



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

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MARLBOROUGH CAMPUS

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## Fundraising Appeal for St Patrick's

A public appeal for \$3 million for the new St Patrick's Campus at 115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy, in Melbourne has raised \$1 million to date.

The Chairman of the Fundraising Campaign Committee, Mr John T. Ralph AO, is confident the target will be achieved, and probably exceeded.

A total \$2 million is being sought from corporate and community donors, and \$1 million from Victorian Catholic parishes.

Mr Ralph is prominent in Australian business, a director of major companies, including Pacific Dunlop, Telstra, BHP, CRA, the Commonwealth Bank and Pioneer International. Most recently, he led a government inquiry which made major recommendations on tax reforms.

Other members of the Fundraising Campaign Committee are: Emeritus Professor Bernard Daffey, Sr Helen Delaney, RSM, Lady Nossal, Mr Richard Pratt, AC, and Sir Donald Trescowthick, AC, KBE as an advisor to the Committee.

St Patrick's Campus opened on 6 March, with more than 2600 students – 1173 in the Faculty of Education, 589 in the Faculty of Health Sciences and 847 in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

The state-of-the-art Campus replaces the University's two Melbourne suburban

campuses, Mercy Campus and Christ Campus.

The new campus consists of a complex of buildings facing Victoria Parade and Brunswick and Young Streets. The main building has been totally renovated to provide students with purpose-built facilities. Adjacent to the main building are specially designed lecture theatres, an art gallery on Brunswick Street and a multi-level car park.

The Campus also includes historic Central Hall, formerly Cathedral Hall, which has stood at 20 Brunswick Street since 1903. The Hall was built by the Catholic community of Melbourne and given to Archbishop Carr. ACU will revive and preserve the large ornate hall for future generations.

St Patrick's Campus will provide improved educational opportunities by streamlining courses, facilities and services offered at its former suburban campuses. The Library includes an improved range of collections in electronic and print format to facilitate research.

The official opening of St Patrick's Campus will be held later this year.

Mr Ralph launched the Appeal for St Patrick's Campus, appropriately on St Patrick's Day (17 March), at a function

at the Campus attended by more than 50 leaders in the Church, education and business.

The Archbishop of Melbourne, Dr George Pell, offered a prayer of blessing for the campaign.

In a joint statement Dr Pell and Professor Peter Sheehan, ACU Vice-Chancellor, said, "St Patrick's Campus provides exceptional educational opportunities in Melbourne at the start of the new millennium.

"The new single campus will streamline operations by enhancing student learning experiences and improving library and administrative service to students.

### IDEAL LOCATION

"Consolidation of Melbourne ACU into a single site and its ideal location provide considerable opportunities for close interaction with local Catholic teaching hospitals, the Catholic and Victorian Government Education offices, Catholic welfare agencies, and the Catholic Theological College.

"Business courses will benefit from the closeness of the Campus to the financial and business precincts of Melbourne, as well as government and policy-making agencies."

Mr Ralph said, "Educational establishments are under pressure to fund activities in which they are engaged.

"They are being stretched to meet the increasing costs associated with the technologies that they must adopt and employ if they are to stay abreast of best practice.

"The need for an ethical approach to tertiary education has never been greater than it is now.

"Complex challenges in business, education, health care, social welfare – in fact all aspects of contemporary Australian life – are placing great strains on the resources of Government and the service sector.

"Australian Catholic University can make a difference. ACU's Mission is steeped in the Catholic education tradition, drawing on Christian principles that aim to produce graduates with a deep sense of social justice and a commitment to ethical behaviour."



Mr John Ralph, Sir Donald Trescowthick, Professor Peter Sheehan and Archbishop George Pell at St Patrick's Campus on 17 March.

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# Vice-Chancellor's Column



Professor Peter Sheehan

MUCH has happened since my last reporting in *The Chronicle*, but three things stand out for me among many important events and happenings. The first is the decision the University Senate has made for award of honorary doctorates in 2000. The second is the announcement of our University's Flagships. The third is the opening (with an accompanying launch of our appeal campaign) of our St Patrick's Campus.

We are giving five doctorates this year and they are highly significant for us. Through the awards, the University is celebrating in a special way the achievements of Bishop Carlos Belo, Leneen Forde, Br Charles Howard, Sr Gabrielle Jennings and Evelyn Scott. I am delighted that we are able to honour achievements by and for women, our religious heritage, our strong commitment to reconciliation, our support of justice in East Timor, and our recognition of inspiring, self-giving to the education of others. All but one of these people will receive the award of an honorary doctorate at graduation ceremonies this year. Bishop Belo will receive his doctorate in Sydney Town Hall on 23 April next year.

The University has selected its Flagships and there are six of them. Flagships have been selected in the areas of Early Christian Studies; Educational

Leadership; Life Long Learning; Palliative Care; Spiritual, Moral and Religious Education; and Youth Studies. Not necessarily, but not surprisingly, there are Centres established for the majority of these areas. I congratulate all those responsible for the Flagships areas and welcome the opportunity they now give me to project Australian Catholic University's expertise more publicly to those around us.

All of the Flagships are consistent with the Mission of Australian Catholic University and make multiple significant and distinctive contributions to it and the reputation of the entire University. They will tangibly assist me to profile our University, and marketing is increasingly emerging as a critical issue for us.

Recently, as the University community knows, I commissioned a report from an external marketing company to develop a Market Plan for the University. I asked it to identify the key market opportunities for Australian Catholic University and define a detailed marketing strategy. The results of its investigation were discussed with members of the University Executive and took on board discussion with a cross-section of current and potential supporting organisations in key target areas in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and ACT; and they have been presented to Senate.

Very clearly, ACU needs to strongly position itself in the market and build upon the theme of "an ethos of care and commitment" in relation to its educational methods, its training of students, and its provision of courses. It is imperative that we profile ourselves as significantly different from other Universities, and communicate the message that really characterises what it is we do: we teach, and train with a quality of ethical concern, informed by our Catholic ethos that is beyond just service to others.

The third event I have reserved for what psychologists might call the "recency" effect. It is to express publicly my delight that we have opened St Patrick's in Melbourne. I know it has been a very difficult time for many to get the campus ready in time, but we have managed it and from all reports, both students and staff are currently enjoying the likes of a building this University has never seen or had before. In so many ways, it is the beginning of a new era of maturity for our University and St Patrick's stands on

Victoria Parade, at the edge of the central business district of Melbourne, to make its mark.

In addition, I am especially grateful to the team that has produced the Report, *"ACU in the Inner City, Melbourne"*, which gives us an excellent, analytical look at the environment into which we have now gone. The Report signals to everyone of us the need for community understanding of what exactly our University is aiming to do, and our commitment to relate meaningfully to the needs of those around us.

But above all, I am most grateful to all those whose collective effort, generosity and commitment have made the building of St Patrick's possible. It is a campus of which any institution of quality higher learning can be justly proud.

## JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Year 2000 Jubilee activities being organised by ACU include:

- ACU is the co-sponsor with the Ballarat Catholic Education and Religious Education Offices of a Ballarat Diocesan Jubilee Conference, *Proclaim Good News*, to be held at the University of Ballarat from 9 July to 11 July.

Dr Veronica Lawson, Senior Lecturer, School of Theology (VIC), is representing Professor Gabrielle McMullen, Rector of Aquinas Campus, on the organising committee. The facilitator is Sr Rosemary Crumlin, RSM, and the keynote speakers are Margaret Hebblewithe and John Honner.

More than 700 participants are expected to attend the conference.

- A lecture by Fr Joseph Donders, titled *Jubilee: It's time for Justice – Social Justice in the New Millennium*, was held at Signadou Campus on 7 March.

- Dr Mary Coloe, Lecturer in the School of Theology (VIC), gave a public lecture for the Dandenong Deanery on *Jesus and Jubilee* on 23 February and also a similar address at John Garrat's Bookshop on 11 March.

- Ms Denise Sullivan, Lecturer in the School of Theology (ACT), is a member of the Executive of the National Council of Churches of Australia, which is organising the Pilgrimage to the Heart.

- Mrs Margie Beck, Lecturer in the School of Education (NSW), is a member of the NSW Ecumenical Council, representing the Diocese of Parramatta on the council.

As part of the Diocesan activities for Jubilee, the Ecumenical group in the Diocese is organising an Ecumenical celebration on 3 June for the Feast of the Uganda Martyrs.



# Web site links Catholic information services

Australian Catholic University has developed a new web-based database service to provide a single access point for researchers, institutions, groups and individuals to locate resources held by Catholic organisations.

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Sheehan, launched the web site, CathLINK Australia, at Mount Saint Mary Campus on 9 February.

"An Australian Catholic libraries and information agencies web site, which will be presented and promoted as an ACU initiative, will afford the University a strong national and international Internet presence," said Professor Sheehan.

"Being a national organisation with multiple interstate campuses, it is important that ACU uses available technology to overcome the difficulties of operating at a distance. ACU and CathLINK Australia share the notion of bringing together the wealth of Catholic information resources nationwide.

"ACU is committed to establishing stronger partnerships with Church organisations, fostering links with the Catholic and general community and encouraging critical thinking and scholarly learning.

"The creation of CathLINK supports key goals expressed in *Australian Catholic University Strategic Plan 1999-2008* which states that the University will establish stronger partnerships with Church and community services as part of its commitment to its ethos," said Professor Sheehan.

CathLINK Australia is a centralised

search facility providing online access to a database which includes Religious communities, Catholic universities, colleges and seminaries, counselling and pastoral institutes, Diocesan agencies, and Catholic Education Offices.

Each library and information agency listed on the site has its own profile which provides detailed information such as address and contact details, opening hours, a description of library collections, services, and facilities available to the public. These profiles are available via a database which allows the searcher to locate organisations via institution name, state, subject specialisation etc. It also links to online library catalogues.

CathLINK Australia also provides comprehensive annotated links to national Catholic web sites and selected international sites.

Dr Stephen Oakshott, Project Leader of CathLINK Australia, said "The establishment of CathLINK Australia is timely. There is nothing like this out there and I believe it is appropriate that ACU takes a leadership role in this area given our commitment to forging stronger links with the Catholic and general community."

CathLINK Australia reflects this commitment by increasing the awareness of Catholic resources and services, and enhancing the profile of Catholic libraries and information agencies amongst Catholics, scholars, and the wider community.

It provides a medium for advertising the services and resources of Catholic

libraries and information agencies that lack the means to create their own institutional web site and extends the level of cooperation between Catholic organisations through the sharing of information and expertise.

Dr Oakshott is assisted by CathLINK team members, Mr Trevor Unwin and Ms Cecilia Tazzyman, Information Services Librarians at Mount Saint Mary Library, on the project.

The address of CathLINK is: [cathlink.acu.edu.au](http://cathlink.acu.edu.au)

## RE history on CDROM

In February Associate Professor Patricia Malone, rsj, submitted the CDROM, *25 years of RE in Australia: A Catholic Perspective*, to the committee for University Teaching and Staff Development.

It was completed with the support of a National Teaching Development Grant (Individual) 1998/99. The CDROM was developed on Mount Saint Mary Campus within the Cardinal Clancy Centre for Research in the Spiritual, Moral, Religious and Pastoral Dimensions of Education.

"The project has involved the development of the CDROM as a learning resource. It contains material representative of the various dioceses, periods of history, and the policies and practices of Catholic religious education of the period under study," said Professor Malone.

Religious Education in the Catholic system is the responsibility of the Bishop/Archbishop in the 28 dioceses/archdioceses and there is a large amount of diverse material mandated for use in the schools. After negotiation with the dioceses, samples were scanned and organised on a CDROM and linked, where appropriate, to web sites that provide further detail or examples.

Critically reflective articles and conference papers have been placed in the various sections of the CDROM to assist students in their contextualisation and analysis of the sample curriculum materials.

"Modules of learning in specific courses offered by the School of Religious Education of Australian Catholic University are in the process of being linked to this resource," said Professor Malone. "This will promote accessibility to relevant material and enable a higher degree of independent learning."



Mr Craig Grimison, Deputy Director of Libraries, Professor Peter Sheehan, Vice-Chancellor, Ms Cecilia Tazzyman, Information Services Librarian, Dr Stephen Oakshott, Mount Saint Mary Campus Library Manager and Mr Trevor Unwin, Information Services Librarian.



# ACU hosts Bishop Scola

Bishop Angelo Scola, Rector Magnificus of the Lateran University in Rome and President of the John Paul II Institute for Marriage and Family, visited Australian Catholic University on 10 February to meet with Professor John Coll, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs) and Professor Anthony Kelly, CSsR, Professor of Theology and Head of Sub-Faculty of Philosophy and Theology.

Bishop Scola also met with senior staff of the University at a luncheon held in the Vice-Chancellery, before travelling to ACU's Mount Saint Mary Campus to present a paper to University staff on Pope John Paul II's recent encyclical *Fides et Ratio*.

Bishop Scola, who has been teaching for forty years, said teaching is one of the most beautiful professions. "It's an art, it's poetry, and a science, used as an instrument in its capacity to perceive reality."

"Education helps a person to introduce oneself into total reality, which is the goal of education," he said, pointing out the importance of the family as well as the teacher in the education process.

He believes teaching is the only real way to keep in touch with students and he endeavours to maintain a daily contact with students, despite his busy schedule.

Ordained Bishop of Grossero, Italy, in 1991, Bishop Scola maintained his teaching position at the John Paul II Institute

until he was named Rector of the Pontifical Lateran University and President of the John Paul II Institute in 1995.

Prior to joining the Institute's Faculty in Rome in 1982, His Excellency was Assistant Professor at the Catholic University of the Sacred Heart in Milan and the University of Fribourg in Switzerland.

As a young priest finishing his theological degree at the University of Fribourg, Bishop Scola co-founded the Italian edition of *Communio* and has published several articles in *Nouvelle Revue Theologique*, *Anthropotes*, and *Il Nuovo Aeropago*. His books include *The Foundation of the Natural Law in the Scriptum Super Sententiis* and *The Dawn of Human Dignity: The Foundation of Human Rights*.

His book interviews with Henry Cardinal de Lubac (*Interview on the Second Vatican Council*) and Hans Urs von Balthasar (*Test Everything and Hold On To What Is Good*) have been translated into various languages. His most recent book is titled *Identity and Difference: The Relationship between Man and Woman*.

Bishop Scola was visiting Australia to explore the possibility of the John Paul II Institute for Marriage and Family opening a centre in Australia, with Melbourne being the most likely place for the centre.

## Business students from India at ACU

1999 was a significant year in the development of international initiatives by the School of Business and Informatics (NSW).

Last October, Associate Professor Pam Gibbons, Head of School, joined Dr Barbara Evans in a student recruitment trip to India on behalf of the International Student Office. As a result of the trip, 80 offers of places in ACU courses were made in face-to-face meetings with prospective students. 76 of these offers were for the Master of Information Systems course at MacKillop Campus, from which at least 20 students have already accepted the MIS offer and commenced studies in Semester 1 this year.

Professor Gibbons and Dr Evans visited Hyderabad presenting a public lecture on programs available at ACU before recruiting in Hyderabad and in Ahmedabad.



Associate Professor Pam Gibbons, Head of School of Business and Informatics (NSW) with the first student to be recruited in the Master of Information Systems, Ravi Shankar Raparathi, at Ancons International in Hyderabad last October.

Professor Gibbons returned to India with Mr David Quigley, International Education, in March 2000 visiting Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam, for further recruiting of students.

A course initiative in Hotel Management (in conjunction with William Blue College) is expected to attract more international students. A newly marketed International Business Semester for Study Abroad students, and an accreditation agreement for Australian Computer Society Examination graduation now being marketed on behalf of ACU by the ACS and IDP in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, are also expected to attract more international students.

The School also hosted two international scholars in 1999: Dr Teresa Wojtowicz from Warsaw University of Technology and Associate Professor Ha Jin Hwang from Taegu Catholic University, Korea.



Pictured at the Vice-Chancellery are (front): Mr Richard Doyle, University Secretary, Professor Elizabeth Cameron-Traub, Dean, Faculty of Health Sciences, Sr Rosemary Lewins, Dean of Students, and (back) Professor Anthony Kelly, CSsR, Professor of Theology, Professor John Coll, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs), Associate Professor Tim O'Hearn, Acting Director Public Affairs, Bishop Angelo Scola, and Mr Philip Milligan, Assistant to Bishop Scola.



# ACU and St Vincent's renew joint agreement

Australian Catholic University and the Sisters of Charity Health Service (SCHS), Darlinghurst, comprising St Vincent's Hospital complex, have confirmed their joint agreement for cooperation in nursing research and training.

ACU Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Sheehan and the SCHS Regional Chief Executive Officer, Dr Tina Clifton, signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Friday 17 December 1999 at St Vincent's Hospital, Darlinghurst, renewing the agreement.

In 1994 ACU and SCHS Darlinghurst agreed to the creation of a Chair in Nursing and the establishment of a Campus Nursing Research Unit, located at St Vincent's. Professor Susan Ronaldson commenced duty in the Chair in April 1996.

At the signing of the Memorandum, Dr Clifton said that the whole area of nursing research was exciting. The Nursing Research Unit had grown in activity and was making a terrific contribution in this area. SCHS was proud to be part of this development.

Professor Sheehan said that the Unit was of paramount importance to the University. It expressed the significance of the Catholic health sector and the importance to ACU of collaborations such as that with the SCHS. He said the University greatly values research into quality nursing care including such issues as pain management for people with terminal illness, dignified dying, and continuity of care to balance the challenging trend of shorter hospital stays.

The Memorandum was an acknowl-

edgement of the great contribution of Professor Susan Ronaldson and of the St Vincent's Health Campus as well.

After the signing Dr Clifton took Professor Sheehan on a tour of St Vincent's Hospital complex.



*Dr Tina Clifton and Professor Peter Sheehan signing the MOU.*

## Plunkett Centre MOU signed

Australian Catholic University Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Sheehan, and the Sisters of Charity Health Service NSW Chief Executive Officer, Dr Tina Clifton, signed a new three year Memorandum of Understanding for the highly acclaimed Plunkett Centre for Ethics in Health Care on 23 February.

The MOU cements the Centre's important work and the historic partnership between the Health Service and the University, which dates from 1992.

The ethics centre takes its name from John Hubert Plunkett, a great friend of and benefactor to the Sisters of Charity, as well as a leading citizen who was the first Catholic Solicitor-General and the

first Catholic Attorney-General of New South Wales.

The Plunkett Centre promotes research into ethical and theological issues that are relevant to health care and medical science, enriches public debates about health care ethics by contributing a Catholic perspective, and provides expert advice to hospitals and health care providers.

ACU and SCHS staff, including the Plunkett Centre's Director, Dr Bernadette Tobin, and doctoral candidates attended the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding, which was held at the Vice-Chancellery.

Professor Peter Sheehan said the Plunkett Centre is "a core part of the

University's business" and that "ethics are an indispensable part of ACU".

"The Plunkett Centre greatly enhances the teaching and research dimensions of ACU. We are proud of its contributions to the diverse and difficult challenges experienced in health care."

Never has the need for ethics been greater than in contemporary society, and Professor Sheehan said, "There is a force against ethics everywhere you go."

Dr Clifton concurred these remarks, adding that ethical issues are one of the greatest challenges to the community.

"Since 1992 the Plunkett Centre for Ethics has experienced exponential growth in providing the highest quality of ethical advice across many difficult issues in the health, research and allied sectors.

"This new MOU commits the Sisters of Charity Health Service to the ongoing development of the Plunkett Centre. It is recognition of the Centre's highly significant work and the impressive track record under Dr Tobin," said Dr Clifton.

Catholic College of Education Sydney established a Centre for Bio-Ethics, which moved to the St Vincent's Campus at Darlinghurst in 1989. In December 1992 an MOU formally established the Plunkett Centre, and soon after, in early 1993, Dr Tobin was appointed Foundation Director.

Currently, the Centre has three doctoral candidates and a large group of Master's students. It undertakes consultancy work for Catholic Health Australia, other hospitals and professional medical and surgical organisations, as well as undertaking its core responsibility to the health and research facilities on the St Vincent's Campus, Darlinghurst.



*Australian Catholic University and Sisters of Charity Health Service staff at the Vice-Chancellery on 23 February.*



# Links with Catholic University of Leuven

Professor Herman Lombaerts, Faculty of Theology, the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, was brought to Australia with assistance from the ACU International Office and the School of Religious Education to conduct a series of in-depth seminars on future developments and research in Religious Education and Ministry.

Professor Lombaerts, a member of the De La Salle Order, conducted successful seminars in Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra and Brisbane for ACU academic staff, research students and key educators from Catholic Education Offices. He has had a long history of leadership in Religious Education and Ministry internationally, and is very well known in Europe. He has visited Australia a number of times since the 1970s.

Professor Lombaerts' special interest is in the implications for religious education in the contemporary culture and spirituality of young people. With colleague Dr Bert Roebben, he has developed an Internet Resources web site for Religious Education and Ministry to youth (Dutch



*Professor Herman Lombaerts (second from the right) with ACU colleagues (left to right) Associate Professor Ray Canning, Dr Louise Welbourne, op, and Dr Sally Liddy at a research and development seminar at Signadou campus in 1999.*

language version at present).

Professor Lombaerts is currently chairing a symposium with the aim of establishing an Asian Pacific Religious Education Resources web site. With sup-

port from the Research Office and the Faculty of Education, Associate Professor Patricia Malone, rsj, will be representing ACU at the Singapore symposium in 2000.

## New wave of doctoral research in ACU

The enrolment of more than 40 new students into the revised ACU Doctor of Education (EdD) program in 2000 is a sign of a new wave of research in the University, complementing the Doctor of Philosophy degree.

The EdD program is designed to help highly educated professional educators to conduct applied research related to their areas of work or professional interest. This degree is an interesting alternative research degree for educational practitioners in contrast to the more traditional Doctor of Philosophy. The EdD has a substantial component of in-depth course work. It encourages candidates to conduct research that will enhance professional practice.

The work already done in the program by continuing students, as well as the research potential building up in new candidates, will make a valuable contribution to the Catholic Education sector in Australia. It will help build up a culture of research that will increasingly inform Catholic Education in this country.

The first two graduates from the EdD program in Religious Education received their degrees in 1999. Dr Malcolm Bartsch, the Dean of Luther Seminary, Adelaide studied the relationship between Lutheran Confessional Theology and contemporary Lutheran education in Australia; Dr Wayne Tinsey, Director of

the Catholic Institute in Perth and adjunct Senior Lecturer at Notre Dame University and Edith Cowan University, pursued research on the religious dimension of the mission of Catholic schools – the perceptions of clergy and teachers. In 1999, the first ACU Doctor of Philosophy in Religious Education was awarded to Marian de Souza, now lecturing at Aquinas campus, for her study of students' and teachers' perceptions of secondary school religious education.

## Careers Fest 2000

ACU's Signadou Campus together with Australian National University, University of Canberra, Canberra Institute of Technology, the Australian Defence Force Academy and AIHS, organised the ACT Tertiary Career Fest 2000.

Held at Rydges Hotel, Canberra on 11 April, the Career Fest provided an opportunity for Tertiary students to meet potential employers and access current industry information. It's the first time tertiary institutions in the ACT have collaborated on a careers day, promoting Canberra as a source of quality graduates for local, national and international employers.

## Studio grant

Dr Adam Geczy, Visual Arts Lecturer, School of Arts and Sciences (NSW), at Mount Saint Mary Campus, has won a Fellowship and Grant for a year's residency at the renowned Kunstlerhaus Bethanien in Berlin.

The Fellowship and Grant are from the Visual Arts and Craft Board of the Australia Council which offers grants for studios throughout the world. These are normally for four months with \$10,000. However, Dr Geczy has won one of two large grants in this area which offer a year with \$30,000 at the Kunstlerhaus Bethanien and PS1 in New York.

These two studios form part of an international studio program which includes about 12 established artists throughout the world, including USA, Austria, Sweden, Brazil, Holland and Japan.

Dr Geczy visited the studio, where he will be living and working, whilst on the Goethe-Institut Fellowship in 1999. In October-November 2000 there will be an exhibition of Dr Geczy's work from that Fellowship at the Goethe-Institut. As a result of his work in Berlin in 1999 Dr Geczy has received interest from the Moderner Kunst Stiftung Ludwig in Vienna and the Museum Ludwig in Budapest, to show his work.

At the close of his residency Dr Geczy is required to exhibit and catalogue his work at the Kunstlerhaus.



## Margaret Balint Award presentation

Associate Professor Tim O'Hearn, Acting Director of Public Affairs and Assistant to the Vice-Chancellor, was presented the Margaret Balint Award for 1999 by Professor John Coll, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs), at the staff meeting of Sydney campuses held at Mount Saint Mary Campus on 4 January.

The Award was presented to Professor O'Hearn in recognition of his service to ACU and is in remembrance of Margaret Balint for her contribution to the University and its predecessor colleges.



Professor John Coll, (left) presenting the Margaret Balint Award to Associate Professor Tim O'Hearn.

At the staff meeting Br Marcellin Flynn, fms, received a University plaque from Professor Coll as a gesture of thanks for his long career with ACU and its predecessor colleges.



Br Marcellin Flynn, fms, (right) receiving his plaque from Professor John Coll.

## Visiting scholars impact on research

Late in 1999, the Institute for the Advancement of Research seconded two experienced Professors from the United States to work in the Cardinal Clancy Centre for Research in the Spiritual, Moral, Religious and Pastoral Dimensions of Education.

In a new format to secondments, the Professors made a valuable three month contribution to the growing research skill and research culture in ACU. A feature of their presence was the extensive contact with academic staff and research students.

David Steward is Professor Emeritus of Religious Education, Pacific School of Religion, and The Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, California. He was formerly Dean of the Graduate Theological Union and Director of multidisciplinary research. Margaret Steward is Professor Emeritus, Department of Psychiatry and School of Medicine, University of California, Davis. She was formerly the Assistant Dean of the large Medical School.

The Stewards conducted a series of research seminars and workshops across the campuses. In addition, they spent considerable time with academic staff and research students working on research design and data collection procedures, as well as helping with the preparation of manuscripts.

Their research expertise and wide experience made the seminars – dealing

initially with issues in research with children – relevant across a number of disciplines. They highlighted the differences between “investigative” and “therapeutic” interviewing techniques. Their work attracted visiting educators from outside the University, and included Catholic Education Office staff.

In Canberra, their activity made a special contribution to links between the ACU School of Social Work and the Government Bureau of Family Services. In addition, Professor Marge Steward addressed the Child at Risk Assessment Unit at Canberra Hospital.

The visit of the Stewards has made a valuable contribution to the planning and conduct of secondments, which are intended to enhance the emerging research culture in Australian Catholic University.



Professors David and Margaret Steward (centre) at their research seminar in Canberra, with Ms Kandie Allen-Kelly (left) Assistant Head of the School of Social Work and Dr Sally Liddy (right) State Coordinator of Religious Education.

## Top score for Academic Skills unit

The Academic Skills services at Australian Catholic University are reported as ‘comparing favourably’ in a study recently undertaken in relation to eight other Australian universities.

More than 90% of first year students responded that they had used the Academic Skills services, and the data showed a range of 91% to 97% moderate to high satisfaction with all services provided. These results have been found in a research study conducted by the Centre for Study of Higher Education, at the University of Melbourne, last semester and published in January 2000.

A recent Government report, ‘Benchmarking in Universities’ (McKinnon Walker/IDP Australia, November 1999), suggests that 80% student knowledge of the service, and 60% use of and satisfaction with the service would be an optimum aspiration for Academic Skills support.

Satisfaction was shown with all Academic Skills services, which include the ACU Study Guide, Tertiary

Preparation Programs, workshops (including Faculty lectures), further activities, consultations, resources, and other handouts. These services are designed to develop both writing from a linguistic perspective, and university-level learning strategies for ACU students.

Responses were received from 25% of 1999 commencing students on the sample campuses surveyed, Christ, MacKillop and McAuley.



Four satisfied MacKillop Nursing students: Karolyn Pataky, Bobbie Woodward, Annette Stunden and Carla Zephir.



## Awards ceremony in Karachi

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Wolfgang Grichting, visited Notre Dame Institute of Education in late November 1999 to lead the Award Ceremony and present the Occasional Address at the formal celebration of the graduation of 80 graduands in the Bachelor of Education and Master of Education courses.

In the Occasional Address Professor Grichting said, "Interest in learning is essential whenever creative thinking rather than memory is the basis of professional preparation. Not all are convinced that creative thinking is possible at a Catholic institution. Some critics hold that critical thinking and faithful embrace of Catholic doctrine is impossible. A century ago, George Bernard Shaw joked

that a Catholic university was a contradiction in terms."

Referring to John Henry Cardinal Newman's argument that a "true university must be open to discuss the universe in its full complexity, it must be universal or shall we use the Greek term for universal, that is, Catholic." Professor Grichting said that at ACU "we expect our graduates to be highly competent in their chosen field, ethical in their behaviour, with a developed critical habit of mind, an appreciation for the sacred in life and a commitment to serving the common good."

During his stay in Karachi Professor Grichting presented a paper, *What's new in teaching and learning*, to staff, students and members of the community.



Sr Annette Schneider, Director of Notre Dame Institute of Education, Professor Wolfgang Grichting, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) ACU, and Bishop Anthony Lobo, President, Notre Dame Institute of Education at the Awards Ceremony.

## Study tour in Vietnam

A group of fourteen second year students, enrolled in the Bachelor Arts (Secondary) and Bachelor Education (Primary), visited Vietnam in November 1999 for two weeks, as part of the module *Australia in an Asia context*.

Mrs Jillian Johnston, Lecturer, School of Education (NSW), said the trip was an outstanding success where the students showed much enthusiasm both on the trip and in their set work which forms part of the unit of study.

"This was our first trip to Vietnam,



Sr Imelda Dinh (left), Mrs Jillian Johnston (centre), Ms Maya Cranitch (centre back) with ACU students and university students from Vietnam.

with the previous two trips to China. To date 47 students have travelled to an Asian nation as part of the unit," said Mrs Johnston.

"It is important for teachers to know about our Asian neighbours, not only because of their close proximity, but also as we have Asian students in our classes. The unit, *Australia in an Asian context*, runs for four to five weeks with the trip providing an experiential mode for interested students. We provide the students with three immersion modes giving them a basic orientation of the country they are visiting."

Sr Imelda Dinh who completed her Master of Education at Mount Saint Mary Campus a year ago, and is based in Vietnam, assisted Mrs Johnston in arranging the group's tours and visits whilst in Vietnam. Ms Maya Cranitch, Lecturer, School of Education (NSW), also travelled with the group to Vietnam.

The 2000 trip for the module will be to India. Plans are already well underway with at least 12 students interested in the trip.

## ACU courses at Notre Dame

Associate Professor Patricia Malone, rsj, visited Notre Dame Institute of Education in Karachi, Pakistan in December 1999 to review two postgraduate courses accredited by ACU for offering at the Institute.

Professor Malone, Chair, Postgraduate Review Committee (established by the Faculty of Education in March 1999) worked with local review committees whilst in Karachi to carry out the review process for the Faculty. The Education Faculty Board and the University's Academic Board have approved the reviewed postgraduate courses, the International Graduate Certificate and the Master of Education, and they will be implemented as accredited courses to be taught at the Notre Dame Institute of Education in the new academic year 2000/2001.

The Notre Dame Institute of Education Karachi commenced in October 1991. Its founding principal, Sr Gabrielle Jennings rsm, had a long association with Mercy Campus and ACU has supported the development of the courses of the Institute.

Since 1995 the International Graduate Certificate has prepared 111 secondary teachers who are actively involved in trying to bring about change in the schools where they are working. Forty students are currently enrolled in this course which was revised as part of the review process. The Master of Education course, which began two years later, already has 15 graduates who are making a strong contribution to the local scene. Some of these are staff at the Institute with two having been accepted for Doctoral Programs in international universities.

The provision of courses for a Catholic Institute in an Islamic country, where students and staff reflect the religious diversity of the country, enables ACU to effectively carry out its Mission of being open to all and being truly Catholic in its understanding of education and values.



Associate Professor Pat Malone, rsj, (centre back) with students at the Notre Dame Institute of Education, Karachi.



# New postgraduate nursing course

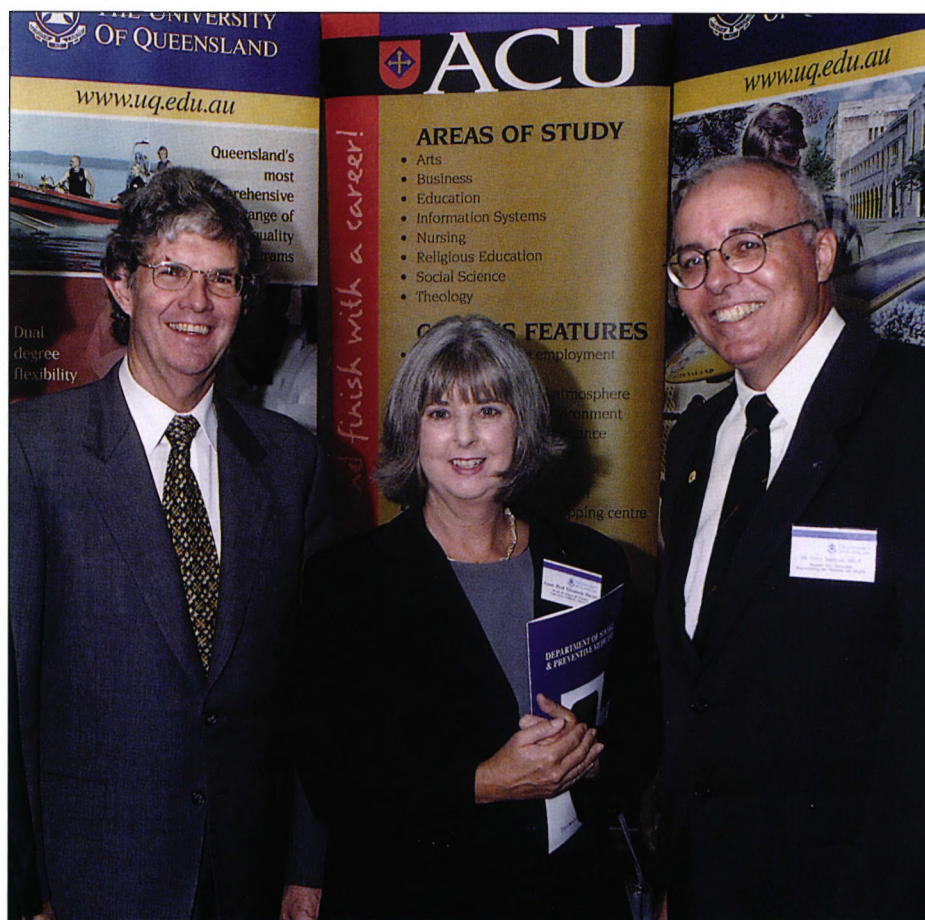
The School of Nursing (QLD) is offering units in a new postgraduate training course for nurses that was developed in conjunction with the University of Queensland, the Wesley Hospital, Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Prince Charles Hospital and the District Health Service.

The University of Queensland Graduate Certificate in Health Studies (Nursing) was introduced to meet a need identified by health care managers and senior nursing professional.

The course offers an innovative approach to postgraduate nursing education and places emphasis on key issues in health care in the new millennium, including evidence-based practice, research, management and decision-making.

"ACU and the University of Queensland have combined forces to provide a course more relevant to the needs of students using the resources and expertise of both universities," said Associate Professor Elizabeth Davies, Head, School of Nursing (QLD) at ACU.

To obtain the award, students will need to gain a total of 40 credit points from the two core subjects and two elective subjects taught through the University of Queensland, and three elective subjects taught through ACU. The varied hours worked by nurses and the expected demand from nurses will be met through a distance education package, including the provision of tutors and mentors.



University of Queensland Vice-Chancellor, Professor John Hay, ACU, Head, School of Nursing (QLD), Associate Professor Elizabeth Davies, and Mr Terry Sullivan MLA, Member for Chermiside representing the Minister for Health, at the launch of the new postgraduate nursing course in November 1999. (Photo supplied by the University of Queensland).

## Immunisation module

The School of Nursing at ACU's McAuley Campus in Brisbane has developed an accredited program to prepare nurses for their role in immunisation programs.

The module has been developed in collaboration with the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital and Health Service in Brisbane and is fully approved by the Queensland Nursing Council. The module is available in June, October and November 2000 at McAuley Campus.

Immunisation is an important public health issue for all health professionals. Currently in Australia, vaccination uptake rates are below the national goals set by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and the Australian Public Health Association.

Until recently Queensland registered nurses have been unable to administer vaccine as part of their role. Changes to the Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996 have expanded the role

of Queensland registered nurses practising under Section 175 (3) – immunisation programs.

After completing the module at ACU, registered nurses in Queensland will be qualified to assess children in relation to the immunisation schedule as recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council, providing the nurse is within an immunisation service that meets standards of legislation.

Completion of the program also allows for "Opportunistic Immunisation", endorsing registered nurses to provide an independent assessment of children and adolescents in community and hospital settings.

As new vaccines become available and are included on the NHMRC schedule, the immunisation module at ACU will provide registered nurses with the necessary qualifications to assess and immunise children and adolescents in Queensland. Students who complete a Graduate Diploma in Clinical Nursing (Child & Adolescent Health) have the immunisation module incorporated into their course.

## ATSI project

Ms Maria Miller, Head, School of Nursing (VIC) and Mrs Jennifer Hardy, Senior Lecturer, School of Nursing (NSW) have completed the final report for a project funded by a grant from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Commission to provide education for non-indigenous nurses at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. A package containing lecture material, videos, extensive reference lists and web site details is available.

Part of the project included funding for students to go to Aboriginal communities as clinical placements, one of which was the Alice Springs Hospital. Students from the Bachelor of Nursing course visited Alice Springs for their 'preceptorship' (the transition process from student to registered nurse).

"This program has broadened the opportunities for nurses to work in rural and remote communities, which is particularly important due to the shortage of nurses in these areas," said Ms Miller.



## Kit helps mums to keep fit



Dr Stephen Burke, Lecturer, Dr Janet Currie, Lecturer and Project Coordinator, Mr Peter Wiebe, Head of School of Human Movement (NSW), Hon. John Brogden MP, Member for Pittwater, and Viv Welsh, stroller participant in the project.

A new multi-media educational kit to increase the physical activity and well-being levels of new mothers was launched by the School of Human Movement (NSW) late last year.

The kit, *Stroll Your Way to Well-Being*, which includes a book, video, overhead projection set and brochures, was developed by Dr Janet Currie, Lecturer, and

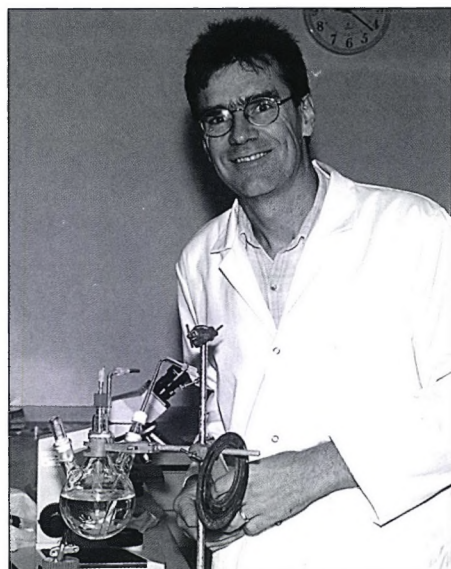
Elizabeth Develin and is targeted at recreation and health professionals.

The 12-month project involved mothers in community pramwalking groups and the employment of Ms Develin as Project Officer. The project was funded by the NSW Department for Women and has generated much local media interest and community support.

## Olympic site research

Dr Brian Bicknell, Lecturer, School of Arts and Sciences (NSW) has been successful in receiving a grant for \$123,575 from the Olympic Coordination Authority (OCA) to conduct a research project between ACU and Hanitro Pty Ltd to perform microbiological research experiments and interpretation at Wilson Park, Silverwater, for the OCA.

The project, *The Demonstration of*



Dr Brian Bicknell.

*Bioremediation Process at Wilson Park, Silverwater*, commenced in November, 1999 with the report for Stage 1, *The culture of hydrocarbon degrading microorganisms from treatment pond water and top soil*, being completed earlier this year. Dr Bicknell said the project would be completed by mid-2000.

The OCA commissioned the project to address the problems associated with waste products at the Sydney Olympic site. Although the waste products have been buried and capped with tonnes of soil and topped with grass, the OAC needed confirmation that the biodegradation process was occurring.

Work on the project is in four stages. The first stage involves tracking and mapping biodegradation of benzene and culture bacteria. Stage two work has more detailed biodegradation studies using radioactively labelled benzene whilst stage three work involves genetic studies on bacteria. The final stage is the setting up of microorganisms in an artificial soil column to demonstrate that the bacteria are working. This will be used as a teaching aid and will be on display at the Olympic site at Homebush and various other sites, including the Royal Easter Show, Sydney.

## RESEARCH

### NASA study on gravity



Dr Jodie Stocks.

Dr Jodie Stocks, Lecturer, School of Human Movement (NSW) recently returned from a twelve month Research Fellowship in the United States where she has been researching an appropriate countermeasure for space flight deconditioning in astronauts.

The NASA project was funded by the National Research Council in the United States and was headed by Dr John Greenleaf, a world leader in the study of thermoregulation and body fluid balance. Dr Stocks was working at the NASA Ames Research Centre at Moffett Field, near San Francisco.

The background for the research was based on the fact that the combined effects of re-entry to gravity and reduced work capacity and muscle function experienced by astronauts on their return to earth renders them incapable of standing and moving about without assistance. (It generally takes about an hour for the astronauts to regain their mobility.) This could present a dangerous situation for astronauts should they be required to leave the space shuttle upon landing due to an emergency. An appropriate countermeasure application for use during and after flight remains unresolved.

Dr Stocks' work involved testing three countermeasure protocols using a Human Powered Centrifuge to create a centrifuge effect.

The Human Powered Centrifuge consisted of a seat in a reclined position fixed to a moving disc. When in motion the Human Powered Centrifuge reproduced the effects of gravity. The protocols tested included passive acceleration and two combinations of acceleration and exercise. The research sought to identify the most appropriate protocol based on work capacity and blood pressure control responses of the subject.

"The results of the study are still being analysed but if the study is a success a Human Powered Centrifuge will be mounted and used in the new Space Station. The implications of long term space flight and the effects on astronauts are enormous. If the study has positive results and a countermeasure implemented, space flight deconditioning experienced by astronauts will be greatly reduced. This will be particularly important for long term space flight", said Dr Stokes.



## Education report

The fourth volume of a study by Professor Peter Carpenter, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Sciences at ACU, and his colleagues at Southern Cross University (Professor Martin Hayden) and the Australian Council for Educational Research (Mr Michael Long) has been published by the ACER.

The present volume, *Participation in Education and Training 1980-1994*, looked at the participation of four groups of Australian students who were 19 in the years 1980, 1984, and 1989 and 1994. It considered six forms of educational participation, analysed by gender, socio-economic status, country of birth, rural-urban location, state of schooling, type of schooling and early school achievement.

Previous volumes, all published by the then DEETYA, examined Year 12 completion in Australia, entrance to higher education in Australia and graduation from higher education in Australia.

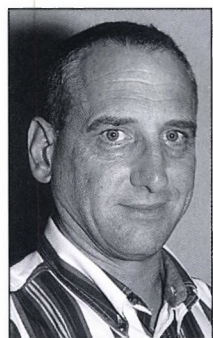
The present study, which has been supported by DETYA, found that participation by 19 year olds in post school education and training – including TAFE courses, apprenticeships, traineeships and higher education – increased from 49 per cent in 1980 to 67 per cent in 1994.

The study also found that the number of students completing Year 12 more than doubled between the early 1980s (35 per cent) and the mid-1990s (78 per cent).

## Doctorate for Ken Smith

Mr Ken Smith, Senior Lecturer, School of Education (VIC), completed his Doctorate with the Educational Psychology Department at the University of Melbourne in February 2000, after years of juggling his work at ACU and researching and writing his thesis.

His thesis is titled, *The self-concept and verbal academic achievement of primary and secondary student teachers*.



Dr Ken Smith.

"This study has given support to the idea that a balance of academic and personal development (non-cognitive development) units is needed in teacher education programs, for pre-service and in service," he said.

## Study on male primary teachers

Mr Ed Lewis, Lecturer, and Associate Professor Jude Butcher, Head of School, School of Education (NSW) at ACU and Peter Donnan, Catholic Education Office, Sydney, have completed the preliminary stage of a research project, titled *Men in Primary Teaching, an Endangered Species?*

The research is investigating the "conflicts and tensions experienced by male primary teachers and their career choice motivation," said Mr Lewis.

Mr Lewis, who was interviewed on the findings of the study late last year on the ABC's 7.30 Report, said he was concerned at the declining number of male student teachers at Mount Saint Mary Campus. Enrolments of male primary students at the Campus have decreased from 21% of the total student population in 1993 to just 10% in 1999.

Such reduced numbers of males choosing primary teaching are a cause of concern to educational administrators and systemic policy makers and have wide-ranging educational and social ramifications.

Mr Lewis said the, "Lack of male role models in schools is popularly associated with discipline problems."



Associate Professor Jude Butcher and Mr Ed Lewis.

"Teaching has been traditionally regarded as a career more suited to women than men. However in the past twenty years researchers have advocated that men should be involved in primary teaching in order to counter the 'feminised' environment providing male role models and help decrease discipline and learning problems, which would lead to improved achievement by boys.

"Yet male teachers are on the decline. Reasons for this decline include the low wages earned by teachers and the low social status of the primary teacher.

"There are also concerns associated with being labelled as a paedophile and the current media spotlight on allegations of child sexual abuse."

## Literacy links with new technologies

A report co-authored by Ms Glenda Shopen, Lecturer, ACU's School of Education (ACT) and Dr Anthony J. Liddicoat, Australian National University, has found playing computer and video games teach valuable literacy skills. Mr Robert Fitzgerald, Senior Lecturer, ACU, School of Education (ACT) contributed to the third section of the report.

The report, *Meeting the Challenge: Supporting partnerships between home and school in the middle years*, said students could learn a range of literacy skills from playing screen based games. It also recommended that schools should recognise that literacy can be learnt from sources other than books – like screen-based games. Otherwise schools might face greater behaviour management problems if students become bored.

The study is an ACT SPELL Project funded by the ACT Government Literacy and Numeracy Fund, and focuses on working with school communities to address the major concerns of parents and staff within three areas: home-school communication, homework, and integrating home-school literacy and numeracy practices. The project, which began in 1998, is continuing this year with a further grant to develop modules for teach-

ers and parents. The ultimate goal of the study is to improve literacy and numeracy outcomes for students in the middle years of schooling.

"Literacy is no longer just based on books," said Ms Shopen. "You can call playing Playstation a literacy activity, because the kids are taking graphic, print and sound codes and synthesising them to solve problems and develop strategies to get through the levels of the game – and that is what literacy is all about."

Ms Shopen said these skills were not being valued by schools who often considered literacy learning was based on books alone.

The study found reading and doing homework ranked below playing screen games, watching television, playing sport and playing with friends in after-school activities for students aged eight to 12. It recommended that schools develop approaches to teaching and learning which recognise and develop the interests and experiences that children have in all areas of their lives, especially drawing on children's experiences with new technologies.

The report also recommended that schools develop communication policies and processes in order to support children's learning.



# Study on local community in Melbourne

The ACU Social Policy and Advocacy Research Centre (SPARC) has prepared a sociological study on the area in which the new St Patrick's Campus is located.

The document, *Australian Catholic University in the Inner City, Melbourne*, reports on the possibility of future cooperative relationships between the University and local communities – the inner city suburbs of Fitzroy and Collingwood and surrounding suburbs.

Associate Professors Ruth Webber and Judith Bessant, School of Arts and Sciences (VIC) designed the project at the request of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Sheehan. The report was prepared by consultants, Robyn Hartley and Anna Anderson.

Members of the Reference Group for the project were: Marilyn Webster, Bruce Duncan and Jo Caddy, Catholic Social Services; Nick Matteo, Yarra City Council; Lynn Sweeney, Melbourne City Council; Ruth Webber and Judith Bessant, SPARC.

Fitzroy, the location of St Patrick's Campus, is Melbourne's oldest suburb. The area had strong working class beginnings and continues to house significant numbers of low-income families and individuals. However, in recent years, old industrial buildings and warehouses have been converted into relatively expensive apartments, which have attracted higher income couples and individuals to the area.

The report noted that the most significant characteristics of the immediate area of the new campus are its diversity and its 'density' of activity.

The area is economically, culturally and socially diverse and as a community has a strong sense of identity. The arts have a varied and innovative presence in the local community and welfare organisations and agencies are well represented in the area.

## POSITIVE RESPONSE

Associate Professor Webber said she was overwhelmed by the positive response they received from all sections of the local community. "The study raised issues that people in the area wanted contact with the University. This ranged from agencies wanting assistance with research to other organisations wanting contact with students for placements and peer tutoring," she said.

"I was amazed at how many agencies and social welfare organisations are in the local area." (There are more than 170 services and social welfare organisations).

Concerns raised in the report that emerged from consultations with a broad range of people include:

- perceived threats to diversity and a strong sense of community and identity because of changes in the nature of the population;
- a level of visible drug use in some parts that makes the issue a very salient one;
- continued high demand for services associated with the effects of structural poverty, unemployment, drug use, homelessness, de-institutionalisation and mental illness;
- declining low-cost housing options leading to homelessness for some individuals and families;
- a declining Aboriginal presence in the area;
- a decline in the amount of open space and recreational space, especially for low income people, children and young people.



Associate Professor Ruth Webber.

Social justice issues, community building, managing diversity and educational access for people in the area were important issues of concern expressed in the report.

The report noted there was an overwhelming positive response to ACU's decision to consult with people. Almost everyone the consultants spoke with suggested ways in which cooperative and mutually beneficial relationships could be established and how the University could contribute to the local area.

Key considerations that emerged from the consultations included:

- The area has strong, well-established community and service networks. It is

necessary to take time to understand them and learn how to work within them;

- Involvement at the grass roots level, as well as more formal connections with large organisations, seems necessary;
- The possibilities for involvement of the University in the local community are virtually limitless. There are also opportunities in social welfare, education, the environment, community development and research across a range of areas; and
- With the increasing concentration of key Catholic bodies and agencies in the area, there is enormous potential for agencies to work together to benefit people in the area.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR ACTION

Suggestions for establishing a cooperative and mutually beneficial relationship between the University and local communities included the areas of research (especially research that contributes to policy development and dissemination), student placements, volunteering across a range of community organisations and agencies, the sharing of University and community resources, developing strategies towards a community-friendly campus, liaison with traders and residents' groups, and developing strategies for mutual understanding between ACU and the communities into which it has moved.

Associate Professor Webber said, "The exercise engendered enormous enthusiasm and goodwill in the community. The study is an immensely useful document and shows how the demography of Fitzroy is very different from other parts of Victoria. It's one of the most rewarding projects I've been involved in with such positive results."

## Keynote address in Hong Kong

The Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Sheehan, presented the keynote address for the opening of the Fifth Asia-Pacific Conference on Education and Culture held at the University of Hong Kong from 22 to 24 November 1999.

In his address Professor Sheehan presented an Overview of the Conference Theme, *The Humanities and the Desired Characteristics of Graduates of Tertiary Education for the Next Millennium*.

The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Wolfgang Grichting, presented a paper on 23 November at the Conference which was titled: *Are Teaching and Research Still Valid?*



## Spirituality in new millennium

Rev Frank Brennan, SJ, (right) delivered the University's annual Lenten Lecture, *The High Price of Earth without Heaven in the New Millennium*, on Wednesday, 8 March in the Lecture Theatre, 383 Albert Street, East Melbourne.

The Lenten Lecture is a contribution by ACU to the Year of Jubilee activities, with the theme of spirituality being chosen for the 2000 Lenten Lecture.

Fr Brennan, a Jesuit priest for 25 years and lawyer, is an Adjunct Fellow at the Australian National University in the Research School of Social Sciences, Honorary Visiting Fellow in Law at the University of New South Wales, the Director of Uniya, the Jesuit Social Justice Centre in Sydney, and a member of the Council of the Constitutional Centenary Foundation.

Fr Brennan said he had always regarded 'spirituality' as a bit of a misleading word. "It usually excuses people from religious or social obligations and discipline in the name of self-fulfilment and personal authenticity based on feelings rather than truth," he said.

"For me, spirituality is about naming, creating and nurturing the spaces in our

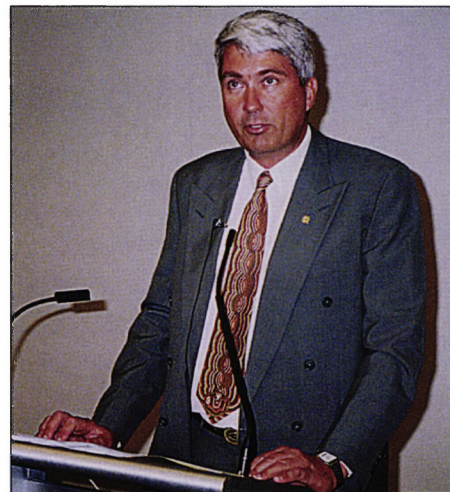
many relationships and between our many levels of connectedness – those spaces where there is silence and mystery between self and the other, between self and the world, those privileged places where we find God and where we experience our interdependence, those spaces between the ideal of objective fact and the emotions of the self-authenticating self."

Fr Brennan said: "Seeking a spirituality for those who love and who therefore preach more than tolerance, we must investigate the high price of earth without heaven in the new millennium.

"Any spirituality of substance must centre on the personal relationship we enjoy with God who is concerned with human affairs and who is not easily satisfied with human conduct or easily appeased or bought off.

"There can be no cheap love, cheap reconciliation or cheap justice.

"...on the world stage, the greatest religious challenge will be the relationship between Christianity and Islam. In the personal domain, the challenge will be having the faith that religious experience can fire the imagination and sustain hope in the face of suffering and death.



"...in a pluralistic, democratic, secular, globalised environment, worshippers will need to be more convinced of the truth of their beliefs and the reality of their religious experience.

"...in this new millennium, let's make more space for each other and for our God in our world which is crying out for true grace, reconciliation and justice."

ACU introduced the Lenten Lecture in 1999 as a University activity in keeping with its Catholic nature and as its major public oration. Each year the Lenten lecture addresses the theme of theology in dialogue with Australian culture.

## School students in university program

Senior secondary school students from three Catholic high schools in Sydney's outer western suburbs have enrolled in a special education program with ACU's School of Education (NSW).

The Pathways Program, which was launched in October 1999, was established to cater for students who have aspirations beyond the Higher School Certificate curriculum. It offers the students an academic involvement rather than the regular vocational work experience available to high school students.

Students from Christ Catholic College at Mt Druitt, Emmaus Catholic College at Erskine Park and St Paul's Catholic College at Greystanes, are enrolled in the

Program which operates from the ACU annex at the Loyola Campus in the grounds of Christ Catholic College.

The students undertake two units with ACU, which may be used as credits towards a degree should they enrol in an undergraduate course at ACU (and possibly with other universities).

Ms Mary Grant and Mr Bob Finlay, Lecturers, School of Education (NSW) are running the two units at the annex. The first unit, Learning – an educational psychology unit – was taught by Ms Grant late last year. Ms Grant said the focus of her unit was on learning within one's own learning experience, equipping students with the strategies for effective learning and research.

The second unit, Human Development – a developmental psychology unit – was taught by Mr Finlay in the first school term of 2000. "It's a life span development course with a focus on the transition from one developmental stage to another," said Mr Finlay.

The Catholic Education Office at Parramatta is also planning for units to be run for school students wanting to follow a career in teaching. ACU and the Parramatta CEO are currently looking at modified units for teachers to be used in such a program.



School students pursue their goals in the pathways program.

## East Timor students at Aquinas Campus

Three East Timorese students are attending Aquinas Campus on scholarships offered by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Sheehan.

The students, shown below, Teodozio Ximines, Nicholau Fraga, and Jose da Costa, are enrolled in the BA/BTeach program. They share an immense enthusiasm and ambition to contribute to the rebuilding of their country and are making the most of the opportunities offered at ACU. Their presence has inspired some of the fourth year students to explore possibilities for voluntary work in East Timor.





## End of an era for Arts and Sciences



*Diana Murphy, the first personal assistant to the Dean of Arts and Sciences, finished her career of seven years at ACU on 17 March. Diana (left) is pictured with Professor Peter Carpenter, Dean, Arts and Sciences, and the Dean's new personal assistant, Monika Rother, at St Patrick's Campus.*

## Master's student on judging panel

Jeremy Barren, a Master of Social Science (Research) student at St Patrick's Campus, has been invited to be a judge in the National Youth Media Awards 2000 which promotes excellence in reporting on Australian Youth.

The National Youth Media Awards 2000 is a Commonwealth Government



*Jeremy Barren.*

initiative which recognises the important role the media play in forming public opinion about young people in society.

The Awards highlight young people's achievements by showcasing the best examples of journalism that reflect the positive contribution young people make.

On 27 March, Jeremy attended the preliminary judging of the National Youth Media Awards 2000 in Sydney and will attend the presentation ceremony to be held on 25 May 2000 in Sydney where the winners will be announced by the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs, the Honourable David Kemp.

Jeremy has chosen the topic of the provision of youth services on the Internet and has helped set up the Virtual Community web site established by Steve Vizard, which provides information on current education and study services for youth between the ages of 12 and 25.

## ACU triathlon team

Ms Jacqui Kapnoullas, (right) Lecturer in the School of Nursing (VIC), headed a team in the annual BRW Corporate Triathlon held at Melbourne's Elwood Beach on 19 March.

She was joined by colleagues Coral Bayley and Rob Dunbar for the event, in which more than 800 teams competed. Sporting ACU gear, the team completed the event without any mishaps and improved their time by 25 minutes on their performance in the 1999 event.



## ROUND UP

### ACU graduand crowned

Miss Inga Stenton, who completed her Bachelor of Nursing at McAuley in 1999, was crowned Miss Queensland Fundraiser in November 1999 at the Miss Queensland Awards Dinner.

Miss Stenton raised over \$70,000 for The Cerebral Palsy League of Queensland, winning a car for her efforts. She went on and competed in the finals, which was the last time Miss Australia was contested.



*Miss Inga Stenton, Miss Queensland Fundraiser. (Photo by Guilio Saggini, The Courier Mail)*

### Dimboola at Strathfield

Second year students enrolled in drama studies at Mount Saint Mary Campus recently presented the drama production Dimboola. Directed by drama lecturer, Mr Tim Smith, the theatre restaurant play depicting an Australian country wedding reception, proved a useful opportunity for those involved to experience the many aspects, pressures and responsibilities of a drama production process.

Dimboola is a satirical comment on wedding celebrations, with hard-hitting realistic values. The students, presented as cartoon-like Australian stereotypes, played out the comic scenario with unrestrained irreverence and energetic aggression, entertaining the audience.



## OF EVENTS

### Ms Laufer ordained



Ms Cathy Laufer, Lecturer in the School of Psychology (VIC), was ordained Deacon in the Anglican Church on 6 February by Bishop John Stewart, Administrator of the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne. Ms Laufer's stole was brought for her from Jerusalem by the late Rev. Dr Tony Kenny, a former member of staff at Christ Campus.

### Community service

The School of Business & Informatics (NSW) offers one of the few business undergraduate degree programs which incorporates an industry experience component.

In 1999, the School introduced a focus on personal service within this industry experience. The aim is for students to work in an environment where they are observing and interacting with the disadvantaged, the disabled or those with special needs. The program is intended to raise students' awareness of the ethical and social responsibility of business decision-makers.

In this way the program directly contributes to the mission of the university. Professor Jack Flanagan, Head of the Sub-Faculty of Business & Information Systems said: "The university considers that social issues are as relevant to a business education as accounting, marketing or information technology."

Throughout 1999 students have provided personal service to many clients of non-profit community based organisations including The Starlight Children's Foundation, The Wayside Chapel, Ronald McDonald House, St Vincent De Paul Society and other community services provided by councils and welfare groups.

## Twilight party at Aquinas Campus

Aquinas Campus hosted its annual Twilight Garden Party in the grounds of the Campus on 9 March as part of the activities for the local Begonia Festival.

The gardens surrounding Aquinas Campus' stately Manifold House, where the garden party was held, were once part of the *Carn Brea* property, where Cornish miner, Cyrus Retallack, built his family home in 1881. During the evening members of the public toured Manifold House and its surrounding gardens.

Guests were entertained with a medley of musical talent from national and local

artists including well known jazz musicians Marian de Souza and John Sullivan, Roger Hillman, Geoff Martin of *Jellybean Addiction*, the Sweet Adelines, and Scottish piper Bill Williams. The special guest was Ms Nicholle McNiece, former Ballarat, and now international performer.

Funds raised from the Twilight Garden Party will help Fijian students from Corpus Christi Teachers' College to attend Australian Catholic University and to undertake teaching experience in local primary schools.



Guests at the Garden Party included Aquinas staff members Peter Morris (3rd from left) and Sr Caroline Deutscher, IBVM, (2nd from right).

### Psychology award

Ms Rosemary Williams, (right) Student Counsellor, St Patrick's Campus, was presented with the Elaine Dignan Award 1999, which is granted by the Women and Psychology Interest Group of the Australian Psychological Society, at the APS Women and Psychological Annual Residential Conference held in Seymour, Victoria on 5 December.

The award was established in recognition of the contribution to psychology by Queensland psychologist, Elaine Dignan, who died in 1990.

Ms Williams received the award in recognition of a 10-year commitment to the Regina Coeli Community of homeless women in North Melbourne, an inner city suburb. She founded and continues to edit a newsletter *Taking it like a woman* for the Community and resides in the Regina Coeli Community as their volunteer psychologist-in-residence. Ms Williams provides counselling, psychological reports and acts as house manager once a week in addition to her work at ACU.



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# Commencement Masses

The McAuley Campus Commencement Ceremony to mark the beginning of the Academic Year was held at St Stephen's Cathedral, Brisbane on 29 February 2000.

Mass was concelebrated by the Archbishop of Brisbane, Most Reverend John Bathersby DD and the Bishops of the Province of Queensland. The Most Reverend James Foley DD, Bishop of Cairns and ACU Senator, gave the Homily. Included in the ceremony was the induction of the Student Representative Council members for the Year 2000.

At the Beginning-of-the-Year Mass for Aquinas Campus, Bishop Peter Connors welcomed staff and students "to the family of Aquinas Campus". He said, "Your decision to come to this Eucharist this evening at the commencement of another academic year indicates that you recognise Jesus Christ to be your teacher, your inspiration and your model. Together you strive to discern the voice of the Spirit who guides you in the search for the skills, the experience and the commitment that will make you women and men worthy of the highest ideals of your chosen profession."

"The community of Aquinas Campus



*Professor Muredach Dynan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Quality and Outreach), Ms Deanne Lockyer, President Student Representative Council (Queensland), Professor Peter Sheehan, Vice-Chancellor, and Sr Rosemary Lewins, op, Dean of Students.*

also provides you with a model of the kind of communities, which you will wish to form and fashion in years to come.

"May your time at Aquinas Campus provide you with confidence and courage

as you face up to the challenges that will lie ahead of you as you strive to be and do for others, what Christ was and did for the people of his own time."

The Mass was held at St Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat, on 19 March.

## Korean students at MacKillop

A group of sixty Korean students attended courses and special education tours organised by ACUcom on MacKillop Campus in January, 2000.

The students, shown below, included school students between the ages of 10 and 17 years and 25 students from Korean universities.

The tour was arranged through the Academy of Business at the Korean

broadcasting station, MBC, and provided the students with a four-week study block to learn English as well as tours of Sydney and its surrounds.

At the conclusion of the four-week block Mrs Valerie Hoogstad, Director of ACUcom, presented the students certificates for work performed with ACUcom, after which the students enjoyed a Korean lunch with their ACUcom teachers.



## Slowey Fund award

Mr Gary Graham, a Bachelor of Education (Primary) student at Mount Saint Mary Campus is the inaugural recipient of the John F. Slowey Memorial Scholarship. Professor John Coll, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs), presented the award to Mr Graham on 14 December at Strathfield.

The Memorial Scholarship was established by the Australian Catholic University Foundation to commemorate the life of Monsignor John F. Slowey whose leadership and vision contributed to the survival and development of Catholic Education in New South Wales.



*Professor John Coll (right) congratulates Mr Gary Graham, the John F. Slowey Scholarship recipient.*