



THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

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Notre Dame academic joins Australian Catholic Council for Pastoral Research

Lecturer and Discipline Coordinator in Sociology at the University of Notre Dame, Dr Louise St Guillaume, has been appointed to the Australian Catholic Council for Pastoral Research.

Professor Gabrielle McMullen AM, Chair of the Australian Catholic Council for Pastoral Research, welcomed the appointment. “Dr St Guillaume will be a valued addition to the Council, where her expertise as a social scientist and her research skills will assist its deliberations,” she said. “Further, the Council also welcomes links developing with Notre Dame University as a partner in fostering the mission of the Church in Australia.”

Speaking on the role of the Council, Professor McMullen AM, said, “Importantly, it advises the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference in the area of pastoral research and its applications to promote the life and mission of the Church in Australia. In particular, it guides the work of the Bishops’ National Centre for Pastoral Research and fosters partnerships with relevant agencies, like Notre Dame, to advance the work of the Centre.”

Dr St Guillaume's research interests include disability, income support, asylum and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social policy in Australia. Currently, she is collaborating with the Multicultural Disability Advocacy Association on a research project that is evaluating the Disability Insurance Scheme appeals process for people from cultural and linguistically diverse background with disability.

“I am grateful for the opportunity to become a member of the Australian Catholic Council for Pastoral Research and to support the important work that the National Centre for Pastoral Research does in support of the Church’s mission. I look forward to contributing to the Council and representing the University of Notre Dame, as the first council member from the University,” says Dr St Guillaume.

Aside from Professor McMullen AM, Dr St Guillaume will be joining eight other members of the Australian Catholic Council for Pastoral Research at their last council meeting of the year on 4th December. Other members include Mr Daniel Ang, Director, Sydney Centre for Evangelisation, Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney; Rev Brian Lucas, National Director, Catholic Mission; Ms Danielle Cronin, Director of Education Policy, Catholic Schools NSW; Mrs Sophy Morley, Diocesan Pastoral Coordinator, Diocese of Sale; and Rev Dr Stephen Hackett MSC (Ex-officio member), General Secretary, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference.

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