

Mr Chris  
Garnaut



Matriculation  
class of 2026



Mr Ben  
Crocker



O'Week  
2026

# CAMPION'S BRAG

Vol. 25 | No. 2  
Autumn | 2026

**CATHOLIC LEARNING  
IN THE LIBERAL ARTS**

PO Box 3052, Toongabbie East, NSW 2146  
8-14 Austin-Woodbury Place,  
Toongabbie, NSW 2146 Australia  
Phone 1300 792 747  
foundation@campion.edu.au  
www.campion.edu.au/foundation



# Campion College Announces Presidential Succession



The Board of Trustees of Campion College has announced that the President of Campion College, Dr Paul Morrissey, will conclude his service at the end of 2026, with Mr John Roskam appointed to succeed him.

Reverend Deacon Adam Walk, Chairman of the Campion College Board of Trustees said, "For more than eleven years, Campion College has benefited from the steady and faithful leadership of its outgoing president, under whose tenure the College has experienced significant growth in reputation, institutional stability, student numbers, and its beautiful campus. The Campion College community will always be incredibly grateful for Dr Morrissey's service to the College and to Catholic higher education in Australia."

Dr Morrissey said, "It has been an enormous privilege to lead Campion College over the past eleven years. I believe it is a good time to hand over the reins and am delighted that someone of John's stature and experience has agreed to be the next president."

The Board of Trustees was delighted to appoint Mr Roskam, noting his long-standing commitment to the College and to the tradition of a Catholic liberal arts education. Mr Roskam has been an Honorary Fellow

of Campion College since 2020 and has a son who is currently a student at the College. He is married with three children, all of whom received a Catholic education.

Mr Roskam was educated at Xavier College in Melbourne and holds honours degrees in law and commerce from The University of Melbourne. From 2005 to 2022, he was the Executive Director of the Institute of Public Affairs.

Mr Roskam brings significant leadership experience and a strong understanding of education policy to the role. He has advised federal and state education ministers and written widely on education policy. In his time at the Institute of Public Affairs, he established 'Generation Liberty', a non-partisan initiative dedicated to helping students understand how free markets and individual liberty can contribute to social change and human flourishing. He has also lectured in political theory at The University of Melbourne.

The Board of Trustees warmly acknowledges Dr Morrissey's devoted leadership of Campion College over the past eleven years and looks forward with confidence to this next chapter in the life of the College under Mr Roskam's presidency.

## 2027 Start Dates & Application Deadlines

### **Bachelor of Arts in the Liberal Arts**

Orientation Week begins 15 February 2027

All applicants are encouraged to apply by 30 September to be considered for relocation bursaries and Year 12 early offers, with later applications accepted in November and early January 2027.

### **Graduate Certificate in Religious Education (Primary & Secondary)**

Classes commence 15 February 2027

Applications close 5 February 2027

Learn more at [www.campion.edu.au/admission/](http://www.campion.edu.au/admission/)

## Professor Simon Haines appointed Distinguished Professor of Liberal Arts



Campion College is pleased to announce the appointment of Professor Simon Haines as Distinguished Professor of Liberal Arts. In this role, he will contribute to the College's academic life through teaching, public lectures, and collaboration with the Centre for the Study of the Western Tradition (CSWT).

Professor Haines brings extensive experience in humanities scholarship and leadership, having held senior roles at the Australian National University and the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and most recently serving as CEO of the Ramsay Centre for Western Civilisation (2017–2024).

President Dr Paul Morrissey welcomed the appointment, noting that Professor Haines's scholarship and commitment to the humanities will greatly enrich the College's intellectual community. Professor Haines expressed his enthusiasm for Campion's distinctive liberal arts mission and its commitment to integrated learning.

## Chris Garnaut: Formal Hall Address Inspires Students



At Formal Hall on Thursday, 19 March, students, staff, and guests gathered in the Grand Hall to hear from Australian investment leader Chris Garnaut, who delivered a thoughtful and inspiring address on living a life of purpose, discipline, and service.

Drawing on his personal experiences, Garnaut reflected on the value of resilience and the role adversity can play in shaping character. He encouraged students to approach challenges with perseverance and to recognise that difficulties can often become opportunities for growth.

A central theme of his address was the importance of character, particularly integrity, humility, and responsibility. He also urged students to develop a clear sense of direction by understanding their strengths and seeking guidance from trusted mentors.

Garnaut emphasised that success is not a fixed achievement but an ongoing responsibility and introduced his "seven Qs" framework as a guide to living a balanced and integrated life—an idea that resonated strongly with Campion College's liberal arts ethos.

In closing, he encouraged students to make the most of the unique opportunities available to them at Campion.

Dr Paul Morrissey thanked Mr Garnaut for his address and acknowledged his generous support of the College.

## O Week 2026: New Students Welcomed



Campion College's 2026 Orientation Week marked the beginning of a new chapter for our incoming students

The week began with a relaxed welcome BBQ, giving students the chance to meet one another, along with faculty, staff and residential leaders, in an informal setting. From there, a series of orientation sessions introduced students to the practical side of college life including what to expect academically, and where to go for support when they need it.

The Clubs and Societies Fair brought plenty of conversation and sign-up sheets, as returning students shared the different ways to get involved on campus. Whether through sport, music, debate, or service initiatives, new students were able to see how much of college life happens outside the classroom.

There was also time simply to enjoy being together. An afternoon at Parramatta Lake offered a chance to relax and cool off, while a trip to Watsons Bay gave students the opportunity to explore more of Sydney and continue getting to know one another beyond campus grounds.

## Rebuilding the University: Ben Crocker Reflects on Education and Renewal



Campion College welcomed Ben Crocker, University Dean at the University of Austin (UATX), for a public lecture on 25 March examining the state of higher education and the case for its renewal. Drawing on his work in the United States and his own Australian background, Crocker offered a wide-ranging reflection on what he described as a moment of "revolution" in the life of the modern university.

Framing his argument through the political philosophy of John Locke and the American founding, Crocker explored the idea of a "right of revolution" as it might apply to education. Just as political authority can lose its legitimacy, he argued, so too can institutions of learning. In his view, many contemporary universities have failed in their core purpose: the formation of students in truth, intellectual freedom, and responsible citizenship.

Rather than offering a technical account of institutional reform, Crocker focused on what he called the "spirit" of renewal. He outlined a series of concerns about modern higher education, including constraints on free inquiry, the expansion of administrative structures, declining academic standards, and a loss of confidence in the intellectual and cultural traditions that universities were once established to preserve and examine.

'Continue reading on the Campion College website [www.campion.edu.au/news](http://www.campion.edu.au/news)'

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# Retreat 2026



From 13–15 April 2026, Campion students stepped away from the business of campus life for a weekend of prayer, reflection, and spiritual renewal.

Sixty Campion students attended the annual retreat at the Benedict XVI Retreat Centre, exchanging suburban surroundings for a peaceful natural setting.

Centered on the theme “led by the Spirit of God” (Romans 8:14), the weekend featured talks from Fr John Rizzo, Rod Mitchell, and alumni Campbell and Rebecca Evans, alongside time for Adoration and community.

Students returned refreshed and spiritually renewed for the year ahead.

Special thanks to Fr Peter and the chaplaincy team, David and Mariana, for organising such a meaningful retreat.



## Matriculation

Dr Paul Morrissey



Lunch - students, staff and their families

Campion College formally welcomed its newest cohort of students on Monday, 23 February, marking the commencement of the 2026 academic year.

Students, accompanied by family and friends, gathered for Holy Mass and the traditional matriculation ceremony, signifying their formal entry into the academic and communal life of the College.

In his address, President Dr Paul Morrissey reflected on the distinctive character of a Campion education, highlighting its emphasis on intellectual breadth, the pursuit of wisdom, and the formation of lifelong learners.

The ceremony concluded with a celebratory lunch on campus, providing an opportunity for students to connect with peers, staff, and the wider College community as they begin their studies.

## Where are they now: Isaiah Boylen



I am a graduate of the Bachelor of Liberal Arts, majoring in English Literature, from Campion College. I am currently undertaking a Graduate Diploma in Library and Information Science at Curtin University, with the goal of becoming an academic librarian.

My studies in the Liberal Arts, and my time at Campion

College, have been invaluable in shaping this ambition. The nature of the degree strengthened my critical thinking skills and prepared me well for postgraduate study, where I am required to evaluate and critique large library systems across the nation. My research abilities were significantly developed during my undergraduate studies, and these skills continue to underpin my growing understanding of information science.

Beyond the classroom, Campion College provided me with hands-on experience working with the College librarian further nurturing my passion for the field. Overall, my time at Campion has been instrumental in helping me discover my vocation and equipping me with the skills and confidence to pursue and achieve my career goals.

*Isaiah Boylen*

## CCSA Update

Caleb Smith, Naomi Burton and Sebastian Clare



In Campion College’s first term of 2026, the CCSA had the pleasure of hosting two major events, alongside the Aperitivo held for first-year students during Orientation Week.

Kicking off in Week One was the Alumni Cocktail Night, a 2025 CCSA team initiative. The event provided a valuable platform for alumni to share their experiences and offer advice that current students will find indispensable as they journey beyond Campion. The evening was complemented by excellent refreshments and first-class music, courtesy of the ever-talented Campion Band.

The term concluded with the annual St Patrick’s Bush dance. The night was marked by a sea of green, lively Irish jigs, and classic lawn games such as tug of war—alongside, of course, the bush dancing itself. It was a great success and would not have been possible without the contributions of everyone involved.

With such a strong start to the year, the CCSA looks forward with confidence to all that is still to come.

*Caleb Smith: President CCSA*

# 2026 Upcoming events

Campion College is hosting a range of exciting programs for prospective students this winter.



## Winter Program (7-10 July 2026)

Interested in uni life?

The Winter Program lets you experience it firsthand—four days living on campus, real lectures in history, literature, philosophy, and theology, plus plenty of social events. Stay, learn, and connect with like-minded students while getting a taste of the Campion College experience!

Open to Year 11 & Year 12 students (ages 16-19)

Local and interstate students are welcome.

Attendance is fully funded but spaces are limited.

For more information email our Student Recruitment Manager - [study@campion.edu.au](mailto:study@campion.edu.au)

## Awards & Prizes Program: Adam Bisits

Congratulations to Joanna Shannon who was awarded the Adam Bisits prize in 2025.

*The Adam Bisits 20th century history prize is awarded annually to the student obtaining the highest mark and the prize is in memory of Adam Bisits (1950 - 2017). The prize has been donated by his family.*



A private campus tour is the perfect opportunity to see our facilities and get a taste for college life. It's your chance to check out Campion College and ask as many questions as you like!

Our free tours generally take 30-60 minutes and are conducted by Campion's Student Recruitment Manager. During your tour, you will explore the main building, library, lecture theatres, classrooms, Grand Hall, chapel and accommodation areas.

To arrange a campus tour, please call or email our Marketing & Student Recruitment Manager - Ph: (02) 9896 9303 - Email: [study@campion.edu.au](mailto:study@campion.edu.au)



## Study Camp (15-17 July 2026)

Offering structured study time in a supportive environment for Year 10-12 students


For more information email our Student Recruitment Manager - [study@campion.edu.au](mailto:study@campion.edu.au)

## Early Scholars Intensive (13-17 July 2026)

Campion College invites Year 11 and 12 students, as well as home-schooled students in their final years of schooling, to attend our *Early Scholars Intensive*. This intensive allows students to complete a first-year (Level 100) university unit and use it as an alternative admission pathway into Campion College's Bachelor of Arts in the Liberal Arts.



## Adam Smith Conference (7-8 August 2026)

In celebration of the 250th anniversary of the publication of Adam Smith's *Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations*, Campion College's Centre for the Study of Western Tradition (CSWT) is pleased to host a conference exploring the theme 'Adam Smith's "Natural System of Liberty"'.  




## EOFY Donate Today

The End of the Financial Year (EOFY) is fast approaching on 30th June. When you donate to Campion College Australia you are not only helping our cause, you are also getting some benefits of your own. During tax time at the end of the financial year, you are able to claim back your tax deductible donation of over \$2 that you have made to Campion College Australia. We ask you to consider donating to Campion College today so that we may continue to provide a foundational education in the Liberal Arts that integrates the insights of faith and reason.



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 Elaine Nehme (Assistant Development Officer) and compiled by Angela Grabski (BLACKRHINO Creative) on behalf of the Campion Foundation.