

Catholic Lear<mark>n</mark>ing in th<mark>e Liberal</mark> Arts

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WE HOPE THAT YOU ENJOY READING THE BRAG.
WE WISH YOU A BLESSED CHRISTMAS AND ALL THE BEST FOR 2021.

Thank You For Your Support During 2020
WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT IN THE COMING YEARS. YYETTE NEHME, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT.



"The Life of the Mind in Dark Times"

At the beginning of this year, I had the pleasure and privilege of leading a philosophy and theology study tour to Athens and Rome for teachers of the Studies in Catholic Thought curriculum, which some NSW Catholic Schools have introduced as a complement to Studies of Religion.

The tour took place in the shadow of Australia's Black Summer and, it soon transpired, on the eve of the worst global pandemic in a century. (We arrived in Europe on the night of Tuesday 7th January – the very day that Chinese scientists first identified the strain of coronavirus that would later become known as COVID-19.)

Yet for nearly two weeks, the horrors of 2020 receded into the background as we toured ancient ruins and grappled with life's permanent problems. Against the backdrop of Plato's Academy and St Peter's Basilica we asked such questions as: What does it mean to be human? What is a good and happy human life? What are the respective provinces of faith and reason? Why does God permit evil?

and since, from a Catholic perspective, the highest things are God and the human soul, a Catholic liberal education today will give pride of place to philosophy and theology.

"highest culture" is the study of the highest things,

The Studies in Catholic Thought program, whose two guiding questions are: What is the human person? and What is the good life?, gives students a first taste of such an education.

This is what we focus on at Campion College, where students study these kinds of questions at a tertiary level.

The study of history, literature, philosophy, and theology cannot tell us how to minimize future bushfire danger, cure deadly viruses, or promote job growth. This does not make liberal education "irrelevant". It is perhaps especially in times of tribulation and terror that we need to remember the things that matter most.

"A young man introduced to the seven Liberal Arts" by Sandro Boticelli (c 1484). Fresco in Villa Lemni, Florence, Italy.

Campion College students with College Chaplain Fr Piotr Kruk OP.





Questions like these are at the heart of what is sometimes called "liberal education". St. John Henry Newman defined liberal education as a "process of training, by which the intellect, instead of being formed or sacrificed to some particular or accidental purpose, some specific trade or profession, or study or science, is disciplined for its own sake, for the perception of its own proper object, and for its own highest culture". To read, think, and talk earnestly and systematically about the things that matter most, simply for the sake of doing so, is to undergo a liberal education.

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66 ... in times of tribulation... we need to remember the things that matter most... 99

Liberal education was not traditionally restricted to what we now call the "humanities" but included mathematics and natural science. Indeed, the study of any serious subject simply for its own sake belongs by right to a liberal education.

Young men and women who love learning naturally want to know everything worth knowing. But in an age of specialisation and fragmentation the old ideal of a truly universal education has all but vanished. Since the mind's

I encourage you to spread the word about Australia's premier Liberal Arts College and why an education at Campion College is one that will teach you how to think critically, articulate arguments and communicate effectively; skills that are desirable in our future leaders and highly sought after by employers. Find out more www.campion.edu.au/why-choose-campion

Dr Jeremy Bell who lectures across all disciplines at Campion College Australia.

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Vol 19 No 4

Spring 2020

Campion's Brag is a quarterly newsletter named in honour of the manifesto of St. Edmund Campion's mission of faith. It is edited by Yvette Nehme (Director of Development) and compiled by Teresa Gambino on behalf of the Campion Foundation.

The Cassiodorus Lectureship

Fr John Flynn and fellow directors of The Eusebius Trust have generously pledged to support a Campion Lectureship for five years. Senior philosophy academic Dr Amitavo Islam has been named the first Cassiodorus Lecturer in Philosophy, named after the sixth-century Roman statesman and promoter of the liberal arts.

Dr Islam, who has been teaching at Campion since 2008, is delighted to be named the Cassiodorus Lecturer in Philosophy.

"I've had a wonderful time teaching here and I greatly appreciate the recognition shown to Campion by the Eusebius Trust," Dr Islam said.

"At Campion, the philosophy program seeks to help students understand not just the technicalities of philosophical debate, but to grasp fully the meaning of the questions debated. The assistance offered by The Eusebius Trust will be invaluable in pursuing this goal."

We are grateful to The Eusebius Trust directors, our long-time benefactors, for their support in the college's philosophy program. If you are interested in supporting a lectureship program, please contact Director of Development Yvette Nehme, email: foundation@campion.edu.au or phone: 02 9896 9318

The Rowing Club

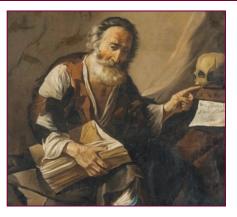
The Campion College Rowing Crew has had a terrific start to the second semester after our 'learn to row' program in semester one was sadly cut short by March's lockdown. Our eager, new crew has weekly braved the frosty early mornings on the Nepean river like champions. On Sunday 15th September, we competed in our first regatta for the year, which saw the crews racing in singles, doubles and quads against fellow Nepean Rowers. In the coming weeks we are looking forward to the rowing machine team marathon, where our men's and women's crews will each collectively be rowing 42km!

Sophia Shogren – 2nd Year Student

Magnus Aurelius Cassiodorus, (c 485-580).

Students from the Rowing Team.

Students from the Rowing Team, left to right: Filomena Peoples, Zelia Matuszek.







Volunteering Service

I started volunteering for Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) at the beginning of the COVID lockdowns. I figured that with not much going on in my life besides my studies, it would be a good opportunity to give back to the community and help out those most in need given the current situation. JRS is an organisation that advocates for the rights of refugees and offers them essential services including counselling and food donations. My role there has been to deliver food bank parcels to individuals and families, and often at times, other essential items such as blankets, nappies and baby formula. On occasion I serve as a dispatch coordinator which entails me acting as a liaison between the delivery drivers and the clients. JRS has a great team of dedicated volunteers that serve to enrich the community. I'm grateful to play even such a small part in carrying out their mission.

 $Thomas\ Galouz is-3rd\ Year\ Student$

Returning to Campion

When we arrived back to Campion after being away for a few months it was so lovely to finally see everyone and reunite. Following the COVID-19 restrictions we have managed to put on a fortnightly event called "Informal Hall." The students are invited to dress in formal attire and attend an "informal" sit down dinner outside, provided with drinks and music. It's such a good way to get everyone together and hang out. We have recently had an event called 'Third Year Auction' which was held to raise money for the third year's end of year trip. With the College's approval, we were able to have external people (non-Campion students) which was very exciting. I've found every event to be quite special because we haven't been able to have too many due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, we are making the most of what we can and cannot do and so far, it's been amazing. The students have been so grateful for the efforts that the CCSA has gone to, to put on the events which are really appreciated.

Anneliese van Rensburg – CCSA President

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'Gift for The Future'

Campion College Australia does not receive government or Church funding. Instead, it relies on the generosity of those who support our mission.

While support for the college can take a variety of forms, a 'Gift for the Future' is one of the most powerful ways you can help secure the future of Campion College. By including a gift to Campion in your Will, you can help support college activities, projects, residential life and student needs long into the future.

By joining hands with the college, you contribute to the development of virtuous and compassionate Campion graduates. These graduates will become educators, healthcare workers, lawyers, politicians, evangelists, and business professionals; the very people who will ensure the wellbeing of those you love for years to come.

Read why some of our supporters choose to support our 'Gift for the Future' Campaign:

Dr John Casey, a retired medico from Brisbane, relishes the opportunity to contribute to Campion and further the cause of Catholic Education in young Australian adults. He said: "I strongly recommend the 'Gift for the Future' Campaign".

Mrs Peggy Power, passionate benefactor to Campion College Australia, encourages our supporters to sign up to the 'Gift for the Future' Campaign. She said, "I have seen with my own eyes the deep and lasting value of a truly Catholic liberal arts education on my children and grandchildren. It is hard to think of a more valuable gift you can provide for young people, the Catholic Church and Australia than by leaving a bequest to Campion".

You too can truly make a difference in the lives of young people. To indicate your intention to leave a gift to Campion College, please fill out the form below or visit www.campion.edu.au/giftforthefuture for further information. If you would like to discuss in confidence how you can support Campion College, contact the Director of Development Yvette Nehme, phone: (02) 9896 9318 or email: foundation@campion.edu.au



Sincere Thanks

In 2020 Campion College Australia received gifts for the future. We would like to thank the following benefactors for their financial gifts:

Dr Philip Crotty Miss Anne M Kirkwood Miss Marjorie Wilson Miss Mary Donohoe

Their gifts will assist us to continue to provide a foundational education in the liberal arts that integrates the insights of faith and reason. We pray for the repose of their souls and all our supporters and benefactors.

'GIFT FOR THE FUTURE'

Email:

(Please complete and return in reply paid envelope enclosed or go to www.campion.edu.au/giftforthefuture)

We would be delighted to know that you are considering Campion Foundation Ltd for the development of Campion College Australia in your Will. This will enable us to recognise your generosity during your lifetime and to invite you to special events and functions. Please tick the appropriate box:

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Campion's Summer Program

Experience college life and a taste of our liberal arts degree!

Our immersive four-day program provides the opportunity to reside on campus, experience college life and interact with like minded peers. We have a fun filled social program as well as sample lectures from our history, literature, philosophy and theology lecturers.

If you know someone aged 16-20 who may be interested, please encourage them to register. Local and interstate students welcome. Spaces are limited!

Key dates for 2021 students

We are currently accepting applications for Semester 1 2021. We encourage you to submit your application prior to Orientation Week.

3 DECEMBER 2020

- Application deadline for 2021 scholarships (Round 1). Please note that you must receive your offer and enrol before you can apply for scholarships.
- Accommodation applications submitted by this date will receive preference.

2 FEBRUARY 2021

• Application deadline for 2021 scholarships (Round 2).

22 FEBRUARY 2021

• Orientation Week.

Order your Copy of Campion's Undergraduate Prospectus

Our undergraduate prospectus is your all-inclusive guide to the history of Campion College, our courses, the admissions process and life on campus. Order your copy of the prospectus at (02) 9896 9303 or study@campion.edu.au





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Campion's

Campion opened its doors in 2006, which means our equipment has aged and requires renewing and replacing. We have created a wish list of new items that we are seeking, just to name a few:

- Dining Hall
 - Light fittings
- New Campion Bus
- Classroom resources:
 - Overhead Projector
 - Digital Projector
 - Screen
- New carpet in the library
- Magazine and DVD stands

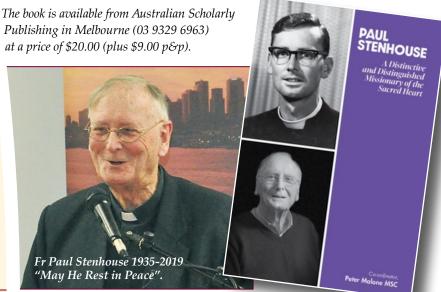
We ask that you please consider donating one of the above-mentioned items or contributing funds towards them. For further information on how you can support or a detailed Wish List, please contact Director of Development Yvette Nehme, email: foundation@campion.edu.au or phone: 02 9896 9318.

Honouring Fr Paul Stenhouse MSC

Within a year of his death in November 2019, Fr Paul Stenhouse MSC, the long-time editor of Annals, has been honoured in a special book of tributes.

Paul Stenhouse: A Distinctive and Distinguished Missionary of the Sacred Heart contains a range of chapters by friends and associates - fellow MSC priests (including the movie critic, Fr Peter Malone, who edited the book); journalists such as Greg Sheridan and James Murray; and regular Annals contributors, Giles Auty and Wanda Skowronska. There is also a review by Tony Abbott of Fr Stenhouse's book on Islam, and a Postscript by Cardinal Pell.

In another chapter Karl Schmude documents Fr Stenhouse's breadth of learning and love of the liberal arts, shown in his faithful support for Campion College of which he was an Honorary Fellow.



JESSICA BUCHANAN



After Campion, I completed my Master of Teaching (Secondary) through the Teach for Australia Graduate program and the Australian Catholic University and have worked as a High School teacher in both Government and Catholic systems in regional areas. The integrated academic model that Campion offers prepared me to provide an education to my students that is meaningful and relevant to their lives. Class of 2017

MIRIAM MAKOWIECKI

Upon enrolling at Campion, I decided I would commit to three years of Latin study, unaware at that time of the opportunities this would present down the track. In 2013, and about to graduate, I was offered a job teaching Latin at a girls' school in Sydney. Not long after I was offered a tutoring position back at Campion.

Following this I was invited to teach grammar and rhetoric at the Augustine Academy, where I also had the chance to run two Junior Liberal Arts Days. Last year I finished my Masters of Teaching and most recently I started teaching online Latin classes to groups of homeschooling children.

Life would look completely different had I not been to Campion! The Latin-teaching trajectory which I am on was set in motion by the course at Campion and the many unique opportunities there. The breadth of the course and its undergirding philosophy is a perfect foundation for any Classics teaching.

Most importantly, at Campion I met my husband and we have three children. My daily life is continually enriched by the

