



Presbytery Meeting- 16 March 2024

Proposal 4

CEDAL- Vision and Strategy 2024-2026

That the Presbytery of Western Australia

Approve the Vision and Strategy (2024-2026) for the Commission for Education for Discipleship and Leadership (CEDAL), as presented below which will guide CEDAL's planning and evaluation of activity for the next three years.

Commission for Education for Discipleship and Leadership (CEDAL) Vision and Strategy 2024-2026

Introduction

The Uniting Church upholds, as a central purpose for its life, the achievement of a learning culture in which education and formation for the whole people of God is innovative, collaborative, accessible, inclusive, contextual and prized. To this end the role of CEDAL is to oversee the development and fostering of opportunities for education and formation that encourage, empower and equip learners, congregations and faith communities of the Uniting Church in discipleship, mission and ministry.

Vision

The Uniting Church in Western Australia will be an inclusive and inquisitive community of lifelong learners, open to growing in the way of Christ and serving the mission of God.

Strategy

Goals
Learning Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Education and formation for the whole people of God.- Encourage, empower and equip all learners, congregations and faith communities.- Clear identity and philosophy for the UCA WA theological college (to be renamed).
Diversity and Inclusion <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Recognise and celebrate the cultural, generational, geographic and theological diversity of learners, congregations and faith communities.- Particularly attend to the voices of First Peoples.
Collaboration and Sustainability <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Collaborate with colleges and education communities in the Uniting Church and in other churches.

- **Responsible stewardship of all resources, financial and human.**

Rationale

In developing this Vision and Strategy (2024-2026), CEDAL seeks to be responsive to the recently revised WA Synod Strategic Plan (2022-2027), to the clear themes that emerged from analysis of feedback gathered in the CEDAL Review, and to the draft guiding principles for education and formation that were developed in the Act 2 National Gathering on Theological Education. A separate report outlining the CEDAL Review has been provided to the WA Presbytery.

CEDAL's existing Vision and Mission (see below) was informed by and relates to previous WA Synod strategic directions. The Synod has recently made significant revisions to its strategic framework and developed a Strategic Plan (2022-2027), containing three main sections: *Five Focus Areas*, *Seven Core Values*, *Seven Focus Actions*.

Vision

The UCAWA will be an informed and educated learning community directed to the mission of God (Synod 2009).

Mission

1. We educate for discipleship to enable the mission of the Church.
2. We provide continuing, accessible education for lay and ordained ministry which strengthens missional leadership.
3. We provide formation for ordinands fit for ministry leadership in the 21st century.
4. We work collaboratively with other UCA colleges to provide complementary education and training through resource sharing.

CEDAL's revised **Goals** in its Vision and Strategy, and the four **Review Themes** that emerged from the CEDAL Review, align with the *Five Focus Areas* and a number of the *Core Values* and *Focus Actions* in the WA Synod Strategic Plan (see below).

CEDAL's revised **Goals** make more visible our intentions to be more learner focussed, inclusive, innovative, collaborative and sustainable, particularly in time of limited resources and the emerging expectation from Assembly that Synods work together more closely to share education and formation resources.

CEDAL Goals	CEDAL Review Themes	Synod Focus Areas	Synod Core Values and Focus Actions
Learning Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education and formation for all - Quality programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discipleship – to teach and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ 	Develop Resources Education and Training Form Identity Creativity Inspire Action

Diversity and Inclusion	- Accessible and connecting	- Diversity – to embrace and nurture all people and their gifts - Reconciliation – to seek justice and reconciliation for all	Inclusion Justice
Collaboration and Sustainability	- Collaboration	- Sustainability – to safe-guard and renew God's creation with integrity - Partnerships – to build and grow healthy interdependent relationships	Grow Relationships Integrity Accountability

CEDAL's revised **Vision** in its Vision and Strategy expands on our understanding of a learning community, specifically incorporating feedback from the CEDAL Review about the provision of learning opportunities that are open to all. While promoting lay education and formation has previously been part of CEDAL's role, we would like to augment these opportunities. It is important for CEDAL to address the growth in candidates for lay ministries, especially Lay Preacher, and the feedback from the CEDAL Review to be more inclusive.

The Vision and Strategy (2024-2026) will guide CEDAL's planning and evaluation of activity for the next three years.

Mover: Dr Karen Flowers

Seconders: Rev Dr Cathie Lambert