

MEDIA RELEASE

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Professor Richard Colledge appointed Executive Dean, Theology and Philosophy at ACU

Professor Richard Colledge has been appointed Executive Dean of Theology and Philosophy at Australian Catholic University.

Professor Colledge has been acting in the role for the past 12 months and was previously the Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching) in the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy and Head of the National School of Philosophy.

He is known for his research in phenomenology, the philosophy of religion and psychoanalysis, and is a past Chair of the Australasian Society for Continental Philosophy.

Professor Colledge is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and currently serves as an academic staff senator on the ACU Senate. He is also the recipient of a Vice-Chancellor Staff Excellence Award and a Medal for Excellence that recognised his work on enhancing the student experience during the COVID pandemic.

The Executive Dean of Theology and Philosophy oversees two national schools, the School of Philosophy and Australia's top-ranked School of Theology, as well as the Faculty's Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry.

Professor Colledge said he was honoured to take on the role.

“Our disciplines are fundamental to ACU’s mission. We are committed to enabling engagement with the Catholic intellectual tradition through our teaching and high-quality research, promoting critical thinking, and fostering a deeper sense of purpose among our students,” he said.

“I am excited to work with our outstanding faculty to ensure our students are equipped to navigate the complexities of the modern world with a strong ethical framework.

“I look forward to being part of ACU’s leadership team and helping to shape the next phase of our university’s development.”

ACU Vice-Chancellor and President Professor Zlatko Skrbis welcomed Professor Colledge's appointment.

"With more than 20 years' experience as an academic, researcher, and leader, Richard's insight will be invaluable as we continue to enhance our academic offerings," Professor Skrbis said.

"Under his leadership, our renowned theology and philosophy programs will continue to inspire and challenge our students, encouraging them to think deeply about the world and their place in it.

"His vision will be key as we connect these timeless disciplines with contemporary social issues."

Professor Colledge will be based at the university's Brisbane Campus.

Media Contact: Louise Crossen, 0477 675 772, louise.crossen@acu.edu.au