

## BOARD TALK

31 October 2011

The board of trustees has adopted the catchphrase “Marian College – faith in our future” which was suggested by staff as a suitable slogan while we continue to plan for and realise our relocation to Barbadoes Street.

We have many reasons to have faith in our future, as a strong college community working together, building on a heritage of excellence and celebrating the way we have thrived the darkest hours to emerge better than before.

Working with the senior leadership team and many stakeholders the board is striving to make the college a desirable place to learn, retaining the many good things that make Marian so special. The board’s relocation committee aims to ensure a practical and attractive layout within the natural constraints of the campus, sharing it with our neighbours Catholic Cathedral College from 7 February 2012. Some interesting innovations are planned, such as online distance learning through Cantatech for a small number of students to ensure a range of subject options in the senior school.

With some unplanned expenses, such as a suitable canteen space, the board is working on fundraising plans with our past pupils and the Marian Foundation.

We continue to support our dedicated staff to guide our daughters’ learning, preparing them for exams and aiming for the highest educational outcomes.

We welcome **Chantelle Shatford** (Year 12) as the board’s new student trustee, after two separate years on the student trustee council. She replaces **Vy Nguyen** who has responded generously to the board’s request to remain as a co-opted member providing a student voice on the relocation committee.

We have been debating the draft annual plan and next year’s budget – not easy with so many uncertainties. Yet, despite the significant movement of people since this year’s events we have a full roll for 2012 and a pre-planned higher Year 9 intake than previous years.

May your girls continue to strive to achieve in all aspects of their lives, as together we support them to fulfil their potential and contribute to the common good of wider society.

Trustees always welcome your feedback – look out for us at the prizegiving ceremonies and the final college Mass on Monday 7 November in Chanel Hall.

As we prepare for Advent, let’s recall the words from the ageless hymn, “Mō Maria aianeī” ... Kia kaha rā tātou, kia nui te aroha: Let us be strong, let there be great love.

Gerard Duignan  
Chair, Marian College Board of Trustees

MARIAN COLLEGE –  
FAITH IN OUR FUTURE