

ASPIRE

The Community Magazine of CHC

Millis Institute

Rediscovering the
Liberal Arts

Transforming Vision

Teaching and Worldview

Budget Breakfast

Expert Christian Analysis

March / April 2015



CHC
Higher Education

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to this, our first edition of ASPIRE. Our desire is that, through this bimonthly publication, you will be informed of the range of events and exciting new initiatives that are happening at CHC as we continue to diligently and effectively outwork our vision statement - "transforming people to transform their world".

Arthur Holmes once remarked: 'The question to ask about education is not "What can I do with it?" but rather "What is it doing to me – as a person?"' For nearly 30 years CHC has sought to intentionally cultivate and celebrate "the making of persons" in every dimension – mind and body, spirit and flesh, heart and soul.

As those who are our current students and alumni can attest, CHC is a distinctive place that aspires to model a Christian higher education alternative. I trust that you will enjoy reading about the exciting new developments that are occurring at CHC and please feel welcome to let CHC know how you are transforming your world and how CHC can assist you in this process.

Professor Darren Iselin
President



GLOBAL IMPACT

CHC alumnus Lisa Elliott shares her recent experience in India.



Before I came to CHC I'd been volunteering in Africa for eight months. My experience there, though rewarding, gave me some understanding of the many different styles of overseas mission and showed me the possibility of community development as mission.

I discovered that Charles Ringma and Dave Andrews were lecturing in Community Development (CD) at CHC and I was drawn to study with them because I knew something of their stories and experience in Community Development both in Australia and overseas.

While I was studying at CHC, I wasn't just gaining theoretical knowledge. I was also able to improve my knowing of myself which helped me understand my values and my sense of call. The teaching helped me recognise that the God of the Bible is a Servant God, stooping down to serve us – a downwardly mobile God!

This was how I learnt to live amongst the poor as a way of following this downwardly mobile Christ, to value being among the poor without having to have a role but rather to just be with them as a friend and a sister.

Several of my lecturers mentioned the community development organisation Servants to Asia's Urban Poor which sends teams of people to live incarnationally in slums with the hope of seeing their communities transformed.

After graduating, I went to India with Servants and lived in a slum for about a year. Even in that short time, I was able to apply some of my CD learning in my slum as I analysed assets and stakeholders and found ways to build bridges between people of different classes and faiths.

I'm aware that the greatest reason missionaries return from the field is conflict with others and emotional struggles. The emphasis at CHC on personal growth and interpersonal skills enabled me to relate to others and work towards true community, even in a context where people were so different from me and from each other.



A NEW HOME FOR LIBERAL ARTS

Christian Heritage College has launched an exciting and bold new initiative called The Millis Institute. Named after CHC's founding Principal, Emeritus Professor Brian Millis, the Institute promotes a Christ-centred liberal arts education.

Students do not sit passively in large lecture halls memorizing facts for an exam.

Rather, they actively engage great works of the Western tradition; they grapple with and critique the books you've always

the need, one can make a speech or write an article or a story or a business letter. If one cannot speak or write well, then the tricks of a trade will be no help".

The Millis Institute is led by Dr Ryan Messmore, who was trained in this sort of education at Duke University as well as at Cambridge and Oxford.



According to Messmore, "When my wife and I were students at Duke in the 1990s, we discerned a sense of calling that has guided us ever since. I articulate it in terms of 'helping to shape a Christ-centred residential learning community.' It's exciting to have this dream take shape in the Millis Institute at Christian Heritage College. Here faith and learning - the heritage of Athens and Jerusalem - embrace, just as the cross and the pillar join to form our logo".



What is a liberal arts education? Simply put, it's a time-tested approach focused on teaching students to think critically and communicate effectively. These are skills that will "liberate" them from a single career track and free them to pursue a broad range of pathways.

As Albert Einstein said, "The value of an education in a liberal arts college is not the learning of many facts, but the training of the mind to think." The liberal arts traditionally include "tools of learning" like grammar, logic, and rhetoric as well as particular disciplines like history, philosophy, literature, theology and mathematics.

At the Millis Institute, these subjects are taught in small cohorts of 15-20 students each, forming a community of learning.

wanted to read but never did! By becoming apprentices to figures from Aristotle and Augustine to Shakespeare and C S Lewis, liberal arts students learn the foundational skills necessary for success.

As the author Wendell Berry argues, the proper focus of an undergraduate university education is "how to speak and write well, not how to be a 'public speaker,' or 'broadcaster' ... or a journalist ... If one can speak and write well, then, given

You can find more information about the Millis Institute at www.chc.edu.au/courses/millis-institute/ or by subscribing to Dr Messmore's fortnightly e-newsletter called "The Pillar."



ASC STUDENTS TAKE ON AUSTRALIA

CHC hosted the CCCU Student Academic Programs Commission (SAPC) Review of the Australia Studies Centre (ASC) from Monday 30th March – Wednesday 1st April. The Australia Studies Centre (ASC) is offered at CHC in partnership with the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCU), an international association of intentionally Christian colleges and universities. The review panel were:

- Dr Brock Schroeder - (Chair of Review) Vice President for Graduate and Professional Studies and Enrolment Mount Vernon Nazarene University (Ohio)
- Ms Wendy Lippert - Assistant Director of Education Abroad Messiah College (Pennsylvania)
- Dr Mark Sargent - Provost Westmont College (California)
- CCCU Liaison - Ms Leah Mullen Assistant Director of Student Programs

The Review team interviewed all Deans and key personnel at CHC and presented a very positive report to the ASC team. ASC Director, Kimberly Spragg, was

thrilled by the feedback provided by the SAPC Report that noted:

1. The Student Academic Programs Commission (SAPC) commended the strength of the relationship between Christian Heritage College and the Australia Studies Centre.

2. SAPC highly commended in area of Student Life. In addition to noting the thoroughness of risk assessment and frequent communication with students, a large part of their commendation was in the student life at CHC. Specifically, they commended the opportunities for ASC students to integrate and form relationships with CHC students through CDO sponsored activities.

3. SAPC noted their excitement about the Millis Institute. They are interested in seeing connections between the Millis Institute and the ASC. SAPC recommends further brainstorming to explore deeper involvement to benefit both CHC and the ASC. Well done to ASC, Kimberly & Heidi on this great result.





A TRANSFORMING VISION

On Friday 20th March, CHC, in partnership with Christian Schools Australia (CSA), Associated Christian Schools (ACS), and Compass Australia hosted a professional development day for teachers new to Christian schools.



Over 75 teachers from Christian schools across Queensland attended the full day.

Sessions on Christian school culture and Christian worldview were facilitated by Professor Darren Iselin; David Yates (CEO of Compass) and a panel of teacher educators that included Peter Wilkinson, Ruth Gravestine and CHC's new Dean Elect Dr Susan Starling.

Feedback on the day has been very positive and a number of schools have requested similar sessions to be held for all staff in their schools. CHC will host the event again in 2016.

CHC CHAPEL

Chapel is an integral part of the CHC student experience.

Chapels are held every Wednesday and include student led praise and worship, CHC announcements and a short message from a range of speakers. The chapel program in 2015 is coordinated by Mr Glen Cochrane who is also the Christian Studies Coordinator. Glen comes to CHC with a rich and varied background in leadership and pastoral roles including serving many years as a pastor at Nexus Church.

Assisting Glen in the Chapel and pastoral care roles are our Community Development Officers,

Katie Nugent and Chris Borrell. Katie works four days a week and coordinates all student events at CHC.

Chris has been appointed as Community Development Officer (Pastoral Care) two days a week. Chris comes with a law degree from UQ, experience as a Student Liaison Officer at UQ, Australian Universities Rugby Union representative, Red Frogs team leader, YAS leadership role and a sense of call to fulltime youth ministry.

It will be exciting to see how Chapel will develop under this excellent team.



NEW DEAN OF EDUCATION

CHC has announced the new Dean of the School of Education and Humanities. Dr Susan Starling commenced as Dean (elect) on Monday 16 February 2015, working in tandem with current Dean, Dr Robert Herschell, to ensure a smooth leadership transition.

In announcing Dr Starling's appointment, CHC's President Professor Darren Iselin acknowledged her many years of academic and organisational leadership. "I am delighted to welcome Dr Susan Starling to CHC as Dean of our School of Education and Humanities," said Professor Iselin.

"She comes to CHC with many years as an educational leader in both tertiary and school sectors, including seven years as Principal of Flinders Christian Community College in Victoria".

"Through her practical experience and specialised academic study, she will make an outstanding contribution to our School and build on a foundation of almost thirty years of Christian teacher education at CHC."

Dr Starling is a specialist in the *Understanding by Design* curriculum framework, and speaks widely on this topic.

Her Masters thesis was entitled *Competence in Initial Teacher Education: Storied Accounts of Teachers* and her PhD from Flinders University was titled *Silent Rivals in Christian Education and the Shalom Perspective*.

"It is a real privilege to join the CHC team and continue the outstanding teacher education work established by Dr Rob Herschell, a respected colleague," said Dr Starling.

"CHC has an excellent reputation in the field and I am very much looking forward to being part of the next exciting phase of development and growth."

A Celebration Dinner will be held to recognise the work and service of Dr Robert Herschell as Dean on 12 June, 2015 at Diana Plaza Hotel, Woolloongabba. Tickets can be purchased for this special occasion by calling CHC Reception on (07) 3347 7900.





2015 Federal Budget

Wednesday 13 May

Breakfast
6:45am - 8:30am

and

Master Class
9:00am - 11:00am

Expert appraisal of the Federal Budget from a Christian perspective, with special emphasis on likely impacts on business and household.

Detailed analysis of the Federal Budget focused on implications for business and the economic climate and critique of fiscal policy in the context of a Biblical worldview.

Featuring:

Dr Rod St Hill

- Dean of Business (CHC)
- Economist

Mr Craig Dawson

- Principal of Activ8 Accounting Group
- CPA (Accountant)
- Tax Practitioner

Dr Rod St Hill

Mr Craig Dawson

Dr Joshua Shingles

- Associate Director at Livingstones Employment Relationship Advisers
- Specialising in IR, HRM and Labour Economics

www.chc.edu.au/about-us/events

Tickets \$30

Students \$20

Full breakfast

College Hall, Citipointe Christian College
322 Wecker Rd, Carindale, 4152



Tickets \$30

or \$50 for combined Breakfast and Master Class

Light refreshments

Conference room, CHC campus
322 Wecker Rd, Carindale, 4152





CHC WELCOMES NEW STAFF

Three new faces have been added to the permanent academic staff at CHC, and they bring a broad range of qualifications and experience.

Dr Johannes Luetz has joined CHC as a Senior Lecturer and Postgraduate Coordinator in the School of Social Sciences. He was previously a Lecturer at the University of New South Wales and will be teaching courses in research methods, ethics, policy, professional issues in the social sciences, youth, environmental sustainability, and international development.

Johannes has conducted PhD research into climate migration and has variously published for World Vision International on matters related to climate justice. His PhD research, which has taken him to six countries in Asia Pacific and Latin America, has been featured in the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *The Guardian*.

Peter Wilkinson is familiar to some students, having been a sessional

lecturer in the School of Business since 2008. He was most recently the Head of Secondary at Groves Christian College and previously practised as a solicitor in Gladstone and Brisbane. He has now joined the School of Education and Humanities as a Lecturer and Coordinator of the Practical Experience Program (PEP). In this role he oversees the placement and assessment of CHC Education students as they complete the practical requirements of their course.

Pastor Glen Cochrane is the new Coordinator of Christian Studies at CHC, responsible for these compulsory units for students of Business, Education and Social Sciences. In addition to pastoral experience across Queensland, he has a long association with Christian schooling, having served on the board of Northside Christian College and as Executive Officer for Christian Schools Australia (Qld). He is also pastoring a new church at West End.



Left to right: Ps Glen Cochrane, Dr Johannes Luetz, Mr Peter Wilkinson

PhD SUCCESS

We congratulate Ann Crawford in the School of Social Sciences on the successful approval of her doctoral thesis for conferral through the Australian Catholic University (ACU).

The findings of Ann's thesis, entitled *An Interdisciplinary Investigation of the Therapeutic Relationship Practiced by Pastoral Counsellors*, provide counsellors and people helpers with an integrated relationship model that has the capacity to be not only therapeutic but also transformational by incorporating Christian spirituality and psychological theory.

She plans to develop this work into a text book for the study of the Social Sciences.

Ann's academic journey began as a mature age student with a Bachelor of Social Science at CHC before completing her Masters of Counselling and Graduate Diploma in Ministry Studies. In addition to lecturing in the School of Social Sciences, Ann is the Coordinator of the CHC Counselling and Support Centre.

The CHC Counselling and Support Centre provides counselling services to students and the community. Practitioners can also hire the rooms for private practice.

Ann is also the convenor of "Common Ground" – a monthly networking and resource-sharing event for workers in people-helping professions.

TWILIGHT MARKETS

As the sun set over Carindale, there was a bustle outside Rivers Cafe as CHC's 2nd annual Twilight Markets commenced. As people walked in, they could hear the acoustic sounds of our live musician and smell the delicious wood-fired pizzas.

Keen bargain hunters swiftly headed towards the suitcase rummage where plenty of brand name clothes went for \$1- \$10. There were many other stalls to explore including SHE, Oxfam, Red Frogs, YA Society & SRC.

As it grew darker, fairy lights lit up the night and many competed in a mega jenga challenge, whilst others lazed about on beanbags to chat to newly made friends.

For many the night ended with a delicious donut and warm coffee. The markets provided a space for CHC to have some fun as well as to raise \$800 for the Bula Storehouse charity.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| May 11 | CMC/School of Ministries Open Night (Room A2, Citipointe Church) |
| May 13 | Federal Budget Breakfast (Citipointe Christian College Hall) |
| May 18 | Common Ground Counselling Event (Room C1, CHC) |
| May 29 | Christian Engagment in the Public Square Seminar - Ray Pennings, Cardus Institute |
| June 12 | Celebration Dinner – Dr Robert Herschell (Diana Plaza Hotel) |
| June 26-27 | Witherspoon Fellowship (Millis Institute, CHC) |
| August 22 | CHC Open Day and Uni Games |
| September 5 | CHC Ball (Diana Plaza Hotel) |

Transform Your World

Apply Now
for Semester 2

Courses include:

- Graduate Diploma in Management
- Graduate Certificate in Christian Education
- Master of Education
- Master of Counselling
- Graduate Diploma in Ministry Studies
- Master of Ministry Leadership



CHC
Higher Education

chc.edu.au



Business

**Education
& Humanities**

**Social
Sciences**

Ministries

Stay Connected

We love our CHC community! We especially love hearing stories about all the things that our alumni and friends are doing now. Please take a moment to send us your current details using the form below. You will receive the latest news and events, and stay connected with your CHC community.

Name (maiden name, if applicable)		
Home Address		
Suburb	State	Postcode
Postal Address		
Suburb	State	Postcode
Telephone	(home)	(mobile)
Email		
Job Title	Organisation	
Years at CHC (eg 2002-2006)		
CHC Course (eg. Bachelor of Education)		
Tell us your news		

Please send this form to enquiries@chc.edu.au
or CHC, PO Box 2246, Mansfield BC, Qld, 4122



OPEN DAY AUGUST 22 2015

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CELEBRATING
30 YEARS

2016