

FROM THE USC COUNCIL 2021

As I write my last Chair's Report for USC you might expect me to reflect on the many and various challenges, the achievements, and the significant changes that USC has seen over the recent past eight years.

So, with your indulgence as readers I will spend a little time reflecting and thanking the key people who have positioned USC as one of the premier Year 10-12 educational institutions in South Australia.

Yes, there have been many challenges met over the years, many great successes and change has been constant; but I think nothing in my time as a Council Member and Chair could ever rival two key initiatives which have belted the curve balls that have been thrown at all of us over the past two years.

So, at the top of my list of achievements is Anita Zocchi, the Senior leadership team, our outstanding staff and administration teams, who have continued to provide the most positive, safe, secure, and a caring learning environment for our students and our staff at USC in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our people did this because they really care, they have the ability at every level to stay connected with our USC Community and they have personalised every interaction to give our parents and students confidence in the face of the continuing crisis and the many challenges it presents.

Close behind this achievement has been the initiative shown by Anita and our leaders to dream of a Year 10 cohort within the school, and then bring this to fruition through carefully constructed Business and Action Plans which had input and buy in at all levels of the school. Indeed, the advent of our Year 10 cohort (numbering 80 students in 2022) has allowed the school to flourish, and more than offset the low international student numbers due to travel restrictions with COVID-19. It has also provided a significant pipeline of future Year 11 and 12 students who will be motivated and well equipped for university life.

I am sure that USC will continue the pathway of capitalising on the excellent infrastructure footprint in the University grounds, at the same time growing our partnership with The University of Adelaide, building our school community and its reputation whilst at the same time, supporting the professional learning of staff to deliver high level teaching and learning programs to suit our students. These aspirations are being met and exceeded every year and that is great credit to everyone involved.



I want to once again, say a very sincere thank you to Principal, Anita Zocchi and the senior leadership team for their outstanding leadership in the face of some extraordinary circumstances in 2021. What a committed and talented group we have leading the College! Likewise, to our skilled and experienced teaching and support staff who continue to provide above and beyond for our students this year, the Council and I also want to express our sincere appreciation.

We also acknowledge the strong support and collaboration we continue to have from our partner, The University of Adelaide who are a strong pillar in USC's success.

To our School Council, I offer my personal thanks for the members' ongoing support and for their time and wisdom. I have very much enjoyed my time working with the Council and senior staff at USC and count it as one of the highlights of my career. I wish new Council Chair Paul Dalby and the Council itself, much success going forward.



Brian Cunningham
Chairperson
University Senior College