



Centre for Learning, Research and Innovation

2015 Annual Report

***“Tell me and I forget.
Teach me and I remember.
Involve me and I learn.”***
Benjamin Franklin



I am pleased to present the 2015 Annual Report, my first as Director of the Centre for Learning, Research and Innovation (CLRI).

CLRI is a joint venture between The Geelong College, Deakin University and The Geelong College Foundation. It serves students, parents, teachers and the broader community. CLRI is supported by an Advisory Committee that guides the planning of programs and identifies opportunities for research and development.

The Centre is not run from a single building – it operates at the point of need. It is a hub of ideas that might be housed in the Creative Arts department, the school up the road, or a local business – it's a core group of thinking, investigating people.

We believe that schools have a role to play in leading the educational community, but we don't think schools and teachers have all the answers about the best ways to educate young people. CLRI reaches out to research organisations, businesses and community groups who know what the world is like and want to share their insights about how to prepare young people for life beyond school.

We value the collective knowledge, practice and wisdom of teachers and understand that learning is a process that can be investigated through collaborative and interdisciplinary research. We are actively involved in research with Deakin University and through individual learning projects undertaken by The Geelong College staff. We engage in dialogue with local, national and international experts who have a deep knowledge of the science of learning and the art of teaching.

Young people need to be prepared for a future being shaped by advances in science and technology, the changing nature of work, pressures on the environment and globalisation. They are awash with information. They need to learn how to evaluate this information to discern whether it is valid and whether it resonates with their values and aspirations. We investigate ways to develop skills like critical thinking, cognitive agility, emotional regulation, problem finding and solving, communication and creativity, which are essential tools for making wise choices about the information they access.

As a result of the hard work of our team, CLRI is on track for significant growth again in 2016. I would like to thank all those who contributed to our success in 2015 and for your continued support of this wonderful and much needed initiative.

Christine Shannon
Director



From the Head of Teaching and Learning

It has been another year of significant growth for the Centre for Learning, Research and Innovation (CLRI). Having quickly established itself in the Geelong Region, our aim is to have an even greater reach in 2016 by continuing to provide key stakeholders with the ability to affect beneficial change within their schools, institutions and organizations. Combined with a comprehensive offering of experiential hands-on workshops and evening lectures featuring prominent guests, the Centre has adopted strategies that borrow from the entrepreneur or start-up space that aim to encourage agency and innovation in individuals.

Through a number of internal initiatives with The Geelong College teaching staff, our motto of Permission to Innovate encourages all employees to behave like Intrapreneuers. Intrapreneuers are essentially “dreamers that do” – they don’t settle for the frustration of seeing good ideas buried under inefficiencies of existing process, hierarchy or bureaucracy. They take hands-on responsibility for their ideas and understand that there is no magic innovation leprechaun at the end of the rainbow that turns ideas into pots of gold – it is taking ownership that ultimately sees ideas through to fruition.

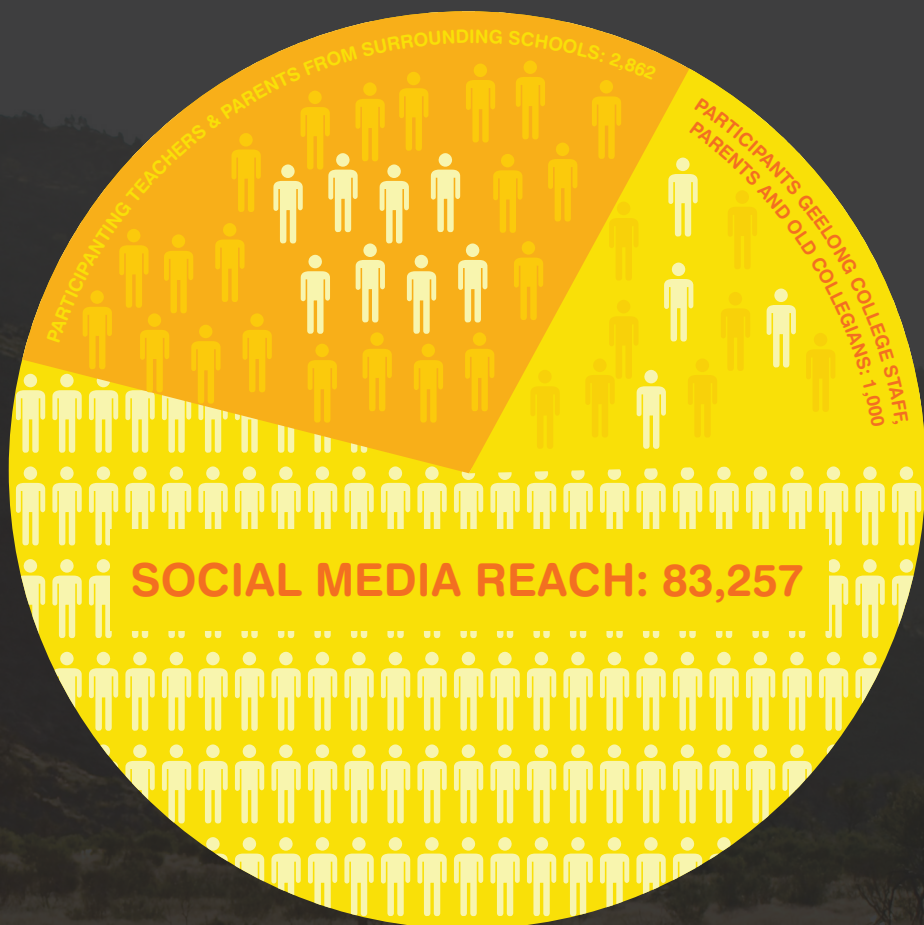
This is the kind of agency we empower. We work hard to provide the right balance between structure and process that give others the freedom to disrupt and reinvent. We engage in system level reflection by examining the past and scanning the horizon for what is to come. We explore and encourage ideas. When we go into incubation mode around a promising idea, we provide the team with the independence they need to be daring. We test, develop and support communities of practice and then accelerate the adoption of the best new ideas.

This methodology has seen The Geelong College develop an innovative Vision for Learning as part of its Strategic Education Plan that is driving an empowered learning culture among staff and students. We are proud of what we have achieved so far. But we are just getting started.

“We are proud of what we have achieved so far. But we are just getting started.”

Given the Centre has built strong foundations and generated considerable momentum, we humbly recognize that we still have much to learn. We are ready for that challenge and invite you to join us on this journey in 2016.

Adrian Camm



TOPICS

MUSIC

MATHEMATICS

DRUG EDUCATION

GENETICS

PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

INNOVATION &
TECHNOLOGY

THE ENVIROMENT

HISTORY & THE
MAKER MOVEMENT

13
YEARS OLD

AGE
RANGE

90
YEARS OLD

EVENTS: 24

EXTERNAL PARTICIPANTS: 2,862

INTERNAL PARTICIPANTS: 1,000

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS: 3,862

CLRI
A world of learning.

Notable Guest Speakers



Michael Griffin
The Expertise Mindset



Paul Grabowski
In Concert



Dan Haesler
The Growth Mindset



Rob Gell
Climate Change



Dr Jose Polo
Macfarlane Burnet Lecture



Tim McCallum
In Conversation



Paul Dillon
Everything parents should know about illicit drugs



Lambis Englazos
The ANZAC Legend



Hamish Curry
No Tosh



Dr. Alec Couros
Brave New World of Digital Technology



Charles Lovitt
Investigating Mathematics



Rufus Black
Creating Entrepreneurs

Strategic Priorities 2016

The Centre for Learning, Research and Innovation (CLRI) aims to create outstanding professional learning opportunities for all schools in the G21 region. Our commitment is to understanding the science of learning and the art of teaching. To support our aim we have developed three strategic priorities:

Priority 1: Provide targeted professional learning opportunities for teachers and schools

Key Strategies

- Continue to diversify professional learning opportunities
- Provide high quality community lectures once per term
- Increase collaboration with schools in the Geelong region by working with them to tailor professional learning programs that suits their needs
- Effectively utilize partnership with Deakin to cater for Education students

Priority 2: Conduct and communicate research to foster community education and develop global partnerships

Key Strategies

- Increase engagement of The Geelong College staff in both practitioner-led action research and post graduate academic research
- Increase the number of parents attending Centre events by diversifying the timing, location and focus of events
- Produce four research papers and a series of promotional videos that highlight outstanding practice

Priority 3: Empower innovation for improved ways of working and responsiveness to change

Key Strategies

- Continue to empower our people to drive innovation
- Foster open communication and a fail safe environment
- Promote distributed leadership
- Encouraging cross-pollination of ideas so that teachers benefit from each other's skills and knowledge
- Publicly acknowledge accomplishments

Our Team



Christine Shannon

Christine is the Director of the Centre and leads professional learning at Geelong College.

She believes that everyone can learn and is committed to delivering quality learning experiences to people of all ages.



Adrian Camm

Adrian explores innovation and has worked with schools and organizations around the world.

By nurturing cross-sector networks, empowering others, and keeping an eye on emerging trends, he is driving the Centre to become a creative and innovative learning institution.



Nicole Roache

Nicole manages our marketing and promotional presence, in the media and online.

A marketing specialist and copy writer, she learns every day and knows what buzzes in the Geelong market.



Sam McIntosh

Sam is our designer and video multimedia producer.

A teacher and graphic artist, Sam understands learning and creates digital experiences that navigate through film, design, and creative media.



Lainey Carr

Lainey looks after the day to day operation of the Centre.

She's our all round administration and go-to person.

Advisory Committee

Our advisory committee leads the strategic development for the Centre of Learning, Research and Innovation. In 2015 the committee consisted of:

Christine Shannon Director of Professional Learning and Research, The Geelong College

Adrian Camm Head of Teaching and Learning, The Geelong College

Michael Betts Chairman, The Geelong College Foundation


Andrew Balaam CEO, Geelong Gallery

Professor Christine Ure Head of School, Education, Deakin University

Professor Jeanne Allan Associate Professor of Education, Deakin University

We thank them for their tireless efforts and look forward to continuing the outstanding work into 2016 and beyond.

In 2016 Dr Peter Miller, Principal of The Geelong College will join the committee. We would love to hear from other suitably qualified individuals who may be interested in joining the Advisory Committee in 2016.



Environmental and communications consultant Rob Gell with students from the Year 4 Enviro Program.

Portrait Photography by Trevor Cooke and Jennifer Chiu
Landscape Photography by Sam McIntosh



CENTRE
FOR LEARNING,
RESEARCH &
INNOVATION

*We explore ideas about learning and
investigate new ways to teach and learn.
We believe in the genius in everybody.
#everybodygenius*

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