

**ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE EAST MELBOURNE
NOMINATIONS & ELECTION PROCESS**

NOTABLES AMONG SPC ALUMNI

Approved by SPOCA Committee , Rev3, 23Aug2018

PURPOSE AND TIMING

Discuss and recognise notable St Patrick's College East Melbourne (SPC) Alumni, as part of the St Patrick's Old Collegians Association (SPOCA) role as custodian of the history and memory of the College.

Implement the initiative now, in the 50th anniversary year of the College closure, in the 164th year since SPC opened in 1854 and while contact is maintained among at least 400 of the estimated remaining 600 alumni.

RATIONALE FOR NOTABLES INITIATIVE

St Patrick's College East Melbourne was and remains an important institution. It was the first Catholic Secondary College and the pioneer Seminary for priestly formation in the newly established town of Melbourne.

SPC was the first work of the Irish Jesuits in Australia, from which all Jesuit Colleges along the eastern states of Australia and in New Zealand, all original parishes in suburban Melbourne and many social justice ministries evolved.

Its ranks include many known notable alumni in the religious, civil, cultural and sporting life of Melbourne and beyond. A previous initiative in around 2010 identified ten such notables, for whom short biographies are accessible on the SPC Website. The list merits updating and expansion.

Every new nominee will of course be considered on his merits and as a guide only, a reasonable initial standard might see around fifty notables elected from the 5100 students educated at SPC over its 114 years' operation (i.e. an average of 1 in 100 alumni).

SELECTION CRITERIA

Thinking, for example, through your own friends, family and acquaintances to identify those who could be considered "notables", crystallizes why a set of guideline criteria is important for this SPC initiative. The suggested guideline criteria include that the proposed alumni:

- Has contributed significantly to a worthy outcome in the civil, social, religious, cultural, sporting or business life of Australian society
- Has done so through his personal characteristics of leadership, service, inspiration or care/love
- Is an exemplar of the Jesuit ethos: demonstrating Christian values, striving for the magis and being a man for others
- Has contributed and/or demonstrated his character over a sustained period
- Has outcomes comparable in significance to those of the existing ten elected notables – Timothy Ryan, John Morris, Richard Pirrie, Sir John Madden, Percy McDonald, John Galbally, Walter Broderick, Joseph Pollack, Robert H. Solly and Leo Kenny.

SELECTION PROCESS

1. SPOCA will form a Notables Sub-Committee (NSC) of diverse ages, skills and experiences to receive and evaluate notable alumni proposals.
2. SPOCA/NSC will invite nominations for election of any of the 5100 past pupils of the College, their teachers or SPC supportive parents as an SPC Notable. Nominations will be received from any individual or group of SPC Alumni.
3. The NSC may seek guidance on the processes used and the issues experienced and addressed from other organisations that seek to acknowledge the contribution of their members.
4. A Nominator will research and gather information on their candidate and write an approximately 200 words biography of the activity and outcomes for the nominated person. The biography will be of similar detail to that provided for the existing ten accessible on the SPC website and will address the selection criteria above. An optional template will be available to assist the Nominator and the NSC.
5. The NSC will consider applications, compare the nominated individual with the guidelines and the existing elected Notables and make recommendations to the full SPOCA Committee.
6. The NSC discernment process will emphasis the actions, achievements and humble manner of the candidates insofar as they exemplify the Jesuit and SPC ethos, and avoid any elevation, promotion or glorification of the individual.
7. SPOCA Committee will discuss the nomination, seek further information if needed and decide to elect or defer the nomination. The Nominator will be informed of the SPOCA decision either directly or via the NSC.
8. The newly elected SPC Notable if living or their families where known will be contacted seeking agreement for the biography to be posted on the existing Biographies Page of the SPC website in chronological order of years at the College by the SPOCA Webmaster.
9. Recognition of the individual as a SPC Notable and the presentation of a suitable certificate to the SPC Alumni or a descendant where known will be made by the SPOCA President at a suitable dinner or event and announced in the Patrician Newsletter and SPC website as soon as practical.
10. Communications will emphasise that while every effort has been made to collect nominations and to use an objective, collegiate and fair process, the selection remains inherently a series of subjective judgements. Several or possibly many others of our alumni could also be worthy SPC Notables.
11. The SPOCA Committee retains the right to review from time to time, the list of SPC Notables whose biographies are posted on the SPC website, to add new or deferred alumni or to remove alumni from the list.