



# CAMPION'S BRAG

CATHOLIC LEARNING IN THE LIBERAL ARTS

www.campion.edu.au

Vol. 16 | No. 1 | Lent Term, Summer | 2017

## 2017 Building Our Future

**2016**

Celebrated our 10 year anniversary.

**2015**

Campion College graduates its 150th student. Graduates have gone on to successful careers in education, journalism, medicine, law and business.

**2012**

The First Rome School.

**2008**

The First Graduation Ceremony.

**2006**

Campion College opened as Australia's first Liberal Arts tertiary college.

**2005**

Campion College officially approved as a registered Australian higher education institution by the NSW Department of Education and Training.

**2001**

Campion Institute Limited, with the trading name of Campion College Australia, registered as a public company.



### Recent Events

**I**n 2017 our focus is on building our future. We have great plans for the further growth and development of the College.

Our goal is to be a truly unique and bold venture in Catholic Higher Education and to continue to be Australia's leading Liberal Arts institution.

In this edition of the Brag we feature the Graduation Ceremony of 2016, our winner of the Noreen Mavis Daley Poetry Prize and our new fundraising partnerships.

We hope that you continue to support Campion College Australia through your prayers and generosity.

## CONTENTS

### *Reflection on Graduation*

Homily of Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Valedictory Speech and more...

### *Poetry Prize*

Campion College student, Jonathan Grace wins the Noreen Mavis Daley Poetry Prize.

### *Entertainment Guide*

A guide to the most popular attractions, restaurants, shopping, travel and more.

### *Summer Program 2017*

Prospective students enjoyed a week full of events.

### *Where are they now?*

Reflections from alumni.

*and much more...*



## Robert van Gend

Where Are They Now

Along with some other Campion graduates I helped start up Augustine Academy, which introduces high school aged students to the liberal arts over the course of a year. We hope that many of them will consider deepening their knowledge at Campion, and are pleased that several students have enrolled there for 2017. I've continued to play viola with the Australian Youth Orchestra and conduct a local high school orchestra, and I have been working on my master's thesis in philosophy at Notre Dame.

## Graduation 2016



**O**n Tuesday 13 December Campion College celebrated its 9th Graduation ceremony at St Patrick's Cathedral, Parramatta. 39 students graduated, the largest group in the College's short history. The Bishop of Parramatta, Vincent Long, was the main celebrant at the Graduation Mass of Thanksgiving. In his homily Bishop Long encouraged the students to give thanks to God for the variety of gifts and activities that mark academic achievement but

Left: Dr Paul Morrissey, president of Campion College Australia speaking at 2016 Graduation.

also to give thanks to God for those who have nurtured their gifts. He reminded the students that Campion forms leaders for the church and society and "thus, the graduation ceremony today is also a celebration of our commitment to live our Christian discipleship and to work in service of the kingdom."

We thank Jordan Grantham for his reflection on the Graduation and Nicholas Augimeri for his Valedictory Speech.

## Valedictory Speech

*CCSA President, Mr Nicholas Augimeri gave the Valedictory Speech at Graduation. Below is an edited version.*

The first thing that comes to mind is the fiery theological debates that have raged inside class and out of it. These debates often revolved around the question of charismatic versus traditional approaches to the liturgy, and around novel versus traditional interpretations of certain controversial points of Catholic doctrine, especially concerning salvation and its relationship to the Church. In more recent times, as well, the question has arisen of the precise relevance of Catholic Social Teaching for man's relationship to the natural environment...

Our relationships with each other – our life together – have formed the absolutely-essential backbone of our Campion experience. We cannot, however, forget the enormous contributions made in this regard by our teachers – our lecturers and tutors at Campion College. For the inestimable gifts, given to us by...all our

teachers at Campion College, we will be forever grateful and happily-indebted – and this, all the more so, since such gifts can never depart from our minds and hearts, and will inevitably direct and shape the course of the rest of our lives.

We've finished, we're leaving, and the prospect is both heartbreaking and exhilarating. On the one hand, it is at Campion that many of us have spent the happiest times of our lives and formed our closest and most precious friendships. On the other hand, if we are to continue our Dantean pilgrimage through life, and heed the call to let our light shine before men, we must set out.

I have not a single doubt that each one of us, no matter where we are or what we are doing, will exert an enormous and life-changing influence on the world and on those around us. I commend to you all these fine people, who will in the future be the world's leaders, in their capacities as rowers and wrestlers, lawyers and linguists, philosophers and fathers, farmers and photographers, poets and politicians,



Above: Mr Nicholas Augimeri, president of 2016 Campion College Student Association.

musicians and mothers, and so many things besides.

To everyone who has made this journey possible – parents, family, friends and educators: thank you; we could never be grateful enough. To my fellow graduands, my friends: thank you; I could never be grateful enough. Hold close to your hearts the conviction that, for each one of us, it is precisely now, as this chapter of our life together ends, that our greatest journey begins.

Donate Online... Easy, Fast, Secure [www.campion.edu.au/donate](http://www.campion.edu.au/donate)





## Anna Mathai

Where Are They Now

Having graduated from Champion in 2014, I am now in my second year of a Masters of Occupational Therapy. Upon learning that my undergraduate was neither psychology nor health science but rather the Liberal Arts, many people ask if I “regret” my Champion degree. Absolutely not! Occupational therapy requires sound clinical reasoning, to be able to critically appraise a person’s situation, their abilities and their environment. I developed the ability to think critically, creatively and rationally. It instilled in me a thorough and grounded understanding of ethics, something that will guide my everyday practice. The liberal arts has enriched my understanding of humanity, society and culture and cultivated the desire to search for and uphold the good, true and beautiful in every person and everything.

*Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop Emeritus Kevin Manning DD & The Hon Tony Abbott MP at the Champion College Graduation, writes Jordan Grantham.*

Most Rev. Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta, was the principal celebrant of Mass on the occasion of Champion College Australia’s 2016 Graduation ceremony on Tuesday 13 December 2016. Bishop Emeritus Kevin Manning joined Bishop Vincent. The Hon Tony Abbott MP, 28th Prime Minister of Australia, was Guest of Honour and occasional speaker.

The class contained 35 students, the largest cohort of graduates in Champion’s ten years of operation. This was the first graduation held at St Patrick’s Cathedral, Parramatta.

In his homily, Bishop Vincent gave a systematic reflection on the Church and her mission, explaining the place of “our beloved Champion College”.

He urged the graduates to serve and ennoble the lives of others, being conduits of grace, or “a channel of peace,” in the words of St Francis of Assisi.

Mr Abbott directed his commanding address to the new graduates. He displayed typical self-deprecation, requesting people not hold him up on a pedestal.

Mr Abbott used the scriptural idiom: “To whom much is given, much is expected,” adding “much has been given to you.”

**Donate Online...  
Easy, Fast, Secure**  
[www.campion.edu.au/donate](http://www.campion.edu.au/donate)

 **Make a  
Donation**  
[www.givenow.com.au/campioncollege](http://www.givenow.com.au/campioncollege)

## Two Bishops & An Abbott



*Above, left to right: The Hon Tony Abbott MP, Bishop Emeritus Kevin Manning, Bishop Vincent Long of Parramatta and Dr Stephen McInerney watch the graduation ceremony.  
Photo: Jordan Grantham, Diocese of Parramatta.*

Mr Abbott used an evocative image to cut to the core of Champion College’s mission, one that would have been familiar to Christopher Dawson, the eminent historian of culture and religion, who is a guiding light of the College:

“Now I daresay, there have been times when looking out on the world, from the confines of the College, you might have thought that you are a little bit like monks in a monastery in the middle of dark ages,

recollection about Fr Emmett Costello SJ, who taught him at St Ignatius College, Riverview.

“Emmett had many pet phrases, one of them was, something that I’m sure would roll of your tongues, *genus humanum vivit paucis...* the human race lives by a few,” Mr Abbott explained with a smile.

“Are we to be among the few who change the world? Or are we to be among the many who are changed by the world?”

**“Your Challenge Now, Every Day  
of Your Life, Is to Make The Most of What  
You Have Been Given.”** *Mr Abbott Said*

holding aloft the torch of learning and faith amidst the onslaught of many barbarians.”

“In 1980, more than 50% of the world’s population lacked access to clean drinking water, today less than 10% lack access to clean drinking water.”

“In 1990, 37% of the world’s population lived in absolute poverty. Today, only 9% of the world’s population so live.”

Towards the conclusion of his address, Mr Abbott spoke with fond

Then, Bishop Vincent, Bishop Kevin and Mr Abbott heard from the student president, Valedictorian and College Medalist, Nicholas Augimeri.

Mr Augimeri graduated with the Bachelor of Arts in the Liberal Arts and Diploma of Classical Languages. He was previously School Captain of Redfield College, Dural.

“Used with permission of the Diocese of Parramatta.” <http://catholicoutlook.org/>



## Matthew Harradine

Where Are They Now

The education I received at Campion has been the foundation of my teaching career. My studies at Campion fostered in me a love of learning and knowledge, and a passion for educating and forming young people as individuals. After graduating, I completed a Masters of Teaching at Melbourne and I have been working as a teacher since then. My education in the liberal arts has taught me communication skills and critical thinking skills, which are invaluable to my work as a teacher.

# Graduation Mass Homily

It is with great joy that we have gathered in this Cathedral to give thanks to God with the graduates of 2016 from Campion College. "If the Lord does not build the house, in vain do the builders labour". Therefore, give thanks to God for the variety of gifts and activities that mark academic achievement but we also give thanks to God for those who have carried us and nurtured our gifts.

Along with sentiments of gratitude, we are also filled with a profound awareness of our mission in the world. After all, as a college that forms leaders for the church and society, we are committed to be agents of the Good News, enriched as we are by what we have learned. Thus, the graduation ceremony today is also a celebration of our commitment to live our Christian discipleship and to work in service of the kingdom.

The Gospel today contains the central teaching of Jesus which he speaks in the most personal and intimate way. "Love one another as I have loved you. A person can have no greater love than to lay his life for his friends and you

are my friends". These words are both encouragement and a challenge to us. We are encouraged by the knowledge of God's love for us and his friendship with us in Christ. We are also challenged to manifest that self-giving love to others. That is the essence of Christian discipleship.

The very mission of a Christian is to be a conduit for God's grace. It is this capacity to make the difference to the lives of others that we become true disciples. "Whatever you did to the least of my brothers and sisters, you did it unto me." The measure of our authenticity is the way we are capable of enhancing, extending, ennobling the life of others.

Like the people of God in the exile, we are being led to a place of great trial and temptation, a place until now untrodden and uncharted. Like them, we can try to relive the glorious past with nostalgia and risk loving our prophetic witness or we can go forward with courage and faith trusting that God will bring about new life out of our barrenness, light out of our darkness.

The exile was the catalyst for a new Israel; it formed a new consciousness of

who God was and what it truly meant to be his people; it brought about the most transforming experience. Perhaps, we need not fear the long dark winter before us. Rather, live through it in hope of new life.

The way that we learn to be the visible sign of God's grace and the sacrament of God's light to the world is to live our own vulnerability, to seek strength through humble faith, to pattern ourselves on the dying and rising again of Christ in all facets of life. "Edited version, used with permission of the Diocese of Parramatta." <http://catholicoutlook.org/>

Below: Most Rev. Bishop Vincent Long OFM Conv, Bishop of Parramatta



### PLEASE ACCEPT MY DONATION (Please return in reply paid envelope enclosed.)

\$50  \$100  \$250  \$500 Other \$

Name:

Address:

Email:  Phone:

Cheque/Money Order (made payable to 'Campion College Fund')

Charge my Credit Card:  Master Card  Visa

Card No.:

Expiry Date: / /

Name on Card:

Signature:

Thank you for your generosity!

Monthly Donation  
 A Gift for the Future (Bequest)





OR



Buy your Entertainment Guide Today! To support Campion

<http://www.entbook.com.au/2t17123>

Summer Week 2017 was held January 9 –13 and brought together young people from all over Australia. What characterises the young people that chose to spend a week out of their summer holidays at Australia’s liberal arts college, attending lectures and tutorials as a Campion student would, exploring the sights and sounds of Sydney, and sharing their meals, activities and recreation? They are brave and intelligent, interested in the ideas and beliefs that motivate world events, and

## Summer Program 2017

attracted to the education in our cultural heritage offered at Campion College. They are the leapers-from-cliffs into the freshwater pools of the Blue Mountains, and the grapplers with the meaning of life in a philosophy lecture. They are creative and full of fun, clever re-interpreters of classic texts into modern contexts as seen in their performances of Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar as modern gang conflict, Hamlet as a Star Wars-cum-Australiana

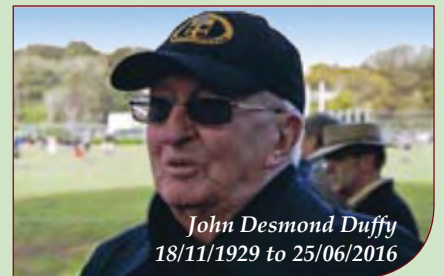
masterpiece and the last days of Socrates in Plato’s Phaedo as seen through the lens of the popular TV show Prison Break. They were an absolute pleasure to host and introduce to college life, and are sure to enlighten not only our classrooms in future years but also whatever communities, workplaces and fields of study into which they venture. For further information please contact Helen Wagner [study@campion.edu.au](mailto:study@campion.edu.au)

## Gift for the Future

We thank Mr John Desmond Duffy one of our most generous benefactors who died in June 2016, and was featured in the Campion Brag Autumn 2011 for his generous gift for our future. Mr John Duffy said “My appreciation for the need of an institute such as Campion was awakened on a cold winter’s night in Armidale Town Hall in 1952. The establishment of Campion College, which meets a long felt need in the Church in Australia, has as its mission:

‘to form future leaders of society and the Church by a broad program of learning in the Liberal Arts that integrates the insights of faith and reason.’ I think the opportunity to explore the great questions of humanity through the study of some of the great thinkers of Western civilisation should be seriously examined by all.” Supporters of Campion College Australia leave a gift, not simply to a cause, but to a future. If you would like to give a gift for the future, please complete the attached

form below and return to the office in the replied paid envelope, alternately contact Yvette Nehme, Director of Development: Phone: 02 9896 9318, Email: [foundation@campion.edu.au](mailto:foundation@campion.edu.au)



### A GIFT FOR THE FUTURE *(Please complete and return in reply paid envelope enclosed.)*

We would be delighted to know that you have acknowledged 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:

- I have already made a bequest to Campion Foundation Ltd in my Will.
- I would like to discuss making a bequest to Campion Foundation Ltd. Please contact me.

Fr/Sr/Dr/Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms *(circle one)*

First Name:	<input type="text"/>	Surname:	<input type="text"/>
Address:	<input type="text"/>	Suburb:	<input type="text"/>
State:	<input type="text"/>	Postcode:	<input type="text"/>
Email:	<input type="text"/>	Phone:	<input type="text"/>
		Date of Birth:	<input type="text"/>

**Privacy statement:** The information provided by you will only be used for the purpose of giving you information and activities about Campion Foundation Limited & Campion College Australia.



## Eve Woolven

Where Are They Now

I graduated from Campion College Australia in 2009 and after a few years of work and travel, I completed a Masters of Nursing Practice at Monash University in 2015. I have been working in general medicine and palliative care as a registered nurse since then. My Liberal Arts studies not only inspired my choice of career, it also enabled me to enrol in a Masters degree, as the Human Biology unit I undertook in my 3rd year satisfied the requirement for entry to the course. My studies and formation at Campion have assisted me in concrete ways throughout my working life so far, and my studies there are the reason why I have always understood nursing to be my vocation rather than just my job. I love being a nurse and bringing everything I have learnt at Campion College into my role as a care-giver.

# Noreen Mavis Daley Poetry Prize

The Noreen Mavis Daley Poetry Prize was endowed by the late Royston Porthouse in memory of his mother. It is awarded annually to a student of Campion College for a poem of not more than 40 lines on any theme. The prize is open to all students currently enrolled in a Campion program of study. The 2016 Prize was awarded to Johnathan Grace 3rd year student.

Right: Jonathan Grace's poem: "Five A.M. at Central". Photo showing Dr Stephen McInerney presenting Jonathan with the Noreen Mavis Daley Poetry Prize.

### Five A.M. at Central

A half-fed child ran about the station floor  
as broken busts leant soft against the walls.  
With tangled hair and a dress too small,  
she played as children do.  
She didn't know that her mother, beaten  
by circumstance, had packed their life into three small bags.  
She didn't care that her bed was made of stone,  
that her next meal might never come.  
Though the busts did stare, she didn't care.  
Her smile still pierced the hearts of all who saw,  
as she ran, and played, and danced,  
as children do.



# Campion Partners with Entertainment Guide

**Support Campion College!**

**CAMPION COLLEGE AUSTRALIA**


2017|2018 Entertainment Books & Digital Memberships are coming! To pre-order head to:

<http://www.entbook.com.au/2t17123>

HEAPS of exciting new local contact – including over 30+ restaurants, activities and accommodation.

20% of every membership purchased goes back to Campion College Australia. Thank you for your support!

The Entertainment Book, and the Entertainment Digital Membership, are your guide to the most popular restaurants, attractions, shopping, travel and more, all with valuable up to 50% off and 2-for-1 offers. The Entertainment Book is available also in Digital format so you can keep all the offers on your smart phone or tablet. By purchasing an Entertainment Book you are helping to raise funds for Campion College Australia. Order your Entertainment Membership from us and support Campion College Australia. You will receive hundreds of valuable offers for everything you love to do, and help our fundraising at the same time. <http://www.entbook.com.au/2t17123>

Vol. 16 No. 1  Summer 2017

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, a non-profit company which has established Campion College Australia as a tertiary institution of Catholic inspiration.