



**uniting  
church**  
United Theological  
College

Centre for Ministry,  
16 Masons Drive  
North Parramatta NSW 2151  
Australia  
T: 61 2 8838 8914  
F: 61 2 9683 6617

Recognised College for Ministerial Education within the Synod of NSW and  
ACT for the Uniting Church In Australia

[utc@nsw.uca.org.au](mailto:utc@nsw.uca.org.au)  
[www.utc.edu.au](http://www.utc.edu.au)  
ABN 73 734 074 344

## FACT SHEET NO 2

### WHY a partnership with Charles Sturt University?

#### THE PARAMETERS

*The partnership with CSU helps the Uniting Church consolidate its key mission paths in education:*

- (a) Formation of candidates for specified ministries*
- (b) Continuing education of ministers*
- (c) Development of the next generation of leaders*
- (d) Collaboration in the training of pastors and lay leaders*
- (e) Ecumenical connections with other tertiary institutions.*

#### **1. A mutually enriching partnership: *the relationship with CSU is a partnership***

Over the past 16 years, the benefits for the College and Synod, from a strengthening relationship with CSU, have been evident in the following:

- a. The University accepts and encourages faith-based theological teaching, scholarship and research
- b. The College has responsibilities, obligations and rights, as does the University
- c. The University has a strong practice-based approach, which matches pastoral ministry training and enables the College to teach practice based subjects and curriculum, particularly in the MMin and the DMin streams. There is also an opportunity to develop a BMin.
- d. There is a set of shared values: the university is working towards a set of four values - *Selfless, Inclusive, Practical, Inspiring* - which closely match UCA values and ethos.
- e. There is a shared footprint: NSWACT Synod and CSU cover the same geographical territory, and deal with the same sets of community and cultural challenges. CSU is a Regional University - Wagga, Port Macquarie, Bathurst, Orange, Dubbo - but with outreach across the whole of the state including the Sydney region, which is home to 30% of CSU students.

## **2. A vital learning environment for Church and Society:**

- a. CSU is a secular institution which values the contribution of Theology, faith based teaching, and a faith based student body. The School of Theology, and UTC, is a highly valued part of the university, and considered one of the leading Schools.
- b. The CSU learning environment for theology is:
  - i. Ecumenical
  - ii. Cross cultural
  - iii. Interreligious: Centre for Islamic Studies and Culture
  - iv. Public Theology
- c. UTC teaches an ecumenical curriculum, controlled by the faculty, shared with St Marks Canberra, but with the standards of the university
- d. University affiliation is attractive to our students, and especially allows many students from cross-cultural backgrounds to gain entry into tertiary study
- e. The University supports the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture, along with the Public and Contextual Theology Research Centre, both of which support faculty and research students.

## **3. Building the mission of the Church**

There are missional extensions through CSU:

- a. Equipping church leaders as ministry agents engaged in mission and evangelism, the building of healthy congregations, the ministry of church agencies, and in community engagement (e.g. the revised Master of Ministry and a proposed Bachelor of Ministry)
- b. Collaboration in tertiary education with Trinity College Queensland, who have become an affiliate of UTC, and cross accreditation of subjects and lecturers with Pilgrim Uniting in Melbourne (Uni of Divinity) and Adelaide College of Divinity/Uniting College for Leadership and Ministry
- c. the encouragement of indigenous theology, in partnership with Congress
- d. funding toward the development of a base for building the research from the South Pacific theological colleges,
- e. the development of membership status for the Anglican theological college in Hong Kong – Ming Hua College
- f. official links with Korean theological universities and seminaries (e.g. Hannam University) along with hosting visiting scholars, e.g. from Korea

#### **4. Partnership with CSU has led to a significant increase in the resource base of the College**

- a. Online video link capability now in classrooms: UTC can have students, groups and congregations linked to classes and lecturers via video links
- b. Site development: toilet and shower block, baffles to deflect sound from the dining room
- c. Professional development of faculty:
  - i. e.g. free Grad Diploma in Tertiary Teaching, research supervision training, research methods training, training in online delivery, research grants
- d. The professional development of administration staff: for example -
  - i. Certificate III and IV in workplace matters
- e. Scholarships and fee-free places for research students, earned on a competitive basis.
- f. Support for academic conferences
- g. Professional support
- h. Help with promotion and marketing
- i. During the past 10 years, Camden Theological Library has received several grants which have been allocated by CSU for the enhancement of specific 'niche' sections of the monograph collection. These have supported the addition of Korean language theological books (\$45,000) and \$2,000 p.a. for books relating to Public and Contextual Theology (PaCT).
- j. A CSU Capital grant of \$100,000 in 2009 supported the first significant refurbishment of the Library since it was created in 1987. The funds were utilised for more modern student work areas and seating, enhanced lighting and additional shelving. In 2015 a grant of \$15,000 was spent to purchase additional shelving for the print journal collection.

#### **5. Accreditation**

- a. All theological colleges require accreditation. This is an expensive and resource heavy burden. Unlike private providers in the theological sector, the University is the main interface with accreditation bodies: this saves a vast amount of time, energy and money.

Gerard Moore  
UTC Academic Dean  
19 February 2016

John Squires  
Chair UME  
19 February 2016