GRADUATION

Thursday, 4 December 2014
7.00pm, Elder Hall

Dr James Muecke AM
has kindly consented to be our guest speaker

Olivia Lilburn and Ben Pascoe-Purvis
will host proceedings
UNIVERSITY SENIOR COLLEGE GRADUATION

ELDER HALL, Thursday, 4th December 2014

ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

Guests and Graduates are asked to be seated by 6.50pm

Petros Filiangouras (guitar)
Blue Bossa by Kenny Dorham
Stolen Moments by Oliver Nelson

The assembly is asked to stand as the Official Party enters Elder Hall (enter at 7.00pm)

Singing of the National Anthem
by Sonja Mohanaraj
Accompanied by Bowen Liu (piano)

Welcome from Olivia Lilburn and Ben Pascoe-Purvis
Acknowledgement to the Kaurna People

The Principal will speak to the Annual Report.

Annika Grenfell (cello)
Accompanied by Judy Homburg (piano)
Bouree Op. 24 by W H Squire

Year 12 Graduates, introduced by Lisa Temple (Year 12 Dean)
Presented by Mentors, Bob Holloway and assisted by Murray Thompson

Year 12 Mentors:
Mishka Ammann        Glen Arthur        Di Averis
Anna Bassani         Andrew Bee         Kate Cutts
Andrew Hartigan      Robert Horne       Ryan Jackson
Graham Payze          Zahra Pirvali      Igor Plisko
Maurie Wetherall     Yvette Winter

Our guest speaker Dr James Muecke AM will be introduced by Noel Williams

Year 12 Academic Prizes will be announced by Lisa Temple,
presented by Dr James Muecke AM and assisted by Dr Murray Thompson

Tiensa Tran (piano)
Rondo Capriccioso by Mendelssohn
s Wonderful by Gershwin

Phoebe Smith will present the Valedictory Speech

Close of proceedings
UNIVERSITY SENIOR COLLEGE

MISSION

- In a diverse school community we aim to educate and prepare our students for tertiary study and lifetime success.

VISION

- We will provide learning that resonates with young people from all backgrounds and be the College of choice for pre-tertiary education in SA.

VALUES

- We value learning and taking charge of that learning.
- We prepare for success at university and beyond
- We value personal integrity, mutual respect and cultural diversity

PRINCIPAL’S ANNUAL REPORT 2014

I am pleased to present the Principal’s Annual Report for 2014. This provides members of the USC community with a summary of initiatives, activities and changes that have taken place within the school during the past year.

This year we enrolled a total of 329 local and 61 International students in the SACE program. Additionally, during the second semester a further 23 International students were enrolled in our Intensive English course for new arrivals.

USC offers students a unique learning experience through the senior secondary years and our transition program provides each individual with the experience and understanding to move on to tertiary studies with confidence and good critical thinking skills. Our capacity to be able to operate within the University of Adelaide precinct continues to add enormous value to a learning pathway guided by an experienced group of highly motivated subject specialist teachers. When you consider the positive characteristics of our student body, drawn to the school because of its university focus and uncompromising academic standards, it is not hard to understand why staff enjoy working alongside such an eclectic mix of optimistic young people. To the academic staff, teaching at USC is a privilege.

GOVERNANCE

Council Members 2014
Mr Brian Cunningham (Chair) Professor Denise Kirkpatrick Dr Ben Grindlay
Mr Dale Hassam (Secretary) Dr Milton Haseloff Mr Mick O’Connor
Ms Celia Le

The Council’s role is to govern the school and provide strategic guidance consistent with the philosophy, mission and vision of the school. During 2014 attention has been given to issues concerning quality assurance in the teaching and learning program, infrastructure upgrades and a clearly defined succession plan. Currently Council is developing the 2014 – 2017 Strategic Plan and this will be made available to the school community on the school website in the new year.

I have been grateful for the integrity, honesty and objectivity shown by all members of Council in building a positive and co-operative relationship with staff and senior management. I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to all members of College Council under the astute leadership of Mr Brian Cunningham for their commitment to the school and their professional support. USC is indeed fortunate to have such a skilled and accomplished team at the helm.

Professor Denise Kirkpatrick will step down from her position on USC Council at the end of this year as she has accepted an appointment as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) with the University of Western Sydney. Every member of Council is thankful for the contribution made by Professor Kirkpatrick over the last three years and her role as PVC (Student Experience) has provided insights allowing us to develop a more meaningful transition pathway to university. We wish Professor Kirkpatrick every future success and thank her most sincerely for the contribution made in helping to build our learning community.
**STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS**

The 2013 graduating class distinguished itself with outstanding results in the Stage 2 SACE examinations. Full details were posted on our website in January 2014; however, there are a few highlights that warrant recognition in this report.

*Dux of School was Sean Liew and Zoe Brown was Proximae Accessit.*

Andrew Henderson was awarded a *Governor of South Australia Commendation* for 2013. Only 28 students amongst the 13,500 candidates throughout the state are recognised in this manner.

Of the 173 students who completed their SACE studies last year the following 18 secured an ATAR above 99: Joshua Ahn, Raymond Ao, Sam Bost, Zoe Brown, Kanit Chongvathanakij, David Ewers, Andrew Henderson, Naomi Henderson, Rachael Ingelton, Thomas Jolley, Hanzi Jing, Victoria Langton, Dongju Lee, Sean Liew, Sarah Makestas, Sam Tafari, Kaiying Wang and Aileen Zhen.

A total of **35 Merits** and **54 A+** grades were awarded to members of the 2013 Year 12 cohort in university preferred subjects.

Students from USC secured 20% of the Gold Medals awarded across the state by the Royal Australian Chemical Institute for excellence in the 2013 SACE Chemistry exams. Dr Claire Weekley awarded medals to Sam Bost, Andrew Henderson, Naomi Henderson, Victoria Langton, Sean Liew and Kaiying Wang on behalf of the RACI in March.

Ninety-two percent of USC students (Class of 2013) received their first preference offer to university. **A total of 97 (64%) students were offered places to the University of Adelaide**, 30 (20%) to the University of SA and 20 (13%) to Flinders University. These enrolment numbers confirmed our position as the most significant single feeder school to the university sector in SA.

Michael Kavooris was awarded the *James Gartrell Prize* for Classical Studies by the University of Adelaide for achieving the top mark in the state in 2013.

In the **2013 National History Challenge**, Chrispha Christy won the State Award for the category of Australia’s Heritage. We were delighted when Chrispha went one step further this year in the competition and won both the South Australian and National sections of the 2014 History Challenge.

Georjette Mercer is the inaugural recipient of the *Dr P.D. Goldsworthy Prize for Creative Writing*. Georjette’s winning narrative was selected from the work of all Year 12 English Studies students who, as part of their course work, undertook the study of “Memoir”. This prize will become an annual award and we are grateful to Dr Goldsworthy for his generosity and support of the expressive written arts at USC.

Noel Williams was awarded the *Wilberforce Prize* for Legal Studies. William Wilberforce, an English parliamentarian, was the leader of the movement to abolish the slave trade in the late 1700s. He was instrumental in the presentation of the first ever petition to the House of Commons and has been described as one of the fathers of modern democracy as enjoyed in Australia today. Noel was the recipient of this award for his work on the strengths and benefits of the Australian Constitution.

In the study of modern languages Murshidah Kafrawi (Stage 1 Japanese) and Luisa Rozo Losada (Stage 2 Spanish) both received an Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement presented by the SA School of Languages. Gabrielle Jarell (Stage 2 Indonesian), Josephine Ocampo (Stage 1 Japanese) and Khajiho Tokunaga (Stage 2 Japanese) each received an Award of Merit.

During August, 51 students participated in the **Australian Mathematics Competition**. This is a truly international competition and 400,000+ students throughout Australia and SE Asia took part on the day. Alfred Chen, James Earnshaw, Chris Hou, Bo Huang, Lyman Lin, Nicholas Yeung, Nicole Yu and Eleanor Wang were placed in the top 1% of candidates and each was awarded a **High Distinction**. A further 11 students secured Distinctions and 18 others secured a Credit.
During second term 34 students participated in the Society of Petroleum Engineers SA Schools Mathematics Competition. This is a very demanding competition in which Jordan Preiss (High Distinction), James Earnshaw (Distinction), Linyiran (Eleanor) Wang and Yihan (Hilary) Yang (Credit) each excelled.

Razi Hmam, Khajiho Tokunaga, Matt Mai and Adam Stone each secured a High Distinction in the 2014 Australian Geography Competition. Shari Keen (Distinction), Jane Deek (Credit) and Chloe Gray (Credit) also performed at the highest level in the Year 12 division of this national competition.

Ben Pascoe-Purvis was the recipient of the Australian Defence Force Leadership and Teamwork “Long Tan” Award for 2014. Nomination for this award was due to the manner in which Ben conducted himself on campus throughout the year, adding much to the positive tone of the school community through his confident demeanour, enthusiasm and considerate support of others.

Phoebe Smith was selected to attend the 2014 United Nations Youth National Conference, which was held in Sydney during the July holidays. The conference provided an opportunity for young people from around the world to share their ideas and concerns regarding regional and global issues.

In the third term holidays, the school continued the tradition of USC students travelling overseas as part of the Global Young Leaders Conference (GYLC). Kate Walsh, Maddy Hosking and Kyle Dolan represented Australia as Global Scholars at the GYLC conference held in Washington DC and New York City. In Washington they visited international embassies, participated in Global Issues Workshops and studied the art of cross-cultural communication. In New York our students were engaged in the United Nations where they learnt about international diplomacy through drafting policy proposals, debated issues and worked on passing resolutions. Much of this was done at the United Nations Headquarters.

During February the Consul General of the United States of America, Mary Burce Warlick, visited USC and addressed our Year 12 Politics students. Ms Warlick was very generous with her time and gave students many insights into American Foreign Policy in the Asia Pacific region and provided a snapshot of her personal career with the diplomatic service.

During 2014, Jeffrey Thomson was enrolled in the Headstart Program (“Introduction to Chinese Society and Culture”) delivered by the University of Adelaide. The Headstart program provides an opportunity for a select group of highly motivated students to pursue tertiary studies while completing SACE. Jeffrey was one of only 15 students to be accepted into the program this year and confirmed his selection with a Distinction in the first semester.

Yihan (Hilary) Yang and Anna Nguyen were selected to attend a full day workshop arranged by the “Women in Mathematics Group” organised by the University of Adelaide. Both had the opportunity to interact with a variety of women pursuing careers in mathematics and were inspired by the speakers and the diversity of opportunities in this area of study.

Nine teams from USC entered the National Titration Competition arranged by the Royal Australian Chemical Institute during April. Three of these teams made it through to the state final and one team comprising Wanchen (Katy) Li, Linyiran (Eleanor) Wang and Ruth Goh was successful in reaching the finals. The team won a silver medal; an outstanding result in a very challenging competition.

The International Cultural Engagement (ICE) Program has gone from strength to strength during 2014. The ICE program has a focus on peer mentors and is designed to help our new arrivals adjust to a change in routine and culture. The program aims to support international students in the Intensive English course to familiarise themselves with their new environs and adjust to the dramatic change in classroom practice and expectations. Local students who volunteer to become an ICE Breaker participate in a formal training program which allows them to better understand the needs of new arrivals and how best to break down barriers, engage and communicate. During February, 13 students completed the training program and then engaged in regular meetings with our new arrivals. The program has been an unmitigated success and grown in popularity to a point that we are oversubscribed with volunteers. This is very healthy position and the international staff aim to refine the program to enhance outcomes.
Twenty USC science students were invited to attend the “Education and Teacher’s Day” at the 2014 Asia Pacific Oil and Gas Conference and Exhibition at the Adelaide Convention Centre in October.

The annual USC Art & Design Exhibition was held on Friday 7 November in the Charles Street Art Studio. The exhibition was officially opened by Ashleigh Whatling (‘03) who is currently an assistant curator at the Samstag Museum. On the night we were also fortunate to hear from Ray Choate, University of Adelaide Librarian, who announced the winners of the Barr Smith Library (BSL) Prize. Jeffrey Thomson was the winner of the BSL Prize for Design and Alex Cockayne the BSL Prize for Art. Carla Bruinsma, Laura Gentgall, Ebony Hallas, Candy Huynh and Jeffrey Thomson had work selected for exhibition at the 2015 SACE Art Show.

The Year 12 Drama students delivered a superb performance of “Tales From The 1001 Arabian Nights” when they entertained audiences in the Little Theatre at the end of second term. There were some outstanding individual performances, but the most impressive aspect of the production was the manner in which the cast and crew came together as a team. Once again, the direction given by Martin Gray was exceptional and he guided the expressive performance of everyone involved to the highest level.

Year 11 Drama students delighted audiences in the Little Theatre during October with a well-rehearsed and energetic interpretation of Eric Coble’s “In a Grove”. We were particularly grateful to Lynn Jackson for taking charge during the second semester and every member of the cast and crew gained enormously through their involvement in the production.

Music students presented a vibrant Sunday Concert for parents and friends in Scots Church during August. Geoff Rogers and David Garwood supported the students in the organisation and delivery of a thoroughly enjoyable and entertaining afternoon of musical items. Anthony Ciccarello, Petros Filiangouras, Bowen Liu, Maleah Martini, Nicholas Perrotta, Tiensa Tran, and old scholar Ben Bai came together to present a program that showcased a wide variety of music and individual virtuosity.

Four USC instrumentalists have undergone the lengthy and challenging audition process to gain entry to some of South Australia’s premier youth music ensembles. Isaac Rudd has played trumpet in the Jazz SA Superband, a group formed from “the best young jazz musicians in South Australia”, and has performed in a concert series throughout the year. Accomplished string players Annika Grenfell (cello) and Tiensa Tran (violin) are members of the prestigious Adelaide Youth Orchestra along with Kai Gerbi whose talents as a violinist have gained him a position with the Adelaide Youth Sinfonia.

During week six of first term, all Year 11 students participated in a special program entitled “Why Be Positive?” Students engaged with guest speakers and took part in small group workshops to better their understanding of positive thinking strategies, how best to control a digital footprint and ways in which to build positive relationships. Initially students were introduced to the Values In Action (VIA) Survey of Character Strengths developed by Dr Martin Seligman’s research group at the University of Pennsylvania. It is anticipated that many students will find this free-web based tool very helpful in future years.

On Tuesday 24 June, Louise Small co-ordinated our annual “Careers Expo Day” for Year 11 students. Extensive collaboration across faculties within the University provided students with a chance to visit various facilities on campus and speak with academics and graduates about their work and career pathways. A number of old scholars and speakers from various professions and industries gave their time during the day to talk with students about employment trends, emerging occupations and future possibilities.

The Annual College Formal was held at the Adelaide Hilton Hotel, Victoria Square on Friday 12 April. Once again all those in attendance had a wonderful evening organised by Lisa Temple, Mishka Ammann and an enthusiastic student committee.

A cake staff organised by Amelia Cummings raised $580 which was directed to the Anugerah Girls Orphanage in Bali.
Throughout the year, subject groups have engaged in a series of special activities, workshops and presentations on and adjacent to the university campus. The following list is not exhaustive but it does provide a snapshot of the diversity and quality of these activities:

- **Accounting** During May staff and students were invited by the Institute of Chartered Accountants to attend a formal dinner presentation “Food for Thought”, at the Adelaide Oval. Speakers gave an insight into many career options.

- **Ancient Studies** Students studied the Greco-Roman classical architecture along the North Terrace boulevard and much time was given during the year to research resources in the vast Barr Smith Library collection.

- **Art** Students had an opportunity to be part of the Art Gallery’s “Dark Heart” experience in March and were invited to join a workshop with textile artist Julia Robinson. A highlight of the workshop was the behind the scenes tour arranged by curator Lisa Slade.

- **Biology** Participated in a series of microscopy workshops and regular visits to the Botanical Gardens and the Royal Adelaide Zoo.

- **Chemistry** Matthew Bull, Technical Officer at the University of Adelaide’s Johnson Laboratories conducted a tour for all Year 12 Chemistry students and demonstrated a variety of analytical techniques including spectroscopy and gas chromatography.

- **Design** Students attended a number of exhibitions during the year including The Waterhouse Exhibition (SA Museum), the 2014 SACE Art Show, Jam Factory Exhibitions and the Fashion Icons Exhibition (Art Gallery of SA).

- **Drama** Year 11 Drama students attended the Therry Dramatic Society’s production of “Summer of the Seventeenth Doll” as part of their coursework requirement.

- **English** During March students enjoyed a guest lecture presented by Russell Schrale, National Sales and Marketing Officer for Oxfam Trading. The focus of the talk was on communication, market segmentation and the power of branding.

- **Economics** Through the generosity of Dr Michael O’Neale (SA Centre for Economics Studies), our Year 12 students were invited to attend a business lunch briefing at the Crowne Plaza. Rob Lucas (SA Shadow Treasurer) spoke on the most recent state budget. During third term students attended a seminar in which Dr Marion Kohler, Deputy Head of Economic Analysis at the Reserve Bank of Australia discussed economic and monetary policy in Australia.

- **Geography** Visited the State Library to research details of natural disasters that have struck SA since settlement. Students also engaged in a variety of field activities in the immediate vicinity of the school including River Torrens precinct, Rymill Park, Bicentennial Conservatory and the Botanical Gardens.

- **History** Students were required to research the North Terrace commemorative plaques historic walk and Adelaide’s historic monuments.

- **Legal Studies** During second term students visited the Adelaide Magistrates Court and were provided with an overview of procedures by the education officer, Peter Cabouras.

- **Mathematics** During August our Mathematical Application students received a Financial Literacy presentation from Emily Pearce, a facilitator with the StartSmart program promoted by the Commonwealth Bank.

- **Politics** Dr Dean Jaensch, Kate Ellis MP, Steven Marshall MP and Mark Parnell MLC each gave of their time to speak with students through the year. Visits were also conducted to Parliament House and the Migration Museum.

- **Physics** Students visited the Mawson collection as part of their coursework and gained many insights into the fibre optics research facilities associated with the Institute for Photonics and Advanced Sensing.
Members of the **University Senior College Old Scholars’ Association (USCOSA)** have continued their support for both current and future students, in addition to growing the professional network of USC alumni. During 2014 USCOSA contributed $1000 towards the upgrade of Level 5 in the Jordan Building as well as funding a further two needs-based scholarships in addition to those already in place for 2015. USCOSA has certainly delivered on their commitment to help deserving students achieve their full potential in world class learning facilities. Members of the USCOSA committee often comment that they volunteer their time and expertise in appreciation of the opportunities made available and relationships they were able to establish during their time at University Senior College. Current members of the USCOSA committee include **Joel Beamish** (*05), **Leigh Gembus** (*04), **Joshua Gutteridge** (*04), **Thomas Hennessy** (*10), **Rachael Ingleton** (*13), **Celia Le** (*06), **Laura Logan** (*12) and **Marielle Smith** (*04). Carmen Bishop (Development Officer) and Murray Thompson (Deputy Principal) are both ex-officio members of the USCOSA committee. For further information about the association go to [https://usc.adelaide.edu.au/community/old-scholars/](https://usc.adelaide.edu.au/community/old-scholars/).

**PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENTS**

At the beginning of first term we were able to begin all science lessons in four purpose built laboratories on level one of the Jordan Building. We wish to acknowledge the financial support provided by the Federal Government through the Block Grant Authority, but the major portion of the $1.5M expenditure was covered by the USC community. Dr Judith Brine, former Chair of College Council, was invited to officially open the laboratories in June. We were also pleased to welcome Senator Sean Edwards on the day who spoke on behalf of the Federal Government.

I am pleased to report that redevelopment of level 5 of the Jordan Building is currently in progress and will be available for occupation at the beginning of the 2015 academic year. This $700K project will deliver a variety of contemporary learning spaces for students and will add greatly to the quality of our physical resources on campus. In conjunction with this refurbishment we are also working in partnership with the University of Adelaide to upgrade the lifts in the Jordan and it is anticipated that both lifts will be operational by March 2015.

**STAFF MATTERS**

> “It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge.”
> 
> Albert Einstein (1879 – 1955)

A number of USC academic staff were engaged by the University of Adelaide during 2014 to serve as sessional lecturers in the School of Education. **Kate Cutts** (Psychology), **Maurie Wetherall** (Biology), **Glen Arthur** and **Simon Sypek** (Chemistry), **Igor Plisko** (History) and **Zahra Pirvali** (Physics) each contributed to the delivery of information and skills to allow pre-service teachers to prepare themselves for the challenges of the classroom. In addition **Nadia Lovett** (Positive Psychology & Wellbeing), **Murray Thompson** and **Bob Holloway** (Science Demonstrations) and **Martin Gray** (Script Writing) gave pre-service teachers some insights into their chosen career.

We congratulate **Dr Damien Coghlan** for completing his Doctorate of Human Service Research. His thesis which is titled “Transforming approaches to conflicts and disputes in Cambodia: the United Nations intervention and beyond”, was conferred in June.

During 2014 a number of academic staff continued to pursue post-graduate study and research at Masters or Doctoral level. **Ryan Jackson** (Analysis of the SACE Research Project), **Andrew Hartigan** (Discursive Classrooms), **Robert Horne** (Creative Writing), **Martin Gray** (Linguistics), **Yvette Winter** (Criminology & Criminal Justice) and **Tammy Di-Giusto** (Classics) were often very generous in sharing their own learning experience with students.

In our foundation year we fortunate to secure the services of **Peter Mitchell** to teach Information Technology. Peter was a leader in the field and provided guidance to each individual as they pursued studies in a subject at a time when the knowledge base was growing at an astronomical rate. Those attracted to the course were an eclectic mix of students, often very talented and seeking information and challenges well beyond that offered by the course content. Peter was on their wavelength and provided insights that served as the catalyst for many USC graduates to pursue career pathways in the area of Information Systems and Programming. Unfortunately the number of enrolments in IT has fallen dramatically across the state in recent years and is no longer a viable part of the subject offering at USC.
Although the demand for Peter's skills and knowledge has wavered in the senior secondary years there is a strong calling in the tertiary sector and I have no doubt that Peter will continue to teach in this area for many years to come. We wish Peter every future success and thank him most sincerely for the support given to so many students of Information Technology during his time at USC.

It is with mixed emotions that I formally announce the retirement of Brian Bates who commenced teaching English at USC in 2002, our foundation year. With his broad experience in education and many years in leadership roles as a subject consultant, Brian brought knowledge, insight and skills that were invaluable during our formative years. A clear thinker and eloquent speaker, Brian was always able to provide clarity and a sense and direction to the complex discussions surrounding operational procedures and teaching practice as we worked to build a new style of school. From the outset Brian was a strong advocate for a school environment built on mutual respect and we are indebted for the lead he took in identifying priorities and driving the debate to develop a Student Charter based on shared values and a love of learning.

Brian's empathy for young people, his capacity to nurture their confidence, build self-belief, focus their thinking and engage their learning is without equal. A true gentleman, much admired by his colleagues, his interactions with staff and students were always thoughtful, calm and supportive. We will certainly miss his input to the teaching of English Studies, but more importantly we will miss his smile, his laugh and those insightful, timely and sensible comments that often kept us all grounded and on track.

STAFF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

As Deputy Principal, Dr Murray Thompson plays a key role in the management and daily operation of the school. We are indebted to Murray for his good judgement and unbounded energy in his endeavour to accommodate the needs of each individual. Murray has taken on his professional responsibilities with integrity, consistency, a wonderful sense of humour and a genuine desire to assist all staff and students to make the best of the opportunities available at USC.

We are indebted to the leadership and counselling skills of Lisa Temple (Year 12 Dean), Simon Sypek (Year 11 Dean) and Michael Jacobsen (International Dean) as they monitor the academic progress of students in their care and guide their respective mentor teams. The position of Dean is a demanding and complex role and it is absolutely critical to the smooth running and efficient operation of the school. Most importantly the Deans ensure that every student is supported throughout their time at USC, from enrolment and orientation through to graduation.

Our school counsellor, Dr Nadia Lovett continues to have a strong influence on the wellbeing of our whole school community and provides generous support and sound advice to the students in her care. Nadia has the capacity to connect with young people and gain their confidence willingly because of her empathy and authenticity. In addition to the work that Nadia does in counselling, fundraising and building community spirit, we are indebted to her for the images that she captures each year to provide a pictorial record of specific events, highlights and developments across all sectors of the school.

The delivery and administration of learning pathways at senior secondary level are complex issues especially when faced with the uncertainty of significant change imposed by external agencies. We are indebted to Kate Cutts (Director of Teaching & Learning) who has taken on the responsibility to lead staff through changes linked to the national curriculum and the need to review our professional practice. Along with Kate’s insights we are fortunate to have the astute services of Yvette Winter (SACE Coordinator) to facilitate the myriad operational tasks and important issues surrounding SACE administration. Additionally, Heather Wiseman’s role as ICT Manager is pivotal and the impact of new technologies on learning strategies and teaching methodologies seems to increase the complexity of her role almost daily. This year has been particularly demanding as Heather has been instrumental in leading staff through a transition to a new administration database, Synergetic. I am personally grateful for the support and guidance provided by all members of the senior leadership team in this very dynamic and complex learning community.
I wish to acknowledge the high degree of professionalism and guidance provided by team leaders; Glen Arthur (Professional Practice), Martin Gray (English), Ryan Jackson (Research Project), Lisa Lanchester (Mathematics), Louise Small (Careers) and Maurie Wetherall (Science). Every individual has made a significant contribution to the depth and quality of our teaching program and we are indebted for their input and leadership.

As well as recognising the ongoing professional input from all the teaching staff I would like to acknowledge the critically important contribution of our wonderful administration staff: Candy Brown, Laurel Clewlow, Michelle Giavis, Lee Paschburg, Lisa Rechichi, Laurene Skinner, Helen Webber and Carolyn Woods. In particular I wish to thank Tash Pressley for the support that she has given me personally to help keep operational matters on track.

Carmen Bishop is to be commended on the professional and energetic manner in which she continues to approach her role as Development Officer. She has worked tirelessly to successfully raise the public profile of the school through the internet, social media and face-to-face communications. Carmen continues to be a strong advocate for the Old Scholars’ Association and has brought together an enthusiastic group of old scholars to further develop the association.

Finally I wish to acknowledge the work of our Finance Manager, Karen Boyd who continues to execute her role in an exemplary and thoroughly professional manner. Karen’s financial expertise and her deep understanding of operational matters within schools provide a wonderful combination of skills and knowledge to ensure high quality administration and sound governance.

TO THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2014

“The future is not some place we are going, but one we are creating. The paths are not to be found, but made. And the activity of making them changes both the maker and the destination.”

John H. Schaar.

First and foremost I thank you all for what you have brought to USC. Students are the heart and soul of any school and collectively you have breathed life into USC for the last 2 years.

It is of interest to note that a significant number of the graduating class were born in 1996, the year in which Google was launched and Hotmail was made available. However, Wi-Fi and Bluetooth did not exist, nobody knew about social media and mobile phones were still too heavy and too expensive for most people to buy. In the year you were born it was only birds that tweeted, but in the time taken to read this paragraph more than 500,000 tweets will have been posted on Twitter. Add Facebook, Emails, Blogs, YouTube, Instagram, Tumblr, Snapchat, Pinterest, WordPress and so on and so on, you begin to see the world in which you live today is very different from the one into which you were born.

It is evident that the sheer volume of online data and the rapid rate of change in communication technologies make it both pointless and impossible for schools to create a knowledge base - to simply teach facts and figures. At USC we have worked with you to develop the skills that will help you to thrive beyond this place: skills of problem solving, of working collaboratively, of thinking creatively and innovatively as well as an awareness of your personal and social responsibility in a world of rapid change.

Because of your time in history and because of the access that technology gives you to virtually limitless horizons, you are positioned to become global citizens more-so than any other generation. You live in exciting times but the explosion of information, ideas and expectations, along with the capacity to communicate instantly with a global community, has added a degree of complexity and uncertainty faced by no previous generation. There can be no doubt that yours is a very different life trajectory; you will be doing jobs that do not yet exist and using technology yet to be invented to solve problems yet to be recognised. However, at USC you have learnt to manage your own learning in a way that has allowed you to develop the skills and understanding to engage meaningfully with a world replete with uncertainty and change. For the staff it has been a privilege to share your journey and we hope you all leave with the confidence to pursue your dreams.
As your results will be released in two weeks, it is timely to remember that success in exams is not necessarily a guarantee of success in life and it is certainly not proof of wisdom. Nor is failure in exams a guarantee of future failure. Extensive research shows that the ability to learn is not fixed and that it can change with perseverance, passion and purpose. Failure is not a permanent condition; in fact it is often the best way to learn. In essence you should never lose sight of your dreams; make them happen. Live life creatively, pursue your passion and help build a more just and equitable global society.

On behalf of the Staff and Council I thank you most sincerely for what you have given to this community and I hope that you leave USC with fond memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.

We wish you every future success and will watch your journey with great interest and optimism.

TO THE USC COMMUNITY

On behalf of the USC Council and staff I wish every member of the school community a most enjoyable festive season and a happy new year.

Bob Holloway
PRINCIPAL
December 2014
We are grateful to the following groups, families and individuals for their generosity in providing financial support to the USC community this year. All contributions to the building fund have been directed to the refurbishment of Level 5 of the Jordan Building. This project is currently nearing completion and will be ready for students to use at the commencement of the 2015 academic year. The Scholarship Fund continues to grow and in 2015 we will have the capacity to provide an additional place at USC for a deserving applicant.

**USC SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

**Benefactors**
USC Old Scholars” Association
Giuseppina Mackenzie
Murray Thompson

**Donors**
Carmen Bishop
Karen Boyd
Peter Goldsworthy
Sandra Reynolds
Poya Sobhanian
Anonymous
Yvette Winter

**USC BUILDING FUND**

**Benefactors**
USC Old Scholars” Association
Bob & Ronda Holloway

**Donors**
Anonymous
David & Robyn Cummings
Simon Kibble
Anne Wells
Xiuqing Xu
YEAR 12 ACADEMIC SUBJECT PRIZE WINNERS

ACCOUNTING.............................................................................. Noel Williams
BIOLOGY ..................................................................................... Carla Bruinsma
AUSTRALIAN AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICS .................... Kate Walsh
CHEMISTRY ................................................................................. Phoebe Smith
CHINESE...................................................................................... Wanchen (Katy) Li
CLASSICAL STUDIES ................................................................. Georjette Mercer
DRAMA STUDIES ........................................................................ Jeffrey Thomson
ECONOMICS................................................................................ Tamika Cobb
ENGLISH COMMUNICATIONS.................................................. Sara Hariz
ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE.......................................... Michelle Oo
ENGLISH STUDIES...................................................................... Kate Walsh
GEOGRAPHY................................................................................. Razi Hmam
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY .................................................... Andrew Graham
LEGAL STUDIES........................................................................... Naomi Currie
MATHEMATICAL APPLICATIONS............................................... Kate Walsh
MATHEMATICAL STUDIES (Double)........................................ Ruth Keen
MATHEMATICAL STUDIES (Single)............................................ Phoebe Smith
MODERN HISTORY...................................................................... Kate Walsh
MUSIC.......................................................................................... Tiensa Tran
PHYSICS..................................................................................... Faith Brohier
PSYCHOLOGY............................................................................... Samantha Lai
SPECIALIST MATHEMATICS...................................................... Hangju (Andy) Park
VISUAL ARTS – ART ................................................................. Laura Gentgall
VISUAL ARTS – DESIGN.............................................................. Jeffrey Thomson
YEAR 11 ACADEMIC SUBJECT PRIZE WINNERS

ACCOUNTING .............................................................. Kira Wysoke
ANCIENT STUDIES ............................................... Sophie Kikkert
AUSTRALIAN AND INTERNATIONAL POLITICS .......... Amelia Atkinson
BIOLOGY ................................................................. Sarah Peters
CHEMISTRY ............................................................... Nathan Swincer
CHINESE (BACKGROUND SPEAKERS) ......................... Mingyi (Rudy) Xiao
DRAMA STUDIES ...................................................... Sophie Bach
ECONOMICS ............................................................. Lisa Totani
ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE ......................... Wencong (Lyman) Lin
ENGLISH ................................................................. Galina Murina
GEOGRAPHY ............................................................ Nathan Swincer
LEGAL STUDIES ....................................................... Nathan Swincer
MATHEMATICAL APPLICATIONS ................................. Caprice Weir
MATHEMATICAL STUDIES .......................................... Wencong (Lyman) Lin
HISTORY ................................................................. Mariah Lattas
MUSIC ................................................................. Anthony Ciccarello
PHYSICS ................................................................. Nathan Swincer
PSYCHOLOGY .......................................................... Emily Cutts
SPECIALIST MATHEMATICS ..................................... Wencong (Lyman) Lin
VISUAL ARTS – ART ................................................... Olivia Bickel
VISUAL ARTS – DESIGN ............................................. Chloe Hawke
AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA FAIR

Australians all let us rejoice,
For we are young and free;
We’ve golden soil and wealth for toil;
Our home is girt by sea;
Our land abounds in nature’s gifts
Of beauty rich and rare;
In history’s page, let every stage
Advance Australia Fair.
In joyful strains then let us sing,
Advance Australia Fair.

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