

Mrs Liz Monahan appointed to the MSEI Board



The Congregation Leader, Sr Kath Tierney rsm, is delighted to announce the appointment of Liz Monahan to the MSEI Board.

Liz was educated by the Presentation Sisters, first at St Columba's Elwood and later at Presentation Convent Windsor. After graduation from the University of Melbourne, she commenced her career teaching Chemistry and Mathematics in government schools. Following time at home with children, she resumed teaching in 1988 at Loyola College, Watsonia, becoming Director of Studies in 1995 and Deputy Principal in 1998, and completing a Graduate Diploma in Religious Education in that time. Her appointment as Principal of Mercy College, Coburg, in 2000 commenced an association with Mercy Education which has included participation in the inaugural Mercy Ethos Program in Dublin in 2001, membership of the organizing committee of the MSEA conference in Melbourne in 2004, attendance at AMSSA and the MSEA international conferences, participation in the Mercy Principals' network and hosting of the Frayne Speech Festival

in 2010. She completed a Masters in Educational Leadership in 2010, and has an ongoing interest in industrial relations, having been a member of the VCSA executive from 2000 to 2005, and the CECV Employment Relations Committee from 2007 to 2010. Following retirement from Mercy College in 2010, she looks forward to continued association with Mercy education through the MSEI Board.



New Principal inducted at Sacred Heart College, Kyneton



"Sacred Heart College Kyneton has been blessed with outstanding Principals over a long period of time. None more so than John Arthurson who served this community so well. Whilst we lament his passing, we also celebrate our newest Principal, Mr Craig Holmes, and I am pleased to present this Catherine McAuley Medallion as a reminder of his Mercy commitment today.

Congratulations Mr Holmes on your appointment and with the support and encouragement of your school community expressed this morning, the MSEI Board is confident you will join that long list of outstanding Principals. I ask for God's Blessing on you all and hope this year will be a memorable one for all the right reasons".

PHOTO: From left, MSEI Board Chair, John Shannon, Principal, Craig Holmes, and College Council member, Sr Kaye Evans rsm.



Members of the MSEI Board look forward to Liz Monahan joining them as a fellow Board member from April this year. Liz brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience and a rich understanding of the Mercy tradition of education. Her recent principalship experience and knowledge of employment relations and leadership development will be valuable assets that will add to the wealth of knowledge already on the Board.

We welcome new senior members of staff to our Colleges and wish them well in their new positions and in the important roles they play in Mercy education. In particular we welcome newly appointed Principal, Craig Holmes, as he commences his principalship at Sacred Heart College Kyneton. At the Commissioning Ceremony during the Opening College Mass on 23 February this year, MSEI Board Chair, John Shannon, presented Craig with the Catherine McAuley Medallion and along with the support and encouragement of his own school community, offered the full support of the MSEI Board.

In the recent newsletter from Catholic College Bendigo, Principal, Darren McGregor, spoke about 'the goodness of young people' and that for him, each day at the College is enriched by the students openly sharing their gifts and talents with each other and with other members of the College Community. The example of the goodness of young people is no more evident than in the actions and generosity of those students who have been awarded the 2010 Mercy scholarships. We congratulate the recipients, their families and their College communities who support them and provide them with opportunities to develop and share their gifts.

Finally we welcome to MSEI, newly appointed MSEI Executive Secretary, Pamela de Kort. Pam joins Effie Coulson in a part-time capacity managing the administration of the Board and serving the Colleges. Pam is no stranger to Mercy Education as she worked at Mount Lilydale Mercy College for thirteen years.

With best wishes.

Eugene Lynch
Editor



Craig Holmes, Principal Sacred Heart College Kyneton

I am very pleased to join the Sacred Heart College community in the delightful township of Kyneton. I feel privileged to have been appointed as the Principal of the College, and look forward to the challenges that lie ahead.

I attended Melbourne State College completing a Bachelor of Education, Business Studies and commenced my teaching at Salesian College 'Rupertswood'. Rupertswood at the time went through a transition from an agricultural boys boarding school to the implementation of co-education and the subsequent growth of the College in an increasingly urbanised environment. I held a variety of leadership positions in both pastoral guidance and curriculum, overseeing the implementation of VCE at the time. During this time I added a post graduate qualification in Educational Administration.

After fourteen years at Rupertswood, I moved to St Bernard's College in Essendon as the Curriculum Coordinator. Moving from here to the Catholic Education Office in Melbourne I worked in the School Services and Student Service departments, working with many external educational agencies, as a Team Leader and Acting Manager. My work also concentrated on the coordination of Indigenous education across the Victorian Diocese. During these years I completed a Masters in Educational Leadership at ACU and further studies in Religious Education. My previous school prior to my appointment to Sacred Heart College Kyneton was Catholic Regional College Sydenham where I was the Deputy Principal.

I am involved in the Parish of St Brigid's Gisborne, having been a past Chairperson of the Parish Education Board, and as a parent on the Holy Cross School Council.

In this new year and new role I am looking forward to working in a Catholic College in the Mercy tradition, having a passion for social justice and ensuring each student realises their full potential via an engaging school experience.

Having been involved in Catholic education for twenty-nine years, my focus will be the provision of the best possible education for our students in Kyneton and surrounding districts. Providing viable pathways for the variety of students that enrol at the College will remain central to the mission of the school. I have the expectation that all students will perform to the best of their ability while developing a healthy sense of who they are and how they can contribute to our society. The local community has had a strong association with Sacred Heart College, providing generous support to the many endeavours of the College and its students. I look forward to this ongoing connection with this vibrant community within the Macedon Ranges.

As a parent of both past and a present student I have experienced the wonderful community of Sacred Heart College Kyneton, where I look forward to spending the coming years in service to the students and community of this great school.



St Joseph's College Mercy Heritage Trail and Sr Rosemary Graham's 50 Years of Mercy

Coinciding with the 106th anniversary of the arrival of the Sisters of Mercy in Sunraysia, St Joseph's College unveiled the first phase of a Mercy Heritage Trail which will celebrate and tell the story of the establishment and presence of Mercy in Sunraysia over the years.

The Trail will take the form of panels at strategic locations around the school with graphics and explanatory notes that will inform the significance of buildings and feature some of the key Sisters who have contributed to the College in its long history. As a school and community founded in a rural setting far from the metropolitan centre of Victoria (and any other state), the Sisters of Mercy in Mildura had particular challenges to meet and the isolation provided opportunities for the establishment of a style of Mercy adapted to the local environment. The Trail will endeavour to capture the reality of life for the Mercy community of St Joseph's and to ensure that its story is kept alive in the students and staff in the future.

Also opened on this occasion was a Mercy Garden incorporating a paved Mercy Cross and plaque commemorating the presence of the Sisters of Mercy in Sunraysia. This will be a permanent reminder to students and staff of our Mercy ethos and heritage.



It was with great warmth and respect that the school also acknowledged 50 years of Mercy service and life of Sr Rosemary Graham rsm. Sr Rosemary has become a key aspect of the school's pastoral outreach to families in the district. Sr Rosemary works in the Ursula Frayne Well-Being Centre and can be found visiting families new to the school, chasing up students facing challenges at school or home, and generally addressing a multitude of situations that arise in the lives of families, staff and students. Sr Rosemary is a living model for Mercy for the current staff and for the entire school community.

The presence of the current Sisters of Mercy in Sunraysia, Sr Grace, Sr Marion McDonald, Sr Patricia Fitzgibbon and Sr Rosemary were joined by Sr Kath Tierney and Sr Madeleine Fox to assist the Principal, Mr Darren Atkinson in officially opening the Mercy Trail.

PHOTOS: (Clockwise from above left): College Council Chair, Mr Chris Ellis, Principal, Mr Darren Atkinson and MSEI Board Chair, Mr John Shannon.

From left, current Sisters of Mercy in Sunraysia, Sr Marion McDonald, Sr Grace Rogers, Sr Patricia Fitzgibbon and Sr Rosemary, joined by SJC College Council member, Sr Madeleine Fox, and Congregation Leader, Sr Kath Tierney.

SJC Director of Religious Education, Dr Tony Finn with Mrs Gail Shannon and Mr John Shannon.

Scholarships

The annual Mercy scholarship offered to each of the nine Mercy sponsored and co-sponsored schools, recognises students who demonstrate leadership in the Mercy tradition. Students chosen by their schools are acknowledged for their involvement in promoting school spirit, community service, fund raising and for their genuine concern for others less fortunate. Students featured below were the recipients of the 2010 Mercy Scholarship and we offer them, their families and their schools hearty congratulations.



Academy of Mary Immaculate



Year 7 – Michaela Bugara

Michaela is always willing to assist those in need and is considerate of all. As a student and in her role as class Vice Captain, she has demonstrated thoughtfulness and compassion for others. Michaela was instrumental in her year level raising a record amount in our Mercy Fundraising activities and has been an active member of

the SRC. She represents the school in volleyball, swimming and athletics and is a member of the book club and the Mary Mackillop singers. She has also participated in the Maths Enrichment program. Outside of school every school holidays, Michaela assists at her local St Vincent De Paul Op Shop sorting and organising clothes for sale.



Year 8 – Indira Natoli

Indira is truly a worthy recipient of this year's Year 8 Mercy Scholarship. She is genuinely engaged in all that she does at the Academy, whether it be completing an assignment for a particular subject or organising an extra curricula activity. Her level of commitment is infectious and all around her rally to help. She is a student

who leads by doing and is there for her fellow students and offers assistance when necessary to teachers. Indira is a member of a number of extra curricula groups and is an active member of the justice group.



Year 11 – Lan Trinh

Lan is indeed a most deserving recipient of the 2010 Year 11 Mercy Scholarship. Her commitment to equality and justice underpins all that she does, whether through her interactions with her teachers and peers, or through her consideration for those who are less fortunate. As Class Captain of 11 Green this year, Lan has shown excellent

leadership, serving the members of her homeroom with diligence, pride and above all, compassion.

Over the years, Lan has been an enthusiastic member of the Academy community particularly through her involvement in the Academy Dance Team and Year 10 Maths Committee. She has never been one to seek recognition for her work, preferring to remain out of the spotlight; it is this humility that makes her an even worthier recipient of this scholarship. Lan's involvement in various fundraising initiatives through 2010 is another example of how she truly epitomizes the

ideals inherent in the Mercy ethos. Lan has not restricted her community service to her involvement at school but in recent years, through her volunteering and participation in her local parish. She is and always has been, a true 'Academy girl'; a student who is not only dedicated to her studies but who demonstrates, on a daily basis, what it means to be a woman of Mercy.



Sacred Heart College, Geelong



Gemma Ross-McGlynn

The purpose of the Mercy Award is to foster leadership in the Mercy tradition and the recipient for Sacred Heart College in 2010, Gemma Ross-McGlynn, has indeed shown this throughout her time at the College. Gemma has actively demonstrated her commitment to Mercy through her strong involvement in social justice action. Gemma

came to Sacred Heart in 2008 and immediately embraced outreach opportunities. During her three years at the College she has worked together with staff and students to plan social justice activities designed to raise awareness about issues such as refugees, the homeless and disadvantaged groups within Geelong and beyond.

Gemma has taken part in the Edmund Rice Camps and has planned activities to raise funds for disadvantaged children. She has been the facilitator of an inter school reflection afternoon, leading sessions that help students understand that our outreach action stems from our desire to live out the Gospel values. Gemma has been an excellent role model and has worked hard to empower other students.



Mount Lilydale Mercy College



Vanessa Ciccotelli

Vanessa is 2010 recipient of the Mercy scholarship at Mount Lilydale Mercy College. She has exemplified the commitment to all aspects of College life that is at the heart of this award. Vanessa is an enthusiastic, charming, polite and reliable young woman who is always impeccably presented. She works very hard at her studies and this work ethic has been

rewarded with numerous academic and merit awards.

One of Vanessa's greatest gifts is her capacity to bring others with her. Through her leadership, energy and passion, she was instrumental in the organisation of this year's winning Year 11 Mercy Day float. Vanessa has also been a strong supporter of the College Play and the Yellow Ribbon program.

Vanessa is an outstanding communicator and was chosen as one of the students thanking parents, staff and guests at the 2010 Debutante Ball. In November, Vanessa gave a moving address on the meaning of Remembrance Day for young people at the Lilydale Remembrance Day ceremony.

Vanessa recognises, and is committed to, the importance of social justice and service to Mount Lilydale Mercy College as a Catholic school in the Mercy tradition. She was a member of the group that travelled to the remote Indigenous community of Jigalong, has participated in Seeds of Justice events and other Year level based fundraising activities, and was a founding member and leader of the College's recently formed St Vincent de Paul Conference. Vanessa's all round excellence as a student was recognised by her peers and the College staff when she was appointed College Vice Captain for 2011.



Our Lady of Mercy College, Heidelberg



Stephanie Stylli

Stephanie has displayed leadership in many key areas of college life. No task is too difficult for her to attempt and her willingness to assist and contribute is exemplary. Stephanie demonstrates an emphasis on helping others and providing service. This year she has, participated in the Austin Repat Volunteer program; been a 40

hour famine organiser; participated in a variety of clubs, school carnivals, Premier's reading challenge and House debating. In her role as class co-captain she was highly motivated and completed a range of activities to a very high standard.

Stephanie is a quiet achiever who often puts the needs of others before her own. She embraces all areas of school life but most importantly she is welcoming and respectful of staff and students alike. Stephanie lives the College values of justice, compassion, courage and joy. We congratulate Stephanie as the very worthy winner of the Mercy Scholarship for 2010.



St Joseph's College, Mildura



Jemma Pearl and Shamsul Kazi

The 2010 Mercy Scholarship has been awarded to two students, Jemma Pearl and Shamsul Kazi. Both students are extremely active in promoting the Mercy spirit at St Joseph's College. They are involved in all levels of community service within the College and also in the wider community.



Shamsul writes; "So why should I be the recipient of the Mercy Scholarship for 2010? I am not one of those people who is able to stand in front of people and talk about all the injustices in the world. I realize that the problems will not be solved by just talking and thinking big. The changes must occur locally, within us, by doing the little things before the big changes can be achieved. I take pride

in this school and I am proud of the things this school does to eradicate the problems in the world...I haven't done great things, but I do the little things that will add to the great things."

Jemma is an active member of the school community. In 2010 year she helped organise a huge fund-raiser for a school in Uganda. Funds raised will be used to stock the Library at the school. Last year's funds helped to build the Library. Jemma's

passion is Science and she has used this to educate herself about the food shortage gripping the world. "This is going to make the poor even poorer and the rich richer. I believe that through the proper management of water, land and resources the global community will be able to feed everyone, but we will have to work together." Jemma and Shamsul are passionate about bringing about a more just world, starting within our own small St Joseph's College community.

"All great things are simple, and many can be expressed in a single word: freedom, justice, honour, duty, mercy, hope."

Winston Churchill



Sacred Heart College, Kyneton



Joshua Buschmann

Joshua has quietly contributed, and organised his friends to contribute, to fundraisers, the Soup Kitchen and many other activities within the College without making any noise about it. He was a leading light in raising a significant amount of money for the Pakistan Flood Appeal. Joshua has been a dedicated and diligent Science Leader this year and has

assisted in implementing many new activities and programs for students in this area of study. He is a wonderful, kind and thoughtful presence within the classroom and supports teachers and the College expectations in his own quiet way. Joshua is very much respected by other students and he is a most deserving recipient for the Mercy Scholarship for 2010.



Catholic College Bendigo



Zoe Johnston

Catholic College Bendigo is delighted to announce that the Mercy Scholarship has been awarded to a student who epitomises what it is to truly 'Live the Good News' by upholding the values of justice respect and service.

The theme for 2010 at Catholic College Bendigo was 'Through Living Hope We Sow

Our Future'. Zoe is a young woman of remarkable insight. Her whole approach to life and her studies can be represented by commitment to her faith and others. She approaches everything she does with diligence and the wish to do her very best, particularly in the area of service to others. She is someone who shows initiative and the capacity for strong team building and her strong interpersonal and communications skills enable whatever group she is involved in to maximise their achievements.

What motivates Zoe is her strong personal faith in God. Her commitment to others stems from a great respect for all, empathy for all and an ability to walk in others shoes. This is evident in Zoe's preparedness to put her hand up for many of the leadership roles in our College particularly those around justice, expressions of her deep faith and activities which enhance the social, educational and Catherine McAuley inspired ethos of our College.

It should be acknowledged that Zoe has discovered and found expression for her catholic faith over her years at our College and has built on this commitment through volunteering in many capacities. She has undertaken such things as the McAuley Leadership Workshop, interschool debating, the

Women showing the Way Forum, Caritas Ks, the CCB Green Team and breakfast initiatives. She is someone who constantly challenges herself beyond her comfort zone.

The principles of Catherine McAuley are widely recognised as service to others particularly those less fortunate, humility, despite the fortunate aspects of our own existence, resilience in the face of difficulty and challenge underpinned by a strong commitment to one's faith: Zoe Johnston exemplifies all of these things. Well done Zoe, you are indeed a worthy recipient of the Mercy Scholarship



Emmanuel College, Warrnambool

Isaac Mahoney-Kendall

Isaac is a very worthy shared recipient of the Emmanuel College Mercy Award for 2010. Isaac is a very conscientious and hardworking student and this year he has been able to balance great academic success with a very active social conscience. Isaac participated in the Mercy Seeds of Justice program where the

students travelled to Melbourne and participated in a variety of workshops dealing with Social Justice Issues. He was a leader in the Emmanuel Homework Club providing after school tutoring of younger students.

Isaac was a member of the Year 11 student leadership team and his leadership qualities have been recognised again by the college with the role of college Captain for 2011. This year has seen Isaac participate in a number of fund raising initiatives, including the raising of funds and awareness into Cancer research where Isaac was involved in the preparation and presentation of one of the workshops. Earlier this year Isaac committed to take part in the planning and training involved in a World Challenge Program. Currently Isaac is currently in India fulfilling the commitments of this challenge and is a very worthy joint winner of the Mercy Scholarship for 2010.

Alice Piper

Alice Piper joins Isaac as Emmanuel College Mercy Award recipient for 2010. In 2010 Alice has consistently displayed the Mercy ethos in her activities at our College and in the wider community. She has been able to very successfully combine the demands of a student's academic life with a very active social conscience. Like Isaac, Alice

participated in the Mercy Seeds for Justice Program and she has also been involved in the afterschool tutoring of younger students.

Alice always displays care and consideration of students and staff alike and she was involved in a variety of awareness and fund raising activities this year. Her leadership qualities were evident in her role as a member of the Year 11 student leadership team and she regularly assisted with the presentation of campus assemblies. These leadership qualities have been recognised by her peers and staff alike and she has been elected as part of the college student leadership team for 2011. Alice is also currently in India participating in the World Challenge consisting of a community project and the participation in personal and team oriented physical challenges. We congratulate both Alice and Isaac as the Emmanuel College Mercy Scholarship recipients for 2010.

Welcome to new Senior staff



Mount Lilydale Mercy College



Brian Hawthorne – Deputy Principal – Director of Studies

Brian commenced at Mount Lilydale Mercy College in 2000. During his time at the College he has held various leadership positions including that of Barak Campus Co-Director and Director of Learning.

He has a distinct belief in Catholic Education, infused with a market oriented approach; that of meeting the needs of students.

This has resulted in Brian leading various pathways reforms at the College. In 2007 Brian undertook a Masters of Education Policy (International) at the University of Melbourne, which included visiting many OECD schools to analyse best practices.

Brian has been on various committees for VCAA and the CECV, which has provided a rich understanding of all aspects of curriculum. He is particularly focussed on aiming to improve transitions for all students, both academically and vocationally and his work with the Pathways and Transitions Team at the CEOM reflects this.

Catholic Education has been the cornerstone for Brian's career. After completing his Degree, he undertook his Post Graduate Diploma in Secondary Education at the Australian Catholic University. He commenced teaching at Nazareth College in 1993 and was appointed a Head of Faculty as well as a Year Level Coordinator after two years.

In 1997 he was lured to help pioneer one of the first Year 9 Centres in the State, before returning to Catholic Education in 2000 with his appointment at Mount Lilydale Mercy College.

Brian believes that all educators should experience a range of school settings. His extended time as he calls it at Mount Lilydale Mercy College is due to his fitting the niche of Mercy philosophy and his assimilation with Mercy works.

Brian is married with 3 young children, the eldest commencing Prep this year. As a proud father, he understands the need for making education relevant to the challenges that the current generation face globally, whilst still being mindful to uphold the intrinsic skills needed for holistic growth.

Having spent extended periods of time interstate, he believes that his journey in Mercy education should not be limited geographically, but by where he can make a difference.



Michael Haywood – Director of Mission

My wife Liz and I came over to Australia just before starting at Mount Lilydale Mercy College, having taught in England for thirty years. I have always believed in the Catholic sector of Education, which is why I have taught in four schools in different parts of England, including an Ecumenical School (Anglican/Roman Catholic), where I

was in charge of the Catholic dimension of the school.

I have been Head of Department at two of the schools and worked with the different dioceses in various capacities. I was teaching in my last school in England for twenty years and was Head of Department for thirteen years.

For the final seven years I switched directions slightly and was appointed Head of Faith Development, where I had a very satisfying job of developing music and liturgy groups with the students.

As a member of the Mount Lilydale Mercy College Leadership Team, I hope that some of the experiences in my career will be useful in helping develop the College as an institute of learning and as a developing Christian community. I am delighted to have the opportunity and privilege to take up the position of Director of Mission at the College.

In my four years as RE teacher at the College, I have seen wonderful examples of 'Faith in Action', including the tremendous response to those who suffered in the bushfires, the almost tangible love and support given to all members of the College community following the sudden death of a teacher and colleague, and the many other acts of love performed by staff and students alike.

The established social justice activities at the College show that St. James' warning that faith needs to be accompanied by good deeds is definitely 'taken on board'.

Despite the recent 'Ashes' result, Liz and I have received a great welcome since moving over to Australia, in both College and Parish. Three of our four grown up children live here and I am pleased to report that I have not forgotten the skills involved in nappy changing and bath time for our three grandchildren!



Michael Callanan – Barak Campus Co-Director

It is with great excitement and optimism that I commence my appointment as Barak Campus Co-Director at Mount Lilydale Mercy College and the Mercy education family. I grew up in this area and was educated by the Salesian brothers at St Josephs in Ferntree Gully.

After working and teaching in Industry I returned to Catholic Education, spending the past fourteen years with the Marist Brothers at Marcellin College in Bulleen. Being a teacher of Physical Education, Sport, Technology and Science has kept me busy with hands-on experience in the learning environment for students. I gain great pleasure in helping young people develop a passion for lifelong learning which will see them grow and develop as positive and proactive members of our society.

I have always kept busy and worked in a variety of leadership positions including curriculum development, pastoral care, wellbeing, student leadership, careers and facility development.

I am looking forward to bringing this experience to support the community at Mount Lilydale Mercy College. I have

already received an energetic and warm welcome from the students and staff at the College.

Two highlights in education over recent years have been visiting and supporting the community at Santa Teresa in Alice Springs through the Marist network and supporting a language exchange program for thirty-five students at the Haidan International School in Beijing, China.

As a Catholic school with strong Catholic identity we have a wonderful opportunity to engage the young people in our care in wider experiences beyond the classroom. I look forward to working with the Mercy Education network over the coming years.

My wife, Debbie, and I have settled back into the area and enjoy spending time with our family, playing golf, exercising and keeping up with energetic Border Collies. I also spend time following the current Premiers, Collingwood.



Sacred Heart College, Geelong



Marlo Drake – Director of Social Justice and Mission

My appointment as Director of Social Justice & Mission at Sacred Heart College, Geelong completes a circle of Mercy Education that first began during my primary schooling where a commitment to caring for all was an entrenched part of my education.

The Sisters of Mercy who taught me left a lasting impression of the importance of grounding our values in the Gospels and living the vision of bringing about a just and compassionate world – which is clearly the Mercy mission in today's society. Educating for justice in our secondary schools provides a unique opportunity to further entrench a commitment to equity, respect and justice for all people, as well as a wide ranging knowledge of the injustices that exist in our world, and practical means to reduce these inequalities.

As a mature age entrant to the teaching profession, I have had the fortunate opportunity to have spent the past six years working in organisations that have had a very strong commitment to Social Justice. I spent a number of years employed at Mount St Joseph Girls College in Altona in the role of Years 7-9 Religious Education Coordinator, and as a member of the College's Faith Development Team. I was also seconded to the Catholic Education Office, Melbourne for almost two years, working as the Placed Teacher at the Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre.

In my role as Director of Social Justice & Mission, I can see the Mercy ethos working hand-in-hand with the inspiring message to, "Never see a need without trying to do something about it" that underpinned the life of Australia's first Saint. Both Catherine McAuley and Mary MacKillop provide excellent models of faith in action, and of women who were prepared to stand up when necessary in order to bring about social change.

On a personal note, there are many positive aspects to working in Geelong, not the least of which is more time with my family.

After spending a number of years traveling down an increasingly congested highway to Melbourne, it is a joy to be close to the three of my four children who are attending schools locally. The fact that my daughters attend a Brigidine College provides us with some rigorous debate about the relative merits of the two charisms.

In my short time at Sacred Heart College, I have witnessed an enormous generosity of spirit in both staff and students. I look forward to becoming a part of this community and nurturing the Gospel values that inspire our Mercy mission.



Maria Lukesic - Director of Students

I am very pleased and proud to have been appointed Director of Students at Sacred Heart College, Geelong, a school with which I have a very long and happy association.

Growing up in Geelong after migrating with my family from Croatia, I was very fortunate to have been educated at Sacred Heart

where I experienced first-hand the Mercy Ethos and was enveloped in that wonderful sense of community so evident in Mercy schools.

After graduating from the University of Melbourne, I began my teaching career with the State Department from which I resigned after four years as I wanted to travel overseas. On my return from Europe I was successful in my application for the position of Head of Geography at my alma mater and I have not looked back since.

As a Catholic educator with over twenty-five years of classroom experience, I have taught across Years 7 to 12. My subject areas are Geography, which I teach to VCE and Religious Education.

I have significant leadership experience having been a Year Level Coordinator for the last fifteen years, coordinating from Year 9 to Year 12. I am still passionate about working with young people in an effort to help each one reach her potential.

A past student as well as a long-standing member of staff, I have a true commitment to Sacred Heart and our College Ethos. I am very proud of this school and want to continue to play an active role in maintaining the high standards established over the years.

I look forward to doing what I can to enhance the school's great reputation and quality of education as well as to continue to promote our core values of respect and dignity for each individual.



Sacred Heart College Kyneton



Denis Graham – Director of Teaching and Learning

I began at Sacred College Kyneton at the beginning of 2010 and was appointed to the Leadership Team in 2011. My last appointment to a Victorian Catholic School had been at CRC Sydenham (1988-1994), with earlier experiences being at Epping and CRC St. Albans.

Since that time my family spent 12 years in Derby (West Kimberley), Broken Hill and Dubbo (Western NSW).

My Aboriginal Education experiences were in primary, secondary and adult settings. Amongst this were a few years of domestic duties as we raised our young family. Throughout this time my wife Sharon worked as a Flight nurse with the Royal Flying Doctors.

My last appointment in Dubbo was with the Department of Education. This interesting position involved leading an Itinerant Support Team of Behaviour Teachers covering a vast range of schools from such iconic places as Bourke, Lightning Ridge and Parkes.

With ageing and sick parents we returned to Victoria in 2006. For the next four years at the brand new Wallan Secondary College, I was able to share my northern experiences in establishing the school's Student Welfare Program.

So here I am back working in Catholic Education at a Mercy school, having worked with some of these wonderful Mercy sisters in earlier years at St. Albans and Sydenham. 'Mercy at Work' certainly provides you with great energy and a clear focus.

I am really enjoying the experiences and challenges of SHC Kyneton and look forward to some rewarding years working with a wonderful group of teachers who are so passionate about keeping the McAuley dream alive.



St Aloysius College, North Melbourne



Bernadette Hogan

I feel very fortunate to have been given the opportunity to work in a school such as St Aloysius College. It seems to be a place where staff members are dedicated to the education and wellbeing of the students, and students have a sense of pride and belonging. It is also a place where I felt immediately welcomed and supported by

the whole community.

I completed my secondary education at Damascus College in Ballarat, and after finishing undergraduate studies in Psychology at Ballarat University I completed my graduate Diploma in Education at ACU's Aquinas campus.

I spent my first year teaching at Monivae College in Hamilton, then moved to Melbourne where I taught at Santa Maria College in Northcote and took on the position of Religious Education faculty head in 2006.

In 2008 I completed a Masters in Religious Education, and that year I was lucky enough to join a group of students from St Patrick's College in Ballarat to World Youth in Sydney, which was a truly amazing, faith affirming experience.

Given that I attended a Mercy school, and that my inspiration for teaching Religious Education came from being educated and mentored by some incredible women within the Mercy congregation, it was inevitable that I find myself teaching somewhere like St Aloysius.

So far I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting the challenges the present themselves in this role and I am sure I will continue to do so.