




Speech By
Dr Christian Rowan

MEMBER FOR MOGGILL

Record of Proceedings, 2 September 2021

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT

Australian Catholic University, Banyo Campus

 **Dr ROWAN** (Moggill—LNP) (2.18 pm): As the Liberal National Party's shadow minister for education, I recently had the opportunity to visit the Australian Catholic University campus in Brisbane and to formally meet the new vice-chancellor, Professor Zlatko Skrbis.

I was pleased to discuss with Professor Skrbis how the Australian Catholic University considers its Banyo campus to be a vital part of its national network and a hub for a number of important university-wide and diverse initiatives including Indigenous education and improving higher education outcomes for our Australian Defence Force Veterans. I also greatly appreciated the opportunity to engage with students studying teaching and others undertaking health professional education, including nursing.

One student shared with me their passion about making a difference in Indigenous education. This student has now gone on to work in regional Queensland, becoming the youngest principal in Australia. I was interested to learn about the significant role the Australian Catholic University has undertaken with respect to initial teacher education in Queensland and that the Australian Catholic University has selected Queensland to be the state jurisdiction to host its significant education and learning research capability through its internationally recognised Institute for Learning Sciences and Teacher Education. This institute, which is led by Professor Claire Wyatt-Smith, is dedicated to developing research based solutions for a number of the significant educational challenges of our time.

The Institute for Learning Sciences and Teacher Education Works across six main areas: literacy, early learning, STEM, assessment and evaluation, teacher education and workforce studies, as well as data analytics. The institute, with other university partners including the University of Queensland, James Cook University, Griffith University and Central Queensland University, has also developed a revolutionary graduate teacher performance assessment tool that is helping to prepare thousands of teaching graduates to work in our schools. This tool is now recognised as the gold standard in assessing teacher graduates.

In my remaining time I also wish to acknowledge and congratulate the Hon. Justice Martin Daubney AM on his appointment to the position of chancellor of the Australian Catholic University. Justice Daubney is a local resident of the Moggill electorate. Justice Daubney's appointment follows a distinguished legal career and notable achievements, including his appointment to the Supreme Court in 2007, where he served for 14 years, as well as his appointment as the president of the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal in 2017. In 2018 Justice Daubney was made a member of the Order of Australia for significant service to the law and the judiciary, to education and to the community. As the Australian Catholic University's fifth chancellor and honorary fellow of the ACU, there is no doubt that the university will be well-served by Justice Daubney's unwavering commitment to the pursuit of knowledge, the furthering of humanity and the principles and values of the Australian Catholic University.

In concluding, I again congratulate the staff and students of the Australian Catholic University for their hard work and dedication towards improving educational outcomes for students here in Queensland. I certainly look forward to attending the university's eighth annual panel discussion and stakeholder dinner to be held later this year.