General income and expenditure

The University's full financial statements for 2009 appear on pages 56–60.

Federal government allocations

- **Learning and Teaching Performance Fund**
  The University received $1.04 million from this fund, in recognition of improvement in performance against learning and teaching criteria. The Vice-Chancellor directed the funding to improve learning outcomes for students, “particularly with respect to teaching quality and academic skills assistance”.

- **Teaching and Learning Capital Fund**
  $8.3 million was allocated to ACU against criteria agreed in July 2009.

- **Grant for additional teaching facilities at Brisbane Campus**
  The Commonwealth Government granted $2.1 million for the construction of additional physiotherapy teaching facilities at the Brisbane Campus.

- **Diversity and Structural Adjustment (DSA) Funding Project**
  ACU’s Ballarat Campus and the University of Ballarat were together awarded $322,000 to investigate ways of collaborating to best meet local needs in higher education.

Australian Catholic University Foundation

**Donors and supporters**

The contributions of donors and supporters are critical to the advancement of the University. ACU relies on the trust of its community of donors and supporters, managed through the Australian Catholic University Foundation.

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

The University is committed to the development of partnerships with the community. This work is particularly helped by the University Relations directorate, which is in charge of all public relations.

During 2009, the University implemented a new policy framework to guide its fundraising and development programs. The Foundation website was also updated to provide a more informative and attractive platform for enquiries.

**Major projects involving fundraising and partnerships**

- A major fundraising campaign for an ACU Chair in Identity and Curriculum in Catholic Education began during the year and attracted pledged support from partners, including the Archdiocese of Brisbane, Brisbane Catholic Education Office, the Presentation Sisters, Edmund Rice Education Australia, Queensland diocesan Catholic Education offices and the Queensland Catholic Education Commission.
• Refurbishment and upgrading of Central Hall at the Melbourne Campus continued under the Federal Government’s Better Universities Renewal Funding (BURF) 2008 grants, with continuing support from the Ian Potter Foundation. Final projects, including the portico and foyer links, are expected to be completed in February 2010. The outcome will be a state-of-the-art lecture theatre complex with a rich community history reaching back to 1873.

• Representatives of partners the eMerge Foundation again travelled to the Catholic Teachers’ College in Baucau, East Timor, to attend the 2009 graduation ceremony and to review progress in the projects it is supporting. The trip was supported by Campus Travel, the University’s official travel agent. Staff and students at the Strathfield and Melbourne campuses also conducted fund-raising activities, supporting the University’s activities in East Timor.

• The Clemente Australia program of our Institute for Advancing Community Engagement received significant new support from the Mercy Foundation and Carroll & O’Dea Lawyers. This will better equip the program to deliver its services and offer new opportunities (see page 33).

• Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club has been an important long-term supporter of the University. The Club doubled its funding for scholarships and bursaries this year and is considering other options in the context of its new strategic plan.

Australian Catholic University Foundation supporters

ACU is deeply grateful for the generous support of the trusts, institutions and individuals contributing to the work of the University and its students in 2009.

These include:
• the University’s staff, students and graduates
• individual benefactors
• philanthropic foundations
• Catholic organisations including Catholic Education Offices, religious congregations, hospitals and dioceses
• corporations
• community and service groups.

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

Support for national projects

Ahmet Keskin
Alex Ionita
Allan and Maria Myers
ANZ Trustees Foundation
Archdiocese of Melbourne
Australian Intercultural Society
Bruno Yvanovich
Campus Travel
Caplis
Carroll & O’Dea Lawyers
David Andrews
Ertan Itimat
Gene Jiang
Giovanna Sacco
Gursel Alpay
Hatrice Aydogan
John Mills
Joseph A Butta
Kathryn Gilmour
Kevin Green
Lenny Doran
Margaret Beck
Mehmet Saral
Mehmet Yavuzlar
Memet Aydin
Mete Samci
Mireille McGuid
Monica Vardabasso
Muhsin Canbolat
Myers Family
Paul Cigana
Presentation Sisters Queensland
Queensland Catholic Education Commission
Recep Aydogan
Reg and Jeanette Lam-Po-Tang
Rotary Club of Belvoir-Wodonga
Susie Saafan
Tom McKibbin
Wendy McKibbin

ACT

GreaterGood (Capital Region Community Foundation)
Canberra Southern Cross Club
CatholicCare Canberra/Goulburn
Catholic Education Office,
Canberra/Goulburn
Janet M Moyle
NSW
Andrew Francis  
Association of Catholic School Principals  
Australian Human Resources Institute  
Brian Brooker  
Brian J Pettit  
CatholicCare Sydney  
Christine Agnew  
Cliff Johnstone  
Council of Catholic School Parents  
CPA Australia  
Denis Kearney  
Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club  
E J Edmonds  
Gail Kearsley  
George Paul  
Gerald Walsh  
John Freeman  
John Laing  
L Flood  
Lorraine Norton  
Marist Brothers Sydney  
Mathematical Association of NSW  
Mike Farrell  
Minter Ellison Lawyers  
N Rogers  
Northern Sydney Central Coast Health Service  
Patrick Downie  
Paul Crittenden  
Paul Pinel  
Peter A Castaldi  
Peter Harrington  
Peter Sheehan  
Ronald D Paul  
Royal College of Nursing Australia  
Saint Patrick’s College  
Shane G Madden  
Siloam Korean Presbyterian Church  
Sisters of the Good Samaritan  
Tom Keneally  
Tony Carroll

QLD
Australian Federation of University Women Queensland  
Code Blue Nurses  
Di Yerbury  
Holy Spirit Sisters  
Margaret Naylon  
Mark McCall  
Rita Cleveland  
Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart (Qld)  
The Irish Club  
Sisters of Mercy  
John Gleeson  
Catherine McComiskie  
Christine Agnew  
Oxley Health Care

VIC
Archdiocese of Melbourne  
Australian Association of Sovereign Military Order of Malta  
Australian Association of Spiritual Care & Pastoral Counselling  
Australian Psychological Society  
Cabiri Health Australia  
John and Barbara Ralph  
Peter and Margaret Gill  
Allan and Maria Myers  
Peggy Kardaras  
Salesians of Don Bosco  
St John of God Healthcare National Office  
The George Alexander Foundation

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

Scholarships

New scholarships endowed

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

New scholarships and awards established in 2009 were:

- Calvary John James Hospital Nursing Scholarship, to commence in 2010, funded by Calvary John James Hospital, for nursing students at the Canberra Campus
- George Alexander Foundation Scholarships, for students from rural and regional Victoria; this program was extended for a further three years from 2010
- Oxley Healthcare Nursing Scholarships, established by Oxley Healthcare nursing recruitment agency, in recognition of the role of education in ensuring core principles in health care, specifically nursing, and to encourage students to undertake nursing placements in rural or regional Queensland
- The Australian Federation of University Women’s award for female Indigenous students entering their final year of a postgraduate degree in Education at the Brisbane Campus, to be followed in 2010 by a further award for female students from rural and remote regions of Queensland entering their final year of any undergraduate education course at the Brisbane Campus
- The Dominican Prizes for the highest achieving graduating student from each School on the Canberra Campus, re-established to provide a continuing link with the Dominican Sisters, who have played a crucial role in that campus’s history
• The Br Athanasius McGlade Award for First Year English Literature, established by former students, friends and admirers of Br Athanasius to mark his inspiring and lengthy service to Catholic education as a member of the staff of the Strathfield Campus and its predecessor colleges and as a Christian Brother and teacher

• Healthcare Australia Nursing Scholarships for nursing students from each campus, funded by the Healthcare Australia Group, the largest nursing recruitment organisation in Australia, as a part of its commitment to quality care and nursing education. These are in addition to the 52 scholarships and bursaries previously established for ACU students.

Continuing scholarships and bursaries

The University continued its commitment to finding ways of acknowledging the achievements of its students as well as assisting students with particular financial pressures, and those from rural and regional areas, to study at the University. We gratefully acknowledge the following individuals and organisations that provided support for our students through scholarships, prizes and bursaries in 2009.

Alexander Family
Association of Catholic School Principals
Australian & New Zealand College of Mental Health Nurses
Australian Catholic Historical Society
Australian College of Educators (NSW Chapter – Parramatta/Hills Regional Group)
Australian College of Mental Health Nurses Queensland
Australian College of Midwifery
Australian Computer Society (NSW Branch)
Australian Confederation of Paediatric and Child Health Nurses
Australian Council for Educational Leaders
Australian Council of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, NSW
Australian Human Resources Institute
Australian Literacy Educators’ Association (Vic)
Australian Nursing Federation
Australian Psychological Society

Ballarat Diocesan Schools Board
Callinan Family
Cannon Australia
Capicchiano Family Trust
Catholic Diocese of Sandhurst (Bendigo)
Catholic Education Office, Canberra/Goulburn
Catholic Education Office, Sale
Catholic Education Office, Parramatta
Catholic Education Office, Sydney
Catholic Schools Office, Broken Bay
Centaur Memorial Fund for Nurses
CPA Australia – Victorian Division
Dominican Sisters of Eastern Australia and the Solomon Islands
Elsevier Australia
Frawley Family
Gill Family
Hologic (Australia)
Institute of Industrial Arts and Technology Education
John Wiley & Sons Australia
Johnson & Johnson Pacific
Loreto Sisters Australia
Mathematical Association of New South Wales
McGraw-Hill Australia
NSW Minerals Council
Nurses in Managed Aged Care Order of Malta
Queensland Community Foundation
Queensland Orthopaedic Nurses Association
Presentation Sisters (Qld)
Reid Family
Rotary Club of Ballarat South
Royal College of Nursing, Australia
Royal Life Saving Society Australia (NSW)
Sports Medicine Australia (NSW Branch)
St John of God Health Care, Ballarat
St Vincent de Paul Society, Broken Bay
St Vincent de Paul Society, Canberra and Goulburn
St Vincent’s Hospital, Sydney
The Pratt Foundation
Wiley Publishing
Wexford Senate, Australia
Zonta Club of Sydney North

Infrastructure

Additions

• The Peter W Sheehan Building at the Brisbane Campus was completed and officially opened. A second stage was constructed for occupation from 2010 for the commencement of physiotherapy courses.

• Plans and funds were approved for a biomechanics laboratory at the Brisbane Campus.

• Many improvements were made to student amenities, landscaping, libraries, classrooms and IT infrastructure using the University’s 2008 grant from the Commonwealth Better Universities Renewal Fund (BURF).

• A four-storey building in North Sydney was leased, to be fitted out during 2010 for facilities for the physiotherapy course, commencing in 2011.

• Detailed planning was completed for a major $80 million expansion of the Melbourne Campus to begin in 2010. New development will be integrated with current buildings and smaller neighbouring buildings which have been leased, to form the Fitzroy Precinct.

• The centrepiece will be an eight-storey building, the National Centre for Health and Wellbeing, which has received the maximum Green Star rating for environmental sustainability (see page 24).
Libraries

- Use of our libraries continued to be healthy with record gate counts, increased use of both print books and electronic resources, and strong feedback from students.
- Improvements to the physical amenities were made in several libraries, with the new group study rooms at the North Sydney Campus proving particularly useful.
- With major growth in student numbers, however, the Melbourne, Strathfield and North Sydney campus libraries are now not large enough to support their student bodies.
- Library services to students with disabilities were further enhanced, with more staff members employed to provide support.
- Acquisitions expenditure exceeded $3 million, having passed the $2 million mark for the first time in 2007. As a result, holdings of electronic journals and reference materials are now considered strong in the University's key discipline areas, with good coverage also for the smaller academic programs.
- The collection was strengthened by the purchase of more back-runs of electronic journals and $1 million of spending on books.
- The fall in the Australian dollar in the second half of 2008 reduced the buying power of the 2009 acquisitions budget by about $500,000. This meant that the libraries had to adjust budget priorities and use much of their financial reserves.
- The new acquisitions budget model, which sees all collection development activities funded from a central pool, not divided by geographic area or subject discipline, continued to work effectively. Library Services moved to a single preferred supplier for print material in January 2009.
- During the year there was extensive consultation with library staff for a new structure to come into force in 2010, which will increase the number of staff working centrally (rather than being part of a campus library team), particularly through the establishment of a centralised technical services unit.

IT and distance learning

See also page 32.

- With campuses in three states and the ACT, the University makes extensive use of video and phone conferencing and online materials for administrative, faculty and university relations purposes, and for wider discussions and forums. Professional development for staff and eLearning use these facilities extensively.
- The libraries are electronically linked and a video network joins all campuses.
- The University’s eLearning website supports the use of interactive resources.
- Some courses are taught fully online and on-campus courses have access to the Learning Management System (LMS) to supplement face-to-face teaching. This adds flexibility and interactivity, since materials can be accessed at any time, from any location. No special software or equipment is needed.
- In 2009 new Learning and Teaching technologies were evaluated and selected for blogs, lecture recordings and ePortfolios.

Environmental sustainability

Australian Catholic University is committed to making a substantial contribution to environmental sustainability through the development and operation of its physical infrastructure and through education and engaging staff and students in better practice.

Some particular examples of this commitment include the following:

- The proposed National Centre for Health and Wellbeing, to be constructed in Melbourne, has been designed to achieve a 6 Star Green Star rating.
- The building (see photograph opposite) features an atrium through its length, to allow the penetration of daylight and to encourage natural airflow. Another important feature is the inclusion of roof-mounted wind turbines, which will be used to generate some of the electricity to be used in the building. The wind turbines will reduce the demand for power from the electricity grid and make a direct contribution to reducing carbon pollution generation.
- ACU’s strategic planning framework now explicitly includes sustainability and the need to set targets to reduce energy consumption.
- ACU has joined Australian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS), a group of tertiary institutions working together to increase knowledge and develop practice and policy in sustainability.
6 Star
Green Star rating