Dear students,

This semester has been a time of achievement and enjoyment for many of our students. Faculties report strong engagement and students are choosing to support both the academic curriculum and the increasing number of opportunities to engage in programs overseas and in Australia.

Introducing the Core
ACU has developed two units: Our World Community, and Vulnerability and Understanding Self and Society: Contemporary Perspectives. These units explore the ACU Mission and engage students in fundamental questions on human experience and meaning through exploration of the qualities that humans need to flourish as both an individual and member of a community. They ask: How is human dignity defined, and what difference does it make to our decisions? The Core, which will be taught on campus and abroad, will prompt the discussions of meaning that enrich our friendships and integrate our learning.

To celebrate the beginning of the Core, the Vice-Chancellor has awarded 12 scholarships for ACU students to attend the Core in Florence Program, which will be hosted by our partner, Fairfield University (USA).

I am delighted to be able to announce the winners of these scholarships.

Catherine Anderson  Jessica Innes-Irons
Angela Carnovale  Thi Nguyen
Bethany Gleeson  Naomi Petrie
Timothy Goh   Elizabeth Piskopos
Miriam Harrison   Oscar Ryan
Sharyn Henry
The students selected for the Core scholarship demonstrate extraordinary commitment to the common good, working as volunteers, fundraisers and carers. ACU is very proud to have such students.

**Representing ACU on ANZAC Day**

Last month I was fortunate to meet with Catholic University Presidents from around the world at Assumption University in Bangkok, Thailand.

On ANZAC Day I travelled to Kanchanaburi Province and represented ACU at the Dawn Service at Hellfire Pass. Later in the day I laid a wreath at the Kanchanaburi Allied War Cemetery, where many young Australians who were prisoners of war are buried.

**Building a responsive university community**

You will see in the Bulletin that your input is helping us build a better university. Please complete the Student Barometer and the Unit Evaluation Surveys. There are prizes to be won, however the real prize is a more responsive university.

In recent weeks we have seen violence in the public transport system targeting international students. Our students have not reported incidents. It is a good reminder to travel with companions and to be very careful when travelling at night. Our International students face many challenges. At ACU let’s make sure we support them, get to know them and if you are travelling on the same trains travel together. Let’s show people we value and enjoy human diversity.

As the exams draw near it is easy to be overwhelmed by the demands of study and the tensions of exams. Most of us have personal challenges including procrastination, disorganisation, fatigue or left it to the last minute syndrome. I have met very few people with beautifully regulated study styles. Those who succeed prepare a timetable or list and take it one step at a time. There is nothing so satisfying (discounting fridge) as ticking off a task completed. Be gentle with yourself and achieve it in small steps.

Best wishes for a successful end to the semester.

Anne Cummins
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students, Learning and Teaching)
The DESK is coming to ACU!

The DESK is an online program that aims to provide Australian tertiary students with strategies and skills for success and wellbeing.

During Semester 2, ACU students will have access to:

- Modules to develop problem solving and self management skills
- Tools to help with everyday issues
- Quizzes regarding various areas of life, such as relationships, physical health and mental wellbeing
- Links to information and support services that can help students deal with a range of common issues.

Keep an eye out for further announcements about the DESK in the coming months.

TAKE THE STUDENT BAROMETER SURVEY AND WIN $1,000!

The Student Barometer survey offers all students the opportunity to tell the University what's working, what's frustrating and what you think of your ACU experience to date. Your feedback is invaluable, as it helps ACU to provide current and future students with the best possible university experience.

The Student Barometer questionnaire will be open until June 8. An invitation to participate has been emailed to you – simply click on the link and have your say! Every student who completes the survey has the chance to win a $1,000 cash prize. ACU will also hold a draw for $50 gift vouchers.

A REPORT FROM THE 2012 ACU GAMES

During the Easter break, 96 students from all campuses travelled to Ballarat to compete in the 4th Annual ACU Games. Over three days of competition, the six campus teams battled it out in 14 events to win the ultimate accolade – the ACU Games Champions Cup.

On the first day of competition, campus teams went head-to-head in Ten Pin Bowling, Go Karts, Laser Force, Beach Volley Ball, Netball and Soccer, resulting in a three-way tie for Melbourne, Ballarat and Brisbane.

Day two kicked off with an ACU Staff vs. Students exhibition wheelchair basketball match, with sideline commentary provided by ACU Wired. With a grandstand full of students backing their team, the staff never stood a chance! At the final buzzer, students led 8 - 0.

Campuses competed in Badminton, Tennis, Lawn Bowls, Dodgeball, Indoor Cricket and Supa Netball, while some students choreographed hip-hop routines with the Dance Studio and ‘So You Think You Can Dance’ performers.

Opportunities to win bonus points proved to be the most exciting spectator events - the highlight being a dance-off between the Canberra, North Sydney and Brisbane teams, in which Brisbane were victorious. Students also went to extraordinary lengths to create costumes for social theme nights and picked up some great prizes for their efforts.
2012 ACU Games Results
By the end of the competition, the Canberra team had earned the most points and took home the coveted ACU Games Champions Cup.

Final Tally

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Campus</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Canberra</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Brisbane</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ballarat</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>North Sydney</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Strathfield</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACU Games Merit Competitors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hayley Crimmins - Canberra</th>
<th>Emily Bromley - Brisbane</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kate Barry - Strathfield</td>
<td>Nicholas Jeffs - Melbourne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashleigh Shimmin - Ballarat</td>
<td>Alex Vans-Colina - North Sydney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mitchell Ellis - North Sydney</td>
<td>Rhianna Critchley - Ballarat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellen Bailes - Melbourne</td>
<td>Mat Eggleton - Strathfield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robyn Harvey - Brisbane</td>
<td>Cameron Beck - Canberra</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Awards
Spirit of the Games – North Sydney campus
Fastest on the Track – Michael Gore (Canberra)
Best Ten Pin Bowling Performance – Rob Kemp (Ballarat)

Congratulations to all competitors, spectators and event organisers for making this year’s ACU Games a fun, safe and memorable event!

ONLINE IT TUTORIALS AVAILABLE

All ACU students now have access to Atomic Learning - an online service that hosts IT-related training workshops, programs and video tutorials that will assist with academic study and research.

Atomic Learning’s extensive resource library includes workshops on APA Research Paper Basics and Effective Presentation Design - just to name a few - as well as online video tutorials for popular software packages such as Microsoft Office and the Adobe Creative Suite. Visit www.atomiclearning.com.au to view the full range of training resources available.

All ACU students on campus have unrestricted access to this service. For off-campus access, please refer to the Atomic Learning User Guide.
Student Services and Amenities Survey results

Due to the introduction of the new Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF), ACU now has additional funding to invest in new or improved student services and amenities on all campuses and online.

At the beginning of the year, all ACU students were invited to provide input on how they would like to see this funding being used. Over 2,500 students responded, and the combined priorities from across all campuses and student groups are as follows:

1. Food and drink
2. Employment
3. Health and welfare
4. Sport
5. Financial advice
6. Legal services
7. Student clubs
8. Childcare
9. Libraries and reading rooms
10. Study skills programs

The University and ACUNSA will take these priorities into consideration when allocating funding from the SSAF.

INTERVIEW: PAUL MCJANNETT, STUDENT ENGAGEMENT & SERVICES

Student Engagement and Services (SES) is a newly established unit at ACU that is dedicated to providing all students with high quality services and an unbeatable ACU experience.

Paul McJannett, SES Project Leader, discusses the recent Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) survey results and outlines some of the changes that students may see on campus in the future.

What is the role of Student Engagement and Services?
SES has two major goals. One is to further enhance the student experience that has been established by the Office of Student Success using extra funding obtained through the SSAF. We would like to broaden and deepen that experience for as many students as possible by adding more enterprise-focused programs and services. The second goal is to create more touch points and different styles of experience so that more students have opportunities to be engaged.

How will SES determine where funding from the SSAF will be allocated?
Our focus is on ensuring that the funding is spent in the most productive way possible, using the feedback provided by students, and on developing a system where we can plan, monitor and review how funding is spent each year. ACUNSA will play a leading role in developing and reviewing this system.

An important part of the review process will be to continually collect feedback from ACU students about their perceptions of, and priorities for, student services and amenities, and then use that information to inform funding decisions. We also plan to measure the success of individual services or programs wherever they are delivered - for example, we may survey students who use a particular campus food outlet and then ask them to give it a rating.

Results from the SSAF survey indicate that food, recruitment and health and welfare are top priorities for students. What kinds of changes can students expect to see within these areas in the future?
ACU has some wonderful, unique spaces on each campus that are part of a number of Campus Master plans currently under development, and these could potentially be used as spaces for bars, hospitality and entertainment. Part of our challenge is to assist with the master planning processes and also add operational knowledge to the proposed developments for the benefit of all students.

As for student employment, we are currently surveying certain University divisions to gauge whether they are able to hire more students. In the area of health and welfare, we are working with the Faculty of Health Sciences to provide students with access to GP services on campus. These are all priorities that will have a positive impact on the entire student body.
Students to attend Global Perspectives on Humanitarian Action event

Two students studying for the new Bachelor of International Development Studies — Sanaa Chadda (Strathfield) and Louise Reid-Simmons (Melbourne) — have been selected and sponsored to attend the Jesuit Universities Humanitarian Action Network (JUHAN) leadership conference, ‘Global Perspectives on Humanitarian Action’.

JUHAN is a biennial workshop that orients undergraduate students from Jesuit colleges and universities across the world to all facets of humanitarianism. It will be held at Fairfield University in Connecticut, USA from June 12 - 15, 2012. We congratulate Sanaa and Louise on their selection.

What other changes will be made in the longer term?

I am a fan of the peer-assessed funding models, where ACU can set parameters around funding for clubs and societies but then students can manage it from week to week. Another goal is to provide accommodation for every ACU campus, with the priority being housing for regional and overseas students.

In the longer term we really want to offer students more challenges so they can have a more fulfilling university experience. Sport is another area we will look at, although it is already successful in terms of the numbers of students who participate - not necessarily for the sake of winning, but for socialising and community building. Our goal will be to maintain that social aspect but also provide students with greater challenges and more opportunities to get involved. These could be on the sporting field or in the way of theatre sports, revues, debating and so on.

BALLARAT EARLY ACHIEVERS RECOGNISED

On April 23, ten students from the Ballarat campus were invited to attend a celebratory lunch in recognition of their selection for ACU’s 2012 Early Achievers Program (EAP).

ACU Early Achievers are students who have been identified as having an understanding of the importance of working toward the common good, and a willingness to make a contribution to their communities. There are 59 Ballarat students in this year’s EAP, and 503 students university wide.

During the event, the EAP students were addressed by the Campus Dean, Associate Professor Joe Fleming, as well as Aquinas Student Association President Simon Williams, who reflected on his leadership role and his own pathway as a 2009 EAP student.

We would like to congratulate all EAP students on being selected for the program, and wish them all the best in fostering continued community engagement in their professional and personal lives.
INTERVIEW: LAURA NASH, ACU COUNSELLOR

As students head into the often stressful exam period, ACU Counsellor Laura Nash (North Sydney) discusses some of the counselling support services that are available to students on all campuses.

What kinds of counselling support and services are available to ACU students?

The Counselling Service is a free service for all ACU students offering individual counselling appointments from Monday to Friday. Counselling can provide students with the opportunity to discuss and work through issues of concern to them, within a supportive relationship. Where appropriate, counsellors may refer students for external support within the community, or to other staff on campus.

The Counselling Service runs various workshops for students, sometimes within their course curriculum (e.g. how to work effectively in groups), or at a significant time of semester (e.g. receiving results). During semester time, we also offer an online question and answer service called the Ask A Counsellor e-Service. Students may send a question via email at any time of day to an ACU Counsellor and receive a response within 48 hours.

The ACU Counselling Services webpage contains relevant links and resources for students including information on topics of concern, such as how to manage anxiety, stress and depression.

What are some of the common reasons that students use the Counselling Service?

We support students with a range of issues that may impact a student’s ability to focus on their studies. Some common concerns are family conflict, relationship issues, sexual assault, grief and loss, anxiety around university and studying, mental health, domestic violence, goal setting, and adjusting to life changes.

Are counselling sessions confidential?

Yes. The information revealed in sessions remains confidential and will only be disclosed with the student’s consent. Disclosure of personal information will only occur without consent if a student is deemed to be at risk of hurting themselves or another person, or in the case that is required by law (e.g. a court order).

What is the best way for students to get in touch with an ACU Counsellor?

Students can book an appointment online via the ACU Counselling Services webpage.
INTERVIEW: MARTIN HARRIS, ACU EXCHANGE STUDENT

Martin Harris, a South African exchange student currently studying for a B Commerce (Econ) at the North Sydney and Strathfield campuses, discusses some of the advantages of studying abroad.

Can you tell us a little about the exchange program you are on?

I studied for two years in South Africa before coming to Australia on exchange this year. My degree is for three years, and of those I am doing one semester in Australia. The results that I achieve while studying at ACU will be transferred to my academic record held at my home university.

Why did you choose to study in Australia?

I chose Australia because this country works on the same academic timetable as South Africa. I had been accepted to study in the USA as well, however because their semester only begins in September, I wouldn’t have been able to finish my second year in South Africa. So my decision was based solely on the academic timetable.

What were some of your reasons for wanting to go on exchange?

I wanted to go on exchange so that I could get some international experience. I felt that having an Australian component to my degree would provide my studies with some international recognition. I also wanted to prove to myself that I could perform in a different country and under different circumstances - that I could achieve high performance records no matter where I am.

Was it difficult to adapt to the Australian culture and academic system?

It was a little challenging at first, particularly as I came to Australia alone. There’s no on-campus residence at ACU in Sydney and so I had to find my own accommodation. At first I had to live in a homestay, where I was living with a family and there was no one else my age. I didn’t get a lot of exposure to people my age until university started. That’s when I started to make friends with the people in my classes.

Has being on exchange met your expectations?

I really didn’t know what to expect. I thought being here on exchange would be quite different and ridiculously challenging, however I’ve found that ACU is quite similar to my home university. I think if you really apply yourself then it is possible to have a very similar university experience, the only difference is that you’re in another country.

Would you recommend an exchange program to students who are interested in studying abroad?

I would definitely recommend going on exchange. It allows you to see a different part of the world and to see how things are done overseas because of the experience and the exposure you get to another culture. Most of the material you study at your home university is based on your own country, and so when you go to another country you learn different material that is applied to a different context, so it really broadens your perspective.
CONGRATULATIONS SCHOLARSHIP, BURSARY AND AWARD RECIPIENTS

We would like to congratulate the following ACU students on being successful in their application for scholarships, bursaries and awards.

Anne Lyons Memorial Travel Scholarship: Emily Evans
Australian Catholic Superannuation Retirement Fund – Honours and Postgraduate Scholarships: Kelli Broadbent and Mary Johns
ACU Foundation – Social Work Rural Placement Scholarship: Mark Holberton
Cabrini Health Bursaries: Charitha Kiriwaththuduwa, Mollogoda Liyanage Lakshika Udari Molligoda, Melissa McFarlane and Alice Rogers
Catherine McAuley Scholarship: Natalie Harris
Co-op Bookstore Scholarship: Melissa McFarlane
Council of Catholic School Parents (NSW) Indigenous Postgraduate Scholarship: Leanne King
Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club Postgraduate Scholarship: Marcela Ordonez
Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club Undergraduate Scholarships: Matthew Eggleton, Fiona Frediani, Ben Klok, Katherine Medrzejewski, Delanie Merchant, Heui Hun Noh, Ramji Paudel and Naomi Petrie
Elizabeth Ann McCall Scholarship: Olivia Holmes
Francis Carroll Scholarship: Victoria Cocoran
George Alexander Foundation Bursaries: Bethany Detering, Ina Halls, Brooklyn Hem, Katie Holt, Stuart Mason and Jacob Torpey
George Alexander Foundation Scholarships: Michelle Bowman, Jessica Hiatt, Shannon Knight, Clare McKinnon and Hannah Williams
Gleeson Family Scholarships: Lauren Neuendorf and Kiara Moore
John F Slowey Memorial Bursary: Daniel Nunez-Ortiz
John F Slowey Memorial Scholarships: Sarah Hayes and Andrew Lehmann
Laurie Daniels Scholarships: Kylie Chenery and Michelle Fielding
Michael Myers Theology Scholarship: Kirriilee Westblade
Nano Nagle Scholarship: Casey Bird
Oxley Scholarship: Lucy Koelmeyer
Peter W Sheehan Award: Prem Sebastian
Philip Malouf Perpetual Scholarship: Anne Jones and Laura Pittard
Pratt Foundation Bursary: Martin Lester
Sisters of Mercy Award: Hannah Williams
Sophia Scholarship: Nicole Strachan

Calling for musicians and entertainers!

ACU would like to hear from student musicians and entertainers who are interested in doing paid performances at ACU functions throughout the year.

To be considered, please email dvcslt@acu.edu.au with your name, campus, talent, and skill level.
In recent weeks, university students have reported experiencing violent acts on public transport. Here are some tips from the NSW Police on how to stay safe while travelling.

**Bus Travel**
- Stand back from the curb while waiting for the bus to arrive, especially if you have been drinking alcohol.
- At night, wait for the bus in a well-lit area, ideally near other people.
- If waiting on your own, be alert to your surroundings. If you feel unsafe, consider catching a taxi or moving to a populated area.
- Consider sitting near the bus driver, especially at night.

**Taxi Travel**
- Consider phoning for a taxi from a safe place, such as your place of work, rather than hailing one from the street.
- Specify the route you would like to take to your driver. If your driver takes an alternative route, be assertive and ask him/her to take your specified route.
- Sit in the back of the taxi and consider travelling with friends.
- Take note of the taxi company, driver’s name and car number. Let the driver know that you’ve noted their taxi number.
- At night consider asking your driver to wait for you until you are safely inside your destination.

**Ferry Travel**
- Plan your ferry trip before you depart – check times and connections to avoid unnecessary delays, especially at night.
- When waiting for your ferry to arrive, stand back from the wharf edge, especially if you have been drinking alcohol.
- Consider sitting near ferry staff or other passengers, especially at night.
- If you feel uncomfortable or threatened, advise ferry staff.

**Train Travel**
- When waiting for a train at night, stand at the Nightsafe area (indicated in blue on the platform) to make sure you board the train at the carriage closest to the guard’s compartment.
- Avoid sitting near the train exit doors and try to sit near other passengers, especially at night.
- In an emergency, use the emergency help points located throughout stations on the CityRail network, or seek assistance from a transit police officer.
- If you see any unattended bags or packages on the train, report them to CityRail staff immediately or by calling 131500 or contact the Police.
- Stand well behind the yellow painted line on the platform when you are waiting for your train. Take extra care if you have been drinking alcohol.
REMINDER: SUITABLE CONDUCT ON SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

ACU aims to be an inclusive, safe and friendly community, and every student is responsible for helping to achieve this.

Students are reminded of the ACU Statute 10 which governs behaviour in the University. Posts on Facebook and other social media sites are subject to the Student Conduct policy, which states that derogatory, defaming or bullying material is unacceptable and offenders will be subject to disciplinary action.

Many ACU students are working toward professional practice. The standards expected of professionals are similar to those expected of students, and we encourage every person to keep this in mind. Many professions require ACU to report discipline matters that may impact on client safety and this can have serious consequences.

Humour is a great gift; clever satire and indeed critique is to be admired and enjoyed. Crassness, harassment and inappropriate sexual innuendo are neither clever nor safe.

Before posting to a social media site, ask yourself: Will this harm someone else? Would I want a potential employer to see it?

Public pages of social media sites are accessed by ACU staff, potential employers, your families and friends, and the general public. If you are the administrator of such a site and the postings are inappropriate, disciplinary action from the University may occur.

"Why can’t you use Facebook, like everybody else?"

SOURCE: THE NEW YORKER (05/11/09)

Tune in to ACU Wired!

ACU's radio station, ACU Wired, is now live! Students on all campuses can listen to the radio station from their computers via www.acu.edu.au/wired

ACU Wired is a collaborative effort between students and staff that seeks to deliver excitement, education and entertainment, and to alert students about events happening across all six campuses. The station taps into the University's vast storehouse of student creativity and talent, and offers the ACU community more control over what sort of programs and music they hear.

ACU Wired is on air from 11am - 3pm weekdays during each semester.

SOURCE: THE NEW YORKER (05/11/09)