

ACU scoops Fundraising Institute award

Australian Catholic University (ACU) has taken home the Award for Excellence (Queensland Chapter) at the National Awards for Excellence in Fundraising, an annual event held by the Fundraising Institute Australia (FIA).

ACU received the award in the Capital Campaigns/Major Gifts category, for fundraising work on the Chair in Identity and Curriculum in Catholic Education Campaign.

Bruno Yvanovich, ACU's Manager of Partnerships and Development, said he was honoured to receive the award for the fundraising campaign, which raised \$1.425 million in donations.

"We exceeded our target thanks to our generous donors and energetic campaign team led by Mr Mike Byrne, Executive Director, Queensland Catholic Education Commission and Professor Marie Emmitt, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Education," Mr Yvanovich said.

FIA's CEO Chris McMillan congratulated ACU and said the University was now in the running to receive a national award, which would be announced at the FIA International Conference in Melbourne in February 2011.

"The FIA holds the awards annually to recognise the outstanding efforts of fundraisers, volunteers and organisations," Ms McMillan said.

The Chair in Identity and Curriculum in Catholic Education Campaign is a project to research responses to the demands of education in the 21st century from a Catholic perspective, and then to inform curriculum development, and identify the elements that underpin the essence of Catholic education.

Professor Greg Craven, Vice-Chancellor of ACU, said that preparing young people to face the ethical and moral dilemmas of the 21st century was one of the major challenges facing Catholic education today.

"We know that integrating the Catholic faith into the daily lives of our students grounds them with faith, values and knowledge to guide and support them throughout their lives," Professor Craven said.

Notes to editors:

- Australian Catholic University (ACU) – established as Australia's only Catholic, national, publicly funded university – is open to all. The University empowers its students and staff



with a strong sense of social responsibility and concern for the moral and ethical dimensions of their study and their professional and personal lives. Visit www.acu.edu.au

- The recent audit report by the Australian Universities Quality Agency (AUQA) noted the evident commitment, loyalty and dedication of staff at ACU National. It also found that the University rates higher than the sector average for graduate full-time work, and stands out for its success with Indigenous students. Visit www.auqa.edu.au
- The Fundraising Institute Australia was established in 1968 as the national peak body for professional fundraising in Australia. As an association of professional fundraisers, the FIA advances philanthropy through encouraging and supporting people and organisations to ethically practice excellence in fundraising.

Media Contacts:

Caitlin Ganter

Communications and Marketing Officer

Australian Catholic University

Ph: 07 3623 7491

Email: Caitlin.ganter@acu.edu.au

Gail Knox

Policy and Communications Manager

Fundraising Institute Australia

Mobile 0400 020 574

Email: gknox@fia.org.au