



**UNIVERSITY
SENIOR COLLEGE**
at Adelaide University Inc.



**THE UNIVERSITY
OF ADELAIDE**
AUSTRALIA

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION, JUNE, 2008

The following School Performance Information has been produced for the USC community. It should be read in conjunction with the Principal's Annual Report which was distributed at Graduation in December 2007. An electronic copy is available on our website under 'News & Information'.

PREAMBLE

As USC enters its seventh year since foundation a number of significant changes come into effect. Noel Guerin (Co-founder of USC with Ms Jane Danvers) stepped down as CEO of University Senior College at the end of 2007. Noel has chosen to relinquish responsibility for the day-to-day operation of the school at a time when enrolments are at capacity and the school is in a strong and vibrant position. In six short years, USC has become a significant part of the educational landscape of Adelaide and is poised to become a benchmark for senior secondary education in SA.

GOVERNANCE

In June 2007, Prof. Fred McDougall resigned from Council and was replaced, as the University of Adelaide representative, by Prof. Birgit Lohmann (Pro Vice Chancellor – Learning and Quality).

COLLEGE COUNCIL

Dr Judith Brine (Chair)
Prof. John Taplin
Prof. Birgit Lohmann

Mr Dale Hassam (Secretary)
Mr Mike Terlet
Dr Milton Haseloff

STAFFING

At the beginning of the 2007 academic year, due to increased enrolments and some changes in positions of responsibility we welcomed two new members to the teaching staff. Ms Lucy Victory (History) and Mr Geoff Slater (Psychology) both commenced with USC in a part time capacity. Ryan Jackson (English & Australian Studies) commenced a semester contract to cover for Lynn Jackson on maternity leave.

A number of internal changes in areas of responsibility came into effect at the beginning of the 2007 academic year. Mr Graham Payze has been appointed Deputy Principal and Mrs Kate Cutts has taken on the role of Year 11 Dean of Studies.

From a total 42 teaching staff (31.9 FTE) and 13 administration staff (9.8 FTE), one part time member of the teaching staff (0.2 FTE) left at the end of the 2007 calendar year. Lynn Jackson has taken six months maternity leave commencing in February. Two new teaching staff were appointed to commence in 2008.

All teachers at USC hold appropriate qualifications and meet the requirements of the Teacher Registration Board of SA.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Our Year 12 cohort distinguished themselves with outstanding results in the 2007 SSABSA examinations. Dux of school secured five Merits (5 x 20) with a TER of 99.95, but he was not willing to release his details for publication.

Ellen Calam (99.95) secured 4 Merits and has accepted a place in B Laws (Dbl Deg). She was awarded a University of Adelaide Merit Scholarship.

Megan Payne (99.90) secured 3 Merits and has accepted a place in International Studies. She was awarded the University of Adelaide Principal's Scholarship.

A total of 9 students secured a TER above 99. This places these 9 students in the top 1% of all SACE candidates.

USC students secured a total of 38 Merits (20/20) in the following subjects:

Psychology 6	Maths Studies 5	Maths Applications 4	Chemistry 3
English Communications 3	Physics 3	Politics 2	Accounting Studies 2
Modern History 2	Biology 1	Classical Studies 1	English Studies 1
Geography Studies 1	Maths Specialist 2	Visual Arts Studies 1	

A total of fifty six students (28% of the cohort) achieved a TER above 90. Nineteen students scored 5 A's (14 in 2006) and 68% of the total cohort (60% in 2006) scored A and B grades in all subjects. It is of particular interest to note that the data from 2006 & 2007 shows that there is no significant difference between males and females in their performance in Year 12 SACE studies at USC.

USC results are well above those of 'Like Schools' and the recorded State Averages. Like School groups are formed using a range of factors that research has shown affect student performance, including socio-economic indicators, size of the student cohort and retention of students from Stage 1 to Stage 2.

The following table shows the 'School Average Grade Distributions for the 2007 SACE Stage 2 cohort'.

Grade	USC	Like Schools	State
A	29.2	21.3	20.2
B	39.2	36.1	34.9
C	24.6	31.0	27.8
D	6.0	8.5	11.3
E	1.0	3.1	5.8

POST SCHOOL DESTINATIONS

92% of students received a first preference offer from the Universities. The following data refers to local students only. Data regarding post school destinations for International students is published in the USC International Newsletter and copies are available upon request.

TER	Uni Adelaide	Uni SA	Flinders Uni	TAFE	Other
All	76 (51%)	51 (34%)	19 (13%)	2	1

The following list shows number and area of study into which students have moved:

Maths & Science (28); Engineering (19); Nursing & Occupational Therapy (16); Vis Arts/Media Studies (14)
Health Sciences (13); Commerce/Economics/Finance (13); Law (9); International Studies (9); Management (9)
Psychology (7); Arts (8); Primary Teaching (3); Secondary Teaching (2); TAFE (2); Medicine (2)

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

USC secured a grant from the *future* SACE office to develop a unit of work for the Personal Learning Plan (PLP) to meet the needs of International students. The unit will be developed by Bob Schmidt and Damien Coghlan during first semester and trialled in semester 2, 2008.

Kate Cutts will travel to Malaysia on behalf of SSABSA. Kate will provide guidance to teachers in Kuala Lumpur on the standards and methodology required for delivery of SACE Stage 2 Psychology.

Maurie Wetherall and Kate Cutts continue their involvement with the University of Adelaide, School of Education in the delivery of coursework related to teaching methodology.

Morris Allen, Toni Chen, Kate Cutts, Martin Gray, Peter Mitchell, Geoff Slater and John Wilkins are currently working with SSABSA as moderators or examiners.

Brian Bates was presented with an Excellence in Teaching and Scholarship Award by the University of Adelaide School of Education in recognition of his outstanding contribution to quality teaching over many years.

Toni Chen presented a paper entitled "Incorporating an Intercultural Approach to First Language Senior Secondary Courses in Australia" at the 2007 International Conference – Teaching Chinese, held in Canberra.

Murray Thompson and Maurie Wetherall were successful in securing a grant from the *future* SACE office for the 'School to Work Mathematics and Science Program'. The program will provide support for staff to develop innovative ways of teaching which will encourage students to pursue studies in maths and science. Staff will work collaboratively with Professor John Keeves and Professor Geoff Crisp to develop reliable and valid electronic assessment tasks that will be shared across all school sectors in SA.

USC staff currently provide a consultancy to the Tsinghua University, Centre for Overseas Academic and Cultural Exchanges (COACES), Foundation Studies program. Lisa Temple, Di Averis, Lynn Jackson and Murray Thompson are providing guidance on the content and delivery of teaching programs in Beijing designed to prepare students for entry to the University of Adelaide.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our staff professional development program places a strong emphasis on high quality learning for students and exemplary teaching by staff.

A professional publication, with a specific focus upon the needs of senior secondary education, has been produced by staff at USC. The fourth edition of "Senior College - Sub Cruce" (SC)² was published in December 2007 and continues to be a strong sounding board for our own best practice and the catalyst for ongoing professional development. Copies of each issue are available on request.

During December 2007 all staff participated in a series of workshops on how best to support the learning of International students in mainstream SACE classes.

Professor Kurt Lushington, University of SA presented a seminar on research findings surrounding the impact of sleep deprivation on adolescent students. The impact of time spent on the internet, 'Facebook' and 'MySpace' were also explored during the workshop series.

Professor Lee Parker led a workshop for all staff to review our vision and mission statement. The statements are summarised in the 'Principal's Annual Report, 2007' available on the USC website.

Staff meet twice each term in a formal setting to participate in "Shared Best Practice" presentations. These meetings provide an opportunity to illustrate successful teaching methodologies employed in the context of USC.

FACILITIES

During the year there have been a number of significant developments reflecting a commitment to invest in teaching resources and amenities.

A third computer room and an additional teaching room have been developed on level 2 of Charles Street. In addition the counsellor's office has been relocated to Level 1 of Charles Street to provide more space and greater privacy.

Electronic noticeboards have been positioned in the four locations that we occupy on campus. This allows us to display common messages across the school campus throughout the working day.

Teaching staff have been relocated into new office space on Level 2, 230 North Terrace. This has been necessary due to the refurbishment of Level 1 of the Tower Building at 10 Pulteney Street as part of the University of Adelaide's development of the Tower complex.

A teaching room has been developed on the ground floor of the Tower Building to accommodate for the loss of teaching space in the Education Building. Our lease of space in the Education Building was surrendered due to a change in use by the University of Adelaide.

We continue to upgrade all teaching rooms to ensure that they have adequate audio visual equipment. All teaching rooms now have access to data projection facilities and 85% of rooms have a direct link to the computer network system.

Chemical Storage facilities have been upgraded in the Jordan Laboratories to comply with current Australian Standards. This project has been partially funded by the Federal Government's IOSP program and we have acknowledged their support on a commemorative plaque mounted in the Jordan Building.

Late in 2007 we were fortunate to receive two additional IOSP grants from the Federal Government which will support upgrades of the Art Studio and Drama Theatre during 2008.

The College website was reviewed and redeveloped with the support of University of Adelaide staff during the second semester in 2007. The new site, incorporating a more extensive 'Online Resources' facility for students, was launched in February 2008.

STUDENT, PARENT & TEACHER SATISFACTION

As in 2007 all teaching staff and a representative sample of parents have responded to questionnaires designed to measure how they feel about the quality of teaching and learning, community relationships, communications, leadership and the USC learning environment. All students are surveyed by means of a questionnaire and exit interview with their mentor during November each year.

Parents, students and staff have indicated a high level of satisfaction with the academic program and learning environment. Satisfaction levels of 85% or more were recorded in all categories surveyed. In the areas of staff/student relationships, the quality of teaching and access to learning facilities, the satisfaction levels were all over 90%.

Of those surveyed 85% of parents and 90% of students were extremely satisfied with their decision to transfer to USC to complete their senior secondary schooling. 98% of staff expressed a strong commitment to the academic pathway and transition education program delivered by USC to encourage University entry and future success.

Areas identified for ongoing attention included professional development opportunities for staff, greater access to private study facilities and ongoing refinement of the mentoring program. Members of the school community are invited to speak to the Principal about the survey process and discuss details.

During 2008 we will develop an electronic survey and post it on the College website. This will allow members of the USC community to provide feedback throughout the year.

SCHOOL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION FOR 2007 – SUMMARY

The following information provides performance information required by the Australian Government. Students and parents are welcome to make an appointment with the Principal at any time to discuss the content of this data in more detail.

Performance Measure	Comment
1. Staff attendance	Average attendance rate: 98.6%
2. Staff retention	Staff retention 2007 – 2008 was 96%
3. Staff qualifications	Refer to 2007 Yearbook and this report
4. Staff professional development	Refer to ‘Senior College-Sub Cruce’ (SC) ² , the USC Staff Professional Development Journal for details of PD activities and expenditure.
5. Student attendance	Average attendance rate: 97%
6. Years 3, 5, 7 & 9 benchmarks	Not applicable to senior secondary college
7. Changes in Q6 benchmarks	Not applicable to senior secondary college
8. Value added	Refer to Handbook, Brochure, Diary & Yearbook
9. Median scores of Year 9 and 10 students	Not applicable to senior secondary college
10. Senior Secondary Outcomes	Refer to this Report and Website.
11. Retention of Year 9 students	Not applicable. Intakes at Year 11 and 12 only
12. Post school destinations	Refer to this Report and Website for details
13. Community satisfaction:	Summarised in this Report. Details are available to current members of the school community from the Principal upon request.

USC ACADEMIC STAFF 2008

Senior Staff:

Name	Position/Subject	Academic Qualifications
Bob Holloway	Principal	BSc (Hons), DipEd, DipT (Sec), MEnSt, MACE, ASM
Graham Payze	Deputy Principal	B Sc, Dip T (Sec)
Inger Schmidt	Head USC International	M S Sc, BEd, Grad Dip (Counsel), GradCert (Lang Ed)
Murray Thompson	Director of Studies	B Sc (Hons), Dip Ed, M Ed, Ed D, MACE, AAIP
Lisa Temple	Year 12 Dean of Studies	B A, Dip Ed
Kate Cutts	Year 11 Dean of Studies	B Sc, Grad Dip Ed
Nadia Lovett	Student Counsellor	M S Sc, Grad Dip (Read and Lang), Dip T (Prim)
Bob Schmidt	Geog / International Dean	B A, Dip T (Sec)

Teaching Staff:

Name	Position/Subject	Academic Qualifications
Morris Allen	Politics / History / Geog	B A, Dip Ed, Dip T (Sec)
Di Averis	Economics	Grad Cert (Prof Practice), B Ed, Dip T (Sec)
Vicky Barnett	Chemistry	B Sc (Hons), Grad Dip Ed, PhD, MRACI
Brian Bates	English	Adv Dip T (Sec)
Andrew Bee	Maths	B Sc, Dip Ed, Grad Cert (Maths Ed)
Trevor Bland	Maths	B Sc, Dip T, Grad Cert (Maths Ed)
Toni Chen	Chinese	Grad Dip Ed, Grad Cert (Lang Ed)
Damien Coghlan	ESL	B A, Dip Ed(Sec) GradDipT (TESL) GradDip SScEd C
John Gibson	ELICOS / Biology	B A, B Sc, B Ed, Dip T (Sec)
Martin Gray	Drama	B Ed (Drama)
Robert Horne	Classics/Mod Hist /Ans St	B A, Grad Dip Ed
Lynn Jackson	English / Aus Studies	B Ed, Grad Dip <i>Maternity Leave Semester 1</i>
Ryan Jackson	English/Aust Studies	B A, M A Ed Sec <i>Contract position for Semester 1</i>
Michael Jacobsen	Maths Apps / Economics	B Ed, M B A, M Ed
Lisa Lanchester	Maths	B Ed (Sec), Dip T (Sec)
Joy Leaver	English Communications	B A, Grad Dip (Read), Dip T (Sec), TESOL
Richard Marr	Art / Design	Dip T (Art)
Peter Mitchell	IT / Maths	B Ed, Grad Dip Ed (Computing)
Judith Mohan	ESL	B A (Hons) Dip Ed
Zahra Pirvali	Physics	B Sc, Grad Dip Ed
Igor Plisko	History / Politics	B A, Dip Ed
David Ralph	Maths Applications	A U A (PE), Dip T (Sec), Grad Dip (Ab St)
Sandra Reynolds	Chemistry	B Sc (Hons), M Sc, Dip T (Sec)
Geoff Rogers	Music	B A, Dip T (Sec)
Geoff Slater	Psychology	B Ed, Dip Phys Ed
Louise Small	Accounting	Dip T (Sec) B Ed
Paul Stokes	ESL	B A, Grad Dip Ed, Grad Dip (Ed Counselling)
Ashleigh Tobin	Music	OAM, M Mus, FRCO, FTCL, L Mus (Aust)
Magda Van Aardt	Chemistry	B Sc Ed
Lucy Victory	Modern History	B A (Int Stud), Dip Ed
Maurice Wetherall	Biology	B Sc (Hons), Dip Ed
John Wilkins	Visual Arts	B Ed
Yvette Winter	Legal St / SACE / Careers	FCHSE, ADipBus (Hlth Ad), BBus (Mktg), BEd (Sec)