

Women's Leadership Forum Program 2018

9 April 2018 - Guest Speaker: Prof Ann Brewer, University of Newcastle, Sydney

Professor Ann Brewer is the Dean of the University of Newcastle, in Sydney. She is an organisational psychologist, researcher, lecturer, and author. She has held a number of senior university executive roles including Deputy Vice Chancellor at the University of Sydney for 12 years. She has published eight books, most recently on leadership, coaching and mentoring, and over 50 publications in journals, book chapters and conference proceedings. Her forthcoming book in 2018 is on careers. Her work has been applied in diverse industry sectors such as business, education, industrial relations, human resource management, health services, public policy, transport and logistics. Her current educational focus is investing in a regional educational strategy and integrating continuing professional development in postgraduate education. She is a member of external boards and is an accredited executive coach.



21 May 2018 - Guest Speaker: Dr Kate Harrison Brennan, Anglican Deaconess Ministries

Dr Kate Harrison Brennan is CEO of an 126-year-old Christian women's foundation, Anglican Deaconess Ministries.

Kate studied international development at Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar and spent the last year of her doctoral studies in politics at the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton on a visiting fellowship. She then returned

home to Australia from New York, where she had been Director of Global Affairs and Strategic Communications at the Australian Consulate-General, to be Advisor to Prime Minister, Julia Gillard. Subsequently, she founded Global & Smart as a digital storytelling platform and agency for 'the story behind the good' – products made responsibly and sustainably. Her edited volume, Making Global Institutions Work, was published by Routledge in September 2014. She has been a guest lecturer in New York, Melbourne and Sydney, and has tutored law, politics and international development. Currently, Kate is an Advisor to Christianity Today Women. Kate was Young Australian of the Year for NSW in 2006. Kate and her husband are part of St George's Anglican Church in Sydney's Paddington, where she is a member of Parish Council.

18 June 2018 - Guest Speaker: Assoc Prof Jennie Bickmore-Brand, Alphacrucis College

Dr Jennie Bickmore Brand is an Associate Professor at Alphacrucis College - specialising in Education, the discipline in which she received a PhD in 1998. Jennie specializes in Lifelong learning across the age range, Psychology of Leadership and in Raising Women in Leadership. Jennie has a passion for education and has been privileged to influence pedagogy across all educational institutions including faculties within universities and bible colleges. She is sought after for her insights into preparing citizens of tomorrow, today, and runs strategic planning and reviews for schools and NGO's. Jennie was also the Patron of Media Standards Australia and is often interviewed on Channel 10's 'The Project' regarding both education and parenting practices. 'The Project' holds a special place in Jennie's heart as her daughter, Carrie Bickmore, is one of the show co-hosts and also the 2015 Gold Logie Winner. Jennie brings a wealth of knowledge that stretches across the highest levels of leadership in Church, Business and Education. She is involved in mission projects in PNG, Philippines, Indonesia, South Africa, Uganda and Zambia. She also has an inspiring relationship with God and has experienced His strength and comfort during times of much adversity in her personal life. Jennie lost her husband very suddenly 10 years ago and then her son-in-law three years later. Throughout her life and particularly through adversity, she has encountered God in profound ways.



16 July 2018 - Guest Speaker: Kara Martin, Seed

Kara Martin has worked in several institutions and with Christian professional organisations to spiritually form students and workers. She is the author of *Workshop: How to use your work to worship God*, and the forthcoming second volume *Workshop: How to flourish at work*. She is a Project Leader with Seed, mentoring women entrepreneurs for social innovation. She is currently researching the skills, knowledge and attitudes that faithful workplace Christians display. The goal is to apply principles of spiritual formation in individual, church, theological college and marketplace ministry settings to empower Christians to integrate their faith with their work. Kara has worked in media and communications, human resources, business analysis and policy development roles, in a variety of organisations, and as a consultant. She was Director of the School of Christian Studies for three years and has lectured with Mary Andrews College, the Brisbane School of Theology, Macquarie Christian Studies Institute and Wesley Institute (Excelsia).



6 August 2018 - Guest Speaker: Dr Ruth Powell, NCLS Research



Dr Ruth Powell is Director of NCLS Research, a research centre that focuses on church vitality and community spirituality and wellbeing. Ruth has worked with NCLS Research since 1991 and became Director in 2007. She also holds a position as Associate Professor at Australian Catholic University (ACU). Major projects for NCLS Research include the five-yearly National Church Life Survey, which commenced in 1991 and forms the basis of one of the largest, most comprehensive databases on church life of its kind in the world. The 2016 NCLS included more than a quarter of a million church attenders from 3000 local churches representing most Australian Christian denominations, from Catholic, Anglican, Uniting, other Protestant and Pentecostal faith traditions. As well as conducting research projects on both church and community life, NCLS Research provides resources to every local church that participates as well as local and wider church leadership. These are aimed to assist churches identify and build on their strengths. Ruth's own primary interests lie in assisting churches to reflect on their interaction with the wider Australian community. As well as church health, and tracking changes in church life over time, she has worked on differences between age cohorts, and potential generational influences over time.

21 November 2018 - Guest Speaker: Assoc Prof Maria Northcote, Avondale College of Higher Education

Maria Northcote is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education, Business and Science at Avondale College of Higher Education in New South Wales, Australia. She is an experienced higher education teacher, leader and researcher and is involved in undergraduate and postgraduate education, and professional development. Some of her research interests include threshold concepts, educational technology, online teaching and professional learning. She has worked at Avondale since 2010 in a variety of roles including the Director of CASTL (Centre for Advancement of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning), Faculty lecturer and researcher. She was recently appointed a Fellow of the Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia (HERDSA) in recognition of her service to higher education and her commitment to ongoing professional development in teaching and learning. Previous to her employment at Avondale, Maria worked in Faculty and professional development leadership roles at The University of Newcastle in NSW and Edith Cowan University in WA.



10 December 2018 - Guest Speaker: Prof Lily Arasaratnam-Smith, Alphacrucis College

The last women faculty lunch for this year will be hosted by Professor Lily Arasaratnam-Smith, AC's Director of Learning and Faculty Development and Chair of Academic Board. The first woman to be promoted to Professor at Alphacrucis, Lily has 20 years of teaching and research experience in the university sector, 10 of which have been at Alphacrucis. Lily is a member of AC's Executive Committee and Council. In addition to sharing insights from her own journey, Lily will facilitate a general discussion on the women faculty lunch initiative.

