We aim to provide not only a world-class education, but an environment which appreciates diversity, fosters critical thinking, and prepares our students for life after graduation.
In the most recent edition of the Good Universities Guide 2014, ACU was awarded an impressive four out of five stars for success in getting a job, graduate starting salary, positive graduate outcomes, staff qualifications, and cultural diversity of the student body.

Thanks to its Catholic foundation, there are ready-made links with hospitals, schools, churches and welfare agencies, which provide opportunities for practical coursework and community engagement projects.

The University research strategy focuses on four areas of central importance to the community: Theology and Philosophy; Health; Education; and the Common Good and Social Justice.

There is a genuine social justice emphasis across the whole institution. Community engagement is a core part of every student’s experience at ACU, and is embedded within most courses.

ACU offers numerous public forums and courses on general spirituality, interfaith relations and world religions.
While it might be younger than its competitor universities, Australian Catholic University was founded from Catholic tertiary institutions that have been training teachers and nurses since the mid-19th century.

In the early ‘90s, the fledgling university began with some substantial buildings and developed additional structures on what were to become its seven campuses – Adelaide, Ballarat, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, North Sydney and Strathfield.

Today, the University offers courses in four faculties – Education and Arts, Law and Business, Health Sciences, and Theology and Philosophy.

OBJECTIVES

• ACU has a strong mission statement, which informs all of its activities.
• ACU shares with universities worldwide a commitment to quality in teaching, research and service.
• It aspires to be a community characterised by free enquiry and academic integrity.
• The University’s inspiration, stemming from 2,000 years of Catholic intellectual tradition, summons it to attend to all that is of concern to human beings.
• The University seeks to make a specific contribution to its local, national and international communities.
• It explicitly engages the social, ethical and religious dimensions of the questions it faces in teaching, research and service.
• In its endeavours, ACU is guided by a fundamental concern for justice and equity, and for the dignity of all human beings.
ADELAIDE
Adelaide is the capital city of South Australia, and the campus is ACU’s newest addition – established in 2013 through a partnership between the University and the Archdiocese of Adelaide. The campus offers postgraduate courses in theology, philosophy, religious education and educational leadership.

CANBERRA
Situated about five kilometres from the city centre, the campus offers programs in education, nursing, paramedicine, social work and theology.

BRISBANE
Situated in the suburb of Banyo, 20 minutes from the centre of Brisbane, the campus is set on 40 hectares of natural surroundings and offers programs in arts, business, education, exercise science, midwifery, nursing, paramedicine, physiotherapy, psychology, social science, speech pathology and theology.

BALLARAT
Ballarat is 125 kilometres west of Melbourne. The campus is located near Ballarat’s commercial centre within easy reach of facilities, and offers programs in education, nursing, paramedicine and theology.

MELBOURNE
The campus is conveniently located, on the fringe of the CBD, close to the cafes and galleries of Brunswick Street, and offers programs in arts, business, education, exercise science, midwifery, nursing, psychology, social science, theology, international development, law, occupational therapy, speech pathology, paramedicine and visual arts and design.

NORTH SYDNEY
Just a five-minute train ride from the city centre over the Sydney Harbour Bridge, the campus offers programs in nursing, business, information technology, physiotherapy, environmental science, occupational therapy and speech pathology.

STRATHFIELD
The Strathfield Campus is located 15 kilometres west of the centre of Sydney on beautifully landscaped grounds, and offers programs in arts, education, exercise science, international development, psychology, social work, theology and visual arts and design.

CAMPUS ACROSS AUSTRALIA
ACU offers courses in four faculties on its Australian campuses, as well as programs online, and at 11 overseas institutions in Asia and New Zealand.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND ARTS
Arts, creative arts, educational leadership, educational studies, global studies, Indigenous education, international development studies, media communications, religious education, social science, teaching, visual arts and design, youth work.

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES
Applied public health, clinical education, counseling, environmental science, exercise science, health administration, mental health, midwifery, nursing, occupational therapy, paramedicine, physiotherapy, psychology, rehabilitation, social science, social work, speech pathology.

FACULTY OF LAW AND BUSINESS
Business administration, commerce, accounting and finance, information technology, international business, human resource management, law, management, marketing, professional accounting, supply chain management, occupational health and safety.

FACULTY OF THEOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY
Catholic studies, leadership and Catholic culture, philosophy and theology.

For a full list of ACU courses visit www.acu.edu.au/courses
FUTURE IN YOUTH

The Future in Youth Program teaches leadership, health, and life skills to children and young people in East Timor through soccer.

The initiative is based in Baucau, which has almost 100 per cent youth unemployment and lack of infrastructure, resulting in a high number of disengaged youth.

ACU exercise science students can apply to volunteer for the program – run over three weeks in June/July.

Since its launch in 2010, the program has reached out to many thousands of young people in Baucau, and set up structured coaching and training programs which will be sustained by the community in the long term.

MISSION IN ACTION

ACU shares with universities worldwide a commitment to quality in teaching, research and service. It aspires to be a community characterised by free enquiry and academic integrity.

MISSION WITH A DIFFERENCE

By fostering and advancing knowledge in education, health, business, the humanities, law, the sciences and technologies, and the creative arts, ACU seeks to make a specific contribution to its local, national and international communities.

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

ACU’s ideal graduates are highly competent in their chosen fields, ethical in their behaviour, with a developed critical habit of mind and a commitment to serving the common good.

SUSTAINABLE APPROACHES

ACU is committed to reducing its environmental impact and implementing sustainable practices across its teaching and research activities. Sustainability is closely aligned with ACU’s mission to promote the common good and social justice, locally and globally.

The University has made significant cuts to its energy consumption and has more than doubled its rate of recycling since 2011. ACU is also one of Australia’s most water-efficient universities. The sustainable design of ACU’s major building developments has been key to these improvements. Examples include the 6-Star GreenStar Daniel Mannix Building at the Melbourne Campus, the low-energy design of Building T at the Brisbane Campus, and the sustainable renovations of the Raeheen Library in Melbourne and at 10 Berry Street, North Sydney.

Future plans will focus on improved building management for energy efficiency, ongoing reductions in paper consumption, video teleconferencing to reduce demand for inter-campus travel, and encouraging staff and students to make sustainable transport choices.

ACU FOUNDATION

The ACU Foundation creates partnerships between ACU and corporations, community groups and alumni that help the University in its mission for justice, equity and the dignity of all human beings.

The Foundation supports valuable educational projects, providing financial support where it is most needed. The Foundation’s fundraising priorities are scholarships, the ACU Refugee Program on the Thai Burma Border, and the Future in Youth Program, East Timor.
At the Atherton Gardens Homework Club, Bachelor of Education students from ACU’s Melbourne Campus volunteer as tutors to help primary school aged children from refugee backgrounds. The tutors teach the children literacy and numeracy, as well as assisting them with homework. Some parents attend and observe the teaching strategies used by the students, which then empowers them and creates confidence to assist with their children’s learning at home.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community engagement is a hallmark of ACU, and is publicly acknowledged as a key vehicle through which the University pursues its mission. Based upon Catholic social teaching and intellectual tradition, that mission is to transform the lives of people through learning, teaching, and research. ACU undertakes community engagement in a range of areas.

BEYOND DISADVANTAGE promotes equity and reaches out to people of all ages and circumstances who are experiencing disadvantage.

- Through Clemente Australia, ACU and its partners offer tertiary education in the humanities to about 160 Australians experiencing multiple disadvantages such as poverty, homelessness, and mental illness. Involvement in Clemente reconnects them with their communities, gives them a sense of purpose, and enables them to enter full-time tertiary study.
- Through Homework Support Programs, ACU students work with children and parents from disadvantaged and refugee backgrounds – fostering their literacy and numeracy skills, increasing their enjoyment in learning, and creating a sense of community.

BEYOND DIFFERENCES engages with and affirms the rights and dignity of people of all communities, cultures and faith traditions.

- The Indigenous Higher Education Units at ACU strengthen relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous students, staff and communities, enabling them to better understand issues facing Indigenous Australians and extend that understanding to inform learning, teaching and research.
- ACU has provided programs for Young Muslim Leaders, art, drama and music programs to groups from both different cultures and disadvantaged backgrounds, and will soon offer the Clemente program to prisoners while they are incarcerated and following their release into the community.

BEYOND BORDERS enables ACU to build relationships with communities in areas like the Pacific and Timor-Leste. Programs respond to expressed needs and build capacity in education, health and wellbeing.

- ACU has a long-term partnership with the Catholic teachers’ college in Baucau, Timor-Leste, educates health professionals in the Maubisse and Baucau districts, and engages with young people through the Future in Youth soccer program.
- SeeBeyondBorders is a ‘teach the teachers’ program in rural Cambodia where Australian primary school teachers provide workshops on teaching mathematics for their Cambodian counterparts. ACU students through a partnership with Challenges Abroad Australia (CAA) participate in Cambodian local community health and education programs.
- ACU and its partner universities continue to offer courses in English, liberal arts, leadership and management to some of the estimated 140,000 long-term refugees in camps on the Thai–Burma border.
- ACU along with Caritas Australia, Catholic Religious Australia, and Catholic Health Australia have formed the Catholic Alliance for International Development (CAID) for capacity building in the Pacific and Oceania regions.

"Educating a mind without educating a heart is servicing a machine, not building a person."

Professor Greg Craven
Vice-Chancellor, Australian Catholic University

Educating a mind without educating a heart is servicing a machine, not building a person.
More than 13 per cent of ACU domestic undergraduate students were from a low-SES background in 2013. The University is working to increase this to the government target of 20 per cent by 2020.

Equity Pathways, a unit operating out of the office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students, Learning and Teaching) has more than 150 formal partnerships with low-SES schools and over 30 community group partnerships in Australia. It is through working collaboratively in these partnerships that Equity Pathways aims to increase low-SES participation in higher education.

When students from low-SES enrol at ACU, Equity Pathways liaises with faculties and sectors of the University to ensure students are fully supported in their university life.

ACU offers more than 45 scholarships, awards and bursaries that recognise outstanding academic achievement and acknowledge our responsibility to provide access to those students who might otherwise be excluded by socio-economic, cultural, geographic or other disadvantages.

ACU has flexible entry schemes, designed to widen its intake. These include accessACU; Regional School Bonus; Elite Athletes Program; Early Achievers’ Program that recognises wide-ranging achievements, including community involvement; Pathway partnerships with the VET sector and TAFE; Principal Recommendation Schemes with partner schools; and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Access Scheme.

ACU is committed to working with Indigenous people to improve education and employment outcomes. ACU Indigenous students participate in on-campus and online study programs and Away from Base (AFB) courses specifically designed to meet their needs and life circumstances. Our graduates are well regarded and have strong employment prospects.

Meg Lanning, 21, is the newly appointed vice-captain of the Australian women’s cricket team, the Southern Stars. Meg is completing a degree in exercise and health science at ACU and is part of the University’s Elite Athletes Program, which helps students balance sport and study.

Cricket is a big part of my life and it has opened up a lot of doors for me, but it’s important to have a career outside cricket. I plan to continue working in sport when I retire from cricket and my degree will help keep that career path on track.

Meg Lanning
AN EMPLOYER OF CHOICE

The University has been recognised as a leader in the area of gender equality. ACU was awarded the 2011 EOYWA Business Achievement award in the category of Leading Organisation for the Advancement of Women with over 800 employees. The University also received the EOYWA Employer of Choice for Women (EOCFW) Citation in 2011 and 2012. These awards acknowledged the University’s leading-practice policies that support gender equality and achieve positive outcomes for the University – by encouraging all staff to reach their potential.

Some of the reasons for the award include: the fact that women are represented at all levels of ACU, including senior management; ACU has leave and flexible work policies that support work-life balance and family life; and a range of career development options available to all staff, including the opportunity for female academic staff to apply for a research award following a period of parental leave.

LEADER IN PARENTAL LEAVE PROVISIONS

ACU is an industry leader in offering generous provisions to support staff who are parents. The University’s parental leave provisions support both birth parents and their partners, and also provide support for adoptive and foster parents.

Birth parents can access up to 12 weeks’ leave at full pay – as well as up to 40 weeks’ paid leave at 60 per cent of their normal pay. Non-birth parents may also be eligible to access up to 40 weeks’ paid leave at 60 per cent of their normal pay.

It is arguably the most generous paid parental leave scheme in the country - one to rival the much-vaunted policies of employers in Sweden and Denmark.

... new mothers and fathers at the Australian Catholic University will be entitled to 40 weeks’ paid leave at 60 per cent of their normal pay. ACU already offered these terms to its female staff, but by extending it to fathers who nominate themselves as the primary care giver, the university has created the most generous parental policy for male employees in Australia.

The Sydney Morning Herald, February 2011

PUBLIC INTELLECTUALS

In the 2014 Good Universities Guide, ACU was awarded four stars for staff qualifications. Many staff at the University are well-known in national and international communities. The University has a tradition of incisive commentary on Australian public life.

High-profile staff members include, but are by no means limited to, ACU Vice-Chancellor Professor Greg Craven; Director of the Institute for Advancing Community Engagement, Professor Jude Butcher; Professor of Law, Father Frank Brennan SJ; Professorial Fellow (Career Education & Development), Jim Bright; Professor of Nursing, Sandy Middleton; and Director of the Institute for Positive Psychology and Education, Professor Rhonda Craven.

RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT

In addition to the many annual external awards and grants which staff earn, the University itself recognises staff with the following awards:

- Outstanding Community Engagement Award
- Vice-Chancellor’s Achievement Award
- Teaching Development Grants
- Citations by the Learning and Teaching Committee

STAFF EXPERIENCE

ACU gives staff the opportunity to develop their careers in a friendly and rewarding environment where community engagement and work-life balance are valued. The University values its staff and provides a generous suite of leave and employment conditions. There are close to 1,800 staff across the seven campuses. The University’s staff are surveyed regularly and provided with numerous opportunities for professional development.
I spent a semester in the United States after I was accepted for an internship at the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida. Meeting and networking with so many people from around the globe was an amazing experience and helped me grow in all aspects of my life. Being a visual arts student, I try to be creative everywhere I go, and by completing Disney’s Creativity and Innovation course in Florida I feel as though I have a better understanding of my own creativity and how to apply it to my work. It was the time of my life.

Steve Sassen
Disney Internship
Bachelor of Visual Arts and Design

“I grew up in a suburb outside of Pittsburgh and have absolutely loved the change of living in the heart of Brisbane. I love meeting people of every culture and Brisbane has offered plenty of opportunities already. I am studying accountancy and hope to specialise with a master’s in investigative accounting after I graduate. Since I’ve arrived, I’ve taken up surfing and recently bought my own board. I plan to spend some time in the outback. The hardest thing about living and studying in Australia is making time for school when Australia offers so many adventures. Luckily ACU has made it easier with interesting lectures and some of the most caring teachers. My time here is moving way too quickly.”

Molly Wagner
USA
Study Abroad, Brisbane Campus

STUDENT MOBILITY
ACU has a growing student mobility program which offers students the opportunity to undertake study, work placements and community engagement activities in countries around the world. In 2013 over 300 of our students completed international activities within their ACU degrees. ACU students have the opportunity to enrol with partner institutions in one and two semester-long programs as well as short-term activities. Those partner institutions also send students to ACU on a reciprocal basis. The University’s community engagement program gives students the opportunity to work with less privileged communities in Timor Leste, Vanuatu, Fiji and other countries in our region.

PARTNERSHIPS
ACU has partnerships with more than 100 educational institutions around the world. These partnerships support ACU’s student mobility program through exchange agreements, facilitating staff exchange, and supporting the University’s research, internationalisation and international community engagement activities. The University has partners in all regions of the world including Europe, Asia-Pacific, the Middle East, Africa and the Americas.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ENROLMENTS
The University has more than 3,300 international students enrolled in its onshore and offshore award programs. ACU’s international students come from more than 90 countries with significant numbers coming from Nepal, China, India, South Korea, the Philippines and France. International students are enrolled at all levels of study from undergraduate diploma to doctoral level. In addition, ACU offers English Language and academic pathway programs to international students aspiring to enrol in full award programs. The University provides a comprehensive range of support services to international students to assist them in succeeding in their studies and provide them with a holistic experience during the period of their studies, and beyond.

INTERNATIONAL
Australian Catholic University is globally connected. The University has relationships with more than 130 universities and educational institutions in the Americas, Europe, Africa and Asia for student exchange and study abroad programs, staff exchange, research, articulation, offshore teaching and shared community engagement activities. These partnerships provide opportunities for students and staff to gain a more internationalised experience and are intended to enhance collaborative activities.
Professor Sandy Middleton has a particular interest in stroke research and evaluation of nurse-led interventions to improve patient outcomes. In 2011, together with a team of researchers, Professor Middleton published the findings from the landmark Quality in Acute Stroke Care trial (QASC) in The Lancet. The study generated significant media coverage, won the 2011 Award for Impact at the Canadian Stroke Congress, and was a finalist in the NSW Premier’s Public Sector Awards in the category of Excellence in Delivery.

Following on from these accomplishments, Professor Middleton and her colleagues were awarded a $2.2 million grant for 2012-2016 from the National Health and Medical Research Council to conduct the T3 Trial: Triage, Treatment and Transfer of Patients with Stroke in Emergency Departments.

ACU has a rigorous and collaborative approach to research and is committed to developing a successful research environment.

Professor Wayne McKenna, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research)
INFRASTRUCTURE

New buildings and impressively equipped teaching spaces to accommodate student growth include the $70 million Daniel Mannix Building in Melbourne, which was awarded a six-star green rating for its environmental credentials.

The centre comprises lecture theatres, state-of-the-art learning facilities for health sciences, as well as a gymnasium, award-winning chapel, and rooftop garden. Compared to a conventional building of its size and purpose, the Daniel Mannix Building annually generates 55 per cent fewer greenhouse gas emissions, and reduces water consumption by more than half a million litres. Rainwater is harvested from the roof, and the building is fitted out with water saving appliances, low-energy lights and an energy efficient heating and cooling system.

GROWTH

ACU is one of the fastest growing universities in Australia, and has experienced the biggest increase of undergraduate students in the country – growing by 48 per cent between 2009 and 2013.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OVERALL GROWTH</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>Growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total student headcount</td>
<td>18,462</td>
<td>26,127</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equivalent full-time student load</td>
<td>12,943.77</td>
<td>19,150.25</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total staff FTE*</td>
<td>1,375.50</td>
<td>1,854.40</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total academic staff FTE*</td>
<td>728.00</td>
<td>948.70</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total income</td>
<td>$206,064</td>
<td>$370,493</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government grants (including Higher Education Loan Program)</td>
<td>$147,856</td>
<td>$284,739</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees and charges</td>
<td>$37,479</td>
<td>$50,134</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>$20,729</td>
<td>$35,620</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*FTE = full-time equivalent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL STAFF HEADCOUNT</th>
<th>2009/2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Growth</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,375.5</td>
<td>1,854.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL STAFF HEADCOUNT</th>
<th>2009/2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Growth</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18,462</td>
<td>26,127</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Within the Catholic intellectual tradition and acting in Truth and Love, Australian Catholic University is committed to the pursuit of knowledge, the dignity of the human person and the common good.

The ACU Mission