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AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

1998 Annual Report

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### **Mission Statement**

Australian Catholic University shares with universities worldwide a commitment to quality in teaching, research, and service.

It aspires to be a community characterised by free inquiry and academic integrity. The University's inspiration, located within 2,000 years of Catholic intellectual tradition, summons it to attend to all that is of concern to human beings.

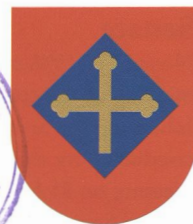
It brings a distinctive spiritual perspective to the common tasks of higher education.

Through fostering and advancing knowledge in education, health, commerce, the humanities, the sciences and technologies, and the creative arts, Australian Catholic University seeks to make a specific contribution to its local, national and international communities. The University explicitly engages the social, ethical and religious dimensions of the questions it faces in teaching and 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.

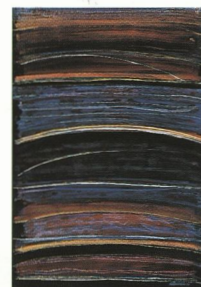
Its ideal graduates will be highly competent in their chosen fields, ethical in their behaviour, with a developed critical habit of mind, an appreciation of the sacred in life, and a commitment to serving the common good.

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## Cover

The Big Empty Series:  
Sturt, Shooting Star  
Acrylic on Fabriano paper  
by Stephen A Davidson  
Australian Catholic University  
Collection.

Stephen Davidson is  
a Senior Lecturer in the  
School of Arts and Sciences  
at Aquinas Campus, Ballarat.  
His paintings have appeared  
regularly in exhibitions and  
are represented in a number  
of collections.

## Senate

November 1998 saw the first meeting of the reconstituted Senate, following the Senate elections conducted by the Members at their meeting on 21 September 1998. A revised Senate Committee structure has been adopted and membership is currently being finalised.

## Melbourne:

### Campus Consolidation

With the successful negotiations for the purchase of No. 115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy and the sale of the Christ Campus site now concluded the University is well placed to proceed with the consolidation of its two campuses

## Brisbane:

### Banyo Campus Development

Discussions have advanced a number of issues relating to the development of a University campus on the Pius XII Seminary site at Banyo. The legal arrangement by which the University might have access

# VICE-CHANCELLOR



Prof Peter Sheehan

in Melbourne during 1999. A Business Plan has been endorsed by Senate and progress to date indicates that occupation of the new site will be in February of the academic year in 2000. A number of major committees have been established to facilitate progression of the consolidation project.

A communication strategy is in place to inform and consult staff on particular issues as they arise, and all Melbourne staff have had an opportunity to attend briefing sessions and inspect the site. Students also have been introduced to the site and been given an opportunity to inspect it. Staff and students are very supportive of the consolidation project and enthusiastic about the move to the new location.

The Goals Committee, in active consultation and interaction with the Vice-Chancellor, has liaised with the Architect to ensure the Catholic ethos of the University is reflected in the architecture and fabric of the new campus.

to the seminary property is currently being finalised; focus is being placed on a trust arrangement. The recent confirmation of Government funding to the Banyo project (\$6m from the State Government of Queensland and \$1m from the Federal Government) is in line with the financial forecast which provides for the move to Banyo to occur in 2004. This timeframe could well accelerate should further funds become available from the Federal Government.



The Mercy Campus Choir in Baroque concert

## Sydney:

### MacKillop Campus

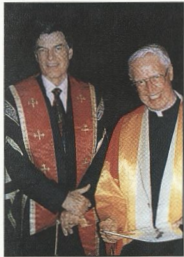
The University has received recent advice that the Sisters of St Joseph plan to develop the Mount Street, North Sydney premises which are currently used by the University. This development will require the University to vacate the



Master of Music graduates Sofya Vainer (left) and June Chan (right) with their supervisor, Dr Dianne Gome

# LOR'S REPORT

Mount Street premises and relocate a significant proportion of its MacKillop Campus activities. Negotiations are currently ongoing with the Sisters of St Joseph to find a mutually acceptable date for the University to vacate the premises and every effort is being made to explore alternative accommodation options.



Professor Sheehan with Father Francis Mecham who received an Honorary Degree of Doctor of the University

## Strategic Review

A major task undertaken in 1998 was the development, through a consultative process, of the Strategic Plan 1999 - 2008. The Plan emphasises the relevance of the University's Mission and sets out a vision for the future. Senate endorsed the Plan in November and work has now commenced in the various areas of the University to implement the individual recommendations and broad strategic directions outlined in the Plan. 1999 has been set aside also as a time to analyse external perceptions of the University in relation to the objectives set out in the Plan. A process has been established to collect appropriate views.

## Mission Statement

A revised Mission Statement for Australian Catholic University was adopted by Senate in August 1998. In developing the revised Mission Statement the Goals Committee undertook a lengthy consultative process involving both staff and students of the University. It was planned to introduce the Mission formally to staff in 1999. This plan was implemented and the introduction was successful.



Some of the students undertaking the new Master of Psychology course



Dr. Gayle Spry receives her Excellence in Teaching Award

## Students

The University continues to attract a high level of interest in its courses. 10,551 students (or 8,040 EFTSU) were enrolled in 1999. Of this number, 7,906 are undergraduate students (or 6,891 EFTSU) with 115 students classified as overseas fee-paying students. 2,561 students are enrolled in postgraduate programs, of which 137 are in Doctoral programs. In addition, the University has a total of 223 overseas fee-paying students; 101 of these are offshore students, from Hong Kong and Singapore. There are additional students enrolled in New Zealand, Karachi and South Africa.

During 1999 over 3,000 students graduated from ceremonies in Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Ballarat, Adelaide and Hong Kong. During the April ceremonies, Honorary Doctorates were awarded to the Governor-General Sir William Deane, KBE, AC at the ceremony in Sydney, Dr John Billings, AM and Dr Evelyn Billings, AM at the Melbourne ceremony, and Emeritus Professor Rosemary Goldie at the ceremony in Brisbane.

Six Doctoral awards were conferred at the April graduation ceremonies. The Doctor of Education degree was conferred on four students (two in Brisbane and two in Sydney) and two students received the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (one in Brisbane and one in Sydney).

The 1999 ceremonies also marked the first award of the University Medal. The recipient completed the degree of Bachelor of Nursing with First Class Honours and graduated at the Faculty of Health Sciences ceremony held in Sydney. Faculty Medals were awarded in the Faculty of Arts & Sciences in the Pass and Honours degrees, the Faculty of Education in the Pass degree, and the Faculty of Health Sciences in the Pass and Honours degrees.

## Staff

Senior appointments made during the year were Mr John Cameron as Director of Finance in August 1998; Professor Raimond Gaita to the Chair of Philosophy on a part-time basis in September 1998; Professor Judith Chapman as Dean of Education in November 1998; Associate Professor Peter Camilleri as Rector, Signadou Campus in April 1999.

The foundation Professor of Theology, Reverend Dr F Moloney, SDB resigned from the University in December 1998 to take up a position at the Catholic University of America. Professor Anthony Kelly was appointed as Chair of Theology in May, 1999.

Work is well advanced on the development of the staff induction program based on the Mission, vision, values and goals of Australian Catholic University. This is seen as a very important step in encouraging new staff to become active and well informed members of the University community.

## Industrial Relations

The Enterprise Bargaining Agreements, resulting from negotiations in 1997, were formally certified by the Australian Industrial Relations Commission in August 1998. Certification was sought following the conduct of two plebiscites, involving both the academic and general staff, which resulted in overwhelming approval of the Agreements. The next round of Enterprise Bargaining is due to commence later this year.



Successful Sydney graduates

## Academic Structure

Following a process of discussion and lengthy deliberation the University has adopted a simplified academic structure which has eliminated the former Departments as an organisational unit and established new Schools. The new structure includes two University-wide Schools, i.e. School of Educational Leadership and the School of Religious Education.

The University has established or formalised the following Centres to encourage and facilitate research activity within the institution: Centre for Early Christian Studies; Centre for Studies in Religion, Literature and the Arts; Mathematics Teaching and Learning Centre; Plunkett Centre for Ethics in Health Care; Research Centre in Religious and Moral Education; and the Institute for the Advancement of Research.

## Academic Programs

The University continues to develop its course profile and a number of new undergraduate and postgraduate courses have been approved. Significant developments include the introduction of a combined Bachelor of Arts-Bachelor of Music degree and a combined Bachelor of Arts-Bachelor of Business degree. A number of fee-paying courses have also been approved including a Master's degree program in Information Systems, a Master of Social Work program, a Master of Arts (Leadership) program, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology.

## Theology

A number of significant developments have occurred in the area of Theology at the University. Following on from Senate approval of a Bachelor of Theology award (available to those students who complete a full program of Philosophy and Theology subjects) a Master of Theology award was approved in November 1998.

A cooperative teaching arrangement has been formalised with the signing of an Agreement between Charles Sturt University in association with St Mark's National Theological Centre and Australian Catholic University.

A one-day seminar was held last October involving members of the Forum of Australian Catholic Institutes of Theology (FACIT) and the University. The seminar explored ways the Theologates and ACU might work more effectively to foster the cause of Catholic theological education. A second one-day seminar involving this group took place on 8 May, 1999 to further the objectives discussed at the initial meeting and advance ways and means to broaden the existing base of tertiary-conducted theological education.

Additionally, a forum was held at MacKillop Campus, North Sydney to discuss the important Encyclical Letter of Pope John Paul II, *Fides et Ratio*. The University particularly wishes to foster meaningful debate about such communications and promote their scholarly discussion in ways that involve members of the ACU community and those beyond it.

## Honorary Titles

Senate has awarded the honorary titles of: Emeritus Professor to Professor Michael Doyle (former Dean of Education), and Adjunct Professor to Professor Maev O'Collins and Dr Ronald Toomey.

## Y2000 Compliance

The University has established a committee under the Chairmanship of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) to undertake a review of, and advise the Vice-Chancellor on, all aspects concerned with the Y2000 compliance issue. Current indications are that the University is not anticipated to have any major difficulty with the technology in use.

(Presented to Annual General Meeting of Members Australian Catholic University Limited, 27 April, 1999.)



**Professor Peter Sheehan**  
Vice-Chancellor



Professor Peter W Sheehan AO took up the post of Vice-Chancellor, Australian Catholic University on 1 February 1998 in succession to Professor Peter Drake.

### **Campus Development**

The consolidation of the two existing Melbourne campuses into one new campus for the Academic Year 2000 made great progress in 1998 with the completion of contract details for the sale of the Christ Campus site and the purchase of No. 115 Victoria Parade, Fitzroy.

Loyola Centre at Mount Druitt was opened on 7 May 1998. The Centre was established jointly by ACU and the Catholic Education Office, Parramatta to facilitate the offerings of ACU programs in the western part of Parramatta Diocese.

### **Strategic Plan**

On 12 November the Senate approved the new 10-year Strategic Plan, providing the blueprint for ACU's future activities over the next decade.

# HIGHLIGHTS

The ACU Senate also approved the proposed relocation of McAuley Campus to the 90-acre site in Banyo currently occupied by the Pius XII Seminary, this relocation to occur by 2004.

The Archbishop of Brisbane, the Most Reverend John Bathersby, opened the new Student Building at McAuley Campus in Brisbane and the Archbishop of Melbourne, the Most Reverend George Pell, opened the new Student Services Centre in Burke House on Aquinas Campus, Ballarat.

La Salle House in North Sydney was incorporated into MacKillop Campus and blessed and dedicated by the Chancellor, Cardinal Clancy in January in recognition of the association of the De La Salle Community with the University and its predecessor colleges. Also early in 1998 the Castle Hill Campus of ACU was formally handed back to the De La Salle Brothers.

### **Indigenous Policy**

The University Senate formally adopted the policy of the University's total commitment to the process of reconciliation with the Indigenous peoples.

### **Staff**

Senior appointments in 1998 were Mr John Cameron as Director of Finance in August; Professor Raimond Gaita to the Chair of Philosophy on a part-time basis in September; Professor Judith Chapman as Dean of Education in November. The first Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Michael Doyle retired from the position in June.

### **Awards**

Professor Judith Chapman was awarded Membership (AM) in the General Division of the Order of Australia in the Queen's Birthday Honours List for services to Education in the tertiary sector as a teacher and researcher.

Dr Rene Geanellos received the first PhD in the Faculty of Health Sciences at a Sydney graduation ceremony in April.



The Chancellor, Cardinal Edward Clancy, blesses La Salle House, assisted by Mr Mark Leary





Archbishop George Pell of Melbourne, after unveiling in the Aquinas Campus grounds a plaque to the area's original Indigenous residents. With him are Ted Lovett, Ballarat Aboriginal Community, and Vicki Walker, Aboriginal Catholic Ministry.

Two Honorary Doctorates, three 1997 Excellence in Teaching Awards and five inaugural Faculty Medals were also presented at graduation ceremonies.

Dr Simon Ryan (McAuley) and Associate Professor Peter Bastian (Mount Saint Mary) won the 1998 University Excellence in Teaching Awards to be presented in 1999.

# OF 1998

## Courses

ACU launched the new national leadership program - Educare 2000 - under the sponsorship of the Australian Health Care Association. Educare 2000 addresses the needs of health and aged-care professionals holding positions of responsibility.

ACU introduced at Christ Campus, Melbourne, its new degree of Master of Psychology and a Master of Management course was established at Aquinas Campus, Ballarat.

Following Senate approval of a Bachelor of Theology award (available to those students who complete a full program of Philosophy and Theology subjects) a Master of Theology award was approved in November.

The Faculty of Health Sciences implemented the Master of Nursing Leadership and Master of Nursing Practice courses in New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria.

A new Bachelor of Health Science in Human Movement course was implemented in New South Wales and Victoria. The course was developed in a similar way to the Bachelor of Nursing course and combined aspects of the two previous human movement courses into one program to be taught across the Faculty.

The four-year Bachelor of Education course was revised with an option for BA-BT program in Victoria, and a two-year Bachelor of Education for graduates who wish to become Primary teachers.

A four-year Bachelor of Education (Secondary - Indigenous Studies) program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in New South Wales was introduced.

Combined degrees in Music and Arts (BA-BMus) in Melbourne and Business and Arts (BA-BBus) in Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne were approved by the Academic Board.

## High ratings

ACU secured excellent ratings in the Good Universities Guide for graduate satisfaction and outcomes. The 1998 Report of the Graduate Careers Council of Australia noted that ACU was equal top university for the percentage of its graduates seeking full-time employment actually already in employment.

## International

The University's bids for two grants from the Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs (DETYA) under the University Mobility Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) scheme were successful. This allows exchanges of students and staff.

Eighteen students graduated in Theological Studies under the sponsorship of the Singapore Pastoral Institute at the Australian High Commission in Singapore on 20 February. The University awarded both Graduate Certificates and Diplomas in Arts (Theological studies). The joint venture between the two institutions came as a result of the request of the Archdiocese of Singapore for ACU to deliver its theological program in Singapore.

## Research

ACU and Monash University will conduct the Early Numeracy Research Project (ENRP) for the Department of Education, Victoria from January 1999 to February 2002. Associate Professor Doug Clarke, Director of the ACU Mathematics Teaching and Learning Centre, is directing the project which has a total cost of \$3 million with \$1.189 million going to ACU-Monash. The ACU share is \$1.072 million.

The strategic participation of industry in research and teaching (SPIRT) with ACU was most impressive. During 1998 the success rate was 83.3 percent of SPIRT grant applications.

*This review summarises operating revenue and expenses and the year-end financial position of the University.*

The full 'Financial Statements and Reports', including 'Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of Australian Catholic University Limited', are published separately.

In 1998 the University budgeted for an operating surplus of \$2.0 million and achieved a surplus, before abnormal income, of \$3.6 million (\$3.9 million surplus

There were \$86.5 million of net assets held by the University at 31 December 1998, which is unchanged from the 1997 total. The reported value of land and buildings reflects the January 1999 sales of Christ Campus and part of the Mercy Campus, which were aligned with purchase of the new campus site. The University plans to consolidate on the new site by February 2000.

# '98 FINANCE SUMMARY

Table A shows operating budget and actual revenue and expenditure figures for 1998 with budget projections for 1999. The charts also illustrate the source and use (by functional areas) of operating funds in 1998.

Table A

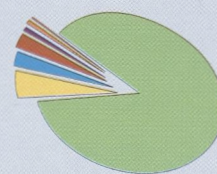
	1998 Budget \$K	1998 Actual \$K	1999 Budget \$K
Commonwealth Grants	63,403	67,344	65,249
State Grants	0	90	0
Other Grants	66	740	66
General Service Fees	2,317	2,348	2,383
Other Tuition Fees	3,898	4,289	4,743
Interest Received	525	608	600
Other Income	2,633	2,293	1,355
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>72,842</b>	<b>77,712</b>	<b>74,396</b>
Salary & Associated Costs	49,477	52,290	52,391
Non-Salary Items	21,381	21,780	20,705
<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>	<b>70,858</b>	<b>74,070</b>	<b>73,096</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>1,984</b>	<b>3,642</b>	<b>1,300</b>

in 1997). Total operating revenue was up by \$2.1 million (2.8%) on 1997 and expenditure increased by \$2.3 million (3.3%). The 1998 surplus allows a partial repayment of the \$3.9 million cost of the 1997 Voluntary Separation Scheme.

The financial statements also reflect a considerable improvement in working capital to a net surplus, excluding a \$3 million advance on operating grant to assist with purchase of the new Melbourne campus, of \$1.2 million (1996, \$0.9 million working capital deficiency).

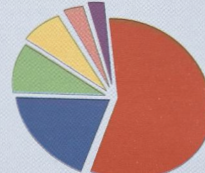
The University's strategic planning gives high priority to the achievement of operating efficiencies and new sources of revenue. The 1998 Revenue chart illustrates the University's heavy dependence on Commonwealth Grants. In 1998, non-government income actually fell by \$0.7 million (6.8%). The real decline in level of government grant in recent years has not been replaced by other sources of income, creating difficulties for management to sustain current levels of activity. The potential impact of enterprise bargaining is a further incentive to improve the range and size of alternative income sources.

1998 Revenue



Commonwealth Grants	86.7%
Other Tuition Fees	5.5%
General Service Fees	3.0%
Other Income	3.0%
Other Grants	1.0%
Interest Received	0.8%
State Grants	0.1%

1998 Expenditure



Academic Activities	57.4%
Administration and other General Services	18.2%
Buildings and Grounds	10.3%
Libraries	7.8%
Other Academic Support Services	3.6%
Student Services	2.8%

**John Cameron**  
Director of Finance

## As Senior Officer, New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory

The new Vice-Chancellor, Professor Peter Sheehan, spoke to all Sydney staff on 20 February at the start of the academic year and delivered a keynote address entitled *What defines a Catholic University* at the Signadou Graduation on 27 March 1998. This became the basis for an extensive review of the Strategic Plan of the University which has resulted.

### Campus Operations

Pro-Vice-Chancellors took on responsibility for Campus Operations at mid-year 1998, following the resignation of Dr Kevin Burke, Director of Campus Operations during 1998.

### MacKillop Campus

The Science Laboratory complex on Level Two in the Carroll Building was completed and commissioned in early 1998. This comprised a major Preparation Laboratory/staff area, three undergraduate Science and Nursing Laboratories and a Science Research Laboratory and Instrument Room.

The Computer Laboratories on Level One of the Carroll Building were augmented by the creation of two additional laboratories within the former Library precinct, and an upgrading of existing laboratories. The Information Technology support staff areas were also expanded. MacKillop Campus hosts the Bachelor of Information Systems program and has need for high level computing resources.

La Salle House was used to accommodate the Information Systems group and International Education. The School of Business

was moved into rented and upgraded facilities on Level Five, 12 Mount Street (Rugby House). The School enjoyed the new "corporate look" facilities and settled in well. Optical fibre linkages were established between the Carroll Building and La Salle House and a microwave link established with Rugby House.

### Mount Saint Mary Campus

The Strathfield Campus was upgraded to receive the Castle Hill staff and students. In particular, the transfer of Technology programs to Strathfield required the refurbishment of the squash court and "student bar" to accommodate the Food and Textile offerings, while the Woodwork/Metalwork/Design aspects were located in the Lewisham Annex. Br Kelvin Canavan's role in this acquisition is gratefully acknowledged. The facilities were upgraded at considerable cost.

The Creative Arts Building was completely refurbished, retaining its heritage values and at the same time acknowledging its connections to the present. Senate met in the Dance Studio shortly after its completion and the display area hosted several exhibitions during 1998. Technical staff are housed within the building.

The transition from Castle Hill, commenced during 1997 and completed during 1998, was successful and resulted in a far better sense of academic community than was possible in the two separate campuses. Inter-campus travel is limited between Mount Saint Mary and MacKillop.

### Conferences and Lectures

The annual conference on Religion, Literature and the Arts was held on 29-31 May at Mount Saint Mary Campus and the Museum of Contemporary Arts.

A major national and international conference in Educational Leadership was held at Mount Saint Mary in early August and attracted a wide range of attendees.

Major artistic events were held on Campus in the new Creative Arts facilities: firstly the Bogside Artists exhibition interpreted by William Kelly, and then a slide presentation by Sr Rosemary Crumlin of her exhibition, *Beyond Belief: Religious Imagination in Twentieth Century Art*.

The annual Victor J Couch Lecture was given by Dr Bernadette Tobin on the topic *Challenging our Inventiveness - Ethics Today*. The lecture was well attended and the topic well received.



Prof John Coll

## As Chair of the Academic Board

The Academic Board met five times during 1998. In the course of the year:

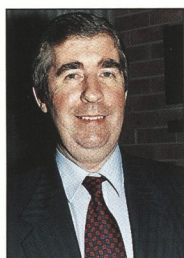
- The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs) became ex-officio Chair of the Academic Board. Professor Gabrielle McMullen was elected as Vice-Chair for a period of two years.
- The Board recommended a proposed new Academic Structure for the faculties to Senate.

A number of course changes and course introductions were approved by the Board.

**Professor John Coll**  
Pro-Vice-Chancellor  
(Academic Affairs)

## *As Senior Officer in Queensland*

The demand for undergraduate and postgraduate courses at McAuley Campus, Brisbane, continued to increase during 1998. Newer



Prof Muredach Dynan

courses including Business, Information Systems and Social Sciences are proving attractive to students and potential employers with high levels of employment and graduate satisfaction being reported in graduate surveys.

Liaison with Diocesan agencies throughout

Queensland continues to be given a high priority by Heads of Schools with the purpose of developing stronger links between McAuley Campus and each of the Dioceses.

### **Academic Staff Development**

In late 1997, a consultation and survey process was undertaken in the University to identify key professional development and training priorities. This process provided the basis for a range of workshops conducted during 1998. Particular attention was given to computer skills training, with the Academic Staff Development Unit organising workshops for the more academically focused applications and the General Staff Development Unit organising workshops for basic generic programs. Each set was made available to all staff. A two-day residential induction program was conducted in December for newly appointed Heads of School in preparation for their terms of office commencing in January 1999.

A joint National Teaching Development Grant was awarded in late 1998 to Dr Patricia Cartwright and a colleague from the University of Ballarat to fund an eighteen-month project on an undergraduate literacy integration program.

### **ACUcom**

1998 has been a significant year for ACUcom as it was a year of review and consolidation. There were several innovations including the development of Certificates and Diploma programs being offered to overseas students who are almost, but not quite, eligible to enter the University. A pass in these courses enables students to enrol in award courses. New programs have been developed with a couple of American universities, and alliances have been formed with a large number of schools and universities in Japan. These institutions bring students to Australian Catholic University for up to a month of intensive English language courses.

Approximately 800 students participate in these programs.

ACUcom won a contract with DETYA to provide Literacy programs to unemployed students.

### **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education**

Enrolments in programs specifically designed to meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities continued to rise in 1998. Support for the University-wide initiatives in this area is provided by three ATSI Support Units, Yalbalinga in Sydney, Weemala in Brisbane and Jim-Baa-Yer in the Melbourne and Ballarat campuses. The Diploma in ATSI Education continues to attract substantial numbers from a wide range of regional areas, with many graduates continuing on to complete Bachelor qualifications.

Retention rates have improved in recent years leading to higher unit and course completion rates. The new Diploma in Business Administration (ATSI) offered at McAuley Campus in 1998 has already proved popular and is anticipated to grow in coming years. The Health Science project in Aboriginal Health Education, supported by a Government grant, has been implemented successfully.

### **Quality**

During 1998 the Quality Management and Quality Improvement Committees of the University provided input to the review of the University Strategic Plan, emphasising the strong links between Strategic Planning and Quality Management plans.

Work was undertaken on the establishment of formal quality management systems for the Schools of Nursing and Human Movement in Victoria.

As part of the DETYA profile submission, the Quality Management Committee again prepared the University's Quality Assurance and Improvement Plan for the 1999 -2001 triennium.

The University continues its commitment to Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement, with the decision that Quality Management should be embedded across all operations in accordance with the University's Strategic Plan for the period 1999 - 2008.

**Professor Muredach Dynan**  
Pro-Vice-Chancellor  
(Quality and Outreach)

## *The year saw two significant changes in the management and structure of the International Education Office (IEO).*

These changes are expected to increase the effectiveness of operations, particularly for the recruitment of overseas students.

First, the management of the Office was moved to the portfolio of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, (Quality and Outreach), Professor Muredach Dynan. One of the benefits arising out of this change was that it enabled the Office to develop a closer working relationship with ACUcom in the areas of ELICOS and internship programs.

The other significant change was that the University contracted International Student Services (ISS), which already marketed ACU's ELICOS courses overseas, to market award courses in those countries where there are joint ELICOS/award course opportunities. The countries being targeted by ISS are: Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Latin America, Taiwan and Thailand. Other niche markets will be handled by the IEO.

The University's bids for two grants from the Department of Education, Training and Youth Affairs (DETYA) under the University Mobility Asia and the Pacific (UMAP) scheme were successful. One of the grants enabled seven ACU students to spend a semester at Hijiyama University in Hiroshima, Japan, studying Japanese language and culture. Funds were also available for a member of the academic staff to travel to Japan to review the

exchange program. The other grant enabled four ACU students to study Habilitation/Adaptive Education at St Norbert College, De Pere, Wisconsin in the United States. The grant also enabled Associate Professor Jude Butcher and Dr Fay Hickson to visit St Norbert College for discussions about the exchange program and about establishing further academic links.

The Director, Mr Tony McKittrick, travelled to the United States to promote Study Abroad programs at ACU and to develop ties with US universities and to strengthen existing ones. During that trip academic links have been encouraged with:

- Loyola University, Chicago
- St John's University, New York City
- State University of New York (SUNY) at Oswego

In 1998 the Office facilitated the establishment of student and staff exchange links with other universities as follows:

- Catholic University of Lille, France
- Catholic University of Lyon, France
- Divine Word University, Papua New Guinea
- Gävle University College of Health Sciences, Sweden
- Hijiyama University, Hiroshima, Japan
- Kaifeng University, Henan Province, China
- Lund University, Sweden

- Salve Regina University, Newport, Rhode Island, USA
- St Norbert College, De Pere, Wisconsin, USA
- St Scholastica's College, Manila, The Philippines
- The Catholic University of Salta, Argentina

### REPORT OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION OFFICE

In April the Director (and other staff) visited University of Notre Dame, Australia (UNDA) to forge stronger links between the universities. As a result, the universities have agreed to explore the possibility of engaging in joint promotion activities in Indonesia and for ACU to provide "East coast" experiences for UNDA study abroad students from the US.

Growth in the number of incoming and outgoing exchange students continued in 1998. Seventeen ACU students undertook exchange programs in the USA and Japan. In return, twenty-six exchange students came to the University from France, Japan, Sweden, and the USA.

The Office published and disseminated through its international network a revised edition of the International Student Guide. A newsletter that provides information to ACU staff on the IEO's activities and international initiatives throughout the University has been introduced.

#### **Professor Muredach Dynan**

## As Senior Officer in Victoria

1998 was a special year for ACU in Victoria with the purchase of the old Mint Building on Victoria Parade at the edge of the Central Business District for the new Melbourne campus. Aquinas Campus distinguished itself through its strong community orientation by organising conferences, presenting lectures and offering special courses relevant to the region. Aboriginal support was expressed by opening Jim-Baa-Yer (ACU's Victorian Aboriginal Support Unit) and by Fr Frank Brennan SJ leading campus and community in a discussion of the Wik Debate.



Prof Wolfgang Grichting

The launch of the website and kit entitled Higher Education for Country Kids with Disabilities further attests to ACU's commitment for the underprivileged and marginalised.

### Research

Guided by the University's Strategic Plan 1999-2008 the research culture and climate within the University have been strengthened greatly. The impressive growth of research output by ACU staff provides evidence of collective understanding of this University as a place of research where scholars scrutinise reality with the methods proper to each academic discipline and so contribute significantly to human knowledge.

Our researchers have a strong preference for the multidisciplinary approach to research. Staff at ACU typically hold that research issues and problems do not respect disciplinary boundaries. They submit that the most promising research contributions come from

critical borrowing and constructive use of ideas, information and techniques from a variety of traditional disciplines.

Researchers at ACU are community-oriented. Their research is typically of an applied nature. The strategic participation of industry in research and teaching (SPIRT) with our staff has been most impressive during 1998 as the success rate of 83.3 percent of SPIRT grant applications readily demonstrates.

### Libraries

As a shared experience with most other libraries in the sector, 1998 was dominated by financial constraints. In real terms the purchasing power of the acquisitions budget continued its downward movement of the last few years, with the fall in the value of the local currency causing serious problems. A very welcome grant of \$100,000 for collection development was received from the Vice-Chancellor's Initiatives Fund.

The library continued the long and beneficial association with UNILINC which has now become much more than simply the supplier of its automated system. Rather it established Electronic Information Access Centres on several campuses; began planning and piloting information literacy programs on several sites; and greatly expanded its electronic databases especially through the acquisition of three important Chadwyck-Healey publications and of more full-text serials.

### Information Technology

Information Technology at ACU is central to its endeavour to form one university across four jurisdictions. To enhance this effort a major review of IT was conducted during 1998 by Mr Rebbechi from Charles

Sturt University. The Report noted a number of outstanding examples of effective and innovative use of technology such as the system-wide roll-out of Lotus Notes and nation-wide data and video networks as well as the high standardisation of the desktop. Mr Rebbechi congratulated the University on its many IT accomplishments with staff spread thinly over five cities.

A major initiative of IT was the successful application for funding under DETYA's Restructuring and Rationalisation Programme. The three major projects (microwave links among all campuses, campus-based ATM equipment, and voice/video connections) to be completed in 1999 as part this program will significantly enhance the communication facilities of ACU. The saving will be substantial.

A Year 2000 Committee was established to explore the issues and find resolutions for actual problems and to make contingency arrangements for potential problems that may be caused by the millennium bug. A project team was formed to attend to the upgrade of the University's Student Administration System (Banner) that was found not to be Y2K compliant.

The recruitment of suitable IT staff continues to be difficult for ACU because universities are typically unable to compete with the market for professionals in short supply both in this country and overseas.

**Professor Wolfgang Grichting**  
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research)

# Faculty of Arts and Sciences

*In 1998 a number of key developments highlighted the Faculty's sixth year of operation.*

Senate approved a new academic structure for the Faculty comprising a Sub-Faculty of Theology with Schools in Canberra, Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne - Ballarat, a Sub-Faculty of Business and Informatics with Schools in Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne - Ballarat, a School of Arts and Sciences in each of Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne - Ballarat, a School of Psychology in Melbourne - Ballarat and a School of Social Work in Canberra. Through the University's processes Heads of these Schools were then appointed for the period 1999-2001. In the five largest of these Schools, Assistant Heads of Schools were appointed for 1999.

During the year the Faculty welcomed Professor R Gaita as Professor of Philosophy and farewelled Rev Professor F J Moloney SDB, the Foundation Professor of Theology, who resigned from the University to take up an appointment at Catholic University of America as Professor of New Testament.

## Faculty Medals

The inaugural Faculty medals were awarded at the 1998 graduation ceremonies, Mrs Lucia Bee, a Bachelor of Arts graduate at McAuley Campus winning the Pass Medal and Mr David Nicholas Long, a Bachelor of Arts Honours graduate in Philosophy at Mount Saint Mary Campus winning the Honours medal.

The past year saw the Faculty's ongoing work in course and sequence review and development continue. Faculty initiatives approved by Academic Board and Senate as relevant included fee-paying Master's programs in Social Work and Information Systems, fee-paying undergraduate programs in Business, Computing and Theology, and combined degree programs in Arts-Music and Business-Arts. As well, the Faculty completely reviewed the Bachelor of Social Science degree and the Master's programs in Pastoral Counselling and Leadership.

## First PhD

In 1998 the Faculty continued its commitment to the supervision of research higher degrees and welcomed its first PhD graduate, Dr James Warner. Through a competitive process involving four rounds of applications the Faculty allocated monies to some seventeen (17) higher degree research students to assist their studies. Some two thousand three hundred EFTSUs were enrolled in the Faculty's undergraduate and postgraduate programs and the Faculty continued to undertake a large amount of service teaching for the faculties of Education and Health Sciences.

Six staff obtained tenure within the University in 1998, one staff member was promoted to Lecturer, six staff were promoted from Lecturer to Senior Lecturer and one staff member from Senior Lecturer to Associate Professor. Dr Simon Ryan (McAuley) and Associate Professor Peter Bastian (Mount Saint Mary) won University Excellence in Teaching Awards.

## Research Grants

Late in 1998 the Faculty learnt that Associate Professor Pauline Allen had won an ARC Large Grant for the period 1999-2001 and that both Dr Neil Saintilan and his research colleagues and Dr Bernadette Tobin and Mr John Quilter had won SPIRT Grants. Both Dr Simon Ryan and Dr Peter Rendell won ARC Small Grants. Six other staff won University internal research grants while a further thirteen staff received research grants from other sources.



Prof Peter Carpenter

During 1998 staff of the Faculty published a total of eleven books, a further sixteen chapters in other books and some sixty-six journal articles. As well staff spoke at fourteen international conferences and a very large number of local and national conferences. Staff also engaged in a diverse range of professional and community activities. Some twenty staff in the Faculty undertook Outside Studies Program leave under the University's Scheme in 1998.

The year closed with the Faculty showing a small budget surplus despite having faced the twin challenges of very large over-enrolment in the University and a stringent budget. Having participated keenly during 1998 in the Vice-Chancellor's review of the Strategic Plan the Faculty entered 1999 looking forward to commence its implementation.

**Professor Peter Carpenter**  
Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences

# Faculty of Education

## *1998 was a special year for the Faculty of Education.*

The first Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Michael Doyle, stepped down from his position in June. Professor Doyle had steered the Faculty through a difficult period of formation when it was

trying to establish its identity both within the University and within the education sector in Australia. He made a remarkable contribution to the development and consolidation of the Faculty and he did so with kindness and humanity.



Prof Judith Chapman

Professor Patrick Duignan took over as Acting Dean in July 1998 until the arrival of the newly appointed Dean, Professor Judith Chapman, in November 1998.

During the year, a major initiative for the Faculty was the restructuring of its operations and functions. Departments, as structural units, were dissolved and integrated into seven schools: School of Education (Queensland); School of Education (NSW); School of Education (ACT); School of Education (Victoria); across-state Schools of Educational Leadership and Religious Education; and a School of Adult and Community Education in NSW.

### **Achieving the Mission of ACU**

The Faculty continued its strong commitment to assisting in achieving the University's mission through learning and teaching, research and scholarship, and community service and outreach. All programs in the Faculty reflect a deep concern for values-oriented learning; equity, inclusion and

social justice; as well as the provision of a caring and compassionate environment for our students.

The Faculty responded very positively to the Vice-Chancellor's challenge for Australian Catholic University to adopt new models of learning. Initial planning took place throughout the Faculty to shift from an emphasis on teaching and instruction toward a focus on student-learning through problem solving, critical thinking and active engagement by students in their own learning. Faculty staff continued their involvement in the development of on-line units and greater diversity in the delivery of programs and units.

The Faculty also made substantial progress in enhancing its research and publications. Special mention is made of Associate Professor Doug Clarke and his team from the Mathematics Teaching and Learning Centre for winning a highly competitive research grant for \$1.19 million over three years from the Victorian Government to evaluate numeracy in the early school years. Associate Professor Philip Clarkson was part of a group from three universities which won a tender for approximately \$0.75 million over five years from AusAID to evaluate the major Federal government project aimed to upgrade teacher preparation programs in Papua New Guinea. Professor Patrick Duignan led a cross-faculty team to win a SPIRT Research grant worth approximately \$400,000 over three years to research the challenges and responses by leaders in service organisations, such as health, police, education and religious orders.

The Faculty staff were also actively engaged in a number of community service activities in 1998. As always, an underlying theme for all such community outreach activities is a commitment to social justice for those who are challenged by contemporary living.

### **Student Enrolments and Employment Opportunities**

In total, 3566 of the students enrolled in the University in 1998 were enrolled in Education. A large proportion of applicants to the undergraduate courses of the Faculty gave ACU as their first, second or third preference, indicating the high value that students attached to enrolment in these courses. The ENTER in each State was comparable with the other universities in those States for Education courses.

The 1998 employment rates of graduates from undergraduate courses were high (Vic 88%, Qld 97%, NSW 89%, ACT 83%) and reflect a 9% increase in employment rates over 1997.

In 1998 there were 77 postgraduate research students enrolled in the Faculty's research degrees: MEds (by theses), MPhils, EdDs and PhDs.

### **Forward Planning**

At the end of 1998 the Faculty was well positioned to face the challenges of the future, drawing on the strengths of its traditions, the support of its community, the commitment of staff and the quality of its students.

**Professor Judith Chapman**  
Dean of the Faculty of Education



# Faculty of Health Sciences

*1998 was a year for the Faculty to review and evaluate many of its activities.*

Staff were actively involved in the review and planning processes related to teaching, research, professional activities and community service. Through collaborative efforts a number of plans eventuated, namely, the Faculty Strategic Development Plan 1998 to 2000, the Faculty Quality Management Plan 1998 to 2000, the Information Technology Plan 1998 to 2000, and the Research Development Plan 1998. These documents form the basis for a systematic approach to planning, implementation and evaluation of key achievements, and ongoing and new initiatives.

Integral to the Faculty's development was extensive discussion concerning the academic structure, the importance of the different and complementary disciplines, and the need to work collaboratively across multiple campus and state environments. The outcome of this academic structure review was the establishment of five schools to be implemented from 1 January 1999. There will be three Schools of Nursing (NSW, Qld, Vic) and two Schools of Human Movement (NSW, Vic).

## Courses

In keeping with the Faculty's integrated approach to course delivery a new Bachelor of Health Science in Human Movement course was implemented in New South Wales and Victoria in 1998. The course was developed in a similar way to the Bachelor of Nursing course and combined aspects of the two previous human movement courses into one program to be taught across the Faculty. The course offers a combination of

core studies with majors and sub-majors in key areas of human movement science which provide a range of opportunities for students.

Also in 1998 the Faculty implemented the Master of Nursing Leadership and Master of Nursing Practice courses in New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria. These courses represent a new direction in nursing education and incorporate flexible delivery which utilises existing technology with innovative teaching and learning strategies. Students are able to interact and communicate with staff and each other across states and campuses, thereby extending the exchange of ideas and learning within a unit. A learning program using a package called Learning Space was successfully piloted during the year, combining technology and health care as part of the master's level studies.

Other courses to be introduced in 1998 included the extension of the Graduate Diploma in Midwifery course offered in Victoria to the McAuley Campus in Queensland. The School of Nursing in Queensland developed a number of affiliations with key local hospitals in order to fulfil the practicum aspects of the midwifery course. Also offered for the first time in Queensland in 1998 was a Graduate Certificate in Nursing (Critical Care, Perioperative) course which had been developed in direct response to local professional demand.

## Offshore Programs

International activities during 1998 included the continued offering of the Bachelor of Nursing [Post-registration] course in Hong Kong. In November Faculty members were

pleased to attend the graduation ceremony which acknowledged the achievements of the largest cohort to date to complete their studies in Hong Kong. Towards the end of the year the University's Academic Board granted approval for the Faculty to offer the Master of Nursing Leadership course in Hong Kong. The Faculty will proceed with course accreditation through the Hong Kong education authorities in 1999 and will undertake planning and implementation of the program in collaboration with the Caritas Francis Hsu College.

## Research

The Faculty has continued to increase its research activities and was successful in gaining a number of significant research grants. Members of the Faculty received grants for a total of 27 projects involving 22 staff during 1998. There was an increase of 29.6% in successful grants against 1997 achievements. Publications for the year included 7 chapters written for books, 22 refereed journal articles and 28 published conference papers.

The research grants gained by Faculty staff are listed in the ACU Research report, and include the second year of a three-year Commonwealth Department of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders Community Health Services grant of \$302,000, a NSW Women's Grant of \$55,000, a University of Western Sydney grant of \$30,000, and a DETYA, Victoria Co-op Project for Higher Education grant of \$20,000.

Overall, the Faculty has had a successful and eventful year, and looks forward to further growth in the future.

**Professor Elizabeth Cameron-Traub**

Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences



Prof Elizabeth  
Cameron-Traub

# Dean of Students Report

## *As a member of the Senior Executive Team of Australian Catholic University, the Dean*

chairs a number of University Committees: Induction, Access & Equity and Equal Opportunity, and is a member of the Strategic Planning Committee and the Academic Board, and contributes to Committees for Goals, Quality, and Enterprise Bargaining.



Sr Rosemary Lewins OP

A Student Services Conference was held in 1998 to explore ways in which Student Services Staff support the Strategic Plan and enhance student life. At this conference, strategic targets were developed for each of the areas within Student Services.

### **Campus Ministry**

Campus Ministry underpins the life of Australian Catholic University through liturgical celebrations for special events, eg:

- Opening of Academic Year
- Masses to celebrate the completion of students' degrees
- Opportunities to reflect on Aboriginal reconciliation
- Induction of each SRC
- World day of prayer and other national or University events
- Student and staff reflection days.

Campus Ministers are involved integrally in the induction process through the module exploring the Mission of the University. Campus Ministers provide pastoral support for staff and students in personal matters, at times of celebration, grief, conflict or change.

### **Equity**

Staff in the Equity and Academic Skills units were successful in gaining research funds for a joint project with the University of Melbourne. A publication, *Towards Success - A set of eight Study Guides for Students with Diverse Needs* was launched at the University of Melbourne on Monday 9 August.

Disability Support is provided by officers on each campus to ensure full participation of all students in the life of the University.

A disability audit was funded to ensure that the St Patrick's Campus in Melbourne will meet standards of best practice for students and staff with diverse needs.

Academic Board endorsed a statement of principles on Inclusive Curriculum to be addressed by each Faculty. An Australian Catholic University Equity Scholarship fund is being established to provide support for students in financial need.

### **Academic Skills**

The Academic Skills unit developed and published a comprehensive Australian Catholic University Study Guide for students. The Australian Catholic University Academic Skills Unit further enhanced the 3Ls (language, learning and literacy) for students across all campuses through development of best practice and provision of enhanced learning through increased numbers of workshops.

### **Counselling**

The Counselling unit is working with Personnel to develop a critical incident policy for use on all campuses.

### **Student Life**

Each Campus SRC received training to prepare members for their leadership roles. Activities supported by SRCs include campus activities such as Orientation week and Open days, and other events. Students were involved and received financial support to attend conferences and sporting events.

Two Australian Catholic University students - Kieran Gallagher and Damien Brown - were selected to attend the 1999 World University games in Spain.

**Sr Rosemary Lewins OP**  
Dean of Students,  
Director of Ministry and  
Director of Equity/Equal  
Opportunity



ACU

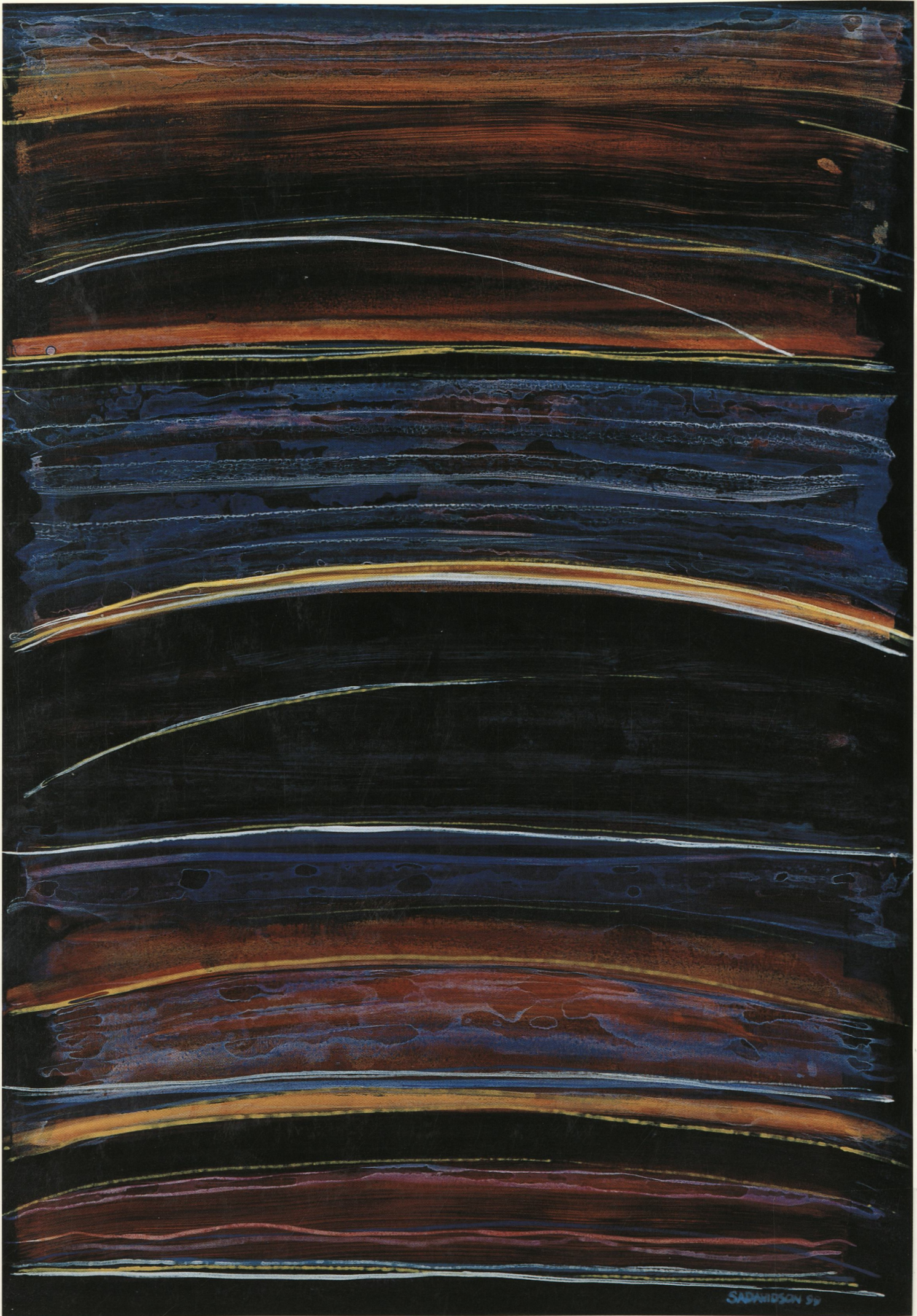
**Vice-Chancellery**

Australian Catholic University  
40 Edward Street,  
North Sydney, NSW 2060

Telephone (02) 9739 2929

Facsimile (02) 9739 2905

E-mail [VC@acu.edu.au](mailto:VC@acu.edu.au)



SADAWIDSON 99