



CROMWELL COLLEGE

Within The University of Queensland

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



Index

	Page
Chairperson's Report	1
Principal's Report	3
Secretary's Report	6
Treasurer's Report	8

Appendix

1. Cromwell College Students 2018

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 2018

University College life gives students a unique experience of academic community living that dates back to the middle ages and plays a role in contemporary society. As a community, Cromwell College welcomes and supports a diverse group of people as students, not necessarily the greatest academics or the most accomplished sportspeople but those who would most benefit by the College experience. Bursary programs funded by the Foundation facilitate access to the College for students who would not otherwise be able to afford it. Nevertheless, our academic achievements remain high.

Academic achievement is important but Cromwell also gives students experience in a full range for sporting, cultural, social and spiritual activities, all within a community environment. In addition to this, a team of advisors, tutors and mentors provides personal and academic support to students. To give even greater depth to student support, a Dean of Students position was created at the end of 2018, with an appointment to commence at the beginning of 2019.

This gives us a reputation for academic excellence, a place for students who are serious about their studies. The high standard of service to our students maximises their University outcomes and ensures that we can be responsive to the challenges that are confronting us. University Colleges in general are being challenged by circumstance often beyond their control – in particular the economic climate, tertiary learning alternatives and changes in student preferences for accommodation. Media exposure of inappropriate student behaviour has led to a certain loss of confidence in some Australian Colleges. It is pleasing to report that the confidence in Cromwell remains high. The spirit of support and pride in our College is strongly evident throughout the student body but also in the staff and College leadership.

Our strategy plan ensures the future sustainability of the College. It gives an intentional direction for the College and drives continual improvement in current activities and through the introduction of new initiatives. The immediate outcomes are in a more positive university experience for our students with over-all higher academic outcomes and a higher course retention rate than the general university student population. The demand for places each year well outstrips the places available, with suitable students having to be turned away.

The property plan remains active with continual upgrades. During 2018, we commenced revision of the building master plan in the light of needs and directions that have been identified as the overall strategy plan has been implemented.

COCA – the Cromwell Old Collegians' Association – is increasing its connections with College alumni through more complete databases and the widening networks of personal contacts. It publishes the College's contact newsletter, COCAA News. In addition to social functions, alumni are supporting current students through business breakfasts and as academic tutors.

The Foundation is operational under the leadership of Foundation chair Richard Shannon. A program of activities is in place, creating relationships with potential Foundation supporters. An annual Foundation Dinner has been initiated.

The Board of Governors have given of the time and diverse skills for the betterment of the College, Executive Committee, the Property Committee, the Finance Committee and the Foundation as well as personal activities. A major factor in the Board's effectiveness is the diverse range of backgrounds, talents and interests bringing a multifaceted dimension to decision making. I thank them for their commitment to the College.

The annual Board retreat was held in January. As previously, the Board used the time available for an in-depth examination of the governance of the College. On this occasion, the

Board concentrated on strategic risk management and governance relationships with the University.

Our principal Mr Ross Switzer has led the College with enthusiasm and commitment, supported by his wife Jenny.

I would also like to thank:

- The staff - the Deputy Principal and Business Manager; and people associated with college services – student advisors, housekeeping, buildings and maintenance, grounds, kitchen and administration.
- The Students' Association who have worked with the Principal and the Board of Governors in making this a great place.
- Those who have given financial support to Cromwell.

Finally, there is my thanks to God for the goodness he has shown our College and my prayers to him that his blessings will continue.

Dr Joe Goodall
Chairperson

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

I have pleasure in presenting the Principal's Annual Report for Cromwell College 2018. I would like to acknowledge the many people who have combined effectively to make this year a positive one for Cromwell.



The Grade Point Average of 5.21 across our 249 students in 2018 is commendable given we impose no academic test at enrolment. Our retention rate of students is also significantly higher than that of the University. Eight students achieved the perfect score of 7.0 GPA. Growth of our targeted academic support programs continued within the College with around one hundred and ten tutorials offered each semester this year.



The community feel of Cromwell far outranks the physical aspects of the College, superb as they are. The ICC sporting and cultural competitions have seen high participation rates across the College, along with some strong results. Spiritual enquiry is growing through a combination of students' interest assisted by their preferred supporting organisation, Uni Impact. A blend of social activities allowed people to unwind.



The Student's Association Executive provided activities to engage the student body throughout the year. The Resident Assistants' (RA) group provided guidance, support and friendship in each of their corridors.

I am very proud of our staff team. Their knowledge and skills combined have led to some great initiatives and the further building of a great community spirit here at Cromwell.

The College is governed by a volunteer Board led by Chairman Dr Joe Goodall and Deputy Chair Dr Janet Porter. I thank the Board for its interest and support of both myself and the College.

Cromwell maintains a healthy relationship with the other nine residential colleges, the University and the sector nationally. The University Colleges Australia (Qld Chapter) meets monthly.

I represent the UQ Heads' of Colleges Chapter as Chair of the Inter College Council Cultural Committee (ICCC). I am a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, the Australian Council for Educational Administration, and the Australian College of Education.

The College has seen an increased focus on alumni and the Foundation this year with a number of small events held.



Financially, Cromwell College returned a healthy operating surplus this year and carries no external debt. The College, including Campus Lodge, is fully occupied. Conference trade continues to provide a source of additional income in student vacation times. Student enrolment interest remained very strong and this year, Cromwell College received more applications than available places. This trend is not experienced at every UQ residential college. Our marketing plan and reputation across regional Australia is very effective.

There has been an extensive capital improvements program continued this year. Most recently, the bathrooms in the Hancock Building have been refurbished, leaving just one corridor of the 17 remaining to be done in 2019.

Sincere thanks again to all whom together make Cromwell a positive and unique environment for the 249 emerging adults who we are all so proud to serve

**Mr R.A. Switzer, M.Ed. B.Ed.St. Dip.T. MACE, MACEL, MAICD
PRINCIPAL / CEO**

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Six general meetings of the Board were held during 2018. Those holding office during the year were as follows:

TRUSTEES:

Chairperson: Dr J Goodall
Treasurer: Mr A Betts
Secretary: Mr B de Jong

BOARD OF GOVERNORS:

The number of meetings attended is indicated in brackets.

Ex officio: The Principal, Mr R A Switzer

Elected by the Uniting Church, Queensland Synod:

Ms D Abbey	(6 of 6)
Mr B B de Jong	(5 of 6)
Dr J Goodall	(5 of 6)
Rev P J Lockhart	(3 of 6)
Ms J Young	(5 of 6)

Elected by the Board of Governors:

The Hon Justice J A Logan	(3 of 6)
Mr A E McChesney-Clark	(5 of 6)
Dr J Porter	(5 of 6)
Dr S Bade	(4 of 6)
Mr R Shannon	(6 of 6)
Mr D Baum	(2 of 5)

Life Governors:

Mr M J C Head
Mr B B de Jong

Elected by Cromwell College Old Collegians' Association:

Ms J Landmark	(5 of 6)
Mr B Durance	(1 of 1)

Appointed by the Senate of the University of Queensland:

Mr A Betts	(5 of 6)
------------	----------

Elected by Cromwell College Students' Association:

Ms R Mutschler	(4 of 6)
Ms L Horneman- Wren	(5 of 6)

Visitor to the College:

The Moderator of the Uniting Church, Queensland Synod: Rev D Baker

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES:

At the 67th Annual General Meeting held on 14th March 2018, the following officers were elected:

Chairperson:	Dr J Goodall
Deputy Chairperson:	Dr J Porter
Secretary:	Mr B de Jong
Treasurer:	Mr A Betts

Property Committee

Six Property Committee meetings were held during the year.

Mr A E McChesney-Clark - Chairperson	(6 of 6)
Dr J Porter	(5 of 6)
Mr R A Switzer	(4 of 6)
Mr M Crome	(6 of 6)
Mr J March	(5 of 6)
Mr N Yarrow	(6 of 6)
Ms D Abbey	(4 of 6)
Ms R Mutschler	(4 of 6)
Ms L Horneman - Wren	(4 of 6)

Finance Committee

Three Finance Committee meeting was held during the year.

Mr A Betts	(3 of 3)
Mr R A Switzer	(3 of 3)
Mr B de Jong	(3 of 3)
Mr M Crome	(3 of 3)
Mr J March	(3 of 3)
Ms J Young	(2 of 3)

APPOINTMENTS:

Grant Thornton was appointed as College Auditor.

Short Statement

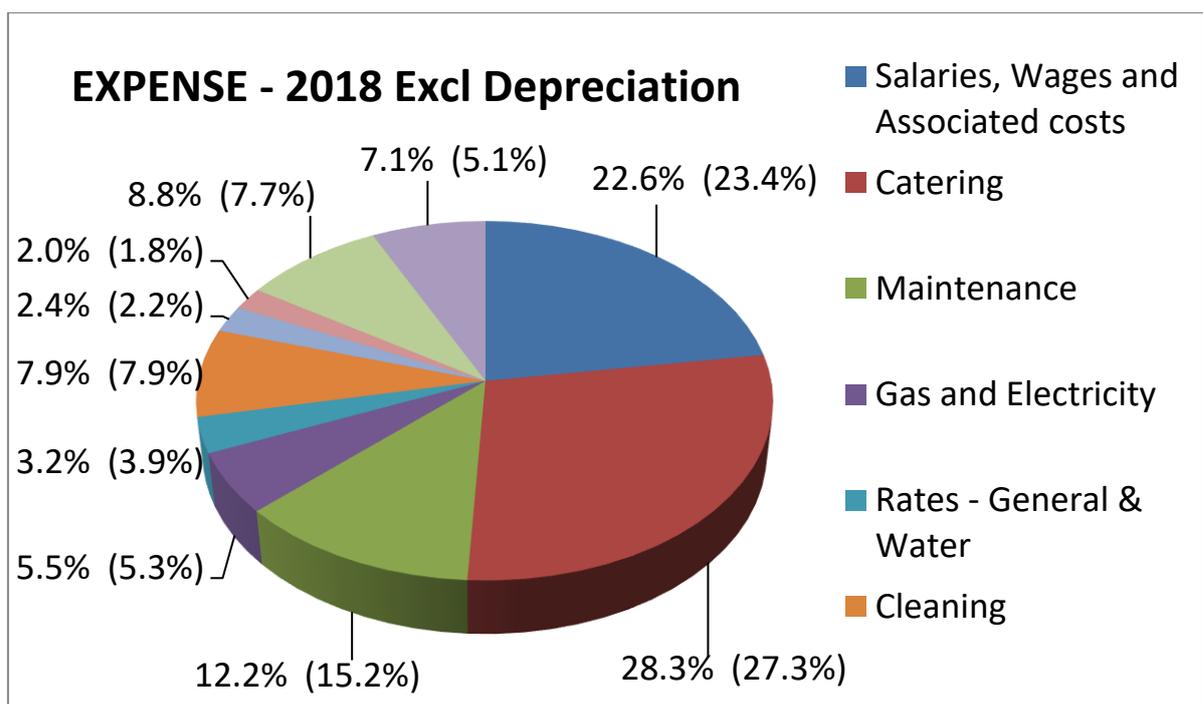
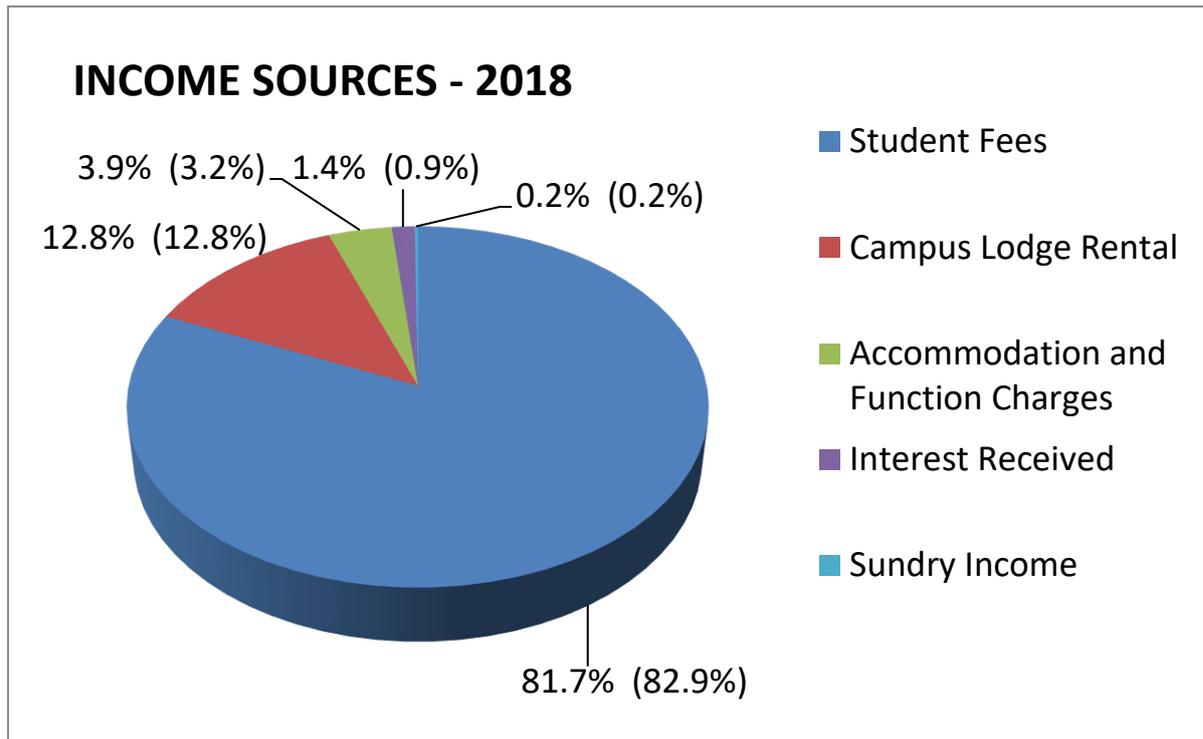
By any measure, 2018 was a tremendous year of achievements. Thanks to all who have made a contribution. Thanks to the Principal, Ross, his staff, the Board of Governors, the students and Cromwell supporters. By working as a team, much has been done.

Ben de Jong
Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

During the year ended the 31st December 2018 the College continued to see strong demand for enrolments with the College averaging occupancy levels greater than 98%. The College achieved a healthy operating surplus of \$880,868 for the year (2017: \$800,173) despite costs associated with an increased security service and increased marketing spend in a competitive market. Full details of income and expenditure can be found in the attached audited Financial Statements for the College.

Components of overall income and expense, in percentage terms, are shown in the following pie charts with previous year's percentages are shown in brackets.



The College continued to substantially reinvest in the College facilities by undertaking \$970,955 of capital expenditure during the year, which included refurbishment of the rooms in Jarvis Tower and an upgrade of the bathrooms in the Hancock Building and is well placed to ensure that its facilities continue to be well presented in the future.

The College is in a sound financial position as at 31st December 2018 with net assets of \$16.35Million and generated cashflows from operations of \$1.60Million during the year, which enabled the College to fund its capital expenditure programme and increase cash reserves at year end to \$5.79Million.

Andrew Betts
Treasurer

