



St Patrick's Jesuit College Scholarship @ACU

This is the fourth update to all Patricians on the establishment of a permanently endowed scholarship scheme as a legacy of our old college.

\$100,000 TARGET ACHIEVED!

SPOCA has now raised the funds needed to provide a \$5000 scholarship each year to a deserving student on an ongoing basis. Given that our fundraising activities in an average year provide about \$10,000, this is a remarkable achievement and SPOCA again thanks all those who have contributed to our threshold target being met.

FUNDRAISING CONTINUES

We will continue to encourage donations for the Scholarship fund until the end of the current financial year. SPOCA's main objectives during this period will be to:

- increase the number of individual donors to more than 100 so that we have broader ownership / interest in the Scholarship scheme. All donations are valuable, and all donors may elect to have their name on the Scholarship Honor Board at the ACU;
- provide a buffer for the fund against adverse economic conditions which could impact on our ability to adjust the current value of the \$5000 over time to take account of inflation.

Some people make decisions about donations towards the end of the financial year. If you are in this position, we would urge you to take that opportunity to support our scheme.

A small number of Patricians have made specific pledges to support the Scheme. We would ask that they advise Murray of when they will be making their gift.

BEQUESTS

We would also ask Patricians, particularly those who have not been able to make a donation at this point, to consider making provision in their will for a donation to the fund. This may be done without having your current will changed – simply add a codicil.

SCHOLARSHIPS MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE TO YOUNG STUDENTS

A very impressive young scholarship holder who is studying teaching at ACU gave a short talk during the St Patrick's Day lunch and AGM at the ACU about what a scholarship has meant for her. Her scholarship provides \$5000 for the current academic year. It was clear that the scholarship makes a significant difference to her student experience by:

- providing income during unpaid student teacher placement in schools while she has to forego her usual part-time work;
- providing reliable assistance with day to day living expenses;
- significantly reducing pressure to leave lectures early or miss them altogether to meet the demands of part time jobs;
- enabling her to purchase text books which are in high demand and therefore difficult to access through the library;
- enabling her to save to buy an outfit for interviews as she prepares to enter the workforce.

Sharing her experiences with SPOCA members provided a sincere reminder of the everyday challenges for young students and the tangible, positive difference a scholarship can make.

DONATIONS

Donations to the SPOCA Scholarship Fund can be made via:

- **Online by credit card** <https://webapps.acu.edu.au/givenow>
Enter SPOCA in the space labeled 'Other'
- **By bank transfer to:** Australian Catholic University
BSB :082451 Account No 506966793
Ref SPOCA and your name
Email a copy of the bank transfer to ACUAdvancement@acu.edu.au with your full name and postal address so a receipt can be sent to you.
- **By cheque payable to Australian Catholic University:**
With details: ref SPOCA, your name, address and phone.
Send to ACU Foundation, Attn. Senior Foundation Administrator, PO BOX 968 North Sydney NSW 2059

If you have decided to support the scholarship but not to make the actual donation until closer to the end of the financial year, would you please send an email to advise how much you intend to donate and when. This will assist significantly with our planning.

Email: murray.cullinan@gmail.com

Queries, comments and suggestions can also be directed to me.

Murray Cullinan
SPOCA President

14 May 2019