
USC COUNCIL REPORT 2023

2023 has been another excellent year for USC and its staff and students. The challenges of COVID are diminishing and the School is left stronger and even clearer in its mission.

I have been delighted to watch the performance of the School unfold over the year. The academic results have been nothing short of outstanding and USC students continue to outperform in all areas when judged against their peers. Just as pleasing has been the ongoing commitment of staff and students to diversity and respect. This is critically important in creating an effective learning environment, and building resilience in the young people who are in our care. USC is a school that is sought out by students seeking acceptance for who they are and their commitment to academic excellence. Time and again parents and students tell me of their relief of finding a school where students who have a love of learning can quickly fit in, immerse themselves in their studies and be celebrated for who they are. Students experiencing bullying in other schools are regularly referred to USC because of the culture and kindness of our staff and students. It is our School community who make USC such a great place to learn and grow, and the Council and I warmly thank you all.

The USC Council has been working hard to position USC for an even better future, and these plans should come to fruition in the coming years. The merger of The University of Adelaide and UniSA creates an exciting new opportunity for the USC community to engage with what will be one of the largest universities in Australia. We are also reaching out to Flinders University who are building a presence in the city of Adelaide. We are fortunate to see the development of Adelaide as a truly university city, with all of the vibrancy and opportunity that brings, especially for a school that prides itself on being the pre-eminent place for students to prepare for university study. We remain the largest feeder of students to The University of Adelaide.

I continue to be dazzled by the brilliant efforts of the USC team to attract and retain students, and we are almost at full capacity. This bodes very well for the future ahead. I wish those students who are leaving us all the very best in their future learning and careers. These are very interesting and exciting times to be creating a career, and I am a little bit envious. To our current Year 10 and 11 students, we all look forward to your scholarship and progression in 2024.

I would like to thank all of the Council members for their efforts this year. In particular, I would like to welcome and introduce new Council member Amy Brooks-Birve, nominated by the USC Old Scholars, and who has been a driving force on the Old Scholars for some years. We also thank departing Council member Celia Le for her many years of service on the Council. I would personally like to give a special thank you to Council member Yvette Winter who did a herculean job leading a review of governance policies and structures for the Council. This is thankless but important work that will enable the staff of USC to deliver their work ever more safely and effectively.

Finally, a big thank you from the Council members to all of the USC staff whose great efforts and commitment every day make USC the incredible school that it is. You should all feel very proud of what you have been able to create. In particular, a big thank you to our Principal, Anita Zocchi who has shepherded the school through the challenges of COVID and has placed USC in an even stronger position. Her leadership and commitment to the values of the School, and to welfare and performance of both staff and students is inspirational and greatly appreciated by all.



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