

The image shows the exterior of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, featuring a row of statues on the roof and a classical portico with columns. A red vertical banner is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**Healthcare Executive  
Symposium  
8-13 October, 2019**

## **'Building a Culture of Encounter in Healthcare Organisations'**

The 2019 Symposium will be roundtable-style dialogue: bringing together Senior Vatican Curia, Chief Executives and Senior Executives of Healthcare, Aged Care and Social Service organisations from around the world to engage, challenge and identify solutions to contemporary Catholic healthcare issues.

[acu.edu.au](http://acu.edu.au)

## Australian Catholic University is proud to host the 2019 Healthcare Executive at the ACU Rome Campus.

*'Every encounter is fruitful. Each encounter returns people and things to their place.'*

– Pope Francis

In 2019, we are exploring Pope Francis' 'Culture of Encounter' - it's meaning and how it can be envisaged and enacted within a Catholic context. In two-way conversations facilitated by ACU, delegates will have an opportunity to discuss Pope Francis' vision of a 'culture of encounter' in Healthcare Leadership with members of the Vatican Curia, and with each other. The 2019 symposium includes a personally guided 2-day tour of Siena focussing on the healthcare history of Saint Catherine of Siena.

### Encountering The Universal Church

*'...the Gospel tells us constantly to run the risk of a face-to-face encounter with others, with their physical presence which challenges us, with their pain and their pleas, with their joy which infects us in our close and continuous interaction.'*

– Pope Francis

We explore the many facets of the Catholic Church and introduce delegates to the structure and organisation of the Vatican Curia. Delegates will have the opportunity to meet and hear from senior Curia members to discuss some of the key initiatives underway to enact His Holiness' vision.

### Encountering Healthcare Organisations

*'Today, when the networks and means of human communication have made unprecedented advances, we sense the challenge of finding and sharing a "mystique" of living together, of mingling and encounter, of embracing and supporting one another, of stepping into this flood tide which, while chaotic, can become a genuine experience of fraternity, a caravan of solidarity, a sacred pilgrimage.'*

– Pope Francis

We explore and discuss the Charisms and origins of Healthcare organisations attending the Symposium. Delegates will have the opportunity to present on their organisation's spiritual history, Mission and values, and discuss how peoples' encounters within healthcare settings can positively assist in physical, mental and spiritual healing and wellbeing.

### Encountering The Healthcare Leader

*'We need to help others to realize that the only way is to learn how to encounter others with the right attitude, which is to accept and esteem them as companions along the way, without interior resistance.'*

– Pope Francis

As current and future leaders of Catholic Healthcare organisations, what does 'encounter leadership' mean for you?



## Proposed 2019 Program

### Tuesday 8 October 2019

- 4:45 pm: Delegates arrive at ACU Rome Campus Via Garibaldi 28, 00153 Roma
- 5:00 - 6:00 pm: Welcome Mass in ACU Rome Campus Chapel  
Led by Fr Anthony Ekpo, Rome Campus Chaplain
- 6:00 - 7:30 pm: Provost's Welcome Reception – drinks and canapes

### Wednesday 9 October 2019 Day 1

- 7:30 am: General Papal Audience – St Peter's Square  
Piazza San Pietro, 00120 Citta del Vaticano, Vatican City  
Meet at gate of Sant'Anna, corner of via Sant'Anna and Via di Porta Angelica  
*To ensure the best vantage point please arrive promptly.*
- 10:00 – 12:00 noon: General Papal Audience
- 12:30 - 1:30 pm: Lunch @ ACU Rome Campus
- 1:30 pm: Official Opening of the Healthcare Executives Symposium
- 1:30 - 5:00 pm: Healthcare Executives Symposium | Roundtable: 'Encountering The Universal Church'  
*Fr. Andrea Ciucci, Coordinating Secretary for the Pontifical Academy for Life*  
*Rev. Dr. Anthony Ekpo, Official, Holy See Secretariat of State*
- 6:00 - 7:30 pm: Evening Reception at the Private Residence of the Australian Ambassador to the Holy See  
*HE Melissa Hitchman, Australian Ambassador to the Holy See*

### Thursday 10 October 2019 Day 2

- 8:30 am: Delegates arrive at ACU Rome Campus Via Garibaldi 28, 00153 Roma  
Coffee and light refreshments
- 8:45 am: Morning Prayer
- 9:00 - 1:00 pm: Healthcare Executives Symposium | Roundtable: 'Encountering Healthcare Organisations'  
*Professor Chris Gastmans, Full Professor of Medical Ethics and Head of the Centre for Biomedical Ethics and Law at the Faculty of Medicine, KU Leuven*  
*Rev. Dr. Christopher Mahar, Senior Official, Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development*
- 1:00 - 2:00 pm: Lunch @ ACU Rome Campus



- 2:00 - 5:00 pm: Healthcare Executives Symposium | Roundtable: 'Encountering The Healthcare Leader'
- Professor Antonio Iaccarino, Extraordinary Professor of Philosophy of Law, Pontifical Lateran University*
- Susan Pascoe AM, Board Member of Mercy Health, and Trustee of St John of God Health Care*
- 5:00 pm: Delegates have an escorted walk to Community of Sant'Egidio, Piazza di Sant'Egidio
- 5:30 - 6:30 pm: Guided tour of the Community of Sant'Edigio and exploration of Community
- Dr Claudio Betti, Director ACU Rome Campus*
- 6:30 - 8:30 pm: Dinner @ La Trattoria de Gli Amici, Piazza di Sant'Egidio 6, 00153 Roma

## Friday 11 October 2019

## Day 3

- 6:45 am: Delegates arrive at St Peter's Square  
Meet at the Obelisk, centre of St Peter's Square
- 7:15 - 7:50 am: Mass under St Peter's Basilica
- 8:00 - 11:00 am: St Peter's Basilica Dome Climb and Papal Crypt tour
- 11:00 - 11:30 am: Walk to lunch venue
- 11:30 am - 2:00 pm: Early lunch @ Ristoichico, Via di Panico 83, 00186 Roma followed by Healthcare Executives Roundtable: 'Encounter' reflections and official closing
- 2:00 pm: Free time



## Formation Tour of Siena



The trip to Siena will focus on Siena's contribution to the changing fabric of Italian and European life in the 12th-15th centuries. This period saw a new focus on the role of the individual in church and society, which is witnessed in changes in art, town planning, architecture, and spirituality. This new outlook promoted the concern for the well-being of the individual, which saw the establishment of the first hospitals. The weekend will principally look at Siena's engagement with healthcare in this time period through the life and work of its most famous daughter, Catherine Benincasa, simply known as Catherine of Siena. Catherine exemplified the care for the individual in their weakness and vulnerability. We will also visit Siena's original hospital, Santa Maria della Scala, which is now a museum to reflect on the relationship between pilgrimage and healthcare, the care for the soul and the care for the body, and the place of art and beauty in this endeavour.

### Saturday 12 October 2019 – Day 4

- 7:00 am *Departure from Rome in private coach*  
Meet outside ACU Rome Campus and please arrive promptly
- 10:30 am *Arrival in Siena, check in to hotel (accommodation included)*
- 11:00 am *Walk through medieval Siena*  
Overview of the history of Siena, with particular attention to the way that medieval society paved the way for many of the ways in which we organize life today.
- 12:00 noon *Visit the Museo Civico*  
Sienese models of the balance of faith and civic life and the development of art, where the individual begins to be depicted in the context of the cosmic.
- 1:00 pm *Lunch*
- 3:30 pm *Visit the Cathedral of Siena*  
Romanesque and Gothic transformations of spirituality and the way of seeing the world; a comparison of medieval bodies and Renaissance bodies through the art and architecture.
- 5:00 pm *House of St. Catherine of Siena*  
Learn about the life, significance and influence of Catherine of Siena.
- 6:30 pm *Drinks and dinner*



## Sunday 13 October 2019 – Day 5

8:00 – 9:00 am	<i>Breakfast at hotel</i>
9:00 am	<i>Visit old hospital of Santa Maria della Scala</i> A first-hand look at how Catherine of Siena Care took care of the sick in the later middle ages.
11:00 am	<i>Visit the Museo del Duomo</i> Further reflection on Sieneese art and society and how the body and spirit coincide through looking at the art of the period.
12:15 pm	<i>Mass at the Duomo of Siena</i>
1:00 pm	<i>Lunch</i>
3:00 pm	<i>Departure for Rome</i>

*Please note: Every endeavour has been made to produce an accurate program, however, the organisers may change the Symposium program at any time without notice.*



## Guest Speakers

### Father Andrea Ciucci

Coordinating Secretary for the Pontifical Academy for Life



From Milan, Father Ciucci was appointed as Coordinating Secretary in November 2016, The Pontifical Academy for Life or Pontificia Accademia Pro Vita is dedicated to promoting the Church's consistent life ethic. It also does related research on bioethics and Catholic moral theology.

### Rev. Dr. Anthony Ekpo

Official, Holy See Secretariat of State



Father Anthony Ekpo received his PhD in systematic theology from Australian Catholic University. He was the Pastoral Assistant to the Archbishop of Brisbane and Associate Pastor at the Cathedral of Saint Stephen, Brisbane. Father Ekpo shares his time in Rome as both Official of the Secretariat of State of His Holiness, and Chaplain for the ACU Rome Campus .

Specialising in systematic theology, ecclesiology, pneumatology, sacraments, Vatican II, the sensus fidelium, and canon law, Father Ekpo has written numerous publications.



## Professor Chris Gastmans

Full Professor of Medical Ethics and Head of the Centre for Biomedical Ethics and Law at the Faculty of Medicine, KU Leuven



Chris Gastmans is Full Professor of Medical Ethics and Head of the Centre for Biomedical Ethics and Law at the Faculty of Medicine, KU Leuven. Since 2002, he is member of the Bureau (as Secretary-general (2002-2010), Treasurer (2010-2013) and President (2013-2015)) of the European Association of Centres of Medical Ethics (EACME) to which 66 centres for medical ethics in Europe are affiliated.

Professor Gastmans teaches Medical Ethics and Ethics of Care. He coordinates the Intensive Course Nursing Ethics and the Summer Course Ethics in Dementia Care. He serves as an ethicist in the ethics board of European funded projects, as well as in the ethics committees of Zorgnet-Icuro and of the University Hospitals of Leuven. Gastmans is also regularly invited to be member of review panels to assess research programs of Dutch universities and to assess research proposals within the EU research program Horizon 2020.

He is a member of the editorial board of the international journal “Nursing Ethics” (SAGE, London). He writes regularly editorial comments for international journals. He also co-edited “Justice, Luck and Responsibility in Health Care” (Springer, 2013) and “Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide: Lessons From Belgium” (Cambridge University Press, 2017) He published more than 150 peer reviewed articles and book chapters on end-of-life care ethics, elderly care ethics, empirical ethics, ethics of care, and nursing ethics.

## Professor Antonio Iaccarino

Extraordinary Professor of Philosophy of Law, Pontifical Lateran University



Antonio Iaccarino (Pescara, Italy, 1979) commenced as Professor of Philosophy of Law at the Pontifical Lateran University in 2017. After obtaining his Ph.D. at the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome, in 2011 he became professor of Theory of Justice at the same University. He is editorial secretary of “Monitor Ecclesiasticus” and he is member of the editorial board of “Apollinaris”. He is author of two books: “Verità e giustizia. Per un’ontologia del pluralismo” (2008) and “Nessuno resti escluso. La giustizia oltre i confini” (2013).

He is also author of several juridical articles. He has taken part, as keynote speaker, at numerous international conferences in Europe. In addition, he is a lawyer in the Roman Rota Tribunal and in the Vatican City Court..





## Rev. Dr. Christopher Mahar

Senior Official, Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development



Father Christopher Mahar, a priest of the Diocese of Providence in the United States, was ordained a deacon in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome in 2003 and a priest in the Diocese of Providence in 2004, where he served as parochial vicar of Our Lady of Mercy Church in East Greenwich and St. Mary's Church in Cranston. He was instrumental in the development of end-of-life guidelines for the Diocese and helped to create "A Catholic Health Care Directive for R.I. (Rhode Island)" which is used throughout the state.

In 2008 he was appointed Vice Rector of the American College of the Immaculate Conception in Leuven, Belgium where he served until June 2011. In June of 2010 he completed a Sacred Theology License (S.T.L.) in Theological Ethics from the Catholic University of Louvain. In December 2016, he earned his Ph.D., in combination with the canonical degree of S.T.D. (Sacred Theological Doctorate) in Theological Ethics, from the Catholic University of Louvain, focusing on brain injury and artificial nutrition and hydration. In April 2018 was appointed to the Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development at the Vatican.



## Her Excellency Ambassador Melissa Hitchman

Ambassador to the Holy See



Australia's Ambassador to the Holy See is Her Excellency Ms Melissa Hitchman, an experienced career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. She has previously served overseas as First Secretary at the Australian High Commission in London.

In Canberra, Ambassador Hitchman has served as Director, Regional and National Security Section; Director, Intelligence Review; and Director, International Commission on Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament Secretariat; and most recently, Deputy Chief of Protocol. Ambassador Hitchman was also an Adviser, International Division, in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Ambassador Hitchman holds a Master of National Security and a Bachelor of Economics (Hons) from the Australian National University.

Ambassador Hitchman commenced in her position on 18 July 2016 and presented credentials to His Holiness Pope Francis on 8 September 2016.

[holysee.embassy.gov.au](http://holysee.embassy.gov.au)

## Dr David Dawson Vasquez



David Dawson Vasquez holds a Ph.D. in Systematic Theology from The Catholic University of America. He has taught courses in theology in Rome since January 2002. Each semester he teaches classes to seminarians and graduate students in Rome, and also at times US undergraduates. He teaches theology, spirituality, and history using the art, architecture, and sites of Rome and Italy.



## Your ACU Hosts

### Professor Pauline Nugent



Professor Nugent is Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) for the Australian Catholic University (ACU).

Professor Pauline Nugent, 2009 Victorian Telstra Business Woman of the Year, was appointed the inaugural Provost of ACU in June 2012 after serving as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).

As Provost, Professor Nugent leads the university's academic portfolio and oversees ACU's enrolment planning, including admissions, offers and the university's growth and diversification strategy.

Additionally, Professor Nugent has been responsible for a number of key initiatives, including establishing and leading ACU's Rome Campus, implementing ACU's Core Curriculum, introducing the new Faculty of Law and furtherance of ACU's partnership with the International Federation of Catholic Universities.

Professor Nugent leads ACU's four faculties, ACU College, Strategic Partnerships and Executive Education, Chair, Academic Board, Rome Campus, and the International Directorate.

Her scholarly record includes publications in nursing education, rural health, clinical research and health curriculum.

### Mr. Tom Ristoski

Executive Director,  
Strategic Partnerships



### Prof. Michelle Campbell

Executive Dean,  
Faculty of Health Sciences



### Dr. Claudio Betti

Director,  
ACU Rome Campus



ACU Rome Campus

Via Garibaldi, 28, 00153 Roma, Italy



## ACU University Prayer

God of all truth and goodness,  
Bless us as we gather here in Rome  
May we be strengthened in mind and heart  
To pursue what you inspire,  
With insight and deliberation,  
That our world may advance  
In true wisdom and justice for all:  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.



## Partners

We welcome partners to attend associated Symposium events in Rome and Siena, including dinners, tours and Vatican visits. A nominal fee will be charged to cover costs. Details are available on the registration page.

## Accommodation Information

### Hotels

ACU Rome Campus is located on the Janiculum Hill between the historic neighbourhood of Trastevere below and the modern neighbourhood of Monteverde above. Both are within walking distance of the Campus and are very safe neighbourhoods. Trastevere is especially known for its restaurants and lively night life. The neighbourhoods of St. Peter's (Borgo), Piazza Navona, Pantheon, and the Ghetto are all easily accessible from the Rome Campus.

Hotel Indigo Rome - St. George (25 min walk from ACU Rome Campus)  
Via Giulia, 62, 00186 Roma  
+39 06 686 611 [www.romestgeorge.hotelindigo.com](http://www.romestgeorge.hotelindigo.com)

Gran Meliá Rome (30 min walk from ACU Rome Campus)  
Via del Gianicolo, 3, 00165 Roma  
+39 06 925 901 [www.melia.com/en/hotels/italy/rome/gran-melia-rome/index.html](http://www.melia.com/en/hotels/italy/rome/gran-melia-rome/index.html)

VOI Hotel Donna Camilla Savelli Rome (5 min walk from ACU Rome Campus)  
Via Garibaldi, 27, 00153 Roma  
+39 06 588 861 [www.hoteldonnacamillasavelli.com](http://www.hoteldonnacamillasavelli.com)

Grand Hotel del Gianicolo (10 min walk from ACU Rome Campus)  
Via delle Mura Gianicolensi, 107, 00152 Roma  
+39 06 5833 3405 [www.grandhotelgianicolo.it](http://www.grandhotelgianicolo.it)

## Contact Us

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