

XAVIER NEWS

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William Doherty, Frank Peck OAM, Tony Nunan and Peter Nankivell.

The opportunity to contribute

Peter Nankivell
Chair, Xavier Foundation

As the incoming Chair of the Xavier College Foundation, I would like to both acknowledge and record the thanks and appreciation of the Xavier College community to Tony Nunan, the outgoing Chair of the Xavier College Foundation. During his tenure Tony oversaw a significant restructure of the Foundation and helped lead a number of initiatives to ensure that the Foundation is 'fit for purpose'. I wish Tony every success in his new role as the Chair of the Xavier College Board.

The Board of the Foundation is committed to working with the College and the wider Xavier College community to help realise the vision of those who established the Foundation in 1977. The Foundation exists to support the College as it innovates and adapts to what is a rapidly changing world and educational landscape.

The Foundation has accepted the challenge of being entirely responsible for the College's bursary and scholarship program. This year, the Foundation restructured the Xavier College Foundation Benevolent Fund which provides a vehicle to help those in our community

who need our support. In addition, the built environment of the College will need to change to reflect what are the new best practices and standards. With your continuing support and engagement, the Foundation will be active in enabling programs and projects that will help inspire our staff and students.

The Foundation operates through an engaged Board, a motivated executive team and talented committees that support the Foundation through, in particular, investment management. In 2019, the Foundation will look to take on further projects to support the College and our community. From a personal perspective, the Foundation provides us all with the opportunity to contribute at a level of which we can be proud.

The Foundation is both a reflection of what we know Xavier College is and more importantly, with your help, a catalyst to achieve what we know Xavier College can be. I look forward to keeping in touch with you as we work together for the benefit of Xavier College.

Thank you - may you know great success in the future

Tony Nunan
Chair, Xavier College Board

I am so grateful to have had the privilege of being Chair of the Xavier College Foundation and of being able to work with a team that has worked tirelessly for the good of the College.

The Board, Investment Committee, Advancement Committee, Laurels Committee and staff have all played their part in strengthening our funds under management to an amount in excess of \$26 million, also ensuring that over \$1 million is provided to the College in support for scholarships and bursaries each year. I would like to thank all our donors who have made possible the vital support that your Foundation gives to Xavier College. In the future, there will be a number of exciting opportunities to support the College's strategic direction and aspirations and to offer students and teachers enhanced facilities and opportunities for learning.

As I turn my attention to the leadership of the College Board, I wish the Foundation and its new Chair Peter Nankivell the very best for an exciting future. I know your Foundation is in excellent hands.

Welcoming Lucy Cohen to the team

Tony Nunan
Chair, Xavier College Board

In the last edition of Xavier News, I spoke of the work being done to prepare for the comprehensive campaign in the near future. This is an exciting time for Xavier College as we move towards developing a solid basis for the campaign to ensure the best possible outcome for future generations of Xaverians.

As part of the campaign progress, the College has appointed a new member of the Development and Community Relations team. Ms Lucy Cohen has joined the Xavier community in a new role as Associate Director, Development and Community Relations. Lucy comes to Xavier having over 15 years' experience in the Independent and Catholic school sector, most recently at Genazzano FCJ College as Director of Development and previously at Melbourne Girls' Grammar.

Lucy will be an integral member of the comprehensive campaign team. Her role includes working with our donor community, the Laurels Society and our annual Inspiring Excellence campaign. Lucy is passionate about development in schools and has seen the benefits of what philanthropy can achieve in the education sector. "When a community joins together philanthropically, it has the power to change lives," she said.



Lucy Cohen, Associate Director, Development and Community Relations with John Fox, Chair of the Laurels Society.

"I have seen new facilities, supported by philanthropic endeavours, transform the way teachers can work with students to achieve outstanding learning outcomes. I have also had the privilege of witnessing intergenerational change as a result of bursaries and scholarships. To be a part of that is very inspiring".

Since joining Xavier College in July this year, Lucy has reached out to members of the parent and alumni community. "Getting to know the supporters of Xavier is really

important to me," she said. I love hearing their stories and learning about why they choose to support the College. There is a lot to be learnt from these conversations and I can already see that the strength of Xavier lies within its engaged and passionate community".

Lucy will be working closely with the Xavier College Foundation and the Director of Development and Community Relations, Tony Bretherton on the comprehensive campaign in the coming months. I am sure you will join me in welcoming Lucy to the Xavier family.

The Timothy Martyn Memorial Prize

In our April edition of *Xavier News*, we were sad to report that Dr Timothy Martyn (OX 1996) had died in Suva, Fiji, where he lived and worked with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

His parents, Professor Rosemary Sheehan AM and Dr Gavan Martyn, have now endowed the Timothy Martyn Memorial Prize at Xavier College.

To honour Timothy and to remember his achievements and contributions to humanity, the prize will acknowledge the similar efforts and successes of a young graduate who has, in his first 10 years as a graduate of Xavier College, made a valuable contribution to society. Preference will be given to contributions within Asia-Pacific region and the developing world.

Each year the OXA Awards Committee and its Executive Officer will work with the respective cohort to identify candidates for the award, with the eventual recipient chosen by the College Principal. The intention is to announce the winner and to make the award at a Rector's Assembly each year, hopefully at the occasion at which the Xaverian Award for that year is also announced and awarded.

The Timothy Martyn Memorial Prize, awarded as a framed certificate and book, will honour Timothy by focusing attention not just on what he achieved, but on what others like him are achieving each and every year. By awarding the prize at an assembly, students will see what young graduates of our College are achieving in the world and will hopefully be inspired to walk in their footsteps – to find their own path as a man for others.





Peter Robert



Zach Clarke

Investing in our staff to invest in our students

Jessica Brinsdon

“Eldon believed so much in the future of the College and this is an investment in the future of its staff and students.”
- Peter Walsh, Trustee of the Eldon Hogan Trust

Investing in staff professional development is a high priority for Xavier College. The Staff Study Award program has been in place for Senior Campus staff for some time now through the generosity of the Xavier Foundation and the Eldon Hogan Trust. The program, established in 2017, has now given four staff the opportunity to develop themselves professionally through the provision of up to \$7,000 towards further study.

Zach Clarke, Head of Woodwind and recipient of the Staff Study Award has used this opportunity to further develop his skills in music.

“My investigation was into the factors that contribute to the high-level Jazz Ensemble Program at Newark Academy in Livingston, New Jersey, USA. This included school support, school culture, student workload, rehearsal duration, rehearsal technique, facilities, support from other staff and performance preparation,” he said.

Zach says that to elevate his skill development as a Jazz Ensemble director, he jumped at the opportunity to do some extended study through the program.

“I decided it would be worthwhile seeing a high-level high school jazz program in action. The Essentially Ellington program in

the US aims to elevate musicianship, broaden perspectives and inspire performance in high school students. Rather than making a quick visit to the US, I wanted to dig more deeply and work for an extended time in the program.”

Zach’s study is already benefiting students through the introduction of workshops at both Burke Hall and Kostka Hall Campus in conjunction with Denis DiBlasio from New Jersey. Zach has also been able to refine his Jazz ensemble direction and his teaching of improvisation.

“I now approach teaching Jazz improvisation as a language and am striving to deepen my own understanding of this ‘language’. I now have a greater clarity in what I am looking for when rehearsing Jazz Ensembles and can now more clearly articulate this to the students. I regularly share what I have learnt with other teachers and ensemble directors in informal conversations”.

Peter Robert, Head of Learning Area – the Arts is also a recipient of the Staff Study Award. Peter is completing a Master of Art Education at the University of Melbourne.

“Although it has been a plan of mine to get my Master’s degree I have had neither the time or the money and when the College made the generous offer to fund this study, I then committed to finding the time,” he said.

Peter is researching the reasoning behind

student engagement in studies and how the Arts can enhance and support this engagement.

“I have done a detailed investigation into the process we go through developing the Winter Play and how this extends the artistic practices of both the students and the staff involved. I have also developed a detailed course in applying cross-curricular pedagogical practices to specific Year 9 English units of study and completed an elective on how innovative classroom spaces can enhance better teaching. This has been particularly relevant to how we might modify our current spaces to better reflect our commitment to pastoral care and provide a wider range of teaching and learning experiences.”

Peter is finding the study instrumental to his role at Xavier.

“The units studied so far have greatly enhanced my understanding of our current practice both within and beyond the classroom and have informed many of the conversations I am having within my faculty. I find that a lot of my academic reading has been useful to share with colleagues both within the faculty and at the Head of Learning level”.

The Staff Study Awards are set to continue for three more years, allowing four staff per year the opportunity to further develop their skills and knowledge in their chosen field.



Young Leaders take on NYC

Adam Baker

Year 11

The Global Young Leaders’ Conference, held over the mid-year holidays, provided more ‘once-in-a-lifetime’ opportunities than I ever thought possible. This year, Benjamin Traficante, Henry White, Jonathan Reid, Patrick Grave, Paul Huynh and I, accompanied by Director of Senior Campus Mr Michael Ilott, had the privilege of attending the conference due to the tremendous generosity shown to us by the Eldon Hogan Trust. Held in Washington DC and New York City, the six of us had the honour of spending an astounding 10 days with 350 other students from more than 50 countries, participating in simulations, site visits and lectures throughout the program’s duration.

At the commencement of the conference, the six of us were divided across 15 different leadership groups, each assigned a country to represent. There, we cultivated skills in diplomacy, leadership, teamwork, and decision-making, all the while developing a wide range of new international friends, broadening our horizons into the international community. As global young leaders, we heard from speakers from the World Bank, George Washington University, the United States Department of State as well as a range of human rights, social welfare, sustainability and environment experts. Our days were very busy, teeming with over 15 hours of some of the most challenging, yet rewarding tasks and experiences.



Visit to the New York Stock Exchange trading floor, courtesy of Old Xaverian Thomas Anglin (OX 1991).

The conference allowed all of us to enjoy and discover the unique world of diplomatic affairs. For me, the overall highlight, and culmination of all our hard work, was the Global Summit: a mock General Assembly held at the United Nations Economic and Social Council Chambers at the UN headquarters in New York City. Working collaboratively, we drafted, proposed, debated and amended our various proposals, based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, for over a week. Being able to formally present our ideas to our peers, and vote on resolutions, was a surreal experience which will stay with me for a years to come.

In addition to the conference, the six of us were lucky enough to spend an extra two days in New York. We attended a Mets-Phillies baseball game and visited Times Square, Central Park and the Empire State Building. Most impressive and exciting was a private tour of the New York Stock Exchange trading floor, facilitated by Mr Thomas Anglin (OX 1991).

The Global Young Leaders’ Conference had a profound impact on all who attended and we are so incredibly grateful to have been given the opportunity to participate. If it is true that we are the sum total of our experiences, I have no doubt that this experience alone has, and will continue to play, a profound role in our development as young men.



“I’m incredibly grateful to Mr Peter Walsh and Xavier College for facilitating such an incredible and worthwhile experience for all six of us. These have been the best two weeks of my life.” – Paul Huynh

“The GYLC trip was truly an experience of a lifetime, allowing the 6 of us to explore international affairs and develop lasting friendships with others from all across the globe” – Henry White



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