

Trinity (A residential college of the Uniting Church in Australia)

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<i>Head of College</i>	Mike Shearer
<i>Members elected by Synod</i>	Dr Bruce Matthews
	Robert Locke
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	Michael Franklin
	Tricia Wylde
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	Aaron Walker
<i>By Invitation</i>	Craig David
<i>Deputy Head of College</i>	Terry Brown
<i>Director of Finance & Administration</i>	

1. MISSION STATEMENT

The College exists to provide young men and women with a caring, Christian environment in which to live while pursuing their chosen tertiary course. Our main goal is summarised in the College's Mission Statement.

"Trinity is a university residential community in which students are able to advance their learning, enhance their personal growth and develop their potential within a Christian context and in a spirit of friendship."

2. VALUES

Community

Living and working in an atmosphere of mutual respect, support and care.

Diversity

Promoting diversity as a source of strength and encouraging an environment where all are treated equally and fairly.

Excellence

Aspiring to be the best we can be in all we do.
Service

Contributing to the well-being of others through active involvement and leadership both within and beyond the College.

3. REPORT

Trinity is a college that demonstrates a strong commitment to its residents as individuals and as members of a diverse and inclusive

community. It remains a priority for Trinity to provide a superior environment for tertiary students, as well as being sufficiently adaptable and flexible to meet the challenges of the on-going changes in the residential environment at the University.

3.1 Strategic Planning

It has been noted in previous reports that since 2012, 1000 new rooms have been built at UniHall, St Catherine's College and St Thomas More College; progressively coming onto the market in 2012, 2014 and 2016 respectively. These new rooms include an ensuite, air-conditioning and facilities to be self-catered. The increase in the number and style of rooms has seen a corresponding change in college style and fee structures.

Trinity, along with St George's College, remain the only two traditional fully-catered collegiate style colleges. For Trinity, the underlying philosophy relates less to the food and more to fact that the Dining Room is the social hub of the College and eating together provides the opportunity for residents to connect and to establish relationships.

The College's planning continues to focus on building community and developing a sense of the Trinity 'family'; our aim is for each resident to have the best, in the broadest sense, experience possible. Trinity's focus on both the nurturing of the individual and of the

community is consistent with a holistic view of education.

Strategically the College’s current focus is on two major elements in support of this notion of ‘family’; the renovation of common areas to provide contemporary spaces for individual and group activity and study, and, more significantly, the health and wellbeing of all residents through the THRIVE @ Trinity model. Additionally, the College has broadened its community program with a partnership with Greenskills in supporting the Gondwana Link Project.

a) Refurbishment

In conjunction with the College Architects. EIW, a complete renovation and refurbishing of the Ada Purnell Resource Centre has been completed. The Centre now offers a contemporary and multi-space facility for study and tutorials. The College’s other group study and common areas have also been refreshed and refurbished to provide spaces more suited to comfortable group interaction.

Plans are well advanced to continue the theme established in the Resource Centre into a redevelopment of the Dining Room. This planned renovation will reinforce the notion of the Dining Room as the central hub of Trinity.

In addition the College continues to refurbish resident rooms, with the St Columba campus rooms all being refurbished over the last two years, including the air-conditioning of all top floor rooms.

b) THRIVE@Trinity

The Thrive @ Trinity model now underpins the vision of health and wellbeing for the college community. The model helps to articulate how we prioritise health and wellbeing with an intentional, connected, and whole of college approach.

- Trinity – Friendship Learning Growth
- Health – Holistic mental and physical well-being

- Resilience – Coping with challenge and change
- Independence – Self-determination Self-Responsibility Self-efficacy
- Vitality – Meaning Purpose Energy
- Environment – Supportive Equitable Safe

Trinity seeks to provide a high-quality Health and Wellbeing Counselling Service that meets best practice health care standards and resident need. In July 2016 Liz Caddy (CMHN) was appointed as a Health and Wellbeing Counsellor. As part of the THRIVE@Trinity initiative the Health and Wellbeing Counsellor has planned and co-ordinated the delivery of individual student support sessions using evidence-based counselling skills and interventions for the past 12 months.



Central to the model is the UWA award winning ‘fit for study’ program. The Fit for Study (FFS) program (developed by the Health Promotion Unit at UWA) is a unique, innovative suite of health and wellbeing projects that aims to assist tertiary students to maintain and improve their physical and mental health and wellbeing, build resilience, and reach their full potential while studying at the University of Western Australia (UWA). The objectives of the FFS Program are to:

- build health-related knowledge and skills;
- increase opportunities for student engagement and collaboration;
- advocate for improved policies and environments that encourage healthy lifestyles; and
- provide quality services and programs supported by monitoring, evaluation and research.

FFS comprises projects across three focus areas: alcohol & other drugs, mental health & sexuality, sexual health & relationships. Additionally, a structured peer education program supports students' experiential learning, while benefiting the health and wellbeing of their peers.

THRIVE@Trinity was recognized as an exemplar of a collaborative model of Health and Wellbeing in a tertiary residential setting and was well received as a presentation topic at the 2017 AACUHO conference in Hobart 8-11 May 2017. In addition, Trinity is now recognized as a Mental Health Skilled Small Workplace 2017-2018 (Gold Level).

c) Gondwana Link Project.

Trinity has a commercial greenhouse on-site which is used to propagate native species from seed; initially for planting on the College campus. In 2016, the College got involved in the Gondwana Link project. Gondwana Link is a collaborative effort entering its fourteenth year and is an inspiring example of how a broad spectrum of local, regional and national groups can work together. With the support of Gondwana Link Ltd, these groups are:

- restoring ecological connectivity across south-western Australia, from the dry woodlands of the interior to the tall wet forests of the far south-west corner;

- protecting and restoring biodiverse bushland on an unprecedented scale; and
- building a living link that reaches eastward across the continent.

In 2016 and again in 2017, Greg Duke, Trinity's horticulturist, oversaw the propagation of over 10,000 seedlings from seeds of plants native to the Great Southern area identified for rehabilitation. In July of both years, Greg and resident volunteers went to Kendenup for 4 nights to plant the seedlings at the identified sites.

4.1 Marketing

As previously reported, all the changes that have occurred have resulted in a significantly more competitive environment and the College has become more focused on marketing. Until recently, strong word of mouth recommendations have worked to attract sufficient prospective residents to the College. Word of mouth continues to be very effective for attracting international residents and has broadened our intake, particularly from Europe. Feedback from current international residents to us and to their home universities continues to be very positive.

5.1 Financial

The College does not have any significant debt and continues to be conservative in its financial management, effectively funding improvements and refurbishments from current income. Considering the increased number of rooms available at other colleges, in 2017 there was a slight oversupply of rooms with most colleges still having available rooms for both Semester 1 and Semester 2. Trinity was 91% full in Semester 1 and will be full for Semester 2.

The College receives most of its income from resident fees, with additional income being generated from casual guest and group accommodation charges and hire charges from a range of established clients using the Conference Centre facilities. The income from casual accommodation and conferences continues to provide the bulk of funds for

capital works and improvements, as well as subsidising the fees charged to our students.

Trinity has always focused on remaining as affordable as possible but we also need to be mindful of the changing focus and fee structures in the other colleges. In addition, the College's weekly fee is now readily compared to the other colleges' and remains very affordable in comparison.

Aligned with keeping fees as low as possible, the College has continued to focus on increasing the Scholarships and Awards funding for both new and returning residents. The College does not provide substantial monetary awards but instead aims to provide reasonable amounts to as many deserving residents as possible. The College reviewed the structure of its Scholarship and Award program for 2017 and significantly increased both the scope and amounts for both new and returning residents.

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