



# Australian Catholic University

ST PATRICK'S CAMPUS  
DEVELOPMENT PLAN

DECEMBER 2017

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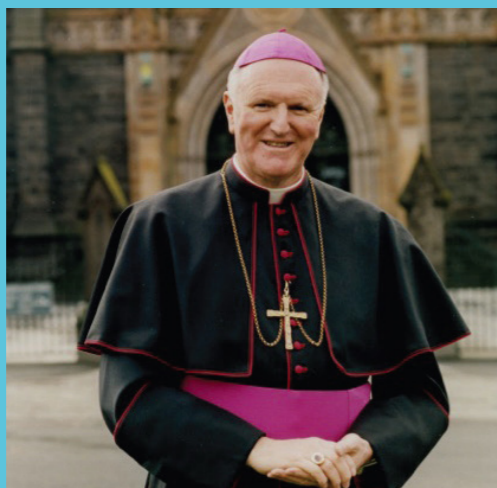
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## TESTIMONIALS



Message from  
the Archbishop  
Denis Hart

It is with great pleasure that I introduce the ACU Development Plan. It is my privilege as Archbishop of Melbourne and President of ACU Limited to have the opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Greg Craven, and the University staff under the wise guidance of the Chancellors General Sir Peter Cosgrove AK, MC, and the Hon. John Fahey AC with the support and encouragement of the Archdiocese of Melbourne at the Australian Catholic University's St Patrick Campus.

It is a particular source of pride for me with St Patrick's Campus located nearby to St Patrick's Cathedral and the administration of the Archdiocese to observe its development and witness the active engagement of the University with the Church and community in Melbourne. I welcome the opportunity for your comments and input to the further development of the Campus to further enhance this growing educational environment in Fitzroy.

Integral, as indeed primary for this whole activity, is the work done for the welfare of the students. We hope to provide our students with areas which will open out and provide the space for recreation, for the important dialogues which are part of University life, for friendship and for mutual understanding. The further expansion of the Melbourne Campus of the University I hope, will be a long-standing inspiration to the young people who come here, to look at the possibilities that we can all do for other people and to carry the work of the University further into the community, so that the contribution of all made here will be something which is remarkably authentic, human, guided by the respect for the dignity of the human person with the unique gifts and abilities of each young person placed at the service of those around them.

- Archbishop Denis Hart



Message  
from the  
Vice-Chancellor  
Professor Greg Craven

It is with great pleasure that I introduce the ACU Development Plan. Australian Catholic University (ACU) has developed and grown substantially over the last five years and its strategic positioning has now entered a new phase. ACU has transitioned from a University striving towards ambitious targets to one that is comprehensively embedding excellence.

The University is ambitious in achieving its goals and vision whilst at the same time is clear about its Catholic Identity and Mission. The University continues a legacy that spans over 2,000 years of the Catholic intellectual tradition's engagement in faith and reason. The ACU Development Plan will ensure we continue to work together towards the shared goals of academic excellence and as a provider of innovative and quality higher education courses; delivered by leading academics, to meet the needs of a diverse student body in conjunction with our partners and the community.

I look forward to working with the ACU community and our stakeholders to achieve these goals through the next phase of the University's development.

- Professor Greg Craven - Vice-Chancellor

# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 ACU Fitzroy

This Development Plan has been prepared to guide future planning permit applications for development at St Patrick's Campus of the Australian Catholic University (ACU) in Fitzroy.

The main campus is located in the block bounded by Brunswick Street, Napier Street, Victoria Parade and Gertrude Street. The properties owned by ACU within this block are shown on the aerial image.

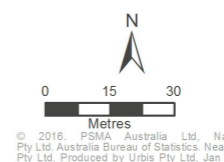
This Development Plan applies to the ACU land within the Development Plan Overlay (DPO2) in the Yarra Planning Scheme.

Other areas of the campus will be subject to a separate planning approvals process.



□ Australian Catholic University (St. Patrick's Campus)

■ Development Plan Overlay



## 1.2 Aims of the Development Plan

ACU's Development Plan is to deliver a landmark mixed use development at the St Patrick's Campus in Fitzroy, Melbourne to accommodate the planned growth in students, teachers and research activities, improve the quality of teaching and learning environments and improve the pedestrian and public environment for students and the wider community.

The existing Australian Catholic University Development Plan was approved over 16 years ago (in 1999) and the works proposed under this Development Plan have since been completed.

This Development Plan replaces the 1999 Development with a contemporary document that formalises the strategic direction of the campus's next phase of development over the coming decade.

## 1.3 Background of ACU and St Patrick's Campus

The Melbourne Campus at Fitzroy, incorporating Cathedral Hall, was established in 2000 after the ACU's existing two Melbourne campuses (Mercy and Christ) were formally amalgamated. Mercy and Christ had both been colleges of the Victorian Institute of Catholic Education between 1975 and 1990.

At the heart of the Fitzroy neighbourhood is the historic Cathedral Hall, at 20 Brunswick Street, near the Victoria Parade corner. Connected to the Hall is the former Exhibition Boot Factory which, having provided the Hall with a foyer, cloakroom, ticket office and club rooms, was refurbished in the early 2000s.

Built in 1873, the Boot Factory turned out footwear for the Exhibition Boot Company for nearly 30 years before it was bought by the then Archbishop of Melbourne, Dr Thomas Joseph Carr in 1903.

Archbishop Carr set about refurbishing the Boot Factory to provide the Catholic community with its own class, club and meeting rooms. The facility was opened in 1903 when Archbishop Carr also bought two adjacent properties and it is here where Cathedral Hall was built and opened in 1904, followed by a supper room, opened in 1908. Since then, this complex of buildings has served the local Catholic and wider community as the venue for congresses, concerts, lectures, meetings and socials, and provided nearby Catholic schools with an assembly hall.

Cathedral Hall was showing real signs of wear and tear when custodianship was handed to the ACU. Since 2002 the University has embarked on a restoration program to return the Cathedral Hall complex back to its former glory.

The Supper Room was the first part of the Cathedral Hall complex to be restored, with a contribution to the project from the National Institute of Youth Performing Arts. A fully restored and renovated Boot Factory, providing office and teaching space, was reopened in November 2005. In October 2007, following its restoration, Cathedral Hall was reopened. This was made possible through generous contributions from the Ian Potter Foundation and the Archdiocese of Melbourne. The Hall now provides space for lectures, with music and drama students using the Supper Room. The complex provides a focal point for the intellectual and cultural life of the University.



St Mary of the Cross, Australian Catholic University, St Patrick's Campus, Fitzroy

1842 - Birth of Mary MacKillop on the 15th of January, in Brunswick Street, Fitzroy  
 1873 - Boot Factory built  
 1903 - Boot Factory bought by Archbishop of Melbourne  
 1904 - Cathedral Hall opened at 20 Brunswick Street

1991 - ACU formed and in 2000 The Fitzroy Campus was established following the amalgamation of the Mercy Campus and Christ Campus  
 2002 - Cathedral Hall listed on state heritage register  
 2005 - Boot Factory reopened, providing office and teaching space  
 2007 - Restoration of Cathedral Hall completed  
 2012 - Construction of The Daniel Mannix Building complete

## 1.3 Background of ACU and St Patrick's Campus

The University chooses to focus on areas of higher education and research that are closely connected with its particular character as a University that is Catholic, public and national. The focus areas are Education and Arts, Health Sciences, Law and Business and Theology and Philosophy.

The University has the following Research Institutes, several of these have substantial teams based in Melbourne:

- Institute for Religious and Critical Inquiry (Melbourne)
- Learning Sciences Institute Australia (Melbourne)
- Mary MacKillop Institute for Health Research (Melbourne)
- Institute for Positive Psychology and Education
- Institute for Social Justice
- Institute for Health and Ageing (Melbourne)
- Institute for Religion, Politics, and Society (Melbourne)

As a Catholic University, the ACU is grounded in the Catholic intellectual tradition, affirming the value of rational inquiry and the human search for meaning, the combination of faith and reason. Knowledge is cultivated in an environment that fosters intellectual freedom, personal development and equity for all. The ACU's Catholic identity is animated through a commitment to serving others, developing an active learning community and fostering a just society.

ACU has a long tradition of nurturing the intellectual and spiritual life of students and staff. This is grounded in a commitment to caring for the whole person – mind, body and spirit, to support staff and students integrate learning, work, faith and community engagement.

ACU's Institute for Advancing Community Engagement (IACE), facilitates University-community partnerships that respects the wellbeing and dignity of people and through collaboration, seeks to enhance wellbeing of individuals and their communities locally, nationally and internationally. Australian Catholic University's (ACU) community engagement capacity has grown through its strategic partnerships with more than 170 organisations, including Catholic and other faith-based community groups and schools, as well as professions and corporations. Respect for each person, appreciation of the sacred in life and commitment to the common good are core values within the ACU's community engagement, which draws upon the capacities and scholarship of staff and students in its collaboration with people and communities here and overseas.

### FACULTIES, INSTITUTES AND CENTRES

Australian Catholic University (ACU) has a wide range of institutes and centres as well as four faculties:



**Education and Arts** – areas include education, arts and humanities, global studies and international development studies, media communications, social science, youth work, and creative arts, visual arts and design.



**Health Sciences** – areas include counselling, environmental science, exercise physiology, exercise science, mental health, midwifery, nursing, occupational therapy, paramedicine, physiotherapy, public health, psychology, social work and speech pathology.



**Law and Business** – areas include commerce, business administration, accounting and finance, information technology, human resource management, law, marketing, supply chain management, occupational health and safety, and sustainability.



**Theology and Philosophy** – both these disciplines encourage students to search for wisdom, knowledge and truth.

