



19 April 2010

Dear Members of the ACT Limited,

This is the second time I have written to you in 2010. My intention is to provide information every quarter about recent developments in the College, forthcoming events and to provide up to date financial information for your benefit.

Self-accreditation.

In October 2009 the ACT submitted an application for self-accrediting authority to the NSW Department of Education and Training. I am very pleased to be able to inform you that the assessment panel that met on 16 April will be recommending to the NSW Higher Education Advisory Committee (HEAC) that the ACT be granted self-accrediting authority, the first non self-accrediting provider to be granted such status in recent memory. This is a great outcome that will benefit the ACT, including its affiliated colleges, and recognises that the ACT—its staff, its affiliated colleges and its boards and committees—has been operating in ways that are consistent with a quality provider. The reform of our corporate and academic governance undertaken over the period 2006-2008 has been a major contributor to achieving this recognition. Self-accrediting authority will be for the five year period allowed for under the National Protocols. There will be two conditions. One is that we will not have authority to accredit courses that cross over from theology to other fields of studies. The other condition relates to additional items we will be required to add to our annual report to the NSW DET and to the new Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) when it comes on line. We await the formal letter of approval from the Minister.

Resignation of Anne Bates.

Anne Bates, the ACT's Academic Administrator, has been a member of the ACT staff since February 1994. Regretfully, she recently announced her resignation which will take effect from 18 June. Anne will prove very hard to replace and has a wealth of experience as an administrator. Her knowledge of ACT processes and policies is unparalleled. Her work with the registrars of affiliated colleges has helped to create a sense of partnership and collegiality across the ACT. There will be a special dinner in June to honour her and her contribution to the work of the College.

New Directors.

I am pleased to inform members that Mr Ian Miller, a lawyer with Hunt & Hunt in Sydney has been appointed by the Board to the casual vacancy created by the resignation of Ms Leigh Mackay in December 2009. The Reverend Mike Raiter, the Principal of the Bible College of Victoria, has been appointed to the casual vacancy created by the resignation of the Rev Dr Peter Adam. Both will attend their first meeting of the Board on 7 June.

AGM.

The AGM will take place on 4 May at 4 pm in the Druitt Room on level one of the Crowne Plaza, Darling Harbour, a block from the office. The Primate, the Most Reverend Phillip Aspinall, the President of the ACT, will chair the meeting. There will be a meal in the restaurant to follow at 6.00 pm.

EFTSL.

First semester 2010 enrolments show a modest, but pleasing, increase in EFTSL of 3% over the corresponding semester in 2009. Once again, a number of colleges outside of Sydney (where about 60% of the ACT's enrolments are situated) continue to attract healthy numbers.

I am attaching the profit and loss statement and the balance sheet as at 31 March 2010.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Harding', with a small horizontal line underneath the name.

The Rev Dr Mark Harding  
Dean & CEO