,557 in 2014 to 16,205 in 2015.
- Outreach to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students increased from 2,211 in 2014 to 2,500 in 2015.
- ACU Student2Student activity increased from 420 occasions in 2014 to 500 in 2015.

OUR MISSION



North Sydney Campus

THE ACU MISSION: WITHIN THE CATHOLIC INTELLECTUAL TRADITION AND ACTING IN TRUTH AND LOVE, AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY IS COMMITTED TO THE PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE, THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON AND THE COMMON GOOD.

A DISTINCTLY AND PROUDLY CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE

The distinctly Catholic identity and mission of Australian Catholic University (ACU) are captured in the spirit of its students, staff, and the University as a whole. Grounded in the 2,000-year-old Catholic intellectual tradition, the University's Mission serves as the foundation for all of ACU's endeavours in the classroom, in research labs, and in its engagement with local and global communities.

Belief in the sacredness of human life is central to the Catholic intellectual tradition and remains at the forefront of ACU's teaching, research, and outreach. ACU students and staff engage with contemporary issues through the lens of the Catholic faith. Likewise, the Catholic worldview informs every aspect of the University's activities from operations to teaching, research, and community engagement.

Driven by its mission, the University and its students consider social, ethical, and religious dimensions while advancing knowledge in education, health, commerce, the humanities, the sciences and technologies, and the creative arts. ACU's Catholic identity is expressed through intellectual freedom, personal development, and service to the common good. The University's Mission cultivates a sense of the sacred in life and invites people to engage in a transformational approach to the mission.

Reflecting the University's Catholic foundation, ACU graduates demonstrate more than a solid knowledge-base in their specific area of study. They are also engaged citizens, attuned to the interconnected nature of humanity and prepared to lead thoughtful, philosophical lives driven by a commitment to serving the common good and fostering a just society.

LIVING THE MISSION TO ADVANCE THE COMMON GOOD

Commitment to advancing the common good drives ACU's Mission. In 2015, as in prior years, the University demonstrated this commitment in a variety of ways.

The University reimaged and restructured its Campus Ministry team to better serve the pastoral needs of students and staff across all campuses. The refreshed Campus Ministry team serves to animate the Catholic life, identity, and mission of the University to provide an authentically Catholic university experience for both its staff and its students.

“We have a clear, distinct mission . . . That's our strength. Our mission statement is tied to a 2,000-year-old tradition, but also to a network of over 500 Catholic universities and higher learning institutes that all share the same belief in the transformative power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

Father Anthony Casamento CSMA, Director, Identity and Mission

“We are unapologetically a Catholic university, guided by the principles of Catholic social teaching, beliefs around equity and social justice, and respect for humankind.”

Professor Pauline Nugent, Provost

Community engagement programs continued to expand. On the ground in Timor-Leste, Vanuatu and other locations in the Asia-Pacific region, ACU students and staff helped enrich communities by working side-by-side with them. Partnerships with CatholicCare, The Society of St Vincent de Paul, Mission Australia, and others enabled programs such as Clemente Australia to continue providing more vulnerable people with access to higher education.

A number of units within the University's corporate services portfolio undertook community engagement activities throughout the year, including working in homeless shelters and parish communities. Working alongside marginalised people, ACU's professional staff members enlivened the University's living mission.

Through these initiatives and others, ACU students and staff continued to bring the mission to life by pursuing knowledge, demonstrating respect for the dignity of humanity and showing commitment to the common good.

BOARD OF IDENTITY

The University's Board of Identity (comprised of the Episcopal members of Company and their representatives of the major Metropolitan Sees in Australia) continued to provide objective and independent advice, and guidance on issues relevant to the University's Catholic identity and mission. The Board conducts an annual review of the University's progress in terms of its Catholic character. It also occasionally undertakes more focused examinations of particular areas of the University's activities, academic or otherwise, either on its own initiative or at the request of the Company or Senate.

The Board of Identity serves to enhance ACU's internal Catholic identity, strengthen the University's external Catholic focus

and promote greater understanding of the University's Mission as a Catholic university both internally to the ACU community and more widely to the Australian Catholic community. It has been established to complement the regular review and evaluation work within the University and should, therefore, improve the University's Catholic character. Under the Constitution of the Corporation of the University, the Company retains full responsibility for the Catholic character of the University.

In 2015, The Most Reverend Denis J Hart DD, Archbishop of Melbourne, was elected Chair of the Board of Identity.

STRENGTHENING THE CORE

Across all fields of study, ACU undergraduate students engage in dialogue where both faith and reason play a part. The Core Curriculum inspires students to examine fundamental questions about human experience and meaning through the lens of Catholic social principles. In the Core Curriculum, students ground their experience and understanding of the Catholic ethos in courses that reflect the ACU Mission.

In 2015, the University expanded its international Core Curriculum opportunities to include Paris (in conjunction with Institute Catholique de Paris), London (through Heythrop College), and Rome (at the newly established ACU/CUA Rome Centre). Further offerings in Asia and North and South America are also currently being developed.

[For more information on the establishment of the Rome Centre, see page 36.](#)

OUR VISION



Melbourne Campus

IN MANY WAYS 2015 HAS SIGNALLED A NEW ERA FOR ACU WHERE WE ARE BECOMING MORE PROMINENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE AMONGST LEADING HIGHER EDUCATION PROVIDERS, PARTICULARLY WITHIN CATHOLIC NETWORKS.

Professor Pauline Nugent, Provost

As a Catholic university, ACU is committed to providing quality transformative education, research, and community engagement. Grounded in the richness and traditions of the Catholic faith, ACU seeks to bring about positive changes in local and global communities. To achieve this, the University engages world-class staff and prepares graduates who excel in key areas of social need. Furthermore, ACU aligns programs and course offerings to meet employer and industry requirements. As a result of this alignment, graduates enter the workforce ready for their role in the workplace and prepared to make a difference.

As one of the pre-eminent Catholic universities in the English-speaking world, ACU's reach is widespread. Within Australia, ACU is the only public Catholic university. It is part of the government-funded national system of Australian universities.

EDUCATING STUDENTS AROUND THE NATION AND THE WORLD

With seven campuses across the country, ACU is Australia's only truly national university. Located in Adelaide, Ballarat, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, and Sydney (North Sydney and Strathfield), ACU can sustain a student-centric focus on each campus. Because of ACU's unique market position, the University is prepared to respond to local industry needs and grow in targeted areas of demand.

The newly established centre in Rome (formed in collaboration with The Catholic University of America) extends ACU's Mission globally. The Rome Centre places ACU at the heart of the Church and offers staff and students the opportunity to interact with the global education community.

RESPONDING TO THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS AND INDUSTRY

ACU upholds strong partnerships with key health care providers, education systems, schools, legal practices, social service providers, faith-based organisations, and other businesses. These relationships ensure that ACU students graduate with the professional skills and knowledge that employers seek in today's market.

These partnerships also contribute to ACU graduates' outstanding employment outcomes. Within four months of graduation, 93 per cent of ACU graduates find employment.¹

One of our priorities is to amplify the voices of people from the community. . . That's a very distinctive part of the way we go about community engagement – we let the community shape the program.

Professor Jude Butcher cfc AM, Director, Institute for Advancing Community Engagement

PRIORITY ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH AREAS

The University's academic and research focus areas embody ACU's Catholic identity and mission. Teaching and research revolve around key areas of societal need, including health and education. Founded by Catholic tertiary institutions that had been training teachers and nurses since the mid-19th century, ACU continues that tradition today by preparing graduates in these fields and other areas that will advance social responsibility and contribute to the wellbeing of people around the world.

ACU's four faculties are:

- Education and Arts
- Health Sciences
- Law and Business
- Theology and Philosophy.

The University's priority research focus areas are:

- Education
- Health
- Theology and Philosophy
- Social Justice and the Common Good.

LIVING THE UNIVERSITY'S MISSION WITH COMMUNITIES

The Institute for Advancing Community Engagement (IACE) facilitates relationships and partnerships between the University and community with the goal of enhancing the wellbeing and dignity of people in Australia and worldwide. Within the framework of the Catholic intellectual tradition and Catholic social teaching, community engagement is central to the University's Mission and is an integral part of students' personal and professional development at ACU.

Staff and students work collaboratively with community groups and organisations nationally and internationally to build capacity, improve wellbeing and contribute to just

and sustainable outcomes in the interests of people, communities and the University.

Community engagement encompasses three themes that support ACU's dedication to the Church and its teachings:

- Beyond Disadvantage, focusing on social inclusion and wellbeing by reaching out to those most in need
- Beyond Borders, providing development and capacity building beyond the boundaries of Australia
- Beyond Differences, supporting social cohesion and participation enriched by inter-faith and inter-cultural understandings.

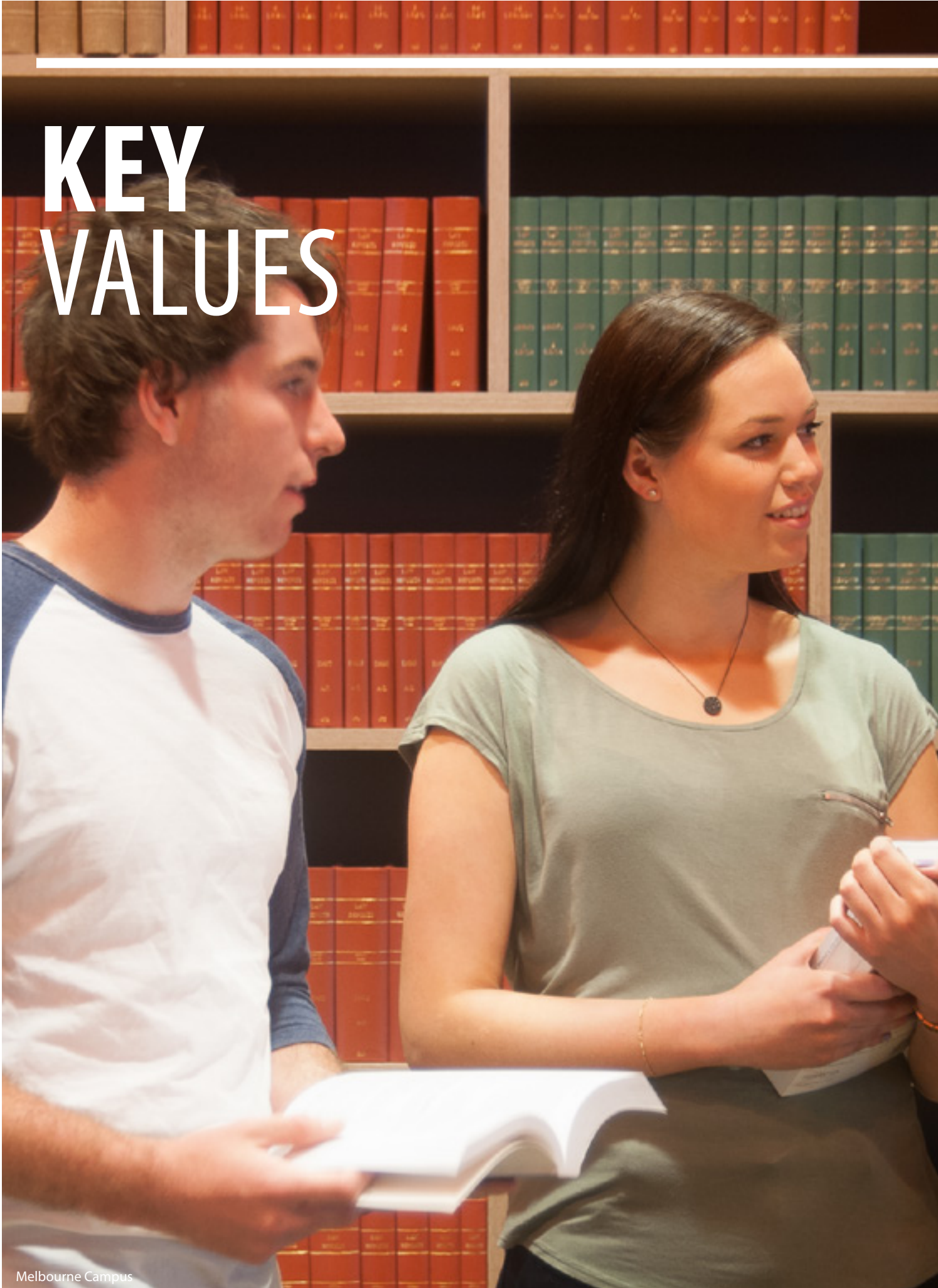
Approximately 120 students participated in international community engagement in 2015 compared to 20 students in 2014.

Key highlights from 2015 in the area of community engagement at ACU include:

- growing the national commitment to engaging with vulnerable people through Clemente Australia in partnership with community organisations and corporates, many of which are Catholic or other faith-based
- broadening the University's sustainable approach to capacity building in Timor-Leste with a focus on education, health, sport, and wellbeing
- extending the partnership and research base across a wide range of contexts for the mutual benefit of communities and the University
- giving priority to embedding reflection with students that assists them in making real connections between the University's Mission, their personal values, and their professional lives
- strengthening ownership by the faculties and other University organisational units of these significant programs and their expression of ACU's Mission
- embedding community experiences in the Core Curriculum at ACU's new Rome Centre, including working with the Sant' Egidio community.

¹ Of those ACU graduates available for full-time employment, *Graduate Destination Survey 2015*.

KEY VALUES





To fulfil its mission and vision, the University is guided by its long-standing commitment to truth, academic excellence, and service. These values are pursued within the framework of the Catholic intellectual tradition. They reflect ACU's commitment to serving the common good, upholding the sacredness in life, respecting and welcoming all faith traditions, and upholding the dignity of all human persons.

TRUTH

ACU is committed to the lifelong pursuit of knowledge, freely seeking truth through research, critical inquiry, and active discovery. The University shares this pursuit through teaching, scholarship, and engagement, contributing to the growth and betterment of society.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

ACU, through its pursuit of excellence in teaching and research, strives to produce the highest quality intellectual, educational, and learning experiences through innovation and creativity.

SERVICE

ACU is a university of service. It seeks to serve the wider community through research, education, and engagement, especially by providing opportunities for those in need and by educating its students to be socially and morally responsible persons.

OUR GOVERNANCE

COMPANY STRUCTURE

The University is incorporated in Victoria as Australian Catholic University Limited, a public company limited by guarantee.

The Most Reverend Denis J Hart DD is the President of Australian Catholic University Limited. The Company's members are the Catholic Archbishops of the Archdioceses of Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, and Canberra-Goulburn, the Bishops of the Dioceses of Ballarat and Parramatta, congregational leaders of founding religious institutions, and nominees of the Archbishops and the Bishop of Ballarat. ACU's Constitution may be viewed on the University's website at acu.edu.au.

The University Senate governs the University. Members of Senate are the Board of Directors. Four State Chapters, based in the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Queensland, and Victoria, provide an interface between the University and the local community. The local Archbishop appoints the members of each chapter and while the chapters have no direct governance role in the University, each chapter reports to Senate and the annual general meeting of the Company.

SENATE MEMBERS

The 18 members of Senate – the Board of Directors – are appointed in different ways:

- The Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, Chair of Academic Board, and one Cleric nominated by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference are ex-officio members. Members of the Company select the Chancellor and Pro-Chancellor. The Senate appoints the Vice-Chancellor.
- Members of the Company elect four senators, one from each state and territory, nominated by the relevant state chapter and approved by the local Archbishop.
- Members of the Company elect four senators from nominations provided by members of the Company and the Senate.
- Academic staff members elect three senators.
- General staff members elect one senator.
- Students elect one senator.

COMMITTEES

- Standing and Finance Committee
- Audit and Risk Committee
- Honorary Awards Committee
- Academic Board
- Nominations and Remuneration Committee

STANDING COMMITTEES OF ACADEMIC BOARD

- Academic Administrative Committee
- Academic Board Executive Committee
- Courses and Academic Quality Committee
- Faculty Boards
- Internationalisation Committee
- Standards and Compliance Committee
- University Learning and Teaching Committee
- University Medals Committee
- University Research Committee

MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

The Vice-Chancellor, as the Chief Executive Officer of Australian Catholic University, represents the University nationally and internationally, and provides strategic leadership and management.

The Provost, the Chief Operating Officer and two Deputy Vice-Chancellors have delegated responsibility for assigned areas of policy: Academic, Corporate Services, Research, and Students, Learning and Teaching.

Associate Vice-Chancellors are based in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney. They act as the Vice-Chancellor's representative in their local region as do the Campus Deans in Ballarat and Canberra.

Four Faculty Executive Deans, the Academic Registrar, and Directors with national portfolios also assist the Vice-Chancellor. There is a Faculty Executive Dean, supported by a number of Associate Deans and heads of school.

There are directors and managers for each major area of the University's activities (see organisational chart on pages 18-19).

Each campus has a student association. The national student body, Australian Catholic University National Student Association (ACUNSA), provides a voice for students.

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY 2015



CHANCELLOR THE HON JOHN FAHEY AC

A figure in public life for more than 30 years, the Hon John Fahey AC is Australian Catholic University's fourth Chancellor.

Mr Fahey was New South Wales Premier from 1992-95 before entering federal politics as the Minister for Finance and Administration in the Howard government. He was instrumental in securing the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games, acting as Chairman of the bid team.

In 2002, Mr Fahey was made a Companion of the Order of Australia for his work in the political arena, the facilitation of industry growth, and industrial relations reform.

Mr Fahey served as President of the World Anti-Doping Agency. Currently, he chairs the Australian Government Reconstruction Inspectorate.



PRO-CHANCELLOR EDWARD EXELL AM BA(Hons)(Melb) BEc(ANU)

Pro-Chancellor of the University since November 2000, Mr Edward Exell was previously Business Manager of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne.

He is Chair of the Standing and Finance Committee of the University.

Before joining the Catholic Archdiocese, Mr Exell was Deputy Managing Director of the Australian Trade Commission.

Mr Exell has served on the National Board of Employment Education and Training, on 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 LLB(Hons) LLM(Melb)

Vice-Chancellor of ACU since 2008, Professor Greg Craven is an expert in public and constitutional law.

Previously, Professor Craven was Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Strategy and Planning) of Curtin University in Western Australia, where he also held the positions of Professor of Government and Constitutional Law, and Executive Director of the John Curtin Institute of Public Policy.

He has also held academic positions at the University of Notre Dame (WA) and the University of Melbourne. For three years, Professor Craven oversaw major policy reforms as Crown Counsel to the Victorian Government.

Professor Craven is a member of the Higher Education Standards Panel, a member of the Teacher Education Expert Standing Committee for the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL), Vice-President of the Australian Higher Education Industrial Association (AHEIA) Executive Committee, a member of the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC) and of the Truth, Justice and Healing Council and he Chaired the Teacher Education Ministerial Advisory Group (TEMAG).

Professor Craven is a member of Universities Australia (UA) and Chair of the Standing Group on Quality and Regulation. Professor Craven is also a member of the Expert Advisory Panel for the White Paper on the Reform of the Federation.

Professor Craven is a member of the NSW Vice-Chancellors Committee (NSWVCC) and the Victorian Vice-Chancellors Committee. He is also the NSWVCC representative on the Teacher Education Policy Advisory Committee for the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards (BoSTES), a member of the Scientific Council of the School of Higher Formation 'Educating to Encounter and Solidarity' (EES). Professor Craven is also a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law.

In December 2015 Professor Craven was appointed to the Pontifical Equestrian Order of St Gregory the Great, an ancient Order of Knighthood of the Holy See, by the Archbishop of Sydney Anthony Fisher op.



PROVOST AND DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (ACADEMIC)

PROFESSOR PAULINE NUGENT

BAppSc(Lincoln Institute of Health Sciences) MEd(Monash)

Professor Pauline Nugent, 2009 Victorian Telstra Business Woman of the Year, was appointed the inaugural Provost of ACU in June 2012 after serving as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).

Professor Nugent graduated from St Vincent's Hospital in Melbourne and was appointed to the inaugural Chair of Nursing Development at Deakin University in 2003. In 2007, she took up the role of Dean of Health Sciences at ACU. Her scholarly record includes publications in nursing education, rural health, clinical research, and health curriculum, and she has received more than \$5 million in public funding.



CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER AND DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (CORPORATE SERVICES)

DR STEPHEN WELLER

BA(Syd) MCom(UWS) MBA(UTS) PhD(VU)

Dr Stephen Weller joined ACU in 2013 from James Cook University where he was Deputy Vice-Chancellor (University Services) and Head of the Cairns Campus.

With more than 20 years of experience in tertiary education across six universities, Dr Weller's previous positions include Pro Vice-Chancellor of Students and Technology at Victoria University in Melbourne and Campus Manager of the University of Queensland, Gatton.



DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (STUDENTS, LEARNING AND TEACHING)

PROFESSOR ANNE CUMMINS

BEd(Canberra CAE) MA(Macq) MEdL(ACU) GradDipEd (Religious Studies)(CCE Sydney)

Formerly Dean of Students, Professor Anne Cummins was appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor in 2009.

Before joining ACU, Professor Cummins was the director of a firm specialising in leadership and strategy for not-for-profit organisations and government departments.

She has held senior executive roles in Catholic education and is currently a director of Marist Youth Care and a member of the Council of St Ignatius' College Riverview.



DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (RESEARCH)

PROFESSOR WAYNE MCKENNA

BA(Hons) PhD(University of Leeds)

Professor Wayne McKenna joined ACU as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) in 2013.

Professor McKenna came from the University of Western Sydney (UWS), where he was the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Research). At UWS, Professor McKenna also filled the roles of Executive Dean, College of Arts, and Provost of the Bankstown Campus. He has also held positions at the University of Newcastle, the University of Geneva in Switzerland, and the University of Toulouse in France.

EXECUTIVE DEANS

EXECUTIVE DEAN, FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND ARTS (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

PROFESSOR TANIA ASPLAND BA BEd(Qld) MEd(DU) PhD(Qld)

EXECUTIVE DEAN, FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

PROFESSOR MICHELLE CAMPBELL RN BAppSci(LincolnInstHlthSc) MNSt DN(LaTrobe)

EXECUTIVE DEAN, FACULTY OF LAW AND BUSINESS (OFFICE AT MELBOURNE CAMPUS)

PROFESSOR THERESE (TERRI) JOINER BEc (Hons)(La Trobe) PhD(La Trobe)

EXECUTIVE DEAN, FACULTY OF THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY (OFFICE AT STRATHFIELD CAMPUS)

PROFESSOR DERMOT NESTOR BA(Hons First Class) PhD(Trinity College Dublin)

DEANS

DEAN OF LAW (OFFICE IN MELBOURNE)

PROFESSOR BRIAN FITZGERALD BA(Griffith) BCL(Oxon) LLB(QUT) LLM(HU) PhD(Griffith)

DEAN OF LAW (OFFICE IN MELBOURNE)

PROFESSOR ROCQUE REYNOLDS BA(Syd) LLB(Syd) PhD(Syd) LLM(Syd)

DEAN OF RESEARCH (OFFICE IN NORTH SYDNEY)

PROFESSOR PATRICK HEAVEN D(Lit&Phil) (UNISA)

DEAN OF THE LA SALLE ACADEMY FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

BR DAVID HALL BEd(ACU) Grad Dip Ed (RE)(McCauley) MA(Theol)(SCD) DMin(CTU, Chicago)

ASSOCIATE VICE-CHANCELLORS

BRISBANE

PROFESSOR JIM NYLAND BA(Hon)(Bangor) MSt(Manchester) EdD(Derby)

NSW/ACT

PROFESSOR MAREA NICHOLSON

DipTeach(NewcastleCAE) BA(Macq) GradDipEdSt(NepeanCAE) MEd PhD(Syd)

MELBOURNE

DR JOHN BALLARD BA(ANU) MHA(UNSW) DBA(Macq)

CAMPUS DEANS

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR GERARD PATRICK (JOE) FLEMING BA(Melb) BEd(LaTrobe)

GradCertRE MEd PhD(ACU) (Ballarat Campus)

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR PATRICK MCARDLE

BTheol(SydCollDiv) GradDipEd(UniSA) STL(CISyd) MEd PhD(ACU) (Canberra Campus)

DIRECTORS

DEPUTY PROVOST (OFFICE AT MELBOURNE CAMPUS)

PROFESSOR DAVID SPENCER BA(Macq) LLB(Syd) GDLP(UTS) LLM(Hons)(UTS) AIAMA

ACADEMIC REGISTRAR (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

MS KATHRYN BLYTH BA(Canterbury NZ) DipMgmt MBA(HenleyMgmtCollUK) MTEM(Melb)

DIRECTOR, ACUCOM (OFFICE AT MELBOURNE CAMPUS)

MRS ANNE DEBORAH (DEBBIE) WILSON

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

MR SCOTT JENKINS BCom(Macq) CA

DIRECTOR OF GOVERNANCE (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

MS DIANE BARKER BA(Hons)(Syd) LLB(Hons)(Syd) GradDipLegPrac(Coll of Law)

GENERAL COUNSEL (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY)

MS CAROL KIRBY BA(Adel Hons) BA(Cantab) LLB(Adel) GDLP(UniSA)

DIRECTOR OF GOVERNMENT, POLICY AND STRATEGY (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

MR JULIAN LEESER BA(Hons) LLB(UNSW)

DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

MS DIANA CHEGWIDDEN BComm(EmpRels) MComm(HRM&IR)(UWS)

DIRECTOR OF IDENTITY AND MISSION (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

FR ANTHONY CASAMENTO CSMA BSc(Psyc) (Hons) BA(Hons)(UNSW) BTheol(CISyd) MA(UNSW)

DIRECTOR OF CENTRE FOR INDIGENOUS EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (OFFICE AT BRISBANE CAMPUS)

MS JANE CEOLIN DipTeach(Griffith)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

MR PAUL CAMPBELL MBT(UNSW)

DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (OFFICE AT BRISBANE CAMPUS)

MR RICHARD (RICK) VAN HAEFTEN GDipIT(UNSW)

DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (OFFICE AT STRATHFIELD CAMPUS)

PROFESSOR JUDE BUTCHER CFC AM TC BA MA(Macq) PhD(Syd)

DIRECTOR OF STUDENT STRATEGIES (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY)

MS PAULINE MURPHY PSM BADipEd(Macq) MLS(UTS)

DIRECTOR OF LEARNING AND TEACHING CENTRE (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

DR KEVIN ASHFORD-ROWE BA(Hons)(Hull) PGrCertEd(Exeter) GDiplntMedia(UTS) MEd(ECU) MProfSt(UNE) EdD(UOW)

DIRECTOR OF LIBRARIES (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

MS FIDES LAWTON BLibSc GradDipMgmt(MacqGradSchMgmt) MLIB(UNSW)

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS (OFFICE AT MELBOURNE CAMPUS)

MS ANDREA TURLEY BA/BBus GradDipEd(FEDU) DipMgmt(DU)

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL CHURCH LIFE SURVEY RESEARCH (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR RUTH POWELL PhD(Macq)

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

MR OMER YEZDANI MBA(QUT) GradDipResStud(Griffith) BBus(QUT)

DIRECTOR, STRATEGIC PROJECTS, OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

DR JUDY LAVERTY BAppSc(Hons)(UNSW) MEd(Hons)(UWS) PhD(UOW)

DIRECTOR OF PROPERTIES AND FACILITIES (OFFICE AT MELBOURNE CAMPUS)

MR MICHAEL TRACEY BArch(Melb) GradDipProjMan(RMIT)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

MR CHRISTOPHER RILEY BA(ANU) MBA(UNE)

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF STUDENT SUCCESS (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

MS EVELYN PICOT BSocSt(Syd) MComm(CSU)

DIRECTOR, STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICES (OFFICE AT NORTH SYDNEY CAMPUS)

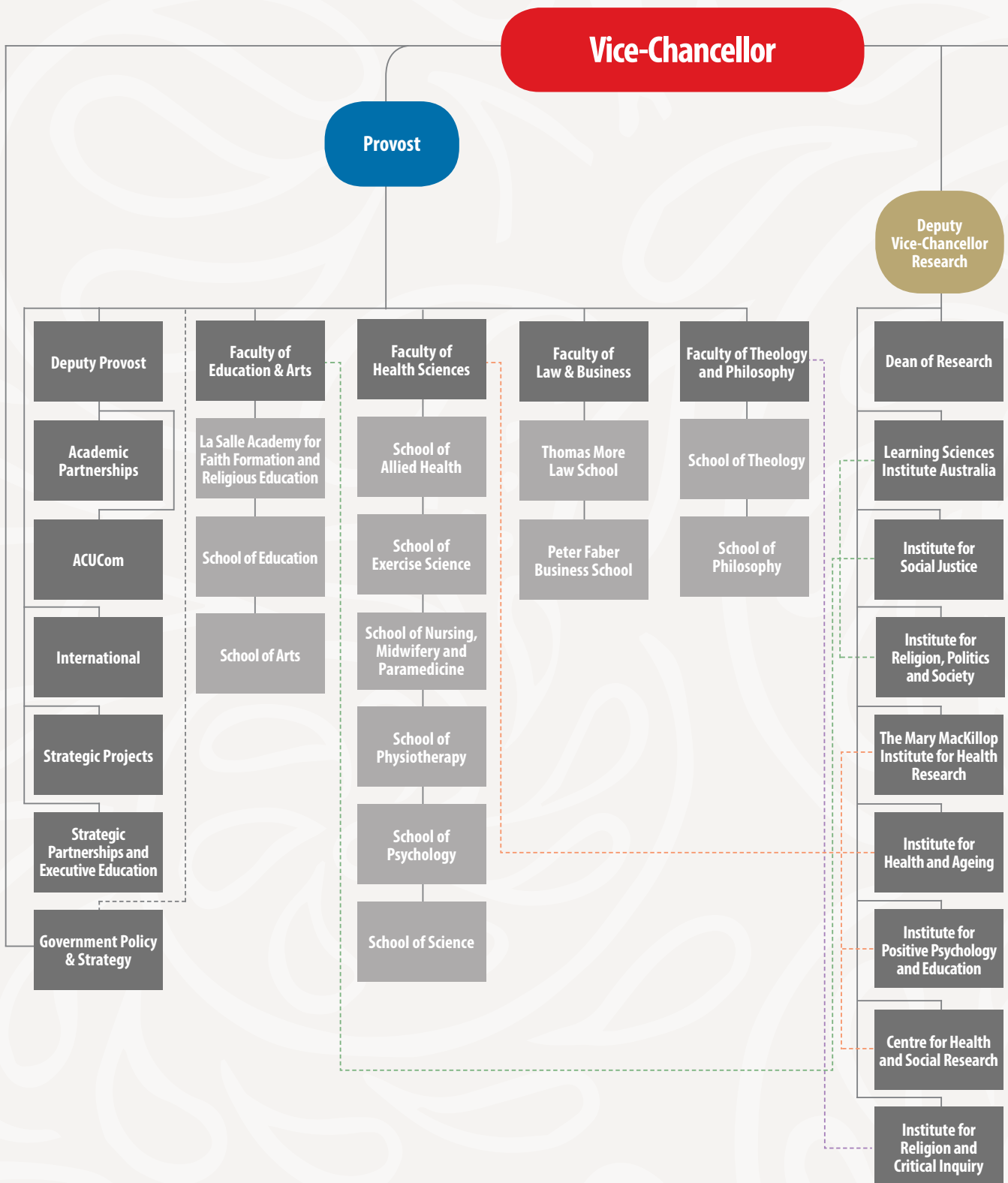
MR PAUL MCJANNETT BBId(UNSW) DipTeach(SCAE)

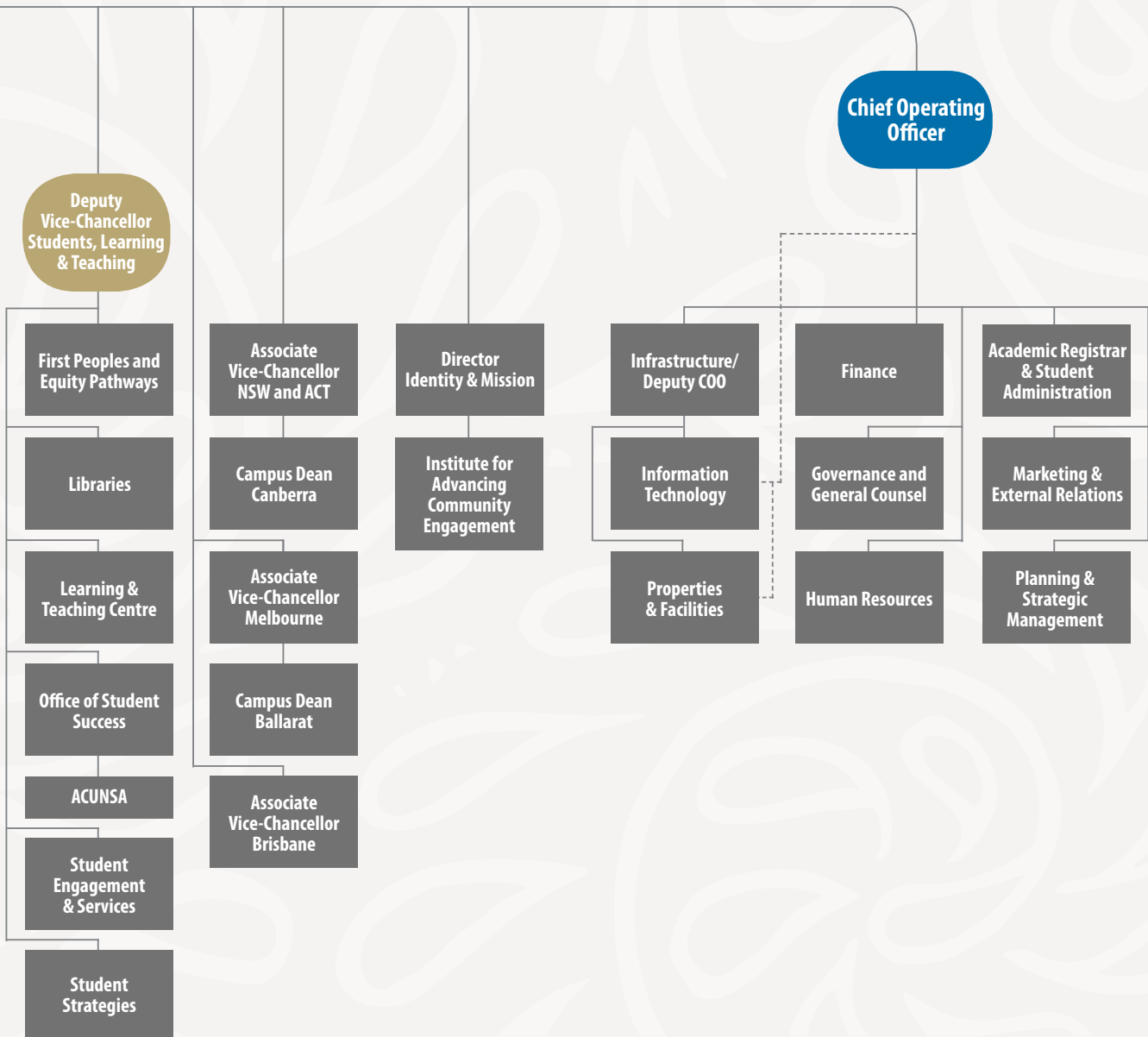


FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	2015 \$'000
Commonwealth Government Grants	374,175
Other Operating Revenue	103,013
Finance Income	874
Salary Cash Expenses	(282,760)
Non-Salary Cash Expenses	(118,820)
Non-Cash Expenses (Depreciation, Amortisation and Provisions)	(33,605)
Net Result for the Period	42,877
Working Capital Surplus/(Deficit)	(19,926)
Working Capital Surplus/(Deficit) Adjusted for Employee Benefits Classified as Current but due to be settled in greater than 12 months	(2,774)

For more information please read the 2015 ACU Review of Results and Audited Financial Statements.





OUR CHURCH



Eucharistic Celebration, 25th General Assembly of International Federation of Catholic Universities, Melbourne

WE ARE AUSTRALIA'S PRE-EMINENT CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY. AT ACU, FAITH AND REASON ARE ENGAGED THROUGH DIALOGUE TO ADVANCE THE DIGNITY AND COMMON GOOD OF HUMANITY.

Father Anthony Casamento CSMA, Director, Identity and Mission

As the largest single national ministry of the Catholic Church in Australia, ACU is dedicated to fulfilling its unique mission and vision as a world-class Catholic university.

At ACU, students and staff engage in intellectual endeavours as well as spiritual ones. In the context of the Catholic intellectual tradition, the University promotes teaching and research, professional development, faith, and community engagement to educate the whole person. Believing that faith and reason are compatible with human inquiry, ACU encourages its staff and students to be knowledgeable of self, educated in mind, compassionate in heart, and responsive to the community and an ever-changing world.

ANIMATING ACU'S MISSION THROUGH CAMPUS MINISTRY AND EVANGELISM

Campus ministry, which is open and available to students and staff of all faiths and backgrounds, operates under the leadership of Fr Anthony Casamento CSMA, the Director of Identity and Mission. The ministry supports the ACU community by providing a place for dialogue, engagement, and faith formation.

Each campus has a pastoral associate for staff and a pastoral associate for students. These associates work with a Priest-chaplain to celebrate liturgies and the Sacraments, support staff and student faith formation programs, and provide other opportunities to engage with the University's Mission. Opportunities include international pilgrimages and immersion experiences as well as attendance at World Youth Day. Campus ministry plays the vital role of maintaining engagement with the ACU community and supporting individuals in distress.

Through these activities and more, people of all faiths are invited to participate in ACU's Mission. As a result, a vibrant community of diverse individuals thrives across the University's campuses.

ADVANCING ACU'S CATHOLIC IDENTITY, MISSION AND CULTURE

In 2015, ACU continued to reinforce its Catholic identity.

The University appointed a Coordinator of Catholic Programs who works jointly in the Office of the Provost and in the Directorate of Identity and Mission. The Coordinator is developing a suite of academic and professional development programs to better provide staff

All parts of the University work closely together, which is really what a Catholic university is. Ministry shouldn't be something done – it should be something that's lived through every part of the University's life.

Father Anthony Casamento CSMA, Director, Identity and Mission

We look at the issues of our time through the lens of our faith.

Father Anthony Casamento CSMA, Director, Identity and Mission

with opportunities for ongoing professional development related to mission and culture. As part of this, ACU signed an MOU with Boston College to jointly create a new program to form staff in this area.

ACU continued to send senior staff to the Institute for Administrators of Catholic Higher Education at Boston College and the Mission Integration Institute at the University of San Diego to further embed the notion of Catholic higher education and mission into working practices at ACU.

Collaborating with key Catholic partners – including Fairfield University in Florence, Heythrop College London, and Institut Catholique de Paris in France – ACU offered students opportunities to participate in Core Curriculum classes in Paris, Rome, and London.

25TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC UNIVERSITIES AND OTHER SIGNIFICANT EVENTS IN 2015

The University successfully hosted the 25th General Assembly of the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU) and related events in Melbourne in July 2015. The IFCU General Assembly centred on the theme 'Times change. Values endure' and coincided with ACU's 25th anniversary. This provided ACU with an unprecedented opportunity to develop and foster ties with leading Catholic universities on an international stage.

Representing the world's largest gathering of Catholic universities, the two-week program of events collectively attracted more than 500 delegates from 57 countries.

Grounded in the practice of the Catholic faith and honouring the University's proud Catholic identity, these events showcased world-class liturgies, including the ACU combined student choir.

Successfully hosting these events helped ACU lay the foundation for greater collaboration with established and emerging Catholic universities. It also reinforced ACU's relations with the Catholic Church, including the Holy See, the Melbourne Archdiocese, and the wider Catholic community in Australia.

For more on ACU's internationalisation strategy, see page 36.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE

Students and staff continued to personify the University's Catholic identity, connection to the Church and commitment to the common good through community engagement in local areas around ACU campuses, across Australia, and around the world. Community service highlights from 2015 include:

- ongoing homework tutoring and mentoring in Melbourne and Sydney for children and youth from refugee, migrant and low socioeconomic status communities
- education and capacity building in Timor-Leste
- access to tertiary education for refugees through the Thai-Burma Program.

OUR STAFF



OUR STAFF MEMBERS ARE COMMITTED TO KNOWING THEIR STUDENTS, UNDERSTANDING WHAT STUDENTS NEED, AND PARTNERING WITH THEM TO DELIVER IT. THAT'S SOMETHING THAT COMES DIRECTLY FROM THE ACU MISSION. IT IS ABOUT THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON AND SERVING THE COMMON GOOD.,

Professor Anne Cummins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Students, Learning and Teaching

EMBEDDING A CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE IN ACU'S WORKFORCE

The University developed a range of initiatives in 2015 in order to sustain ACU's status as a leading-practice employer of choice.

In 2015, ACU created and launched a Workforce Framework. The framework will support the ACU Strategic Plan 2015-2020 to embed a culture of excellence at ACU. It is underpinned by three commitments in the areas of workplace culture, workforce profile, and valuing ACU's workforce. These commitments articulate that ACU will:

- ensure a welcoming and safe workplace grounded in the ACU Mission and values
- ensure its staff profile is flexible, adaptable, and able to deliver on the University's strategic objectives
- invest in workforce and individual development, participation, and involvement.

Throughout the year Vice-Chancellor Professor Greg Craven hosted *Vice-Chancellor Staff Talks* events on multiple ACU campuses to communicate directly with staff regarding:

- the political and competitive landscape, and what it means for ACU
- current issues of interest to the University
- the University's strategic priorities.

BUILDING WORKFORCE CAPABILITY

In consultation with key stakeholders across the University, ACU undertook a significant piece of work to establish a framework for professional development. The Capability Development Framework aligns with the University's forward-looking direction and seeks to meet the challenges of today and the future by defining the core competencies needed in ACU's workforce.

When complete, this initiative will inform and drive professional development, and people-management practices, supporting the University's workforce to meet current and future needs. Through strategic investment in professional development opportunities

for academic and professional staff members, ACU will continue to deliver on its mission and provide a distinctive educational experience for students.

NEW LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Continuing to invest in the development of confident, best-practice leaders, ACU partnered with the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) to create a new Leadership and Accountability of the Supervisor Program. Stakeholder engagement through the creation of the Capability Development Framework informed the design of this four-module program, which is tailored to ACU's operational context.

This new program aims to provide supervisors and managers with the skillset and knowledge-base to effectively make decisions and take actions across four key areas: understanding the organisation, governance, risk, and financial management. Participants provided positive feedback on the Module 1 pilot, which launched in late 2015.

LEADING GENDER EQUALITY

ACU continues to be a leading-practice employer in supporting gender equality in the workplace. In 2015, the Federal Government's Workforce Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) recognised ACU as an Employer of Choice for Gender Equality for the fourth time. WGEA assessed how the University supports career development and encourages the full participation of women and men in the workplace.

ACU's leading-practice parental leave for birth and non-birth parents contributed to the award along with the University's range of flexible working arrangements that support staff members throughout their employment lifecycle. The high level of female representation at all levels of the University is due in part to these provisions along with ACU's career development support programs.

FIRST INDIGENOUS PHD STAFF SCHOLARSHIP HOLDER GRADUATES FROM AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Dr Bindi Bennett is one of five recipients of ACU's Indigenous Staff Research Scholarships.

Her doctoral thesis entitled *Developing Identity as a Light-skinned Aboriginal Person with Little or no Community and/or Kinship Ties* makes a significant contribution to scholarship in the area of contemporary Aboriginal identity.

This thesis provides an understanding of identity for light-skinned Aboriginal people who, for a variety of reasons, may need a place to start their identity journey as well as tools to undertake this task.

The thesis also contributes to the discussion of identity for Aboriginal people from an Aboriginal perspective, giving privilege to the participant voices.

As part of her research, Dr Bennett developed a map to provide a guide that Aboriginal people can use in their identity journey. The map was developed in two ways: An Aboriginal map (flower) and a non-Indigenous map.

"Identity and knowing who you are is so important in the Aboriginal community", Dr Bennett said.

In 2010 ACU became one of the first universities in Australia to introduce Indigenous staff research scholarships to facilitate valued Indigenous contributions to learning, research, and community engagement.

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER EMPLOYMENT

ACU has enhanced consultative efforts by establishing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Reference Group, as part of its commitment to representation in the University's workforce and the development of strategy across the University. In 2015, the reference group consulted with a range of stakeholders to develop the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Employment Strategy 2015-2017. The collaborative effort is guided by the goals and aspirations of the reference group, ACU's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff, the communities where ACU campuses are located, and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education and Student Engagement Committee (ATSIESEC).

The strategy builds upon previously successful initiatives supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment. In 2015, Abbi Beetson became the University's first Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander trainee librarian. ACU introduced a tailored Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Cultural Awareness Workshop to support the trainee and library staff and facilitate knowledge sharing. These collaborative measures, along with ongoing support such as the ACU Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Staff Network, aim to ensure that staff members experience a culturally safe work environment where they can thrive in their roles. The innovative Indigenous Staff Research Scholarship Scheme saw its first graduate in 2015. Dr Bindi Bennet completed her PhD and celebrated graduation in September. Introduced in 2011, the scheme supports scholarship holders pursuing higher degree studies through a supportive research workload and mentoring. Dr Bennett also obtained a continuing role as a lecturer in social work with ACU. A range of cultural appreciation events continued across the University in 2015. ACU also expanded Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Cultural Awareness Workshops. Events included presentations on:

- Indigenous heart health inequities
- Indigenous midwifery in the away-from-base program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and its positive impact on Indigenous communities
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples participation in the armed forces and their contribution to new understandings of national identity.

ACU's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander week (3-7 August) featured a panel discussion entitled *Where Does Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People's Empowerment Lie?* Panel members included Dr Cassandra Goldie, CEO, Australian Council of Social Services; Evelyn Picot, Director, Student Services; and Vanessa Bunker, ACU Bachelor of Social Work student. The interactive discussion also included a number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants who shared their perspectives on this important issue.

STAFF OVERVIEW

STAFF STATISTICS	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total staff FTE	1375.5	1468.9	1626.7	1764.3	1886.8	2105.9	2257.9
Total academic staff FTE	728.0	788.9	869.8	914.6	978.7	1096.6	1124.5

Academic staff FTE by level

Vice-Chancellor							
Deputy Vice-Chancellor	3.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	5.0	4.0	4.0
Professor (Level E)	37.8	49.3	65.5	75.5	78.2	99.7	100.2
Associate Professor (Level D)	51.4	60.1	67.0	64.8	58.2	70.2	75.6
Senior Lecturer (Level C)	113.0	122.4	130.6	145.9	159.9	172.1	174.8
Lecturer (Level B)	281.3	307.1	316.3	317.6	329.7	371.0	395.5
Associate Lecturer (Level A)	241.5	245.9	286.4	306.8	347.8	379.6	374.4

Staff FTE by state/territory

NSW	563.2	592.4	664.9	720.0	778.6	879.2	923.2
Victoria	463.9	504.0	547.2	587.6	626.8	694.7	764.4
Queensland	271.9	293.3	331.1	362.7	387.8	433.4	460.3
ACT	75.5	77.6	80.8	92.3	92.6	94.6	94.8
SA	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	4.9
Virtual	1.0	1.7	2.7	1.7	1.0	1.0	10.4

Staff FTE by work contract

Full-time	883.0	958.0	1057.0	1166.0	1178.0	1289.0	1452.0
Fractional Full-time	185.9	196.0	201.6	200.3	278.5	314.0	303.1
Casual	306.6	314.9	368.1	397.9	430.3	502.8	502.8

Staff FTE by overall function

Teaching and Research	416.2	452.5	467.2	371.7	334.5	359.2	345.7
Teaching Only	269.4	274.5	319.0	423.6	505.1	564.3	591.4
Research Only	20.3	36.3	59.6	80.1	42.5	56.2	70.1
Other Function	669.6	705.5	781.0	888.9	1004.7	1126.1	1250.7

Table adheres to reporting requirements for the Department of Education.

STAFF BY ORGANISATIONAL UNIT (FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT)

	ACADEMIC	PROFESSIONAL	TOTAL
Vice-Chancellery	1.0	11.5	12.5
Associate Vice-Chancellors	0.4	8.1	8.5
Campus Deans	0.0	4.1	4.1
Identity and Mission	10.0	18.3	28.4
Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)	32.2	80.0	112.3
Faculty of Education and Arts	333.6	103.2	436.8
Faculty of Health Sciences	573.5	176.8	750.4
Faculty of Law and Business	83.6	24.6	108.1
Faculty of Theology and Philosophy	63.0	19.1	82.1
Chief Operating Officer	0.0	427.1	427.1
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)	2.3	21.9	24.2
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students, Learning and Teaching)	24.8	238.7	263.5
Total	1124.5	1133.5	2257.9

STRENGTHENING HEALTH AND SAFETY

The University recruited two additional work, health, and safety (WHS) officers, one at the Melbourne Campus and one at the Brisbane Campus, as part of ACU's commitment to providing a safe and healthy workplace. Working with the WHS manager, who is located at North Sydney, these officers will support staff members and students to identify and manage risks as well as to improve return-to-work outcomes.

In 2015, the expanded WHS team also implemented enhancements to WHS systems and practices, including policy and procedural refinements, increased staff representation and consultation mechanisms. The team rolled out improvements to chemical risk management through training, improved procedures, and usage of the online Chemwatch inventory management database for chemical substances. WHS purchased an online risk and accident reporting system that will be implemented alongside comprehensive risk assessment tools. Both will enhance the transparency and visibility of corrective actions and WHS performance.

Throughout the year, the University also offered staff and managers additional training workshops on holistic wellbeing, resilience, and mental health awareness. Additionally, ACU implemented a new leave management strategy to ensure that staff members are encouraged to enjoy appropriate periods of leave in support of their wellbeing, work/life balance, and connection with family and friends. The University again offered an annual free flu vaccination for staff in 2015, which 928 staff members took advantage of.

2015 SIGNIFICANT STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Professor Chris Branson – National Head, School of Education, Faculty of Education and Arts

Dr Michael Casey – Senior Church Policy Advisor

Ms Jane Ceolin – Director, First Peoples and Equity Pathways

Dr Richard Haas – Senior Manager, Research Development, Learning Sciences Institute Australia, Faculty of Education and Arts

Ms Jenny-Lee Heylen – Senior Manager, Research Development, Institute for Positive Psychology and Education, Faculty of Health Sciences

Dr Clare Johnson – Director, Centre for Liturgy

Professor Suzanne Kuys – National Head, School of Physiotherapy, Faculty of Health Sciences

Ms Susan Lafferty – Associate Director, Libraries (Resources and Access)

Mr Mark Lysaght – Associate Director, Campus Ministry

Ms Joy Magee – Associate Director, Service Delivery, Student Administration

Mr Cameron McPherson – Associate Director, Digital Strategy

Ms Helen Murnane – Associate Director, Student Administrative Services

“Implementing the new Workforce Framework will ensure that ACU has a strong and sustainable workforce now and into the future. It will foster a workforce that supports our target of becoming one of the most significant Catholic universities in the world. The framework will help embed a workplace culture of excellence in service, teaching and research – and ensure we continue to deliver a distinctive educational experience for our students.”

Diana Chegwiddden, Director of Human Resources

Professor Dermot Nestor – Executive Dean, Faculty of Theology and Philosophy

Professor Karen Noble – Associate Dean Learning and Teaching, Faculty of Education and Arts

Ms Catherine O'Donnell – Associate Director, Equity Pathways

Ms Evelyn Picot – Director, Office of Student Success

Professor Rocque Reynolds – Dean, Thomas More Law School, Faculty of Law and Business

Ms Rebecca Rushton – Associate Director, Workforce Strategy

Dr David Sandall – Senior Manager, Research Development, Institute for Health and Ageing, Faculty of Health Sciences

Professor David Spencer – Deputy Provost

Ms Cathy Stacey – Acting Associate Director, Marketing and Communications

Mr Michael Tracey – Director, Properties and Facilities

Mr Omer Yezdani – Director, Planning and Strategic Management

2015 VICE-CHANCELLOR STAFF AWARDS

The Vice-Chancellor Staff Awards are presented to staff members who, in addition to performing their normal job duties with excellence, also demonstrate initiative in contributing to the ACU community.

The 2015 recipients are:

Megan Fauvet, Portfolio Manager (North Sydney Campus), for displaying exemplary and collaborative leadership while organising the University's 25th anniversary calendar of events. Megan ensured that the anniversary year showcased the University and worked strategically to successfully execute detailed events.

Peta-Lea Gale, Lecturer (Canberra Campus), for engaging with the whole campus community and offering support to campus initiatives. Peta-Lea provided expertise and service as the course coordinator for the Bachelor of Nursing and Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Paramedicine programs.

Gerard Goodwin-Moore, National Manager, Student Policy and Appeals (North Sydney Campus), for making a significant contribution to the University's excellence strategy by helping systematically review and rewrite policies relating to student and coursework policies.

Craig Haywood, Human Resource Consultant (Brisbane Campus), for reflecting ACU's Mission while contributing to the University through the Academic Working Arrangements Project. Craig also developed the Research Performance Review and Plan (RPRP) process, including guidelines and supporting documents.

James Marland, Lecturer (Strathfield Campus), for actively working to enhance student experience, ACU's relationship with the wider community and stakeholders, ACU's Catholic identity, cross-institutional relations, and cross-disciplinary and staff interactions in the School of Arts. James employed innovative techniques to provide a supportive and inclusive learning environment for all students.

Lorna Matthews, Team Leader, AskACU Hub (Ballarat Campus), for her commitment to the Ballarat Campus students. Lorna prioritised students' welfare, going above and beyond to provide students with timely, helpful advice regarding courses and course requirements.

Irene Nardone, Management Accountant, Reporting and Research, Finance Directorate (Melbourne Campus), for aligning with the University Mission and demonstrating service-focus as well as strong ethics. She underpinned the HERDC Income report to the Department of Education, ensuring that the University could change its reporting from an accrual basis to cash.

Nicola Pradella, Technical Officer (North Sydney Campus), for leading an audit project on all chemical holdings of the school and simultaneously updating the school's chemical register. Nicola undertook extra duties regarding chemical safety and served as chair of the North Sydney Campus Work Health and Safety Committee.

Jeannette Siebols, Lecturer (Strathfield Campus), for strengthening ACU's standing in the community by establishing an impressive network of professional affiliations in the art world and delivering a consistently high standard of teaching at ACU. Jeannette embodied ACU's commitment to providing educators who are leading professionals in their fields.

OUR ACADEMIC PROFILE



ACU HAS ACHIEVED A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT IN ITS 25 YEARS – A NATIONAL FOOTPRINT, STRONG INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT, ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, UNDERPINNED BY A MISSION-INSPIRED APPROACH. WE HAVE ALSO GROWN SUBSTANTIALLY AS A UNIVERSITY IN TERMS OF STUDENT NUMBERS WHILST RETAINING A DISTINCTLY AND PROUDLY CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE.

Professor Pauline Nugent, Provost

Strengthened by the 2,000-year-old Catholic intellectual tradition, ACU excels at providing students with a rich educational experience. The University's academic and research focus areas reflect its commitment to advancing society's wellbeing. Through coursework and service learning opportunities, students and staff promote the dignity of all people and pursue the common good.

The University places a high value on critical thinking, community engagement, and consideration of the ethical dimension in all areas of study. Welcoming students and staff of all beliefs and backgrounds, ACU fosters a diverse environment where students can explore and grow, both academically and personally.

The University's Academic Board, a standing committee of Senate, is responsible for all academic matters relating to the University and advises Senate and the Vice-Chancellor on all developments and initiatives, including quality enhancement and assurance, relating to the University's teaching and research activities. The Chair reports to the Provost on all academic matters, including issues of academic governance.

CORE THEMES IN 2015

In 2015, the Provost's portfolio-led initiatives centred around five core themes:

- enrolment strategy
- academic quality
- internationalisation
- contribution to ACU's Catholic mission
- government, policy and strategy.

ENROLMENT STRATEGY

Led by the Provost, enrolment planning at ACU is a strategic endeavour to ensure diversification of offerings across campuses, funding sources, and disciplines. Developed with cooperative input from across ACU, the Enrolment Plan and accompanying Enrolment Policy have been established as key management tools for the planning of student load within the University. The

Provost works with the four faculties to build enrolments according to ACU strategic priorities, past enrolment trends, and a range of external factors. The Provost also oversees the application and offer approach for ACU based on a range of strategic factors and leads the University's Midyear Enrolment Strategy. ACU again grew successfully in 2015 with enrolment load carefully managed via diversification and a keen link to market demand resulting in a nine per cent growth rate.

POSTGRADUATE

The University continues to implement a Postgraduate Strategy to diversify ACU's student profile and revenue streams. The strategy also aims to enhance the postgraduate student experience. In 2015, the University worked to strengthen and diversify the range of postgraduate products and postgraduate brand, to create a stronger postgraduate culture and improve services, facilities, and systems. Specific initiatives included:

- additional enquiry handling services and hands-on staff to support enrolling students
- development of new products focused on health sciences and leadership offerings
- a significantly enhanced marketing campaign targeting new course areas, social media, and high-visibility sites.

After a 23 per cent spike from 2013 to 2014, continuing enrolments for postgraduate full fee-paying students/EFTSL were sustained between 2014 and 2015.

PATHWAY PROGRAMS AND ALTERNATIVE ENTRY

Pathway programs at ACU reflect the University's dedication to serving the community by providing access to higher education. Through the programs, students develop the skills necessary to smoothly transition into university study. Successful completion of a pathway program can lead to entry or degree-level courses. There are a number of different programs available, ranging from education to commerce to theology.

To further support access to education for people from all backgrounds, ACU provides several other alternative entry programs and opportunities, including:

- numerous bonus points schemes, including the Regional Schools Bonus scheme, which aims to improve access to higher education for Australian Year 12 students who are attending schools in designated regional areas
- the Early Achievers' Program (EAP), which recognises students with outstanding leadership potential and a willingness to contribute to their communities
- the Elite Athlete Program, which encourages a well-rounded approach to support students' goals in academics and athletics
- entry programs for non-school leavers to provide a pathway to university for those who do not have a recent academic history
- credit transfer agreements for TAFE students and other public, and private providers both nationally and internationally to The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Special Entry Scheme.

ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS

The Office of Academic Partnerships works with all four faculties to facilitate and respond to the University's Strategic Plan by providing frameworks to facilitate increasing equity group and pathways participation and increased articulation rates with ACU's academic partners.

The Office of Academic Partnerships works collaboratively with public and private providers, nationally and internationally, including TAFEs, private colleges, and other university partners to provide students with learning opportunities and access to ACU's higher education offerings through diverse pathways. In 2015, the University entered into fifteen new domestic and two international articulation pathways agreements. These new pathways provide prospective students with the opportunity to gain entry into ACU's courses with credit.

Key new partnership agreements in 2015 include:

- **Careers Australia:** Careers Australia is a Vocational Education and Training (VET) provider with a national presence and is well-known for delivering VET to school students in Queensland. This 'VET in Schools' pathway will enable cohorts of school students to receive credit for VET completed in tandem with the regular school curriculum. It introduces ACU early in the student lifecycle.
- **Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO), Melbourne:** VACCHO is a dynamic and responsive provider of VET targeted at the Aboriginal community-controlled health sector. VACCHO's training programs address the required skills and knowledge demanded by industry. This is a promising partnership for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students that provides a pathway from VACCHO's Diploma of Counselling into ACU's Bachelor of Counselling.
- **Integrated College of Allied Health and Nursing (ICAN), Malaysia:** ICAN is a leading provider of health sciences and business courses in Malaysia. Aligning with ACU's values and mission, ICAN focuses on community and student success, quality, innovativeness, and creativity. This partnership establishes a pathway from ICAN's Diploma of Nursing into ACU's Bachelor of Nursing.

ACUCOM

Despite a highly competitive vocational education and training market, ACUcom sustained its market position in 2015 and moved forward with expansion plans for Queensland and New South Wales.

ACUcom completed a successful re-registration audit with ASQA in March 2015, which awarded a seven-year re-registration period. This extended re-registration period resulted from ACUcom's position as a low-risk provider and its high-quality vocational education and training for students.

Thirty-seven students started the new ACUcom Diploma of Nursing course on the Ballarat Campus. It is hoped the success of this initial program will translate into increased student numbers on the campus in 2016.

ACUcom developed a new pathway program, including the Certificate IV in Education Support, in response to changes in teacher training requirements. The program, which will be implemented in February 2016, will provide students with articulation into the Bachelor of Education (Primary).

ACUcom secured a funding contract with the Queensland State Government enabling funded vocational programs to be delivered on the Brisbane Campus. A diverse range of offerings is planned for introduction from 2016 onwards. Refurbished spaces for ACUcom have been planned for the Brisbane Campus and should be operational in early 2016.

New teaching space and an administration area have been secured in North Sydney for

ACUcom's new suite of courses. ACUcom will start to deliver first-aid and CPR qualifications for undergraduate students on the ACU North Sydney Campus in 2016 with further courses planned once funding has been secured from the New South Wales Government.

EXECUTIVE EDUCATION COURSES

The Directorate of Strategic Partnerships and Executive Education was established in 2015 in recognition of the need for university-wide, strategic oversight of key relationships for ACU. The Directorate is responsible for the development of a strategic and coordinated approach to the engagement and management of key ACU partnerships across the University. These units also provide executive leadership and professional development programs for the not-for-profit, health care, education, government, and corporate sectors.

ACU Executive Education offers a range of innovative open programs that have been developed in consultation with leading practitioners to satisfy a particular need within an industry sector. ACU Executive Education often partners with ACU faculties to offer accredited programs (which can also be tailored to client needs) delivered in intensive mode. Many of these programs can articulate into ACU's masters qualifications.

Executive Education also includes a wide-range of custom-designed programs to address a specific skill shortage or build capability within an organisation. These can be delivered in-house for clients. Significant custom clients include Transport for NSW, TAFE NSW, Catholic Education Office Melbourne, ACCOR Hotels, and the Police Legacy Foundation.

Events in 2015 included the inaugural Senior Leaders' Program (SLP) and Education Executives Symposium (EES). The SLP develops professional, political, and personal awareness and builds the cohesion of the senior leadership team. The EES provided tailored content from ACU Executive Education and partnership with McKinsey & Company, the most prominent management consulting company in the world.

CANBERRA AND BALLARAT ACADEMIC RENEWAL (CARBAR) STEERING GROUP

The Academic Renewal process for the Canberra and Ballarat Campuses continued during 2015. Canberra's enrolments for 2015 were 4.8 per cent above target (EFTSL) and Ballarat's enrolments were 1.2 per cent above target. The renewal framework is focused on increasing student enrolments to support viability and integrate campus contributions into ACU's Mission and national approach. CARBAR also aims to ensure quality courses that meet stakeholder and market needs. Activity continues to focus on ACU's areas of strength – health sciences and education – with nursing and paramedicine courses expanding at both campuses.

In 2015, the University developed a number of new dual degrees, including the Bachelor of Teaching/Bachelor of Exercise Science in Canberra.

Academic renewal in 2015 continued to focus on strengthening partnerships with Catholic, government, and non-government providers in the campus regional areas.

SATELLITE CENTRES

ACU implemented a new Satellite Centre Policy and related procedures in 2015 aimed at improving governance for ACU centres located away from the University's seven campuses. The updated policies and procedures, which include centres for groups of current students and prospective students, resulted from a Provost-led working party. The new Policy is an important development to monitor and support consistency in academic quality across all ACU sites, including clinical schools in hospitals and to make sure satellite centres are considered in current and future corporate and academic policy.

The ACU Leadership Centre, a state-of-the-art executive and postgraduate education venue in Brisbane, continued to grow in 2015. Demonstrating solid growth over 2014, the Centre secured 248 bookings. The University engaged two full-time staff members to operate the Centre, which is overseen by the Office of the Provost. Focus areas for the Centre for 2015 included consolidating operational parameters, embedding a service culture, and conducting outreach activities to external clients to boost the Centre's profile and utilisation.

The Centre hosted a number of significant events for the ACU community in 2015, including the Learning Sciences Institute Australia's three-day international symposium in July, which attracted 130 participants.

Work continued to deepen the Centre's relationships with Catholic partners, including the Archdiocese of Brisbane and ACU's Executive Education client base. The Centre plays an important role in diversifying ACU's existing student cohort, attracting a different student profile as a result of its location.

The Centre released a new prospectus as well as a new website featuring a virtual tour.

ACADEMIC QUALITY

ACADEMIC BOARD

The Provost oversees the Academic Board, which is a standing committee of the University Senate. The Academic Board is responsible for all academic matters relating to the University and advises the Senate and the Vice-Chancellor on all developments and initiatives, including quality, related to the University's teaching and research activities. Working with ACU faculties and relevant Directorates, the Chair, Academic Board, oversaw ACU's renewal of registration with TEQSA. The University received renewal for a maximum period of seven years and was acknowledged as a low-risk higher education provider.

COURSE LOAD ANALYSIS

In 2015 ACU introduced new policy and procedures to support regular and consistent assessment of courses and units with low

FOR MY IMMERSION EXPERIENCE PROGRAM I TRAVELLED TO BANGALORE, INDIA, AND UNDERTOOK A TWO-MONTH RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY SUPPORT INTERNSHIP WITH THE CONCERNED FOR WORKING CHILDREN'S (CWC) CENTRE FOR APPLIED RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION... MY EXPERIENCE WITH CWC PROVIDED ME WITH A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP MY CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNICATION AND LIAISON SKILLS.

Sinead Mulders-Jones, Bachelor of International Development Studies

student numbers. These developments aimed to reduce fragmentation and support greater viability of offerings for students. As a result, ACU has more clearly aligned courses and units to student demand, ACU's Mission and strengths and has established strategies to support new courses in the initial years of offer.

CORE CURRICULUM MINOR REVIEW

The Core Curriculum raises fundamental questions about human experience and meaning. The units emphasise critical judgment, clear expression, ethical decision-making, and concern for others as individuals and as a community. By exploring topics and questions in the Core Curriculum, students engage both their heart and their head.

Some students immerse themselves in another country and culture by taking their Core classes overseas. Whether at home in Australia or abroad, students are encouraged to reflect on humanity within the context of their own discipline area and beyond it. Through dialogue with people who share a common experience, as well as those whose experiences are markedly different, students are continually constructing an understanding of the world.

In 2015 ACU offered Core classes in London, Paris, Florence, and Rome through partnerships with other universities. In late 2015, ACU offered its inaugural program at the Rome Centre, involving 17 students. In 2016, this range of international offerings will be extended to include another summer and a winter offering at the Rome Centre and also a winter offering in Beijing.

ACU is committed to continuous improvement and to this end a review of the Core Curriculum was instituted in 2014. The review examined the implementation of the Core Curriculum over the past two years and made a series of recommendations for its future development. The review included a broad range of matters including curriculum renewal, internationalisation, student satisfaction, governance, administration, and marketing. The outcomes of the minor review are due to be implemented from Semester 2, 2016.

ACU is committed to excellence in academic endeavours and our leading academics develop and deliver quality courses designed to meet the needs of a contemporary and diverse student body.

Professor Pauline Nugent, Provost

The Faculty of Education and Arts has a strong commitment to the Catholic intellectual tradition, and our graduates complete their studies with more than just a degree. They benefit from our strong focus on social justice, community engagement, and lifelong learning.

Professor Tania Aspland, Executive Dean, Faculty of Education and Arts

ACU'S FACULTIES

Under the leadership of the Provost, ACU's four faculties offer a range of innovative programs and enriching student experiences.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND ARTS 2015 HIGHLIGHTS

The Faculty of Education and Arts performed strongly in the 2015 Excellence for Research in Australia (ERA) assessment. In the National School of Education, Specialist Studies in Education was ranked 'above world standard' (4), while Education Systems and Curriculum and Pedagogy were ranked 'at world standard' (3). In the National School of Arts, History was again ranked 'at world standard' (3), while Political Science and Sociology – which were not included in the 2012 assessment – both emerged with 'at world standard' (3) rankings.

The faculty introduced three international study programs based at ACU's new Rome Centre from 2016: two from the National School of Arts – History and Geography of Ancient and Modern Rome and Art, Politics and Society in Renaissance and Baroque Rome – and one from the National School of Education on Catholic Education – Mission, Culture and Spirituality. Nearly 80 people attended a reception at the Rome Centre for Australian representatives to the World Congress in Catholic Education, including delegates from across Australia as well as from religious orders based in Rome.

As part of its establishment of a dedicated

Education Professional Development Hub, the faculty launched ACU Mentoring, a suite of professional development programs for mentors of pre-service and early-career teachers. ACU Mentoring investigates key principles, techniques, and processes involved in establishing effective mentoring programs for educators in schools, early learning centres, and higher education settings.

In May, the faculty launched the La Salle Academy for Faith Formation and Religious Education. The academy is responsible for the development, delivery, and quality assurance of teaching and research programs in faith formation and religious education. These include programs focused on the development and formation of teachers and leaders of the new evangelisation in Catholic schools.

The end-of-year results for first-year Bachelor of Arts students have determined the first cohort of the National School of Arts Scholars Program. Top students will be invited to participate in the program, in which they will undertake two specialised coursework units and receive one-on-one mentoring.

The National School of Arts launched the Teaching and Learning Mentoring Scheme to support competitive applicants for teaching, learning grants, and awards. The scheme has already proved highly successful, with staff in Arts sweeping all the prizes in the faculty's 2015 Excellence in Teaching and Learning Innovation Awards.



Penny Daly, winner of the ACU Alumni Community Leadership Award



This year also saw the launch of the Institute for Social Justice's Doctoral Program in Social and Political Thought at the North Sydney Campus. Wholly original in the Australian context, the four-year program incorporates intensive coursework and training.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

ACU's Learning Sciences Institute Australia (LSIA) joined the new SAP Institute for Digital Government as one of five foundation partners. Established to spur public sector innovation, the SAP Institute will facilitate innovation through digital technology for deeper policy insight and improved service delivery.

The Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL) selected the Strathfield Campus to develop a case study showcasing quality practice of professional experience.

David Tubb, one of the faculty's current GDED students (Brisbane), is a Board member for 'Orange Sky Laundry', a laundry service for the homeless, and has played an instrumental role in setting up the service. His collaborators were jointly awarded 2015's Queensland Young Australian of the Year Award.

Bachelor of Teaching/Bachelor of Arts student Nicole Christodoulou (Strathfield) was selected to participate in a UNESCO cultural heritage project in Greece to preserve 600-year-old Lefkaran lace-making techniques by working with local experts.

Penny Daly (Arts) won the ACU Alumni Community Leadership Award for her work championing the rights of refugees working on Christmas Island, Manus Island, and Nauru.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Gabriel Maddock (Arts, Melbourne) received the University Honours Medal.

GDED student Johanna Petkov won the History Teachers' Association of Victoria's Graduate Teacher of the Year Award.

Education PhD student Tom Mboya Okaya won the Outstanding Dissertation Award from the International Alliance for Invitational Education.

Education EdD student Barbara Myers received the Executive Dean Award for Excellence in Doctoral Thesis.

Undergraduate student Rachel Gallagher (Education, Strathfield) won a NSW Institute

for Educational Research Student Research Grant.

Third-year Bachelor of Global Studies student Angie Sassano (Arts, Victoria) received the E-International Relations (e-ir) Student Essay Award.

The '7 Likeness' exhibition at Town Hall Gallery, Hawthorn, included work by Bronwyn Watson (Arts, Victoria).

Chloe Beesley (Arts, Victoria) received an Emerging Designer Grant from Spoonflower, an international fabric printing company based in the United States.

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

It was an exceptionally strong year for the National School of Arts.

Dr Noah Riseman (Arts, Melbourne), as part of a three-person team, successfully secured close to \$200,000 in an ARC Discovery Grant to investigate the Australian armed forces responses to changing social attitudes towards lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) people. Dr Riseman was also awarded an Australian Academy of the Humanities (AAH) Publishing Award for *Defending Country: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Military Service since 1945* (University of Queensland Press, 2016), co-authored with Richard Trembath.

Dr Noah Riseman (Arts, Melbourne) was successful on a team application for a Fulbright Specialist Program award. This prestigious award, sponsored by the Australian-American Fulbright Commission, brings American scholars to Australian tertiary institutions to promote linkages and collaborations. The successful team award with La Trobe and Monash Universities will bring American Indian Studies scholar Professor Philip J. Deloria of the University of Michigan to ACU's Melbourne Campus in March/April 2016.

Dr Catherine Bishop (Arts, Strathfield) received an AAH Publishing Award for *Minding Her Own Business: Colonial Businesswomen in Sydney* (NewSouth Publishing, 2015), in addition to an AAH Travelling Fellowship. Dr Bishop was also recently awarded the prestigious State Library of NSW Australian Religious History Fellowship (\$20,000).

Dr Fiona Davis (Arts, Melbourne) was recognised with the biennial AAH David Philips Travelling Fellowship for her work involving Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Dr Fiona Davis, Dr Nell Musgrove (Arts, Melbourne), and Dr Catherine Bishop were all accepted into the Kathleen Fitzpatrick Laureate Early Career Researcher Mentoring Program at the University of Melbourne.

In the Visual Arts, Dr Catherine Bell (Arts, Melbourne) received the Council of Australian University Librarians and Australian Society of Authors Fellowship (\$7,500) for a studio investigation into the work of sculptor Dianne Mayo.

Dr Noah Riseman won the Vice Chancellor's Teaching Excellence Award for "a pedagogical approach that encourages deep learning, introduces new perspectives, and empowers students to participate in ongoing historical debates as active historians".

The following National School of Arts teachers and academics received ACU Teaching Award Citations:

- Associate Professor Theda Thomas (Arts, Melbourne) for a sustained, scholarly approach to leading curriculum development that develops students as learners, practitioners, and critical thinkers in their discipline
- Mr Paul Chalkley (Arts, Melbourne) for integrating Catholic intellectual tradition in teaching practice
- Dr Laura Saxton (Arts, Melbourne) for drawing on interdisciplinary research to design innovative history curricula.

At the faculty level, Dr Nick Carter (Arts, Strathfield), Dr Duncan Cook (Arts, Strathfield), and Dr Chris Matthew (Arts, Strathfield) were jointly awarded the Learning Innovations Award for their development and delivery of a unique interdisciplinary undergraduate field school in Rome.

Dr Jen Couch (Arts, Melbourne), Dr Victoria Carruthers (Arts, Strathfield), and Dr James Marland (Arts, Strathfield) received Faculty Teaching Excellence Awards.

Professor Shurlee Swain (Arts, Melbourne) will contribute the history chapter to the Final Report of the Royal Commission on Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.



ACU Nursing students in Vila, Vanuatu

Academics from the National School of Education secured close to \$1.9 million in ARC Discovery and Linkage Grants.

Professor Carmel Diezmann (FEA/LSIA) is part of a seven-person team granted a \$590,000 Discovery Grant for a project to design, test, and share sustainable strategies to support teachers and students from low socioeconomic communities.

Associate Professor Phil Riley (Education, Vic) is part of a three-person team granted a Discovery Indigenous Award of \$572,000 to identify the characteristics of schools that are helping Indigenous students to achieve their potential.

Professor Len Unsworth (Education, NSW/LSIA) is the chief investigator within a seven-person team awarded a \$424,174 Linkage Grant to broaden the range of resources for students to communicate emotions through speech, writing, and images.

Dr Jodie Miller (Education, Qld) won the Early Career Award for the Mathematics Education Research Group of Australasia.

The following National School of Education teachers and academics received ACU Teaching Award Citations:

- Dr Amy Chapman (North Sydney) and Dr Natasha Wardman (Strathfield) for collaboratively designing a research-led curriculum in teacher professional ethics
- Dr Cathie Harrison (Strathfield) for leadership and innovation in curricula development teaching, and provision of services and resources that reflect strong command of the field of early childhood education.

Victoria's Ministerial Expert Panel for Early Childhood Development appointed Associate Professor Joce Nuttall (LSIA).

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES 2015 HIGHLIGHTS

As a significant contributor to the University's growth, the Faculty of Health Sciences accounted for nearly half of the Equivalent Full-Time Study Load (EFTSL).

Committed to the values of excellence, dignity, and engagement, the faculty launched a new positioning statement and values: *The Faculty of Health Sciences aims to be a world leader in its field, recognised for*

“ We have six strong schools, including a new and vibrantly growing School of Science. Our vision is to provide caring and prepared graduates who promote health and prevent illness and to provide quality health care for vulnerable communities. ” Professor Michelle Campbell, Executive Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences

excellence in education, research, service and community engagement in the Health Sciences, striving to promote the dignity of all and the common good.

The faculty introduced postgraduate programs in health care simulation, paramedicine, and rehabilitation and health science research. New undergraduate programs in biomedical science and paramedicine (Honours) were also introduced in 2015. It also extended existing programs to new campuses, including the Bachelor of Paramedicine to North Sydney and Brisbane and the Master of Psychology (Clinical) to Strathfield. To support the Canberra and Ballarat Academic Renewal project, the faculty introduced the four-year social work program across a number of campuses, including Canberra. Biomedical science will also be introduced in Canberra in 2016 and biomedical science and physiotherapy will be introduced in Ballarat in 2017.

The Institute of Health and Ageing joined the faculty as its third research institute.

The University refurbished faculty offices and facilities in Brisbane, North Sydney, and Melbourne and facilities across campuses continued to expand. A laboratory for postgraduate psychology students opened in Strathfield. The ACU Health Clinic in Brisbane is being expanded to provide student-led clinic services in the allied health disciplines such as speech pathology, occupational therapy, and exercise physiology in addition to the physiotherapy services already offered. In conjunction with St Vincent's Medical Centre, the ACU Health Clinic in Melbourne opened its GP services to staff and students. A speech pathology student-led clinic also opened in Melbourne.

As part of the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU) General Assembly in Melbourne, the faculty joined with the Faculty of Education and Arts to host a successful Q&A event on the attributes of a quality Catholic graduate teacher or nurse.

The faculty celebrated ACU's 25th anniversary by hosting a seminar titled *The health industry: Exploring the change we have seen in the last 25 years... Where to for the next 25 years?* Guest speaker Adjunct Professor Geraldine 'Polly' Bednash, former CEO of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, presented the seminar.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

The faculty works with communities locally and globally to improve health outcomes for people around the world.

On the local front, the Schools of Allied Health and Exercise Science held a charity film fundraiser night to support the St Kilda Baptist Church's Community Kitchen and the Box Hill Baptist Church's Food at the Barn programs where some applied public health students undertake community engagement fieldwork.

Year 11 and 12 students from the Certificate III Allied Health class at San Sisto College Carina took part in activities organised by the Schools of Allied Health, Nursing and Midwifery, Paramedicine, and Physiotherapy to experience manual handling apparatus and techniques.

The School of Exercise Science ran a weekly seminar series as part of its High Performance Sport programs, opening up some of these seminars to interested alumni.

The Away-from-Base Midwifery Enhancement Program within the Bachelor of Midwifery (Indigenous) Program continued to optimise learning and engagement for Indigenous students.

At the international level, the faculty successfully received funding from the Australian Government Asia Bound and Overseas Short-term Mobility Program projects.

The signing of an MOU with the Hunan University of Chinese Medicine (HUTCM) in China increased offshore partnerships in the health arena, enhancing the opportunities for staff and students to go abroad.

The School of Nursing, Midwifery, and Paramedicine expanded its international activity to include additional sites for short-term overseas study experiences and opportunities for students to engage with communities internationally. Sites included China (Beijing and Shanghai), Timor-Leste, Vanuatu (Vila and Santo), Cambodia, Chile, the United States, Uganda, and Taiwan.

Physiotherapy students travelled to Vietnam as part of the GGC Volunteers, undertaking a five-week paediatric clinical placement. Some physiotherapy students also travelled to Denmark where they worked in the clinic communities of Holesbro and Aarhus and visited VIA University College.

Supported by the School of Exercise Science, ACU's Future in Youth program in East Timor earned recognition as 'truly inspirational' after Senior Lecturer in Exercise Science Sandy Allen-Craig spoke at a special seminar at the Vatican entitled *Coaches: Educating people*.

The faculty continued to strengthen its partnership with Mater Health Services in Brisbane and Calvary Health in Canberra through the respective appointments of Professor Margo Pritchard to the position of Jackman Professor of Neonatal Nursing and Professor Elizabeth Forbat as Professor of Palliative Care.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

PhD student Holly Rominov from the School of Psychology came first in ACU's Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition and received the People's Choice Award.

Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Paramedicine students David Still, Evaane Chadwick and Joshua Gould received national awards at the St John Ambulance Australia Annual General Meeting for the successful resuscitation of two patients within the ACT during their volunteer placements with St John Ambulance.

Bachelor of Exercise and Health Science student Meg Lanning received the Belinda Clark Award as Women's International Cricketer of the Year. The Wisden Cricketer Almanac named her Leading Woman Cricketer in the world.

Bachelor of Speech Pathology student Caitlin Pywell received the Golden Key International Honour Society Living the Mission Scholarship.

Bachelor of Physiotherapy student Ellodie Ruffian won a gold medal in the women's water polo team at the World University Games in Gwangju, Korea.

Students from the School of Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine earned recognition for their contribution to the outpatient department and health promotion in Vanuatu after undertaking clinical attachment at the Vila Central Hospital on the island of Efate.

Bachelor of Applied Public Health student Cindy Tran presented a poster at the Creating Futures Conference showcasing her work in the ArtAbility program at Action on Disability within Ethnic Communities.

Bachelor of Applied Public Health students Gaia Archer-Craig and John Nguyen raised \$1,500 for the St Kilda Baptist Church Community Kitchen as part of their crowdfunding campaign.

Registered critical care nurse at St John of God Ballarat Hospital and nursing alumni Raj Kuriakose received the Australian College of Critical Care Nurses Victoria best graduate prize.

Several outstanding alumni from the faculty received ACU alumni awards, including:

- Doctor of Psychology (Clinical) Dr Sarah Miller, who has received international acclaim for her community engagement work as a clinical and forensic psychologist.
- Nursing alumni Sr Geraldine Michael, Sr Pricilla John Baptist, Sr Anushala Alexander, and Sr Virgini Edwardrajah from Sri Lanka, who received the International Contribution Award for their work in outreach programs where they provide medical treatment and pastoral care to wounded or traumatised civilians.
- Exercise science alumni Jessica Hansson, who received the Young Alumnus of the Year Award for her work with people with spinal cord injuries and her commitment to growing her expertise and experience in exercise physiology.

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Professor John Gleeson, Head, School of Psychology, won the Campus Travel grant for using technology to help young people with mental health programs.

Professor Rhonda Craven, Director, Institute for Positive Psychology and Education, and Professor Peter Rendell, Director, Cognition and Emotion Research Centre, received Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Grants.

Dr Tim Gabbett, Associate Professor in Exercise Science, and Dr Leigha Dark, Lecturer in Speech Pathology, received the inaugural faculty's 'most cited publication' research awards for their respective articles.

Ms Rose McMaster, Dr Val Goodwin and Ms Sandra Hyde from the faculty, and Ms Meghan Appleby, received the Vice-Chancellor's Postgraduate Teaching Excellence Award for significant contribution to the development, marketing, and implementation of curricula and resources for the suite of Postgraduate Mental Health programs. The programs are the first courses to be accredited under the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses (ACMHN) National Framework for Postgraduate Mental Health Nursing Education.

Professor Tracey McDonald, joint ACU/RSL Life Care Chair of Ageing, was appointed to the NSW Ministerial Advisory Committee on Ageing.

Dr Roger Lord, Lecturer in Medical Science, was appointed to the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) Advisory Committee on the safety of medicines and the Therapeutic Goods Committee Advisory Panel.

Professor Herb Marsh from the Institute for Positive Psychology and Education was appointed President-Elect of the International Positive Psychology Association.

Ms Bre Jennings, Lecturer in Paramedicine, was selected by Youth Link Australia Leaders to attend the National Youth Conference.

Dr Jean Burke, Lecturer in Social Work, was invited to attend a State lunch in honour of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania for her contribution to HIV research.

Professor John Hawley, Director of the Centre for Exercise and Nutrition, Mary MacKillop Institute for Health Research, presented his research on the science behind interval training in ABC's *Catalyst* program.

Professor David Thompson, Dr Camilla Tuttle, Dr Yih Kai Chan, Ms Nittaya Srisuk, and Associate Professor Margarite Vale from the Mary MacKillop Institute for Health Research participated in the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand, showcasing research excellence in making a difference to disadvantaged communities.

Dr Leigha Dark, Ms Helen Redfern and Dr Eli Chu from the School of Allied Health, and Ms Laurine Hurley from the School of Science, played a major part in the faculty's new student experience and simulation-based learning Taskforce for Student Achievement and Retention project.

Dr Paul Callery, Senior Lecturer in Exercise Science, coached both the men's and women's AFL teams at the Australian University Games.

FACULTY OF LAW AND BUSINESS 2015 HIGHLIGHTS

The Faculty of Law and Business includes the Thomas More Law School and the Peter Faber Business School.

The faculty contributed to the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) 2015 exercise via two discipline domain submissions, with a particular focus on 4-digit FoRs 1503 (Business and Management) and 1801 (Law).

Research was evaluated by a panel of national and international experts, informed by peer review of a sample of research outputs. The quality of both submissions announced by the Australian Research Council (ARC) attracted a quality rating of 'world-standard'. This performance is an unprecedented achievement for the Faculty and contributes to ACU's rapidly rising research trajectory. The ERA results were announced as ACU reflects on its second successful year of research intensification – a strategy developed in response to changes in the Australian Higher Education sector, with a focus on high-quality publications a defining characteristic.

The publicised quality of research is an important market differentiator and helps us promote our research strengths on the world stage. In Business and Management (FoR 1503), for example, our quality ranking is now on par with many other Australian University Business schools.

The Peter Faber Business School solidified several new research partnerships in 2015, including an agreement with Middlesex University Business School in London. The agreement opens the door for staff and student exchanges and joint research and community engagement projects.

The Peter Faber Business School also cemented an institutional partnership agreement with Ghent University, Belgium. The partnership will

OUR TIME IN GENEVA... HELPED ME GROW IN BOTH UNDERSTANDING AND PASSION. IT WAS INCREDIBLY EYE-OPENING TO SEE HOW THE UN OPERATES AND TO WITNESS FIRST-HAND DISCUSSIONS ON IMPORTANT HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES.

Heidi Pfeiffer, second-year law student and Director of the Social Justice Committee of the MacKillop Law Students' Society (MAKLLSS)

THE PRO-BONO ASPECT OF THE LAW DEGREE AT ACU HAS TO BE ONE OF THE BEST INITIATIVES OF THE UNIVERSITY. IT ALLOWS STUDENTS, INCLUDING MYSELF, TO EXPERIENCE WHAT IT IS LIKE PUTTING ALL THE THEORY LEARNT IN THE DEGREE IN A PRACTICAL ENVIRONMENT.

NAJD HUSSEIN, BACHELOR OF COMMERCE/
BACHELOR OF LAWS

deliver an international experience for staff and for students while supporting research activities that target real-world problems from multiple perspectives.

The Peter Faber Business School hosted the 2015 Sustainable HRM and Employee Wellbeing International Research Symposium, which aligned with the University's research intensification strategy. The event united leading scholars from the UK, Belgium, India, New Zealand and 18 Australian business schools.

The Peter Faber Business School launched its first research centre, the Centre for Sustainable HRM and Wellbeing. Sustainable HR and Wellbeing in the Workplace represents an attempt to grapple with the relationship between human resource management practices and outcomes beyond predominately economic and financial outcomes. The Centre targets global and long-term endeavours, reflected in a variety of metrics, including community wellbeing, quality of life and employee wellbeing.

Demonstrating its increasingly global reputation, the Peter Faber Business School appointed Professor Yannis Georgellis from the University of Kent, UK as professorial fellow.

The Peter Faber Business School introduced a guaranteed early entry program entitled *Passion For Business* (P4B). This program is unique within the education sector being the first Business School to offer a scheme of this type specifically for business students. Entry is based on the Year 12 student studying a business-related subject at school who can demonstrate a passion and commitment to business studies. Benefits include a mentoring program, subsidised Semester 1 textbooks and access to the Student Leadership Professional Development Program.

Across both schools, the faculty launched a student retention pilot program, *Ask Sebastian*. Modelled after AskACU, the program helps students navigate student services and faculty processes. It is also being used to inform curriculum redevelopment.

The faculty developed the *Transparent Pedagogies Project*, in partnership with the Faculty of Health Sciences. This program aims to improve the quality of teaching and the student learning experience for first-in-family

The Faculty of Law and Business culminates 20 years of growth and development for ACU in these pivotal areas of study. We equip our graduates with the necessary skills to become leaders not only in their chosen profession but in the community.

Professor Therese Joiner, Executive Dean, Faculty of Law and Business

and low socioeconomic status students in selected first-year units. In 2015, there were three interactive workshops to train academics and a set of online training modules is under development.

The faculty welcomed Professor Rocque Reynolds as the new Dean of Law. Professor Reynolds has recently held the position of Dean of Law at Southern Cross University, is an Executive Member of the Australian Council of Law Deans and has held positions at Sydney University, University of New England, and the University of Technology, Sydney.

A delegation from the Bar Council of India visited the Thomas More Law School and several law faculties in Victoria in September. Initiated by the Council of Australian Law Deans, the meetings aimed to achieve accreditation for Australian law faculties to ensure the admission of Australian trained lawyers to the Indian legal profession.

The Thomas More Law School worked towards the launch of two new double degrees, Bachelor of Biomedical Science/Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Psychological Science/Bachelor of Laws, which will be offered in 2016.

The Thomas More Law School farewelled Professor Brian Fitzgerald after three years as Foundation Dean of Law. Professor Fitzgerald remains an Adjunct Professor.

The School of Business was repositioned in 2015 as the Peter Faber Business School. Named after St Peter Faber SJ, a foundation member of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), the school undertook a significant realignment of course offerings to better reflect its new mission of creating reflective and independent leaders who are global in their outlook and practical in the application of their professional skills.

A series of soft launches in Brisbane, Melbourne, and Sydney celebrated the creation of the Peter Faber Business School. Starting in Brisbane in conjunction with the annual Catholic stakeholders' dinner in

November, these launches brought together industry partners, key stakeholders, alumni, university staff, and current students.

The Peter Faber Business School also presented the inaugural Peter Faber Scholarship for the MBA (Executive) as part of the celebrations commemorating the renamed school. Nigerian-born Alex Adeniyi, coordinator with Centacare Community Services in Brisbane, received the scholarship. As part of ACU's 25th anniversary celebrations, the school hosted a lecture featuring the Hon Paul Lucas, Adjunct Professor and former Deputy Premier and Attorney-General of Queensland. The lecture addressed issues of ethics, government business relations, and the role of universities in educating future leaders.

To extend links with industry and assist in the development of business programs, the school appointed key members of the local business community to each of the three state-based Business Advisory Councils.

In 2015, Apple invited the faculty, along with nine other Australian universities, to work with a small team of higher education design and educational technology specialists to create cutting-edge educational resources for blended learning. The project helped faculty members develop an engaging learning environment using a flipped classroom model.

Following the workshops, the *Blended and Online Units Project* launched with the goal of enhancing the online student



Tanya Kendall, Bachelor of Commerce

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Students and staff from the Thomas More Law School in Sydney participated in the annual Walk for Justice Fundraiser for Justice Connect, raising \$2,200 – the highest amount of all the participating Sydney law schools. The fundraising demonstrated the Thomas More Law School's commitment to fairness, access to justice for the disadvantaged, and support for a thriving pro bono culture.

In Melbourne, law students volunteered as part of a program run by the Order of Malta in association with The St Vincent de Paul Society and the Salvation Army. Students handed out warm coats in the evenings during the winter months in the CBD.

Continuing the tradition of global community engagement, 15 business students visited Vietnam and conducted an English language camp. A Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) grant funded this opportunity, which was led by Dr (Sr) Thuy Linh Nguyen.

Brisbane student Brooke Holzheimer attended the 23rd Association of Southeast and East Asian Catholic Colleges and Universities (ASEACCU) annual conference and student camp in Semarang, Indonesia.

International postgraduate students Giang Thu Tam Huynh and Thi Nhu Ngoc Vo engaged with Mission for Heart, a Christian mission fund supporting communities in Uganda. The Peter Faber Business School presented on the project at a conference at Notre Dame University on service learning.

The Peter Faber Business School strengthened its engagement with The Smith Family, a national charity helping young Australians in need to get the most out of their education.

Two students, Heidi Pfeiffer and Abdul Malek Kazimi, observed human rights proceedings during a 10-day pro bono placement in human rights advocacy in Geneva with Edmund Rice International, a Catholic non-government organisation committed to working for marginalised children and youth.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

The Brisbane and Melbourne Campus debating teams participated in the 2015 National ACU Debating Competition Grand Final. Melbourne law students Alexandra Roso, Rebecca Wain, and Cane Thompson earned the 2015 title and debating shield.

Melbourne law students Madeleine Matheson and Patrick Lay, along with Sydney law students Paige Coomber and Michael Boateng-Benson, attended the ACU National Student Leadership Summit.

The following students attained a GPA of 6.00 or better, earning recognition in the Dean of Law's 2014 List Commendations: Gabrielle Agius, Alexandre Alonso, Connor Beattie, Genevieve Borg, Claire Churchward, Hayley Gould, Taminka Hanscamp, Amaelia Harper, Hamish Kelly, Cecilia Moon, Heidi Pfeiffer, Carly Prescott, Ellen Turner, and Megan Wenlock.

Three students submitted their PhD theses for examination: Benedict Atkinson, Kunle Ola, and Kylie Pappalardo.

Tanya Kendall (Bachelor of Commerce, Brisbane) received the Faculty Medal, awarded to a graduating student who has met the University's highest academic achievement during their course.

Kade Shean (Bachelor of Arts/ Bachelor of Commerce, Melbourne), Jesse Hewitt (Bachelor of Commerce, Brisbane), and Angela O'Connor (Bachelor of Business Administration, Melbourne) were nominated for the Executive Dean's List.

Thirty-five students received a Commendation Certificate for the Executive Dean's Commendations.

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Laurence Boule, Professor of Law in North Sydney, received the inaugural Fellowship of the Australian Dispute Resolution Association for his contributions to alternative dispute over 26 years.

Law lecturer Brianna Chesser earned the ACU Citation for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning.

Dr Elizabeth Crawford-Spencer participated at the Sydney Catholic Business Network Luncheon.

Associate Professor Patrick Quick delivered an address, *Magna Carta Meets our Man in Havana*, at a conference in Sydney.

Melbourne-based marketing lecturer Thomas Kobinah successfully completed his doctorate.

Dr Eve Lester received her PhD from the University of Melbourne.

Professor Thomas Lange presented an invited paper on 'Evidence Based HRM' at the British Academy of Management (BAM) conference. He was also invited to address colleagues

at Monash University Business School with a presentation on 'Job Satisfaction and Social Capital'.

Associate Professor Elizabeth Crawford-Spencer led a group of law students on an exchange to the University of the South Pacific (USP) in Port Vila, Vanuatu where she delivered a seminar on unfair contract terms. Students participated in negotiation and moot competitions, court visits, and academic seminars.

The Thomas More Law School welcomed visiting lecturers including Professor Jeffrey Gutman and Professor Stacy Brustin from the USA. Professor Gutman delivered a unit on the law and legal system of the United States at the Melbourne Campus and lectured on contemporary legal issues at the North Sydney Campus. Professor Brustin participated in the introduction workshop for LAWP100: Pro bono/ Legal Professional Experience.

FACULTY OF THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY 2015 HIGHLIGHTS

The faculty's Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry (IRCI) hosted the inaugural event at the recently opened ACU Rome Centre. Bringing together ACU faculty and staff into critical dialogue with a select panel of international scholars, The Greening of the Church reflected upon the meaning, significance, and implications of the Papal encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, for the church and society at large.

The seminar, an expression of ACU's commitment to high-quality research at an international level, was the first in a series to be held at the Rome Centre over the coming years. The Director of the Institute, Professor James McLaren, in conjunction with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) Professor Wayne McKenna, are planning for future seminars to be hosted in collaboration with other international institutions including Durham University, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Boston College, and the University of Notre Dame.

The Excellence in Research Australia (ERA) exercise demonstrated the faculty's contribution to the University's research intensification agenda. Religion and Religious Studies (2204) and Philosophy (2203) received 'above world standard' (4) scores. Applied Ethics (2201) received an 'at world standard' (3) score. At the two-digit code, in the 22 fields of research (FoR), ACU scored a 4. These scores place ACU on an equal footing with such institutions as Monash University, University of Adelaide, University of Melbourne, and University of Queensland.

ONE OF THE MAIN DRAWCARDS FOR CHOOSING TO STUDY BUSINESS AT ACU WAS THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUBJECT THAT IS OFFERED AS PART OF THE CORE CURRICULUM. IT RESONATED WITH ME THAT ACU FINDS IT INTEGRAL THAT WE NOT ONLY REGARD OURSELVES AS CORPORATE CITIZENS, BUT AS SOCIALLY AND ETHICALLY RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS TOO.

Tanya Kendall, Bachelor of Commerce

Building on a vibrant series of conferences in 2014, the faculty again hosted three international conferences in 2015: the International Ethics Conference *Reasons and Virtues*; the COMIUCAP Conference on *Civil Society and Human Formation: Philosophy's Role in a Renewed Understanding of the Meaning of Education*; and the Philosophy of Education Society of Australasia Annual Conference.

Further highlights from 2015 included visits from internationally renowned Professorial Fellows, including Francis X Clooney (Harvard University), Robert Audi (University of Notre Dame, Indiana), Claude Romano (Université Paris-Sorbonne), and Miklos Vito (Professor Emeritus University of Poitiers). Professor Michael Morgan (Chancellor's Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and Jewish Studies at Indiana University, Bloomington) delivered the annual Simone Weil Lecture and the Annual Plunkett Lecture in partnership with St Vincent's Health Australia, Sydney. In December, the faculty hosted a visit and public lectures by one of the world's leading authorities on Islamic affairs, Professor John Esposito (Director, Centre for Christian-Muslim Relations, Georgetown University), who addressed the question of unity or division among Christians and Muslims to packed lecture halls in Sydney and Melbourne.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

In 2015 the faculty expanded the Short Course in Theology series to all ACU campuses, with more than 350 people attending nationally. Designed to put the internationally-acclaimed expertise of the faculty's staff at the service of the wider public, the series responds to a need for critical and informed discussion around the role and significance of religion in the public arena. It also addresses the desires of many for an engagement with religious questions and themes that can inform their own professional practice and/or private faith.

To further welcome and support conversations of this type, the faculty ran the University's first live-streamed seminar and panel discussion on the papal encyclical, *Laudato Si'*. This event again showcased the faculty's expertise, its commitment to engage with and support church-related issues, and capacity to communicate across a variety of media.

The faculty continued its work in the wider community and with stakeholder groups. Key points of engagement included strengthening the ongoing collaboration with the Catholic

One of the clear goals of the faculty when it was founded was to embed the Mission across the University through its learning and teaching activities, and that's a goal that we have stayed faithful to.

Professor Dermot Nestor, Executive Dean, Faculty of Theology and Philosophy

Church, Catholic Education Offices, and faith-oriented health and community agencies.

The faculty supported the strategic goals of stakeholders in Catholic education and health organisations by enhancing its offering of professional development opportunities. As in past years, it guided formational activities for organisations with a Catholic mission, and established the Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Catholic Culture as a vehicle for communicating the mission-centric initiatives that drive faith-based organisations. The faculty provided support for a variety of local and national Church activities (including through the Adelaide Campus), and collaborated on interfaith initiatives in partnership with organisations such as the Australian Intercultural Society (AIS).

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Don Parker represented the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy in the ACU 3MT finals speaking on the theme, 'Know thyself. Psychoanalysis and the Enlightenment Project'.

Gabriela Aguilar (Bachelor of Theology) received a University Medal.

Christina Chisholm (Bachelor of Theology) qualified for the Executive Dean's 2014 List.

The following students were eligible for the Executive Dean's 2014 Commendation: Daniel Bull, Matthew Hasking, Graham Hembrow, Adalbert Imperial, Adam Tipple, Joshua Whitehead, and Thomas Zaranski.

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Professor Dermot Nestor was appointed as the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy.

Professor James McLaren was appointed as the Director of the Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry.

Professor Ormerod coordinated (under the auspices of the Institute of Religion and Critical Inquiry) the first major seminar at ACU's Rome Centre, *Laudato Si' The Greening of the Church?*

Noteworthy achievements for Rev Professor Denis Edwards included:

- Being awarded an honorary doctorate from the Faculty of Catholic Theology at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland.
- Being appointed a Monsignor by the Holy Father, Pope Francis and now numbered among the Chaplains to His Holiness.
- Anchoring a panel discussion featuring leading Catholic voices engaging with the papal encyclical. The panel was streamed live via the ACU YouTube channel – an ACU first – and discussed the implications of *Laudato Si'* for the Catholic faith and the wider world.

David Sim was appointed to the Professoriate at ACU, recognising his outstanding contribution to the discipline of Biblical Studies.

Joel Hodge was promoted to Level C and drove the expansion of the faculty's highly successful Short Courses.

Dr Wendy Mayer was elected a Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities.

Dr David Kirchhoffer was elected a member of the International Society for Practical Theology.

Seven faculty staff presented at the 175th Anniversary of The Tablet held at Durham University: Associate Professor Robyn Horner and Rev Associate Professor Ormond Rush, Drs Gemma Cruz, Maeve Heaney, Christiaan Jacobs-Vandegeer, David Kirchhoffer, and Rev Dr James McEvoy.

Professor Kevin Hart, FAHA, Associate Professor Robyn Horner, Dr Chris Hackett, and Dr David Newheiser went to Paris as part of the Faculté de Philosophie - Institut Catholique de Paris' International Seminar of Young Philosophers.

Professor Neil Ormerod, Dr Maeve Heaney, Dr John Collins, and Dr Dominic Arcamone presented at the 30th Annual Fallon Memorial Lonergan Symposium at West Coast Method Institute, Loyola Marymount University LA.

Dr Gemma Cruz delivered a plenary lecture at the annual convention of the Catholic Theological Society of America (CTSA) – the largest gathering of established Catholic theologians in the world.



President's Roundtable event, Melbourne

Professor Dermot Nestor, Dr Edmund Chia and Dr Christiaan Jacobs-Vandegeer represented the University at the 50th anniversary celebrations of Nostra Aetate at the Great Synagogue, Sydney.

Archbishop of Brisbane Mark Coleridge launched Dr Maeve Heaney's CD collection, *Break the Crystal Frame*, and Dr Terry Veling's book, *For You Alone: Emmanuel Levinas and the Answerable Life* (Cascade Books, 2014).

Dr David Kirchoffer joined Steve Austin (ABC local radio) as part of a spin-off event connected to Sydney's 'Festival of Dangerous Ideas'.

ACU'S INTERNATIONALISATION STRATEGY

Aligned with the University's strategic plan, ACU's internationalisation strategy will continue through 2016.

Internationalism speaks to the University's Catholic identity and its commitment to social responsibility. More than a transactional exchange, ACU's international programs are a launch pad for students and staff to participate in meaningful engagement opportunities. These opportunities may include work experience abroad, community service, research collaborations or teaching exchanges.

The University developed and strengthened ties with leading Catholic universities worldwide in 2015 by hosting the 25th General Assembly of the International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU) and related events on the Melbourne Campus from 13 July to 17 July.

The events included:

- The XIX General Assembly of the Association of Universities entrusted to the Society of Jesus in Latin America (AUSJAL)
- Expanding the Jesuit Higher Education Network: Collaborations for Social Justice Conference
- The President's Roundtable.

The series of events provided an unprecedented opportunity for ACU to enhance its academic standing, global profile, and brand while reinforcing the University's Mission.

There is a positive alignment between people's personal and career objectives and those which anchor the University's strategic priorities. The University is not just growing in terms of student numbers, it's growing in status and in step with the support that staff provide for the University's objectives – it's a mission-driven organisation. Professor Dermot Nestor, Executive Dean, Faculty of Theology and Philosophy

Engaging more than 500 delegates from 57 countries, IFCU and related events showcased key ACU initiatives – including the Core Curriculum, collaboration with Boston College, the establishment of the Rome Centre with The Catholic University of America and ACU's international community engagement – to an international audience. Delegates included key decision-makers from leading international Catholic higher education institutions, Vatican representatives, federal and state government representatives, leading domestic universities, and local education and health sector leaders.

A key highlight was ACU's President's Roundtable, a two-day think tank on internationalisation in higher education. The event drew together 120 presidents, vice-chancellors, rectors, and other leading sector experts from Australia and around the world. Centred on the theme *Leading International Collaboration*, the roundtable featured interactive discussions on models of international collaboration in curricula and research, international community engagement, and leadership in global higher education.

The 25th IFCU General Assembly and related events further cemented ACU's place as the largest Catholic university in the English-speaking world while laying the foundation for the development of the international academic Catholic collective. Drawing on the strengths of leading Catholic universities across the world, ACU is positioned to deepen its reach, presence, and academic strength through global collaboration.

OUR GLOBAL VISION

ACU will be a globally engaged institution and a pre-eminent Catholic university in the Asia-Pacific region that leverages its strengths and its mission to support high-quality international teaching, learning, research, and community engagement.

ACU ROME CENTRE

In collaboration with The Catholic University of America (CUA), ACU opened its doors in Rome, Italy, at a new joint centre. As ACU's first overseas centre, this marks a significant milestone in the University's proud 25-year history. ACU is the only Australian university to have a presence in Rome. The tri-continental endeavour will advance the footprint of Catholic higher education.

The Provost led nearly two years of negotiation, planning, and collaboration before the Rome Centre's official inauguration on 5 September 2015.

The partnership with CUA, a leading pontifical university in the USA with a strong history in Rome, is based on a shared commitment to the Catholic intellectual tradition, the pursuit of academic excellence in teaching, learning and research, and a commitment to internationalisation experiences for respective staff and students.

The Centre's establishment is firmly linked to the ACU Internationalisation Strategy, which aims to advance the footprint of Catholic higher education. The Rome Centre's launch aligns with the objective of building an international classroom, which is a competitive advantage in an increasingly contested domestic higher education sector.

The Rome Centre also serves as a useful platform for building partnerships in Italy and Europe as well as the Holy See.

PROGRAMS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

The Rome Centre creates new possibilities for interdisciplinary and intercultural scholarship. In 2015, ACU furthered its planning efforts to create a strong program of teaching, research, spiritual life, and international experiences for ACU students.

THIS EVENT CLEARLY SIGNALS THE UNIVERSITY'S AMBITIONS TO BE COUNTED AMONG THE WORLD'S LEADING CATHOLIC INSTITUTIONS. HERE, AT THE SPIRITUAL HOME FOR MILLIONS OF CATHOLICS WORLDWIDE, STAFF FROM THE FACULTY GAVE EXPRESSION TO THAT ESSENTIAL NEXUS BETWEEN HIGH QUALITY RESEARCH AND TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION, UNFOLDED WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF A COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT THAT IS THE HALLMARK OF THE CATHOLIC INTELLECTUAL TRADITION. THE GREENING OF THE CHURCH DEMONSTRATES NOT JUST THE UNIVERSITY'S INTERNATIONAL STATUS, BUT THE CAPACITY OF THE FACULTY OF THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY TO AFFIRM THAT STATUS.

Professor Dermot Nestor, Executive Dean, Faculty of Theology and Philosophy

ACU's Core Curriculum was the first program offered at the Centre in December 2015/ January 2016, with a growing schedule of academic programs to be offered in 2016. Some programs involved community engagement work within the local area in Rome, including the Sant' Egidio community. Supporting the University's research intensification strategy, the Rome Centre will also facilitate the development of research links with major universities and researchers in America and Europe. In line with this focus, the Centre hosted two research seminars during 2015.

The Centre also held networking events with sector stakeholders in 2015. These events reinforced the Centre's function as a base to enrich ACU formation activities for staff, students, and partners.

LOCATION AND FACILITIES

The Centre is located on Rome's Janiculum Hill, just above the ancient Roman neighbourhood of Trastevere, a short drive to the Vatican.

The newly renovated 76-bed residential centre is equipped with a full commercial kitchen, five classrooms, a studio, chapel, library, dining area, and gardens covering nearly an acre.

Gio Ponti, one of the most famous and influential architects of the 20th century, contributed to the Centre's original design. Renovations were completed in 2015 in a manner that maintained respect for the property's architectural heritage.

WORLDWIDE PARTNERSHIPS

In 2015, ACU continued to develop partnerships with leading universities and education institutions around the world. The University's newest partner institutions include:

- Boston College, USA
- Catholic Health Association of India
- Catholic University of Portugal
- Ghent University, Belgium
- Leeds Trinity University, UK
- Mahidol University, Thailand
- Middlesex University, UK

At ACU we take a strategic view of internationalisation. Our collaborations support strong academic and mission-driven priorities, resulting in rich experiences for our students.

Professor Pauline Nugent, Provost

Rome was the destination of choice for ACU's first offshore centre. This positions us in the heart of the Catholic Church and reinforces our Catholic identity.

Professor Pauline Nugent, Provost

- Monastic Education Development Group, Myanmar
- Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore
- Seattle University, USA
- University of Education, Freiburg, Germany
- University of the Fraser Valley, Canada.

ACU INTERNATIONAL 2015 HIGHLIGHTS AT A GLANCE

- As a host university for students from other countries, ACU experienced an increase of 22 per cent in commencement of students in exchange programs.
- Students studying at ACU represented 101 countries.
- More than 600 ACU students travelled abroad this year in overseas exchange programs.

ALIGNMENT/INTEGRATION OF CATHOLIC IDENTITY

In 2015 the University signed a memorandum of understanding with Boston College to jointly develop a new mission and leadership program for ACU staff. The program will potentially be made available to Catholic agencies in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. This development is one of a number of strategies aimed at bringing to life ACU's Catholic identity and mission for staff across the University community and to expand formation opportunities for both academic and professional staff. This joint initiative with Boston College reflects ACU's growing international outlook and role as a large Catholic university in the southern hemisphere.

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT, POLICY AND STRATEGY

ACU hosted the inaugural Federal Interfaith Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast, which attracted more than 250 attendees including parliamentarians of all parties and religious leaders from 30 different faith traditions. A unique initiative in Australia, the event facilitated relationship building with key government and religious stakeholders while highlighting the depth of ACU's engagement with the broader community.

ACU continued to champion the maintenance of a demand-driven funding system, which has increased access to higher education for a greater number of Australians. ACU made submissions to a range of government inquiries on international education, research funding, private education providers, VET fee help, and euthanasia.

The University negotiated with New South Wales teacher education regulators on the implementation of *Great Teaching Inspired Learning*.

The portfolio assisted some of the University's research institutes in their interactions with government. Additionally, the portfolio worked with the Sydney Catholic Archdiocese and the Faculty of Philosophy and Theology on the 50th anniversary of *Nostra Aetate*.

OUR STUDENTS, LEARNING AND TEACHING

THE EDWARD CLANCY BUILDING



I CHOSE AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY BECAUSE OF THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE IT OFFERED. AS A SMALLER UNIVERSITY, I LIKED THE IDEA OF FORMING CONNECTIONS WITH A SMALLER GROUP OF STUDENTS AND GETTING TO KNOW MY TEACHERS REALLY WELL. I WANTED TO FEEL COMFORTABLE AND LEARN IN A STABLE AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT.

Grace Keane, Bachelor of Business Administration/Bachelor of Global Studies

ACU has provided me with many opportunities to grow as an individual and enhance my personal strengths.

Jacob Torpey, Bachelor of Education (Primary)

ACU's key strength is its people, including students, staff, and the people in the community who are committed to the progress of the University. That's what drives this organisation.

Professor Anne Cummins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Students, Learning and Teaching

STUDENT ENROLMENT CHANGES (%)

The student enrolments increased by **57.8%** between 2010 and 2015



STUDENT STATISTICS

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total students (enrolments)	20,523	22,852	24,384	26,127	30,223	32,385
Equivalent full-time student load (EFTSL)	14,728.5	16,712.1	17,884.9	19,150.3	21,518.3	23,596.0

Enrolments by state and territory

ACT	775	773	951	1,012	1,026	1,190
NSW	7,629	8,531	9,006	9,432	10,371	11,267
VIC	6,668	7,575	8,332	9,047	10,002	10,828
QLD	3,519	4,105	4,562	4,910	5,192	5,577
SA	0	0	0	0	0	4
Virtual	1,932	1,868	1,533	1,726	3,632	3,519

Enrolments by faculty

Faculty of Education and Arts	9,543	10,288	10,688	10,904	12,415	12,312
Faculty of Health Sciences	7,077	8,155	9,385	10,860	12,838	14,886
Faculty of Law and Business	2,424	2,869	2,829	2,900	3,274	3,528
Faculty of Theology and Philosophy	512	515	508	484	517	467
Tertiary Preparation Pathway and Study Abroad	282	248	159	132	233	345
Research Services	383	438	470	471	497	465
Combined Schools	302	339	345	376	449	382

Enrolments by course level

Higher Degree Research	383	438	470	471	497	465
Higher Degree Coursework	2,399	2,656	2,866	2,848	4,205	4,050
Other postgraduate	2,051	2,000	1,961	2,236	2,487	2,286
Bachelor's	14,282	16,419	17,933	19,493	21,754	24,234
Other undergraduate	809	766	473	382	330	370
Non-award	599	573	681	697	950	980

Enrolments by subset

Female	14,871	16,514	17,661	18,869	21,674	23,135
Male	5,652	6,338	6,723	7,258	8,549	9,242
Indigenous	380	396	390	398	461	462
Full-time	14,648	16,620	17,616	18,965	20,930	23,398
International	3,898	3,925	3,320	3,002	3,161	3,450

Enrolments by age

Up to 19	5,593	6,615	7,526	8,201	9,246	10,273
20 to 24	7,131	8,028	8,338	9,217	10,501	11,639
25 to 29	2,685	2,947	3,010	3,066	3,674	3,809
30 to 39	2,467	2,572	2,747	2,917	3,484	3,546
40 to 49	1,644	1,691	1,739	1,751	2,151	2,042
50 to 59	835	832	862	814	985	902
60 and over	168	167	162	161	182	174

Notes by OPSM:

1: Data for 2010-2014 are actual based on HEIMS Student Data Collection.

2: Data for 2015 are preliminary as at 2 October 2015.

3: Student course headcount is used as the enrolment number.

GRADUATE STATISTICS

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Total graduates	4,205	4,326	4,974	4,834	5,671	5,714

Graduates by state and territory

ACT	163	150	187	202	235	190
NSW	1,620	1,606	1,837	1,747	2,012	1,958
VIC	1,392	1,335	1,619	1,736	1,860	1,946
QLD	608	656	710	739	930	947
Virtual	422	579	621	410	634	673

Graduates by faculty

Faculty of Education and Arts	1,778	2,042	2,300	2,216	2,742	2,546
Faculty of Health Sciences	1,687	1,542	1,914	1,857	2,111	2,388
Faculty of Law and Business	568	544	551	585	624	618
Faculty of Theology and Philosophy	120	160	167	156	154	125
Tertiary Preparation Pathway and Study Abroad	11	1	0	0	0	0
Research Services	41	37	42	20	40	37

Graduates by course level

Higher Degree Research	41	37	42	20	40	37
Higher Degree Coursework	589	624	721	688	819	802
Other postgraduate	907	1,067	1,198	967	1,182	1,199
Bachelor's	2,576	2,491	2,930	3,023	3,512	3,601
Other undergraduate	92	107	83	136	118	75

Graduate course satisfaction (percentage broad agreement)

Good Teaching	89%	88%	90%	90%	91%	91%
Clear Goal and Standards	82%	82%	83%	83%	83%	83%
Appropriate Workload	79%	66%	66%	66%	67%	66%
Appropriate Assessment	58%	70%	70%	68%	67%	65%
Generic Skills	93%	92%	93%	93%	94%	94%
Student Services	91%	91%	92%	92%	93%	94%
Overall Satisfaction	93%	92%	93%	94%	94%	94%

Graduate outcomes

Of those available for FT employment:						
In FT employment	79%	77%	79%	71%	70%	71%
Seeking full-time employment, working part-time	17%	18%	16%	23%	24%	22%
Seeking full-time employment, not working	5%	5%	5%	6%	7%	7%

Notes by OPSM:

1: Completions data are actual based on HEIMS Student Data Collection, year reference is different – see note (2).

2: Year refers to data collection year, eg 2015 collection year includes students who completed their course between January and December 2014.

3: Student course headcount is used as the graduate number.

4: Graduate Course Satisfaction and Graduate Outcomes are from Statistical Digest – Section 7 (CEQ and GDS).

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Following the tradition of Catholic social teaching, students learn and develop professionally and personally through real-world experiences that encourage them to reflect and think beyond their core area of study. ACU students participate in discussions that engage the social, ethical, and religious dimensions of life and work.

Welcoming students and staff from all beliefs,

backgrounds, and geographic locations, ACU offers a diverse and highly engaged learning community where students are challenged to think critically and ethically.

STUDENT SUCCESS

The Office of Student Success (OSS) offers support services to promote student engagement in university life. It provides opportunities for student leadership

development and helps students become work-ready professionals. The OSS services include the Academic Skills Unit, Career Development Service, Counselling Service, Disability Services, Student Advocacy Service, and Student Success Team.

The Academic Skills Unit (ASU) partnered with faculties, the First Peoples and Equity Pathways Directorate and the Learning and Teaching Centre to embed language and learning skills in courses. ASU developed and presented a national academic language and learning skills workshop on all campuses. In addition, ASU developed a range of online resources to support students' language and learning needs.

In 2015, the Career Development Service (CDS) continued to assist students with career decisions. CDS nurtures students' understanding of how ACU's core identity and mission relate to employability and corporate social responsibility; this helps students recognise their personal strengths, skills, and values as they pursue their careers. In 2015, there were 19,150 ACU students registered on CareerHub and 1,865 employment opportunities advertised from national and international employers. The Student Jobs on Campus (SJC) program employed 397 ACU students in casual, short- and long-term professional roles.

Continuing to provide professional support to students, the Counselling Service implemented mental health first-aid workshops on all campuses. Use of online counselling services and resources increased in 2015. Counselling staff supported academic programs in resilience building and skills for working effectively with fellow students. Students' feedback from Semester 1 indicated that 66 per cent had concerns about dropping out from their studies. Almost 80 per cent of these students reported that counselling had a moderate or large effect on their decision to remain at university.

In 2015, 4.6 per cent of the ACU student population were registered with Disability Services (DS). In Semester 2, DS trialled outreach initiatives to raise student and staff awareness of disability. Planning for a peer mentoring pilot project for students with a disability began at the Ballarat and Strathfield Campuses for implementation in 2016. DS continues to take a leading role in the Inherent Requirements Project, which helps students select courses they are able to complete successfully and provides a framework for considering adjustments for students with a disability.

OSS launched the new Student Success Unit, which includes Student Advocacy, Student Leadership, Student Enrichment, Student Retention, and Student Transactions.

More than 180 students attended the first Student Leadership Summit in July. Speakers included former NSW Premier, the Hon Kristina Keneally and author of *The Happiest Refugee*, Anh Do.

The Student Enrichment Team implemented the Orientation programs nationally and delivered the national oratory, debating, and photography competitions. The advocacy

WE ARE ALL ABOUT ENGAGEMENT, INCLUDING WITH OUR STUDENTS AND WITH THE COMMUNITY OF PROFESSIONS THAT THEY WILL BE EMPLOYED IN. UNDERNEATH THAT IS A STRONG COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN AUSTRALIA AND, MORE BROADLY, THE WORLD.

Professor Anne Cummins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Students, Learning and Teaching

service continues to grow, providing both one-on-one appointments as well as information sessions and resources.

STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS

Student representation in university decision-making and delivery of campus events enhances student life. Student representation included ACUNSA (ACU National Student Association), office holders of the Campus Student Associations, the President and Vice-President of the Postgraduate Student Association and their campus committees.

The Student Senator contributes to the business of Senate meetings. Changes to ACU statutes in 2015 provided for separating the roles of Student Senator and President of ACUNSA from 2016.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Student Engagement and Services (SES) continued to extend the co-curricular experience for all students at ACU during 2015 through a range of programs.

Student Services and Amenities Fees (SSAF) fund the unit's core programs. Commonwealth legislation and guidelines govern the collection and use of SSAF. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students, Learning and Teaching) reports annually to Senate about consultation with students on SSAF expenditure. Information is also provided on the University's website, updated annually.

In line with Commonwealth guidelines, the democratically elected student senator and ACUNSA members play key roles in the consultation process about expenditure priorities. SES welcomes feedback from other student groups. All students are surveyed annually about their priorities for SSAF expenditure. Data from key student surveys is also analysed to identify areas of need. Other inputs include student feedback through University committees, service delivery usage and event attendance, enrolment data analysis and competitor analysis from other universities.

LIVING AND LEARNING COMMUNITIES (STUDENT ACCOMMODATION)

To address future growth requirements for student accommodation services, SES continued to develop the National Accommodation Strategy in 2015.

The University opened Miguel Cordero Residence in Sydney for the first full year of operations. It continued to develop accommodation options in Canberra and Ballarat. Feasibility work continued on the Brisbane Campus and a student

I was impressed by how ACU's values of integrity, social justice, and the common good underpinned our learning. Considering these frames expanded and challenged our thinking, which is always a good thing.

Hilary Knights, MBA (Executive)

accommodation site was confirmed on the campus master plan.

ACU's Living and Learning Communities housed approximately 400 students in 2015.

The National Choirs and a number of sporting teams held master classes at the Residences.

HEALTH, SPORT AND WELLBEING

In 2015, 3,107 students participated in sport, health and wellbeing, and recreation activities across all campuses.

More than 500 student athletes represented ACU at Australian University Sport (AUS) endorsed events throughout the year. ACU entered its largest team ever (309 students) at the Australian University Games. Increasing its total medal count from last year by 160 per cent, the team earned 17 medals including two gold, seven silver, and eight bronze. Twelve students received green and gold honours.

The Students, Learning and Teaching portfolio also proudly sponsored ACU students via the Elite Athlete and Performers Program. Achievement highlights from 2015 included:

- Nine athletes represented Australia and ACU at the World University Summer Games in South Korea during July: Kyle Cranston (Athletics), Taneka Kovchenko and Annabelle Smith (Diving), Mary-Anne Monckton and Emma Nedov (Artistic Gymnastics), Emily Esposito (Shooting), Keiran Qaium (Swimming), Thomas Afonczenko (Taekwondo), and Ellodie Ruffin, who won gold as a member of the women's water polo team.
- Meg Lanning (Bachelor of Exercise and Health Science) captained the Australian women's cricket team and obtained two prestigious trophies, the Wisden Leading Woman Cricketer in the World and Belinda Clark Award.
- The Under 21 Australian Netball team selected Melbourne Vixens netballers Chloe Watson (Bachelor of Laws) and Elizabeth Watson (Bachelor of Occupational Therapy). Elizabeth was also selected as captain of the side.
- Michael Flatley's world tour – which marks the highest achievement for Irish dancing – selected performer and Irish dancer Thommy Wilson (Bachelor of Speech Pathology) to participate.

- The Ultimate Frisbee all-star team selected Rebecca Brereton (Bachelor of Physiotherapy) to participate in the USA.
- The Under 21 Australian Rowing team selected Sean Murphy (Bachelor of Physiotherapy) in the men's lightweight division.
- Along with winning gold at the World University Summer Games, Ellodie Ruffin (Bachelor of Physiotherapy) secured her second gold playing water polo for the Brisbane Barracudas, winning the Australian National League. The World League Cup Australian squad selected Ellodie and she became a member of the Australian University Sport Honour Roll.

NATIONAL STUDENT CHOIRS

The ACU student choirs continued to flourish on the Brisbane, Melbourne, and North Sydney Campuses. Choir directors selected a total of 61 choristers nationally to receive the St Cecilia Scholarship in recognition of their commitment to their campus choir.

The student choirs also united to form the ACU National Student Choir, comprising 50 students who performed at the IFCU conference in July and the 25th ACU anniversary mass in Sydney. In addition, workshops throughout the year helped develop students' musical skills within the focus of liturgical and sacred music.

NATIONAL ENTERPRISE PROGRAMS

A national enterprise program launched in February 2015, ACUXtra is a loyalty-based non-campus program where students discover discounts on a virtual platform. Seventeen per cent of the student body joined the program, which is run in partnership with Infinite Rewards.

STUDENT RETENTION

The Taskforce on Student Achievement and Retention (TSAR) continued to support student retention initiatives in 2015. The taskforce reported to the Academic Board and other forums on ACU's retention successes and challenges. Two TSAR initiatives to support students' engagement with their studies and university life include the SSAF-funded Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) and the Success at ACU program.

In 2015, PASS more than doubled with 127 student leaders and six coordinators rolling out the program nationally. This produced an increased average in academic results for students who attended. PASS provided peer mentoring in 89 first-year units across all campuses, catering to 4,925 participants.

The Success at ACU program makes regular contact with 4,500 commencing students annually. Throughout the year, the program continued to make recommendations and referrals for academic or administrative support, appropriate services, and co-curricular activities and events.

ACU Academic Achievement Scholarships were introduced in 2015 and awarded to 60 high achieving students.

STUDENT COMMUNICATIONS

The University improved the student communication strategy and delivery modes in 2015.

The DiscoverU branding and website campaign launched at Orientation Week. DiscoverU brings together the suite of co-curricular programs, services, and activities offered to students under five thematic clusters. It aims to increase students' awareness of programs and facilitate ease of access to information.

To further streamline and professionalise email communication with students, the portfolio introduced two new electronic direct mail (EDM) templates. The monthly Student News bulletin and fortnightly Student Events bulletin provide students with regular news and announcements, while ad hoc messages are distributed in a single-topic EDM template.

Significantly, the Students, Learning and Teaching portfolio commenced a project in conjunction with the IT, Marketing and External Relations Directorates to restructure the website for current students. The first iteration of the new website is due for launch in early 2016. It will greatly enhance the user experience and deliver more relevant and timely digital content to students.

LEARNING AND TEACHING

The Vatican Congregation for Education hosted the *Educating Today and Tomorrow: A Renewing Passion* congress in Rome in 2015, marking the 25th Anniversary of *Ex Corde Ecclesia*, the seminal document on Catholic universities. Six ACU representatives attended, including the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students, Learning and Teaching) and Director Mission and Identity who addressed the 2,500 Catholic educators attending. The congress focused on transformative education of the whole person leading to service of the common good. His Holiness Pope Francis concluded the event with an appeal to all educators to respond to the brutalities of war in contemporary life by committing themselves anew to learning and teaching mercy.

The University's Learning and Teaching Centre (LTC) provides leadership in strategy, policy, and capacity building to promote excellence. LTC also facilitates *Learning for Life*, ACU's Learning and Teaching Framework launched in 2014.

Learning for Life currently encompasses 23 linked faculty and University projects mapped across six hallmarks to be delivered by 2017. Appointed to work across ACU campuses to facilitate the projects, educational designers achieved the following in 2015:

- developing guidelines to enhance the use of Learning Environment Online (LEO)
- delivering the ACU Peer Review of Teaching model
- developing learning and teaching space standards
- supporting the E-health simulation
- implementing a streaming server
- delivering successful teaching support.

In 2015, LTC reviewed and revised the University's Assessment Policy and Procedures, leading to significant enhancements.

To systematically collect student feedback across the University and make it easier for students to participate, LTC trialled the new Student Evaluation of Learning and Teaching (SELT) survey in Semester 1 and implemented it for all coursework units in Semester 2.

To extend ACU's learning and teaching capabilities online, the University integrated two new technology enhanced learning capabilities in LEO: Adobe Connect Live Classroom and Kaltura streaming server. In addition, LTC upgraded LEO learning management system, Moodle and LEO content manager, EQUILLA to the latest versions.

LTC supported the development of a second learning management system, Education Hub. This system will be a key portal for supporting professional development, research activity, and communication with hub participants.

Over the course of the year, LTC provided support, advice, and feedback to more than 45 course review committees/new course committees, compared to 20 in 2014 and nine in 2013. LTC continues to develop resources for course reviews and new course development.

LTC's flagship course, the Graduate Certificate in Higher Education, continues to be delivered to teaching staff in all faculties. The entire course has also been comprehensively reviewed for a revised offering to commence in 2016.

LTC supported internal and external learning and teaching excellence awards and grants. In 2015, the University received two external (OLT) citations: Dr Helen Webb, Paramedicine (FHS) and Ms Nicole Blakey, Nursing (FHS). Dr Noah Riseman (FEA) received the Vice-Chancellor's Teaching Excellence Award. One team from FHS (Nursing and Mental Health) was awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Postgraduate Teaching Excellence Award, and nine citations were awarded across faculties. ACU also awarded nine ACU teaching grants.

LTC provided professional development support via 72 face-to-face workshops and 23 webinars for 556 staff members.

In October 2015, faculty and library staff took

part in the ACU Study Tour, visiting three Catholic universities in South Korea. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students, Learning and Teaching) and the Learning and Teaching Centre Director hosted the tour.

Providing ongoing advice and consultation, LTC also continued to support the University at the executive and corporate governance levels.

GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES AND EMPLOYABILITY

By engaging the head and the heart, ACU students develop skills in their chosen field while also attending to the significant questions of humanity. ACU courses enable graduates to be ethically informed and able to:

- demonstrate respect for the dignity of each individual and for human diversity
- recognise their responsibility to the common good, the environment and society
- apply ethical perspectives in informed decision-making.

Furthermore, courses encourage students to be knowledgeable and able to:

- think critically and reflectively
- demonstrate values, knowledge, skills, and attitudes appropriate to the discipline and/or profession
- solve problems in a variety of settings taking local and international perspectives into account.

Finally, ACU graduates are skilful and able to:

- work both autonomously and collaboratively
- locate, organise, analyse, synthesise, and evaluate information
- demonstrate effective communication in oral and written English language and visual media
- utilise information and communication and other relevant technologies effectively.

The University seeks to develop its students as educated, skilled, and ethical graduates who are sensitive to injustice and work for the common good.

FIRST PEOPLES AND EQUITY

A transitional year for the new directorate, First Peoples and Equity Pathways (FPEP) focused on re-establishing the Indigenous Higher Education Units (IHEU). FPEP refreshed the units to reinforce them as culturally safe and welcoming spaces for students.

ACU performed above national benchmarks in Indigenous education with enrolments maintained (462) and course completions expected to increase significantly. FPEP collaborated with the Office of Student Success and ACU Foundation to support student engagement and retention.

Key achievements included:

- Establishing the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education, Culture and Student Engagement Committee (Chair, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students, Learning and Teaching)).

- Ongoing success of the Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme – Tertiary Tuition and Away-from-Base programs. Yalbalinga (Strathfield) and Weemala (Brisbane) successfully coordinated four residential programs for 160 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.
- Building cultural understandings and strengthening cultural presence across ACU.
- Coordinating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Week and observance of significant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander events, including *Sorry Day*.
- Developing targeted marketing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
- Engaging cultural mentors and Elders to enhance community engagement.
- Facilitating student leadership through participation at forums including: International Indigenous Social Workers Conference, 2015 STI and HIV Conference, Congress of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Nurses and Midwives, More Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Teachers Initiative, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Catholic Council Assembly, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Conference, and National Indigenous Tertiary Education Student Games.

Supported by the Higher Education Participation Program (HEPP), Equity Pathways collaborates across the University to deliver programs to increase participation of students from low socioeconomic backgrounds, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and students from rural and remote areas in pursuing access and attaining success at university. All areas of Equity Pathways demonstrated growth in 2015. Key highlights included:

- outreach to Grade 4 to Year 12 students increased from 14,557 in 2014 to 16,205 in 2015
- outreach to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students increased from 2,211 in 2014 to 2,500 in 2015
- school partners increased from 190 in 2014 to 200 in 2015
- teacher participation increased from 1,160 in 2014 to 1,873 in 2015
- parent participation increased from 1,097 in 2014 to 1,541 in 2015
- ACU Student2Student activity increased from 420 occasions in 2014 to 500 in 2015
- activity with community partners, including Smith Family, Brotherhood of St Laurence, Marist Youth Care, Ardoch (VIC), and Police Community Youth Care, increased.

Through HEPP funding, Equity Pathways assisted and supported University projects, including:

- adopting Transparent Pedagogies (Faculties of Law and Business, Health Sciences and Education and Arts)
- legal profession mentoring and Australian Business Week: Brisbane (Faculty of Law and Business)

“The diversity of our students is a real gift. There is a richness in it because we represent the world that students will enter.”

Professor Anne Cummins, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Students, Learning and Teaching

- combined student learning and teaching projects for low socioeconomic status (SES) students (Faculty of Health Sciences)
- formulating National FEA Equity Initiatives – A coordinated approach to supporting the attainment of students from low SES backgrounds (Faculty of Education and Arts)
- Catholic Teacher Education Consortium (CTEC) – Victoria (Faculty of Education and Arts)
- STEM initiatives – Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland (Faculty of Education and Arts)
- School and Family Community Learning (Institute for the Advancement of Community Engagement)
- Academic Skills support and development (Office of Student Success)
- phone assistance to new ACU students (Student Services)
- Peer Leadership Network – Ballarat
- student assistance and support (ACUcom)
- 20 ACU Equity Scholarships.

In addition, other Equity Pathways activities included:

- teaching training opportunities for ACU pre-service teachers in partner schools
- professional development for staff of partner schools
- program implementation opportunities for ACU academic staff in partner schools
- opportunities for partners to provide feedback and input for future programs through partner advisory meetings.

LIBRARIES AND LEARNING RESOURCES

The Library is a key partner in achieving ACU's strategic priorities in teaching, learning, and research. Continuing to garner positive feedback from the University community, the Library received the highest score (96.4 per cent) in overall satisfaction in the 2014 ACU Shared Services Survey.

PROGRAMS AND FACILITY ENHANCEMENTS

Libraries expanded a single-service point model to all campus libraries in 2015, resulting in enhanced user experiences. A new 24-hour eReference service recorded a 162 per cent usage increase compared to the same period last year.

The Library's information literacy programs support student retention and student academic achievement while equipping graduates for lifelong learning. Face-to-face sessions attracted more than 23,000 students in 2015. More than 8,000 students enrolled in *Leap into Learning*, the online information literacy program.

The implementation of Alma, a new library management solution, improved resource management.

The Brisbane Campus launched an after-hours library facility, which proved popular with students. A new Library is planned on the Canberra Campus for completion in late 2017. Construction necessitated moving the library collection to temporary facilities connected to the existing library.

EMPLOYMENT AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ACU Library continued employing students, supporting the Student Jobs on Campus initiative.

An Indigenous Library Traineeship, funded with ACU Strategic Initiatives Funds, commenced with Abbi Beetson's appointment. The traineeship aligns with the University's strategic priority for supporting people from identified equity groups.

A change management process is underway to better support the University's evolving needs with a more streamlined structure, strengthened collaborations and improved opportunities for career progression.

SUPPORTING ACU RESEARCH

The Library continued to manage ACU Research Bank, which is critical to the University's Excellence in Research for Australia compliance. Australian Research Council reviewers can access the University's peer-reviewed research using the tool. Further supporting ACU's research priorities, liaison librarians and library research support staff provide research resources workshops, bibliometrics, and Endnote support.

The Library established an ACU Open Data Collection using ANDS funding. The dataset is a sample from the 2011 NCLS Research's National Church Life Survey, which is accessible on ACU Research Bank and the Research Data Australia website.

CELEBRATING THE UNIVERSITY'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

ACU Library launched the ACU 25th Anniversary Showcase in June as part of the University's anniversary commemorations. The showcase featured cathedral-shaped cabinets displaying University memorabilia and interactive digital screens with more than 800 stories, photos, and videos presenting ACU's rich history.

Eminent Australian historian, Dr John Hirst, documented the founding years of ACU in a book entitled *Australia's Catholic University: The First Twenty-Five Years* (Australian Catholic University, 2015). It explains how a Catholic university funded by the government came into existence, highlights the University's commitment to students and staff working for the common good, and profiles individuals who have worked at the University, some for its full 25 years.

OUR RESEARCH



Melbourne Campus

OUR STRONG PERFORMANCE IN OUR PRIORITY AREAS OF RESEARCH SHOWS HOW OUR RESEARCH EXEMPLIFIES THE ACU MISSION BY REACHING OUT INTO THE COMMUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. OUR RICH RESEARCH CULTURE INFORMS OUR TEACHING – TO THE BENEFIT OF OUR STUDENTS – AND ENGAGES OUR STAFF WITH RESEARCHERS ACROSS THE WORLD.

Professor Wayne McKenna, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)

RESEARCH INTENSIFICATION

In 2015, ACU forged ahead with its second year of research intensification. The five-year strategy aims to achieve levels of research excellence worthy of the top rating of 'well-above world standard' in the assessment of research quality conducted by the Australian Research Council.

In the initial phase of the strategy ACU established seven research institutes, each aligned with one or more of the University's strategic priorities in research: theology and philosophy; health; education; social justice and the common good.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS: EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH FOR AUSTRALIA (ERA) RESULTS

In December 2015 the Australian Research Council (ARC) announced the results of the national assessment of research quality, the Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA). ACU achieved its strongest ever performance and confirmed its rapidly rising research trajectory. ACU was the most improved institution in the country with its 2015 ERA results demonstrating significant advancement in scores since the 2012 assessment. The University received five scores of five (the highest score possible) and five scores of four spread over the two-digit and four-digit codes, and eight scores of three at the four-digit level. At the two-digit level ACU achieved an outstanding five in Psychology (17) and fours in Health (11) and Philosophy and Religion (22).

Using the methodology applied by the Department of Education and Training to calculate an 'excellence index' ACU raised its index from 0.31 in 2012 to 2.81 in 2015. The margin of this increase is greater than that

achieved by any other university in the 2015 ERA. Moreover, if this excellence index is used to rank Australian universities, ACU improved its ranking from 35th to 21st – the largest ranking increase by any institution in this year's assessment.

The University received high scores in the fields of research identified as strategic priorities. These include selected areas of health as well as education, psychology, theology, and philosophy. There are now five areas of research in which ACU ranks equal best in the country. The University also ranks equal sixth in Education, Applied Ethics, and Philosophy.

ACU achieved outstanding outcomes with top scores of five in Human Movement and Sports Science (1106), Nursing (1110), Public Health and Health Services (1117), and Psychology (1701), making the University equal best in the country in these fields of research.

ACU received a score of four in Specialist Studies in Education (1303), Philosophy (2203), and Religion and Religious Studies (2204). There were no scores of five in Religion and Religious Studies (2204), making ACU equal top with its score of four.

ACU received a score of three in Education Systems (1301), Curriculum and Pedagogy (1302), Business and Management (1503), Political Science (1606), Sociology (1608), Law (1801), Applied Ethics (2201), and Historical Studies (2103).

ACU's scores across the various fields of research in education placed it equal sixth in the country with three other institutions.

ACU will now build on this base to achieve further success in the next ERA assessment anticipated in 2018.

REALISING EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

IN 2015, ACU:

- EARNED DISTINCTION AS THE COUNTRY'S MOST IMPROVED INSTITUTION IN RESEARCH
- INCREASED ITS 'EXCELLENCE INDEX' RANKING FROM 35TH TO 21ST
- ACHIEVED SEVERAL SCORES OF FIVE, THE HIGHEST SCORE POSSIBLE, IN THE ERA.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND ARTS

LEARNING SCIENCES INSTITUTE AUSTRALIA

Learning Sciences Institute Australia (LSIA) is an interdisciplinary research institute focused on generating knowledge and bringing fields of research together in new ways to find solutions that make a difference in children's lives and those of their families. The Institute's research programs span two domains: education and schooling; and child and youth studies.

Since its establishment in January 2014, LSIA has grown to include over 60 researchers and support staff located across four ACU campuses. LSIA's research candidature profile is also gaining momentum, growing to include over 40 research students under the supervision of LSIA researchers.

For research projects commencing in 2015 LSIA researchers received four Australian Research Council Discovery grants totalling over \$1.2 million. This was an achievement that saw LSIA outperform all other Australian universities in the education sector in that round of ARC grants.

The Institute continued to build national and international partnerships with research institutions and government bodies. These partnerships include key appointments of Professorial Research Fellows from Ireland, the UK, and the USA. Furthermore, joint research ventures commissioned or awarded through nationally competitive grants include:

- *Having a Say: Exploring issues of safety in institutions for children and young people*, partnering with Griffith University and the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse



ACU International Research Symposium

- *Improving the evidence base for community developed assessments of kinship carers of Aboriginal children*, partnering with Winangay Resources Inc and the Australian Centre for Child Protection at the University of South Australia (supported by the Sidney Myer Fund)
- *Study of the current operations of Queensland's non-state Special Assistance Schools, State Positive Learning Centres and State Flexi-Schools*, partnering with the Queensland Department of Education and Training
- *App to support assessment in play and learning in early childhood education*, partnering with the Victoria Department of State Development, Business and Innovation
- *Longitudinal study of modifiable influences of the development of harmful young adult alcohol use and related problems*, partnering with Deakin University, Murdoch Children's Research Institute, and the University of Washington.

LSIA also focused on profiling the Institute's research and its connection to policy through seminars and events. The LSIA Dialogue Series – which included seminars in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne – is an avenue for locating research with high priority policy agendas. The Institute also held the highly successful LSIA International Symposium on Reading and Reading Engagement in Brisbane.

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

The Institute for Social Justice (ISJ) is a creative space for thinking about and responding to the challenges of the 21st century through innovative cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary research programs. The Institute's focus areas include rethinking social ideas and addressing social issues.

In May 2015, ISJ held its inaugural annual event, the *Sydney School for Critical Social Thought*, which attracted academics and postgraduate students from Australia, Europe, and North and South America.

The event gathered together ISJ's Professorial Fellows, staff and students for two weeks of seminars, conversation and conviviality. All of the Professorial Fellows were invited to discuss their work on various programs on ABC Radio National.

Seminar themes included:

- Neoliberalism, Critique and Resistance
- Human/Non-Human Relationships in the Anthropocene
- Gender, Race and Postcolonial Critique
- Religion, Secularism and Democracy
- Migration, Borders and Security.

ISJ also hosted another major event, *Living in Eastphalia: Encounters with the Non-Western World*, an international conference organised by Associate Professor Emilian Kavalski. The event involved participants from Asia, North America, Australia, and Europe.

In 2015, Professor Romand Coles joined ISJ from Duke University and the University of Northern Arizona. Professor Linda Alcott from Hunter College and the City University New York Graduate Centre also joined ISJ as a Professorial Fellow.

ISJ formally established the Doctoral Program in Social and Political Thought in 2015.

INSTITUTE FOR RELIGION, POLITICS AND SOCIETY

The Institute for Religion, Politics and Society (IRPS) explores political, sociological, legal, and economic dimensions of religion. Through international collaborations and cross-disciplinary research, the Institute addresses contemporary issues of religion, political conflict, and solidarities while also examining contributing factors to happiness and wellbeing. Focus areas include: law and religion; cities and successful societies; Asian societies and their religions; religion and medicine; and global Catholicism.

IRPS expanded its research and publications, including books by new staff:

- Barnes, T. (2015) *Informal Labour in Urban India: Three Cities, Three Journeys*, London: Routledge.
- Afrianty, Dina (2015) *Women and Sharia Law in Northern Indonesia: Local Women's NGOs and the Reform of Islamic Law in Aceh*, New York: Routledge.

The 'successful cities' project developed comparative research on Detroit and Melbourne and research is continuing to grow in conjunction with academics at Wayne State University. This fieldwork will be the basis for future grant applications.

Research on 'global Catholicism' progressed through the visit of Professor Jose Casanova (George Washington University). Rosario Forlenza (Columbia University) visited IRPS and pursued work on the Catholic Church after the 2015 Synod.

The law and religion cluster further developed the Sharia database in collaboration with Harvard University's Law Faculty. Plans continue towards establishing an MOU with Harvard.

The Institute published its first issue of the Journal for Religious and Political Practice.

IRPS continued to develop the basis for grant applications, including one DECRA application. A small grant was obtained as the basis for a study of the consequences of unemployment (such as poor health) following the downturn in manufacturing in Melbourne. An initial survey was completed as the basis for an ongoing study.

Together with Professor Hans Joas, Professor Turner won the Max Planck Award of 750,000 euros each for the study of social and religious pluralism for a five-year period in partnership with Potsdam University, Germany.

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND AGEING

The Institute for Health and Ageing (IHA) investigates the impact of people's experience on the ageing process and develops, implements, and evaluates interventions that improve the quality of life of older people, their families and carers. The Institute includes nine research streams: biostatistics; chronic illness; economics of health and ageing; mental health; nutrition; physical activity; research translation; social connection and the environment; and supportive care and cancer.

IHA commenced operation in 2015 with the mission of promoting positive ageing and improving the lives of older people.

The Institute continued to build its multidisciplinary team of researchers to collaborate in tackling factors related to ageing. To date IHA has made 10 academic staff appointments to the team with expertise spanning mental, physical, social, and environmental factors.

IHA is committed to conducting research that directly improves the lives of older people. Productive partnerships are a key element of this success, particularly with health care providers, aged care providers and consumer groups. Since its establishment, IHA has formed research partnerships with a range of aged care providers, consumer groups, councils, hospitals and other universities. In 2015, IHA was also accepted as a Collaborating Research Centre with the Australian Association of Gerontology.

IHA held a number of events in 2015 including multiple research colloquia and the inaugural *Live Long, Live Well* symposium, culminating in the Institute's launch in October 2015.

INSTITUTE FOR POSITIVE PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATION

The Institute for Positive Psychology and Education (IPPE) undertakes research to positively influence the lives of individuals, families, communities, and organisations. It works to translate theory and research into effective policy and practice through eight research streams: Indigenous culture, education and wellbeing; mindfulness, compassion and action; physical activity, sport and health psychology; positive education; positive organisational and social context; positive psychological and social development; positive SELF and wellbeing; and substantive-methodological synergy.

In 2015, IPPE advanced its research with the attraction of nationally competitive grants, PhD student completions, awards and prestigious international staff awards.

IPPE grants included an ARC Indigenous Discovery Grant: *Characteristics of successful schools for Indigenous students' achievement*, led by Dr Anthony Dillon, Associate Professor Phil Riley and Professor Robert Vallerand.

IPPE was also awarded an ARC Linkage Grant with The Scots College for *Transforming Lives and Communities: Impact of Quality Indigenous Education*, led by Professor Rhonda Craven.

In terms of student achievements, higher degree research student Jiesi Guo received a prestigious three-month visiting international scholarship to the University of Tübingen, Germany.

In June 2015, Professor Herb Marsh became President-Elect of the International Positive Psychology Association (IPPA). Professor Marsh's election enhances the international stature of IPPA and acknowledges his role as an architect of ACU's IPPE, his contributions for more than 20 years as Director of the International SELF Research Centre, and his international research program spanning Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and North America.

IPPE co-hosted the eighth International SELF Conference in Kiel, Germany. Professors Herbert W. Marsh and Rhonda Craven, headquartered at the IPPE, direct the international Global SELF Research Centre, a virtual network with 700 members and satellite research centres at leading universities around the world. The biennial SELF conferences provide a unique forum to present and discuss research on self-theory, measurement, research and practice.

IPPE was invited to submit a full proposal to the prestigious ARC Centre of Excellence scheme for *Indigenous Thriving Futures*, led by Professor Rhonda Craven. The proposal was one of 20 shortlisted and included Professor Simon Stewart from The Mary MacKillop Institute for Health Research, Professor Claire Wyatt-Smith from the Learning Sciences Institute of Australia, and Professor Marita McCabe from the Institute for Health and Ageing.

MARY MACKILLOP INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH RESEARCH

The Mary MacKillop Institute for Health Research aims to identify critical gaps within community and health care services with the goal of improving health outcomes via innovative individual, community, and health service-focused programs. The MacKillop's centres cover exercise and nutrition; the heart and mind; musculoskeletal research; primary care and prevention; and research excellence to reduce inequality in heart disease.

The Mary MacKillop Institute for Health Research's multidisciplinary research staff continued to collaborate nationally and internationally to advance research in its focus areas. The Institute's integral partners include St Vincent's Hospital (Melbourne), The Mater Hospital (Brisbane), Maastricht University (The Netherlands), The National Heart Foundation of Australia, and the Hatter Institute (Republic of South Africa).

The MacKillop's five research centres collectively managed competitive external grant funding of close to \$5 million in 2015, including a Centre for Research Excellence, three program grants, and three fellowships funded by the NHMRC as well as a Novo Nordisk Challenge Grant. The Institute spans a variety of settings and locations across the country, including the recent addition of offices in Brisbane.

Since its establishment in late 2014, the MacKillop has sustained consistent publication success in high-impact international journals, including *The Lancet* [IF=45.217], *Cell* [IF 32.242], *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* [IF 15.343], and *British Journal of Psychiatry* [IF=7.343].

The Institute also continued to present late-breaking trials at prestigious scientific meetings including the American Heart Association and European Society of Cardiology. In October, the Institute hosted the *Rediscovering Heart Failure Summit* at Parliament House, Canberra. This summit brought together a select panel of over 40 leading political, clinical, and health policy experts to discuss the implications of the escalating public health problem of heart failure. It also included an address by the Hon Sussan Ley MP, Minister for Health.

The MacKillop Institute has attracted five new PhD students since its inception. The talent of its PhD students and early career researchers has been recognised, with Dr Jocasta Ball chosen as one of five finalists for the Bupa Emerging Health Researcher Award and PhD student Jill Leckey named in the top ten young investigators at the European Congress for Sports Science.

FACULTY OF THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY

INSTITUTE FOR RELIGION AND CRITICAL INQUIRY

The Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry (IRCI) extends the traditional forms of philosophy and theology, delving into fundamental questions and issues associated with what it means to be human. The Institute's four major focus areas include: Biblical and early Christian studies; Catholic thought and practice; moral philosophy and applied ethics; and philosophy and phenomenology of religion.

IRCI launched its Rome Research Seminar Series in 2015. The inaugural seminar, *Laudato Si' The Greening of the Church?*, was held in September at the University's new Rome Centre. The Institute invited participants from prestigious institutions including Yale, University of Notre Dame (Illinois), Boston College, University of Virginia, Catholic University of America, KU Leuven, Durham, and Edinburgh. Along with members of the Institute, participants reflected on the meaning, significance, and implications of the encyclical.

From May to August the Institute ran the *Festival of Ideas*, a series of public lectures, research workshops, and seminars. Distinguished international visiting scholars – including Professor Miklos Veto, Yale University; Professor Michael Morgan, Indiana University; and Professor Jean-Luc Marion, French Academy, Sorbonne, and University of Chicago – along with Professorial Fellows and other members of the Institute delivered the events. Key events included the *International Conference in Ethics: Reasons and Virtue*, the *Contemporary Issues in Philosophical and Theological Hermeneutics Workshop*, and the *Doing Theology Inter-religiously Workshop*.

The Institute welcomed new research staff to the Centre of Catholic Thought and Practice, the Centre of Philosophy and Phenomenology of Religion, and the Centre of Biblical and Early Christian Studies. Recent publications by these staff include two monographs with Oxford University Press, an edited volume with University of Notre Dame Press, and articles in leading journals in the field such as *Journal of Theological Studies*, *New Testament Studies*, and *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*.

FACULTY OF LAW AND BUSINESS

The Faculty of Law and Business hosted an international research forum on sustainable human resource management (HRM). The forum brought together leading scholars and practitioners, including delegates from the UK, Belgium, India, New Zealand, and 18 Australian business schools.

The faculty initiated two international partnership agreements with leading, research-led universities.

A new agreement with Middlesex University Business School, London, opens the door for staff and student exchanges and joint research projects. The partnership will enable the faculty to work collaboratively with highly qualified, research-active scholars.

The faculty also secured a high-profile, institutional partnership agreement with Ghent University, Belgium. Led by ACU's Peter Faber Business School and Ghent University's Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, this partnership will focus on:

- unilateral or bilateral study abroad programs
- staff and student exchange programs
- collaborative research and curriculum development endeavours
- exchange of information including library materials and research publications
- joint participation in internationally funded research projects.

Reflecting ACU's expanding research profile, the ACU Peter Faber Business School appointed Professor Yannis Georgellis as Professorial Fellow. Currently serving as Professor of Management and Deputy School Director (Research & Enterprise) at Kent Business School, University of Kent, UK, Professor Georgellis is a leading international researcher and a Distinguished Associate of the International Atlantic Economic Society (IAES). His research explores psychological aspects of decision-making processes within the general context of employee happiness, wellbeing and engagement, and their impact on organisational performance.

AUSTRALIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL (ARC)

The University received the following ARC grants in 2015:

DISCOVERY

Engaging Students during the Early Years of Secondary School

Lead Institution – Australian Catholic University
Associate Professor Chris Lonsdale (ACU), Professor Carmel Diezmann (ACU), Professor Nikolas Ntoumanis (Curtin University of Technology), Professor Alexander Yeung (ACU), Professor Richard Ryan (ACU), Associate Professor Mark Beauchamp (The University of British Columbia), Professor Anthony Maeder (University of Western Sydney)
\$590,000

Serving in Silence? Australian LGBTI Military Service since 1945

Lead Institution – Australian Catholic University
Dr Noah Riseman (ACU), Dr Shirleen Robinson (Macquarie University), Dr Graham Willett (The University of Melbourne)
\$199,937

Developing the multimodal language of emotions of low SES primary students

Lead Institution – Queensland University of Technology
Dr Kathy Mills, Professor Len Unsworth (ACU), Dr Angela Ferguson, Mr Mark Williamson, Mr Tony Maksoud, Mrs Rosalind Clay, Mrs Melissa Trembath
\$191,772

The Faculty of Health Sciences received the following Category 1 grants in 2015:

DISCOVERY INDIGENOUS

Characteristics of successful schools for Indigenous students' achievement

Lead Institution – Australian Catholic University
Dr Anthony Dillon (ACU), Associate Professor Phil Riley (ACU), Professor Robert Vallerand (ACU)
\$572,000

DISCOVERY

Emotion regulation in daily life: Capturing context and flexibility

Lead Institution – Australian Catholic University
Dr Peter Koval (ACU), Associate Professor Peter Kuppens (Catholic University of Leuven), Professor John Gleeson (ACU), Dr Tom Hollenstein (Queen's University)
\$224,691

Caring for older parents: Investigating the role of attachment security

Lead Institution – Deakin University
Dr Gery Karantzas, Professor Marita McCabe (ACU), Dr Judith Feeney, Professor Jeffrey Simpson
\$427,000

LINKAGE

Transforming Lives and Communities: Impact of Quality Indigenous Education

Lead Institution – Australian Catholic University
Professor Rhonda Craven (ACU), Dr Anthony Dillon (ACU), Professor Janet Mooney (ACU), Professor Alexander Yeung (ACU), Associate Professor Cheryl Kickett-Tucker (ACU), Professor Alexandre Morin (ACU), Mr Jonathan Samengo (Scots College)
\$307,000

Acting with the Future in Mind

Lead Institution – Australian Catholic University
Professor Peter Rendell (ACU), Associate Professor Julie Henry (University of Queensland), Professor Colleen Doyle (ACU), Professor Matthias Kliegel (University of Geneva), Dr Nathan Rose (University of Wisconsin)
\$242,000

NATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (NHMRC)

The University received the following NHMRC grants in 2015:

PARTNERSHIPS PROJECTS

Evidence-based physical activity promotion in primary schools: Improving children's health through sustainable partnerships

Associate Professor Chris Lonsdale (ACU), Prof David Lubans (University of Newcastle), Prof Jo Salmon (Deakin University), Prof Phillip Morgan (University of Newcastle), Dr Phillip Parker (ACU), Prof Marj Moodie (Deakin University), and Prof Heather McKay (University British Columbia, Canada), Associate Investigators A/Prof David Greene (ACU), Prof Ron Plotnikoff (University of Newcastle) and Kristen Cohen (University of Newcastle)
\$1,299,824.45

NHMRC/NATIONAL HEART FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA EARLY CAREER FELLOWSHIP

Improving health outcomes in atrial fibrillation via optimal management

Dr Jocasta Ball
\$314,644

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH RESEARCH GRANTS

EMPOWER: Early Signs Monitoring to Prevent Relapse and Promote Wellbeing, Engagement and Recovery

Professor John Gleeson (ACU), Dr John Farnell (La Trobe University), Associate Professor Sue Cotton (Univ. Melbourne), Associate Professor Cathy Mihalopoulos (Deakin University), Dr Reeva Lederman (Univ. Melbourne), Associate Professor Suresh Sundram (Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health), Associate Professor Mario Alvarez-Jimenez (Univ. Melbourne)
\$427,716.62

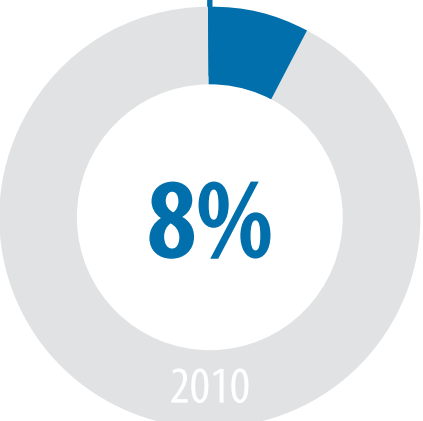
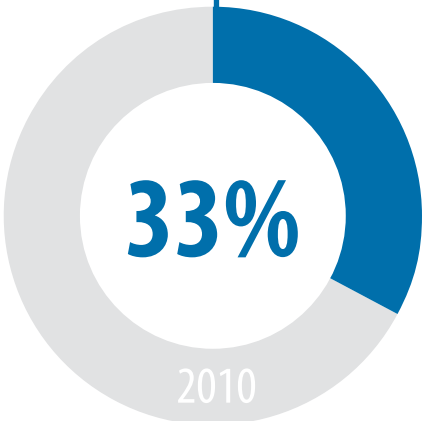
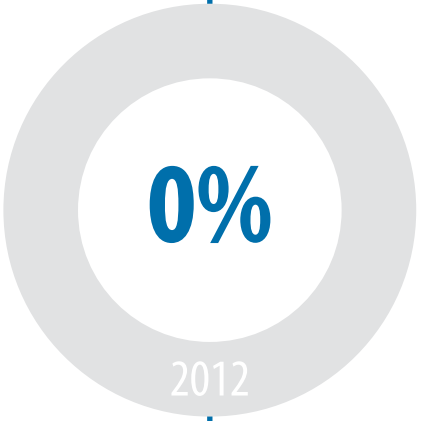
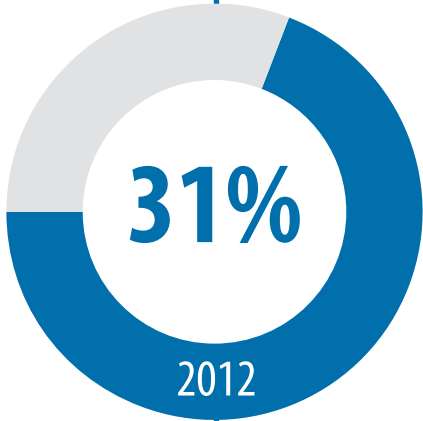
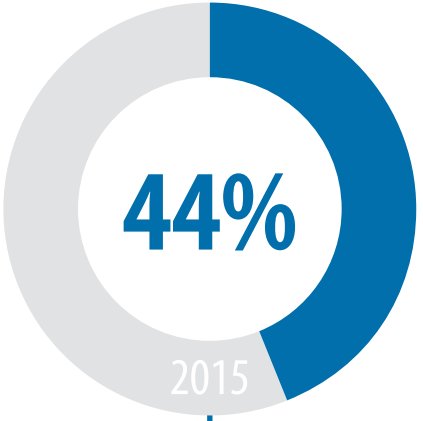
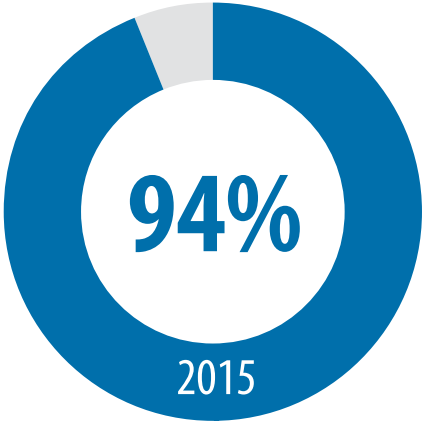
2015 FUTURE LEADER FELLOWSHIP

Models of care and clinical decision support tools to optimize cardiovascular disease and diabetes prevention

Associate Professor Melinda Carrington
\$640,000

RESEARCH AT OR ABOVE WORLD STANDARD

RESEARCH ABOVE WORLD STANDARD



OUR EMPLOYERS



Ballarat Campus

“ I THINK WE HAVE CEMENTED OUR PLACE AS THE PROVIDER OF CHOICE FOR THE TEACHING, NURSING AND ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS. IN PARTICULAR, OUR FOCUS ON THE INTEGRATION OF SECTOR AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS INTO THE ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE IS NOTEWORTHY. OUR COURSE OFFERINGS REFLECT SOME OF SOCIETY’S GREATEST NEEDS.”

Professor Pauline Nugent, Provost

“ My professional practice is almost always the highlight of my year of study. I love having the opportunity to teach in schools where there’s such diversity in structure, socio-economic background of students, teaching practices and more. These experiences help to shape who I will become as a teacher and who I am now as a person.”

Hannah Jane Simmons, Bachelor of Primary Education

THE EDUCATION SECTOR

Partnering with Catholic Education Offices as well as state and independent schools, ACU places students in schools throughout

Australia to gain hands-on experience prior to entering the workforce. In 2015, the National School of Education facilitated a total of 7,046 school placements with the following distribution:

	Catholic	State	Independent	Other	Total
Teacher Education: Early Child	3%	3%	1%	93%	100%
Teacher Education: Higher Education	58%	33%	5%	4%	100%
Teacher Education: Primary	66%	28%	2%	4%	100%
Teacher Education: Secondary	59%	28%	8%	5%	100%
Teacher Education: Special Education	9%	54%	4%	33%	100%
Total	55%	27%	4%	14%	100%

“ All of our students participate in some community engagement activity in their programs, whether domestically or internationally.”

Professor Michelle Campbell, Executive Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences

THE HEALTH SECTOR

The University collaborates with health care providers and agencies across Australia to prepare graduates and provide valuable services to communities.

Working closely with all schools in the Faculty of Health Sciences as well as the Centre for Professional Practice and Partnerships, the faculty operates clinical schools and maintains joint professorial appointments with key health partners.

Clinical schools operate at:

- Calvary Health Care ACT, Canberra
- Mater Hospital, Brisbane
- The Prince Charles Hospital, Brisbane

- RSL LifeCare, Narrabeen
- St John of God Hospital, Ballarat
- St Vincent’s, Toowoomba
- St Vincent’s Health Network, Sydney
- St Vincent’s Private Hospital, Melbourne
- St Vincent’s Public Hospital, Melbourne
- Werribee Mercy Hospital, Victoria.

In 2015, 47 per cent of students in the Faculty of Health Sciences completed their professional practice placement with one of ACU’s Catholic health care partners.

Across the faculty’s disciplines and campuses, students completed the following number of days of professional practice placements*:

State	NSW	ACT	VIC	QLD
Placement days – 7 hr (all health disciplines)	92,305	20,106	120,585	60,786

*Includes Catholic, state, independent and other.

OUR ALUMNI



Rev Sr Pricilla, International Contribution Award Winner, Alumni Awards 2015

MORE THAN 85,500 STUDENTS HAVE GRADUATED FROM ACU SINCE THE UNIVERSITY'S FORMATION IN 1990.

OUR ALUMNI

Long after they take to the stage in cap and gown, ACU graduates continue to play a vital role in bringing the University's Mission to life. With an education grounded in the principles of Catholic social teaching, ACU alumni make valuable contributions to their communities across Australia and around the world.

Continuing the positive relationships established with students, the University actively engages with its 85,500 graduates. Because of ACU's national presence in Australia and its international partnerships, the University is uniquely positioned to stay connected with alumni wherever their personal and professional journeys take them.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

ACU graduates lead successful careers in the fields of health sciences, education and arts, law and business, theology, and philosophy.

Employers within the health, education, and social sectors particularly value ACU alumni for their strong ethics, compassion and altruism, alongside their rigorous understanding and well-developed skills in their chosen fields.

Through their professional roles as well as volunteer work, ACU alumni make a difference in their communities. They inspire others as teachers and save lives as nurses, midwives, and paramedics. As business and law graduates, they reinvigorate the corporate sector. And as theology and philosophy alumni, they apply their critical thinking skills in a range of professional roles. Regardless of their chosen profession, ACU graduates contribute to creating healthy, flourishing communities.

2015 HIGHLIGHTS

As well as celebrating the University's 25th anniversary in 2015, ACU launched an annual alumni awards program to recognise ACU graduates' academic, professional, and community achievements. Nominees demonstrated attributes that are aligned with the ACU Mission, including being ethical in their behaviour, exhibiting a developed critical habit of mind, showing an appreciation of the sacred in life, and maintaining commitment to serving the common good.

The Community Engagement Award recognises a member of ACU's alumni who has made a significant contribution to the wellbeing of others through community and humanitarian service. The 2015 recipient, Dr Sarah Miller, graduated with a Doctorate of Psychology (Clinical) from ACU in 2006. She has received international acclaim for her community engagement work as a clinical and forensic psychologist.

The Community Leadership Award recognises a member of ACU's alumni who has inspired others to strive for excellence and delivered outstanding service and innovation in their field. Penny Daly, who completed a Bachelor of Arts in 2002 majoring in psychology and philosophy with a minor in sociology, received the 2015 award. Penny has contributed to the lives of asylum seekers and those in immigration detention.

The International Contribution Award honours an international member of ACU's alumni who has achieved distinction in their chosen professional field or within their international community. In 2015, ACU recognised four alumni, all graduates of ACU's Bachelor of Nursing or Master of Nursing, for their work at the Holy Cross Hospital in Jaffna, Sri Lanka. The winners were Sister Geraldine Michael, Sister Pricilla John Baptist, Sister Anushala Alexander and Sister Virgini Edwardrajah.

ACU also recognises a young member of ACU's alumni for their early accomplishments. ACU's Young Alumni of the Year in 2015 was Jessica Hansson, who holds both a Bachelor of Exercise Science (2009) and a Masters of Applied Exercise Science (2012). Jessica continues to pursue her passion for working with people with spinal cord injuries and is also now teaching at ACU's Melbourne Campus.

The Alumni Awards program also identifies an overall winner who is honoured as ACU Alumni of the Year. The inaugural ceremony in October celebrated outstanding winners in all categories and named Sister Geraldine Michael, Sister Pricilla John Baptist, Sister Anushala Alexander and Sister Virgini Edwardrajah.

OUR COMMUNITIES



“ WHILE THEY VALUE BEING PART OF A LARGE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, OUR STUDENTS ALSO VALUE THE SMALL CAMPUSES THAT OFFER THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE PART OF A SUPPORTIVE AND ENGAGED LOCAL COMMUNITY.”

Professor Marea Nicholson, Associate Vice-Chancellor (NSW/ACT)

“ The campus is going from strength to strength. With our innovative teaching and learning model we are able to provide great teaching and learning experiences for our students across all our programs. Our courses are going extremely well at graduate level with great success in health, education and arts, business, philosophy and theology.”

Jim Nyland, Associate Vice-Chancellor, Brisbane

“ One of the great benefits of our campus is that we really do serve regional communities. The vast majority of our students end up working in regional and rural locations. So we are providing incredibly well-trained teachers and nurses, paramedics and social workers to regional and rural Australia where they desperately need them.”

Associate Professor Patrick McArdle, Campus Dean, Canberra

“ It's really exciting to house our leading research institute staff – one focused in health and one in education – right next door to our major strategic partners so they can engage with them in their exciting research areas quite literally ‘in the field.’ Our commitment to ensure our research has impact ties very much into our Mission, vision and values.”

Jim Nyland, Associate Vice-Chancellor, Brisbane

ADELAIDE (ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI)

In partnership with the Archdiocese of Adelaide, the University provides theological education in the Catholic tradition in South Australia at the Adelaide Campus. The campus provides graduate certificates, diplomas, and masters in Theological Studies, as well as a number of research degrees including the Master of Theology and Doctor of Philosophy. This partnership ensures the continuation of the Archdiocese's extensive tradition of theological education and leadership in the state.

BALLARAT (AQUINAS)

2015 HIGHLIGHTS

Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Paramedicine students participated in the Diggers Trail exercise, run and organised by Dr Helen Webb. Recognised as a clinical placement and providing vital experience for students, the exercise was held over two days in rugged bushland.

Dr Mellita Jones and several education students from the Ballarat and Melbourne Campuses visited the Solomon Islands, where ACU continues to have a presence.

Approximately 2,500 potential students and their families attended Open Day in August. The event provides a valuable opportunity to foster positive community relationships and showcase the University.

The Ballarat Campus continued its involvement in the Clemente Australia program in partnership with the City of Ballarat, Federation University Australia, United Way, Centacare, the Smith Family, and the Ballarat Library. Facilitated by Ms Leticia Medwell, the program aims to break the cycle of poverty, inequity, and social injustice for Australians facing multiple disadvantages and social isolation.

Through Campus Ministries, the Young Vinnies group on campus continued to bring the University's Mission to life in 2015 by running camps for disadvantaged children.

Building on last year's popular events, the campus hosted two student art exhibitions in 2015.

The Ballarat Campus Graduation Mass and Ceremony took place on March 14.

FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

The Ballarat Campus continued its growth trend in terms of students and infrastructure. Accordingly, several major developments occurred during 2015.

The campus developed two simulation laboratories and two multipurpose rooms within the expanded Pell Centre.

Two heritage houses were relocated to link with new and existing developments to create an improved education centre, which was named the Catherine of Siena Education Centre.

Plans for a complete refurbishment of the houses at the Camillus student residential facility progressed with works planned for 2016.

Major works to completely renovate the Chapel wrapped up in December.

With the new physiotherapy course scheduled to commence in 2017, the campus submitted plans to the Ballarat City Council seeking planning approval to construct a new physiotherapy building. This is a key initiative to extend the scope of the campus.

ACU Ballarat completely renewed the gardens and lawn at the front of the campus, complementing the heritage aspect of the Carn Brea Administration Building.

To ensure access to adequate water pressure across the University in the event of a fire, the campus installed a fire ring main.



Brisbane Campus

BRISBANE (MCAULEY AT BANYO)

2015 HIGHLIGHTS

Engaging students and the local community remained the campus' focus in 2015. The Office of Student Success increased its staff to augment opportunities for students in clubs, associations, and sporting activities.

ACU Brisbane was selected to run the National Indigenous Games in 2016. The selection reflects the campus' excellent sports facilities as well as its strong Indigenous history.

FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

The new John Paul II building opened in 2015 with a ceremony attended by the Premier of Queensland and the Archbishop of Brisbane. The building – which blends contemporary aesthetics with reverence for the University's Catholic identity, paying tribute to both old and new – earned numerous awards, including the Queensland State Award for education facilities over \$5 million and the National Master Builders Award for public buildings up to \$50 million.

With a 150-person flexible learning space, teaching spaces, simulation labs, centralised student services, and state-of-the-art AV and IT infrastructure, the ground floor of the John Paul II building is dedicated to student learning and support services. The first floor houses Brisbane's new Health Sciences facilities, featuring simulation labs for physiotherapy and speech pathology. The top floor is the new home for the School of Business.

To complement the building, the campus commissioned and erected a new statue of Saint John Paul II as a young seminarian in mountaineering gear and sunglasses. The Archbishop of Brisbane blessed the statue at the unveiling.

The Learning Sciences Institute of Australia relocated to the Cathedral precinct next to the ACU Leadership Centre at Cathedral House. The location enables the campus to engage with Catholic stakeholders, government partners, Catholic Education Offices, and the city's wider business community.

“The success of the building is a huge achievement for the campus and the University and has set the benchmark for our future university buildings.”

Jim Nyland, Associate Vice-Chancellor, Brisbane

“Engagement with community is a cornerstone of ACU's Mission and vision that continues to motivate ongoing public programs and events on the Melbourne Campus.”

John Ballard, Associate Vice-Chancellor, Melbourne

The Health Sciences Institute's Centre for Musculoskeletal Research relocated to a two-storey campus facility at the Mater Hospital in Southbank.

CANBERRA (SIGNADOU)

2015 HIGHLIGHTS

The campus engaged the community by hosting the annual Blackfriars Lecture Series which focused on the theme of children and families.

Launching an inaugural fundraising event, the Signadou Student Association raised money for the Black Dog Institute, a not-for-profit organisation focused on the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of mood disorders such as depression.

To mark the University's 25th anniversary, the Canberra Campus contributed to ACU's history showcase.

Building on the advanced-entry Bachelor of Social Work degree that the campus has offered for 20 years, Canberra introduced a four-year degree option, opening a career option in social work to school leavers.

In 2015, ACU Canberra's first cohort of Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Paramedics students concluded their studies. All program participants had jobs lined up, including seven students heading to London to work in the paramedic industry.

Canberra continued to prepare graduates for the job market with an approximate employment rate of 97 per cent to 100 per cent for the campus.

FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

The Canberra Campus received approvals for capital development and as a result moved the library into a modular facility. Development of a cutting-edge health sciences facility in the former library building is underway. A new library building featuring a large lecture theatre and function facility is planned. It will stand at the heart of the campus and architecturally unify the site.

MELBOURNE (ST PATRICK'S)

2015 HIGHLIGHTS

Representatives of 220 Catholic universities convened on the ACU Melbourne Campus for the 2015 International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU) conference. The campus hosted numerous events leading up to the conference, including a meeting of more than 100 Jesuits from around the world involved in higher education. A Vice-Chancellor's roundtable event brought together approximately 150 local and national leaders in tertiary education for discussions. This was followed by the five-day IFCU conference.

For more on IFCU, see page 36.

In 2015, a range of community outreach programs progressed, including the Atherton Gardens Homework Club. The club now involves more than 60 students who offer free tutoring to children from the social housing complex adjacent to campus. The Clemente Program, in partnership with Catholic Care, continued to offer people with multiple disadvantages access to tertiary education.

OUR DIVERSE ACTIVITIES ARE DESIGNED TO ENGAGE WITH THE BROADER COMMUNITY. IMPORTANTLY, THESE EXPERIENCES PROVIDE OUR STUDENTS WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO APPLY AND REVIEW DISCIPLINE THEORIES WITHIN VERY REAL CONTEXTS.,

Professor Marea Nicholson, Associate Vice-Chancellor (NSW/ACT)

The main teaching building on campus was renamed the Mary Glowrey Building, honouring Dr Sr Mary Glowrey JMJ, Servant of God. This was followed by ACU signing a memorandum of understanding with the Catholic Women's League of Victoria and Wagga Wagga to establish a museum on campus to preserve the legacy of Mary Glowrey, the League's founding president. A memorandum of understanding was also signed with the City of Yarra to work collaboratively on placemaking, engagement, research, and teaching.

A number of well-attended public lectures took place including the annual Bishop Joseph Grech Colloquium on immigration and refugees, the Walter Silvester Memorial Lecture, a *Respectful Conversation on Marriage*, and the inaugural Dr Sr Mary Glowrey Lecture.

Exhibitions this year at the ACU Melbourne Gallery included *Life without hope cannot be - Defying genocide: Nuba and Sudan* and an exhibition of iconography by the noted artist Michael Galovic. In May, the campus also opened a six-week public installation in St. Mary of the Cross Square titled *Purple Rain*, highlighting issues of homelessness and the innate dignity of the human person. ACU, the City of Yarra, St. Mary's House of Welcome, and STREAT jointly funded the event.

FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

Ending a five-year phase of major construction on campus, ACU Melbourne completed renovations to the ground floor of the Mary Glowrey Building, incorporating a cafeteria, bookshop, café, student commons, and a multifaith space. Embodying the University's Mission, an art installation by social artist Konstantin (Kon) Dimopoulos spells out 'I am not anonymous'. The work speaks to the dignity of the human person and reflects the University's concern with social justice issues.

Planning is underway for the extensive development of new teaching space on campus to be open for use in 2018.

SYDNEY CAMPUSES: NORTH SYDNEY (MACKILLOP) AND STRATHFIELD (MOUNT SAINT MARY)

2015 HIGHLIGHTS

In 2015, the North Sydney and Strathfield Campuses celebrated the University's 25th anniversary with events, seminars and exhibitions that highlighted work within education, community engagement, and mission and identity.

Highlights across the two Sydney campuses included:

- The ACU History Showcase, which included digital and physical displays of ACU historical items.
- The Inaugural Hon Barry O'Keefe AM QC DUniv(ACU) Memorial Lecture. The Hon Murray Gleeson AC QC, former Chief Justice of the High Court, spoke on a topic reflecting the life and work of Justice O'Keefe: *The contribution of law to the greater good and human flourishing*. The North Sydney Campus hosted the lecture, which was held in conjunction with the naming of the Dr Barry O'Keefe Memorial Moot Court.
- The second Sir George Reid Lecture. In 2015, the Hon Christopher Pyne, then Federal Minister for Education and Training, was guest speaker. A nonpartisan event, the lecture is designed to open direct dialogue with ACU students, politicians, and political commentators.
- Several successful exhibitions at the Strathfield Campus' McGlade Gallery, including:
 - ARTEXPRESS for the third consecutive year
 - the Clancy Prize for Secondary School Religious Art, which has been running for more than 15 years
 - the Stations of the Cross Exhibition with works addressing each of the Franciscan 15 Stations. Renowned artists from all over Australia created the works and ACU invited 16 staff members to contribute a written personal reflection on a particular Station.

- *Respectful Conversations on Marriage*, a panel discussion hosted on the North Sydney Campus. The panel brought together Catholic and other perspectives to explore the topic of marriage equality. ACU Vice-Chancellor Professor Greg Craven moderated the discussion.
- The inaugural ACU Strathfield Medieval Fayre. The fayre, which was open to local residents, included events such as a living medieval history museum, battle re-enactments, Morris dancing, medieval-inspired costumes, and the performance of a traditional medieval pageant play.

ACU played a role in, as well as hosted a number of events and conferences on campus during 2015:

- The launch of *The Great Grace: Receiving Vatican II Today*, authored by the Most Reverend Dr Peter Comensoli, Bishop of the Diocese of Broken Bay.
- The Australian and New Zealand Society of the History of Medicine held its 14th Biennial Conference.
- A panel discussion on *Integral Ecology: unpacking the Pope's Call to Action on Climate Change*.
- The Universities Australia Executive Women's Workshop – *Mentoring at the Cross Roads* with keynote speaker, Professor Jane den Hollander Vice-Chancellor of Deakin University.
- A panel discussion to support the ACU Papal Initiative in the Year of the Consecrated Life.

FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES

Progression of the Sydney Campus Master Plan in 2015 included:

- purchase of 33 Berry Street North Sydney
- establishment of the Strathfield Community Re-engagement Committee. Following the Land and Environment Court decision earlier this year, ACU convened a group to identify a re-engagement strategy with internal and external stakeholders in the Strathfield community. The Committee will build on the team's work by exploring immediate to medium-term strategies to engage with the local government area around Strathfield.

OUR SERVICES



OUR COMMITMENT TO SERVICE GOES BEYOND ENABLING TEACHING AND RESEARCH. SERVICE ACCORDS WITH ONE OF THE UNIVERSITY'S THREE KEY VALUES, AND THROUGH THE COURSE OF THE YEAR WE CONTINUED TO BUILD ON OUR CULTURE OF SERVICE WHILE DRIVING TOWARDS THE GOAL OF EXCELLENCE.

Dr Stephen Weller, Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Corporate Services)

The Corporate Services Portfolio at ACU enables and fosters an engaging student and workplace experience through services aligned to the University's identity, mission and strategic plan. The Portfolio includes:

- Finance
- Governance
- Human Resources
- Information Technology
- Marketing and External Relations
- Office of General Counsel
- Planning and Strategic Management
- Properties and Facilities
- Student Administration.

With the University's recent growth, ACU's Corporate Services remained focused on upholding quality and implementing enhancements to support the mission. From technology improvements to the development of new buildings, Corporate Services works towards ensuring service excellence in the student and workplace experience.

PROGRESS TOWARDS SERVICE EXCELLENCE

In 2015, ACU advanced the implementation of its new service strategy, the Service Matters Framework, with the achievement of the following key outcomes:

- Student-centric service improvement: Created new multi-functional contact centre (*AskACU*); expanded wireless connectivity to support learning, eg new student mobile app and wireless printing service.
- Collaboration for excellence: Implemented cross-functional projects that responded to a business need to improve key processes, eg improved communications through dynamic email distribution lists; ensured more effective space management through universal availability and streamlined access; implemented a consistent and standardised approach to project management through a new project management model.
- Data-driven decision-making: Used staff feedback gathered in surveys to identify opportunities for improvement to key processes and systems, eg finance improvement workshops and bringing real-time customer insights into the business to inform decision-making and measure success.

- Embedding the service lead role: Undertook regular monitoring and reporting of service improvements derived from staff feedback. Communicated progress on service improvement initiatives to the ACU community via staff bulletin articles and the Service Matters website.
- Making the service principles relevant to all roles at ACU: Featured the service principles in all new position descriptions and candidate interviews.
- Building organisational capability: Increased awareness of the Service Matters Framework's key components and the critical role all staff play in creating a culture of service excellence, eg Service Excellence workshops delivered on every campus. Refined the professional development program to reflect the Service Matters Framework and provided staff with the tools to identify and implement service improvements, eg training in process improvement methodology (Lean).

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN KEY RESULT AREAS

In all aspects of its work, the Corporate Services Portfolio ensures the ACU Mission resonates across the University. In 2015, the Portfolio continued to improve services and augment ACU's culture of service excellence. Major achievements follow in the Strategic Plan's key result areas:

STRATEGIC APPROACH AND GOVERNANCE

- Continued to implement and embed the ACU Strategic Plan 2015-2020 which launched in 2014 across the University. Reviewed and streamlined the suite of planning, quality and risk management tools and templates in support of the new Strategic Plan.
- Progressed towards the achievement of strategic goals and targets according to comprehensive biannual Traffic Light Reporting under the new Strategic Plan. All Corporate Services goals and targets are on track for completion.
- Received a renewal of registration in July 2015 from TEQSA for the maximum period of seven years. The Chair, Academic Board, worked with ACU faculties and relevant Directorates to oversee the process. TEQSA commended ACU for the quality of its application and acknowledged the collaborative approach from the University throughout the process. TEQSA continued

ACU's rating as a low-risk higher education provider.

- Provided data and systems to build on the ACU Enrolment Plan 2016-2021, intended to be used to inform future government funding, budget modelling and forecasting, workforce profile, student administration, business planning, infrastructure, and space planning.
- Continued development and implementation of an enterprise data warehouse and business intelligence solution to transform the University's data sources into a valuable business intelligence asset. The new business intelligence solution will deliver integrated access to data and information to support operational and strategic decision-making.
- Implemented the government's new suite of student surveys, 2015 Student Experience Survey and Graduate Outcomes Survey, as part of the Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT).
- Conducted a number of scheduled independent organisational unit reviews for the Learning and Teaching Centre, Libraries and the Office of Planning and Strategic Management. Further reviews scheduled for 2016.
- Effected major amendments with Senate's endorsement to Statutes 8 and 9, demarcating the roles of student senator and ACUNSA president in order to improve the governance processes relating to student elections and student leadership.
- Reviewed (with Senate's endorsement) the operations of state chapters and implemented relevant recommendations.
- Launched a major review of ACU's records management policies and procedures with a focus on efficiency and regulatory compliance.
- Finalised Critical Incident Management Policy, Car Parking Policy, Alcohol on Campus Policy, Delegations Policy and Register, and Policy on Policy.
- Established Campus Infrastructure Committees and Space Planning and Asset Management Committees.
- Established Sustainability Reference Group to oversee initiatives across the University.



WORKFORCE, CULTURE, STAFF PERFORMANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

- Worked collaboratively across the faculties, Research Services and Human Resources (HR) to execute the Academic Working Arrangements Project, which arose from the implementation of the ACU Staff Enterprise Agreement 2013-2017. It involves implementation of the 'workload arrangements academic staff' clause of the Agreement and its associated policies, systems, and processes.
- Continued the Capability Development Framework Project to develop core organisational competencies that will be integrated into people management practices and professional development.
- Introduced the Framework for Leading and Managing Change at ACU along with tools to support the change process as outlined in the Framework.
- Piloted the Leadership and Accountability of the Supervisor at ACU Program as a core program for all managers. It will include modules focused on understanding the organisation, governance, risk and financial management.
- Implemented the recommendations arising from the Work Health and Safety external audit, including improvements to chemical management practices, WHS Committee training, additional WHS officer positions, recruitment of Health and Safety representatives across all campuses and staff wellbeing initiatives.
- Introduced a number of projects and business process improvements as identified in the HR Systems 5-Year Roadmap, including the introduction of online timesheets for casual staff, casual employment system and piloting of online performance and review plans.
- Delivered the second session of the Academic Leadership Forum on 'Situational Leadership'.

For additional achievements, see pages 23 to 25.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY AND SUSTAINABILITY

- Reviewed the ACU Travel Policy to ensure greater cost-effectiveness, more transparent processes, and improved support for the safety and wellbeing of travellers.
- Reviewed and enhanced the resourcing and capabilities of the management accounting and finance systems teams.
- Reviewed the University's procurement practices to consolidate processes, resulting in the updating of the ACU Procurement Policy to improve approval processes, ensure legal compliance and risk mitigation, leverage aggregated spend and value for money, provide preferred suppliers and contract adherence, ensure product quality, and service performance.
- Enhanced and completed the University's 2016 Budget.
- Planned for participation along with 20 other Australian universities in the University-wide Procurement Hub (UPH), with implementation planned for 2016.
- Piloted a cashless campus solution to facilitate low-value but high-volume payments by students to the University.
- Initiated a tender for an upgrade or replacement finance system to improve responsiveness to the increased volume of transactions, implement workflows and enhance management reporting capabilities.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

- Earned recognition as an industry leader in environmental sustainability by achieving the Best Newcomer Award at the 2015 Green Gown Awards Australasia. ACU was recognised for its significant sustainability development, which has seen the University become the most energy efficient in Australia and a leader in water conservation and waste management.

- Progressed the transition of all ACU campuses to smoke-free environments by extending the current smoking restrictions within buildings to include external areas within campus boundaries.
- Developed the Infrastructure Planning Framework 2016 – 2025 to bring the Master Plan and Capital Plans together in alignment with the Enrolment Plan.
- Relocated the secondary data centre from the North Sydney Campus to an off-site location within the Sydney area.
- Completed migration of staff email services from an in-house service to a software-as-a-service model using Office 365.
- Completed redevelopment of the Education Building at the Ballarat Campus.
- Commenced design and planning for a new Physiotherapy Building on the Ballarat Campus.
- Received two building industry awards for the John Paul II building on the Brisbane Campus (completed in 2014): Master Builders, Brisbane and Queensland – Education Facilities Over \$5,000,000.
- Completed move of the Learning Sciences Institute – Australia to the Brisbane Leadership Centre at Cathedral House in Brisbane CBD.
- Completed the fit-out of 215 Spring Street, Melbourne, for three ACU research institutes.
- Completed a fit-out of the ground floor of the Mary Glowrey Building at 115 Victoria Parade in Melbourne, including the development of cafés, a bookshop, an event space, a multi-faith prayer room, and casual spaces for staff and students.
- Commenced design and planning for two new buildings at 81-89 and 115B Victoria Parade, Fitzroy in Melbourne.
- Commenced North Sydney master planning project.
- Acquired 33 Berry Street, North Sydney, a 15-level building with net lettable area of 13,238m².

INFRASTRUCTURE IS ABOUT MORE THAN PHYSICAL BUILDINGS AND VIRTUAL SYSTEMS. THIS YEAR WE'VE BEGUN A DIALOGUE AROUND FOSTERING SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE ACROSS OUR CAMPUSES – THINGS LIKE WORKING WITH STUDENT ENGAGEMENT SERVICES ON BIKE LOCKERS, SPORTING FACILITIES, CATERING, RETAIL, AND MORE.,

Dr Stephen Weller, Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Corporate Services)

WINNING THE BEST NEWCOMER AWARD IS A GREAT RECOGNITION OF THE SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY HAS MADE IN RECENT YEARS TOWARDS BECOMING AN INDUSTRY LEADER IN SUSTAINABILITY.,

DR STEPHEN WELLER, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER AND DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR (CORPORATE SERVICES)

- Acquired seven of eight levels of 23 Berry Street, North Sydney, an eight-level building with net lettable area of 1,352m².
- Submitted development applications for an underground car park and bus setdown area on the Strathfield Campus.
- Implemented sustainability initiatives across campuses to reduce energy consumption.
- Provided ATMs on all campuses except Adelaide.
- Completed the implementation of a new wireless printing service for students using a web browser on any mobile device.
- Completed a refresh of the ACU intercampus network, resulting in an increase in available network capacity (from 1gb/s to 10gb/s). This refresh also increased reliability as well as performance and speed in accessing ACU systems and IT services located in the University's data centre.
- Developed National IT AV standards for VC meeting rooms and teaching spaces; started incorporating the standards into the LTC Physical Learning and Teaching Space Standards.
- Began progressively upgrading and standardising AV and VC equipment in large campus video conference enabled teaching spaces.
- Finalised and successfully implemented new policies on Student Appeals, Student Complaints Management, Admission to Coursework, Conferral and Graduation, Academic Dress and Regalia, and Falsification of Documents.
- Moved to electronically uploaded examinations delivered through a single printing solution, resulting in improved security as well as consistency.
- Commenced a wide review of philanthropy across the University conducted by the ACU Foundation. The review aims to develop a sustainable and responsive engagement plan connecting key internal and external stakeholders with the University's Mission and strategic plan. New ACU Foundation programs planned for 2016 include staff-giving and deeper work with major philanthropic trusts and foundations to support the objectives of the University's strategic plan.
- Executed a renewed, national approach to delivering Open Days, cementing their place as a core student recruitment activity. A record number of staff and student volunteers showcased the University's strengths and campus offerings to more than 18,000 prospective students. Over 94 per cent of survey respondents said attending Open Days made them interested or very interested in studying at ACU in the future.
- Initiated the delivery of a schools' engagement strategy to engage key stakeholders in secondary schools. Roll-out of career advisers' days, principals' breakfasts, and other state-based activities.
- Drove the delivery of annual marketing plan activity targeting key audiences including school leavers, non-recent school leavers, and postgraduate students. Delivered integrated marketing activity through new and traditional channels. Campaign activity generated significant growth in brand awareness and engagement across the year, supporting the University to achieve a 3.6 per cent increase in first preferences and direct applications in 2015 compared to 2014.
- Delivered a focused marketing plan in alignment with the Postgraduate Strategy with the aim to increase postgraduate and non-recent school leaver undergraduate applications. Over a two-year period, postgraduate first preferences and direct applications increased by 18.2 per cent (in 2015 compared to 2013).
- Assisted with ACU's annual Midyear Strategy by providing market insights to faculties to inform midyear intake in 2015 for ACU. Developed and implemented a comprehensive product and marketing plan that contributed to a significant increase in undergraduate and postgraduate applications.
- Drove a program of alumni engagement, including launching the annual Alumni Awards. Reviewed and enhanced the alumni database, developed alumni stories and profiles, and delivered a communications plan to bolster relationships and build brand advocacy.
- Initiated the ACU Brand Project, a critical activity to review ACU's current market position, awareness, and perceptions.
- Initiated a Digital Transformation Project to review ACU's current digital presence and define the future vision.
- Developed and commenced delivery of a marketing plan to raise the profile of ACU Research. Launched websites for each research institute and supported content development, photography and launch events.
- Drove the delivery of a public relations strategy aimed at changing the media message regarding the quality of graduate teachers and employment outcomes.

STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS

- Established AskACU centres on each campus for personalised individual service and a contact centre for phone and email enquiries. Introduced technology to support student enquiries via multiple channels and new data analytics to assist in developing quality assurance and transparency measures.
- Implemented the course progression software to extend student curriculum management capability, benefitting University administrators and students while helping faculties and administrative units to: increase visibility of course rules; demonstrate that students are meeting the requirements of their courses; and improve visibility into individual student course progression.

