



# IN PRINCIPIO

## Notre Dame Pushes Ahead with Plans for Graduate Medical School



Dr Mark McKenna: "...new graduate medical school very exciting and very achievable."

**PLANS for the development of a Graduate School of Medicine have taken a major step forward with the appointment of Dr Mark McKenna as foundation head of the proposed school.**

Dr McKenna's appointment follows an extensive review of the feasibility of establishing a second medical school in WA

and a decision by Notre Dame to drive the process.

Dr McKenna, who took up his appointment in late October, will oversee the development of the plans and coordinate the design of the curriculum.

He said he expected to seek final approval for the proposal from the Federal Government and the relevant medical authorities by the middle of next year.

If granted approval the school is scheduled to take its first intake of between 40 to 50 students in 2004 and to produce its first graduates by 2008.

"It is a very exciting proposal, it is very achievable and there is certainly a lot of enthusiasm for it," Dr McKenna said.

"We will continue to work in collaboration and cooperation with other universities on the project and in particular with the University of Western Australia.

"We will use a standard curriculum but will concentrate on producing a different type of graduate.

"We want to turn out doctors with qualities that include good communication skills, the ability to work well with others and a willingness to work in different areas."

Dr McKenna said it was hoped that graduates of the school would work in areas where the need for doctors was greatest such as rural and outer metropolitan regions and in specialty areas such as psychiatry.

Dr McKenna is an obstetrician and gynaecologist who works in private practice. He was a lecturer in gynaecology and obstetrics at the University of Western Australia between 1990 and 1997 and an Associate Dean of the Medical School for part of that time.

## NDA Hosts Major Education Conference

**THE University of Notre Dame played host to nearly 700 national and international delegates when the Australian Association for Research in Education (AARE) met for a five-day conference in Fremantle earlier this month.**

The conference heard more than 650 papers across a range of topics from on-line teaching to inclusive and specialised classrooms, public and private schooling and traditional and alternative forms of school organisation.

Conference committee member and Head of the School of Graduate Studies at Notre Dame Dr Roger Vallance said the event had been an overwhelming success.

"The conference was a great opportunity to showcase Notre Dame," Dr Vallance said.

Conference participant Professor Sid Bourke from the University of Newcastle said a highlight of the conference had been the special interest topic on health and physical education that had run as a continuous thread throughout the event.

Chairman of the AARE conference

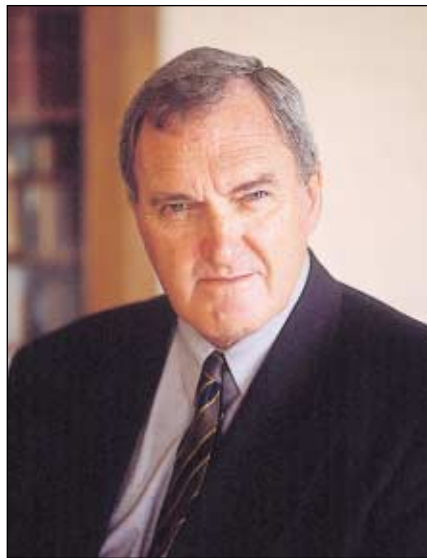
secretariat Peter Jeffrey said it was the best AARE Conference he had ever experienced.

"People loved the venue, the classrooms, the old buildings and the courtyards. The staff and students at Notre Dame were friendly and hospitable and the conference a great success."

# Vice Chancellor's Report

**In this report, I would like to raise the prospect of the establishment by the newly re-elected Howard Government, of an Undergraduate Education Loans Scheme (UELS), to help fee-paying students (as distinct from those being directly funded by the Commonwealth) at Notre Dame to finance their tuition fees. In 2002, the Federal Government will be introducing its new Postgraduate Education Loans Scheme (PELS). This scheme, which was supported by the Labor Opposition in its passage through the Parliament a few months ago, will enable students undertaking postgraduate coursework degrees at all Australian universities to borrow, interest-free from the Commonwealth, the funds necessary to meet their tuition fee obligations. They will be required to repay these PELS loans through the taxation system in the same way that most students repay their undergraduate Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS) debt.**

For institutions like Notre Dame, an Undergraduate Education Loans Scheme would be a great boon. It would help many of our undergraduate students (and their parents) who are struggling to pay their fees and have to finance them through part-time work, or from borrowings at commercial interest rates. It would also be an important equity step. Institutions like Notre Dame, for largely historical reasons, have only a relatively small number of "HECS places." These places are already supported by interest-free loans from the Commonwealth Government. Why should fee-paying students at Notre Dame or other universities in Australia not have the same right to borrow from the Commonwealth Government as those who are in receipt of a HECS place? From a Commonwealth Government policy perspective, such an initiative would be equitable, would expand the availability of undergraduate places at a time where



demand seems to be increasing, and would entail relatively small budgetary outlays. It seems to be an overdue reform in Australian higher education and a step along the very important and much-needed path of deregulation. Presumably, the Opposition would support such a measure, because that would be consistent with the position it took in relation to PELS when it was submitted to Parliament.

Notre Dame will be urging this important policy initiative on the Government and the Opposition in the context of the May 2002 Budget. This would enable it to become operational for the 2003 academic year. I am sure that such a measure would be welcomed by all Australian universities. It would certainly be gratefully received by the thousands of Australian parents and their children who are paying fees to enrol in undergraduate degrees in the present time.

P D Tannock  
7 December 2001

## INSIDE THIS EDITION

|                                   |    |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Changes at Broome                 | p4 |
| New MA in Law                     | p4 |
| Planetree Society                 | p4 |
| Father Pat rings bells for change | p5 |
| \$30,000 grant for RE courses     | p5 |
| Host families wanted              | p6 |
| Philosophy & Ethics               | p6 |
| Important dates for 2002          | p6 |
| Business students win prize       | p7 |
| New links with De La Salle        | p7 |
| Alumni Association News           | p7 |



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# Edmund Rice Centre Foundation Buys the Cleopatra



The old Cleopatra Hotel, in the University's West End precinct, soon to house to the Edmund Rice Centre.

## THE Edmund Rice Centre Foundation has purchased the Cleopatra Hotel in High Street Fremantle.

The building will be used as a shop-front for the Edmund Rice Centre (ERC) and the upstairs section leased to the University.

Director of the ERC Dr Peter Harney said the move would give the centre space to expand and enable it to better carry out its role of serving Notre Dame and the needs of the Fremantle and wider West Australian community.

The centre is currently housed within the University in Mouat Street.

"The move will give us a higher street profile and allow us to engage more with the Fremantle community," Dr Harney said.

Edmund Rice Centre Foundation is a charitable organisation run by a board of business and community members. It is chaired by local businessman Peter Lalor. The Foundation has as its major responsibility supporting financially the work of the ERC.

ERC organises and runs a number of community projects including a mobile soup kitchen for Fremantle's homeless, the collection of donations and packing of containers for shipment to East Timor and a reading buddy program for children

at schools throughout the Fremantle area.

Students at Notre Dame take part in many of the community service programs run through the centre, including special rebuilding programs in East Timor. Members of the wider community are also engaged in the projects.

Dr Harney said the Edmund Rice Centre aimed to give volunteers the opportunity to serve the community while learning from their experiences.

"We strive to produce students and members of the community who are conscious of social injustice and prepared to address the injustice they find."

Students from the University will be housed in the upstairs section of the building, including five scholarship students from East Timor who will begin their studies at the University next year. Student rents will help fund the work of the Edmund Rice Centre.

The hotel would also be used to accommodate the University's bookshop and would house its proposed Centre for Research and Postgraduate Studies.

The building has been on the market for more than 18 months and went unsuccessfully to auction earlier this year.

## Arts & Letters Opens at NDA

### A NEW school of Arts and Letters headed by Dr Simon Adams has been established within the College of Law.

The school brings together the disciplines of Politics, History, English Literature, Aboriginal Studies, Italian, Greek Studies and Performing Arts and combines the previous Schools of Politics and History, Humanities and Aboriginal Studies.

Dr Adams said the establishment of the new school was a bold venture by a private Catholic university.

"Arts faculties are under attack at universities around the nation yet Arts is an important and vibrant part of any modern university education," Dr Adams said.

"The new school represents a coming together of Arts disciplines and a reconsolidation of our Arts offerings."

Italian studies will be run by the Italian language group Dante Aligheiri from within the school. Dante Aligheiri is part funded by the Italian Government and is the premier Italian teaching organisation in the State.

The Greek Government will fund the appointment of a lecturer to run the Modern Greeks Studies program through the School of Arts & Letters next year.

Dr Adams said Aboriginal Studies would also enjoy a greater profile under the new school and units would be offered on the Fremantle campus from semester two next year.

Broome's Aboriginal Studies program will

come under the new school and Dr Adams said he was optimistic that the program would be expanded in the next few years to include a range of improved units.

"The new school is an exciting project and we are all very enthusiastic about it. It represents a vote of confidence by the University in the area that some would say is non-vocational, although we consider the Arts to be essential to every job or intellectual pursuit.

"Without fresh ideas to contextualise the world, universities run the risk of simply becoming training centres for robots."

The new school moved earlier this month to premises in Henry Street formerly occupied by the College of Health.

# Deputy Vice Chancellor to head Broome Campus

**THE Dean of Notre Dame's College of Education, Professor Tony Ryan, has been appointed Deputy Vice Chancellor of the University and head of the Broome Campus.**

His appointment follows the resignation of the founder of the Broome Campus Sister Pat Rhatigan who has decided to take up full-time PhD studies at the University.

Announcing the changes in November Vice Chancellor of Notre Dame Dr Peter Tannock said Professor Ryan would be an outstanding leader of the Broome Campus and would build on the great foundation work of Sr Pat.

"Sr Pat has made a magnificent contribution to the establishment of the University and the development of its unique mission in the Kimberley region," Dr Tannock said.

"She leaves with the deep gratitude of the Board of the University and all those who have been associated with her and her work.

Her PhD studies, which will focus on the Aboriginal people of Northern Australia, will be a major project, estimated to take three years to complete."

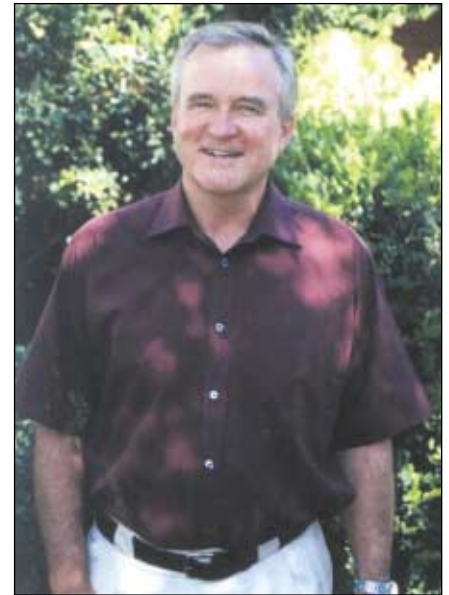
Sr Pat will live in Broome and undertake much of her research in the Kimberley region; she will also be based on the Fremantle Campus.

"I am delighted that Professor Ryan has been willing to accept this senior leadership responsibility," Dr Tannock said.

"Professor Ryan has given inspirational service to Notre Dame as Dean of Education. The success of our College of Education owes much to his quality, dedication and professionalism."

Professor Ryan's appointment is for a three to five year term.

Notre Dame's Broome Campus was established in 1994 and now has more than 370 students enrolled in degree, post-graduate and pre-university courses.



*Professor Tony Ryan, the new head of the Broome Campus.*

## New Three-Year Masters Level Law Qualification at Notre Dame

**HIGHLY qualified professionals will be able to qualify as lawyers with a three-year American-style Masters degree from the University of Notre Dame starting next year.**

Dean of the College of Law Professor Greg Craven said the new Juris Doctor degree was specifically designed to allow accountants, engineers, doctors and other professionals to bring their special skills into the legal profession.

The Juris Doctor is the standard postgraduate degree for entry into the legal profession in the United States. It is offered by all leading American Law Schools, including Notre Dame's famous sister law school in Indiana.

"This is the first Juris Doctor degree in Western Australia. Interstate, Juris Doctors are offered at the University of Melbourne and the University of Queensland," Professor Craven said.

Entry to the degree will be confined to applicants who have an existing University degree and can demonstrate their capacity to meet the tough work requirements of the course.

Those studying the Juris Doctor will study all the subjects required for legal practice, plus special subjects of their own.

"In particular, students will be required to use insights acquired from their own professional background to enrich their study of law. For example, a doctor would have the opportunity to research topics related to the law and medicine.

"Given the quality of the Juris Doctor students, they will complete the study of law in three, rather than the usual four years.

"They will also graduate with a Masters degree, rather than the usual undergraduate qualification."

The Legal Practice Board of Western Australia has approved the Juris Doctor as a qualification for admission to legal practice. Juris Doctor graduates can qualify for entry to the profession by becoming an articled clerk in the usual way.

Juris Doctor students are eligible for the Commonwealth Government's Postgraduate Education Loans Scheme (PELS). This means that the Government will lend students the full amount of their fees at a nominal interest rate.



## The Planetree Society

**The University of Notre Dame Australia celebrated its 10th anniversary this year. Since its inception the University has relied on the generosity and support of those who believed in the vision.**

**In recognition of the support we receive we have formed a special society for those wishing to remember Notre Dame in their will. We invite those interested to join us.**

**The Planetree Society provides a forum for fellowship as well as allowing us the opportunity to include members in a tailored program of activities and events.**

**Through this program you will become more familiar with the University, have opportunities to meet staff, enjoy special days on campus and be invited to guest lectures of interest.**

**If you intend to remember Notre Dame by leaving a bequest, we would love to include you in the life of the University as a member of the Planetree Society.**

**Please contact Linda Back in the Development Office, on 9239 5697**



# New Campus Minister Rings Bells for Change

**FATHER Pat MacAnally has spent most of the past two decades working with villagers in Indonesia and East Timor.**

It is an experience vastly different to his latest posting as campus minister at Notre Dame but motivated by his life motto - leave nothing undared - he has welcomed the challenge and finds university life energising and stimulating.

Father Pat has already reintroduced the ringing of the chapel bell for daily mass and has made his presence felt to staff and students through the use of weekly e-mail prayers.

He sees his priorities at Notre Dame as being liturgy, pastoral care and community service.

"My focus will be to continue the culture at Notre Dame where students and staff may live-out the mission statement of the university and by doing so develop Catholic values through liturgical celebration, social community service and through my pastoral availability," Father Pat said.

"I wish to highlight the role of the Holy Spirit chapel as the spiritual heart of the campus. I aim to make the chapel better known and better used by all."

Included in the program Father Pat intends to introduce in the New Year are reflective days

for staff; a college based welcome mass for new students; courses for special ministers of the Eucharist and courses for cantors and lectors.

Born in Belfast the second of nine children Father Pat immigrated to Australia with his family at the age of 14.

The family settled in Brisbane and he attended school at Iona College run by the Oblates.

He later attended the Oblate seminary in Melbourne and after ordination, in 1973, received his first posting to Adelaide.

In 1978 he travelled to Indonesia as part of a team of missionaries. He spent the next 23 years working in remote villages in Java and Kalimantan. His work included a range of community development projects from the building of schools and the running of infant health clinics to establishing bullfrog farms.



*Notre Dame's new campus minister Father Pat MacAnally (OMI): "...looking forward to the challenge of university life."*

Father Pat said among the most satisfying of the projects was the setting up of a viable silk industry in an impoverished small village in Java.

"After looking around for ways to improve the lives and incomes of farmers in the village I had an offer of help from a local university student who was keen to establish a silk production industry in the region," Father Pat said.

"We set up a training program for farmers so they could learn how to plant mulberry trees - the source of food for silkworms - and so they could learn how to cultivate and produce and harvest cocoons.

"The next step was to train the local women to process the silk, to spin, weave and dye it.

"The project now has 300 farmers actively producing cocoons for a guaranteed market. Their incomes are two to three times higher than the incomes they used to have from growing peanuts and cassava."

Father Pat said the success of the project encouraged him to start a similar program in East Timor, in 2000, in partnership with AusAid.

That project, in the Baucau region, already has 10 hectares planted to mulberry trees and is producing silk for a local cottage industry based on the production of silk scarves and handbags.

Father Pat said he was enjoying the change from working as a missionary overseas to working in a higher education environment in Australia.

"I am looking forward to being of service to staff and students and the wider Notre Dame community and to being a part of the team," he said.

## \$30,000 Grant to Redevelop External RE Courses

**THE Catholic Institute of WA has allocated a grant of \$30,000 for the redevelopment of external religious education units at Notre Dame.**

Head of the School of Religious Education Dr Wayne Tinsey said the grant would allow up to six graduate courses to be redesigned and upgraded in 2002.

He said the courses would initially be offered in external mode but may eventually be used for on-line study.

"We have many students studying for Masters degrees in Religious Education in remote areas of Western Australia and in the eastern states. The grant will allow us to significantly improve what we offer in terms of external courses," Dr Tinsey said.

The decision to allocate the grant was made at a meeting of the Catholic Institute Council in November.



*Father Pat ringing the chapel bell for mass. The distinct daily peal has proved popular with students and staff.*

# Host Family Program Brings rewards to Both Students and Families

**FOR NDA student Drew Pearson and Boston College's Brian Fesen Notre Dame's Host family program has been more than a simple cultural exchange.**

Through the program the pair have formed a firm friendship and learnt much about their different ways of life.

Brian arrived in Australia from New Jersey six months ago as a study abroad student and immediately sought out the host family program.

"I was looking for something more from my time in Australia," Brian said.

"I wanted to do more than just hang around and do the American thing with American students. I can do that at home. I wanted to meet Australians and get the most out of my time here."

Through the program he was introduced to the Pearson family and to their son Drew who was studying Law at Notre Dame.

Brian visits the Pearson's at least once a fortnight and joins them for a meal or family gathering.

Between visits he regularly meets up with Drew on campus and through him has met many other Australian students.

"I really look forward to having a home cooked meal and spending time with the family. It is a break from the routine of study and has allowed me to get out and

meet a lot more people," Brian said.

Drew said being part of the host family program had enabled him to meet students that he would not otherwise have met and to learn more about life in America.

He is planning a trip to the US next year and will visit Brian and other students that his family has hosted over the years.

There are currently 60 study abroad and international students involved in the program and 30 host families.

Organiser of the host family program, Assistant Registrar (Student Affairs), Amelia Whitelaw said its

purpose was to give international and study abroad students an authentic Australian experience through exposure to Australian family life.

She said a range of families were involved in the program including students, staff and the wider community.

"We are always on the look out for more host families for the program," Ms Whitelaw said.

"Being a host family is a rewarding



*NDA student Drew Pearson (left) and Brian Fesen from Boston College in the US. The pair formed a friendship through Notre Dame's host family program.*

experience. Not only does the international student get to experience Australian culture, make lifelong international friends and have extended families but it also gives Australian families a real insight into a different culture."

Anyone interested in becoming a host family or learning more about the program can contact the Student Affairs Office on (08) 9239 5586 or [awhitelaw@nd.edu.au](mailto:awhitelaw@nd.edu.au).

## New School of Philosophy and Ethics

**THE College of Theology has a new school in Philosophy and Ethics.**

Head of the school Dr Brian Mooney said the establishment of a separate school for the discipline was an important development for the university and demonstrated how the College of Theology was growing.

"There is a close relationship between philosophy and ethics and theology in Catholic Universities worldwide," Dr Mooney said.

"It is seen as one of the central disciplines of Catholic universities."

He said the new school would give philosophy and ethics a greater profile in the university.

"Part of my vision for the school is that it make its mark both within the university and the wider academic community," Dr Mooney said.

He said the school had developed from a program and now taught more students than any other school in the university

"All students are required as part of their core curriculum to study philosophy and ethics," Dr Mooney said.

"But our enrolments are growing all the time because students are enrolling outside the core units and more and more are opting to do philosophy majors."

He said a major reason for the popularity of the school was the enthusiasm and commitment staff brought to the subject area.

Dr Mooney said he hoped to expand the school and looked forward to further developing philosophy and ethics units that would help meet the needs of other faculties.

### Dates to Remember January to June 2002

#### Summer Term

7th January - 1st February

#### Orientation

14th February

#### First Semester

18th February - 7th June

#### Mid-Semester Break

29th March- 7th April

#### Exam Week

7th June - 14th June

#### Graduation

16th June

# NDA's Business Students Outshine the Others

**STUDENTS from Notre Dame's College of Business have beaten their colleagues at other universities in Western Australia to win the latest Marketing Institute of Australia prize.**

The prize was awarded for an innovative marketing plan compiled by a team of four students earlier this semester and followed an intensive day's consulting work for construction firm Mirvac Fini.

Teams of students from Notre Dame, Edith Cowan, Murdoch, Curtin and the University of Western Australia were each

given details of the firm and asked to devise a promotional strategy for a new residential apartment complex in East Perth.

The students were given the day to complete their work and present their ideas to the company. They were allowed to bring in aids such as a digital camera and poster board to help with the presentation but were not allowed any help from their lecturers or tutors.

One of two teams fielded by Notre Dame won the major prize in both the presentation and written sides of the competition.

Lecturer in marketing at Notre Dame Byron Ramsey said both teams of Notre Dame students had performed exceptionally well and had demonstrated original ideas and a good grasp of theory and practice.

Member of the winning team, American study abroad student, Michael Fries said the competition had opened his eyes to the world of marketing and given him the opportunity to see how a project can come together.

"I am a finance student and I have decided

because of the course I have done at NDA and the success we had in the competition, to study marketing at the post graduate level when I get back to the states," Mr Fries said.

He said his team had devised a special advertising slogan – Get back to nature a stone's throw from the City - that he believed had given them the edge and helped them to win the prestigious award.

Other members of the winning team were Lisa Martella, Kelly Mansfield and Sarah Miles.

Members of the second team were Mike Carey, Molly Munsterer, Tom Hildreth and Natalie Joseph.



Some of the students who took part in the marketing competition pictured with lecturer Byron Ramsey (rear). (From left) Natalie Joseph, Mike Carey, Molly Munsterer, Tom Hildreth and Michael Fries.

## Agreement Signed with De La Salle

**NOTRE Dame has signed an agreement cementing its relationship with one of the top universities in Asia, De La Salle University in Manila.**

The agreement paves the way for a series of exchanges between the universities including student exchange programs, joint research projects; staff exchanges and shared on-line courses.

It follows the signing of a similar agreement with Atma Jaya in Indonesia earlier this year. Other agreements with universities in Asia, South America and Africa have also been established.

Robynne Walsh, Director of Notre Dame International (NDI), the university's

overseas marketing arm said the agreement was part of the Vice Chancellor's strategy to internationalise Notre Dame Australia.

"We are currently working to develop a global network of partner universities in order to expand the opportunities available to our student population to study and travel overseas," Ms Walsh said.

"We are setting up relationships of substance with universities in strategic locations. These relationships will add value to both Notre Dame and universities like De La Salle.

"Significantly, these relationships also promote a flow of full time international students contributing to the multicultural environment at Notre Dame."

## Alumni Association News

**THE Notre Dame Alumni Association continues to progress towards obtaining its status as a fully recognised arm of the University. We, as a Committee, have been overwhelmed by the response we have received from past graduates who have been eager to get in touch with us, and offer assistance in the development of the Association.**

All things being equal, and following the approval of the University Board of Governors, 2002 promises to be a big year for the Alumni Association. The Committee has many projects under review including the development of alumni service projects, to continue the 'social justice' focus that it promoted at the University through the Edmund Rice Centre.

As always we would love to hear from any people who would like to be involved in the Alumni Association in any capacity. If you would like to contact us, or, if you know of someone who would be interested in the Alumni, then you can email us at [alumni@nd.edu.au](mailto:alumni@nd.edu.au)

Finally, we would like to congratulate all the members of the Class of 2001. May your years ahead be fruitful, and may you never forget Notre Dame. Merry Christmas to all, we hope that your Christmas Season is filled with peace.

Toby Hicks  
Chairman  
Class of '97 '01(Law)



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