



# AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY ANNUAL REPORT

Within this report, the University's activities have been showcased through five themes. In *Enlightening*, the University's distinctive, values-based teaching and learning is profiled, along with key data. In *Responding*, research is in focus, shown informing all our activities and adding value to communities in need. In *Engaging*, we present examples of the University's commitment to social justice, building capacity in collaboration with diverse and valued partners. *Collaborating* pays tribute in greater depth to our benefactors, whose influence is amplified through the expertise we nurture, foster and deliver, and through all our graduates. *Leading* demonstrates both the quality of our staff and our investment in them, as, together with our students, they are empowered to enact our Mission.

Gold binds this ACU National 2007 Annual Report, reflecting the quality and richness of the University's Mission-driven activities.

Australian Catholic University (ACU National) is pleased to present the *ACU National Annual Report 2007* in accordance with statutory disclosure requirements in Victoria.

The ACU National Directors' Report and Financial Statements 2007 contained in the *ACU National Annual Report 2007* was approved by the Senate of Australian Catholic University at its meeting of Wednesday 2 April 2008.



Brother Julian McDonald CFC AO  
Chancellor



Professor Greg Craven  
Vice-Chancellor

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ACU National's *Directors' Report and Financial Statements 2007* is available as a supplementary document to the Annual Report. Visit [www.acu.edu.au/publications](http://www.acu.edu.au/publications) to view documents online. Order further copies by emailing [editor@acu.edu.au](mailto:editor@acu.edu.au) or contacting University Relations on + 61 (0)2 9739 2363.

## mission and history



### **Mission**

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

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

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

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

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

### **History**

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

The University was formed through the amalgamation of the Catholic College of Education (NSW), the Institute of Catholic Education (Vic), McAuley College (Qld) and Signadou College of Education (ACT).

Today, ACU National has six campuses nationally: Brisbane (McAuley at Banyo), North Sydney (MacKillop), Strathfield (Mount Saint Mary), Canberra (Signadou), Ballarat (Aquinas), Melbourne (St Patrick's).



## Chancellor's foreword



It would be impossible to begin this foreword without firstly acknowledging the inspirational vision and compelling leadership of Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Sheehan AO, whose decade at the helm of an ever stronger ACU National has come to a close.

Professor Sheehan's personal passion for justice ensured that his time as Vice-Chancellor has served to vitally enhance the values, ethos and Mission expressed by our University in all its teaching, learning and research, and in all its valued partnerships.

ACU National has come to maturity under Professor Sheehan. In 2007, as in the past, he continued to engage the expertise and energies of his executive and staff, and to catalyse them into constructive and collaborative action.

In all his years with ACU National, working tirelessly, imaginatively and constructively, Professor Sheehan created opportunities for challenging and satisfying projects in which the whole university community has been able to engage.

Building on a string of such initiatives, in 2007, Professor Sheehan presided over the establishment of the Institute for Advancing Community Engagement, along with the Allan Myers Chair of Law, and the Fethullah Gülen Chair in the Study of Islam and Muslim-Catholic Relations, a first for Australia. Interfaith dialogue is a reality at ACU National, where we focus on what we share, rather than on what divides us.

Professor Sheehan's charismatic leadership continued to encompass support for the student body with the launch in 2007 of ACU National Wired radio, along with a strengthening of graduate relations.

Under Professor Sheehan's leadership, the reputation and distinctive ethos of ACU National has grown nationally and internationally in 2007.

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A Catholic university by definition does not exist in isolation. It is part of the Church and wider human communities and a member of a worldwide network of Catholic tertiary education providers. As such, it has obligations to the communities from which it draws its students and to the communities in which its graduates find employment, and to all people as it lives out its Mission.

As our Mission states, the ideal graduates of ACU National are 'highly competent in their chosen fields, ethical in their behaviour, with a developed critical habit of mind, an appreciation of the sacred in life, and a commitment to serving the common good'.

At our Catholic University, community engagement is a highly valued vehicle for expressing and achieving our Mission, through partnerships in which equality is respected and shared goals articulated.

Our students and staff approach engagement with the expectation that they will have something to learn from the community groups and individuals with whom they collaborate on a particular project or activity, together achieving a more just society.

As in the past, throughout 2007, educational opportunities have been provided to refugees on the Thai-Burmese border in collaboration with the Jesuits. Engagement with the Catholic teachers' college in East Timor in collaboration with the Marist Brothers continued, along with other valuable programs. These activities have been applauded jointly by the Congregation for Justice and Peace and the Congregation for Catholic Education in Rome.

Closer to home, the Clemente Australia program, providing tertiary education opportunities for people who are marginalised in collaboration with Mission Australia and the St Vincent de Paul Society and others, has continued to grow during 2007, spreading to Brisbane, Canberra and Melbourne, attracting the imagination and support of businesses, and earning a string of prestigious awards.

These advances in the life of the University have lifted up minds and hearts and raised the morale of staff, students and partners immeasurably. We celebrate our unique strengths.

The partnerships, professionalism, academic achievement, and staff loyalty Professor Sheehan has fostered in 2007 and the preceding years leave ACU National in exceptionally good health, enjoying well-deserved respect in the world of tertiary education and beyond.

The activities and reach of ACU National, as a public institution in a resources-rich nation, are indeed of critical importance, for our Catholic heritage recognises that education is the right of all people, and liberation for many deprived people will come only through education. The expertise we share and foster, for the common good, is vital.

In farewelling Professor Sheehan, we now address the future of our public, Catholic university. In 2007, from a strong field of extremely high quality candidates, Professor Greg Craven was selected as new Vice-Chancellor, to take up his position in early 2008.

Professor Craven has enjoyed a distinguished career in academia, the law and public life. In addition to his two years as Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Curtin University of Technology, Professor Craven was the foundation Dean and Professor of Law at the University of Notre Dame Australia. Prior to this he held academic positions at the University of Melbourne, and has also served as Crown Counsel for the State of Victoria.

Importantly, Professor Craven identifies strongly with the academic, social and spiritual ethos of ACU National. He is ideally placed to take this important University into an exciting future and we welcome him.

In closing, may I extend my personal thanks to Professor Sheehan and indeed to all our staff, students, graduates and partners, for their mutual contributions to ACU National during 2007 and for all that our University has achieved.

Brother Julian McDonald CFC AO  
Chancellor

## Vice-Chancellor's statement



In this, my 2007 and final Annual Report, I will begin by putting on record my immense pride in the achievements of our graduates, our students and the staff of Australian Catholic University (ACU National). Now, as in the past decade, I can express only admiration for their tremendous commitment to our unique University and to its vital Mission.

Most organisations survive on the common sense of the people who are working in them. ACU National survives and thrives through the extraordinary commitment and dedication of the people who work for and with this University which dares to be different.

The University has experienced enormous growth in the past 10 years. Student numbers have grown by 36 per cent, from 10,577 students in 1988 to 14,362 students in 2007.

Our research revenues have tripled in that same time. Our Professoriate has doubled from 16 to 32, and our infrastructure has increased significantly to support the growth.

However, for institutions to be healthy and to thrive, growth alone is insufficient. What matters to me is what that growth achieves, and I am proud to report that I believe we have achieved a wonderful level of quality as a unique Australian university.

Quality has been in evidence throughout the decade and no less so during 2007, when academic staff have achieved public recognition for their quality at unprecedented levels.

In 2007, a record 13 members of staff from across all our faculties were awarded citations from the Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education for outstanding contributions to student learning.

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Artwork: John Coburn



These and many other members of staff, at every campus, have led by example, engaging with students, Australian and international colleagues and communities, sharing their views and expertise, incrementally adding to the depth and breadth of our University's influence and standing. Their commitment, experience and generous work continue to build credibility and respect for the quality and distinctiveness of ACU National and for all that it does and achieves.

In 2007, the quality of the tertiary education we provide once again received high praise in *The Good Universities Guide 2008*. This time, graduates recognised in particular 'positive graduate outcomes', 'entry flexibility', 'getting a job', 'Indigenous participation' and 'staff qualifications'.

Not all achievements can be measured in such public ways. I strongly believe that the true measure of a Catholic university, or for that matter any university, is how it relates in a quality way to people, and especially to its students and graduates.

I am proud of the fact that at ACU National, the study of ethics, theology and philosophy is integrated well into all subject areas. Staff and students are actively encouraged to interpret and reflect on Mission values in original, personal and authentic ways, ways which we believe help them 'qualify for life'.

At the conclusion of 10 years with this University, I have come to learn that through our values and through all that we do, there is a genuine institutional soul that is reflected in the core values that this University communicates.

These values have come to be captured very meaningfully for me by the University's Mission-related community engagement. Community engagement provides a focus that is critical for gathering students, staff and others around shared purposes and meaning. Our Mission values give the institution in turn its integrity, its sense of maturity and feelings of self-worth.



Portrait: Brother Don Gallagher CFC

We are delivering social justice imperatives as a vital Catholic institution of higher learning.

We are all participants in a community where we attempt to relate to each other in a moral, spiritual and socially responsible way. It is these values which bring us together in diversity, and their synergies which in turn express the vitality of our institution's ethos.

For me, the Mission values of social responsibility and community engagement are integrally intertwined. Ethical practice, respect for others, openness, inclusiveness and genuine tolerance matter. All encourage the quest for meaning and purpose, in community with others.

In the many contributions the University makes to both Church and state, I remain proud that we have a well-deserved and enviable international reputation for producing contributing, caring and ethical members of society.

As I prepare to step away from leading this great University, it is indeed gratifying to be able to report a depth and breadth of influence and excellence in all we do, and to recognise a wonderful sense of maturity in our operations, partnerships and many relationships.

As witness to the challenges of the past, I see ACU National being a force that moves us forward, one that is embracing the pressures, challenges and changes of the future with nothing less than a healthy momentum, borne of the care, talent and combined efforts of so many very good people. Their common quest, through our Mission, to honour individual human dignity and the sacredness of life, is a quest that truly matters. We are delivering social justice imperatives as a vital Catholic institution of higher learning.

It remains for me to express gratitude to all my colleagues for their inspirational and energetic support in 2007 as in the past.

I would like to single out Cardinal Edward Clancy AC, our Foundation Chancellor, who appointed me to this University and has guided me with much valued wisdom and affection, and I have been much honoured to have worked with Brother Julian McDonald CFC AO, our current Chancellor. Over the past seven years, I have benefited enormously from his support, friendship, personal graciousness, warmth, wisdom and insight.

For the future, may this unique, public, Catholic University continue to reflect its distinctive ethos in all that it does. I pray that it will be always open to the needs of others and always ready to work intelligently, through hope energised by imagination, for the common good.

Professor Peter W Sheehan AO  
Vice-Chancellor

## financial summary

### Revenue

Total government grants increased by \$8.5 million (8.62 per cent) over 2006, in particular the Commonwealth Grants Scheme of \$6.04 million.

Other operating revenue increased by \$10.52 million (22.33 per cent), including an increase in fees and charges of \$4.34 million and other revenue of \$5.14 million. Total revenue increased by \$18.59 million (12.83 per cent).

### Expenditure

Salary expenditure excluding provisions increased by \$11.98 million (14.57 per cent) and non-salary cash expenses increased by \$6.28 million (17.84 per cent). Total expenditure, including non-cash transactions for depreciation, amortisation and transfers to leave provisions increased by \$18.49 million (14.61 per cent).

### Operating result

There was a positive operating result of \$18.36 million, an increase of \$0.96 million (0.53 per cent) over the result for 2006 of \$18.27 million. The positive result is attributed to operating activities of \$10.17 million and capital activities of \$8.2 million.

### Working capital

There was an improvement in the working capital position from a surplus of \$17.07 million in 2006 to a surplus of \$34.79 million in 2007 due principally to an increase in cash and investments.

### Borrowings

There was a reduction in total borrowings from \$0.8 million in 2006 to nil in 2007.





| Summary*  | 2007<br>\$'000 | 2006<br>\$'000 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| Commonwealth Government Operating Grants                      | 107,036        | 98,541         |
| Deferred Superannuation Contribution                          | (1,184)        | (759)          |
| Other Operating Revenue                                       | 57,605         | 47,088         |
| Salary (excluding transfer to Provisions)                     | (94,212)       | (82,234)       |
| Non-Salary Cash Expenses                                      | (41,450)       | (35,175)       |
| Non-Cash Expenses (Depreciation, Amortisation and Provisions) | (9,431)        | (9,193)        |
| Net Operating Profit  | 18,364         | 18,268         |
| Interest Bearing Liabilities                                  |                | 800            |
| Working Capital Surplus/(Deficit)                             | 34,786         | 17,065         |

#### Net assets and reserves

Net assets and reserves increased by \$18.45 million. The increase in reserves comprised \$18.36 million from net operating profit and a revaluation increment to the available for sale financial revaluation reserve of \$0.09 million.

#### Infrastructure developments

To cope with the growth in student numbers, additional teaching and administrative space was leased during 2007 in close proximity to both the Melbourne and North Sydney campuses. Refurbishment of the leased areas with associated works on the main campuses was also carried out. A long-term capital planning review undertaken in late 2006 identified the need for further significant capital infrastructure expenditure in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane and this will be undertaken during 2008 and 2009. The expansion will be funded from University cash reserves, augmented with external loan borrowings.

\*Annual financial statements are reviewed by ACU National's Audit Committee and Standing and Finance Committee before being approved by Senate for presentation to Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC). The *Directors' Report and Financial Statements 2007* of ACU National is available as a supplementary document to the Annual Report. Please contact University Relations on +61 (0)2 9739 2363, email editor@acu.edu.au or visit www.acu.edu.au/publications to order a copy of either document.

#### Five-Year Financial Summary

|  | AIFRS          |                |                |                | PRE AIFRS<br>(AGAAP) |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|
|  | 2007<br>\$000  | 2006<br>\$000  | 2005<br>\$000  | 2004<br>\$000  | 2003<br>\$000        |
| <b>Income Statement</b>                          |                |                |                |                |                      |
| Revenue from Continuing Operations               |                |                |                |                |                      |
| Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance     | 69,884         | 62,705         | 53,015         | 51,660         | 48,655               |
| Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS-HELP) | 33,566         | 32,764         | 30,077         | 28,368         | 29,958               |
| Fees and Charges                                 | 32,615         | 28,274         | 24,162         | 18,776         | 14,309               |
| Other  | 27,392         | 21,127         | 18,974         | 17,491         | 14,750               |
| <b>Total Revenue from Continuing Operations</b>  | <b>163,457</b> | <b>144,870</b> | <b>126,228</b> | <b>116,295</b> | <b>107,672</b>       |
| <b>Expenses from Continuing Operations</b>       |                |                |                |                |                      |
| Employee Benefits                                | 96,648         | 85,049         | 80,586         | 76,153         | 69,551               |
| Other  | 48,445         | 41,553         | 37,208         | 32,575         | 32,258               |
| <b>Total Expenses from Continuing Operations</b> | <b>145,093</b> | <b>126,602</b> | <b>117,794</b> | <b>108,728</b> | <b>101,809</b>       |
| <b>Operating Result for the Year</b>             | <b>18,364</b>  | <b>18,268</b>  | <b>8,434</b>   | <b>7,567</b>   | <b>5,863</b>         |
| <b>Balance Sheet</b>                             |                |                |                |                |                      |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                            |                |                |                |                |                      |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents                        | 690            | 2,186          | 1,067          | 1,613          | 2,301                |
| Trade and Other Receivables                      | 2,869          | 2,318          | 1,809          | 1,050          | 1,104                |
| Other Investments                                | 52,821         | 33,497         | 17,060         | 15,735         | 16,828               |
| Other  | 2,108          | 2,389          | 2,372          | 2,256          | 1,387                |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>                      | <b>58,488</b>  | <b>40,390</b>  | <b>22,308</b>  | <b>20,654</b>  | <b>21,620</b>        |
| <b>Non-Current Assets</b>                        |                |                |                |                |                      |
| Other Financial Assets                           | 1,314          | 1,081          | 856            | 568            | 182                  |
| Property, Plant and Equipment                    | 108,594        | 105,509        | 103,098        | 99,569         | 202,380              |
| Intangible Assets                                | 49,365         | 50,185         | 51,005         | 51,826         |                      |
| Other  | 13,958         | 15,142         | 15,901         | 14,458         | 14,368               |
| <b>Total Non Current Assets</b>                  | <b>173,231</b> | <b>171,917</b> | <b>170,860</b> | <b>166,421</b> | <b>216,930</b>       |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                              | <b>231,719</b> | <b>212,307</b> | <b>193,168</b> | <b>187,075</b> | <b>238,550</b>       |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>                       |                |                |                |                |                      |
| Trade and Other Payables                         | 4,470          | 4,479          | 3,135          | 2,942          | 2,225                |
| Interest Bearing Liabilities                     | 0              | 800            | 1,300          | 1,300          | 1,300                |
| Employee Benefits                                | 8,163          | 7,137          | 6,603          | 5,928          | 5,375                |
| Other  | 11,069         | 10,909         | 9,060          | 12,881         | 13,067               |
| <b>Total Current Liabilities</b>                 | <b>23,702</b>  | <b>23,325</b>  | <b>20,098</b>  | <b>23,051</b>  | <b>21,967</b>        |
| <b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>                   |                |                |                |                |                      |
| Interest Bearing Liabilities                     | 0              | 0              | 5,350          | 6,650          | 7,950                |
| Employee Benefits                                | 24,487         | 25,242         | 24,869         | 23,209         | 20,619               |
| Other  | 5,922          | 4,585          | 3,797          | 3,769          | 723                  |
| <b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>             | <b>30,409</b>  | <b>29,827</b>  | <b>34,016</b>  | <b>33,628</b>  | <b>29,292</b>        |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                         | <b>54,111</b>  | <b>53,152</b>  | <b>54,114</b>  | <b>56,679</b>  | <b>51,259</b>        |
| <b>Net Assets</b>                                | <b>177,608</b> | <b>159,155</b> | <b>139,054</b> | <b>130,396</b> | <b>187,291</b>       |
| <b>Total Equity</b>                              | <b>177,608</b> | <b>159,155</b> | <b>139,054</b> | <b>130,396</b> | <b>187,291</b>       |

# enlightening



Teaching and learning is the core business of ACU National, and a commitment to quality in these areas is integral to the University's Mission and Strategic Plan.

In keeping with a culture of review introduced by Vice-Chancellor Professor Sheehan AO with the development of the University's Strategic Plan almost a decade ago, the University continued to welcome student evaluation of teaching and learning, and to review and improve course delivery, assessment, the learning environment and outcomes throughout 2007.

With the study of ethics, theology and philosophy integrated into curriculum areas at ACU National, staff and students are encouraged to interpret and reflect on their values in original, personal and authentic ways. Expertise is nurtured within a context of community responsibility.

The special strengths of teaching and learning at our University, enriched by research, achieved recognition from a number of sources in 2007. Among them, staff and students were selected for a number of external awards, the University received funding for international educational initiatives, and, in response to community needs, we strengthened our relationships with collaborators.

## Quality teaching and learning

During 2007, ACU National continued to strengthen its reputation as a provider of quality teaching and learning with the implementation of many new initiatives. Some were funded through the Learning and Teaching Performance Fund allocation by the Commonwealth Government, the purpose of which is to reward universities for demonstrated excellence in teaching and learning.

There were key developments in the area of online education, with the endorsement of the Strategic Plan for Online Teaching and Learning 2007–2009. The plan establishes specific goals for online teaching and learning and identifies ways of putting into practice relevant policies for a number of projects already in train, and to identify new objectives, projects and strategies. The foundation Director of Flexible Teaching and Learning was appointed to provide University-wide leadership for online teaching and learning, including oversight of implementation of the plan and responsibility for pedagogical leadership

and coordination and alignment of the pedagogical and technical dimensions of online teaching and learning. A project funded by the Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education allowed the further development of staff skills in online course development and delivery with the appointment of six online advisers.

The First Year Experience (FYE) program was introduced across all campuses of the University in 2007 to support the transition of students to university. The program is coordinated by the University FYE Coordinator, in turn supported by six campus-based FYE Coordinators. Feedback from students, via the new FYE Committee chaired by the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Quality and Engagement), has indicated that the program has been welcomed by students and was successful in its inaugural year.

During 2007, ACU National continued its success with respect to applications for Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education projects and awards. These included nine citations for



Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning and a discipline-based collaborative theology grant for a scoping project to establish the depth, reach and utility of Australian theological education.

#### Academic Board and standing committees

In 2007, Academic Board undertook a review of its terms of reference and membership, resulting in a reduction in the professorial representation on the committee. The terms of reference and membership of the board's standing committees were also reviewed with recommended changes approved by Academic Board. With the completion of the review of the faculties' discipline profile, the decision was made to establish two new institutes, one in Business and Informatics, and the other in Theology, Philosophy and Religious Education.

A new national School of Theology brought together the four Schools of Theology for the first time in 2007.

The Asia-Pacific Centre for Inter-religious Dialogue commenced its first full year of operation promoting dialogue, mutual understanding, respect and collaboration between Christians and other religious communities through the provision of related research and scholarship, teaching and learning, and community engagement. As detailed later in this report, the Centre's inaugural Chair was appointed.

In 2007, Academic Board approved the new Strategic Plan for Online Teaching and Learning 2007–2009 and a number of new and revised policies and related documents, including:

- guidelines for the coding and naming of units
- policy and procedures on educational partnerships, including guidelines on educational partnerships, affiliations and other collaborative arrangements
- revised 2009 Teaching Development Grant Program Guidelines
- revised graduate attributes
- revised policy on recognition of prior learning and guidelines for implementation of the policy on recognition of prior learning; and
- revised procedures for 2008 ACU National Excellence in Teaching Awards.

Academic Board and the University Senate approved the following new courses to commence in 2008:

- Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Paramedicine
- Graduate Certificate in Clinical Education
- Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Catholic Culture
- Non-award Diploma in Exercise Science

- A suite of nested courses in Early Childhood Education.

Reviews of the following courses were undertaken during 2007 and the outcomes were endorsed by the Board:

- Bachelor of Arts (Pass and Honours)
- Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Social Work
- Bachelor of Midwifery
- Bachelor of Social Work (Pass and Honours)
- Diploma in Education (Habilitation) and Bachelor of Education (Habilitation)
- Master of Midwifery (Research)
- Master of Nursing (Research)
- Master of Social Science (Human Services)
- Indigenous Education pre-service primary and secondary programs.

Following course reviews, the Board discontinued the following programs for which there was no longer a demonstrated need:

- Master of Education (Communities and Social Justice)
- Master of Nursing (Clinical Education)
- Postgraduate Certificate in Citizenship and Human Rights.

Enrolments were suspended in the following courses:

- Bachelor of Information Systems in Brisbane
- Bachelor of Nursing/Bachelor of Arts in Ballarat
- Certificate and Diploma in Church Music
- Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma in Church Music
- Graduate Certificate in Interfaith Relations for 2008
- Graduate Certificate in Middle School Mathematics
- Graduate Certificate in Orff Music and Graduate Diploma in Education (Orff Music Education)
- Master of Arts (Liturgy), including the exit qualification of Graduate Diploma in Arts (Liturgy)
- Master of Social Work
- Postgraduate Certificate in Child Protection and Communities
- Social and Emotional Learning, Evaluation and Sustainable Futures in the Postgraduate Certificate in Education and Master of Education.



The following existing courses were approved for offering off-shore:

- Bachelor of Nursing in Hong Kong
- Certificate and Diploma in Educational Studies in Singapore.

The following changes to course titles were approved:

- Bachelor of Habilitation to Bachelor of Inclusive Education and Disability Studies
- Bachelor of Social Science (Youth Studies) to Bachelor of Youth Work
- Career Education specialisation in the Postgraduate Certificate in Education to Career Development
- Coronary Care specialisation in the Graduate Certificate and in Master of Clinical Nursing to Cardiac Care
- Inclusive Schooling specialisation in the Postgraduate Certificate in Education to Wellbeing in Inclusive Schooling
- Diploma in Habilitation to Associate Degree in Inclusive Education and Disability Studies
- Diploma in Indigenous Studies to Associate Degree in Indigenous Education.

Other major course changes approved by Academic Board in 2007 include:

- a new specialisation in Religious Education in the Postgraduate Certificate in Education and Master of Education

- change of mode of offering for the Graduate Diploma in Education (Secondary)
- introduction of new Health units in the Bachelor of Exercise Science
- introduction of the Bachelor of Educational Studies as an exit point from the Bachelor of Education (Primary)
- new clinical nursing streams in Urology and Maternity in the Graduate Certificate in and Master of Clinical Nursing and change of study mode for these courses to multi-mode
- new majors in the Bachelor of Business in Hospitality Management and Tourism Management
- non-award Certificate in Liberal Studies to be offered as a stand-alone program from 2008
- sequence of Religious Education and Theology units to be offered to students in Bachelor of Education programs at James Cook University and the University of Southern Queensland
- the Graduate Certificate in Arts (Applied Ethics) to be offered as a stand-alone program, not only as an exit point from the Master of Arts (Applied Ethics)
- the introduction of the Postgraduate Certificate in Education (Religious Education) as an exit point from the Master of Religious Education.



#### Faculty and University medal winners

The University recognises academic excellence in its students through Dean's lists in each faculty, as well as Faculty and University Medals. In 2007, the latter were awarded to the following students:

##### Faculty of Education

Ms Joranda Maria Jones, School of Education (NSW)

##### Faculty of Health Sciences

Honours Medal winner – Ms Bianca Louise Share, Bachelor of Exercise Science (Honours) (Vic)  
 Pass Medal winner – Mr Daniel Cicioni Kolsky, Bachelor of Exercise Science (Vic)

##### Faculty of Arts and Sciences

Honours Medal winner – Ms Majella Allen, Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) (Qld)  
 Pass Medal winner – Ms Grace Chow, Bachelor of Psychology (Vic)

##### 2007 University Medal

Ms Bianca Louise Share, Bachelor of Exercise Science (Honours) (Vic)

#### Appointments and retirements

Professor Elizabeth Cameron-Traub, who stepped down as Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences after a 10-year term, continues her role as a Professor of Nursing

Professor Pauline Nugent was appointed Dean of Health Sciences

Professor Patrick Duignan, Director of the Flagship for Creative and Authentic Leadership, retired from the University after 12 years of service as foundation Professor of Educational Leadership

Associate Professor Fran McInerney was appointed Associate Professor of Aged Care in partnership with Catholic Homes for the Elderly

Dr Michael Gaffney was appointed Professor of Educational Leadership

Ms Ann Applebee was appointed foundation Director of Flexible Teaching and Learning.

#### New Chairs

Professor Linda Worrell-Carter was appointed as Chair of Nursing Research in partnership with St Vincent's Hospital (Melbourne)

Associate Professor Spencer Zifcak was appointed as the Allan Myers Chair of Law

Professor Ismail Albayrak, third from left, above, was appointed to the Fethullah Gülen Chair in the Study of Islam and Muslim-Catholic Relations in partnership with the Australian Intercultural Society

“ ... through a decade of continuing change within the higher education sector ... Professor Sheehan instituted a program of evaluative reviews to assist the process of refining and strengthening the University's activities ... ”

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs) Professor Gabrielle McMullen

#### Goals Committee

The Goals Committee met regularly and instigated and supported a wide range of activities to promote the unique Mission of the University. Several successful forums, lectures, conferences and other activities were held, including the following:

- in collaboration with several other Catholic agencies, a colloquium on Mission and Identity hosted by the University at the Melbourne Campus in April. It was the first such gathering and offered the 105 participants a unique opportunity to discuss and scrutinise the nature of Catholic organisations' identity
- public lectures in Brisbane, Strathfield and Melbourne on the topics of *A Catholic university and prophecy*, *A Catholic university and lay stewardship* and *A Catholic university's compelling deep story*, as well as a conversazione at the Melbourne campus on *Culture and prophetic critique in Catholic-sponsored institutions* with Professor Bernard Lee SM in July
- a conversazione on contemporary issues relevant to Catholic education with Archbishop Michael Miller CSB in North Sydney in August
- forums for students and staff on the Church's social teaching held at the Melbourne and Strathfield campuses in August and September
- presentations by Mr Duncan McLaren, outgoing General Secretary of Caritas Internationalis and Visiting Professor at the University from August to December, who was based in North Sydney but visited other campuses and delivered public lectures
- a joint forum with Caritas Australia to mark the 40th anniversary of Pope Paul VI's *Populorum Progressio* held in November and focusing on developing a set of principles for an integrated approach to the Church's contribution to aid and development in the Pacific and East Timor.

#### Embracing change

Evaluation and reviews continue to inform and improve quality teaching and learning at ACU National.

In 2007, the systematic use of both unit evaluation and Course Experience Questionnaire (CEQ) data, incorporated within the University's Teaching and Learning Plan, informed curriculum reviews at course and unit levels, while evaluation processes have been complemented by the biennial Quality and Administrative Support Services (QASS) survey of returning students' assessment of services, and the Course Completion Surveys (CCS) of graduating students.

Teaching and learning was supported by an ongoing commitment to suitable library services, with the acquisitions budget reaching \$2,188,589 in 2007. In keeping with policy, a growing proportion of these funds is being spent on electronic resources. The increase in funding was accompanied by the establishment, on each campus library, of liaison librarians who work with specific schools to ensure the collections and services are aligned to the needs of the entire University community.





"I am particularly pleased that this year *The Good Universities Guide* not only recognises ACU National's supportive and nurturing learning environment, but also the University's ability to produce graduates of the highest order: graduates who think critically, are guided by social justice principles and are highly sought after in the job market."

Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Sheehan AO

## Highlights

### Five-star ratings

In 2007, ACU National once again achieved a number of coveted 'five-star' performance ratings in the 2008 edition of *The Good Universities Guide*, published by Hobsons.

ACU National's NSW and ACT campuses – North Sydney, Strathfield and Canberra – received five stars for Entry Flexibility, Graduate Employment, Positive Graduate Outcomes and Staff Qualifications.

The Melbourne Campus and Ballarat Campus in Victoria achieved five stars for Entry Flexibility, Graduate Employment, Student-Staff Ratio and Positive Graduate Outcomes.

The Brisbane Campus was given five stars for Graduate Employment, Indigenous Participation, Positive Graduate Outcomes and Staff Qualifications.

### Recognition

Nine Citations for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning were awarded by the Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Australian Higher Education to ACU National academic and general staff who made a significant contribution to the quality of student learning through hard work and innovation. Winners received \$10,000 in prize money:

- Education Senior Lecturer Dr Carolyn Broadbent for inspiring teacher education students to build sustainable communities of learning through the ARTS Factory initiative
- Education Lecturer Ms Maya Cranitch for creating pathways to productive citizenship for recently arrived refugees through access to higher education with a supportive learning environment
- Nursing Lecturer Ms Jacqui Guy for pioneering an innovative model of experiential learning for nursing students in partnership with a healthcare system in a developing country
- Education Lecturer Mr Ed Lewis, Senior Lecturer Dr Sandi Carroll, Assistant Head of School Dr Paul White, Senior Lecturer Dr Jan Long and Senior Lecturer Ms Wendy, for excellent and sustained promotion of student learning in primary teacher education through school partnerships in the Teaching and Learning Consortium

- Arts and Sciences Lecturer Dr Vaughan Monamy for using the extensive experience gained as a practising scientist, policy maker and author to enrich and enhance teaching and to inspire learning in Environmental Science
- Education Senior Lecturer Dr Toni Noble for an innovative, influential and sustained contribution to student learning in educational psychology and to teacher education through scholarship and publication
- Arts and Sciences Senior Lecturer Dr Kathy Robinson for innovative adaptation of problem-based learning for large and diverse classes of nursing students to promote in-depth understanding of science
- Libraries Director Mr Chris Sheargold for strategic and sustained leadership in the development of a student-focused library service that demonstrably supports learning in a multi-campus university
- Psychology Lecturer Dr Gill Terrett for outstanding contribution to enhancing student learning outcomes in psychology and in the wider University community.

### 2007 Excellence in Teaching Awards

In 2007, Excellence in Teaching awards were presented to three lecturers within the Faculty of Arts and Sciences:

- Ms Lynne Hendrick – School of Arts and Sciences (NSW)
- Mr Roger Hillman – School of Arts and Sciences (Vic)
- Dr Vaughan Monamy – School of Arts and Sciences (NSW)

### International immersion

An award-winning, pioneering model of experiential learning for nursing students in partnership with health care providers in Vanuatu paved the way for a newly introduced Faculty of Health Sciences policy on international community immersion.



“This program is all about strengthening the delivery of education across the Asia-Pacific region – at the school, university and government level – through a combination of theoretical and practical leadership training for individuals working in the sector.”

ACU National Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and International)  
Professor Peter Wilson

#### Human rights in focus

ACU National formally launched its Institute of Legal Studies (ILS) with a lecture by international human rights expert Professor Cathleen Kaveny, the John P Murphy Foundation Professor of Law and Professor of Theology at Notre Dame Law School in Indiana, USA, who spoke on *Hope, Solidarity and Human Rights*.

A Social Justice Youth Forum, attended by approximately 300 senior students from Catholic schools, was held at the Brisbane Campus in June.

#### Indigenous education

Building on our record of success in providing Indigenous education, the University approved the establishment of a Centre for Indigenous Education, bringing together its three Indigenous education units with a national focus. The Centre is to pursue the objectives of a newly agreed strategy for Indigenous Education and Research, giving expression to national priorities within the context of the University’s distinctive Mission.

The Carrick Award for Teaching Excellence in Indigenous Education was won by Weemala Indigenous Education Unit Coordinator Dr Nereda White, from the Brisbane Campus, who also received the only 2007 Neville Bonner Award for Indigenous Education.

The National Indigenous Education Consultative Committee award for Indigenous elders was presented to Aunty Joan Hendricks, an elder of the Nguigi people who assists Weemala in its work.

A \$20,000 postgraduate scholarship for current and new research candidates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent was announced, kindly donated by the Pratt Foundation. It is for full-time research in any field of scholarly research within the faculties of Arts and Sciences, Education, or Health Sciences leading to a Master’s or Doctoral degree. Visit [www.acu.edu.au/indigenous](http://www.acu.edu.au/indigenous) for more information.

A number of staff, students and friends of ACU National celebrated Indigenous Week at the University. At the Ballarat Campus, the Wautharong people were acknowledged as the traditional

Indigenous owners and custodians of the land, and message sticks were discussed at weekly Mass, where a symbolic stick was blessed and installed in the Chapel. At the Strathfield Campus there was a flag-raising ceremony, and third-year education student Jennifer Hodges and first-year education student Matthew Shiels spoke on the theme *Looking forward, looking back*, reflecting on the development of the campus’s Yalbalinga Indigenous Support Unit.

The Flagship of Creative and Authentic Leadership, in partnership with the Batchelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education (BIITE), continued to make progress in the *Linking Worlds* project, funded by the Australian Research Council. The project targets higher education institutes already engaged in significant work with Indigenous students. The purpose of *Linking Worlds* is to investigate cultural influence on educational leadership in remote Aboriginal communities, and to appreciate how an understanding of this might assist in strengthening the capacity of educational leaders to develop culturally appropriate Indigenous teaching and learning programs. This partnership also received funding from the Carrick Institute for an Excellence in Learning and Teaching Program.

The School of Education (Queensland) worked on *Community-based mentoring: An exploration of a model for supporting and retaining teachers in rural and remote communities in Queensland*, with activities currently centred on Springsure and Moonie.

Reviews of the Indigenous education programs in the Faculty of Education led to new programs being developed and approved. The Bachelor of Education (Primary) (Indigenous Education) was successfully revised, while the Diploma in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education was revised and renamed as Associate Degree in Indigenous Education.

The Faculty of Arts and Sciences and the Faculty of Education worked together to establish a dual degree Bachelor of Teaching/Bachelor of Arts in a mixed mode which will allow the Indigenous pre-service secondary teachers to work mainly in their own communities while studying and completing their dual degree.



#### Supporting education in the region

ACU National was awarded \$423,500 by the Commonwealth Government to help support educational leadership development in Asia through the *Mastering the new basics in education leadership* program. Carried out by ACU National’s Flagship for Creative and Authentic Leadership and funded via AusAID’s Australian Leadership Awards fellowship program, it included a three-day seminar in Ho Chi Minh City for Australian Leadership Awards (ALA) Fellows from Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and East Timor.

In an agreement with Anglicare, the Australian Leadership Consortium, involving ACU National’s Flagship for Creative and Authentic Leadership and the Australian Centre for Educational Leadership at the University, developed and implemented a leadership development program for senior Anglicare executives.

Representatives of diocesan Catholic education offices, religious congregations and the School of Educational Leadership worked together to develop

a framework for leadership in Catholic education. Engagement with the Catholic education community also included the *Leaders Transforming Learners and Learning* (LTLL) project and the hosting of an international leadership conference in Sydney with the theme *Directions for Catholic Educational Leadership in the 21st Century*.

The artwork pictured above, by Josephine Kiwat, is segment 14 of a collective work produced by Indigenous students from Darnley Island State School for the exhibition *Home Island – Home Country*, a Cairns Regional Gallery touring exhibition which was shown at the Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney campuses. More news on exhibitions at ACU National is on page 41.

#### Undergraduate award full-time employment by Indigenous status

|                       | 2004       | 2005       | 2006       | 2007       |
|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Indigenous Australian | 75%        | 69%        | 80%        | 69%        |
| Other                 | 82%        | 90%        | 85%        | 86%        |
| <b>Total</b>          | <b>82%</b> | <b>90%</b> | <b>85%</b> | <b>86%</b> |





Photo: Photolibary

## International education

International student enrolments continued to increase in 2007. Although the largest enrolments were in nursing, other fields, such as business, showed healthy growth. The largest numbers of students were from India, China, Korea and Nepal.

A new full-time study abroad and student exchange advisor position was created in 2007. Part of this role involves the development of opportunities for Australian students to spend a period of their study at one of the universities with which ACU National has an exchange agreement. A program to provide financial support for students on outgoing exchange has also been implemented.

### Exchange partner institutions

ACU National has exchange agreements with universities throughout the world. For more information visit [www.acu.edu.au/international](http://www.acu.edu.au/international).

#### Austria

- FH Kufstein-Tirol University of Applied Sciences

#### Canada

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

#### China

- Shanghai Jiao Tong University

#### Chile

- Universidad Santo Tomas

#### England

- University of Bradford
- University of Cumbria, Carlisle

#### Finland

- Rovaniemi Polytechnic

#### France

- ESPEME School of Business (Campuses in Lille and Nice)
- Universite Catholique de Lille  
Classes offered in English
- Universite Catholique de Lyon  
Classes offered in English

## Germany – State of Baden-Wuerttemberg

The number of classes offered in English varies between institutions.

### Research Universities

Freiburg, Heidelberg, Hohenheim, Karlsruhe, Konstanz, Mannheim, Stuttgart, Tuebingen, Ulm

### Universities of Applied Sciences

Aalen, Albsig, Biberach, Esslingen, Furtwangen, Gmuend, Heilbronn, Karlsruhe, Kehl, Konstanz (pictured left), Ludwigsburg, Mannheim, Offenburg, Pforzheim, Reutlingen, Rottneburg, Stuttgart, Ulm, Weingarten

### Universities of Cooperative Education (University/Company partnerships)

Heidenheim, Karlsruhe, Loerrach, Mannheim, Mosbach, Ravensburg, Stuttgart

### Universities of Music, Arts and Media

Freiburg, Karlsruhe, Mannheim, Stuttgart, Trossingen, Ludwigsburg

### Universities of Education

Freiburg, Gmuend, Heidelberg, Karlsruhe, Ludwigsburg, Weingarten

## Germany – State of Hessen

The partnerships listed below are part of the Germany–State of Queensland Agreement and relate only to students studying at the Brisbane Campus.

The programs do not require German language skills when starting the course. All courses are held in either English only or, in the first year, in English and at later stages in both English and German. German language courses are provided for non-German speakers.

- Hochschule Darmstadt
- Technische Universität Darmstadt
- University of Kassel
- Fachhochschule Frankfurt am Main
- Justus-Liebig-Universität Giessen
- Hochschule Darmstadt
- Johan Wolfgang Goethe Universität Frankfurt am Main
- Fachhochschule Giessen-Friedberg
- Fachhochschule Wiesbaden
- Philipps-Universität Marburg
- Hochschule Fulda

#### Ireland

- Mary Immaculate College, University of Limerick
- National University of Ireland, Maynooth

#### Japan

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

#### Mexico

- Universidad de Monterrey
- Universidad Iberoamericana, Puebla
- Universidad Panamericana Guadalajara

#### The Netherlands

- The Hague University

#### South Korea

- Catholic University of Korea, Seoul
- Catholic University of Daegu

#### Sweden

- Lund University College of Health Science (pictured right)
- Malmö University
- University of Gävle

#### Turkey

- Fatih University

#### USA

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

#### ACU National offshore teaching collaborating organisations

- Caritas Francis Hsu College, Hong Kong
- Catholic Institute of Theology, Auckland, New Zealand
- De La Salle University Health Sciences Campus,
- Institut Catholique de l'Île Maurice
- Instituto Catolico Para Formacao de Professores, Timor-Leste
- Manila Doctors College, Philippines
- Notre Dame Institute of Education, Karachi, Pakistan
- Shanghai Institute of Health Sciences, China, within Shanghai Jiao Tong University
- Wellington Catholic Education Centre, New Zealand
- Yun Yang Medical University, China

#### ACUcom

ACUcom provides Group Study Abroad programs for groups of students coming from overseas universities. For example, 90 Italian students from Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore were involved in a variety of internship programs in Melbourne, many in the not-for-profit sector, offering benefits to both the employers and interns. Other Italian students have been involved in English language and Australian culture programs. In other initiatives Group Study Abroad programs included students coming to ACU National from Germany, France, USA, Japan and Korea to take part in programs tailored to meet the specific needs of the home university.

During 2007, ACUcom also provided specific programs in Education, such as TESOL, programs for teachers of languages other than English (LOTE), and Inclusive Schooling.

The international sector of ACUcom provides English Language and Diploma Pathway programs for entry into the University. English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students (ELICOS) continued to be in heavy demand.



#### Breakdown of income from fees and charges

|                              | 2003   |       | 2004   |       | 2005   |       | 2006   |        | 2007   |       |
|------------------------------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|
|                              | \$'000 | (%)   | \$'000 | (%)   | \$'000 | (%)   | \$'000 | (%)    | \$'000 | (%)   |
| Fee Paying Overseas Students | 5,976  | 41.8% | 8,739  | 46.5% | 15,157 | 62.7% | 19,569 | 69.21% | 24,657 | 76.4% |

#### Onshore and offshore international enrolments by level of course 2007

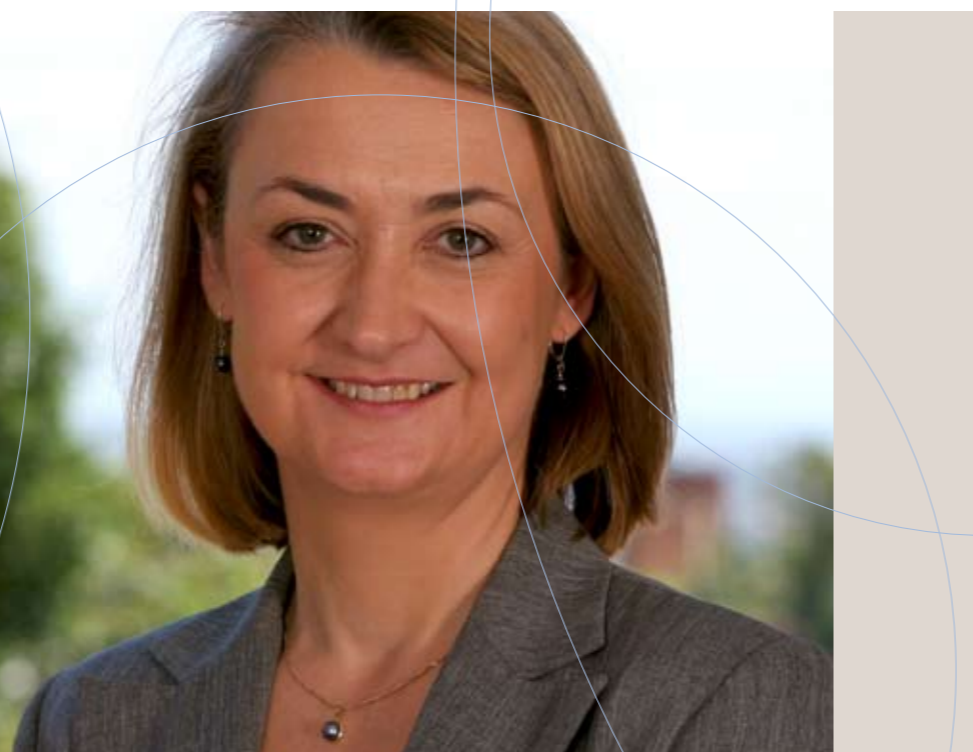
|                          | Onshore Overseas Resident | Offshore Overseas Resident | Total        |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Higher Degree Research   | 15                        | 3                          | 18           |
| Higher Degree Coursework | 458                       | 34                         | 492          |
| Other Postgraduate       | 67                        | 54                         | 121          |
| Bachelor                 | 1,571                     | 205                        | 1,776        |
| Other Undergraduate      | 1                         | 1                          | 2            |
| Non Award                | 821                       | 42                         | 863          |
| <b>Grand Total</b>       | <b>2,933</b>              | <b>339</b>                 | <b>3,272</b> |

Source: ACU Statistical Digest 2007, Section 1 Enrolments.

Note: above figures are estimates as at 25 September 2007, in the 2006 Annual Report figures used were estimates as at 31 March 2006.



# responding



ACU National is committed to conducting research which is relevant, responsive to community need and supportive of our Mission. We seek to undertake research which assists communities, government and non-government agencies and industries to effectively and creatively improve services, health care and education, and to make the world a better and more humane place in which to live.

In 2007, our research activities focused primarily on health, education, sport and exercise science, environmental science, community welfare, psychology, social science and the humanities. In keeping with our Catholic character and history, the University has world-class research strengths in early Christian studies, theology and philosophy.

While much of our research was conducted in designated flagships, centres and institutes, outstanding contributions were also made by academics across all our campuses. Importantly, their specialised research informed our teaching and learning activities; and their expertise inspired our students and attracted industry and media attention.

A great strength of ACU National is its capability to conduct research and link with partners across multiple geographic areas nationally and internationally. Much of our research is funded by external organisations, industry and all levels of government. Many academics conducted joint research with colleagues from other universities in 2007, enabling us to form valuable collaborations and strengthen our impact.

| Research income sources    | \$               | Research outputs*             |            |
|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Commonwealth government    | 1,190,538        | Books, authored research      | 10         |
| Private industry and other | 1,202,913        | Book chapters                 | 59         |
| Other public sector        | 399,349          | Articles in refereed journals | 122        |
| <b>Grand total</b>         | <b>2,792,801</b> | Refereed conference papers    | 94         |
|                            |                  | <b>Total</b>                  | <b>285</b> |

\*2006 figures. Research publication data for 2007 being collected during the first quarter of 2008 for transmission to Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.



“The nexus between research and teaching provides the opportunity to answer important questions about our practice, our engaging of students in the enterprise of conscientious thought, examination of reality, and self-examination.”

Psychology Education and Development Postgraduate Course Coordinator Senior Lecturer Dr Terry Bowles

#### Research inspiring teaching and learning

“As a teaching tool, research can provide an infinite number of examples of lateral thinking, tolerance of diversity and a need to strive for excellence in thinking. A socially responsible and just, enquiring mind is best facilitated by incorporating knowledge of current and definitive research into teaching. Challenges to common beliefs, standard textbook statements and contemporary issues are best explored using the objectivity of evidence-based research.”

Exercise Science (VIC) Director of the Centre of Physical Activity Across the Lifespan (COPAAL) Associate Professor Geraldine Naughton

“My research provides me with a framework for the development of up-to-date course material and research-related student projects. I enhance the link between research, teaching and learning through the use of research findings in my teaching, utilising research to model ways of thinking, carrying out collaborative research with students, undertaking research into teaching practice and student learning, and getting research ideas from student questions.”

Faculty of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean (Research, Research Training and Partnerships) Dr Jan Seruga

“It would be hypocritical to research and write on the importance of the psychosocial learning environment as a predictor of student outcomes without providing a high-quality learning environment for my undergraduate and postgraduate students. My research field continually informs my teaching and vice-versa. I have frequently used my own research papers to illustrate research to students. This is especially so in the educational research units I teach.”

School of Education Reader Associate Professor Jeffrey Dorman

“There can be no scholarship without research ...

Through my teaching I try to act as a model researcher/ learner; one who is sceptical yet open to new ideas, knowledgeable but humbly aware of ignorance, and able to express firm ideas without dogmatism.”

Graduate Certificate in Higher Education Coordinator and Associate Professor in Literature and Cultural Studies Associate Professor Dr Simon Ryan

“My research and scholarship have been with Indigenous peoples, the marginalised, early childhood contexts, rural communities, schools and international collaborations ... When students graduate from ACU National they will engage with peoples and communities in the day-to-day events that impact upon and influence our lives. It is imperative that they come to appreciate the critical interrelatedness of engaging with communities, asking the relevant research questions, learning with others and then sharing their gained knowledge.”

Institute for Advancing Community Engagement Clemente Australia National Leader Associate Professor Peter Howard

“Preparing teachers for dealing with the social, emotional, behavioural and learning needs of children and young people is a fundamental requirement for ensuring successful educational outcomes for all stakeholders. As both a university teacher and registered psychologist, the passion which drives my focus in both research and practice is a desire to advocate for the needs of the most vulnerable in society and promote social inclusion.”

Education Lecturer Ms Debra Mainwaring-Betts

“The mathematics education team at ACU National has traditionally linked its research to the classroom experience of pre-service and in-service teachers and their students ... This research and our more recent work on students’ rational number learning continue to provide our students with clear understandings of emerging knowledge in the field, positioning them well to share this knowledge with their current and future school communities.”

Mathematics and Literacy Education Research Flagship Director Professor Doug Clarke

Artwork: Duncan Smith



#### Informing education

A Best Paper Award for *The challenge of attracting and keeping quality teachers in Australian schools* was awarded to the Head of the School of Arts and Sciences (NSW and ACT) Dr Tony Stokes and economics lecturer Ms Sarah Wright at the 2007 International Business and Economics Research conference and Teaching and Learning conference in Las Vegas.

ACU National Centre for Lifelong Learning Director Professor Judith Chapman and her colleagues edited three new books in the International Series on Lifelong Learning.

The Department of Education, Science and Training awarded ACU National funding for an Indigenous education project *Enabling home school transition: Using Indigenous students’ oral language as the foundation for literacy and numeracy learning and teaching*.

Faculty of Education Research Associate Dean (Research Training and Partnerships) Associate Professor Elizabeth Warren and Mathematics Literacy Education Research Flagship Senior Lecturer Dr Janelle Young received \$87,460 over 20 months to extend their research into literacy and numeracy. Their research involves the Flagship, Cairns Diocese and Independent Schools Queensland and the new funding has allowed a Catholic primary school on Thursday Island and a public school at Yarrabah to become involved in the study.

Research from the Faculty of Education included seeking perceptions from employers about credentials that are appropriate for Australia’s workforce for the 21st century. A Mathematics and Literacy Education Flagship funded project focused on using Computer Algebra Systems (CAS) to enhance the teaching of mathematical modelling. As part of the project, the Flagship worked with seven schools in both Brisbane and Canberra.

The School of Education (ACT) took part in the network of state and territory hub organisations of the National Centre for Science, Information and Communication Technology, and Mathematics Education in Rural and Regional Australia (SIMER). Funded by the Department of Transport and Regional Services, the network has continued throughout 2007 to conduct many research and professional development activities for primary, secondary and tertiary educators.

School of Education (Vic) Associate Professor Joseph Zajda was awarded a Queensland Department of Education, Training and Arts and Eidos Science and Training grant of \$82,500 to conduct a research project on *The importance of qualifications – credentialism in the 21st century*. Team members included Associate Professor Zajda and Professor Philip Clarkson of the School of Education (Vic), and Faculty of Education Research, Research Training and Partnerships Associate Dean Associate Professor Elizabeth Warren, along with Queensland University of Technology Professor Carmel Diezman.





“A great strength of ACU National is its capability to conduct research and link with partners across multiple geographic areas nationally and internationally.”

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and International) Professor Peter Wilson

Associate Professor Zajda was also invited by the UNESCO Institute of Education to join the board of consulting editors for their internationally acclaimed refereed journal *International Review of Education*, the oldest scholarly journal in the areas of international education and comparative education research in the world, circulating in some 200 countries.

#### Improving health and well-being

Initiatives and activities of the University’s Centre of Physical Activity Across the Lifespan (CoPAAL) resulted in an increased number of research grants, publications, research students and projects undertaken with sporting and health care industry partners.

The National Centre for Clinical Outcomes Research (NaCCOR) was established to focus on the research and scholarly activities within the Faculty of Health Sciences to improve health care, and to contribute to public debate and influence policy. The Centre was designed to be a ‘virtual network’ embedded in the three Schools of Nursing and Midwifery.

Centre Director Professor Sandy Middleton and UNSW colleagues were granted \$476,350 by the National Health and Medical Research Council to conduct a *Randomised controlled trial to evaluate a model of comprehensive stroke care*.

In partnership with St Vincent’s Health Melbourne, the University announced the appointment of Dr Linda Worrall-Carter, pictured on page 28, to the newly created role of Chair in Nursing Research. Dr Worrall-Carter’s time will be shared between the School of Nursing and Midwifery (Victoria) at ACU National’s Melbourne Campus and St Vincent’s Hospital, where she has established a Clinical Nursing Research Unit.

A study by School of Psychology Associate Professor and Reader Dr Peter Rendell showed dangerous effects of ecstasy use on memory. In the study, published in the journal *Psychopharmacology* in late 2007, Dr Rendell and colleagues including Dr Julie Henry of UNSW found that even infrequent ecstasy use has a significant negative impact on a part of memory function called prospective memory.

The Centre of Physical Activity Across the Lifespan (COPAAL) received an ARC Linkage Grant for *Tracking the musculoskeletal health and performance of talented adolescent female athletes*. Other major research included *The relationship between musculoskeletal screening and injuries in athletes at the NSW Institute of Sport*, in partnership with the Institute and University of Ballarat. Other research

included *Why families choose not to participate in child obesity research*, with Murdoch Research Institute, and *Profiling physiological and psychological health of apprentice jockeys*.

#### Enhancing human services

A report providing a unique perspective on children’s experiences of homelessness, *Finding their way home: Children’s Experiences of Homelessness*, was prepared by an Institute of Child Protection Studies research team. It was commissioned by the ACT Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services with funding through the Australian Government’s Supported Accommodation and Assistance (SAAP) Program.

The *Supporting children and families affected by alcohol or other drug use* study is being carried out by the Institute of Child Protection Studies and Anglicare’s young carers support organisation CYCLOPS ACT. The study will provide young people with the opportunity to have their say about what their parents’ drug or alcohol use means to them, what roles they assume in their families and what kind of support they need.

“Our study aims to not only better understand children’s experiences but also uncover how to provide support services that actually make a difference in these children’s lives. As such, we will work closely with a range of support organisations on this project – including the drug and alcohol sector and services for families and youth – to identify the best ways of assisting children and families living under these circumstances.”

ACU National Institute of Child Protection Studies Director Dr Morag McArthur

ACU National and Anglicare Canberra and Goulburn announced a new study funded by the Australian Capital Territory Government, to give a voice to children living with a drug or alcohol dependent parent.

A joint research report, *Recovering from the 2003 Canberra bushfire: A work in progress*, found that many people affected by the 2003 bushfires believe their local communities and neighbourhoods were strengthened after the fires and that the Bushfire Recovery Centre at Lyons became a lifeline to those who had lost their homes or had suffered other losses. It was conducted by researchers at ACU National, the University of Canberra and the ACT Department of Health, and funded by Emergency Management Australia, under their Research and Innovation Program, with support from the ACT Government.



“It is interesting to note that more than a third of people receiving counselling in the workplace are male. It demonstrates that Australian men are willing to accept professional help for their problems – or even seek it out themselves – if it is made available.”

Head of the School of Business and Informatics (NSW) Dr Robert Compton

Photo: Photolibrary



The research highlighted the need for focused strategies to optimise mental health outcomes for people affected by future disasters.

Research into workplace counselling dispelled the myth that Aussie men are reluctant to seek professional support in dealing with personal issues. The research was conducted by Dr Robert Compton in the School of Business and Informatics (NSW) in partnership with consulting firm Davidson Trahaire Corpsych.

Professor Shurlee Swain of the School of Arts and Sciences was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences and obtained an Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Grant to research the early history of the Family Court of Australia, with University of Melbourne academic Ms Helen Rhoades. A total of \$350,000 has been awarded over three years.

In October 2007, the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Research Centre for Social, Emotional, Cognitive and Behavioural Development hosted a well-attended conference *Dealing with diversity in a complex, global world* at the University's Melbourne Campus.

*Understanding and managing eating disorders in the school setting*, a paper by postgraduate psychology student Bridie Hellings and Senior Lecturer in Psychology Dr Terry Bowles was published in the *Australian Journal of Guidance & Counselling*, volume 17, number 1, 2007.

#### Ethics and other expertise

ACU National and the Forum of Australian Catholic Institutes of Theology (FACIT) Taskforce announced results of a nine-year study, led by ACU National, into enrolment trends in undergraduate and postgraduate theology courses. Overall results pointed to a surge in postgraduate enrolments over the past decade.

FACIT member institutions include ACU National, Broken Bay Institute, Catholic Institute of Sydney, Catholic Theological College Melbourne, Catholic Theological College of South Australia, Jesuit Theological College, John Paul II Institute of Marriage and the Family, St Paul's Theological College, University of Notre Dame Australia and Yarra Theological Union.

ACU National formally launched its Institute of Legal Studies (ILS) with a rare Melbourne lecture by international human rights expert Professor Cathleen Kaveny, the John P Murphy Foundation Professor of Law and Professor of Theology at Notre Dame Law School in Indiana, USA, who spoke on *Hope, Solidarity and Human Rights*.

The 10th anniversary of the founding of the University's Centre for Early Christian Studies was celebrated with a state reception in Sydney. A major ARC grant was received in 2007 for researching *Poverty and welfare in late antiquity*. The centre is liaising with Japanese colleagues researching a similar project.

Much media attention was generated by *The Spirit of Generation Y: Young people's spirituality in a changing Australia*, a book by Quality of Life and Social Justice Flagship Director Associate Professor Ruth Webber, Research Fellow Rev Dr Michael Mason and Monash University's Dr Andrew Singleton, and published by John Garratt Publishing.

ACU National and St Vincent's and Mater Health in Sydney renewed their support for the Plunkett Centre for Ethics, pledging to contribute more than \$1.3 million over the next five years. The Plunkett Centre explores moral and ethical dimensions of the health care profession.

Environmental scientist Dr Vaughan Monamy received a grant of \$185,552 from the NSW Environmental Trust to research *Mosquito control, saltmarsh and insectivorous bats: seeking a balance*; and funding from the NSW Roads and Transport Authority for a project entitled *Ameliorating vehicle-marsupial collisions: a role for chemical repellents*.

Dr Catriona Mackenzie from Macquarie University was selected as the winner of the \$10,000 2007 Australian Catholic University Eureka Prize for Research in Ethics. Her work, *Relational autonomy and moral imagination*, explores the concept of individualism and its effect on the well-being of society as a whole.

*“In winning this award, Dr Mackenzie has joined an eminent group of researchers who have not only contributed to the development of improved ethical standards in Australia, but also captured the spirit of ACU National's own social justice and ethics mission through their research.”*

Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Sheehan AO

# engaging



Photo: News/David Sproule

“ACU National is the only university in Australia that has such a social justice Mission and I am honoured to witness the many ways our staff, students, graduates and partners continue to interpret it, reflect upon it and be agents of change, locally, nationally and internationally.”

Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Sheehan AO

It is through engaging with communities that ACU National, with the help of valued partners, shares and builds its expertise and resources to empower and enhance capacity in diverse communities.

The University's Mission-focused commitment to community engagement was demonstrated in 2007 not just through the establishment of the Institute for Advancing Community Engagement, but in a myriad of ways.

In the quest for social justice and human dignity, through the informed and caring engagement of staff, students, graduates and partners alike, a host of individuals and communities experienced change for the better.

The University's communication and marketing activities form an essential component of our engagement with partners and stakeholders, prospective and current students, staff and the broader community. A core strategy has been our evidence-based approach, sharing the real-life stories of successful students, graduates, staff and programs.

## Integral to the strategic plan

Through community engagement the University truly lives its Mission, promoting the dignity of people and advancing the common good.

The University's community engagement both is enhanced by and enhances the University's teaching and learning and research and is acknowledged widely as an important source of optimism for people, communities and institutions.

## Key structures

In 2007, the University endorsed the importance of community engagement through implementing key structures including the role of Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Quality and Engagement) and the newly established Institute for Advancing Community Engagement.

Reflection is integral to the University's sustained community engagement and has contributed to the impact of the engagement for students, staff and the institution as a whole as well as for the communities with which the University is engaged.

## Institute for Advancing Community Engagement (IACE)

ACU National's Institute for Advancing Community Engagement (IACE) was created to promote its *Beyond Today* agenda and the three priority areas of *Beyond Disadvantage*, *Beyond Borders* and *Beyond Differences*. In 2007, IACE extended its University-wide programs such as Clemente Australia, capacity building in East Timor, and the Beyond Today Leadership Program, while also liaising with faculties, institutes and centres.



“The wonderful work and outcomes of Clemente Australia are inspiring for the entire University and broader community. There are no doubt significant challenges in such projects at times, but there are also immeasurable rewards. You are living the Mission of the University.”

Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Quality and Engagement) Professor John O’Gorman

#### Beyond Disadvantage

The benefits of Clemente Australia for people who are marginalised and disadvantaged are evidenced in student outcomes, and the reports of agency and University staff and learning partners. The ABC *7.30 Report* presented the story of Clemente Australia in ways which captured the minds and hearts of many Australians. Collaborative inter-agency meetings at regional and local levels in Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Canberra, Campbelltown, Ballarat and the Hunter Valley provide further evidence of the value people and institutions see in this program. Disadvantaged people and community agencies seek the collaboration of ACU National in offering Clemente Australia as an important pathway for people to gain a sense of hope and re-engage with the community.

The University values the endorsement of this program through the collaborative support of the St Vincent de Paul Society, Mission Australia and Smith Family at national and local levels and in joint research ventures.

Among the 2007 Clemente Australia initiatives was a unique drama performance at the Brisbane Campus, Kin, featuring students who are homeless and marginalised sharing moving snapshots of their lives. Other Clemente Australia activities included art courses, performances of Shakespeare, theology lectures and more.

#### Beyond Borders

Hope for people in challenging situations is integral to the University’s mission and community engagement and, in this spirit, throughout a period of national unrest, the institute maintained its services supporting the Instituto Católico para Formação de Professores (ICFP), also known as the Catholic teachers’ college, in Baucau, East Timor. Original plans for reciprocal student engagement in 2007 across ICFP and ACU National have been modified from student visits to communication in Tetun and English through the internet in 2007 moving to student visits in 2008 to coincide with World Youth Day. Together with ICFP, IACE is documenting the history, processes and outcomes of the partnership in East Timor.

The University maintained its engagement with Karen refugees on the Thai Burmese border, through the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and with the Notre Dame Institute of Education (NDIE) in Karachi, Pakistan, through the Faculty of Education. The Diocese of Jaffna, Sri Lanka, and the Mountain of the Moons University, Uganda, also sought support from the University.

#### Beyond Differences

The Beyond Today Leadership Program for 20 young Muslim leaders from Melbourne took participants into new understandings of Beyond Differences in religious traditions, particularly through the home stay component of the program.

Based at the Strathfield Campus, hosted by IACE and La Trobe University’s Centre for Dialogue, the program was sponsored by the Islamic Council of Victoria and the Victorian Government.

Participants explored leadership issues with University students, graduates and staff from the University’s Mission Engagement Team, Yalbalinga Indigenous Unit, the Asia-Pacific Centre for Inter-religious Dialogue, and Flagship for Creative and Authentic Leadership as well as members of partner organisations including the Affinity Intercultural Foundation, Columban Mission Institute, Diocese of Parramatta, Edmund Rice Centre, Islamic Council of NSW, and Islamic Friendship Association of Australia.

Those involved gained new insights into different faith traditions and cultures which provided a rich basis for understanding the role of young leaders in a diverse and rapidly changing world.

In other programs hosted by IACE, Buddhist and Muslim visitors from southern Thailand met to discuss common concerns, while a visit by Bethlehem Mayor Dr Victor Batarseh provided an opportunity for people from many varied institutions to reflect upon the importance of sacred places and the implications for Australians and people in Bethlehem.



#### 2007 Outstanding Community Engagement Awards

##### Staff

School of Arts and Sciences Head of School Dr Lindsay Farrell received the *2007 staff award* in recognition of his genuine commitment to community engagement through a range of areas involving art over many years, including work with the Prison Fellowship Queensland, Indigenous art exhibitions, international aid development programs and refugees.

##### Student

Melbourne Campus first-year social science student Coni Forcey received the *2007 student award* in recognition of her passionate concern with the environment, forming the Bayside Climate Change Action Group and engaging with government, business, local council, community groups and residents.

##### Community

The Clemente Australia program received the inaugural Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Community Engagement.

“The program is outstanding and provides an example of what is possible through long-term community engagement, mutual respect and relationships.”  
Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Sheehan AO

#### Faculty contributions

Community engagement is part of the student experience at ACU National, with opportunities for engagement woven into the academic and social fabric of the University.

Education students from the Brisbane Campus worked as voluntary English teaching assistants at the Catholic University of Daegu’s English Village in South Korea.

The Faculty of Education engaged with schools through the Australian Schools Innovation in Science, Technology and Mathematics (ASISTM) Critical Friend Program, enhancing the teaching and learning of science, technology and mathematics in schools.

Sudanese students were given opportunities to extend their literacy skills by working with Brisbane Campus education students in homework clubs, literacy blocks and other literacy activities. The project is supported by Brisbane Catholic Education and the Brisbane Campus Mission Engagement team.

The Faculty of Education continued to work for improved outcomes for rural, remote and Indigenous communities through creating an online professional learning community for rural and remote teachers, *The way forward for teachers in rural and regional schools* project.





A further project, *Using Indigenous students' oral language as the foundation for literacy and numeracy learning*, supports Indigenous students' learning as they transition from home to school. Both projects involve partnerships with Catholic Education Office (Cairns), Independent Schools Queensland, and primary schools in North Queensland and remote areas of NSW.

The School of Religious Education hosted the highly successful 2007 *Fifth National Symposium on Religious Education and Ministry*.

ACU National, IBM, Sydney University's Science Foundation for Physics and the NSW Department of Education and Training began collaborating in a ground-breaking science education program for Sydney primary schools. The MyScience pilot project aimed to improve the delivery of science, engineering and technology education in schools and to ignite students' interest.

The Faculty of Health Sciences established linkages with 21 universities and institutions in countries which include China, Korea, USA, Vanuatu, Sweden, Japan, Hong Kong, United Kingdom, Finland and Philippines, creating opportunities for student and staff exchanges, study abroad and study tours.

The University helped fund a clinic in East Timor through providing the salary of a local registered nurse, and staff and students travelled to Vanuatu for two weeks to work with community health nurses. Students were billeted with local families in rural villages to provide them with experience of cultural immersion and to enable them to participate in

family and community activities such as play groups, health promotion and school and community health programs. The School of Nursing (NSW & ACT) raised funds for scholarships, equipment for the hospital and clinics; and text books for the School of Nursing in Vanuatu.

Academic staff took part in the KAIROS Prison Ministry, providing ministry support to prisoners in Sydney, while, in conjunction with the Consul-General of Solomon Islands, an academic staff member assisted in transport and support of patients from the Solomon Islands who received medical treatment at St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney.

In a joint project between the School of Nursing and Midwifery (NSW and ACT) and Broken Hill Department of Rural Health, students received scholarships from the University of Sydney Indigenous Unit to spend two weeks in Broken Hill to participate in health promotion activities as well as experience the way of life of Australian Indigenous communities.

Health sciences staff took part in the Aged Care Channel on-air video and talk back question and answer sessions on dementia, delirium and depression in residential facilities, broadcast to staff working in 800 nursing homes throughout Australia.

## Other key events in brief

### Social Justice Youth Forum

ACU National held its third annual forum for secondary school students at the Brisbane Campus to encourage and inspire young Australians to become involved in social justice and make a difference in their local communities. The keynote address was delivered by the Governor of Queensland, Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce.

### Depression expert

ACU National hosted renowned US depression expert Dr Michael Yapko who delivered a range of lectures to professionals and the public during the year.

### Global citizens

Australia's responsibilities were discussed at a social justice forum at the Strathfield Campus, hosted by the IACE and featuring ACU National Professor of Law Father Frank Brennan SJ AO and retired Secretary General of global aid agency Caritas Internationalis and Visiting Professor Duncan MacLaren from Glasgow. They discussed the Catholic Bishops of Australia's latest Social Justice Sunday Statement, *Who is my neighbour? Australia's role as a global citizen*.

The University's Melbourne Campus hosted the International Council of Universities of St Thomas Aquinas (ICUSTA) conference, involving more than 30 Catholic universities from around the world. It was the first time the conference has been held in Australia.

### Thai delegation

IACE welcomed a delegation of Thai visitors, from the Province of Pattani, to the Strathfield Campus. In a country that is predominantly Buddhist, differences in history, culture and religion have all contributed to the recent violence and instability in Pattani, Yala and Narathiwat, the three southern most provinces of Thailand, where the majority of the population is Muslim.

The visitors engaged with students and staff from the University, members of the Columban Mission Institute team and representatives of the Affinity Intercultural Foundation.

## Supporting IACE initiatives in East Timor

More than 70 people from diverse organisations and many parliamentarians attended an event at NSW Parliament House, raising \$5,000 for the Catholic teachers' college in Baucau, East Timor. All learnt more about teacher education initiatives in East Timor supported by the Marist Brothers, ACU National and others, and heard from the Founding Director of the College Brother Mark Paul FMS, the Consul-General of East Timor Abel Gutterres and the Deputy Speaker of the House The Hon Tony Stewart MP.

## Honour for Chancellor

In 2007, ACU National Chancellor Brother Julian McDonald CFC AO was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by Divine Word University (DWU) in Papua New Guinea, in recognition of Br McDonald's long years of advocacy for the rights of children in Australia and his contribution to higher education. DWU President Father Jan Czuba said Br McDonald had also been instrumental in forming strong links between ACU National and DWU, helping the latter to develop its academic credentials, infrastructure and information services in its early years.

## Visual arts

The visual arts assist in projecting the Mission of the University, both through works of arts in the University's collection displayed on its campuses and exhibitions in its public galleries. Overseen by the University Galleries Committee, exhibitions enhance community engagement.

Exhibitions included the 2007 *Clancy Prize for Religious Art* (Strathfield); artwork from past and present students of the Academy of Mary Immaculate to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the Sisters of Mercy in Victoria (Melbourne); an exhibition of major Indigenous work from Torres Strait Island artist Dennis Nona entitled *Sesserae*. Mr Nona was awarded the Telstra Indigenous Art Prize in 2007 (Brisbane).

*Art from Inside*, curated by Prison Fellowship Australia, appeared at the Brisbane and Strathfield campuses; the *Canon World Photo* exhibition at Strathfield; and *Child-life on the Station*, a series of art pieces from children from remote stations of Central and Southwest Queensland.

Visit [www.acu.edu.au](http://www.acu.edu.au) for information on a host of other events, such as book launches, art exhibitions, conferences and public lectures in which the University engaged with diverse communities in 2007.





#### Keeping communities informed

The University's communication and marketing activities form an essential component of our engagement with partners and stakeholders, prospective and current students, staff, media and the broader community. A core strategy has been our evidence-based approach, sharing the real-life stories of successful students, graduates, staff and programs.

In 2007, University Relations proudly related ACU National's Mission and achievements to prospective students, current students and staff, graduates, friends and benefactors of the University, as well as to employers and the broader community.

Strategies were informed by regular consultations, focus groups and market research which included measuring responses to marketing campaigns. This information was made available to intranet users, along with access to media coverage, via a new media hub.

ACU National's major stakeholder communications in 2007 included the Annual Report and three strategically-focused editions of the University's flagship publication *acunique*.

The 2006 Annual Report took an innovative approach, exploring five key themes drawn from ACU National's Mission and strategic plan. The title 'origins', inspired both by the University's heritage and an evocative student artwork, provided a framework to tell the story of the achievements and successes of the year.

The themes of *acunique* in 2007 were philanthropy, which explored how ACU National's supporters are helping us to deliver on our Mission; quality learning outcomes and the nurturing of excellence in our staff, students and programs; and the impact and value of the University's community engagement initiatives.

University Relations kept staff, students and friends of the University informed through the fortnightly online newsletter *ACU National Update*, web news and an online calendar of events. Campus and course guides and other publications were also produced, including support for the communication activities for faculties, schools and directorates across the University.

Visit [www.acu.edu.au/publications](http://www.acu.edu.au/publications) to view online versions of *acunique*, annual reports and other key documents.

University Relations provided media relations support for ACU National events, initiatives and achievements, and integrated key messages and activities through reinvigorated faculty marketing and communications committee meetings and smaller working groups.

Communications staff worked with academics and general staff, students, graduates and partners of the University to promote their research, teaching innovations and expertise to the media and public. Strong coverage occurred in national and international radio, opinion columns in daily and community newspapers and specialist magazines, with staff achievements, community engagement activities and the Mission of the University gaining particular prominence.

#### Reaching out to prospective students

Student recruitment team members visited more than 460 schools and 70 major career markets, and hosted open days and similar events. We were the only university with representatives at the Gold Coast Schoolies' Week, where great interest was created not only by the helpful information but by the branded merchandise. Such initiatives reached over 100,000 school students during the year.

Profiling graduates and students through online video testimonials, University Relations further developed its undergraduate and postgraduate recruitment campaign websites and change of preference website. Student recruitment advertising campaigns were extended into new areas such as outdoor media in Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Ballarat and Melbourne. The annual mid-year entry campaign was developed in response to University priorities.

University Relations developed information management systems and reports enabling the University to monitor, review and refine its marketing activities. The University's advertising campaigns were creatively expanded following careful monitoring of growing interest in courses through applications, demographic and geographic statistical data analysis.

The University's public relations exercises are aimed at strengthening our branding and enhancing recognition of ACU National's unique Mission, teaching, research and engagement.

#### Schools visited

| State        | 2007       | 2006       |
|--------------|------------|------------|
| Queensland   | 121        | 114        |
| NSW          | 145        | 139        |
| ACT          | 50         | 32         |
| Victoria     | 148        | 124        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>464</b> | <b>409</b> |

#### Participation in major career expos

| State        | 2007      | 2006      |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| Queensland   | 16        | 12        |
| NSW          | 32        | 32        |
| ACT          | 8         | 3         |
| Victoria     | 14        | 13        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>70</b> | <b>60</b> |

# collaborating



It is through valued partnerships that ACU National is able to extend both its own influence and that of our partners. Together, we achieve more.

Collaboration occurred at a multitude of levels. Donors and other friends of the University helped us to initiate new projects, advocate on our behalf and strengthen and broaden our existing work in teaching, research and community engagement.

In 2007, it was the support of partners which led to the establishment of influential new Chairs in law, in health and in inter-religious dialogue. Partnerships also made tertiary study possible for scholarship winners across the country, enriched quality teaching, learning and research, and enhanced community engagement initiatives locally, nationally and internationally.

Graduates and honorary doctorates deepened the University's expertise and influence in the vital fields of education, health sciences and human services.

ACU National has numerous cooperative ventures with partner institutions within Australia and internationally. These partnerships enable collaboration in teaching and learning, research, community engagement, and industry and regional development.

## Formal partnerships

During 2007, the University signed a Heads of Agreement with the University of Ballarat to foster collaboration in teaching offerings, research, grant applications and other projects.

Other memoranda of understanding and agreements made or renewed in 2007 include:

- Allowah Presbyterian Children's Hospital, NSW, for clinical experience for nursing students
- Amity Group Pty Ltd, NSW, for clinical experience for nursing students
- Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation, Melbourne, for offering the non-award Certificate in Guiding Meditation
- Australian Chamber Choir
- Australian Council for Educational Leaders (Victorian affiliate)
- Australian Intercultural Society to establish the Fethullah Gülen Chair in the Study of Islam and Muslim-Catholic Relations
- Australian International Conservatorium of Music for cooperative teaching in music programs in NSW
- Ballarat and District Division of General Practice, Victoria, for clinical experience for nursing students
- Bankstown Aged Care Facility, NSW, for clinical experience for nursing students
- Bay Aged Care, NSW, for clinical experience for nursing students
- Blakehurst Aged Care Centre, NSW, for clinical experience for nursing students
- Bureau of Catholic Education, Mauritius, for offering the Master of Educational Leadership
- Calvary John James Hospital, NSW for clinical experience for nursing students



- Caritas, Hong Kong for offering the Bachelor of Business (Accounting)
- Catholic Education Centre in Wellington, New Zealand, for offering the Master of Educational Leadership
- Catholic Education Office, Brisbane, for offering the Postgraduate Certificate in Education
- Catholic Education Office, Melbourne, for offering the Graduate Certificate in Education Law, the Postgraduate Certificate in Education (Wellbeing and Inclusive Schooling) and the Master of Religious Education
- Catholic Education Offices in Ballarat, Sale and Western Australia, for a collaborative project of teacher professional learning in mathematics
- Catholic Homes for the Elderly to appoint an Associate Professor of Aged Care
- Clermont Nursing Home, NSW, for clinical experience for nursing students
- Eye and Ear Hospital, Victoria, for clinical experience for nursing students
- Holy Family Services, NSW, for clinical experience for nursing students
- Kingsley College Incorporated (a member institute of the Sydney College of Divinity) for offering the Graduate Diploma in Education (Secondary)
- Mayflower Aged Care Centre, NSW, for clinical experience for nursing students
- Scalabrini Village Ltd, NSW, for clinical experience for nursing students
- St Catherine's Aged Care, NSW, for clinical experience for nursing students
- St John of God Health Care, Victoria, for clinical experience for nursing and midwifery students
- St Kevin's College to enable collaboration in school-based teacher education
- St Luke's Hospital, NSW, for clinical experience for nursing students
- St Paul's Publications
- St Vincent's Health Melbourne to establish the Chair in Nursing Research.

"In appointing an Associate Professor of Aged Care, we are jointly confirming our commitment to improve education, research and development in this important area of health care, for the benefit of a priority group within the community."

ACU National Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor Gabrielle McMullen

#### Partnership in aged care

ACU National and Catholic Homes for the Elderly (CHE) announced a jointly funded Associate Professor of Aged Care in Victoria, to be based both at ACU National's Melbourne Campus and at various CHE facilities. Dr Fran McNerney will conduct evidence-based research into local aged care services to help inform industry policy and best practice.

#### Industry partnerships in exercise science

In 2007, the School of Exercise Science (NSW) formed a number of partnerships with industry organisations to enhance both field and industry experience for students and the business of the organisations. Some 12 organisations, ranging from Police Youth clubs to the Paralympics Committee, agreed to provide structured and supervised placements to 100 students. A forum for first and second year students was also held to advise students on opportunities for industry placements and an ACU National plaque was presented to representatives from the organisations in appreciation of their support.

#### Education leadership appointments

The year 2007 saw a significant number of graduates from the Faculty of Education achieve influential leadership positions in Catholic Education:

Dr Wayne Tinsey, National Executive Director of Edmund Rice Education

Dr Anne Wenham, Director of Catholic Education Office Lismore

Ms Moira Najdecki, Director of Canberra-Goulburn Catholic Education Office and member of the National Catholic Education Commission

Dr Angelo Belmonte, Acting Director Bathurst Catholic Education Office

Mr Ray Collins, Acting Director Maitland-Newcastle Catholic Schools' Office



#### Graduations and the graduate association

During 2007, 3,761 students graduated in ceremonies organised by Graduate Relations. There were 11 domestic ceremonies in Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Ballarat and Melbourne, and international ceremonies in Shanghai, Baucau and Hong Kong, presented in dual languages.

The University also celebrated the graduation of the one thousandth graduate in Hong Kong, Mr Lo Kai Cheong, along with the launch of the Hong Kong chapter of the Graduate Association.

In 2007, 31 doctoral awards were conferred, 20 in Philosophy, 7 in Education and 4 in Psychology.

Strong relations between ACU National and the Shanghai Institute of Health Sciences (SIHS), within Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine (SJTUSM), were celebrated at the 2007 graduation ceremony in Shanghai, China. SIHS is recognised by the Chinese Government as an 'Institute of

Excellence' in the field of nursing and has a reputation for its leadership in advancing nursing education in China. Since 2001, through a number of short-term professional development programs and the Master of Nursing program, ACU National has helped educate a large number of China's senior nursing staff.

The Sydney Spring ceremony was the final graduation ceremony involving the Dean of Students Professor Tim O'Hearn and Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Sheehan AO, both of whom were to retire in 2008. Their contributions to the University over many years were warmly acknowledged.

All graduates and friends of ACU National and its predecessor colleges, the Catholic College of Education, Sydney (NSW), the Institute of Catholic Education (Vic), McAuley College (Qld) and Signadou College of Education (ACT), are invited to keep in touch with the University through the Graduate Association. Visit [www.acu.edu.au/graduates](http://www.acu.edu.au/graduates) for details.

#### Graduate employment and further study

|  | 2004       | 2005       | 2006       | 2007       |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Full-time employment rate – total University by level of course</b> |            |            |            |            |
| Higher Degree – Research   | 90%        | 100%       | 94%        | 100%       |
| Higher Degree – Coursework   | 91%        | 96%        | 91%        | 93%        |
| Other Postgraduate Award   | 92%        | 90%        | 89%        | 87%        |
| Undergraduate Award  | 82%        | 90%        | 85%        | 84%        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>85%</b> | <b>91%</b> | <b>86%</b> | <b>86%</b> |



## Australian Catholic University Foundation

The Australian Catholic University Foundation was established in 1993 to nurture the University's diverse areas of interest and provide a focus for individual, corporate and community energy and funds.

The Foundation raises funds to support the University's strategic academic initiatives, teaching and research projects, national and international community and outreach projects, and scholarships and bursaries for its students and to support the University's capital development program and facilities.

The University's commitment to the development of these and other partnerships with the community has been strengthened by the establishment of a fundraising and development team within the University Relations Directorate.

## Highlights

Over the course of 2007, the University continued to enjoy the wide support of many donors and a number of new partnerships were initiated. Major University projects were realised through significant external support.

The Allan Myers AO QC Chair of Law has been funded for a period of five years through the generous \$1 million donation from eminent Melbourne lawyer Mr Allan Myers QC. The position is based at the University's Melbourne Campus and will coordinate the University's Institute of Legal Studies across its six campuses.

Associate Professor Spencer Zifcak was appointed to the Chair and as Director of the University's Institute of Legal Studies, established as a national initiative of ACU National, to foster legal professional development education and to promote interdisciplinary studies in law with a focus on ethics, philosophy and theology.

Allan Myers and his wife Maria have been long-time supporters of the University and the establishment of this named Chair has allowed the University to honour Mr Myers in a significant way.

The Fethullah Gülen Chair in the Study of Islam and Muslim-Catholic Relations was established and is located in ACU National's Asia-Pacific Centre for Inter-religious Dialogue (APCID) at the Melbourne Campus. Dr Ismail Albayrak was appointed as the inaugural Chair to commence in 2008.

"It is my hope that the Allan Myers Chair of Law will build upon ACU National's foundation of academic excellence by overseeing the provision of quality legal education with a strong focus on issues of ethical practice and social justice."

Allan Myers AO QC

The Chair is being funded through a partnership with the Australian Intercultural Society, a non-profit Melbourne-based organisation aimed at promoting greater dialogue between Australia's various faith communities. It was named in honour of Fethullah Gülen, a Turkish-born scholar, educator, spiritual and social leader, and renowned advocate for inter-religious dialogue and peace.

The Chair of Midwifery is a joint initiative by the Mater Health Services (Brisbane) and ACU National. The Chair of Midwifery will provide leadership in the critical examination of current trends and evidence-based practice in midwifery, and the related implications for research, education and practice. The Chair will be appointed during 2008.

## Restoration of Central Hall

Central Hall, the 103-year-old ornate performance venue in Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, the 'jewel in the crown' of the Melbourne campus, was formally re-opened following significant heritage renovation. Funding for the \$3 million restoration of this historic building was provided by the Ian Potter Foundation, the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, ACU National and a grant from the Australian Government through the National Heritage Investment Initiative. While there is still additional work to be carried out to provide 21st-century facilities, Central Hall is now back to its former glory. The venue was officially re-opened by Lady Primrose Potter AC, Life Governor of the Ian Potter Foundation, Archbishop Denis Hart and Victorian Senator Judith Troeth.

## Community engagement

Through the generosity of donors including staff and students, the University continued to provide support for health and education in East Timor. Support also enabled a third cohort of teachers from Catholic Schools in the Mauritius Diocese of Port Louis to undertake Master of Educational Leadership studies through the University's School of Educational Leadership. This outreach program represents a significant collaboration between the University, the Diocese of Port Louis and its Australian supporters, generally members of Sydney's Mauritian community.

## Enhanced policy framework

Reflecting the increased priority the University has given to securing and maintaining the support of donors and other friends in the community, there has been an extensive revision of internal policy and procedures to facilitate this important activity.





Photo: Photolibary

**Scholarships and other awards**

Scholarships continue to be a major priority for the University and its students and the University has invested its efforts accordingly. A new University-wide Scholarships Office is to be established to promote and administer all scholarships, ensuring greater consistency across the University. The Fundraising and Development Office will work closely with the Scholarships Office to ensure cohesive administration of scholarships and reporting to donors.

The following inaugural awards were announced in 2007:

Laurie Daniels Scholarships for students entering the second year of the Bachelor of Nursing at Canberra Campus, were awarded to Catherine Trevaskis and Barbara O'Brien

Francis Carroll Scholarships were presented to three first-year students from rural or regional areas at the Canberra Campus, were awarded to theology and social work student Jennifer Drum of Young, education students Clare Walker of Grenfell and Hayley Oldfield of Yass in conjunction with GreaterGood Foundation, the Capital Region's community foundation. These scholarships are named after the recently retired Archbishop of Canberra and Goulburn

The Elizabeth Ann McCall Scholarship in Social Justice for a commencing student at the Brisbane Campus, was awarded to Samantha Kay Heslehurst

The George Alexander Foundation Scholarships for commencing rural students studying at the Ballarat Campus, were received by Amelia Grace Rasmussen, Amy Louise McCann, Christie Hoy and Lauren Marie de Graca Costa.

**Australian Catholic University Foundation supporters, 2007**

ACU National is deeply grateful for the generous support of the trusts, institutions and individuals listed, who contributed to the support of the University in 2007.

The University is also most appreciative of those who contributed artworks and books to the University's collections. There are also a number of private donors who do not wish to be acknowledged, but whose support is also valued.

**National Initiatives**

- Ahmet Ozcelik
- Allan J Myers AO QC
- Almila Koca
- Alper Ciftci
- Australian Intercultural Society
- Aysel Saglam
- Bea Brickhill
- Bernadette Devine
- Bihter Altuntas
- Cabrini Health
- Catholic Archdiocese of Broken Bay
- Catholic Archdiocese of Perth
- Catholic Diocese of Ballarat
- Deniz Erdogan
- Ergun Kirmaci
- Fulya Celik
- Harbourview Hotel, North Sydney
- Jennifer Pace-Feraud
- Judy Wright
- Light Building Constructions Pty Ltd
- Margaret Beck
- Margaret Naylor
- Melike Sahin
- Michael Keogh
- Michael Lam
- Nicole Raisen
- Omer Ayvaz
- Patricia Hansen
- Peter Camilleri
- Pratt Foundation
- Rotary Club of North Sydney
- Royce Joseph
- Salih Tuncer
- Sybra Hunt
- Talip Onal
- The Burke Fund
- Yunus Saglam

“Providing greater educational opportunities for students from rural and regional areas was always a strong priority for former Archbishop Carroll, so it is fitting that this new scholarship program bears his name.”

Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Sheehan AO

**Australian Capital Territory**

- Catholic Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn

**New South Wales**

- Allan Irwin
- Allan Thomas
- Angela Griffith
- Anne Forbes
- Barry Harrison
- Bernadette Compton
- Bob Welsh
- Carroll & O'Dea Lawyers
- Catholic Education Office, Parramatta
- Catholic Education Office, Sydney
- Catholic Primary Principals Association
- Centacare Catholic Community Services, NSW
- Col Waring
- CPA Australia
- Des Matejka
- Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club
- Flagship Communications
- IRC Global Networks Pty Ltd
- Jacquie Elliot
- Jan Coleman
- Jan Lumby
- Jim Hunt
- John Ryan
- Julie Clark
- Kath Churchill
- Leigh Cassidy
- Lindsay Oates
- Maureen Walsh
- Michelle Vague
- Minter Ellison Lawyers
- Moore Stephens Sydney Pty Ltd
- Norma Potter
- NSW Minerals Council Ltd
- P Kevans
- Peggy Harrison
- Peter Bruce
- RSL LifeCare Ltd
- Russell Jones
- Ruth Hodges
- Siloam Korean Presbyterian Church
- Sisters of the Good Samaritan of the Order of St Benedict

- Sports Medicine Australia (NSW)
- St Vincent de Paul Society, Broken Bay
- St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney
- Suzi Devine
- Thelma Murphy
- Toni Noble
- Tony Carroll AM
- Val Stevens
- Victor Anderson
- Wendy Moran

**Queensland**

- Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane
- Catholic Church Insurance Limited
- Diocese of Cairns
- Greg Sunter
- John Gleeson AM
- Malcolm and Heather Reid
- Margaret Naylor
- Mark McCall and family (the late Elizabeth McCall is pictured on page 52)
- Metropolitan Funerals
- Presentation Sisters of Australia and Papua New Guinea, Queensland Congregation
- Queensland Catholic Education Commission
- Rita Cleveland
- Sallyanne Atkinson AO
- Sisters of Mercy, Brisbane Congregation
- Sisters of the Good Samaritan
- Tess Cramond AO OBE
- The Australian Association of the Sovereign Military Order of Malta

**Victoria**

- Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne
- Commonwealth Department of Environment and Water Resources
- John and Barbara Ralph AC
- St Vincent's Hospital (Melbourne) Ltd
- The George Alexander Foundation
- The Ian Potter Foundation





#### Scholarships and Bursaries

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

Alexander Family  
 Association of Catholic School Principals Inc  
 Australian and New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses Inc  
 Australian Catholic Historical Society  
 Australian College of Educators  
 (NSW Chapter – Parramatta/Hills Regional Group)  
 Australian College of Midwifery  
 Australian Computer Society Inc  
 (NSW Branch)  
 Australian Confederation of Paediatric and Child Health Nurses  
 Australian Council for Educational Leaders, Inc  
 Australian Council of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, NSW  
 Australian Human Resources Institute  
 Australian Psychological Society Ltd  
 Ballarat Diocesan Schools Board  
 Ballarat South Rotary Club  
 Bill Ritchie Family Trust  
 Cabrini Hospital  
 Callinan Family

Capicchiano Family Trust  
 Canberra Southern Cross Club  
 Canon Australia Pty Ltd  
 Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst (Bendigo)  
 Catholic Education Office, ACT  
 Catholic Education Office, Diocese of Sale  
 Catholic Schools Office, Broken Bay Diocese  
 Centacare Catholic Community Services, Sydney  
 Centaur Memorial Fund for Nurses  
 Elsevier Australia  
 GreaterGood (Capital Region Community Foundation)  
 Institute of Industrial Arts and Technology Education (IIATE)  
 John Wiley & Sons Australia Ltd  
 Johnson & Johnson Pacific  
 Loreto Sisters Australia  
 Maria Myers  
 Mathematical Association of New South Wales Inc (MANSW)  
 McGraw-Hill Australia  
 Queensland Community Foundation  
 Queensland Orthopaedic Nurses Association  
 Rotary Club of Ballarat South  
 Royal College of Nursing, Australia  
 Royal Life Saving Society Australia (NSW)  
 Salesians of Don Bosco  
 St John of God Health Care, Ballarat  
 St Vincent de Paul Society, Broken Bay  
 St Vincent de Paul Society, Canberra and Goulburn  
 St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney  
 Wexford Senate, Australia  
 Witts Family  
 Zonta Club of Sydney North

#### Honorary doctorates

The following distinguished recipients were awarded honorary doctorates in 2007:

##### Mr Fred Chaney AO

Social justice campaigner and former federal minister, awarded for his ongoing commitment to reconciliation, native title issues and improved access to legal aid.

##### Mr Gerald Gleeson AC KCSG

Former Head of the NSW Premier's Department, for his outstanding service to education and to the people of NSW.

##### Mr Phil Glendenning

Human rights activist, for his longstanding dedication to improving the lives of poor, Indigenous, politically dispossessed and suffering people both in Australia and other countries. Mr Glendenning is pictured above with his parents.

##### Mr Rino Grollo

Melbourne-based property developer, humanitarian and prominent Italian Australian, honouring his exemplary balance between business success, devotion to faith and family, charitable giving and community involvement over four decades.

##### Mr Michael Leunig

Celebrated newspaper cartoonist and National Living Treasure, for his services to the arts, to public discourse, and to promoting a greater understanding of who we are as a people.

##### Mr Jimmy Little AO

Acclaimed Indigenous performer, for his outstanding community work and his significant contribution to Australian culture.

##### Susanne Macri AM

Respected aged care advocate, for increasing public awareness of the needs of ageing Australians.

##### Archbishop J Michael Miller CSB

International Catholic education leader, paying tribute to his outstanding contribution to Catholic education.

##### Terry Sullivan

Former teacher and Queensland Parliamentarian, for his unwavering commitment to social justice throughout his long and varied career in politics, education and community work.

##### Reverend Dr John Thornhill SM

Leading theologian, in recognition of his major contribution to adult faith education through the disciplines of philosophy and theology.

##### Ms Margaret Gurry AM

Renowned community activist, for making extraordinary improvements in the lives of 'society's neglected people' through her tireless work in the community, including her Friday Night School and her extraordinary work with the Melbourne Refugee Sanctuary Group.



# Leading



With commitment to social justice at the heart of our Mission, care for staff and students as individuals is a guiding priority in the development and implementation of the University's management policies and approach to good governance.

Leading by example, in 2007 the University continued to embrace flexibility for its workforce, introducing a ground-breaking Pathways to Retirement policy for staff and taking a lead position in gender equity in the Australian universities sector.

With commitment to best practice and breadth of talent, the University also actively sought to increase the number of Indigenous staff members employed. Details on these and other leadership initiatives follow.

## Employee relations

Throughout 2007 employee relations focus necessarily remained on the implementation of the former Commonwealth Government's Workchoices legislation, and its ongoing Higher Education Workplace Relations Requirements (HEWRRs), specifically workplace policies and practices. Some 30 human resources and related policies and guidelines were assessed by the then Department of Education Science and Training, as part of the University's formal submission. The University was advised that its third application for an additional 7.5 per cent funding under the Commonwealth Grant Scheme was successful.

Further changes to the Federal Government's Workchoices legislation, which amended the *Workplace Relations Act, 1996* and its *Regulations*, required the University to review and update numerous policies and procedures. These included the introduction of the Government's 'fairness test' for Australian Workplace Agreements (AWAs),

and the requirement for employers to distribute the Government's associated 'fact sheet' to all employees.

ACU National's Staff Consultative Committee met five times in 2007, receiving regular reports on Equity and Diversity, Occupational Health, Safety and Wellbeing, General Staff Training and Development and Academic Staff Professional Development. The Committee considered a variety of human resources and workplace relations matters and a range of Human Resources and related policies, guidelines and procedures.



### Recognition for innovation, diversity and opportunity

#### For an ageing workforce

The University continued to implement its innovative *Pathways to retirement* program which has been highly regarded within the broader national human resources sector. This was demonstrated when the University became a finalist for two prestigious national Human Resources awards:

- The Australian HR Awards, 2007 (in the category of: Best Mature Age Workforce Implementation)
- The Innovation Award from the Australian Human Resources Institute (AHRI) Awards for Excellence, 2007.

During 2007, the University continued to introduce progressive staff equity and diversity workplace reforms, consistent with its Mission.

In cooperation with the Business, Work and Ageing Centre for Research at Swinburne University of Technology, ACU National participated in an ARC-funded project, *Redesigning work for an ageing society*, which is linked into similar research being conducted in Europe. Staff members were invited to complete a *Workability* survey, with 51 per cent of ACU National staff choosing to participate.

#### For cultural awareness

The University's Indigenous Employment Officer developed and presented a program of cultural awareness training for staff and supervisors at each campus, a major component of the University's Indigenous employment strategy. Cultural awareness training lays the foundations of respect and understanding for individuals working with Indigenous Australians, and is an important step in the successful recruitment and retention of Indigenous employees.

### For gender equity

A report released in 2007, *Selected inter-institutional gender equity statistics*, compared gender representation in Australian universities. In particular it focused on the representation of women in senior roles in Australian higher education institutions, both general and academic. The analysis showed that ACU National was consistently in the top three for overall female representation, a result also reflected at a senior level. The ratio of female representation in senior positions was approximately 1.1, which compares with a sector average of 0.66 for general staff. For academic staff, the result was 0.85, compared to a sector average of 0.58. Women in senior general staff positions at ACU National are represented at a higher level than their male counterparts in senior roles, and are close to reaching parity in the academic area.

The report also provided information regarding the overall representation of female academics since 2004, showing a steady increase at ACU National in all the categories reported. The results provide clear evidence that the University has taken a leading role in regard to gender equity in Higher Education.

### Workforce planning

The University has been progressively developing and implementing a workforce planning framework that is in harmony with its Mission and in line with the University's strategic initiatives and priorities. Development began on a People and Culture Plan which includes strategic workforce planning as one of its key strategies.

In 2007, the University considered an initial workforce profile report which analysed statistical data relevant for workforce planning, and resolved that strategic workforce management was to be given a high priority at ACU National. Workforce planning is at the forefront of strategic University issues, supported by comprehensive data collection and a formal policy statement and procedures. The workforce planning procedures are to be implemented as a pilot in 2008.

### The student experience

True to our Mission, ACU National's community of learning values equity, social justice and respect for the individual. Graduates and students attest to the value of the personal approach made possible by our small class sizes and diverse campuses.

Importantly, student services in 2007 supported both the learning and extra-curricular environment. For example, when the former Federal Government introduced Voluntary Student Unionism legislation, Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Sheehan AO provided a \$100,000 grant to ensure that key student initiatives went ahead. These funds also helped provide equity bursaries and varied support for students in need.

From the rolling out of the First Year Experience program welcoming new students, to a commitment in 2007 to provide careers' advisors at all campuses, the University worked to maximise the well-being of students at every level.

ACU National Student Association (ACUNSA) presidents from each campus gathered at the Brisbane Campus to discuss national issues and events. They met key University staff and past student presidents, to find ways of offering students 'the best campus life

possible' in the face of Voluntary Student Unionism, and to plan parties, field trips, games nights, barbecues, street retreats, soup kitchens, movie nights and a Uni Ball. All students are encouraged to support ACUNSA by becoming a member or representative, and to find out about events on their campus by visiting [my.acu.edu.au/student/community/student\\_associations](http://my.acu.edu.au/student/community/student_associations) and meeting their local representatives.

The University celebrated its unique national character with the inaugural ACU National Games held at the Canberra Campus. Students from every campus were invited to take part in teams for mixed netball, ultimate Frisbee, dodgeball and ultimate soccer, interspersed with a wide range of social activities.

Students from all campuses met at the Strathfield Campus to take part in ACU Alive, a four-day program showcasing cultural talents, culminating in a collaborative public performance for which entry fees were donated to East Timor's graduate teachers' program.

The program included the launch of ACU National's radio station, *Wired*, a joint staff-student initiative aimed specifically at strengthening the University's national identity.

"I see excellent opportunities for people listening in to *Wired*, and learning to share our experiences and for those in other countries to become interested and involved in our University. I see it also as a wonderful way of exchanging ideas on all sorts of contemporary issues, social and artistic."

Vice-Chancellor Professor Peter Sheehan AO



## Staff statistics (workforce data)

### Number of Staff

| Type  | 2006         | 2007         |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Academic/General Staff (FT and FTE but not Casual)</b> |              |              |
| Academic Staff  | 349.0        | 371.0        |
|   | 48.7         | 47.4         |
| <b>Academic Staff Total</b>                               | <b>397.7</b> | <b>418.4</b> |
| General Staff   | 385.0        | 409.0        |
|   | 100.0        | 100.4        |
| <b>General Staff Total</b>                                | <b>485.0</b> | <b>509.4</b> |
| <b>Grand Total</b>  | <b>882.7</b> | <b>927.8</b> |

### Total number FTE Casual Staff

| Type                   | 2006         | 2007         |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Academic/General Staff | 2006         | 2007         |
| Academic Staff         | 202.6        | 259.1        |
| General Staff          | 16.8         | 26.4         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>     | <b>219.4</b> | <b>285.4</b> |

### Total Staff (including Casuals)

| Type                        | 2006           | 2007           |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Academic/General Staff      | 2006           | 2007           |
| Academic Staff              | 349.0          | 371.0          |
|                             | 48.7           | 47.4           |
|                             | 202.6          | 259.1          |
| <b>Academic Staff Total</b> | <b>600.3</b>   | <b>677.5</b>   |
| General Staff               | 385.0          | 409.0          |
|                             | 100.0          | 100.4          |
|                             | 16.8           | 26.4           |
| <b>General Staff Total</b>  | <b>501.8</b>   | <b>535.8</b>   |
| <b>Grand Total</b>          | <b>1,102.1</b> | <b>1,213.2</b> |

Source: ACU Statistical Digest 2007, Section 6 Staff.

## Student statistics

### Enrolments

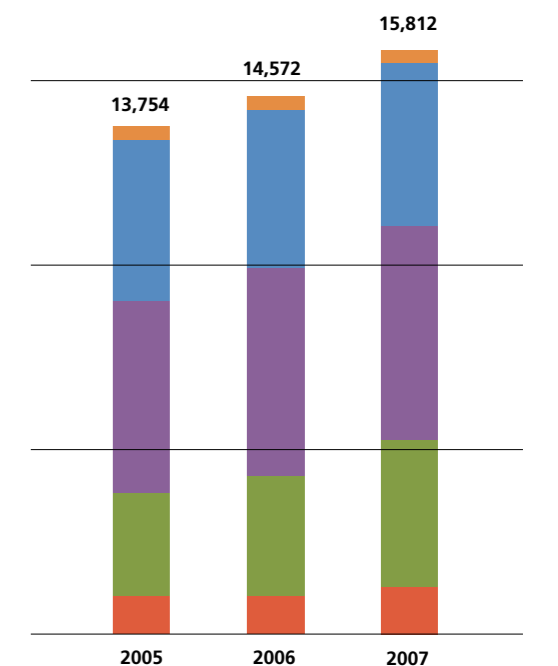
|   | ACT        | %     | NSW          | %      | QLD          | %      | VIC          | %      | Virtual    | %      | Total         | %              |
|---|------------|-------|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|------------|--------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Enrolments by Faculty and State 2007</b> |            |       |              |        |              |        |              |        |            |        |               |                |
| Research Services                           | 17         | 5.09% | 106          | 31.74% | 75           | 22.46% | 136          | 40.72% | 0.00%      |        | 334           | 2.11%          |
| Faculty of Arts and Sciences                | 198        | 4.48% | 1,701        | 38.52% | 806          | 18.25% | 1,503        | 34.04% | 208        | 4.71%  | 4,416         | 27.93%         |
| Faculty of Education                        | 413        | 7.14% | 2,193        | 37.91% | 1,068        | 18.46% | 1,573        | 27.20% | 537        | 9.28%  | 5,784         | 36.58%         |
| Faculty of Health Sciences                  | 41         | 1.02% | 1,744        | 43.57% | 551          | 13.76% | 1,613        | 40.29% | 54         | 1.35%  | 4,003         | 25.32%         |
| Combined Schools                            | 32         | 2.51% | 527          | 41.33% | 214          | 16.78% | 323          | 25.33% | 179        | 14.04% | 1,275         | 8.06%          |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                          | <b>701</b> |       | <b>6,271</b> |        | <b>2,714</b> |        | <b>5,148</b> |        | <b>978</b> |        | <b>15,812</b> | <b>100.00%</b> |

### Enrolments by Level of Course and State 2007

|                          | ACT        | %     | NSW          | %      | QLD          | %      | VIC          | %      | Virtual    | %      | Total         | %              |
|--------------------------|------------|-------|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|--------------|--------|------------|--------|---------------|----------------|
| Higher Degree Research   | 17         | 5.09% | 106          | 31.74% | 75           | 22.46% | 136          | 40.72% | 0.00%      |        | 334           | 2.11%          |
| Higher Degree Coursework | 105        | 5.48% | 811          | 42.31% | 369          | 19.25% | 423          | 22.07% | 209        | 10.90% | 1,917         | 12.12%         |
| Other Postgraduate       | 106        | 5.51% | 375          | 19.50% | 377          | 19.60% | 736          | 38.27% | 329        | 17.11% | 1,923         | 12.16%         |
| Bachelor                 | 448        | 4.34% | 4,359        | 42.27% | 1,561        | 15.14% | 3,580        | 34.71% | 365        | 3.54%  | 10,313        | 65.22%         |
| Other Undergraduate      |            | 0.00% | 109          | 37.85% | 134          | 46.53% |              | 0.00%  | 45         | 15.63% | 288           | 1.82%          |
| Non Award                | 25         | 2.41% | 511          | 49.28% | 198          | 19.09% | 273          | 26.33% | 30         | 2.89%  | 1,037         | 6.56%          |
| <b>Grand Total</b>       | <b>701</b> |       | <b>6,271</b> |        | <b>2,714</b> |        | <b>5,148</b> |        | <b>978</b> |        | <b>15,812</b> | <b>100.00%</b> |

|                                | 2007          | %              |
|--------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Enrolments by Age Group</b> |               |                |
| 19 and below                   | 3,423         | 21.65%         |
| 20 to 24                       | 5,689         | 35.98%         |
| 25 to 29                       | 2,198         | 13.90%         |
| 30 to 39                       | 2,202         | 13.93%         |
| 40 to 49                       | 1,507         | 9.53%          |
| 50 to 59                       | 659           | 4.17%          |
| 60 and above                   | 134           | 0.85%          |
| <b>Grand Total</b>             | <b>15,812</b> | <b>100.00%</b> |

|                              | 2005          | 2006          | 2007          |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Number of enrolments</b>  |               |               |               |
| Research services            | 370           | 355           | 334           |
| Faculty of Arts and Sciences | 4,338         | 4,295         | 4,416         |
| Faculty of Education         | 5,215         | 5,620         | 5,784         |
| Faculty of Health Sciences   | 2,803         | 3,276         | 4,003         |
| Combined Schools             | 1,028         | 1,026         | 1,275         |
| <b>Total all campuses</b>    | <b>13,754</b> | <b>14,572</b> | <b>15,812</b> |



## Senior management profiles

### Chancellor

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

Brother Julian was appointed Chancellor of ACU National in November 2000. He has been a member of the University Senate since 1992, and was previously Pro-Chancellor from 1995–2000. In October 2002, Brother Julian concluded a 12-year term as Province Leader of the Christian Brothers in NSW, ACT and Papua New Guinea. He is currently a member of the Leadership Team of the Christian Brothers, Oceania Province and he is a consultant to the National Committee for Professional Standards – a committee of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia. Brother Julian was made an Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia in 2003. He joined the Christian Brothers in 1960 and went on to gain a Bachelor of Arts and Diploma of Education at the University of Sydney. He received a Certificate of Religious Formation from St Louis University and a Graduate Diploma in Language in Education from Charles Sturt University. In 1973 he became Director of Christian Brothers Formation at Strathfield, NSW, and held this position until 1981. Brother Julian spent two years (1988–1990) in Rome as Director of Christian Brothers' International Renewal Program. He has an Honorary Doctorate from Divine Word University, Madang, PNG.

### Pro-Chancellor

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

Mr Exell has been Pro-Chancellor of the University since November 2000. He has recently retired as the Business Manager of the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. He is Chair of the Standing and Finance Committee of the University. Mr Exell was born in Melbourne and educated at Xavier College, Melbourne, Loyola College, Watsonia, as a Jesuit scholastic, and at the Australian National University. Before joining the Catholic Archdiocese he was Deputy Managing Director of the Australian Trade Commission. Mr Exell has served on the National Board of Employment Education and Training, the Mercy Health and Aged Board and, until recently, was 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 Peter Sheehan AO  
BA (Hons), PhD (Syd), FAPS, FAPSA, FASSA, FACE

Professor Sheehan was appointed Vice-Chancellor of ACU National in February 1998. During his 10-year term as Vice-Chancellor, his responsibilities within the sector included membership of the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee (AVCC) and its Board (later to become Universities Australia); the Expert Advisory Group on the Research Quality Framework (RQF); and its modelling sub-group; Chair of the AVCC working party on the RQF; Board Member of the Australian Universities Quality Agency, and the Business and Higher Education Round Table and Commissioner of the National Catholic Education Commission.

Professor Sheehan obtained a Bachelor of Arts with Honours from the University of Sydney in 1961 and was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology in 1965. After completing a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital from 1965 to 1967, he was Assistant Professor Psychology at the City College of the City University of New York from 1967 to 1968, lecturer and senior lecturer at the University of New England, Armidale from 1968 to 1972, and Professor of Psychology at the University of Queensland from 1973 to 1997.

He was Chair of the Queen Elizabeth II Fellowships and Australian Research Grants Committee, and is past Chair of the Council's Social Sciences and Humanities Panel. He is also Past President of the Australian Psychological Society and was President of the International Congress of Psychology in 1988. From 1991 to 1993 he held office as President of the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia, and was made Honorary Fellow of the Academy in 1996. He was a member of the Commonwealth Cinematograph Films Board from 1982–1987 and its Chair from 1986–1987. Professor Sheehan was made an Officer in the General Division of the Order of Australia in 1995, and received the Centenary Medal in 2003.



left to right: Professor McMullen, Professor Wilson, Professor O'Gorman

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

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

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

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

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

Professor Peter Wilson  
BA (Hons), PhD (UNSW)

Professor Peter Wilson took up the position of Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research and International) in May 2006. He was previously Professor and Head of Psychology at Southern Cross University where he established a new School of Psychology.

He also occupied the position of Associate Dean (Coffs Harbour Campus) in 2002. Professor Wilson undertook his studies at the University of New South Wales where he was awarded a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in 1975 and a PhD in Psychology in 1980.

Professor Wilson's research has been in the area of clinical and health psychology. In particular, he is well known internationally for his research on psychological aspects and management of tinnitus (ringing in

the ears). He has also published work in the area of cognitive-behaviour therapy for depression. He received a Distinguished Career Award in 1998 from the Australian Association for Cognitive and Behaviour Therapy. He has held NHMRC grants for research on psychological aspects of tinnitus and diabetes, and has published extensively on topics in the area of clinical and health psychology.

Professor Wilson is a member of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (International) sub-committees of the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee. He also chairs the NSW PVC/DVC (International) committee. He is a former Chair of the Heads of Departments and Schools of Psychology Association (2002–2003), and the National President of Australian Behaviour Modification Association (1986–1987). For the Australian Psychological Society, Professor Wilson has served as a member of the Professional Development Accreditation Advisory Group from 1996–2006.

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

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

Professor O'Gorman commenced as Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Quality and Engagement) in February 2004 and is based on the Brisbane Campus.

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

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



**Executive Director, University Services**

John Cameron  
MCom (UNSW), CPA, AIMM

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

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

**Rectors**

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

Dr Anne Jean Hunt  
BSc (Melb), DipEd (Melbourne College of Education), BEd (Monash), BTheol (YTU of MCD), MSc (Ed) (Fordham), MA (Theol) (Catholic Theological Union, Chicago), DTheol (MCD) – Ballarat

**Deans**

**Dean, Faculty of Arts and Sciences**  
Professor Gail Crossley  
BSc, PhD (Melb), DipEd (SydCAE)

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

**Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences**  
Professor Pauline Nugent  
RN, BAppSc (La Trobe), NEd (Lincoln Inst), MEdSt (Monash), FRCNA (North Sydney) – Melbourne and North Sydney

**Dean of Students and Director of Ministry**

Associate Professor Tim O’Hearn  
BA (Monash), BEd (Melb), MA (Macq), MA (Syd), PhD (Macq) – North Sydney

Professor Crossley is pictured (left) on page 54 with Professor Nugent and Professor Emmitt.

**Directors**

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

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

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

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

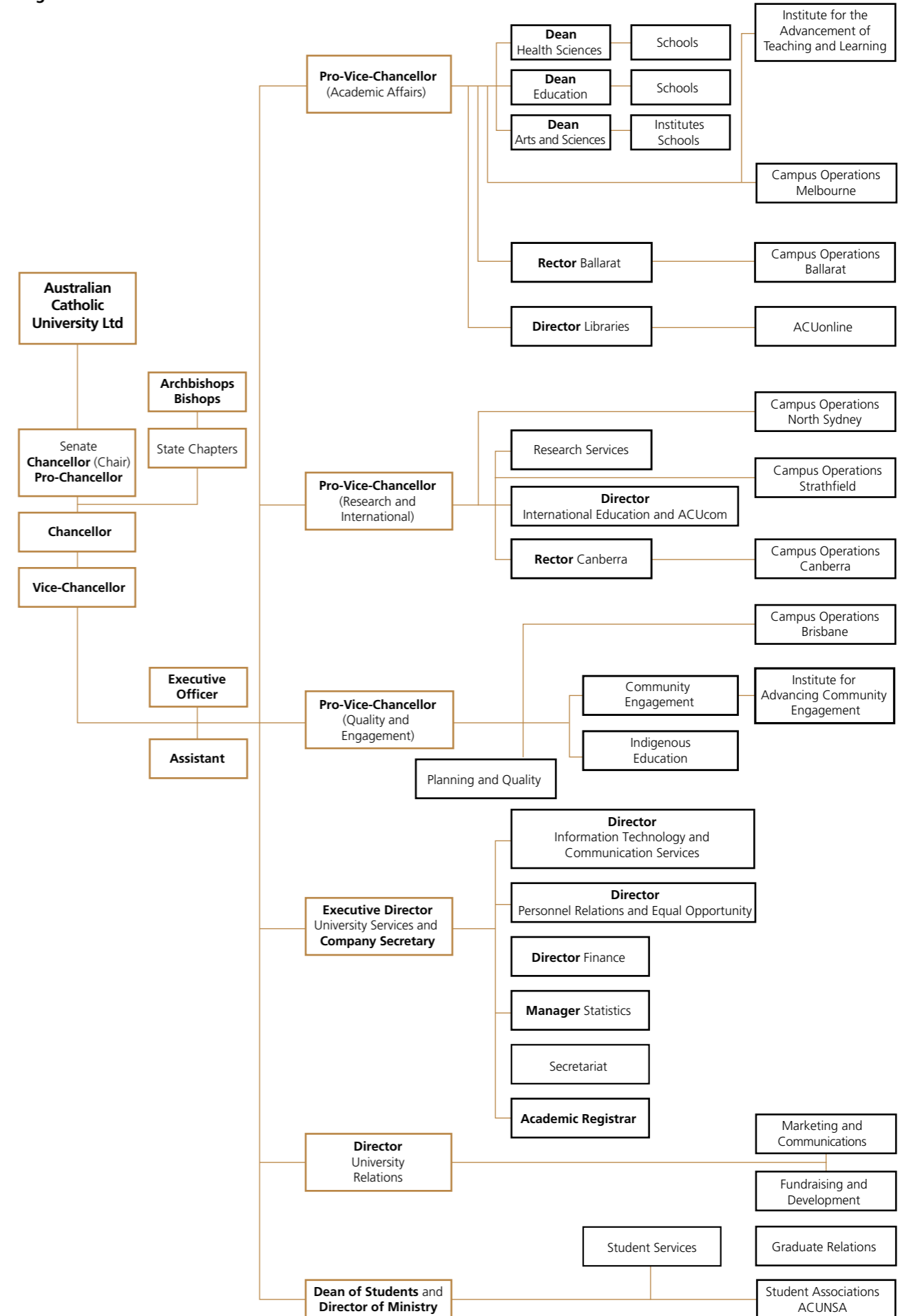
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ACU National would like to thank the students and graduates whose images appear in this annual report. They include nursing student Chantal Enter, cover; arts and business student Quentin Clark, pages 3 and 14; midwifery graduate Narelle Haw, page 17; arts, education and theology graduate Jean Madden, pages 3 and 36; arts student Justin Inverarity, pages 3 and 44; exercise science graduates Daniel Lowrey and Paul Turk, page 32; nursing graduate Eunjun Park, page 39; nursing student Alison Arnott, page 40; arts and business graduate Claire Bedford, page 47; education graduate the late Elizabeth McCall, page 52; and arts and business student Margie Dimech, page 57.

**ACU National organisational chart**





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