FROM THE ACADEMIC DEAN

With the break over it is back to classes! Over the two week period the College hosted two conferences, one on the Basis of Union followed by four days with American Clayton Schmidt on transformational preaching.

Deans Award for Academic Excellence
Kylie Sheen (Bachelor of Theology) received her Dean’s Award for Academic Excellence from Gerard Moore last Tuesday. Kylie was overseas volunteering in Cambodia when the rest of the awards were given out by Associate Professor Tracey Green. Congratulations to Kylie!

A draft timetable will be released for your consideration. As well, we will be posting details of our new lecturers for 2015: some exciting new faces and some excited old ones too.

FROM THE FACULTY

Congratulations Ben Myers
Insights Magazine won a Gold Award for Best Theological Article for Ben Myers Culture Watch article entitled “Christmas for the fun of it” in the December 2013 issue. Judges said of this article: “It’s a risk awarding one of the briefest articles submitted, but Myers demonstrates that profound ideas can be offered with brevity, eloquence and humour. There is no shortage of depth and rigour here: this is finely sculpted prose, and theological clarity at its best. And it frees Christians to truly get into the festive spirit!”

On Saturday 23 August William launched Dr Recep Dogan’s two new publications: The Exemplary Role Model of the Prophet Muhammad and Usul Al-Tafsir: The Sciences and Methodology of the Qur’an. Dr Dogan is a lecturer at the Islamic Sciences and Research Academy (ISRA) and at Charles Sturt University. One very pleasing aspect of the launch was the large number of young Muslim women at the launch who were keen to ask questions during a Q&A session planned as part of the launch. At a time when world events are placing enormous pressure on the Muslim community in Australia, sometimes forcing them into an overly defensive position, William’s presence and participation in the event was greatly appreciated.

Over the next few months members of Faculty and ISRA are planning on establishing a Scriptural Reasoning program to read the Bible and the Qur’an together.

New Colombo Plan Scholarships
The Australian Federal Government has released the second round of the New Colombo Plan Scholarships. These scholarships are designed to support high achieving students to undertake a semester study at a university in targeted Asian destinations. Scholarships are of significant value both financially as well as in relation to the recognition of the student and the university.
The university is required to nominate ten students that meet the eligibility requirements and are prepared to undertake a session study at a university in one of the selected destination countries in 2015. These students are then invited to apply for the scholarships and undergo a selection process externally to the university.

For further enquiries contact Gerard Moore gerardm@nsw.uca.org.au

FROM STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Thank you to all who attended the Student Association AGM last week, and congratulations to the newly elected 2015 executive:

Chairperson: Fiona Blair
Secretary: Mariana Waqa
Treasurer: Mark Beaton
Non-Portfolio: Danielle Hemsworth-Smith and Simote Finau
Senior Student: Adrian Sukumar-White

SAVE THE DATE - End of year Celebration: Friday 17th October from 6pm; students, faculty, staff, and family all warmly invited! More details to come.

FROM STUDENT ADMIN

2015 New Students
For new students interested in studying Theology in 2015, on time applications to CSU for session 1 2015 close on the 30th of October, late deadline for applications is 30th of November and FINAL DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS is the 6th of February 2015. If you know of anyone who is thinking of studying with us next year, please feel free to circulate these dates to them. If potential students have any queries about the application process, they can contact Renee or Jenny on 8838-8914.

Study Link
As classes resume it is an excellent time to spend a few hours reflecting on strategies to improve your results. CSU has an award-winning online, non-credit bearing series of short (approx 20-40 hour) subjects that you can easily enrol in right now and complete during this period when you don’t have lectures. You can improve your essay writing technique.

Study Link Terms, including extended enrolment periods, bridge all session breaks specifically to enable you to use lecture down time. Everything about Study Link subjects is flexible so you can fit your other studies around them and take up to 5 months to finish them off! Take advantage of them this session break. Enrolments and information at: http://www.csu.edu.au/student/studylink/

Student Counsellors are available at CSU
Information on counselling services can be obtained from the website at http://student.csu.edu.au/support/counselling or contact the Manager of Inclusion and Counselling, Vicki Pitcher on 6051 9972.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

You are invited to celebrate with us the Induction of the Reverend Seforosa Carroll to the role of Manager, Church Partnerships, Pacific – UnitingWorld

When: 3pm Wednesday, 17th September, 2014
Where: Pitt Street Uniting Church, 264 Pitt Street, Sydney CBD
Please join us afterwards for Afternoon Tea
RSVP: Monday 15th September, 2014 to info@unitingworld.org.au or 02 8267 4267
If you are unable to attend but would like to send a greeting to Sef, we will compile these for her.

Q&A with Dr John Dickson – Tuesday 2 September at 6.30pm
MC Newth Auditorium, 51 Druitt Street
Free event book a spot at www.trybooking.com/FPBR

How historically reliable is the New Testament and the life of Jesus of Nazareth?

Dr John Dickson is a leading historian on the life of Jesus of Nazareth and the birth of Christianity. Dr Dickson will explore with us what we can realistically know about the life of Jesus from (largely hostile) ancient pagan and Jewish writings as well as New Testament and near contemporary Christian sources from the time of Jesus or soon after. He makes the bold claim that the Gospel accounts of Jesus’ life deserve to be read seriously.

Season of Creation
Uniting Earth Ministry is compiling video sermons, church stories, and all ages talks to help churches celebrate the Season of Creation this September. We have an even broader range of contributors this year on the themes of Forests, Land, Wilderness, Rivers and Francis of Assisi/Blessing of Animals. Resources can be accessed free at: http://unitingearthweb.org.au/worship/soc

The Biennial Conference in Philosophy, Religion and Culture will take place 4 – 5 October 2014
Theme: FAITH AND THE POLITICAL
The theme is to be interpreted broadly and from the disciplines of philosophy, theology, history, social science, literature and the arts. Keynote Speaker: Peter Forrest: The Epistemology of Scandal
Venue: Catholic Institute of Sydney
Contact: Andrew Murray: apmurray@cis.catholic.edu.au

Full details are available on the website: http://www.cis.catholic.edu.au/news-a-events/ biennial-conference

Remember across the semester you are welcome to join us for Chapel each week; Devotions during Semester at 9.20am on Tuesday, Thursdays and Fridays, the Wednesday Service of Word and Sacrament during the Semester is at 11.30am.

And don’t forget that you can join us for Community Lunch at 12.40pm on the Wednesday during the Semester time.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Our weekly eNewsletter can also be found our UTC website.
To follow go to http://www.utc.edu.au/

Remember to visit the NSW ACT Synod Community Connection http://nsw.uca.org.au/e-news

The newsletter is from the Faculty & College Assistant
Please direct news items to carlah@nsw.uca.org.au