



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**NOTRE DAME**  
A U S T R A L I A

# Media Release

Friday 29 August 2025

## New Global Centre for Catholic Leaders at the University of Notre Dame Australia

We are delighted to announce that in September Notre Dame will open a new Global Centre for Catholic Leaders. The Centre will be headed by Laura Avery as the inaugural Director.

Laura takes up the position on the first of September this year. Her appointment marks a beginning for the Centre, whose mission is to support and form leaders who are deeply rooted in faith, committed to service and equipped to meet the evolving challenges of Catholic organisations.

Laura brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to her new role. For the past five years she has served as the Mission and Policy Advisor for the National Catholic Education Commission (NCEC). Her work with the Commission has included serving as a member of NCEC's Faith Formation and Religious Education Standing Committee, as well as the Executive Officer for the NCEC Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Network.

An excellent educator, Laura's work has taken her to the Northern Territory, Victoria, NSW and the United Kingdom. Her national experience has also included engagement with Catholic Education South Australia on the Religious Education curriculum and Catholic Education Western Australia on their Integral Human Development framework. She was a member of the "Missionary and Evangelising" Discernment and Writing Group for the Fifth Plenary Council of Australia.

With national and global experience and a passion for bringing leaders together, Laura is well-placed to lead the Centre in its first phase.

The Global Centre for Catholic Leaders aims to provide a nucleus for leadership formation through professional learning and mentoring; a leadership academy with governance programs, mental health and wellbeing resources grounded in integral human development; faith formation, induction, and board formation programs; and academic study, formation opportunities and alumni engagement.

The Centre will strengthen and deepen national and international partnerships, to foster excellence, hope, and human flourishing in Catholic education and leadership across the globe.

The Centre invites Catholic education stakeholders to join its global network of scholars, educators, and leaders.

The Centre webpage will launch soon. In the meantime, for any questions, please contact [gccl@nd.edu.au](mailto:gccl@nd.edu.au).

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