FROM THE ACADEMIC DEAN

New students
Do you know anyone interested in studying? Please encourage them to contact us, come and look, discuss, and if keen enroll. We believe that there is a lot on offer through our courses, our student experience, our admin staff and faculty, our library staff and library resources, cross cultural engagement, and open community life. So don’t be shy: encourage your friends and members of your congregations to come and see.

Student surveys
Soon you will be prompted to fill out the online student satisfaction survey. Please take time and do this! It is very important that we receive your feedback. In particular these forms are used to assess our teaching capability, and provide direct feedback to the lecturers. As well, they are closely monitored by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic, who is very keen to hold the Head of School accountable to your comments and views. So these are a real and well used pathway to improvement for our teaching and your learning. I would like to see a return rate of around 70%; your voice is critical to our teaching and this is the most transparent and constructive vehicle we have. Lecturers, could you similarly encourage students to participate.

CSU Video Equipment and online learning capacity
New equipment has been installed on site by Charles Sturt University in line with the Agreement, enabling video conferencing, streamed classes, and online learning\ blended teaching. The online capacity of the site is being upgraded with a new line/service. Watch this space for new developments in our learning and teaching.

Synod news
Congratulations to all our students who participated so well in the Synod last week. UTC students were up front and active in worship, leadership, bible study, table talk and general participation. Your presence and activity was a great boost for the mission of the church, and your participation showed clearly the value of theological education and the engagement that follows from it. All members of faculty were present, with Jione leading worship and Ben closing each day with a considered and apt theological reflection.

As well, there was a well-received minute of congratulations and thanks to William for his endeavours, commitment and presence in the College over many years. Led by the moderator the floor of the Synod stood to applaud his work.

End of Year Service
Friday 17th October service commencing at 7:30pm. Please RSVP before Wednesday 8th October to carlah@nswact.uca.org.au
**Worship**
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.

**FROM THE FACULTY**

William recently gave a public lecture at the Northern Territory Archives in Darwin on his research into Methodist Mission on Goulburn Island in Arnhem Land. He also had the good fortune to interview Ronald Lamilami, the son of the Rev. Lazarus Lamilami, the first Indigenous person to be ordained into the Methodist Church. Lazarus Lamilami will be included with twelve other distinguished Methodists in a book that William and Patricia Curthoys are editing for the bicentenary of Methodism in Australia in 2015.

**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.

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

**FROM STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

**End of Year Celebration**
The UTC Student Association 2014 warmly invites students, staff, faculty, family and friends to our End Of Year Celebration - a time to commemorate the end of the 2014 academic year, and to farewell our graduating students and exit candidates.

**Date:** Friday 17th October
**Venue:** United Theological College - 16 Masons Dr North Parramatta
**Time:** Canapés and live jazz from 6:30pm; closing service at 7:30pm; dessert to follow.
**Dress:** Black and White (smart-casual)
**Cost:** Adults $15; children $5

Tickets are now on sale, and will close on Monday 13th October.
To purchase tickets, go to: http://www.ticketebo.com.au/utccelebration
or purchase directly from the UTC reception desk.
For any queries, please contact Radhika Sukumar-White (rads.sukumar@gmail.com)
We look forward to celebrating with you!

**FROM STUDENT ADMIN**

**2015 Timetable**
The timetable for first semester 2015 has been released this week. Please see the following link to download a copy http://www.utc.edu.au/timetable-session-1-2015 or copies are available from Student Admin. We hope you will like the new format which highlights the sub-disciplines to help students with their subject selection. We are also introducing classes on Monday mornings and Wednesday nights.
If any students have any questions or concerns about the timetable, please feel free to contact Joanne on joannes@nswact.uca.org.au or phone 8838-8967
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
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.

FROM THE LIBRARY

October is…

Mental Health Month NSW

Mental Health Month NSW is part of a national mental health promotion campaign held throughout October each year. The timing of the campaign centres on World Mental Health Day, which is marked each year on October 10.

Mental Health Month this year is ‘beYOUnique!’ This theme promotes acceptance and an understanding of the impact that being proud of who we are can have on our wellbeing. Let’s celebrate our strengths and differences and be ourselves! This theme aims to encourage all of us to consider our strengths and challenges and nurture our own ‘unique worth’. We should also take the opportunity to support the people in our lives and celebrate their own individual qualities that make them unique.

Please take the time to come and look at the wide range of resources the Library holds to support your own mental health or if you are seeking to support somebody with mental health problems.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Unveiling of David Holden’s Memorial Plaque
Thursday 16th October at 3:30pm, Afternoon Tea will be served in the Atrium following a short dedication commemorating the work of David.

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

KEEPING IN TOUCH

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