

A|L|C

AUSTRALIAN LUTHERAN COLLEGE
LEARNING FOR LIFE



TOWARDS 2028

OUR STRATEGIC DIRECTION



STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Australian Lutheran College is constituted as the theological and research institution of the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand.

The **vision** of Australian Lutheran College is a Christ-centred, transformative, intercultural learning community for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ, serving and leading with confidence, integrity, courage, and compassion in a constantly changing world.

To meet that vision, the **mission** of Australian Lutheran College is to provide contemporary research and a robust and engaging pre-vocational and post-secondary theological education that equips God's people to serve with competence and humility.

We recognize our students are adult learners of all ages, representing a diversity of lived experiences, faith journeys, professional and personal skills, understandings and attributes. We will strive to provide authentic learning opportunities to assist our students in their Christian vocational formation, learning and growth, both personally and professionally. We will prepare our students to lead, serve and contribute to the Christian community, locally, regionally and internationally, and to connect to the wider community in service and hope.

In working to achieve our purpose, Australian Lutheran College is grounded in the Lutheran confessions and supports the mission of the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand (LCANZ).



OUR LUTHERAN IDENTITY

As Lutherans we believe that we are saved 'by grace, for Christ's sake, through faith'. In other words, there is nothing we can do to earn God's favour or to gain eternal life. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus Christ has won all this and more for us. Being transformed by grace, our calling is to teach and share this good news to all. We serve this mission by being faithful to the gospel we confess; ready to give witness to all; receptive of God's gifts given through Word and Sacrament; and by striving for Christian unity and cooperation. This identity shapes our governance, organisational and educational structures.





OUR ORGANISATIONAL CHARACTER

As an educational organisation, Australian Lutheran College (ALC) further values:

- **Responsive adaptation** to assure high quality service delivery, evidence-based leadership, organisational functionality and financial sustainability;
- **Agile and informed decision-making** focused on those we serve across Australia, New Zealand and the Asia-Pacific, as the highest priority in determining flexibility in delivery options, scope of courses and approaches to learning and teaching;
- **Innovative, rigorous and engaging** educational programs built on principles of life-long adult learning, critical thinking and reflection, real life application and relevance;
- **Inclusive and intercultural practices** in all aspects of ALC operations, activities and programs that reflect the diversity of the people we serve;
- **Evidence based and risk informed** decision making, planning, evaluation and reporting.



STRATEGIC INTENTIONS

STATEMENT OF STRATEGIC INTENT:

Australian Lutheran College (ALC) will model, with intentionality, the mission of the LCANZ and the wider church, as it delivers high quality education, training and research programs that are responsive, transformative and sustainable.



1 |

CONNECT WITH PEOPLE

GOAL:

To prepare people to courageously and confidently follow Jesus Christ and serve people in their ever changing, diverse, contemporary communities.

By 2028, people gather through ALC for lifelong learning opportunities and to be equipped to serve the mission of the gospel.

PRIORITIES:

- 1.1 Identify, appreciate and actively support the growth of the LCA NZ's mission in its fullness.
- 1.2 Provide responsive programs and opportunities for continued learning within the LCA NZ community.
- 1.3 Build and promote an inclusive culture that affirms people in their vocation and reflects the diversity of the contemporary, missional church.

2 |

SHAPE FOR TRANSFORMATION

GOAL:

To be an interconnected and adaptive, gospel-centred, learning community that is transformative, relational and missional.

By 2028, our learners are shaped for a meaningful life and vocation in the world, and are a valued part of a connected and intercultural learning community.

PRIORITIES:

- 2.1 Develop educational innovation and continue to build a quality, digital learning capability to connect with other learners and learning communities.
- 2.2 Develop contextual, practice-driven learning and experience, in the field and in the world.
- 2.3 Develop ALC as a safe place for learners (staff and students) to wrestle with questions of theology and faith.
- 2.4 Develop educational staff in their understanding of how adult learners learn and are formed, using this knowledge to inform the vocational and spiritual formation of students and participants across the scope of ALC educational programs.
- 2.5 Build a staff team that reflects the diversity of the communities we serve; is equipped to deliver strategic outcomes; is research active; values evidence-based decision making; and exhibits the qualities of lifelong learners.



3 |

LEAD WITH INFLUENCE

GOAL:

To be a community of influence within the LCANZ and the wider church, being responsive to the issues facing the Church now and in the future.

By 2028, ALC will be the identified open source for theological perspectives on contemporary issues facing the LCANZ and its people.

PRIORITIES:

- 3.1 Strengthen relationships and expand partnerships with key stakeholders of the Lutheran Church in Australia and New Zealand.
- 3.2 Build dialogue capacity and foster engagement opportunities to facilitate communication within the broader LCANZ community.
- 3.3 Leverage research capabilities to enable LCANZ to firmly engage with contemporary issues.

4 |

STRENGTHEN OUR FUTURE

GOAL:

To step out boldly with a growth mindset to provide a sustainable future that meets the needs of the church community.

By 2028, ALC will be meeting the needs of the LCANZ and wider church community by providing fit for purpose service offerings underpinned by a flexible and sustainable operating framework.

PRIORITIES:

- 4.1 Review and refine educational offerings to ensure currency and responsiveness to the needs of the LCANZ community.
- 4.2 Align the staffing structure of the College to meet the changing and emerging needs of the organisation so that the College can deliver flexible and responsive learning programs.
- 4.3 Develop a sustainable financial base to support the full scope of ALC activities and programs.
- 4.4 Use contemporary marketing strategies to improve visibility and grow enrolments across the whole College.



5 |

BE ECUMENICAL

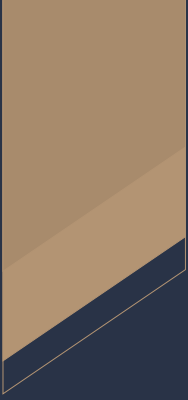
GOAL:

To strengthen our presence in the broader Christian community, and open ourselves to give and to receive.

By 2028, ALC has developed dynamic relationships with other educational and faith-based organisations, shares resources, programs, students and staff, and joins in a vibrant faith conversation, serving God's mission in the world.

PRIORITIES:

- 5.1 Expand and streamline the processes for University of Divinity cross college enrolments and the recognition of coursework completed elsewhere.
- 5.2 Develop educational capacity by implementing processes to mutually share staff and resources with other educational and faith-based organisations across the world.
- 5.3 Forge working relationships with other faith based educational institutions, nationally and internationally, to broaden our theological and missional perspective.
- 5.4 Work with the University of Divinity in promoting and developing an ALC contribution to their strategic university wide goals, namely Indigenous theologies, gender and theology, changing culture (responding to the royal commission), climate change and sustainability.



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