

# The St Andrew's College Experience

A world-class College Life Program

January 2018

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

St Andrew's College is an excellent co-residential university college and an academic community which combines the characteristics of:

A society of friends – Where an eclectic collection of individuals comes together in a womb of friendship under the unifying and affiliative power of an idea and a place, and where the threads of interpersonal relationships become the ties that bind for life, enriched by an attitude of tolerance and mutual respect applied to the social interactions of everyday life.

**An academy of scholars** – Where a commitment to excellence in the pursuit of illumination is cherished, encouraged, supported and celebrated, and where the life of the mind is enriched by laughter and fun, by endless discussion about the big questions in life and by intimate contact with first class minds.

A centre for personal growth – where the interplay of wisdom and energy informs a commitment to a model of self-determined governance to create real experiences in leadership, civic duty and respectful relationships in consideration of the lives of others, and where a complex web of relationship and opportunity in social, emotional, sporting and cultural domains forms a supportive pastoral scaffold for the journey towards a rounded and balanced life.

St Andrew's College is committed to the continual development of the outstanding programs, facilities and services necessary to ensure that it remains an exemplar of the excellent co-residential university college. The College aims to enhance the personal growth, development and academic success of its residents by providing opportunities to achieve in a safe, comfortable and stimulating environment. The College seeks to educate, challenge and develop each student to lead lives of contribution and meaning.

To achieve this, St Andrew's College introduced the College Life Program to develop the opportunities available to members of our community to help them flourish and develop their life, academic and professional skills.

This program consists of a number of different aspects;

Academic Program

Leadership Development

Personal Development

Professional Development

Social and Cultural Program

Community Service and Engagement Program

Senior Common Room

The following sections provide details on how each aspect of the College Life Program is implemented.

## 2. ACADEMIC PROGRAM

In the past, academic and professional success was seen by students as an individual endeavour rather than one enhanced by residing at College. In fact, in the past, residing at College may have resulted in poorer academic outcomes. Over recent years this focus has shifted with students, their families and the College staff, placing academic and professional excellence at the centre of the College experience on equal footing with all other activities and endeavours undertaken by students

while resident at St Andrew's College. As a result College has developed a wide range of programs to support students to achieve their academic goals. These programs are described below. They undergo continuous evaluation by all involved and are updated and modified in response to this feedback.

#### 2.1 Academic Probation

From 2015 onwards, students have been expected to achieve an annual average mark (AAM) of 65 or higher with no fails. Each semester a number of students do not fulfil these requirements. As a result they are asked to 'show cause' and reviewed by the Academic Review Committee at the end of each semester. As a result a number of students are excluded from College each year.

Those students who have not achieved the academic requirements of College who were permitted to return are placed on probation. Students on probation are separated into 3 groups:

#### Level 1 Probation.

Any student who fails to achieve an AAM of 65 is required to attend regular meetings with their academic mentor, pass all subjects, attend tutorials as agreed, and achieve AAM of 65 or their place in college will be jeopardised.

#### Level 2 Probation.

Any student who fails one subject is required to attend regular meetings with their academic mentor, pass all subjects and achieve an AAM of 65, attend tutorials as agreed, and if they fail to do any of these, they are excluded from College the following semester

#### Continuous Probation.

Any student who fails more than one subject in any preceding semester is required to attend regular meetings with their academic mentor and attend tutorials as agreed. Failure to do so will result in immediate expulsion from College. They also need to pass all subjects and achieve an AAM of 65, and if they fail to do any of these, they will be excluded from College the following semester.

For all of these groups, the particular circumstances of each individual are taken into account so that fair decisions can be made. These extenuating circumstance remain confidential and are not disclosed to the student body.

#### 2.2 Academic Mentors for Students on Probation

This role is undertaken by senior undergraduate and post graduate residents of College including the Dean of Students, Sub -Deans, PhD/Masters Scholarship holders, Dean of Studies and Senior Tutor. The number of students falling into this group may increase with the revised academic standards and more mentors may be needed. This may be partially filled by Teaching Fellows, and alumni mentors as discussed below. Academic Mentors are assigned to all students on academic probation and assist them to achieve their academic goals. Mentors do not teach subject material, but rather support the student to create better study and organisational habits. They are also able to alert the Academic Team if the student is struggling to achieve their academic aims so more support can be put in place as appropriate.

#### 2.3 Academic Buddies

All first year students are matched with senior students who are undertaking the same degree. These students also act as student mentors and have undertaken training to take on this role. This program seeks to assist freshers to negotiate the logistics of their course. Buddies are not required to act as a tutor or to discuss subject content in depth but rather to support the fresher with settling into their degree and university. This may include assisting them to understand issues such as 'blackboard', assignment submission, choosing tutorials etc. An honorary position, it is seen as a valued community responsibility by current residents.

In addition, there may be scope for academic buddies to support the formation of informal study groups by being a point of contact and information for informal student-led groups.

This program is strongly supported by the Students' Club, who continue to play a vital role in the success of the program.

## 2.4 Recent Androvian (alumni) Academic Mentors.

This program will engage with recent College alumni, who will, as non-residents, return to College to assist 'high-risk' first year students to achieve their academic aims.

'High risk' first year students are a group of students identified on demographics and new student interviews to be a high risk of performing poorly. They are considered to need a similar level of academic support to Level 1 probation students.

The role of the Alumni mentor encompasses assisting students with issues such as time management, study skills, examination techniques, planning study and some one on one coaching or tutoring in subject matter. Prospective alumni mentors were academically successful during their residence in College, generally achieving a Distinction average. The first meeting will take place in

Week 1-2 of semester, and then regular meetings occur through the semesters in response to student need. These meetings may be via phone, email, SMS or in person.

Each Androvian mentor will support 3-5 students. The program will match degrees and mentors will have an understanding of the issues that may face their mentees either as a result of their own experience, for example, as elite sports people or be able to demonstrate that they have an understanding of the cultural and personal issues that may face their mentees. Mentors are required to meet with their mentees throughout each semester. While this is based on individual need, it is suggested that they meet with their mentees on at least 5 occasions during the year.

There is flexibility to allow the Androvian mentors to act as mentors for students on probation as required, if it seemed that they had the best skill set for individual students. Students commencing in Semester 2 who fall into the high risk category may be mentored through that program.

The Alumni Liaison member on the House Committee is actively involved in this program. Androvian mentors are required to keep the Dean of Studies up to date with their mentees by sending a short email after each meeting and raising any concerns they had with an individual student's progress, so that greater support can be put in place. All Androvian Mentors will attend training prior to commencement of their role and will be offered ongoing support by the St Andrew's academic team.

## 2.5 Non Residential Teaching Fellows

This is a new program, open to academics (generally early in their careers), as a two year appointment. It involves some tutoring in their area of expertise and the provision of academic support for students. This will include students on probation and also high-achieving students.

Teaching fellows are currently being sought from all major faculties, including but not limited to science, arts, business, law, engineering and health sciences. Interest in the positions has been high to date. Interviews take place in late February with the positions to commence in early March. Teaching fellows will also undertake 'Oxbridge tutorials' in the academic writing tutorial program and academic subject group tutorials.

Teaching fellows will be encouraged to become active members of the Senior Common Room and invited to give talks on their area of research or area of interest as part of the Senior Common Room Intellectual Program.

## 2.6 Academic Honesty, Referencing and Database Use.

Each semester St Andrew's College runs a mandatory academic honesty session for all students. These sessions highlight the need for the highest academic integrity. In addition group sessions are run on correct referencing and cover the use of programs such as EndNote that can assist students to do this better.

Students are also invited to attend sessions that assist them to make better use of databases. These programs have been successful in assisting students with research and the management of research material and correct referencing and aim to decrease the risk of academic dishonesty.

## 2.7 Academic Writing, Oxbridge Tutorials

Academic writing tutorials are run for individual students in response to student demand. The focus of these tutorials is to assist students to improve their writing and academic rigour. The tutorials are run by high achieving post graduate resident and non-resident students and have attracted high interest from the students. The program has been successful in encouraging the ablest students to further build on their academic success as well as supporting average and under achieving students.

High achieving students are encouraged to participate in an extension program based on the Oxbridge model of tutorial/supervision which permits an in-depth treatment within the subject discipline via one-to-one interaction with a senior academic teaching fellow. This program is offered to the top 10% of undergraduate residents (25 or so) across all disciplines.

## 2.8 Subject Tutors, Group Seminar Facilitators

This is a well-established part of the St Andrew's College Academic Program that has been in place for many years. Staffed by casual tutors, these tutorials are run on a regular or as needed basis in response to student demand in over 80 different subjects.

The tutorial program is well developed and its structure has been refined to reflect the greater demand for both places and subject choice. Senior resident undergraduate students with excellent academic records and communication skills are utilised as tutors, as are post-graduate members where their expertise is relevant. All tutors are required to undergo a full day training course to ensure that they are equipped to tutor. This course covers adult learning concepts, issues of plagiarism, teaching students to think rather than spoon feeding answers.

# 2.9 Ongoing engagement with tutorial programs at other Colleges

For some years, St Andrew's has run combined tutorials with other Sydney University Colleges. The Colleges meet regularly to assess student need and share tutorial resources as required. The combined tutorials increase the ability to offer a diverse range of tutorials for students of all colleges. There are however limitations around tutorial sharing with other colleges, due to diverse policies and available times and spaces in which to run the tutorials and some student reluctance to attend tutorials at other Colleges.

## 2.10. Visiting Tutorial Students

This program provides a fee-based opportunity for non-members of College to participate in formal dinner and tutorials. Residents of other colleges where tutorial programs do not exist have joined the program on a similar basis.

## 2.11 Other Options for Support

The Sydney University Elite Athletes Program and Indigenous student programs also offer relevant residents of St Andrew's College increased support. The St Andrew's Academic Team has developed good working relationships with these programs will continue to actively engage with them to ensure best outcomes for participating students.

## 2.12 The St Andrew's Academic Team

The Academic Program is supported by the Director of College Life, Senior Tutor, Dean of Studies, Deans of Students, Senior and Junior Academic Area Tutors and the College Life Project Officer. The team administers all the programs and assists casual tutors, external mentors and teaching fellows to undertake their roles.

In Week 2-3 of Semester 1, all first year students are invited to meet with the Senior Tutor, Dean of Studies, resident post graduate students and non-residential Teaching Fellows to assess their academic and tutorial needs. These short interviews also allow students to begin to form

relationships with academic staff so that they can more easily seek help if and when needed. The team meets regularly throughout the academic year to discuss program issues and student progress.

## 2.13 Scholarships, Prizes and Bursary program

The Academic Program has a wide range of scholarships and prizes and offers substantial financial assistance (bursaries) to students who without this support would not be able to reside at College. Approximately \$550,000 per annum is allocated from carefully managed College resources across the means-tested and means-blind spectrum. In addition, approximately \$650,000 is awarded on pure merit in acknowledgement of excellence in academic, leadership, cultural, sporting and all-round domains.

**PhD/Masters Scholars.** PhD scholars are an important part of the academic mentoring team. They tutor in both the group tutorial program and Oxford tutorials. They are integral to the life of the Senior Common Room.

**Undergraduate Scholarships.** Prospective students can apply for and be accepted on scholarships prior to entry into College. These scholarships are awarded to student on the basis of their potential and require a Distinction average to be maintained for the length of the scholarship.

**Academic Awards and Prizes.** The College also has a large number of awards and prizes for past academic merit. These include:

**Thistle Awards.** The top 15 academic achievers in Semester 1 are awarded a Thistle each year. Repeat winners are awarded a silver or bronze Thistle for each ensuing year that they are in the top 15 students. These awards are presented at the Valedictory Dinner by the Students' Club Executive on the same night as the College Sporting Blue and Social and Cultural Colours presentations.

**St Andrew's Medal.** This prestigious medal is awarded to the resident with the highest academic achievement over the first three years of their undergraduate study. The award takes place at the University and Schools dinner in May of each year.

**Bursaries.** Each year a number of bursaries are given to academically gifted students who would not otherwise be able to reside at College. These include very generous bursaries for indigenous students and student from low income or disadvantaged backgrounds.

#### 2.14 Study facilities

St Andrew's College has a broad range of study spaces and tutorial rooms that are regularly used for group based learning. Students also have internet access in their individual rooms.

The College computer system supports students also with internet access, college computers and printers and this is upgraded regularly.

# 3. LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

## 3.1 Leadership development for all students

After completing study and entering the workforce many students will become leaders, they will manage and direct others in their chosen fields. Students at St Andrew's are be provided with the opportunity to further develop leadership skills by taking part in leadership training. Those who complete this training are then able to volunteer and take part in the senior resident mentoring program, and to stand for election for House Committee roles as leaders of the Students' Club.

The leadership training program was developed following consultation with leading training industry consultants. Leading research by Professor Moira Carmody into ethical relationships has been woven into a St Andrew's-specific program which is highly relevant to the needs of this particular residential community.

The training is delivered in a series of two-hour face to face workshops and an online component conducted during the second semester each year. The program concludes with a three day intensive program immediately prior to Orientation Week, which includes first aid and mental health first aid training. The aim of this training is to assist individuals to work better with colleagues and peers, and to understand the elements of the mentor relationship and other leadership roles in the College.

The current student leaders facilitate and run this training with the support of the Director of College Life and the program is continuously evaluated and further developed in response to feedback and need.

# 3.2 Student Mentor Program

This program is well established in St Andrew's College. Each student mentor is allocated three first year students from Orientation Week for two semesters. Mentors greet first year students, orientate them to the College and University environment and support them through their first year at College.

All mentors complete leadership training as detailed above prior to commencing their roles as mentors. Mentors are selected by the House Committee in consultation with the Principal. They also undertake academic buddying for first year students.

Mentors, first year students, the Director of College Life and the Principal evaluate the program at the end of each semester.

#### 3.3 Deans of Students

The Principal appoints two Deans of Students who work closely with the Vice Principal in coordinating the pastoral framework in College. These students are members of the Senior Common Room, and provide an important link between Senior Common Room and the Junior Common Room. They supervise the pastoral response of the subdeans and are the front line pastoral officers in Students' Club life.

# 3.4 Student Subdeans

The Principal appoints a number of Subdeans who fulfil the role of senior residential assistants. These students are senior students who have been resident in College for three years or more. Their role is to provide a point of contact for students with issues that may range from accessing rooms to health and welfare.

Students who take up these roles are supported by College staff and undergo a period of training to prepare them for the role.

Successes and difficulties encountered with current programs at other Sydney University Colleges have been useful in informing the initial setup of the St Andrew's program. A comprehensive policy and procedures manual has been produced which sets out the roles and responsibilities of the Deans and Subdeans.

# 3.5 Gender Equity and Respectful Relationships

The College regards the principles of gender equity and respectful relationships as the core elements of living in a residential community. During O Week and at the beginning of second semester, compulsory sessions are scheduled which explore the challenges of co-residential community life, and result in an affirmation of trademark behaviours central to and characteristic of this community.

The Principal and the Director of College Life attended a programme which qualified both as trainers in the 'Sex and Ethics' program developed by Professor Carmody and Karen Willis.

The Senior Tutor and Vice Principal attended a half day training run by the University addressing issues of safety and harassment. As an organisation, the College supports a campus-wide approach and continues to work closely with the University, collaborating on and supporting new gender equity and safety initiatives.

The Director of College Life, the Senior Tutor, the Chaplain and the College Bursar are the designated College Respectful Relationships Officers. They are available for students to approach and discuss any issues that they or other students may be facing. All discussions are confidential and are focused on ensuring that the individual/s involved are supported and empowered to be safe and seek appropriate redress.

## 3.6 Mental Health First Aid Training

Deans of Students, Subdeans, Student Leaders and Senior Student Mentors all undertake mental health first aid training prior to Orientation Week each year and assist the Director of College Life to collaborate with students to further support those with mental health issues.

# 3.7 First Aid Training

Deans of Students, Subdeans, Student Leaders and Senior Student Mentors undertake first aid training prior to Orientation Week each year to ensure that appropriately trained resources are available for a range of student activities during Orientation Week and for the remainder of the Intercollegiate activities scheduled throughout the academic year.

# 4. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

## 4.1 Professional Mentoring for Senior Students

The goal of this professional development opportunity is to assist senior students to prepare for professional life. This program is already in place with alumni attending faculty and discipline-based dinners and cocktail gatherings and chatting informally to students. This program has been expanded to create "Careers Week", a collaborative partnership between mentors, alumni, friends of College and students to provide a bridge between formal academic training and professional life. An additional component sees academic staff from the university invited to join students and professionals from the relevant fields to enhance networking opportunities.

Mentors may be allocated up to five students in their professional field. However, it is likely that numbers will be less than five. Mentors meet with the students at least twice each semester. These meetings may take place in College or other venues as suits those involved. Participation by students is highly recommended, however not compulsory. Mentors will be offered membership of the Senior Common Room and encouraged to attend for formal dining on a regular basis. They are encouraged to give Senior Common Room talks. Professional mentors are not being paid for their time. The allocated funds are to be used to cover food, drinks, occasional accommodation in the College's guest room and other expenses.

Mentors are recruited through established networks including but not limited to the Alumni Society. Students are interviewed in Semester 1 to assess which professional would be most useful to assist them.

Professional mentors are working in their field. It is expected that they will have an interest in assisting graduates to develop their professional life.

Both mentors and students are asked to assess the success of the program at the end of each semester. Mentors are required to maintain periodic contact with the Vice Principal to ensure that the program succeeds.

# 4.2 Professional Dinners and Evenings with the Alumni

Alumni are regularly invited to attend faculty and discipline-based dinners and cocktail gatherings and in the forum are able to chat informally to students, providing them with valuable professional knowledge and networks.

# 5. THE SENIOR COMMON ROOM

## 5.1 Membership

It is envisaged that membership of the Senior Common Room will be expanded over the next decade to approximately 100 members. There will be seven categories;

#### Category 1 - Residential Fellows

This includes the Principal, Vice Principal, Senior Fellow, Senior Tutor, and Chaplain.

#### Category 2 - Resident Post Graduate Members

All resident post graduates are members of the SCR.

There are up to 21 rooms specifically for post graduate residential accommodation.

- 5 in Sulman House
- 4 in The Old Laboratory
- 4 in downstairs Harper
- 4 in Gatehouse
- 2 in Lower Carillon
- 2 in Main building

Plans which form part of the College's Master Plan envisage a total of 80 resident post graduate members, sufficient critical mass for the establishment of a Middle Common Room.

#### Category 3 - Honorary Fellows

The Senior Common Room currently has 36 Honorary Fellows. Honorary Fellows include the Honourable Marie Bashir AC CVO and many distinguished and former members of College Council. Fellows are encouraged to attend Senior Common Room functions regularly.

#### Category 4 - Tutors

Non-residents who tutor through the St Andrew's academic program are encouraged to attend Senior Common Room events on a regular basis.

#### Category 5 - Academic Mentors

Academic mentors are automatically members of the Senior Common Room and may utilise the space and resources to meet with their students.

## **Category 6 - Professional Mentors**

All professional mentors invited to join the Senior Common Room and regularly encouraged to attend events.

#### **Category 7 - Non Resident Members**

This category is to attract Senior Common Room members with diverse backgrounds and interests that bring diversity, interest and colour. Members may nominate non-resident members

# 5.2. Post Graduate Scholarships

St Andrew's aims to encourage more research post graduates to reside in College. Scholarships will be offered to students undertaking research Masters, PhD, post-doctoral studies. Academics are also encouraged to apply.

Up to five scholarships (normally \$6,000 per year) were created to assist students studying a PhD or research Masters to encourage post graduate research students to apply for residence in St Andrew's. Regular tutoring and/or mentoring in scholars' area of expertise is a condition of scholarship.

## 5.3 Fellow and Occasional Visitor Address Program

Occasional talks from experts in diverse fields with opportunity for students to ask questions, debate issues and understand the broader context of issues.

#### 5.4. Redeveloping the Facilities

The Senior Common Room is planning revitalisation. This will be done by expanding membership, changing the environment and facilities of the Senior Common Room and encouraging post graduate student ownership.

#### 5.5. Academics in Residence

The College Master Plan envisages the development of residential accommodation for an additional 10 academics and their families, in either short term or long term stay. These professionals would complement the wisdom and seniority provided by the Residential Fellows.

## 5.6. College Lecture Series

The St Andrew's College Annual Lecture is designed to showcase the life and work of an illustrious Androvian, and is to be delivered by a prominent Australian. Previous lectures include:

#### 2008 The HV Evatt Lecture

Delivered by Justice Michael Kirby

#### 2009 The Sir Percival Halse Rogers Lecture

Delivered by Mr Nicholas Cowdrey

#### 2010 The JJ Bradfield Lecture

Delivered by Professor Geoffrey Gallop

## 2011 The Sir Victor Coppleson Lecture

Delivered by Professor Marie Bashir

#### 2013 The Reverend Theodora Hobbs Lecture

Delivered by Professor Rosalind Croucher

#### 2014 No annual lecture

## 2015 The Sir Iven Mackay Lecture

Delivered by Lieutenant General David Morrison AO (Retired)

#### 2016 The John McIntyre Lecture

Delivered by Reverend Professor Emeritus James Haire AC

#### 2017 The Sesquicentenary Lecture

Delivered by Associate Professor Rufus Black

## 6. MUSIC PROGRAM

To foster the cultural development of the students and to reflect our ambitions for a breadth in "life of the mind" engagement opportunities in the College, St Andrew's has developed a thriving music program. This program seeks to support students who are either professional or recreational musicians to provide learning and performance opportunities that enriches the lives of all members of College and outreaches to the community.

## 6.1. Choral Scholars

Substantial scholarships are awarded on an annual basis to attract and retain choral singers to St Andrew's College. Scholars form the core of the College Choir, which performs regularly in Chapel and in concert, and as part of larger and other College ensembles. The Choir has taken part in the Sydney of City eisteddfod and plans further concerts and performing opportunities outside College.

#### 6.2 Director of Music

This non-residential position provides the choir with a conductor and director. The Director works in conjunction with the Senior Fellow, and is responsible for choral and instrumental music programs in Chapel and Concert.

# 6.3 Keyboard/accompaniment Scholar

To mark the purchase of the new Series 200 Overs grand piano, St Andrew's offers a scholarship to attract each year a student currently studying or commencing piano study at the Conservatorium of Music.

## 6.4 Music Practice Rooms

A soundproofed rehearsal room has been constructed as the main practice space, complementing the Reading Room, Gillespie Hall, Carol Raffan Room (all of which have pianos) and Chapel (piano and organ), and the Senior Common Room (where the virginal is located) as rehearsal/performance spaces. All are available for music practice.

#### 6.5 Instrumental Scholars

Three scholarships are available annually for instrumental musicians in residence. Instrumental scholars provide support for the choir and Chapel services, as well as performing in the College concert program and the Palladian Cup eisteddfod.

#### 6.6. Instrumental Music Leaders

The Director is assisted by Contemporary/Jazz and Chamber instrumental leaders. These students show a level of leadership and direct and assist with the organisation of classical and contemporary ensembles within College.

## 6.7 Concerts Program

The Concerts Program provides an opportunity for residents to perform in a wide range of music making contexts. Occasional performances by visiting artists supplement this rich experience. The annual cycle is as follows:

Mothers Dinner/Fathers Dinner Concert

Gala Concert (1 per semester)

Jam Nights (1-2 per semester)

Visiting artist performance (June/July)

Celtic Concert (2<sup>nd</sup> semester)

Burns Concert (1<sup>st</sup> semester)

## 7. SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PROGRAM

Responsibility for the Inter-college and internal social and cultural program will continue to rest with the SAC Students' Club. Integration with the College Life Program will continue to be effected through the Senior Student, in their liaison capacity with College staff. In this regard, the Students' Club works in its own right, and as a member of the vibrant Inter-College community in providing a rich program of opportunities in each of the following domains -

# 7.1 Social Program

The Students' Club manages a comprehensive schedule of social events during the academic year. These events are staged in conjunction with the University's Inter-College community, on a college-only basis or on a smaller, intra-mural scale. The management of this program is an outstanding example of the leadership opportunity and responsibility available to and embraced by the Students' Club.

## 7.2 Cultural Program

A wide ranging collection of opportunities for residents to participate in sporting, performing arts, debating, community service and other activities is managed by the Students' Club in cooperation with the Inter-College community. In this College, the leadership of social and cultural programs by the students is the most obvious manifestation of our commitment to student-led governance, where the proper tension between freedom and authority is tested and affirmed every day and every year.

# 7.3 Visual Arts program

Visual artists at St Andrew's will be supported by workshops run by professional visual artists to assist aspiring artists to further develop and refine their work.

#### 7.4 Inter-College Musical

St Andrew's students are integral participants and leaders in the annual Inter College Musical.

## 7.5 Sport

St Andrew's College has a strong history of sporting excellence, a reflection of a proud and long standing commitment to the concept of the athlete scholar. A remarkable number of Androvians have represented the University, the state and the nation in wide range of sports since the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. At the inter-collegiate level, St Andrew's has won the prestigious Rawson Cup more often than all the other colleges combined, bringing home the Cup every year from 2010 to 2016. Since becoming co-residential in 2002, the College has won the Rosebowl for women's sporting competition on eight occasions.

# 7.6 Performing Arts

The students participate enthusiastically in the Intercollege Performing Arts Challenge, known as the Palladian Cup. This year-round eisteddfod provides opportunity in vocal and instrumental music, drama, oration, debating, dance and fine art. This endeavour is strongly supported by the Director of Music, choral, instrumental, piano scholars and instrumental leaders, and by expert support in debating and public speaking. St Andrew's has won the Palladian Cup more times than all other colleges combined since its inception in 2001.

#### 7.7 Oration

A set piece challenge which provides an opportunity to advocate an argument to an audience of over 250 peers is a remarkable experience.

# 7.8 Debating

Historically leading, and now in keeping with the University's contemporary commitment to the debating form, the Colleges have conducted an annual debating championship since 1913, when St Andrew's defeated St Paul's. Inter-college debating is now managed by the University Union, and in the Centenary Year of the competition, St Andrew's again prevailed.

## 7.9 Community engagement

The St Andrew's College Children's Camp is only the latest and most ambitious manifestation of the College's commitment to community engagement and civic duty. The Camp provides respite care for children with disabilities, and is entirely an endeavour of the Students' Club. The Sony Foundation has agreed to support the camp for the foreseeable future, providing continuity to complement the commitment of the students who run it.

Other initiatives in this engagement in recent years include -

Tickled Pink – a concert for the cure

Breast Cancer research dinner fundraiser

**UNICEF Breakfast –** awareness/fundraising function

Boobs and Balls - dinner/fundraiser for cancer

research Leukaemia Research Foundation

fundraiser

**Afterquake** – in relief of the victims of the Japanese tsunami

White Ribbon Foundation - annual Fathers' Dinner fundraiser

Puffin Magic Foundation – to raise funds for a young alumnus rendered paraplegic

Special Olympics – twice-yearly games days for intellectually and physically disabled children

7.10 Social events and engagements.

The College is proud of the richness of its social activity program. This densely layered menu of events reflects the diversity of interest in event type, and the management capabilities of the Students' Club.

## 8. PASTORAL CARE PROGRAM

Providing a safe and supportive environment is the basis on which St Andrew's College operates. To support this College has a diverse and comprehensive range of students and staff trained to assist student pastoral needs.

## 8.1 No Wrong Door Policy

St Andrew's has a 'no wrong door' policy and has a wide range of staff and trained and supported students who are available to provide pastoral care to all students. All Student Mentors, Student Leaders, Deans and Sub Deans, Senior tutor, and Director of College Life, Vice Principal, Principal and Chaplain have a good understanding of the issues that students may face while resident at College. Students are invited to approach any other member of College at any time for support and students are supported to 'refer up' any issues that complex or beyond their capacity.

#### 8.2 Chaplaincy Services

The Chaplain, a Uniting Church Minister is an important member of this team providing both pastoral and spiritual care to all members of College.

## 9. CONCLUSION

The seven areas described in this document form part of an integrated strategy for a College Life Program. This program provides a depth of choices and experiences to enhance the College's product offering to allow it to position itself as the leading residential College at the University of Sydney. The program strongly engages with students allowing strong peer support and student buy in to the programs. This assists in making St Andrew's College a community of scholars seeking lives of meaning, service and excellence.