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U
FORUM
2024

Adelaide, SA. 23–26 September 2024

11

“Future-Proofing the Residential College: Challenges and Opportunities”

Location

Adelaide Oval, Adelaide

Chair

Dr Eleanor Spencer-Regan

Principal, Janet Clarke Hall VIC

Organising Committee

Mr James Atkinson

Principal, Flinders Living SA

Mr Sean Brito-Babapulle

Rector, Aquinas College SA

Ms Alice Draffin

Director of Student Life, St Andrew’s College NSW

Ms Wendy Fleming

Principal, St Ann’s College SA

Mr James Hardiman

Principal, St Hilda’s College VIC

Ms Dee Marrapodi

Deputy Head of College, John XXIII College ACT

Ms Annie McGuire

Dean of Students and Wellbeing, Mannix College VIC

Dr Areti Metuamate

Vice Master, Ormond College VIC

Dr Donella Piper

Dean of Studies, Lincoln College SA

UCA Executive Manager

Ms Minami Takahashi

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Welcome from the UCA President



Thank you, on behalf of the University Colleges Australia Executive Committee, for attending our 2024 Forum.

Since we gathered in Canberra for last year's forum, a great deal has happened within the University Colleges Australia community. Our conversation with the Federal Department of Education has evolved significantly; our first census in a decade was released; our Conversations With Colleagues series has grown enormously (long gone are the days of Zoom calls with a dozen attendees); and our membership base has diversified, enriched by the contributions of Deans, Deputies and Directors who were previously unable to obtain membership of the association.

I cannot think of a better way of building on this progress than by convening in Adelaide and addressing a pressing topic: the challenges and opportunities facing university colleges around Australia. Led so ably by Dr Eleanor Spencer-Regan, the Forum Organising Committee has curated an exciting program that delves into questions about our purpose, priorities, and relevance in the 21st century. Over the course of the Forum, we will be hearing from vice-chancellors, scholars, government officials, and – of course – our very own members. They will challenge our thinking and leave us with ideas to take back into our colleges, halls, and residences when the forum draws to a close.

After the last Forum, we asked members to provide feedback. While it was overwhelmingly positive, several excellent suggestions emerged, including having the opportunity for more intimate conversations and having a “deep dive” on leadership. This year's Forum incorporates these ideas. For the first time ever, our Forum will run over four – not three – days to afford opportunities for a full-day leadership and governance workshop led by Dr Amanda Bell (former Head of the Women's College, Sydney), as well as a targeted leadership workshop curated for deans, deputies, and directors. We will also be offering focus groups in the morning, which is an opportunity to pool our ideas and collaboratively solve problems our sector is facing.

My sincerest thanks to the Organising Committee for the hard work that made it possible. We hope that the experience they have facilitated is deeply enriching for you.

Lisa J. Sutherland
President, University Colleges Australia
Master, Wesley College

Welcome from the Forum Chair



“Future-Proofing the Residential College: Challenges and Opportunities”

Whether our colleges are imposing neo-Gothic piles founded in the late 19th century or brutalist concrete dreams built in the 1960s, we all have at least one thing in common: the need to evolve in order to survive and thrive in a competitive and shifting market.

In the aftermath of the Cold War, military strategists coined the acronym VUCA (Volatile, Uncertain, Complex, Ambiguous) to describe the geo-political climate of the early 1960s. It has since become something of a buzzword in Higher Education as we ask ourselves how best we can equip our students for adult life within this VUCA world.

We might also ask how best we can ensure that our colleges not only survive but thrive in the years and decades to come. We must adopt a proactive and holistic approach that allows us both to anticipate and mitigate social, financial, technological and environmental risks, and to seize opportunities in student diversity, health, financial innovation, sustainability, and adaptable living / learning environments.

We're delighted that you have chosen to join us at the UCA Forum 2024 where we will look at both the inevitable challenges to be faced in the years ahead and the exciting opportunities to be leveraged to ensure that our beloved institutions remain relevant, resilient, and effective in meeting the needs of future generations of students.

UCA Forums have long provided a vital space in which colleagues from around Australia can meet, reflect, share best practice, and learn together. This year, for the first time, we welcomed members of our Deputies, Deans, and Directors community to serve on the Forum Organising Committee. This decision reflects UCA's deep commitment to ensuring broad representation from its member institutions and to nurturing the next generation of Heads and senior colleagues.

My thanks to all members of the Organising Committee who have worked hard to create a varied and stimulating Forum programme that not only meets the current needs but also anticipates the future needs of professionals in our sector.

I hope that you will all find the Forum to be challenging, informative, and enjoyable, and thank you for your continued support for UCA.

Dr Eleanor Spencer-Regan
Chair, Forum Organising Committee
Principal, Janet Clarke Hall

Monday 23 September

Governance Intensive for Heads of Colleges

Time: 10am–4pm

Location: Floor 14, Flinders University City Campus

Facilitators: Dr Amanda Bell, Dr Liam Mayo

Deans, Deputies and Directors Intensive

Time: 10am–4pm

Location: Ballroom at St Mark's College

Facilitators: Alice Draffin, Annie McGuire, Cam Bestwick,
Wendy Fleming and James Hardiman

**AQUINAS COLLEGE TOUR,
DRINKS RECEPTION AND SHOWCASE 5–7pm**

Tuesday 24 September

Registration

Time: 9–9:30am

Location: John Halbert Room at Adelaide Oval

Forum Organising Committee Chair's Welcome

Time: 9:30–10am

Speakers: Dr Eleanor Spencer-Regan

Welcome to Country

Time: 9:30–10am

Speakers: Uncle Mickey Kumatpi Marrutya O'Brien

UCA President's Welcome and Report

Joined by NAAUC Leadership

Time: 10–10:45am

Speakers: Lisa Sutherland, Lilli Anderson (President, NAAUC)

MORNING TEA 10:45–11:15am

2024 and Beyond – What Does Real Residential College Sustainability Look Like?

Time: 11:15am–12:45pm

Speakers: Lee Constable

Session Summary: Science communicator and sustainability educator, Lee Constable will present on the current state of the climate in Australia. We will discuss the challenges and opportunities for residential sustainability and climate action.

LUNCH 12:45–1:30pm

Tackling Sector Challenges

Time: 1:30–2:30pm

Speakers: Professor Jennie Shaw

Thinking Differently: Embracing Neurodiversity within our Residences

Time: 2:30–3pm

Speakers: Jordan Knight

Session Summary: In student accommodation, the concept of neurodiversity is becoming increasingly visible as we continue to recognise the diverse needs of those who make up our communities.

Drawing from Jordan's own lived experience and professional insights as a neurodivergent individual, this presentation, which was awarded Best of Program at the APSAA Conference 2024, will delve into understanding what neurodiversity is and how we can best accommodate – and embrace – the intrinsic neurodiversity of students in our residences.

AFTERNOON TEA 3–3:30pm

Transformative Philanthropy: Enhancing University Residential Colleges

Time: 3:30–5pm

Speakers: Clare Pullar

Session Summary: The limitations of fees in providing a holistic educational experience has meant university college leaders are increasingly focussed on the need to diversify funding sources. Global philanthropic trends are providing unprecedented opportunities for colleges. For donors wanting to make a transformational impact in their giving, university colleges provide unmatched opportunities. This session will explore those trends and the value of using that knowledge to engage those who deeply care for your institution.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER 6pm

Location: Lincoln College, St Ann's College and St Mark's College

Wednesday 25 September

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Time: 6:45am

Focus Groups

Time: 9–9:45am

The Future of Marketing and Communications

Time: 9:45–11:15am

Speakers: James Fitzpatrick

Session Summary: In this session we'll start by mapping the evolving market landscape for university colleges and the threats coming from over the hill. Having established the need for a strategy that builds a safe path forward, we'll then learn about "funnel theory" which is the basis for contemporary marketing and communication best-practice. From funnel theory, we'll unpack how to leverage AI and data to make more informed decisions, how to protect your reputation during a crisis, how to define the customer profile of prospective students, and then ultimately how to execute the right tactic, through the right channel, with the right message, at the right time.

MORNING TEA 11:15–11:45am

Mental Wellness Training: Building Strategies

Time: 11:45am–12:45pm

Speakers: Ashley Gurney

Session Summary: AD+MH have recently launched our brand new mental wellbeing training: building strategies. Our team have been trained and certified in LEGO Serious Play method which we have incorporated into our new mental wellbeing training.

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LUNCH 12:45–1:30pm

Responding to the Accord

Time: 1:30–2:40pm

Speakers: Professor Deborah Terry AC
Vice-Chancellor and President of University of Queensland

Update from APSAA

Time: 2:40–3pm

Speakers: Carolyn Mee

Session Summary: Carolyn Mee, the Director of APSAA and the Head of College at Lincoln College, Adelaide, will provide an update from APSAA.

AFTERNOON TEA 3–3:30pm

Building Inclusive Futures – Strengthening Community through Diversity and Allyship

Time: 3:30–5pm

Speakers: Rona Glynn-McDonald

Session Summary: In this session, Rona Glynn-McDonald will share lived experience as a student who has attended a residential college and explore the transformative potential of diversifying our college communities. We'll discuss how embracing diversity enriches all of our lives, and how every step toward allyship contributes to a safer, more inclusive environment. Attendees will leave with practical insights for supporting First Nations students, understanding the power of storytelling on campus, and steps to continue to make our colleges a tapestry of diverse people, perspectives and knowledges.

FORUM BANQUET AT ADELAIDE TOWN HALL 6:15pm

Location: Adelaide Town Hall

Keynote Speaker: Professor Rufus Black

Thursday 26 September

Focus Groups

Time: 9–9:45am

Empowering the Future – Cultivating Leadership and Connection

Time: 9:45–11:15am

Speakers: Thenu Herath

Session Summary: In a world that is increasingly disconnected, residential colleges provide a unique opportunity for belonging. Join Thenu as she shares her experiences as a young leader, recounting what her college experience taught her and how it set her up to become a 23-year-old CEO, shaping her ongoing career in foreign affairs. Discover how to equip young people for the future by fostering leadership, resilience, and a sense of belonging through forward-thinking programs. Learn practical strategies to create environments in residential colleges that empower youth to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

MORNING TEA (11:15–11:45am)

Focus Group Presentations

Time: 11:45am–12:30pm

Annual General Meeting

Time: 12:30–1pm

Light Lunch Provided

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Speakers

In order of appearance

Dr Amanda Bell AM

Governance Intensive for Heads of Colleges



Amanda is a highly experienced leader, an accomplished non-executive director and strategic facilitator. Her successful portfolio career draws on specific expertise in education and governance.

Amanda's advisory work concentrates on strategic futures, leadership development and masterclasses for boards, CEOs and senior managers. Her work translates to opinion pieces and keynote addresses on current issues and new ideas impacting related sectors.

She holds a number of board directorships and is immediate past Principal of The Women's College within the University of Sydney. Amanda was appointed a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (FAICD), the Australian College of Educators (FACE) and the Australian Institute of Management (FAIM).

Amanda was recognised in The Queen's Birthday 2017 Honours List as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for significant service to education, particularly to young women as a leader and academic, and to the visual arts.

Dr Liam Mayo

Governance Intensive for Heads of Colleges



Dr Liam Mayo is a sociologist who is intrigued by the ways in which notions of the future may or may not manifest themselves in cultural and social systems, as well as in the lived experience. This curiosity often leads Liam into investigations into how people's interpretation of the future influences the way they think, feel, and behave. His work is characterised by a strong accent on social and cultural theory, and is often thematically underpinned by storytelling, anticipation, and imagination. He is widely published and frequently invited to speak on these topics to corporate and community audiences alike.

Liam's PhD won an award for excellence from the International Association of Futurists and was the first piece of research to globally develop postnormal times theory. His work in this arena diagnoses and critiques the current significant societal shifts from the perspective of the future, so that leaders are best equipped to navigate change.

He is currently the course co-ordinator for Social Sciences and Humanities at the University of the Sunshine Coast, and an Adjunct Researcher with Radboud University in the Netherlands, where he is spearheading a project to build the institute's capacity and competency to incorporate futures thinking into its research and teaching. This work is interdisciplinary in nature, and as a research agenda is exploring how societal transformations are understood and enacted through the lenses of governance, justice, and leadership.

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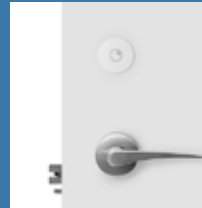


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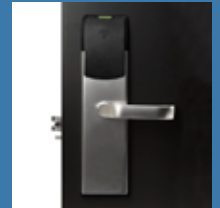
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Liam is passionate about growing leaders who not only understand how culture influences the way we think about the future but use culture to unify and drive successful teams. Alongside academia, Liam has had a successful international career leading executives and organisations through significant uncertainty. He has advised such organisations as the United Nations Human Rights Commission, the International Organisation for Migration, World Vision, as well as the Department of Immigration of Papua New Guinea and the Australian High Commission.

He is currently the Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Comlink Australia, an Australian not-for-profit that supports aging, vulnerable and disabled people to live independently in their homes.

Alice Draffin

Deans, Deputies and Directors Intensive



Alice is the Director of Student Life at St Andrew's College. She is a committed educator within the residential college sector, having worked in education and colleges domestically and internationally for over a decade. Alice's passion for colleges stems from her own impactful experiences at Mannix College as an undergraduate, before her later role as President of the National Association of Australian University Colleges (NAAUC). Following an early career as a secondary school teacher, Alice moved to the U.S. to pursue a Master's degree in Higher Education Administration, studying and working at both the University of Rochester and Brown University. Since her return to Australia, she has held several key student-facing roles within Colleges at UQ whilst studying an MBA part-time, before making the move to St Andrew's College in Sydney.

Annie McGuire

Deans, Deputies and Directors Intensive



Receiving her Master's of Education from the University of Massachusetts, Annie commenced her teaching career north of Boston, USA and quickly found herself leading pastorally, academically and on the athletics fields. Annie's student-centred approach as a teacher and school leader has been reflected in her strong commitment to student wellbeing, experience, and development. Prior to joining Mannix, Annie has held senior leadership roles in Melbourne schools including that of Deputy Principal at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Catholic College, Bentleigh and Head of Middle School at St Leonard's College, Brighton. Amongst much else, Annie has completed the NESLI Women's Leadership Course,

Positive Education Institute Program, and has qualifications in restorative practices, mindfulness, personal training and yoga. Since joining Mannix College, Affiliate of Monash University Annie has enjoyed the wonderful world of colleges and being an active member of UCA.

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Cam Bestwick

Deans, Deputies and Directors Intensive



Cam is a consultant, trainer, educationalist, and experienced leader in both school and university settings. His expertise in student development, student services, and adult learning has been shaped by roles at EY, the Australian National University, the University of Sydney, the University of Melbourne, and various peak bodies. As Principal of Swick Learning, Cam helps adult learners become more self-directed and resilient by making best practices accessible, safe, and motivating. There's much more to Cam than meets the eye – so make sure you speak with him!

Wendy Fleming

Deans, Deputies and Directors Intensive



Wendy Fleming is the Principal and CEO of St Ann's College, a tertiary residential college, located in North Adelaide. She joined the College in 2021 as the inaugural Dean, before her appointment to her current position in November 2023.

An experienced educator who worked in independent K-12 day and boarding schools in Victoria and Queensland prior to joining St Ann's College, Wendy has a strong interest in remote, rural and regional education. She represented her sector at the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership

(AITSL) National Dialogue on High Quality Professional Learning for RRR (Regional, Rural and Remote) Educators, as well as the Australian National University (ANU) Beyond Year 12 Forum. Wendy is a member of the APSAA Professional Development committee, having also served on the APSAA Industry Advancement Committee. She is a past member of the Positive Education Schools Association (PESA) Queensland State Committee, the Performing Arts Advisory Committee (Charters Towers), 'Whitsunday Voices' Youth Literature Festival and convenor of the 'Authors with Soul' Literature Festival.

Wendy has especially enjoyed the transition to the tertiary residential sector, appreciating the opportunity to be part of a community that values respect, particularly striving to support young people from rural, regional and remote Australia, and helping them to achieve further success in their learning journey.

James Hardiman

Deans, Deputies and Directors Intensive



James started as Principal of St Hilda's College at the University of Melbourne in December 2022 after almost 3 years as Dean of Students. He has nearly 15 years of experience in residential colleges, having also held roles as Dean, Deputy Dean and Residential Tutor at the Kensington Colleges at UNSW.

James holds a Bachelor of Engineering (Industrial Chemistry) and Master of Business Administration specialising in Social Impact and Non-profits, both from UNSW. James is currently the Chair of Heads of Colleges at the University of Melbourne and also a member of the UCA Executive Committee.

James enjoyed a 9 year career as an engineer within the nuclear industry before realising his real calling was in residential colleges and supporting young adults. He has a strong passion for leadership and professional development and helping students make an impact on the world around them.

Dr Eleanor Spencer-Regan

Forum Organising Committee – Chair’s Welcome



Eleanor Spencer-Regan is Principal and CEO of Janet Clarke Hall at the University of Melbourne, the first residential college in Australia to accept women in 1886. She joined the JCH community in 2022, having been Vice-Principal and Senior Tutor of St Chad’s College and Vice-Principal (Student Enrichment Directorate) at Durham University in the UK. Under her leadership, JCH has announced its ambition to become the first need-blind residential college in Australia, meeting 100% of demonstrated financial need for every applicant by 2035. Eleanor is an Honorary Senior Fellow in the School of Culture and Communication at the University of Melbourne and is a former Frank Knox Memorial Fellow in the Department of English at Harvard University. Her research interests include twentieth and twenty-first century British and American poetry and children’s and Young Adult fiction, and her publications include *Family in Children’s and Young Adult Literature* (Routledge, 2023) and the *New Casebook on American Poetry since 1945* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2016).

Uncle Mickey Kumatpi Marrutya O’Brien

Welcome to Country



Uncle Mickey Kumatpi Marrutya O’Brien, or Uncle Mickey, is a Senior Aboriginal Man – a descendant of the Kurna (Adelaide Plains) and Narrunga (Yorke Peninsula) people and a passionate advocate for Aboriginal culture, language and history. He has been sharing cultural engagement for a number of years, and the role was handed to him by his father, Uncle Lewis Yarlu Purka O’Brien. It is a position he honours and respects greatly.

Uncle Mickey has travelled across Australia, living and working in a number of Aboriginal communities. He enjoys supporting the Aboriginal community, sitting on boards and Advisory panels. He is the recipient of the Rotary Club Courtesy Award for community involvement in working with youth, and an Australia Day Award recipient, for his work as a volunteer on advisory groups.

Lisa Sutherland

UCA President's Welcome



Lisa has an extensive education background. She has worked in secondary schools for thirteen years at the start of her career in the curriculum areas of English and Drama, with key roles in pastoral care in boys' education. In 2003, she moved across into the residential colleges tertiary sector as Head of Philip Baxter College and Vice Principal of The Kensington Colleges, UNSW and is currently the Master of Wesley College at University of Sydney and has been in this role for 14 years. Lisa attended University of Sydney and Wesley College as an undergraduate, studying Arts and then a Diploma of Education. She has also completed a Master of Educational Administration through UNE. She was the Chair of the Heads of Colleges at Sydney University, a position she held twice. Lisa has had a role on the UCA Executive previously when the Association was known as AHAUCHI. She held the position of Hon. Secretary during the term of the Past Presidents, Hugh Collins and Greg Eddy. Lisa enjoys working alongside the young adults who live within our residential colleges and for them to be able to maximise their potential and achieve their best selves through the supported and enriching environments that a residential living and learning environment can provide.

Lilli Anderson

NAAUC Address



Lilli is the President of the National Association of Australian University Colleges (NAAUC) in 2024. Lilli resided at The Women's College within the University of Queensland for three years where she found her passion for the holistic college experience, women in leadership, and strengthening inter-collegiate relationships between residences. Additionally, Lilli is an advocate for the benefits of residential communities. She is currently studying a Bachelor of Behavioural Science (Psychology) and a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) at the Queensland University of Technology. Lilli hopes to pursue a career in the Domestic and Family Violence sector in the future. She is particularly passionate about combining her love for education, the law, and developmental and social psychology, to foster the development of an education syllabus for Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Prevention.

Lee Constable

2024 and Beyond – What Does Residential College Sustainability Look Like?



Lee Constable is a science and sustainability presenter and edu-tainer. She is best known for hosting Network 10 kids' science TV show *Scope*. Her TV appearances also include *Studio 10*, *ABC News Breakfast* and *War on Waste* (Season Three). Lee is the author of *How to Save the Whole Stinkin' Planet: A Garbological Adventure* and *How to Save the Whole Blinkin' Planet: A Renewable Energy Adventure*.

Growing up on her family's sheep farm in rural New South Wales during severe drought inspired Lee to pursue her interest in science, climate and the environment in a Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science (Honours). While studying a Masters of Science Communication she toured remote and regional Australia in the Questacon Science Circus, hosted a radio show on 2XXFM and SYN Nation, and founded *Co-Lab: Science Meets Street Art*. Lee's other adventures included guiding night-time spotlight tours of the National Botanic Gardens, giving tours of a landfill and recycling sorting facility and commentating robot battles.

In 2018 Lee embarked on an Antarctic journey as part of an all-women in STEM voyage. She used this experience to create *Antarctica: The Twitch-u-mentary* – an eight-hour livestreamed interactive edu-taining experience on her Twitch channel where she also talks science.

From spending evenings as an Education Ranger with a spotlight in hand showing school groups the plants and animals of the Australian National Botanic Gardens to spending days showing kids around ACT's landfill and recycling sorting facility, there's no environment too hot, cold, dark or smelly to warrant some youth-friendly scientific communication.

Lee regularly presents Instagram and Tiktok explainer videos for her own channels as well as other organisations and works as an MC and freelance science and sustainability communicator. In her spare time, she enjoys scuba diving and delivering science-y stand-up comedy routines as her Drag King alter ego Milton MANgo. You can find Lee constantly babbling on all social media platforms as @Constababble.

Professor Jennie Shaw

Tackling Sector Challenges



Professor Jennie Shaw was appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Academic) in August 2021.

Prior to her appointment as Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Academic), Jennie was the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Arts at The University of Adelaide where she oversaw the Schools of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education, the Elder Conservatorium of Music, several university research centres, and the University of Adelaide's node of the ARC Centre of Excellence in the History of Emotions.

Previous roles include that of Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at the University of New England, inaugural Director of Arts New England – UNE Centre for Research and Innovation in the Arts, and Associate Dean and Head of School at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music, University of Sydney.

Jennie has a BA Honours (First Class and Medal) and LLB (Honours First Class) from the University of Sydney and an MA and PhD from Stony Brook University. Her research and teaching interests cross the arts and humanities broadly, with a particular focus on the Second Viennese School and on creative practice as research. Recent publications include *Music's Immanent Future: The Deleuzian Turn in Music Studies* (Routledge 2016), edited by Sally Macarthur, Judy Lochhead and Jennie Shaw and the *Cambridge Companion to Schoenberg*, edited with Joseph Auner.

An active oboe and cor anglais performer, Jennie also currently sits on the advisory boards of the Helpmann Academy (SA) and the Australian Music Examinations Board (SA & NT). She is a Trustee of AMF (Australia), which provides scholarship funding for Australian music students to study overseas, and Deputy Chair of the federal AMEB board.

Jordan Knight

Thinking Differently: Embracing Neurodiversity within our Residences



Jordan is an enthusiastic young professional and the Assistant Dean at Grace College. With a keen interest in student life and wellbeing, he is passionate about the enriching opportunities and holistic development that a residential experience can offer young people.

In their current position, Jordan coordinates a number of wellbeing programs, and has led the development of a Student Wellbeing Strategy. Following on from graduating with a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Queensland, he is now pursuing post-graduate studies in Education. Jordan holds prior leadership experiences from his time as a student living on-campus, including as the Vice-President of the National Association of Australian University Colleges (NAAUC).

Jordan sees community and connection as the cornerstones to a positive residential experience. Through all their work, Jordan hopes to leverage their own diverse identities – cultural, gender, sexuality, and neurodivergence – to build empathy and understanding, and support young people during the formative years of their university journey. Jordan is motivated to shape inclusive and supportive environments that allow everyone to thrive.

Clare Pullar

Transformative Philanthropy: Enhancing University Residential Colleges



Clare Pullar is Senior Consultant and Principal Marts&Lundy. She was Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Advancement), for the University of Queensland where she led the preparations for its first campaign which raised more than \$600 million over 10 years. She was Director of Advancement at Trinity College, where she led the inaugural campaign closing over \$30 million. As chair of the Go8 Chief Advancement Officers, she oversaw the introduction of benchmarking in fundraising to the tertiary sector. She chairs Janet Clarke Hall's Council and Shepparton Art Museum Trustees. Clare is a Fellow of Trinity College and a Distinguished Alumnus of La Trobe University. She is a CASE Laureate and a Fellow of Educate Plus.

Hannah Atwell

Transformative Philanthropy: Enhancing University Residential Colleges



Hannah Atwell is the Director of Advancement at St Andrew's College. Originally from Far North Queensland, Hannah studied a combined Bachelor of Arts (Art History) and Bachelor of Commerce (Marketing & Management) at the Australian National University where she attended John XXIII College. After university, Hannah worked in tourism marketing and at the Cairns Regional Art Gallery before moving to Sydney, where she completed a Master's in Arts Administration at UNSW. She has since worked with several arts organisations, including Wagner Contemporary, Art Month Sydney, Australian Design Centre, Sculpture by the Sea, Menzies Auction House, and Opera

Australia, gaining extensive experience in art, marketing, and corporate sponsorship. Since 2018, Hannah has served as Director of Advancement at St Andrew's, managing alumni relations and fundraising for scholarships, academic programs, and capital works projects. She is also a Committee member for the NSW/ACT Educate Plus chapter, supporting professional development in the Advancement field.

Ashley Gurney

#MyMorningsMatter, Mental Wellness Training: Building Strategies



Ashley Gurney is the Founder and Managing Director of Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Education Specialists (AD+MH). Ashley has more than 20 years experience in the Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health sector and founded AD+MH in 2010 with the aim of increasing public knowledge of alcohol, drugs and mental health to reduce harms and risks.

Ashley has a Bachelor Degree in Behavioural Neuroscience, a Diploma of Alcohol & Other Drugs Work, Diploma of Mental Health & Certificate IV in Training and Assessment. Furthermore, Ashley is an accredited Mental Health First Aid

Instructor and has delivered more than 70 Accredited MHFA Courses to a wide variety of organisations and individuals.

Previously, Ashley worked for the Salvation Army as a 24/7 alcohol & drug youth outreach worker for 4 years on the streets of Melbourne and country Victoria. Prior to this role Ashley designed and managed nightclubs in Melbourne and London (UK) for approximately 5 years.

AD+MH currently provide every university in Australia & New Zealand with their numerous services. This includes more than 310 university residential locations. Furthermore, ADES provided approximately 1.5 million Australians with services and resources in 2023.

James Fitzpatrick

The Future of Marketing and Communications



James is a Director at Banksia Strategic Partners and leads strategic communications campaigns for organisations that build public and stakeholder support around key social, economic, and political issues.

His experience is steeped in crisis and issues management across Australia, the United Kingdom, and North America, having guided executive teams through high-profile responses to data breaches, terrorist attacks, natural disasters, policy developments, and local community campaigns.

Along with on-call response, he has facilitated strategic communication campaigns, media training and crisis simulations for organisations ranging from universities and theme parks to critical infrastructure and hospitals.

He holds a master's degree in media and communications, has completed executive courses at Harvard Business School, the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and Melbourne Business School, and is a sessional lecturer at RMIT University.

James is a former student resident and current Council Member of Mannix College and a former representative of the National Association of Australian University Colleges.



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Carolyn Mee

Update from APSAA



Carolyn Mee is an accomplished educator with a deep commitment to pastoral care, cultural development, and student leadership. Currently serving as the Head of College/CEO at Lincoln College in Adelaide, Carolyn is dedicated to helping tertiary students reach their full potential by fostering respectful, inclusive, and innovative communities.

Carolyn recently earned a Master's Degree in Education with a focus on Leading Learning. In addition to her role at Lincoln College, she contributes as a Board Member of the Asia Pacific Student Accommodation Association and serves as a Justice of the Peace in South Australia. Her commitment to service extends beyond her professional roles; she is a regular blood donor and actively volunteers with various charities. Balancing her professional and philanthropic pursuits, Carolyn is also a wife and mother of four, showcasing her exceptional skills in logistics and multitasking.

About APSAA

The Asia-Pacific Student Accommodation Association (APSAA) is the leading industry body representing all providers of post-secondary student accommodation across the Asia-Pacific region. Our extensive and diverse membership includes universities, private residential colleges, commercial providers, and individual professionals within the industry.

With over 134,000 students residing in colleges, halls, and residences affiliated with universities or privately operated across the region, APSAA supports a substantial professional workforce dedicated to enhancing the student living experience.

Our Vision: To champion and cultivate excellence in the student accommodation sector.

Our Mission: APSAA is committed to advancing professional development, establishing industry standards, and recognizing the achievements of our members.

Our Values

- **Inclusion:** We foster positive and respectful relationships within our community.
- **Excellence:** We provide high-quality, relevant experiences for our members.
- **Leadership:** We assist our members in addressing and overcoming industry challenges.
- **Integrity:** We uphold honest and transparent communication and engagement.

Rona Glynn-McDonald

Building Inclusive Futures – Strengthening Community Through Diversity and Allyship



Rona Glynn-McDonald is a Kaytetye woman from Central Australia, raised on Arrernte Country in Mparntwe (Alice Springs). With a diverse background in storytelling, music, economics, and narrative change, she leads efforts to shape systems that centre First Nations people, knowledge and truth-telling.

Rona is the founding CEO of Common Ground, a First Nations not-for-profit, and co-founder of First Nations Futures, focusing on wealth redistribution and economic justice. She has worked across the social sector, with an emphasis on First Nations policy and systems change, and serves as a non-executive board director and advisor.

Rona's been named in the Forbes 30 under 30 (2024) list, the Rising Star Alumni Award from the University of Melbourne (2022), and received a Westpac Social Change Fellowship (2020). She has also been recognized with the Bill Cowan Alumni Award from Trinity College, a Diana Award, and was a finalist for the Women's Weekly 'Woman of the Future'.

Professor Rufus Black

Keynote Speaker at the Forum Banquet at Adelaide Town Hall



Professor Rufus Black is the Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of Tasmania. Working with the University Executive Team, he oversees the development and implementation of the University's strategy, the delivery of its teaching and research and the overall management of its operations. Rufus holds degrees in law, politics, economics, ethics, and theology from the University of Melbourne and Oxford University, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar.

During his time as Master of Ormond College at the University of Melbourne, he co-led the creation of a Master of Entrepreneurship and taught on the program as an Enterprise Professor in the Department of Management and Marketing. He was also a Principal Fellow in the Department of Philosophy and taught as lead faculty for the Centre for Ethical Leadership.

Rufus' research and writing have been published widely, including by Oxford University Press and Routledge. Most recently, he has coauthored a book called *Ethics at War* (Routledge, 2024). He has also authored a number of major public reports for the Australian Government, drawing on his expertise in ethics, management, and strategy.

Rufus' educational and social sector experience includes being President of Museums Victoria, the Deputy Chancellor of Victoria University, the founding Chair of the Board of Teach for Australia, a Director of the New York-based Teach for All, a Director of the Cranlana Foundation, and a Director of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research.

Thenu Herath

Empowering the Future – Cultivating Leadership and Connection



Thenu is an advocate for human rights and global justice. She is the former CEO of the Oaktree Foundation, a youth-run international development organisation. During her time as CEO, the organisation developed a new project model that strengthened youth-to-youth connections across Asia and the Pacific. She was the Senior Student at Janet Clarke Hall in 2018 and went on to serve as a residential tutor at Trinity College and Queens College. Thenu was recently named one of the named Young Women to Watch in International Affairs and inducted into the Victorian Honour Roll of Women.



Student Accommodation

Enterprise Grade Managed Wi-Fi

Our advanced software platform, with sophisticated AI, supports our high-performance student accommodation Wi-Fi service, and offers tools to enhance student well-being. We deliver for the current and future needs of our customers and the students in their buildings.

Our bespoke network design ensures that residents, guests, staff, and management have a seamless experience. We take pride in our adaptive captive portal design, which provides users with consistent branding and full visibility for management.

- ASX-listed carrier: offering a comprehensive suite of connectivity and cyber security solutions.
- ISO 9001 and ISO 27001 certified: ensuring a more secure network for residents.
- Converged network design: our networks can incorporate IPTV, IP CCTV and IOT, and can be integrated with major room management systems. This integration offers our clients with more convenience, efficiency and control over their property management.
- Managed Wi-Fi with enhanced security: enterprise-grade encryption, DNS protection, malware prevention, and PrivateMesh as standard. We aim to create a secure wireless environment for our clients' guests and residents, ensuring their privacy and confidentiality.
- Specialised Student Well-being functionality.
- 24/7/365 support and network engineering: our team of experts is always available to offer our clients the technical support they need.



New College UNSW

Our unique platform, high-quality service and exceptional customer support set us apart from our competitors, making us the preferred choice for managed Wi-Fi solutions.

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Security As Priority



24/7 Network Operations and Helpdesk Support



Smart Network Environments

Jean Morel

Business Development Manager

 jean.morel@superloop.com

MyMorningsMatter

- The **#MyMorningsMatter** program aims to increase residents' connectedness to residential/university life by enhancing wellbeing through regular morning activities.
- The program is delivered by your own residents, who are supported and mentored by staff from **AD+MH Australia** for the entire university year.
- The **#MyMorningsMatter** program is inclusive and diverse, relatable to all residents.



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Heading for Philanthropic Success

The Azure Summit is the only offering of its kind to prepare heads of colleges, universities and schools for a campaign. The curriculum builds on the distinct expertise possessed by heads of colleges, universities and schools and complements their skills with global campaign best practices. It is tailored to include chief advancement officers who attend with their heads, building and optimising this important partnership.

- A two-day, in-person, intensive conference solely focused on campaign fundraising
- Limited attendance to ensure a personalised experience and small group learning
- Exceptionally experienced faculty from Australia and the USA
- Opportunity to learn alongside and network with peers
- Ongoing contact with the Marts&Lundy faculty members

At the conclusion of the Summit, you will possess a strategic campaign planning and implementation roadmap that ensures you attract and retain transformational donors and secure gifts that advance your college, university or school toward new heights of excellence.

The Azure Summit was a great chance to learn from people with real experience and expertise in shaping philanthropic campaigns. The insights to planning and structuring a campaign were invaluable, as was the chance to share ideas with colleagues from different contexts, all striving to give opportunities through philanthropy to their students and communities.

Justin Garrick, Head of School, Canberra Grammar School

The inaugural Australian Azure Summit was a genuinely transformative professional development opportunity. This two-day conference is designed to prepare Heads of School or College to lead a major philanthropic campaign for their educational institution. I now feel sufficiently informed and empowered to lead my institution into a planning phase for a major campaign. I'm inspired and energised by what I learned at the Summit.

Eleanor Spencer-Regan, Principal, Janet Clarke Hall, University of Melbourne

Join us for an intimate conference to learn from one another and our Marts&Lundy specialists.

30 and 31 March 2025 | Melbourne | RACV City Club



To register and for further information, visit us:

www.theazuresummit.org/au

Or contact us:

Clare Pullar: pullar@martsandlundy.com

Katie Armitage: armitage@martsandlundy.com

Marts&Lundy

University Colleges Australia is the representative professional body for Heads and Deputies of university residential colleges and halls throughout Australia.

Through conferences & forums, academic resources, member grants and site visits, UCA delivers services which benefit members' professional development and in turn helps to create a better collegiate experience for our residential students.

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