



REPORT TO THE 41<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL SYNOD  
of the  
UNITING CHURCH IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA



METHODIST  
LADIES'  
COLLEGE



## INTRODUCTION

Methodist Ladies' College (MLC) is pleased to report on the advancements of the College over the past 12 months through key activities and decisions. This report affirms membership of the College Council and its continued commitment to the College's Vision to be *an international leader of holistic learning and teaching*.

## MEMBERSHIP OF THE COLLEGE COUNCIL

Moderator, as Visitor:	Reverend Steve Francis
Chair:	Dr Penny Flett
Members elected by Synod:	Mr Craig Colvin
	Mr Nick Henry
	Ms Prudence Honey
	Mr John Klepec
	Mr James McClements
	Mr Dan Minchin
	Ms Diane Mony de Kerloy
	Mr Ralph Moore
	Ms Diane Smith-Gander

There have been changes to the College Council during the past twelve months with the retirement of Mr Grant Robinson, a member since 2008 who retired at the end of his third term. Mr Robinson was a committed supporter of the College and Council, a member of the Audit Risk and Compliance Committee (ARCC), as well as the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC). Prof Phil Dolan, also a member of the ARCC and the SPC, retired from Council to return to the East Coast. Mr Nick Brasington concluded his second term at the completion of 2016, while Ms Tanya Trevisan (SAMPC Chair) retired in May 2017. We welcomed Mr Nick Henry, Mr James McClements and Mr John Klepec as new members to Council.

## MLC IN 2017

In our 110<sup>th</sup> year, MLC's Values guide our College community in its daily activities to contribute to the Mission of God, and to strengthen our collegial spirit as we celebrate the legacy of all those who have served before us. The preamble to our constitution identifies that our Vision, Mission and Values align with the National Education Charter Guidelines and are used as defining statements to complement all strategic goals and objectives. MLC continues to implement our Strategic Plan *Towards 2025* which commenced in 2015 and will continue to lead MLC over the next 8 years.

### MLC's Vision

An international leader of holistic learning and teaching.

### MLC's Mission

Mentoring motivated learners to choose purposeful futures.



## MLC's Values

### ***College Value - Integrity***

Our girls continue their commitments to service learning opportunities including soup kitchens, spending time with aged care residents at Mercy Care, Bethany Home visits in Malaysia, elephant conservation work in Thailand and service to local communities in Vietnam. Fundraising activities by the girls continued in 2017 for organisations such as Uniting Care West, Bethany Home (Malaysia), Cancer Council of WA, Compassion Australia, Fair Game, and the Nulsen Haven Foundation.

MLC is pleased to report an outstanding response from Years 3/5/8 and 12 parents surveyed in 2016 (captured by MMG Education's research) identifying expectations (met or exceeded) as:

- The College Values - 95%
- Social and cultural diversity - 94%
- A Christian College - 96%

### ***College Value - Mastery***

The Walton Leadership Institute (WLI), established in 2015, continues to offer a specific curriculum to enable leadership learning and development as part of MLC's commitment to holistic education. In 2016, 18 MLC graduates received WLI Awards.

### ***College Value - Enterprise***

MLC is proud of the continuing academic achievements evidenced by our 2016 leavers who, in addition to their personal development and contributions across performing arts, community projects and sporting pursuits achieved excellent results in both the 2016 West Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) and Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses. All of the girls who sat the WACE exams completed four or more Year 12 ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admission Rank) courses with a median ATAR of 90.55 including: 1 General Exhibition; 4 Certificates of Excellence; 31 Certificates of Distinction; and 21 Certificates of Merit and "top performing students" status in 11 WACE courses.

Our six girls who studied and completed one or more VET courses with external Registered Training Organisations attained 2 Certificate IVs in Education Support; 1 Certificate IV in Preparation for Nursing; 1 Certificate III in Animal Science; 1 Certificate II in Customer Engagement; 1 Certificate II in Retail Makeup and Skin Care; and 1 Certificate II in Hospitality.

Our 2016 NAPLAN results were excellent with 96% or more students in Years 3,5,7, and 9 achieving the national benchmarks.

The College introduced our popular Masterclasses to students and the community in the school holidays in 2016. These Masterclasses offered activities including woodworking, photography, Lego robotics, song writing, Minecraft, cooking and art.

Stage one of the innovative and wonderful Juniors Years' Redevelopment opened for the first day of Term 1, 2017. Students, teachers and parents have all heralded the style and design of the building for its innovative learning area design and functionality. Stage two will be completed for the commencement of Term 1, 2018 and will also reflect a playful design and be based on the Reggio Emilia philosophy for



early and junior years' education of respect, responsibility and community through exploration and discovery in a supportive and enriching environment.

Preparing our senior girls for life after school included guest Collegians, and other presenters, talking to them about: career and life experiences; developing financial independence; and facing adversity and staying true to their values.

### ***College Value - Justice***

In March 2017, the College proudly launched our Diversity Statement:

#### **Methodist Ladies' College Diversity Statement**

*...Methodist Ladies' College is a community committed to diversity across many dimensions, including gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, physical and learning ability, nationality, socioeconomic status, religion and political opinion.*

*Everyday we strive to encourage and celebrate thinking that reaches out in love, care, concern and mutual respect to underpin the key virtues of justice, acceptance, trust and compassion.*

*Actualising our pledge to embrace diversity is an ongoing and dynamic process that shapes learners before, during, and after their time at Methodist Ladies' College.*

(Extract from Diversity Statement)

Our relationship with the Australian Islamic College (AIS) continues to grow and now extends to a second AIS campus engendering friendships and acceptance between both colleges and the students.

On the last day of the 2016 academic year, over 1100 girls representing 23 nationalities were enrolled at MLC, including five girls of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent. Fourteen languages, other than English, were spoken in the home.

### **WHERE IS MLC GOING?**

MLC will transition its 12<sup>th</sup> Principal over the next 12 months and looks forward to its continuing *Mission to mentor motivated learners to choose purposeful futures.*

Specifically, MLC will continue to inspire our girls' academic engagement and achievement and to develop girls as leaders in service. Similarly, our Vision to be *an international leader of holistic learning and teaching* underpins our commitment to achieve accreditation by 2019 from the Council of International Schools following our successful acceptance as a member in 2016. This initiative highlights MLC's ongoing commitment to global citizenship.

Through its charter, the Parents of MLC's commitment to provide energetic and community support will be unwavering and as such, will bring families together to strengthen the MLC community. Likewise, our MLC Foundation will build upon its developing a legacy for the future of the College through ongoing fundraising and events.

As this will be my final report to Synod as the Principal of Methodist Ladies' College, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to lead a College of the Uniting Church, and to serve within such a generous and loving community.



I also wish to pay tribute to Rev. Ken Williams and Rev. Steve Francis for their exceptional gifts and thank them for their benevolent support.

Ms Rebecca Cody  
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July 2017  
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