Building Pathways in 2015

From the Principal

This year has been one of seeing the fruit of plans and hopes that we have been working on for a number of years. We are immensely encouraged to see all that God is doing here. Two major components of our Strategic Plan are being intentionally addressed: Building pathways to ordination, and pathways for Indigenous teachers.

It has been a problem in the past for our partner churches that the College has only been able to offer training up to the Certificate III level. In response to this we started the Certificate IV in Theology and Ministry this year. This provides opportunities for church leaders to develop a deeper understanding of the Scriptures, to be trained in leadership and ministry and for some to go on to ordination.

Our Indigenous Assistant Teachers programme has continued to develop this year with an Assistant Teacher for each Certificate III in Theology class as well as for our Certificate II in Media and Discipleship class. The next step will be to identify candidates for teacher training.

Once again we are finishing the year with a flurry of graduations. We have had over 80 students graduate across 4 courses.

While it has been fantastic to see so many things starting to come together, the uncertainty about funding and staffing is a major matter for prayer. We are continuing to seek new ways to increase financial support for the College including fees, social enterprises and renting of our facilities.

I want to express our thanks to all our supporters for the ongoing support you give. We couldn't manage without you!

Dr Jude Long—Principal

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Indigenous Assistant Teachers

This year we have been able to take some significant steps forward in employing Indigenous Assistant Teachers. Through the support of the Uniting Church and the Church Missionary Society, we have been able to employ 7 Indigenous Assistant Teachers this year—covering Certificate III in Theology and the Certificate II in Media and Discipleship. Yurranydjil, Maratja, Matjarra, Wangarr, Mandy, Marlene and James have made wonderful contributions to our teaching. The teachers (and the students) are really learning a lot! We are looking forward to holding an Indigenous Teachers Workshop at the beginning of next year. This will begin the process of equipping our Indigenous Assistant Teachers to become the teachers of the future, and at the same time for the non-Indigenous teachers to be learning more about culturally appropriate teaching and learning.

Social Media

Our Facebook page has become a popular place for supporters to see what is happening at the College. We also have a Twitter feed, a YouTube Channel and a Flickr photo album.

Why not visit our social media outlets and show your support.
New Theology Courses for 2016

The accredited courses we teach regularly come up for review and reaccreditation. This is a huge job! Because of the challenges involved and looming reaccreditation of the Certificate IV in Theology, we have made the decision to change the courses we are offering. From next year we will be moving to the Certificate III and IV in Christian Ministry and Theology which is used by a number of different colleges around Australia. While these courses were not specifically written for Indigenous Christians, there is a lot of flexibility to customise them for our students. It has been a fantastic process to consult with students, church leaders, board members, and staff about the content and direction of the courses. The new Certificate III will have a focus on providing a Biblical foundation, while the Certificate IV will focus on Christian leadership. As a staff we have been meeting together every week to discuss the design of each unit. It has been a wonderful experience and we are really excited about what will be offered next year.

Student profiles

Craig ROGERS
My name is Craig Rogers. I live at Ngukurr community with my wife, Rose Ponto, near the mighty Roper River. My language is Kriol.
I always help with Yangbala Youth Camp and also with Katherine Christian Convention. Nungalinya College has helped me a lot. Studying has built up my confidence and my favourite subject was Pastoral Care. God has been with me during my Certificate III. Now I am looking forward to Certificate IV in Christian Ministry next year.

Rose PONTO
Hello my name is Rose Ponto. I’m from Ngukurr community. My language is Kriol.
My ministry is doing action songs with young Christians at funerals and other special occasions within the community. I help on Sunday morning and I like to be strong in my faith, confident to stand among the crowd to preach the Word of God at funerals and talk to young or middle aged people.
I appreciate my experience at Nungalinya College. I’ve been studying very hard for nearly four years and I’m happy that I passed my course this year. Thank you to the staff for everything that they provided for us at the College and thanks for our good time this year.
God is calling me to do ministry in my community so it can be an example for my family. I would like to do Certificate IV in Christian Ministry next year.

The Nungalinya Board, Principal and Staff wish all our supporters a Merry Christmas.
We look forward to your partnership again in 2016.

‘For today in the city of David there has been born to you a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.’
LUKE 2:11
Firm Foundations

Nungalinya College is firmly grounded in Jesus Christ, The Rock. The theological foundations are vital for effective ministry just as buildings are vital for the conduct of classes, feeding and accommodating students and to provide ministry support through administration.

After 43 years of operation, some of our buildings are showing signs of wear. Some need to be brought up to modern standards of safety. This is a growing issue for the college as the deadline for compliance, June 2016, approaches.

The College’s limiting factor is student accommodation. If we can’t upgrade our student accommodation units, we will have to decommission them and thus limit our student intake.

We are seeking large donations to enable these repairs, over and above the normal support received. If you think you can help, please contact the Principal.

Volunteers

Partnerships with volunteers are an important way of contributing to the running of Nungalinya College. Individuals and churches provide labour and expertise that would normally cost more than the college could afford.

This year we have had volunteers painting, gardening, building a ramp to enable the disabled to access our Resource Centre, designing a proposal for future development, filing, teaching, renovating staff housing and much more.

Please contact the College if you would like to volunteer.

Thank you! Nungalinya relies on your support.

NAME:
ADDRESS:
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EMAIL:

Give electronically at: nungalinya.edu.au/donate

or call 1800 645 147 to donate today