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Resident's Address BI MARION ST STRATHFIELD Date (0-3-12

Mr Mark Brown Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir

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RE: AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY APPLICATION NO: MP10_0231

As residents of Strathfield and residents directly affected by the operation of the Australian Catholic University (ACU) expansion proposal, we write to lodge our objection to the above Concept Plan. We strongly urge the Department and Minister to decline the proposal.

Key reasons for objecting to the Concept Plan are as follows:

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Name: Usha St George Resident's Address 71 Albyn Rd Date Strath Bield Now 2435 11 March 2012

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Name: Vandana SARATHY

Resident's Address

Date 33 Woodward Ave Strathfield NSW 2135

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Marathing V. SARATHY. 33 Woodward AV Stratheld 2135

Name: DR. DEVARANCE MARIESAN

Resident's Address 15 BAREENA Street Date STRATIFEED 2135 11/3/2012

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Name - Ganesh suntharam + Ranjini Magesan

Resident's Address G1 Newton Rd strathfield, 2135 NJW Date 10/3/2012

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6 Florence Street Strathfield N S W 2135 6th March, 2012

Mr. Mark Brown Major Projects Assessments Department of Planning and Infrastructure SYDNEY NSW 2001 G.P.O. Box 39

Dear Sir,

RE, AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY APPLICATION NO: M,P10-0231

I am writing to lodge my objection to the ACU Conception Plan as above. I have noticed an increase of parked cars in the streets near the University. Their proposal also includes an increase of 4,800 students and 260 staff by Year 2016. It also includes a proposal for extended hours from 7am until 10pm on weekdays and 8am until 5pm on weekends.

The proposed parking spaces on site are a total of 644 spaces. With the inadequate parking spaces will see residents losing more residential parking, to the P plated drivers who are on the increase and making parking for residents near the University impossible.

This is a residential area and Barker Road is a local road. Residents can only build no higher than two storeys; so why should the Catholic University propose two, four storey buildings. In this residential area. To give approval to the ACU proposed four story buildings could set a precedent for other institutes to follow suit.

As a resident, I am concerned with the increased traffic in Strathfield and it appears the ACU has little concern for the residents. I strongly object to the ACU Concept Plans and stated some of the reasons for my objections.

No reportable political donation in the previous two years have been made by me.

Trudi - Ann Yip

Resident's Address 212 NEWTON READ STRATHFIELD Date 12103 2012 Phone, 97655774 Mobil 0407273660

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N.Basis. Anus



26 February 2012

Mr Mark Brown Department of Planning & Infrastructure 23-33 Bridge Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Brown

Re: Application No: MP 10_0231 Australian Catholic University (ACU), Strathfield Campus, Strathfield

I write in response to the Department's notification of the above proposal and to comment on the ACU's concept plan.

I strongly register my objection to the proposed overuse of the ACU site and expansion of the ACU's student enrolment. Before commenting on reasons for my objection I note that I have not made any reportable political donations in the last two years and attach a disclosure to this effect.

The ACU's concept plan, contrary to assertions by the ACU has not been subject to community consultation as per the Department's guidelines for consultation for major community consultation. In fact, the ACU has deliberately and selectively notified a handful of residences of its proposal. The Department's notification was the first notice I had of the proposed expansion.

The ACU's proposal will have profound and negative consequences on residents over and above the intolerable conditions currently existing directly attributable to the over enrolment in place at the ACU's Strathfield Campus. Residents are already suffering and bearing a disproportionate burden as a result of the over enrolment at the ACU to date – further expansion will further exacerbate the serious parking, traffic and safety problems.

The ACU is not concerned about the impact that it is having on residents now nor on the impact its further proposed expansion will have.

On 23 February 2012 Lattended what I understood to be a community consultative meeting at the ACU in response to the receipt of a flyer from the ACU advising that a meeting would be held. That meeting was a disgrace. The Vice Chancellor, Professor Craven had nothing but disregard for concerns held by the residents about the proposal. He lectured and spoke at people and then proceeded to threaten those who dared to raise concerns that he did not agree with by saying that the taking of legal option (and he is a lawyer) was an option. The Vice Chancellor's lack of interest in taking matters

on board was further revealed by the resident sitting opposite him asking about the notes that he was taking of the meeting and by the Professor having to reveal that during the consultative community meeting he was doodling! It was indeed the most distressing meeting I have ever attended. The Professor held everyone in utter contempt, he was anything other than smug and basically said this is what is going to happen.

Opposition to the proposal is on the following:

- over saturation of the 5 hectare site
- loss of amenities by residents

- unsatisfactory treatment of a historical site

the site is in a residential area – the proposal to construct 4 storey buildings on limited land will severely impact on residents, create overshadowing, mean a loss of privacy and a loss of open space
the traffic report prepared in support of the plan contains many inaccuracies. For example, it refers to Barker Road being a collector road – there is no such collector road classification by the RTA or should the consultant correctly note, the MRS.

- Barker Road is a local street and as a local street it should only carry 2,000 – 4,000 vehicle movements. What the ACU proposes will mean that there will be just under 10,000 vehicle movements – this is not acceptable, traffic congestion is already intolerable, dangerous for those on the streets, for students walking to the schools in the locality, for the elderly and frail and also for the residents who seek to enter and exit their properties

- the oversaturation of the locality with student parking has made matters difficult for residents in streets. Students park over driveways, slightly over driveways and then when challenged abuse law abiding citizens. They have no regard for others only to find somewhere to park and make it to the ACU. - the ACU would have you believe that students will travel by bike - where on earth is there going to be a bike path and who will pay for such a bike path from the various areas where students reside. The streets cannot now handle the vehicles and buses on the roads, the restriction in road space by the parking. It is currently a nightmare to drive during the am and pm peak let alone having a flotilla of students on bikes. Where is the reality in all of this. We have all seen what a mess Clover Moore has done to the City of Sydney. - the suggestion of placing more parking restrictions in the streets and or resident parking is not acceptable. Students merely will run to their vehicles and move them, what a mess that would be. Further implementing resident permits is also an idea that has little merit. With the cost of real estate and lack of affordable rental accommodation many young people are continuing to reside with their parents. Many have professional and shift work positions which mean that they must drive to their place of work - therefore many households have more than two vehicles.

- the ACU states it has implemented a shuttle service between the university and the station and that it moves 1,500 students in the am and pm peak and that the service runs every 10 minutes. Well as a resident I can assure you that in the peak times there is absolutely no way that you can travel between the ACU and the station in 10 minutes due to the congestion on the roads. The truth is that such a journey now takes at a minimum 15-20 minutes. Do the maths – at most under 950 students would be conveyed, that is if the 24 seater buses were filled to capacity.

I object to the ACU proposal. If the ACU wishes to build a university to take on the likes of Sydney and NSW and a university which is accessible by students from the west then it needs to do so by examining where it should place its campus and ideally on a site that has adequate land mass for the ACU and the amenity of the students. The current proposal by the ACU is flawed, based on false premise and unacceptable to the residents. Enough is enough – the residents of Strathfield and certainly the residents in the vicinity of the ACU can no longer allow the loss of amenity, the traffic congestion, the unsafe traffic and parking conditions that exist NOW to continue. The ACU is not interested in the residents all that it is driven by is the Bradley Report and the \$\$\$\$ at the end of the tunnel at all cost!

Yours sincerely

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Political Donations Disclosure Statement to		Minister or the Director-General	
If you are required under section \$47(3) of \$	the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to disclose a	frigou are required under section 447(3) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 to disclose any political donations (see Page 1 for details), please fill in this form and sign below.	
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Resident's Address Date D 5-03-20/3

Mr Mark Brown Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir

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Margaret BRACK

14 trancis st Straupeer

Resident's Address Date 3/3.2012

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D. STARR.

io Francis st. strathfic NSW 2140

Resident's Address

Date 3 / 03 / 20/2

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Resident's Address

Date 3.2.2012

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Mazareena Ebrahim

Resident's Address Date 3/3/2012 Swisten Lai 40 B Auchen St. Botrath-fiel. I. 0435229898

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Yours faithfully

justin@justdrog.com Justin Lai

40 A ARTHUR ST STRATIFIELD NSW 2135 Resident's Address

Date 3 March 2012

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MARIA VISOTIPA

426 Office St Heathfailer

Resident's Address Date $\beta_3/\sigma_3/1\gtrsim$

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Date 3.3.20 m 22 fronser st Strathfield.

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37 maric-St strath(idd.

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- The proposal contains invalid parking and traffic analyses due to an incorrect assumption in relation to the growth in student numbers. This flaw in the analysis completely invalidates the conclusions reached by the university and its consultants. The proposal will have substantial traffic, parking and other amenity-related impacts on the surrounding residential precinct. The expansion of the ACU represents a breach of residents' rights to the quiet enjoyment of their properties and will further interfere with their safety, peace and convenience.
- The ACU's consultation with the local community has been inadequate. The ACU's selective provision of information to a handful of residents was not comprehensive. More recently, the ACU's attempt at consultation via the distribution of a Flyer and the holding of a meeting at short notice does not reflect on the ACU's bona fides in seeking to consult with affected residents and in providing an opportunity for

Information in the ARUP report analyses out of date data relating to student numbers in 2008 and 2009. This is 2012. The report was prepared 14 December 2011 yet there is no analysis of student numbers in either 2010 or 2011. Why and how can a plan with such significant and negative impact on residents not be subject of up to date student information.

The ACU is sited on 5 hectares of land in a residential area. The current land is totally inadequate for the expansion objectives of the ACU and it does not provide equitable student to land ratio, say between the University of Western Sydney and Macquarie University.

Barker Road is a local road - the Council states that the volume of traffic should not exceed 4,000 per day. What the ACU proposals will see further intolerable and dangerous traffic conditions in that street and the local streets of Strathfield.

ARUP acknowledges the positive decision of the ACU not to provide adequate on site parking and notes that while the parking increase proposed appears substantial it is inadequate.

The concept plan by the ACU will not minimise the impact on traffic and parking or residents.

The concept plan also fails to maintain and enhance the character of the existing built environment and will not be a sympathetic treatment of the historical site - in fact such over development will destroy the heritage character.

The Department and Minister should reject the ACU proposal. The misinformation, use of out of date student information, the errors and deficiencies in the analysis presented by the ACU and its consultants mean that no reasonable decision maker could make a valid decision in support of the proposal. If these reasons alone are not sufficient for the proposal to be declined, it should be declined on the fact that the ACU is situated on a mere 5 hectares, has buildings of historical significance and will see an erosion of open-green space and not have comparable or adequate student: land ratio and because the ACU has failed to adequately engaged with the community.

We confirm that we have made no reportable political donations in the previous two years.

Yours faithfully



STRATHFIELD NSW 2135

9 March 2012

Mr M Brown Department of Planning & Infrastructure 23-33 Bridge Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Brown

Re: Application: MP 10-0231 Location: Australian Catholic University (ACU), Strathfield Campus, Strathfield Proponent: Australian Catholic University Limited Council Area: Strathfield

I refer to the Department's notification of the above application and the ACU's concept plan and thank the Department for extending by two weeks the date for the receipt of submissions.

I advise that:

- I have made no reportable political donations in the last two years. I attach a disclosure form to this effect as required
- I object to my personal details being provided to the proponent or anyone associated with the proponent in view of threats and intimidatory behaviour by the ACU; and
- I register my strong opposition to the concept plan.

The ACU's concept plan is based on flawed premise, misinformation, and questionable statements and in some instances recognition that the ACU is taking action that will positively have a detrimental impact on residents. The Transport & Accessibility Study prepared by ARUP does nothing to advance the concept plan, in fact it is a document that is seriously flawed for reasons, which will be referred to below.

My submission attempts to provide background to concerns in the community and to advance cogent reasons why the ACU's proposal must be rejected. The ACU is, despite its protestations to the contrary, attempting to railroad the community and decision makers in its quest to capitalise on no capping of student numbers. The proposal is not one of consolidation but rather significant expansion and resulting detriment to the residents of the municipality and also to the students of the ACU. This cannot be allowed to occur. Importantly, the Department, as a planning instrumentality must consider the land size on which the Strathfield Campus of the ACU is situated, that is 5 hectares of land, the heritage buildings, student numbers approved by the Land and Environment Court and the action by the ACU in 'over enrolling' students at the campus.

I will confine my objections to the ACU's proposed expansion and concept plan focusing on a number of significant issues, namely: Consultation, Land Size -Overdevelopment; Traffic, Parking and Safety; and Total Loss of Amenity. Before doing so I must comment on the reluctance and unwillingness by the ACU to be upfront and honest about its student numbers. In this submission I refer to the Order of the Land and Environment Court limiting numbers having regard to the Court's consideration of the land size of the campus, the fact that it is in a residential location and the impact on residents when making its order. The siting of the ACU has not changed, what has changed is the ACU's blatant disregard for the orders of the Court and for the community of Strathfield. I will also refer to Strathfield Council's agreement for the ACU to trial increased numbers and that all that was agreed was a trial.

The documentation by ARUP consultants raises serious questions about the bona fides of the ACU and is further evidence of how the ACU and those it has engaged are selective in providing substantiation and justification for the ACU's expansionism. The inability of the ACU to use up to date data to justify its cause is but one example of how the ACU is attempting to 'snow' the community and others. At 3.9 of ARUP's 14 December 2011 report, prepared after the end of the 2011 University year, data is used relating to the 2008 and 2009 (part only) semesters. Legitimate concerns arise why out of date data relating to student numbers is used. Surely up to date information, namely data relating to 2010 and 2011 should have been used for the analysis? It is unworthy of the ACU to attempt to justify this criticism by claiming contemporary information and data was not available. This alone, that is the inability of the ACU to use up to data information is cause for seriously questioning everything that follows in the ACU's attempt to railroad planners and the community – if the ACU cannot be forthcoming with current student numbers then surely how can anyone properly assess the proposal?

Consultation

Until the Department's notification I was not aware of the actions of the ACU, despite being an immediately affected resident of the ACU's plan and one who should have, along with my neighbours, been subject to notification and consultation back in August 2011.

On 23 February 2012 and in response to the receipt of the Flyer (Tab A) I attended a 'consultative meeting' which I envisaged would be a meeting in keeping with Key Issue 20 in the Director General's requirements – 'Undertake an appropriate and justified level of consultation with the Department's Major Project Community Consultation Guidelines October 2007, in particular surrounding residents and Strathfield Council'.

Having read the Department's Guidelines, nothing undertaken by the ACU would fit the intent of what is envisaged as occurring in respect of adequate consultation and community involvement. The word adequate means 'equal to the requirement or occasion; fully sufficient, suitable, or fit' – the paltry 'alleged notification of 220 dwellings' out of 10,000 plus dwellings in the Strathfield municipality is in no way adequate. No wonder few people attended one of the first meetings. The ACU in documentation submitted identifies its proposal will impact 2,700 – this acknowledgment by the ACU is interesting given it only saw fit to engage initially in a letterbox drop of 220 dwellings – how can the ACU claim it has adequately consulted with the community and impacted residents. It cannot. No wonder few people attended the ACU's first meeting – the reason, they did not know about the proposal and the impact of the proposal. Any attempt by the ACU to suggest that there has been adequate consultation is utter fantasy on the part of the ACU, especially if the ACU seeks to rely on the adequacy of the meeting on 23 February 2012. This 3 ½ hour meeting, where those in attendance were lectured by the Vice Chancellor was a disgrace. There was no consultation – what occurred was a display of bullying and display of the attitude - this is what we are doing, we have been here for a considerable period of time. Actually, the ACU campus only saw the light of day in 1993/4. As an affected resident had I been aware of the ACU's concept plan I would have been engaged earlier. My engagement occurred following receipt of the Department's notification. The ACU's Flyer (tabbed) followed. Neither I, nor my immediately affected neighbours had any prior contact from the ACU pre the Flyer.

I turn to the ACU's 'community consultation' meeting of 23 February 2012. As noted above this meeting was a disgrace. The opening comments by Vice Chancellor Professor Craven set the tone of the meeting. He left very few people in doubt that the ACU, in holding the meeting was merely going through the motions. The Vice Chancellor's attitude was of boredom, disdain, and in the opinion of many, open contempt for those present by his demeanour and actions. If any resident thought that they would be able to engage with the ACU in dialogue regarding concerns, that they would be enlightened about actual student numbers and that they would be provided with an opportunity to have valid concerns address in a consultative manner, then we were sadly mistaken. The ACU's bona fides in holding the meeting are questioned. Should you not consider the view of an impacted resident, I attach an article in the press reporting on the meeting.

Detailed below are concerns arising from the consultative meeting and the presentation by the Vice Chancellor and his staff:

- the meeting was opened by the Vice Chancellor delivering a potted history of the site, the fact that everyone should know what is happening because he had been reported in the Sydney Morning Herald and the Bradley Report had been released. In short the meeting commenced by those present being lectured by the Vice Chancellor
- the Vice Chancellor alluded to what he considered to be comments that were capable of being subject to legal action, so people better watch out - he was a lawyer after all. The Vice Chancellor's threat of legal action against individuals certainly did not sit well with residents who have a legitimate reason to be heard and consulted on an extremely concerning development and the actions to date by the ACU in over enrolling students for its campus
- the Vice Chancellor alluded to the ability of the ACU pretty much doing as it liked. To put this comment in context he noted that the residents should be pleased that the ACU was going down the Part 3A path due to the size of the expansion because the ACU could have avoided all this angst by undertaking piecemeal development and no one would be the wiser
- inability of ACU representatives to provide answers to questions posed and to substantiate claims when questioned on the issue of student numbers.
- the display by the ACU representatives of trying to 'baffle' people by constantly changing what and how they are counting student numbers
- the inability by the representative consultant to address traffic and related issues especially when it was pointed out that assumptions and conclusions in the report were based on incorrect, flawed and dated information
- confirmation that the ACU was going through the motions by the actions of the Vice Chancellor, namely, his doodling during the entire meeting when residents had an expectation and a right to expect that he was documenting concerns raised.

The Flyer -- Tab A:

It is my contention that the wording and the production of the Flyer is a conscious attempt to mislead by the manner in which information is conveyed and also by, one could only surmise, 'omission' of pertinent information. I will confine my comments/observations to four Key Features identified in the Flyer represented pictorially, namely: Building, Parking, Traffic and the Shuttle Service.

Building:

The depiction is of a 2 storey building and text that development precincts will be 'at a height and floor space appropriate to the existing built form and character of the locality' (my emphasis). Let me explore the text and unravel the assertions.

The ACU campus is in the Strathfield municipality – a residential area that in the 2006 Census had just over 10,000 dwellings. Interestingly recent data reveals that 61% of the municipality speak a language other than English. In view of this later statistic, words and their use become extremely important.

As a resident from a non English background, had I not reviewed some of the Department's documentation and made independent enquiries regarding the ACU's concept plan, after receiving the Flyer (tabbed) I would have been reassured and in fact misled into a false sense of security about the ACU's bona fides. Nothing however can be further from the truth.

The ACU's concept plan will have a significant deleterious impact on residents. By way of explanation and evidence why the Flyer is an exercise in the provision of selective and misleading information I note that nowhere in the Flyer is there a reference to the construction of buildings that will be 4 storeys in height on the boundary of properties. The campus is in a residential area with height restrictions. The construction of four (4) storey buildings is not 'in keeping with the built form and character of the locality'. Such construction will seriously impact on privacy in the general community around the campus, the siting of a cafeteria on the fourth floor will create noise pollution and further impact on privacy on those being 'overlooked', it will create overshadowing problems, diminish the treatment of the heritage site – which I note the ACU has done little in the last 15 years to enhance, erode precious green space and significantly, the development will be an overdevelopment of the 5 hectare site and be bad planning.

Parking:

The ACU through 'smoke' appears to seek to reassure residents that by increasing available parking by 100% that they are doing right by the residents. This is another example of the ACU being 'cute'.

The current parking provided by the ACU is inadequate having regard to the number of students at the campus. This is borne out by the problems created by student parking in the streets around the ACU. Increasing parking by the proposed 100% will do nothing and does not go anywhere near enough to solving existing problems let alone addressing the intolerable pressures that will be created and encountered when the ACU's numbers swell in excess of 4,800 students. Remember with the no cap on student numbers, the expansionist desires of the Vice Chancellor and grab for Commonwealth funding and the ever moving student numbers, there will be a total loss of amenities for residents and an erosion of rights and quiet enjoyment in their residences.

The ACU recognises parking is a significant problem. I refer you to 5.1 of ARUP's report and the statement that 40% of students and staff park in the streets during the

University term. Let us explore this statement further by examining the impact on residents at a very simplistic level and by limiting the exercise to students.

Simple maths: 40% of 4,800 will mean that you would have 1,920 students parking in the residential streets. Strathfield is not a University town, it is a residential suburb with many fine educational institutions however the actions by the ACU on its meagre 5 hectare land holding is an attempt to erode the rights of residents, to cramp students onto limited land space, to increase hours the campus is operational not only during the week but also on weekends and above all, the actions by the ACU have no regard to the amenity, safety and concerns of the residents. All the ACU is interested in is expanding its commercial, yes commercial for profit educational enterprise in a residential area.

The Department's attention is draw pertinent statements in the ARUP's report regarding parking.

At 4.5, the statement is made:

'Excessive amount of on-site parking should be avoided as it will encourage future students and staff driving to the campus.'

and the statement,

'Although the increase in parking appears to be significant, the parking ratio is still reasonably low as per Department of Planning and State Government Target for sustainable transport initiatives.' (my emphasis)

The proposed actions of the ACU will do nothing to eliminate problems in the locality rather they will disproportionally exacerbate existing problems which have been growing due to the actions of the ACU. Strathfield is not a university town. The campus is situated among residential homes that have been there for a long time.

The construction of underground parking and the impact on residents in Edgar, Marion, Shortland, Barker, Howard Roads/Streets will be significant. Parking is already intolerable in Barker, Wilson, South, Wallis, Redmyer, Albert, Albyn Roads/Streets to name but a few of the streets impacted negatively.

Audit of street parking by a respected and retired Town Planner prior to the 23 February 2012 meeting revealed 1,200 parked student cars in the area. This data is available for inspection and clearly reveals that there is no correlation with what the ACU alleges are student numbers and what actually is occurring with numbers.

Again, a mathematical exercise brings into question the ACU's information and reveals that it does not stand up to scrutiny. For example, 300 plus filled parking spots on the ACU campus, plus 1,200 parked student vehicles on the streets (and not all the streets were subject of data collection) equates to well over 1,500 student vehicles. Such figure does not correlate with what the ACU says is the number of students on site and indeed allowed on site. Residents will continue to walk the streets gathering data as it is evident that information from the ACU is extremely selective at best.

Consideration also needs to be given to the width of many of the streets. Despite pictures of streets (somehow pretty devoid of vehicles), consultant's jargon and theories, practicality and reality are somewhat different. Once vehicles are parked on both sides of the street – Wilson, South to name a few, you only have safe travelling

access for one vehicle in any given direction. It also goes without saying that entry and exit by residents to their properties is negatively impacted and dangerous, not just for the person in the vehicle, but those travelling on the road, students and the elderly walking the street.

It is not possible to accurately relay how impacted residents of the municipality are and how dismissive the ACU, through its concept plan and its 'consultation', is of residents' rights and concerns.

At 5.4 of the Parking Impact, ARUP proffer solutions to parking problems and state what the consultant views as being an acceptable solution.

Let there be no mistake, what is proffered is unacceptable and unworkable. Why should residents be subject to visual pollution by signs? Why should local residential streets be converted into a Parramatta Road? How can having multiple crossings in Barker Road improve safety for pedestrians and those on the road - it cannot. Anyone with their eyes open sees the impact on safety of multiple crossings in a short space, the false sense of security by those crossing and the ever increasing use of the ipad, the mobile phone when crossing streets and not paying attention. Installation of traffic lights will do nothing to improve traffic flow and safety coupled with the topography of the road and the crest, serious safety issues arise this is not a site where you have a clear slate from a planning perspective. Here you have a problem that cannot be improved upon by further increases in pressures. Road safety is a serious issue. The Government recently expressed concern about the incidents of accidents involving vehicles exiting properties - the problems with parking on the streets directly attributable to the ACU and its student population and the congestion to be further created if the concept plan is approved, will only exacerbate problems. The totality of the impact must be considered. There are now serious safety issues. What is proposed will only further exacerbate problems.

In its report ARUP refers to a 76% occupancy in the streets and comment that 'This occupancy rate is acceptable considering the majority of the residential properties have more than one off-street parking space. Residents can still obtain a parking space within reasonable walking distance if they wish to park on-street for a short period of time.' (emphasis added).

The above statement is presumptuous and offensive.

Residents have made significant sacrifices to live in the residential area, they have invested considerably, many families have extended families living in dwellings with children who continue to reside at home given the lack of available and affordable rental accommodation and the price of housing. Most dwellings have elderly long term residents who cannot walk distances. Through the efforts of residents in collecting data, available information discloses that parking in the streets exceeds the 76% rate commented by ARUP. However, even if you accepted ARUP's number, which is questionable given out of date data used in the report, the figure of 76% is still unacceptable.

The attitude of the consultants and the ACU that residents can find parking in the street and walk and that this is not too inconvenient for them to do so is presumptuous and contemptuous. Why should residents, many of whom are elderly and frail, have to bear the burden of the actions of the ACU? Why is it that students and the ACU, which receives significant fees and makes a considerable profit from increases in student numbers, have it all their way with no regard and concern for the residents who pay taxes and who contributed to the community locally and at a State

level? Why is it the resident who is to be restricted where he or she or their visitors are able to park in the local street, how does the consultant express it, 'park on-street for a short period of time'? Why should residents be dictated to in such a way by a commercial profit generating enterprise located in a residential area?

Parking or more precisely the lack of parking is a significant issue. Strathfield is not a University town, it is a residential location. The issuing of circulars by the ACU to students asking them to be careful how they park; that they not litter the streets and to utilise public transport will not result in students opting for public transport options in lieu of the convenience of travelling by carl. Interestingly this ACU was distributed following the 23 February 2012 meeting. The problems created by the ACU have been in existence for a considerable period and residents have complained but have not had a voice. The voice has been found, the trigger is the ACU's concept plan, which reveals that the ACU has been creating problems for residents without any consideration of the impact of the decisions re student numbers. The ACU's February circular to students is just that - a circular that found its way as litter in the local streets!

Consolidation:

For some reason the ACU would have you believe that providing four (4) entries/exits will alleviate and reduce the impact on traffic flow and parking in Barker Road. This statement is not only difficult to rationalise but so far fetched and removed from reality that it really does not deserve comment, however, as the ACU has put it in issue it needs to be referred to.

The ACU frontage onto Barker Road, (my estimation as I am not a surveyor) is approximately 230 metres. This distance needs to be discounted by approximately 100 metres because of the siting of the heritage building especially if you are to sympathetically deal with the heritage buildings. The available frontage of the ACU is also impacted by the positioning of existing streets into Barker Road, the topography of Barker Road, the fact that it is a local road with one lane in each direction (contrary to suggestion that it is a two lane street - it is only two lanes at the site where turning lanes have been marked at the entry into the ACU). This all results in very limited frontage to site further access points along Barker Road that will not significantly and detrimentally impact on the community, the safe use of the road by motorists, pedestrians and the occasional bike rider. Again, Barker Road is a LOCAL road. ARUP's consideration and treatment of what should and is acceptable for Barker Road is severely flawed and unsustainable. As a local road traffic volume should not exceed 4,000 vehicles per day. What the ACU notes is that this figure is already oversubscribed at 7,000 plus. The ACU's plans will see this figure well over 10,000. This is not acceptable from a planning, local traffic and safety point of view!

The actions of the ACU, in its drive to increase revenue and over enrol, have resulted in the community bearing the brunt of the ACU's actions. I repeat, having 4 access points on Barker Road will add to the pressures on traffic and seriously impact on safety. Further, placing another traffic light control measure will not address problems. Barker Road is, according to Strathfield Council and also the RMS, a local road and it certainly does not need nor should it be turned into a Parramatta Road, nor should the suburb be treated as a shortcut for motorists wishing to avoid congestion on the Hume Highway, Parramatta Road, Centenary Drive to name but a few of the traffic problem hot spots. The actions to date of the ACU and its enrolment practices coupled with the concept plan will definitely ensure Barker Road and local streets in the suburb are turned into Parramatta Roads or Centenary Drives.

The ACU's concept plan is not good planning as it is just about the ACU's expansion plan and desire to capitalise on no caps and Commonwealth Government funding. The ACU's development does not take into account the negative impact it will have on residents and the community. Paid consultants with a brief can make anything look good and plausible. Consultants are experienced in formatting documents, highlighting positives, burying damaging and negative issues, using buzz words and selective pictures and hyperbole.

The concept plan must be dismissed as it is too late to redress bad planning decisions. Planners and decision makers must look beyond the gloss of consultants reports and consider the totality of the impact of the ACU's concept plan and give weight to the views of the residents who have to deal each day with the actions of a bad neighbour who believes it has might and money on its side. The ACU is a business enterprise under the banner of an educational (Catholic) institution. It is sited in a residential area on 5 hectares of land.

The concept plan over capitalises on the limited available land, reduces precious green space. It is time that the stops were put on the ACU's expansionism because the concept plan is not about consolidation and rationalisation, but rather, income generation, and loss of amenities for residents and the Strathfield community. I acknowledge as do impacted residents that the ACU has every right to pursue profit but it must not be at the expense of students, residents and law abiding citizens. It is time, to say enough and time to encourage the ACU to look at appropriate sites where students can be adequately and appropriately accommodated. Why should very limited green space – yes green space in the metropolitan area be destroyed?

ACU Shuttle Service:

The Flyer refers to the ACU having a shuttle bus service with two buses running every 10 minutes during peak periods in 2011, and notes that the service will increase to three buses every 10 minutes during peak periods from 2012'. Sounds rosy but sadly another example of selective misinformation.

As a resident who does the daily commute it is not possible, in the peak period, absent the Christmas/New Year holiday period and other holiday times, to do the round trip – Strathfield to the ACU campus, pick up and set down in 10 minutes. The existing traffic congestion, 40km school zones and traffic lights make such a trip in 10 minutes improbable or extremely rare. The reality is that you are hard pressed to do the trip in 15 minutes. - 20 minutes.

At the meeting on 23 February 2012 the ACU stated that the shuttle service conveys 1,500 students in the am and pm peaks. How does this claim stack up?

The shuttle bus has a seating capacity of 24. For 2011 the figure is multiplied by 2 to arrive at the maximum conveyance of 48. There are 180 minutes in 3 hours. Taking the ACU's claim that a trip takes 10 minutes, in three hours you would have 18 conveyances or 864 students conveyed if the shuttles were filled to capacity – this figure is way short of 1,500. If you take 15 minutes as being the journey duration then at maximum capacity you would convey 576 students. If journey were of 20 minutes duration, 432 students would be conveyed – again, well short of the 1,500?

The position is no better with a third bus coming on board in 2012. At 10 minute intervals and based on maximum capacity you would convey 1,296 students. At a more realistic journey time of 15 minutes you would convey 864 students and if you use a 20 minute round journey you could convey 648 students (numbers are based on maximum capacity utilisation).

No further comment about the ACU's claims is necessary as the figures speak for themselves however the figures provide further evidence of the ACU's lack of bona fides.

Traffic Congestion

Traffic in Barker Road and many other residential streets in Strathfield is intolerable. Significant safety issues arise on a daily basis notwithstanding that streets have a 50km limit with many having 40km school zones in view of the number of schools in the municipality.

Data and information in the ARUP report has been prepared based on flawed information. I am not a traffic expert but a lay person and I have been able in limited time to identify inaccuracies, inconsistencies and incorrect information. I highlight concerns below from the report and statements contained therein:

- Barker Road is a collector road. Reference is also made to RTA defining road classifications, of which a collector road is one in the hierarchy of roads. **Barker Road according to contact with the RMS is a local road.** This fact was confirmed with the RMS and also Strathfield Council. As a result everything that follows in respect of the consultants treatment of Barker Road must be dismissed.

- that a 10% increase in traffic volume on Barker Road to 8,250 is acceptable and within RTA limits (10,000) - WRONG. Traffic volume in a local road, according to council is 2,000 - 4,000. The intolerable and dangerous traffic conditions that exist in Barker Road and the loss of amenity is directly attributable to the ACU's student enrolment action. The ACU needs to be brought to account. The dangerous traffic conditions cannot continue nor can they be further added to by the ACU through its concept plan.

- at the meeting on 23 February 2012 the ARUP consultant, during a question put, agreed that the figure relating to increase in traffic in the report should be 30%. Actually even this increase is incorrect given that the ACU's proposed increase in student numbers (best case scenario) is 400%.

Strathfield ACU Campus:

As referred to earlier, the Strathfield Campus is on a 5 hectare parcel of land. The land holding is insufficient for the size and expansion objectives of the ACU campus. The campus is surrounded by residential streets, the current and proposed student population, quality of teaching and amenities let alone, the negative and disproportionate impact on the local community and those seeking to visit the municipality mean that any further pressure on the site cannot be tolerated and bad planning. Consideration must also be given to how the ACU Strathfield Campus compares to two Universities serving residents/students in the West. It is instructive to note the following land:student ratio:-

- University of Western Sydney 1 hectare for 19 students
 - Macquarie University 1 hectare for 190 students

The Strathfield ACU Campus, based on student enrolment of 4,800 the ratio is: 1 hectare for 960 students

Clearly from a planning perspective and having regard to the site occupied by the ACU campus (the ACU is only a relatively recent invention at this site (1991) – it was a local residence and a seminary at one time), the ACU site is already over developed. In fact, the ACU some years back purchased a nursing home site and converted it to a teaching facility (the Edward Clancy site). This site, I understand has a separate DA profile. Accordingly it needs to be treated separately and not subject of aggregation by the ACU. A further example of the ACU running out of space having regard to its existing student enrolment numbers is the need for the ACU to use space at the Seventh Day Adventist premises.

The ACU proposed expansion, purely on planning grounds and the size of the available site, must be rejected. The views and valid objections of the residents and the Council must be given weight. The community has not been adequately or properly consulted.

I submit that the ACU has not engaged in bona fide consultation with impacted and affected residents as required by the Director's Guidelines. There has been no adequate consultation given the \$55 Million price tag of the concept plan. This figure also needs questioning given the coming carbon tax from July 2012 imposed by the Commonwealth Government, increasing price pressures, the lack of reliable information, for example exactly where the significant petrol tanks are, whether there is asbestos and other contaminants on site? Given how selective the ACU is with numbers and how it 'efficiently and effectively' manages numbers the \$55 Million price tag will blow out. Question – how will/can such a significant investment to be recouped by the ACU – sadly by only one means, further increasing enrolments to take advantage of the no caps and Commonwealth funding!!

The ACU seeks to destroy and is destroying residents' amenities, infringing on rights to privacy, safe enjoyment and travel, be it by car or walking in the locality, impacting on the ability of residents to access their properties, creating visual pollution, creating intolerable traffic conditions in a local area, impacting on property values, creating much discontent and community solidarity regarding the negative impact on residents of the ACU's concept plan on its limited land holding.

Claims that students will travel by bike are nothing more than pipe dreaming on the Clover Moore scale. Reference to the use of electric cars does not deserve comment.

Traffic volume and congestion on many local streets in Strathfield around the ACU has reached an unsustainable and unbearable level. The ACU is operating in contempt of orders of the Land and Environment Court – No 10474 of 1994 and specifically order 32, viz:

'The number of students enrolled at the University at any one time shall not exceed 1,100 by day and 700 by night and the number of teachers employed shall not exceed 190, without the prior approval of Council. The number of students in attendance on the site at any one time shall not exceed 510 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm Monday to Friday and 247 between 5:00 pm and 9:00 pm Monday to Friday.'

The ACU is in breach of the above. Further, claims by the ACU that it has consent to increase numbers from the Council are dubious, in fact, when this statement was made at the meeting 23 February 2012, the ACU refused/was unable/unwilling to provide the consent which was said to exist in an office on the campus.

Council officers advise that no such consent exists (also see comments in the press attached) – all that does exist, I am informed, is a letter allowing a trial of increased numbers.

In this context a trial is 'the act of trying or testing or putting to the proof....tentative or experimental action in order to ascertain results; an experiment....' The trial is just that a trial. It has failed. The impact on the community is too great and out of proportion. The Order of the Land and Environment Court needs to be complied with.

I have attempted to highlight some concerns with the ACU's concept proposal and to draw attention to inaccuracies and flaws in the material submitted by the ACU. My submission in no way addresses all the valid concerns of the residents but it is a start. Alarm bells should be ringing that the concept plan is a bad planning. The community has not been properly or adequately engaged having regard to the size of the concept plan and its negative impact on the community.

The proposal must be rejected and declined.

If the ACU is serious about building an institution that everyone can be proud of – the ACU, the Catholic Church and its followers, the teachers, the students and the community generally, then the ACU should be actively looking to build a campus that will provide appropriate conditions for teaching and a location that will not destroy the community and the rights of residents to peace, quiet enjoyment, privacy and ability to live harmoniously in a safe environment.

The ACU and the Vice Chancellor can realise desire to expand and increase student numbers and profit by examining alternate and appropriately sized sites for the ACU's Strathfield campus.

Why does not good planning, lateral thought and common sense come into the equation – why does not the ACU and the State Government enter into meaningful dialogue regarding the possible use of the Olympic site, which for many years, has been considered to be a 'white elephant'? The Olympic site has enormous potential and benefit for the ACU and the State Government. There is an abundance of land at the site with excellent facilities, sporting fields and a modern underutilise Railway Station as well as many underutilised multi storey car parking facilities. Situating an ACU campus at the Olympic site would have spin off for business, makes good commercial sense if all parties, that is the Government and ACU are willing to cooperate and explore such possibility, which if realised at the Olympic site will provide appropriate student teaching amenities and facilities worthy of a world class educational facility.

I thank you for your consideration to my objections. I trust that some of the matters raised will ring alarm bells at the attempt by the ACU to railroad the Department, the residents of Strathfield and the community generally. Enough is enough – residents are overwhelmingly committed to the ACU redressing its positive over enrolment practices at the inadequate site location – the Strathfield Campus. The ACU's concept plan must be dismissed.

Yours sincerely

Encl: ACU Flyer (tab A); Press reporting



Australian Catholic University (ACU) has been reviewing the long-term function of its NSW campuses and identified the need to expand the Strathfield Campus to accommodate new teaching and learning spaces.

A Concept Plan has been prepared to guide the new development – and accommodate an estimated 30 per cent increase in student numbers over the next 10 years, while improving parking and traffic conditions and promoting the heritage significance of existing buildings.

Key features



Three new development precincts to provide new library and education buildings – at a height and floor space appropriate to the existing built form and character of the locality.



The ACU shuttle bus service, which had two buses running every 10 minutes during peak periods in 2011, will increase to three buses every 10 minutes during peak periods from 2012.

Community consultation

In August last year, 220 properties surrounding the Strathfield Campus were letter-box-dropped about the proposed development, and residents invited to the two community consultation sessions to review the plans in full.

A third community consultation session will now be held on:

Thursday February 23 at 7pm Murray Hall, ACU Strathfield Campus 25A Barker Road Strathfield NSW 2135

The Concept Plan will be advertised by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure until 29th February 2012, providing an opportunity for formal comment. Comments can be made using the online response form of via a written response to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure and can be viewed in full at the following locations:



New underground parking area in the north west of the campus and two basement parking areas with a total minimum of 674 spaces – a 100 per cent increase.



Upgrade to the landscape and public domain of the campus to include new pedestrian paths, public open space and landscape improvements.



Consolidation of main site access and egress into four gates along Barker Road, and establishment of a new internal circulation area to reduce impacts to traffic flow and parking along Barker Road.



New pedestrian links throughout the campus.

NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure website

http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/

Department of Planning and Infrastructure Information Centre

23-33 Bridge Street, Sydney

Strathfield Municipal Council Customer Service Centre 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield

Written submissions can also be addressed to the following: Mr Mark Brown NSW Department of Planning GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Disclosure statement details	
Name of person making this disclosure	Planning application reference (e.g. DA number, planning application title or reference, property address or other description)
	4P 10-0231 ACU Strate Lale Canous
Your interest in the planning application (citcle relevant option below)	- ((
You are the APPLICANT YES / NO OR You are	You are a PERSON MAKING A SUBMISSION IN RELATION TO AN APPLICATION
Reportable political donations made by person making this declaration or by other rel	by other relevant persons
* State below any reportable political donations you have made over the 'relevant period' (see glossary on page 2). If the donation was made by an entity (and not by you as an individual) include the Australian Business Number (ABN).	the donation was made by an entity (and not by you as an individual) include the Australian Business Number (ABN).
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Name of donor (or ABN if an entity) Donor's residential address or entity's registered address or other official office of the donor	ed address or Name of party or person for whose benefit the Date donation Amount/ value donation was made of donation
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Political Donations Disclosure Statement to Minister or the Director-General

ACU's timetable.docs Mayor pledges council support for residents fighting ACU

ARTICLE | FRI, 10/02/2012 - 11:58 | BY PETER LYNCH, BERNADETTE CHUA



February 24: Strathfield Council has confirmed it has consulted solicitors to see if legal action against The Australian Catholic University is possible, after claims the institution has been exceeding student numbers on its Strathfield campus.

The council has briefed legal, traffic and planning consultants to comb the ACU bid to expand the Strathfield campus as it prepares a submission to state planning authorities opposing a \$55 million development that would increase student numbers by 30% over the years.

The Mayor, Cr Paul Barron, told a packed meeting at Strathfield library tonight that council would represent the community and submit to the state planning department concerns over parking, traffic and the increase of student numbers.

"Council has hired external solicitors and consultants to conduct traffic and planning studies," he said.

"Our message to the community is that we will carry the issues with us to the planning

minister. The community has our full support."

The traffic report is expected within a week.

Tonight was the third meeting when residents pledged they would fight the plans and "never surrender our amenities", an indication of how strong feelings are running against the ACU proposal.

It is a strength of feeling that has yet to reach the top management team at the ACU.

University Vice Chancellor Professor Greg Craven, addressing an extraordinarily emotion-charged meeting with residents on Thursday night, vehemently denied suggestions that student numbers were above those allowed and warned of legal consequences over misleading claims.

Telling a packed Murray Hall on the ACU campus he was a lawyer, he said: "When inaccurate things are said they have severe legal consequences not only for those who they are said about...you are effectively calling me a liar...but they also have consequences for those who say them."

Craven maintained: "I take this very seriously as the CEO of the university. It would be an offense.

"The university has acted in good faith throughout and is permitted to have 900 per hour Monday to Friday.

"That has been repeatedly confirmed by Strathfield Council and is the subject of written correspondence on that subject. That is the legal position."

The claims emerged as angry residents move to try and halt a controversial \$55 million development at the campus which would increase student numbers by as many as 1,200.

They told of problems with litter, parking and students with one claiming: "Physical violence is about to erupt in Albert Road!"

Strathfield MP Charles Casuscelli said he has received around 50 submissions and will represent community concerns to the Department of Planning, but stressed the importance to residents to make legitimate claims.

"I have successfully got the department to extend the submission but there is a process to lodging claims," he said. "I've been in contact with the planner working on this project and the planning minister but there is a process when it comes to big planning issues."

General Manager David Backhouse told *The Scene* council was awaiting advice on whether or not legal action could be taken - though he added Strathfield was not the consenting authority on the development, which involves underground car parks, library and study buildings.

The state government retained control of the ACU's development despite allowing local

authorities to resume decision-making powers on planning consents.

Backhouse said the council shared the concerns of residents, and was calling its own information forum, when councillors would be available to advise those living around the campus.

Addressing an acrimonious meeting on Thursday, the Vice Chancellor was at one stage called to account for doodling on his papers by a furious resident, Shikha Lal.

Casuscelli had to call for order and remind residents that there was a process and that all had been given the chance to make submissions to the State Planning Department.

The professor claimed that traffic and parking, two of the biggest areas of complaints, had been the subject of an independent inquiry.

"Sorry, but I can't lie to make you feel better, " he chided residents who tried to interrupt.

He revealed the university was laying on an extra shuttle bus, taking numbers to four between the railway station and the campus, in a bid to alleviate parking problems.

But residents were unmoved, with South Street house owner John Crawford presenting the meeting with bags of rubbish, including burger containers and energy drinks, which he maintained had been dumped outside his house.

Another female resident warned, "Physical violence is about to erupt in Albert Road," and related an incident which had left her shaking in fear and two hours late for work when a car reversed towards her.

A packed and feisty public protest meeting last Saturday heard fears of house values being slashed, and the residential amenity being ruined by the plans for six buildings, underground car parks and a 30 per cent increase in student numbers over the next ten years.

To loud applause, Susan Crematy asked the meeting: "Is The Australian Catholic University going to be the university that ate Strathfield?

"I say no. I say no to increasing student numbers, I say no to increased traffic and I say not to increased parking problems."

Another maintained the ACU was building a "commercial hub" in the centre of Strathfield, and that under reforms from the Federal Government, all student number caps would be removed, allowing for more expansion.

The sprawling Randwick campus of the University of New South Wales was cited as a possible role model for the ACU's future development.

Almost 200 residents turned up at Strathfield Town Hall to register their anger at the way in which the university had gone about a consultation exercise, claiming few flyers had reached homes in the municipality to warn of meetings and exhibitions.

Mark Phillips, of South Street, opened the meeting addressed by three residents who have spent weeks investigating the effects of the development, and Casuscelli.

Casuscelli, to applause, said: "At the moment, as the central proposition stands, I do not support it."

He pledged to be at every meeting involving the issue, and is sending a letter to 2,700 homes informing residents of the plans and what they can do about them.

He is also seeking a two-week extension of the February 29 deadline for submission.

"My recommendation to council and representatives of the ACU was that they need to commission an area wide traffic study."

Those who arrived at the town hall were given a submission form to fill out, flyers from the ACU and a message from Mayor of Strathfield Cr Paul Barron.

Barron's statement said: "Having reviewed the proposal, I too share the concerns of the residents and am committed to Council's continued support for the residents in this matter.

"Council staff are reviewing the proposed concept plan and Council is preparing a submission to the Department.

"I would like to reassure you that this submission will consider the views of the community and include the concerns regarding the impact on local residents."

He urged residents to make a submission.

The meeting was told the ACU plans were one of just a few developments retained by State government planners when they reformed part 3A if the planning laws, which handed back powers to councils.

As a result, the Planning Minister Brad Hazzard will determine it, unless 25 or more submissions are received by February 29th. If they are, there will be an internal review.

Residents hope to force a public inquiry.

Those living around the ACU were first alerted to the potential for a development in a flyer last August which spoke of new developments at the Strathfield Campus at Barker Road.

Residents claim that 220 flyers was a woefully inadequate number, and that the document itself did reveal a dramatic rise in student numbers.

It mentioned three new "development precincts" to provide a new library and education buildings "at a height and floor space appropriate to the existing built form and character of the locality."

It didn't mentioned a four story library - higher than Strathfield's municipal library - which
may even have a café on top, not the increase in student numbers

An ACU spokesperson told the scene this information was on the website and a link had been provided on the flyer.

Parking at the site has long been a source of friction between local drivers and the university, with residents complaining that students park cars across driveways and block access to bays close to their homes.

At one point Casuscelli made representations to the Transport Department to change the law so cars parked across driveways could be towed away.

Ironically, it was ACU's plans to build additional parking spots that appear to have sparked the latest round of protests.

A development at the ACU campus in Barker Road will include additional on-site parking, which should have eased residents' concerns. A flyer handed out this weekend spoke of 674 spaces and a 100% increase.

Instead, residents say the university did not give them enough information about the upgrade, which also includes accommodation for an additional 1200 students in the next four years, and had opened up a gulf of mistrust between the ACU and the local community.

Barker Road resident Jane Pistolese, who with her husband has researched the development, says the problem has got out of hand, and the new development will mean the parking situation will get even worse.

"Residents on Barker Road have already been parked out, but the fact that ACU want to increase their student population by an additional 30% is outrageous," she said.

"This means less street parking for us and the increase will start to affect residents in surrounding streets such as South Street, Firth Avenue and maybe even further."

About 20 residents attended a meeting with the architects and ACU officials in August. Pistolese says ACU gave no indication then that it planned to increase student numbers. "Only 20 people showed up at the meeting and no one there realised ACU planned to bring in more students."

An ACU spokeswoman said residents were kept informed at the meeting and advised to view the full development plans on the Department of Planning website.

"Details of the increase in student numbers were given at the community consultation sessions outlined clearly on the display boards, and explained to the residents who attended."

Associate Vice Chancellor Marea Nicholson of the ACU, who was present at the meeting, told The Scene after the meeting the ACU student numbers complied with their permissions.

She said there were a lot of misconceptions and she would be dealing with them at a consultation meeting at the campus on Thursday.

Phillips told the meeting of the ACU history, saying in 1904 the main building, 127 years old, was the home of George Reid, Australia's 4thPrime Minister.

It became a university campus only in 1990, and an expansion was subject of a Land and Environment Court hearing in 1994, which set student intake limited.

"The university was to generate only moderate levels of traffic and minimal parking requirements," Phillips said.

Phillips alleged the university has been operating beyond the limits imposed by the court for many years, which was why residents now saw increasing problems.

"The community has met with the mayor and general manager of the council in recent days and the mayor and the council have agreed in principle to in fact comment legal action against the university".

But this action would not prevent the plans now before the state government, however.

Pistolese, along with husband Tony, were publicly thanked for their work in bringing the issue to the public.

Pistolese herself said: "I think it is shameful that I am up here taking you through this ACU concept plan. The council is not doing it, and State Government is not doing it, the ACU is not doing it."

She said it was not just a Barker Road problem, but one for the entire municipality.

The ACU was spending \$55 million to build "a commercial hub" in the middle of Strathfield.

She maintained the ACU has approval for no more than 510 students on campus at any one time. "The ACU's Professor Craven (Greg Craven, vice chancellor) he wants you to believe that he is spending \$55 million for just 200 students."

But the ACU student handbook showed there were 4043 students enrolled in the university, and the Bradley Report with Federal Government would mean universities would have no caps at all on student numbers.

"This affects all of Strathfield. We must act."

Tony Pistolese said two new intersections were planned at Wilson and South Streets, which would have a "very large" impact on traffic flow, and in independent traffic study was needed.

Susan Crematy took the meeting through the additional buildings, pointing out that one was four storeys – higher than the Strathfield library. Yet the ACU claimed there would be "no significant loss of views".

A mother told a vivid story of how she had been trapped in her driveway by a car, unable to

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pick up her young daughter who was forced to wait late at night near Burwood park after a drama class. She said she was weeping with concern when the father of another pupil dropped her daughter at home.

Dawn Morante, of Merley Road, told The Scene before the meeting she and her family have been blocked in repeatedly. "It's been a nightmare. We can't park anywhere near our house during uni hours. I've left notes but I watched the culprit just read the note, scrunch it up and throw it on my driveway."

About the Authors

Peter Lynch Editor, Strathfield Scene

Bernadette Chua RELATED TERMS: Academia

Association of Commonwealth Universities

Australian Catholic University

Australian Catholic University

Business

Charles Casuscelli

Education

Greg Craven

Higher education

Mark Phillips

Murray Hall

Parking

Politics

Roman Catholic Church in Australia

Susan Crematy

Comments ADD NEW COMMENT by peter lynch | Fri, 17/02/2012 - 08:22 I read your article in the Strathfield Scene on the Australian Catholic University which , whilst informative, concentrated solely on the parking and traffic problems. I'd like to point out that there is a lot more to this development than that.

Your statement that the University will be erecting 2 new buildings in incorrect. They intend to construct 6 new buildings of which four will be 3 and 4 storey in height and run the length of the boundaries. There was no comment on the impact these buildings would have on the nearby residents nor on the streetscape of our suburbs. These buildings will be industrial sized and overpowering. Go down to Strathfield Library which is 2 storey and double it - that is what we will have foistered upon us and not deep within the University campus but directly along the south eastern boundaries, the north eastern boundary and the south western boundary.

The concept as a whole is totally unacceptable to the residents; from all viewpoints, whether it be parking and traffic concerns, the increase in student numbers or the sheer magnitude of the buildings that have been proposed (3 and 4 storey buildings within close proximity of residential housing), the expansion of the ACU site should not be allowed to proceed. The University owns the three playing fields between it and St. Patricks and if it cannot contain its building works to that vicinity, then it should pack up stakes and move to another site. I believe they have a perfectly good and reasonably large site at Castle Hill which used to be their third campus until they closed it.

My husband and I have letterboxed 400 houses and still do not feel that we have covered all streets to be affected by the expansion, so I cannot accept that a letter drop of 220 houses as done by the University was adequate. And, as far as viewing of the concept was concerned, it only amounted to 3.5 hours in total, once during the day when a lot of the residents are working and once at night.

The spokeswoman for the University said residents were informed at the display of the concept, well if you consider being told how wonderful the development would be and that they could not understand our objections, then I suppose we were! Well, they didn't get that many people to these sessions and if most were like my husband and me, once we saw the model of the plan, we walked out in disgust. We told them we opposed their whole development. I don't think they took that feedback into consideration.

They have stated that students numbers will increase to 4,800 by 2016, four years from now but this is a development intended to meet their requirements for the next 10 years, so how many students do they expect to have at the end of the ten year period, probably enough to then warrant a further expansion.

I have attached the handout that we distributed.

Yours Sincerely,

Susan Crematy

reply

An Unholy Mess

By Belinda Noonan

, i,

The Australian Catholic University's development plans for its Strathfield campus have set the university on a collision course with neighbouring residents and when the wealthy and mighty come together at a Strathfield Town Hall meeting on a Saturday you know that something is up.

A \$55 million development being proposed on the five hectare Australian Catholic University site in Strathfield's residential Barker Road would include four storey buildings over fifteen metres high, underground parking and potentially an unlimited increase in students numbers.

The Town Hall meeting on February 18, attended by over 160 residents and Strathfield MP Charles Casuscelli but not by any of the invited Strathfield councillors, was called by concerned residents after the ACU had letter box dropped its concept plans to only 220 residents.

John and Beth Hocking were not among those to receive the ACU flyer, despite living close to the campus, "We live 400 metres from the university on Wilson Street, where they plan to have lights installed and build an entrance to an underground car park. We were not notified." Beth Hocking told Burwood Scene.

One speaker told the meeting that the ACU Concept Plan was 'misguided' and urged residents to act before the February 29 submission closing date.

ACU exceeding student numbers claim

Residents heard that the ACU currently has a 1994 Land and Environment Court consent for 510 students per day on campus at any one time and 270 at night but was

exceeding those numbers.

The ACU website states that, "The Strathfield Campus (Mount Saint Mary) hosts more than 3,600 students, including more than 100 international students." According to its handbook, there are 4043 students enrolled.

"The numbers [of students] attending at any one time has risen to 2,200. How has a 400% increase been allowed to continue?" Barker Road resident Tony Pistolese asked the meeting. "The RTA recommendation says that no more than 10,000 vehicles per day should be on Barker Road, yet the ACU Traffic Report exceeds this number. Additionally the ACU wants an underground car park entrance from South Street with three lanes travelling west and one east. Imagine 440 cars going in and out of another underground car park, with no lights, from Wilson Street? Plus there would be a staff only access to underground parking from Edgar Street for thirty teachers for St Patrick's College."

"Not fair ACU – you're not telling the truth. We the residents have voices. You have misled us," Mr Pistolese said to strong applause.

The confusion and anger over student numbers intensified at a further and heated meeting on Thursday February 23 when Vice-Chancellor Professor Greg Craven told 160 residents that the ACU "did not accept that there has been any misinformation" and that the university had a letter from Strathfield Council allowing increased student numbers.

In a statement to Burwood Scene, the ACU said that "Australian Catholic University (ACU) and Strathfield Council have engaged in communications over a number of years in relation to the Strathfield Campus site and these communications have included discussions concerning permitted student numbers."

"In February 2010 ACU sought and obtained from Council permission to pilot a number of strategies to inform its master planning process," an ACU spokesperson said.

"The strategies consisted of the following:

(i) Conducting small postgraduate classes on Saturdays and Sundays.

(ii) Opening the library between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm on Saturdays and Sundays.

(iii) Adjusting the maximum student numbers to 900 at any one time between 8:00 am and 8:00 pm Monday to Friday combined across the two precincts (i.e. Barker Road and Albert Road).

(iv) Provision of a shuttle bus service from 7:30 am to 8:30 pm Monday to Friday during semester to assist with the reduction of on street parking."

Strathfield Council's general manager, David Backhouse said that council "never gave any authority" to the ACU to adjust the maximum number of students, but did confirm that council had written to the ACU on April 1st, 2010, after receiving a letter from ACU in February 2010, acknowledging its pilot program for a period of six months.

"The letter [*which was sighted by Burwood Scene*] sent to the ACU on April 1, 2010 clearly states that an increase in student numbers is 'without consent' and that the university 'cannot continue expansion'", Mr Backhouse said.

Seven days a week Concept Plan

According to the concept plans lodged by ACU, approval will be sought "to supersede existing limits relating to student and staff numbers, hours of operation and parking arrangements placed on the campus as a result of existing consents applying to the site."

Locals are alarmed that the Concept Plan also proposes extending its hours from 7am until 10pm on weekdays and 8am until 5pm on weekends.

"Student numbers are proposed at 4,800 by 2016, with an upper limit of 2,400 on the campus at any one time. Staff are proposed at a maximum 260 by 2016. Of the proposed total 644 parking spaces on site, 504 spaces will be for students and 130 spaces will be for staff," the Concept Plan says.

The collective worth of the approximate 250 homes along Barker Road and Newton Road is estimated conservatively at \$500 million and should the development proceed, city views from the second storey of neighbouring homes would be compromised.

"So, we'll get noise and traffic from 6am until 11pm by the time the students drive away and they leave their rubbish behind in the gutters. This is not Broadway, it is a quiet area of suburban Sydney," said resident Justin Viney. "There would be a massive 6,700 square metre building plonked on the land and the removal of Ironbark and Turpentine trees. It's shocking what they plan to do."

Strathfield Council is not the determining authority for the development and in a convenient twist, the proposal is one of only ten NSW projects that is still subject to the now repealed Part 3A determination process.

"The Department of Planning and Infrastructure has undertaken an extended exhibition of the application for 42 days. This exhibition includes individual letters being forwarded to 2,229 nearby residents. The department is not formally extending the closing date for the public exhibition period beyond February 29 but will accept late submissions for an additional two weeks after this closing date," said a spokesperson for the Department of Planning.

Mr Casuscelli met with representatives of the ACU late last year and found that some answers to his questions "were inadequate".

"I asked my staff to find out how many residents will be affected in the immediate

area and was told 2,700," Mr Casuscelli said. "I have looked at four main issues; local amenity, safety, traffic and parking and I've found the [ACU] Traffic Study to be inadequate. I do not support the proposal as it currently stands," he stated.

Barker Road resident and CEO of the Australian Shareholders' Association, Vas Kolesnikoff said that the situation was "an indictment on the council for letting this go on for so long. It is an indictment on the O'Farrell state government if he lets this happen. This is becoming a government problem and is fundamentally wrong."

Strathfield Council Mayor Paul Barron and council officers acknowledged in a meeting with concerned residents that the ACU has been operating beyond the limits of its planning consent for many years and have agreed in principle to pursue the matter.

"Having reviewed the proposal, I too share the concerns of the residents and committed to Council's continued support for the residents in the matter."

This will be small comfort to Frances Street resident Therese Le Strange, who has been vocal at Strathfield Council meetings since 2007 regarding increasing traffic surrounding the ACU and St Patrick's College. No-one wanted to hear her concerns then, they may now.

Belinda Noonan Publisher Burwood Scene

Burwood Scene online daily news

Scene Newspapers Pty Ltd tel: 02 9715 2700 fax: 02 9715 2007 PO Box A187 Enfield South NSW 2133 www.burwoodscene.com.au



Mark Brown - Submission Details

From:To:<mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au>Date:13/03/2012 8:51 PMSubject:Submission DetailsCC:<assessments@planning.nsw.gov.au>Attachments:Letter Emailed to DofP_130312.pdf



Disclosable Political Donation: no



Strathfield, NSW 2135

Content: Please find my submission attached.

IP Address: cpe-121-216-10-10.Inse1 ken bigpond net au - 121.216.10.10 Submission: Online Submission from https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_diary&id=27358

Submission for Job: #4471 MP 10_0231 - Australian Catholic University - Strathfield Campus Concept Plan <u>https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_job&id=4471</u>

Site: #2434 Australian Catholic University - Strathfield Campus https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_site&id=2434



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13th March 2012

Mr Mark Brown Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning & Infrastructure GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Brown,

Ref: MP 10_0231 Australian Catholic University Strathfield Campus Concept Plan 167-169 & 179 Albert Road, Strathfield Objection against Concept Plan for ACU Strathfield Campus

It is extremely concerning to find that Professor Greg Craven, who is currently the Vice Chancellor (VC) of the Australian Catholic University (ACU), and who is spearheading the ACU's Application for a Master Concept Plan to redevelop the site at the University's Strathfield Campus, as a "world class university" in the midst of a low density residential suburb as is Strathfield, has described the "modern atheists" as being "one of our largest and least appealing infestations".

The article <u>"A plague of atheists has descended, and Catholics are the target</u>" in the Sydney Morning Herald (SMH) dated November 4th, 2009 quotes the Professor stating that the Catholic Church has been "beset by atheists" which are "somewhat in advance of summer blowflies" and that they are "brash, noisy and confident as cheap electric kettles(s)".

Is this how the Professor views the residents of Strathfield?

If so, then his view for anyone who is not a practicing Catholic leaves the Strathfield residents and the Council itself at a disadvantage as he will clearly not be in a position to listen, to understand, to empathise nor to compromise with anyone who holds any other belief other than his own i.e., that perhaps, the Strathfield Campus of the ACU, is NOT the right place for an expansion of the kind suggested by Professor Craven and the ACU.

The abovementioned article, further describes the "atheists" as:

- Placing them "in much the same pitiable bin of intellectual vulgarians as the chartered accountant who cannot see the art in Picasso, the redneck who cannot admit of indigenous culture, and the pissant who cannot see the difference between Yeats and Bob Ellis" and
- Atheistic bigotry

He has said the "modern crop of atheists hates Christians".

I am sorry to have to place the spotlight personally on Professor Craven, who is a well educated person, who has publicly stated for the record that he is a lawyer, that he is an expert in public law who has published several books in constitutional law and one who holds several higher education chairs, however, as the VC of the ACU, a distinguished position within a religious order as is the Catholic Church, he also holds the responsibility of Accountability, Honesty and Sincerity when carrying out his duties as a servant of God, a servant of the Church and a servant to his Congregation.

His congregation may or may not include the local residents of Strathfield but, nonetheless, he has a Duty of Care and at the very least, he owes it to the local residents of Strathfield to listen and to hear our concerns and to address them in any manner that would see fit to at least allay our concerns and fears as local residents.

NOTICE OF OBJECTION

I therefore strongly oppose and further object to the Applicant's Concept Plan for a Master Plan to Re-Develop its site at the ACU and to increase three-fold the number of buildings and students to the primarily residential area that is known as Strathfield. These objections are based on the following grounds:

1. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORLD CLASS PRECINCT

What are the intentions of the ACU and Professor Craven in trying to establish a world class precinct in the middle of suburbia?

That is what Strathfield essentially is. Strathfield is a low density residential suburban area that has a particular advantage in that it happens to be close to a number of pre-primary, primary and secondary schooling in both the public and private sector. That is what makes Strathfield so unique. It is not akin to a Central Business District nor does it make for a large transport hub, nor should it be treated as such (As referred to by Professor Craven in the Local Mosman Daily on 4th August 2011 in the article '*Uni plan lift for North Sydney*'''.

It is particularly concerning when you see Professor Craven making public commentary about his desires and his ambitions for the growth of the ACU in the light of the Application to the Department of Planning in respect of the ACU's Concept Plan.

As you are fully aware, the ACU has lodged a Concept Plan Application for a Master Plan that seeks approval for:

- Four New Development Precincts giving rise to Six Building Envelopes between Two and Four Storeys in Height;
- Increase of car parking on-site (from 346 to a minimum of 644 spaces) in basement and at ground level;
- Improved access arrangements by consolidating main site access and egress into four gates along Barker Road;
- Alterations to internal pedestrian linkages throughout the campus;
- Increase in Student Numbers to 4,800 by 2016 with 2,400 on site at any one time
- Extension of Operating Hours
- Increase in Staff Numbers to match Increase in Student Numbers and Hours of Operation at any one time.

The level of expansion is vast and in some ways, incomprehensible for such a small parcel of land. However, the motives of the ACU can perhaps be explained in one sentence. Professor Craven has stated in the article <u>"Notre Dame, ACU lead uni intake expansion"</u> published by the Catholic News on 01/03/12 that:

"It's been said to me that vice-chancellors are supposed to be academics, but in fact we are property developers."

Is that what this process is about?

Is Professor Craven trying to prove a point? In the SMH dated 22nd July 2011, in the article "<u>Catholic University buys office tower for \$53m</u>", Professor Craven said:

"rival institutions were beginning to show more respect, having previously "dismissed us as that strange Catholic university dispersed to the four winds".

Strathfield is not a suburb for Professor Craven or the ACU to prove a point. This is our home. This is a suburb where thousands of families have expended thousands, if not millions of dollars on their residences to make Strathfield the place it is today.

We have built in accordance with the Strathfield DCP. We have respected the rights of our neighbours and we have all worked towards living in unity with each other. However to do so, we must communicate and consult with each other.

I do not believe that the ACU has given us as much respect as we, as a community, have given them.

2. STUDENT NUMBERS

There have been a number of articles written over the last 3-4 years regarding Professor Craven and the ACU and their ambitions to create a "world class university".

Professor Craven has made no secret of the fact that the ACU has deliberately planned to place themselves in a position to increase their student intake numbers and at the same time step up the intensity of their capital expansion works.

The irony in doing so however has meant that the University would appear to have breached the letter of the law, i.e. it would appear to have deliberately set about increasing the student numbers allowable under the consent of the 1994 Land and Environment Court decision for the Strathfield Campus.

Supporting comments made by the Professor to this effect, can be found in the following news articles:

• On 7/2/10 the ACU Website published the article "<u>ACU leads on strong enrolment</u> <u>figures</u>". It quoted that:

The "ACU is strengthening its position as the university of choice.....by enrolling over its government allocation for a second successive year......The University will enrol about 30 per cent over its government allocation."

• On 16/5/11 the article "<u>Ambitious growth plans in place</u>" on the ACU Website quoted Professor Craven saying that:

"The University......has experienced the biggest increase of undergraduate students in the country - growing by 36 per cent between 2009 and this year (2011)".

• On 21/7/11 the Catholic News published the article <u>"ACU_buys Nth Sydney tower in</u> <u>expansion plan"</u> and quoted Professor Craven as having said:

"It's been a very determined, planned growth and a major part of that plan has been capital expenditure.....the...Bradley Report means universities can dictate their own intake rather than fill a government-set number of places."

• Then again, on 19/1/12 the Catholic News published the article <u>"ACU enthusiastic</u> <u>about expansion</u>" and quoted that:

"Professor Craven is the most enthusiastic expander of any university chief. ACU, which over-enrolled by more than 40 percent in 2010 and 2011 - far more than any other university - has boosted its offers by another 13 percent this year." (i.e. the 2012 year).

• In the Catholic News on the 1st March 2012, it published the article <u>"Notre Dame, ACU</u> <u>lead uni intake expansion</u>" and reaffirmed that:

"The multi-campus Australian Catholic University, which has been recruiting students for the past three years, was second (to the Notre Dame University) nearly doubling in size."

The student intake numbers exponentially increases with each year. How can the ACU possibly argue that it has abided by the consent of the Land & Environment Court decision when all the evidence, including the statements made by the Professor himself, point to the fact that the ACU has deliberately set about in increasing its student number on campus without any regard to Council decisions or the affected local public residents, as is Strathfield?

When Professor Craven was questioned at the meeting held with residents at the ACU on Thursday evening, 23rd February 2012, and placed in a difficult position when addressing an "emotion charged meeting with residents" he "vehemently denied suggestions that student numbers were above those allowed and warned of legal consequences over misleading claims". The article <u>"Residents win reprieve from ACU submissions deadline"</u> in ourstrathfield.com.au published on 4th March 2012 stated that Professor Craven warned that:

"When inaccurate things are said they have severe legal consequences not only for those who they are said about...you are effectively calling me a liar...but they also have consequences for those who say them"."

Has the Vice Chancellor threatened the local residents of Strathfield?

Does the resident not have the right to question the ACU's motives and whether or not, the University is complying with its Development Application?

The Vice Chancellor has clearly stated that the University has deliberately enrolled about 30 per cent over its government allocation? Is this not enough proof and therefore, not hearsay?

Strathfield cannot sustain a large scale university of the likes of Sydney University or the University of NSW. The location, the land size, the scale and the development restrictions do not allow it. This is a residential abode. It is not a commercial precinct.

3. LACK OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The level of community consultation has been embarrassing. How can Professor Craven profess to have given adequate opportunity for consultation or information dissemination with a mere 220 personally delivered letterbox dropped letters to local residents in the vicinity of the University?

There are more student cars parked on the streets in the local vicinity than there are letters informing residents of an impending expansion. Does the Professor and the ACU really have so little regard for the local residents of Strathfield?

The most recent article in the <u>Inner West Courier dated 6 March 2012</u> regarding the ACU Strathfield campus "We've handled it well" implies that the ACU has done everything that it can and more. That it "held a series of meetings which it didn't have to hold. Every legal requirement in the process has been met."

Perhaps Professor Craven should review the definition of "Community Engagement" and reaffirm his commitment to "affirming relationships that depend on trust and genuine partnerships with community organisations.... To achieve mutually agreed goals....and produce just and sustainable outcomes in the interests of people".

CONCLUSION

The ACU's Concept Plan Application should NOT be approved. Strathfield is a Low Density Residential suburb. The ACU has appeared to deliberately increase its student intake numbers by default, with a gradual and definitive increasing student intake each year and with a total disregard to the 1994 Land & Environment Court decision.

Furthermore, Professor Craven has made no secret of his expansion plans and would appear to do so with no respect to the amount of disruption it would cause to the local residents of Strathfield's lives. He has also made it clear that as long as he has fulfilled his required obligation to inform the local community of the ACU's intentions that that is sufficient to address our concerns. Nothing more, nothing less.

We strongly object to this proposal and request that the NSW Government Department of Planning reject the University's Concept Plan.

We hereby declare that we have made no reportable political donations in the previous two years nor up until the application is determined.

Please do not release my personal details to the ACU nor forward my letter to the ACU.

Yours Sincerely,

c.c. General Peter Cosgrove, Chancellor of ACU. Email: <u>simone.chetcuti@acu.edu.au</u>

Mr Brad Hazzard, MP, Minister for Planning and Infrastructure. Email: office@hazzard.minister.nsw.gov.au

Mr Barry O'Farrell, MP, Premier of NSW. Email: office@premier.nsw.gov.au

Mr Charles Casuscelli. Email: <u>Strathfield@parliament.nsw.gov.au</u>

Mr David Backhouse, General Manager, Strathfield Council. Email: <u>council@strathfield.nsw.gov.au</u>

Mr Paul Barron, Mayor of Strathfield. Email: mayor@strathfield.nsw.gov.au

Mark Brown - ACU Proposed Expansion - MP 10_0231

From:	
To:	<mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au></mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date:	13/03/2012 10:35 PM
Subject:	ACU Proposed Expansion - MP 10 0231
Attachments:	

Dear Mr Brown,

ELECTRON CONTRACTOR

Please find attached a letter objecting to the proposed expansion of the ACU at Strathfield, MP 10_0231. I would appreciate it if my details are not released.

Regards,

Strathfield NSW 2135

13 March 2012

Mr Mark Brown NSW Department of Planning GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001

RE: Australian Catholic University (ACU) Strathfield Campus, Strathfield

Application Number: MP 10_0231

I am writing to you again as to clearly and emphatically express my objection to the proposed expansion of the ACU. I would also request your support in having the current student numbers reduced. I have just attended a meeting held by Strathfield Council and was horrified at the report tabled by Mr David Baird and associates in regards to the detrimental and devastating impact any expansion of the ACU would have.

I have concerns that the student numbers currently on site are in excess of the 1994 numbers permitted by the Land and Environment Court. As local residents we have been observing student numbers and found there to be approximately 1 600 students entering the site during a 4 hour period. I would like to suggest that the true student numbers be made available to yourself, Strathfield Council and the community as there has been no transparency or consistency in the numbers of students on site or enrolled at the Strathfield Campus. The ACU site has already reached its capacity and allowing an expansion is irrational. The impact of the ACU is currently intolerable and will only become worse if allowed to expand further. Many residents are more than willing to show you the impact that the ACU has on the quality of their life and their neighbourhood.

Furthermore, the traffic engineer from McClaren Traffic described "loss of local street function as a result of a proposed expansion" (we already have loss of function!) and whilst he raised many valid points, he made reference to the flawed option of extending South St through public land (Mt Royal Reserve). He went on to discuss the intersection of Wilson Street and Barker Road where the 4th gate is proposed. This gate will provide access to the underground carpark. He described the impacts of an underground parking station and the increased traffic flow at this intersection as not in accordance with safe practice. I would go a step further and state that the local traffic flow is already unsafe. Furthermore, current public transport exits in Strathfield, however, this is targeted for a low density residential area, not for a university that has by stealth invaded our quiet leafy suburb. Most students will drive (one occupant per car) as the on street parking is **free**, relatively close to the uni and the interface between train, shuttle bus and uni is not that quick, efficient or appealing.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my reasons for objecting to the expansion of the ACU. My family and I appreciate your support in having the proposed expansion of ACU refused. We would also appreciate a scaling back of current student numbers and that the current issues of traffic and parking congestion be addressed. I look forward to my concerns being listened to and addressed appropriately. I would be more than happy to discuss these issues further with you if needed.

Regards,

CC: Strathfield Council, Mr Charles Casuscelli (RFD MP), Mr Brad Hazzard (MP) and Mr Barry O'Farrell (MP)

I request that my personal information is not disclosed to any person, body or agency, other than to the individual addressed in this letter.

Mark Brown - Submission Details for Chris Wong

1. 1. 1. C. C. C. C. C.

From:	Chris Wong <chanot@orcon.net.nz></chanot@orcon.net.nz>
To:	<mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au></mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date:	14/03/2012 2:17 AM
Subject:	Submission Details for Chris Wong
CC:	<assessments@planning.nsw.gov.au></assessments@planning.nsw.gov.au>



Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Chris Wong Email: chanot@orcon.net.nz

Address: 49 Albert Rd

Strathfield, NSW 2135

Content:

The existing road access to the Uni is poor: it was designed in 2D, and ignored the crest on the road.

The proposed new access is repeating the same problem: design in 2D and ignore the crest on the road. How can drivers follow the shifting line marking and see the traffic light, when their vision is obstructed by the crest? This plan also fails to address the problem at the existing access-the crest.

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IP Address: 124-149-71-75.dyn.iinet.net.au - 124.149.71.75 Submission: Online Submission from Chris Wong (comments) <u>https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_diary&id=27362</u>

Submission for J ob: #4471 MP 10_0231 - Australian Catholic University - Strathfield Campus Concept Plan https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_job&id=4471

Site: #2434 Australian Catholic University - Strathfield Campus https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_site&id=2434

Chris Wong

E : chanot@orcon.net.nz

Powered by AffinityLive: Work. Smarter.

Mark Brown - Submission Details

From:	
To:	<mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au></mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date:	13/03/2012 11:39 PM
Subject:	Submission Details
CC:	<assessments@planning.nsw.gov.au></assessments@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Attachments:	ACU_Objection.pdf



Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Email:

Address:

Burwood, NSW 2134

Content: See attached pdf file of ACU Objection

IP Address: 122-149-238-159.static.dsl.dodo.com.au - 122.149.238.159 Submission: Online Submission https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_diary&id=27360

Submission for Job: #4471 MP 10_0231 - Australian Catholic University - Strathfield Campus Concept Plan https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_job&id=4471

Site: #2434 Australian Catholic University - Strathfield Campus https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_site&id=2434



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Major Projects Assessment, Department of Planning and Infrastructure, GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001 FAX: 02 9228 6455

Dear Mark Brown,

RE: AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY APPLICATION NO: MP10_0231

I the owner of a property in **and and** am directly affected by the business being conducted by the ACU. I strongly object to this Concept Plan for the following reasons relating to parking.

I note in Section 4.9.5 of the Environmental Assessment - Part 2, states:

The future on-campus parking provision has been estimated based on the number of future students and staff at the campus at any one time. The following number of students and staff are predicted on the campus in the future:

Students:4,800, with an upper limit of 2,400 students (50%) on the campus at any one time.Staff:260



It is noted "Students*" refers to EFTSL, Effective Full Time Student Load. According to ACU's glossary of terms on their website (<u>http://www.acu.edu.au/apply_and_enrol/useful_links/glossary_of_terms/</u>) the following definitions are provided:

- Equivalent full-time student load (EFTSL) or load: A standard one-year full-time student load is described as one EFTSL.
- Full-time: To be regarded as full-time, a student must be undertaking a load of at least 0.75 EFTSL. For example, in a course with the standard annual credit point load of 80 credit points, to be enrolled full-time a student must undertake at least 30 credit points per semester.
- Part-time: A part-time student is one who undertakes a load of less than 0.75 EFTSL. For example, in a course with the standard annual credit point load of 80 credit points, a part-time student would undertake less than 30 credit points per semester.

EFTSL appears to be a statistical measure of students' academic work load, that is, attendance at academic classes, relative to a standard annual full time attendance at classes work load. EFTSL however does not account for non-class attendance activities at ACU. Some of these unaccounted for non-class attendance activities include:

- 1. Students coming to classes/ lectures overlapping with students leaving classes/ lectures.
- 2. Use of the library.
- 3. Attending academic skills workshops.
- 4. Meetings of student associations or sporting clubs.
- 5. Use of student services offered by ACU.
- 6. Staff movements
- 7. Servicing vehicles movements, eg garbage trucks, delivery trucks, maintenance contractors (such as gardening, painting, mechanical plant, plumbing, electrical), etc

In terms of student traffic movements (for example, pedestrian, public transportation, private cars, motor cycles, bicycles), consideration of the scenario in Item 1 above and ACU's proposal for a maximum of 2,400 EFTSLs, it would be permitted to have 2,400 EFTSLs coming to classes at any one time whilst overlapping with the leaving 2,400 EFTSLs. Assuming the case where one EFTSL equals are considered full-time, one EFTSL could be say 0.75 students resulting in 6,400 student traffic movements over a short period of time. If there are part-time students, one EFTSL could be 0.5 students resulting in 9,600 student traffic movements. When considering the activities not measured via EFTSL, the total number of student traffic movements that would be permitted could be in the order of 10,000 over a short period of time.

The existing suburban streets are not coping with the existing student traffic movements. To impose any further increase in <u>actual</u> student traffic movements will certainly have an adverse impact on the amenity of the entire area surrounding ACU.

We consider any expansion of ACU totally inappropriate for this residential area based on the lack of adequate and accurate parking impact

I confirm that I have made no reportable political donations in the previous two years.

Please do not make my name available to the Proponent, other interested authorities or on the Departments Website.

Yours faithfully,

Copies to:

- 1. Strathfield Council, Paul Barron; PO Box 120, Strathfield NSW 2135.
- 2. Mr Charles Casuscelli strathfield@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

R&C Senkevics 17 Wilson Street Strathfield 2135 lanning & intrastructure 13 March 2012 Mr Mark Brown Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir,

RE: AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY APPLICATION NO: MP10-0231

We write to express our deep misgivings and concern regarding the concept plan mentioned above.

- The proposal detracts from the character of the surrounding area.
- It fails to address the already significant impact of local streets being parked out.
- It diminishes the important heritage value of the current buildings
- We believe the parking and traffic analysis is flawed
- It will greatly diminish the quiet and peaceful nature of the area and destroy the environment which drew the current residents to the area
- It is an overdevelopment of the land available
- The impact on traffic has been understated and is based on out of date data relating to student numbers.

We confirm that we have not made any reportable political donations in the previous two years (or ever)

Yours faithfully,

6. Senkeries .

Roger & Catherine Senkevics.

BURWOOD

PAGE 01/02

Sertha Kumara 25 Walce ford Rd Strathfield NSW

Resident's Address

12.3 2012 Date



Mr Mark Brown Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir

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RE: AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY APPLICATION NO: MP10_0231

As residents of Strathfield and residents directly affected by the operation of the Australian Catholic University (ACU) expansion proposal, we write to lodge our objection to the above Concept Plan. We strongly urge the Department and Minister to decline the proposal.

Key reasons for objecting to the Concept Plan are as follows:

- The proposal detracts from the character of the surrounding residential precinct
- It diminishes the privacy of local residents by including new 3 and 4 storey buildings near the boundary of the ACU on Barker Road.
- The Neighbourhood Policy included in the proposal fails to address the parking, traffic and other amenity impacts on the neighbourhood.
- The ACU's lack of integration with the local community is highlighted by its wilful breaches of its original planning approvals and Order of the Land and Environment Court. The ACU's actions have impacted negatively on the neighbourhood contrary to the intentions underlying the approval.
- The proposal contains invalid parking and traffic analyses due to an incorrect assumption in relation to the growth in student numbers. This flaw in the analysis completely invalidates the conclusions reached by the university and its consultants. The proposal will have substantial traffic, parking and other amenity related impacts on the surrounding residential precinct. The expansion of the ACU represents a breach of condents' rights to the quict enjoyment of their properties and will further interfere with their safety, peace and convenience.
- The ACU's consultation with the local community has been inadequate. The ACU's selective advision of mfor nation is a handful of residents was not comprehensive. More recently, the ACU's attempt at consultation via the distribution of a Flyer and the holding of a meeting at short notice does not reflect on the ACU's bona fides in seeking to consult with of electronic and in providing an opportunity for

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residents to exprose and have their views and concerns addressed and considered. At best, the ACU's consultation is merely an exercise of ticking the boxes.

- Information in the ARUP report analyses out of date data relating to student numbers in 2008 and 2009. This is 2012. The report was prepared 14 December 2011 yet there is no analysis of student numbers in either 2010 or 2011. Why and how can a plan with such significant and negative impact on residents not be subject of up to date student information.
- The ACU is sited on 5 hectares of land in a residential area. The current land is totally inadequate for the expansion objectives of the ACU and it does not provide equitable student to land ratio, say between the University of Western Sydney and Macquaria University.
- Barker Road is a local road the Council states that the volume of traffic should not exceed 4,000 per day. What the ACU proposals will see further intolerable and dangerous traffic conditions in that street and the local streets of Strathfield.
- ARUP acknowledges the positive decision of the ACU not to provide adequate on site parking and notes that while the parking increase proposed appears substantial it is inadequate.
- The concept plan by the ACU will not minimise the impact on traffic and parking or residents.
- The concept#plan also fails to maintain and enhance the character of the existing built environment and will not be a sympathetic treatment of the historical site – in fact such over development will destroy the heritage character.

The Department and Minister should reject the ACU proposal. The misinformation, use of out of date student information, the errors and deficiencies in the analysis presented by the ACU and its consultants mean that no reasonable decision maker could make a valid decision in support of the proposal. If these reasons alone are not sufficient for the proposal to be declined, it should be declined on the fact that the ACU is situated on a mere 5 hectares, has buildings of historical significance and will see an erosion of open-green space and not have comparable or adequate student: land ratio and because the ACU has failed to adequately engaged with the community.

We confirm that we have made no reportable political donations in the previous two years.

Yours faithfull SENTHIL KUMARAN SENTHIL KUMARAN 25 WAKEFORD PD 25 WAKEFORD PD (TRATHFIEU) NSW 2135 /eu cor 12-3.2012

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Nome: SACWAWASSIF

Resident's Address 23, Bodan Aven Date Strallefield 2012 12 Humme & much aster

Mr Mark Brown Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir

RE: AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY APPLICATION NO: MP10_0234

As residents of Strathfield and residents directly affected by the operation of the Australian Catholic University (ACU) expansion proposal, we write to lodge our objection to the above Concept Plan. We strongly urge the Department and Minister to decline the proposal.

Key reasons for objecting to the Concept Plan are as follows:

- The proposal detracts from the character of the surrounding residential precinct
- It diminishes the privacy of local residents by including new 3 and 4 storey buildings near the boundary of the ACU on Barker Road.
- The Neighbourhood Policy included in the proposal fails to address the parking, traffic and other amenity impacts on the neighbourhood.
- The ACU's lack of integration with the local community is highlighted by its wilful breaches of its original planning approvals and Order of the Land and Environment Court. The ACU's actions have impacted negatively on the neighbourhood contrary to the intentions underlying the approval.
- The proposal contains invalid parking and traffic analyses due to an incorrect assumption in relation to the growth in student numbers. This flaw in the analysis completely invalidates the conclusions reached by the university and its consultants. The proposal will have substantial traffic, parking and other amonity-related impacts on the surrounding residential precinct. The expansion of the ACU represents a breach of residents' rights to the quiet enjoyment of their properties and will further interfere with their safety, peace and convenience.
- The ACU's consultation with the local community has been inadequate. The ACU's selective provision of information to a handful of residents was not comprehensive. More recently, the ACU's aftempt at consultation via the distribution of a Flyer and the holding of a meeting at short notice does not reflect on the ACU's bona fides in seeking to obneut with affected residents and in providing an opportunity for

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residents to explose and have their views and concerns addressed and considered. At best, the ACU's consultation is merely an exercise of ticking the boxes.

- Information in the ARUP report analyses out of date data relating to student numbers in 2008 and 2009. This is 2012. The report was prepared 14 December 2011 yet there is no analysis of student numbers in either 2010 or 2011. Why and how can a plan with such significant and negative impact on residents not be subject of up to date student information.
- The ACU is sited on 5 hectares of land in a residential area. The current land is totally inadequate for the expansion objectives of the ACU and it does not provide equitable student to land ratio, say between the University of Western Sydney and Macquaria University.
- Barker Road is a local road the Council states that the volume of traffic should not exceed 4,000 per day. What the ACU proposals will see further intolerable and dangerous traffic conditions in that street and the local streets of Strathfield.
- ARUP acknowledges the positive decision of the ACU not to provide adequate on site parking and notes that while the parking increase proposed appears substantial it is inadequate.
- The concept plan by the ACU will not minimise the impact on traffic and parking or residents.
- The concept plan also fails to maintain and enhance the character of the existing built environment and will not be a sympathetic treatment of the historical site – in fact such over development will destroy the heritage character.

The Department and Minister should reject the ACU proposal. The misinformation, use of out of date student information, the errors and deficiencies in the analysis presented by the ACU and its consultants mean that no reasonable decision maker could make a valid decision in support of the proposal. If these reasons alone are not sufficient for the proposal to be declined, it should be declined on the fact that the ACU is situated on a mere 5 hectares, has buildings of historical significance and will see an erosion of open-green space and not have comparable or adequate student: land ratio and because the ACU has failed to adequately engaged with the community.

We confirm that we have made no reportable political donations in the previous two years.

Yours faithfully 5. S. WASSIF 23, Boden Ave., Struthfield

;61297423554

Our Ref: Samuel and Joan Sattout

Your Ref: MP_0231

13[™] March 2012 Mr Mark Brown 22-33 Bridge Street

Sydney NSW 2000

New Coly Planning & mrgstructure DIAN AV BERN HAY'L.

Facsimile Transmission: 02 9228 6455

Email: Plan_ comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: MP10_0231 -- AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY -- CONCEPT PLANS

We refer to the concept plans submitted by the Australian Catholic University (ACU) for its future development of the University Campus located on Barker Road, Strathfield (the Plans).

These plans will turn our quiet streets into City Road, Broadway, it will make our homes feel like a part of the Sydney University Campus. This is totally unacceptable. We did not buy houses in the Inner City for this reason.

We strongly object to the approval of the application of ACU.

Impact

We are residents of Barker Road Strathfield **not CITY ROAD, BROADWAY (Sydney University)** and the plans will have direct impact on:

- 1. The quiet enjoyment of our property;
- 2. The huge traffic flow of Barker Road; again it will become like City Road, Broadway
- 3. The value of our property; which we have worked all our lives for
- 4. The heritage of Barker Road and its surrounds.
- 5. The safety issue try driving down Barker Road and the surrounding streets during peak (University hours) and see all the near collision caused P Plate students who are going in and out of traffic trying to find parking before their classes start
- 6. It is getting harder to get out of our driveways because they are blocked by students parking inches away from our exits. We cannot see the oncoming traffic. Again a safety issue.
- 7. Maybe ACU should look at expanding the University on Liverpool Road, this makes more sense. There are many sites more suitable on the main roads.
- 8. Also, the infra-structure is already in place.

Students Numbers at Present

As we understand it, the current Development Consent allows for 750 students in attendance at a time.

The enrolment figures show that ACU currently have 2,200 students on campus, at least 1,232 of those students are on campus at a given time. I know because I live in Barker Road and watch students frantically trying to find parking in an area that is not meant for this sort of traffic flow.

ACU are in breach of their current Development Consent.

Car park

It is evident from the number of cars parked not only on Barker Road, but in the surrounding streets, that there is not enough parking to accommodate the current students.

The car park proposed in the Plan as a solution/fix to the problem will fall short of what is currently required. Further, it will also fall short of the amount of car spots it will required if the plan is approved. (4,400 students in the next few years) again, this is not City Road, Broadway.

The proposed 'fix', that no parking is allowed on Barker Road at any time, does not account for the resident parking nor parking of the resident's visitors.

We are hardworking rate payers and demand our council (Strathfield Municipal Council) look after us. This is a democracy and we will be voting in the next election.

We ask that you reject the ridicules application made by the ACU, to turn our quiet streets into Highways. We are currently seeking legal advice on potential compensation for the loss we may suffer as a result of the approval.

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW OUR QUITE STREETS TO BECOME HIGHWAYS

Yours sincerely

Samuel and Joan Sattout

118 Barker Road, Strathfield NSW 2135

;61297423554



Our Ref: Antoinette Akle

Your Ref: MP_0231

13TH March 2012

Mr Mark Brown

22-33 Bridge Street

Sydney NSW 2000

Facsimile Transmission: 02 9228 6455

Email: Plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: MP10_0231 - AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY - CONCEPT PLANS

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- 2. The huge traffic flow of Barker Road; again it will become like City Road, Broadway
- 3. The value of our property; which we have worked all our lives for
- 4. The heritage of Barker Road and its surrounds.
- 5. The safety issue try driving down Barker Road and the surrounding streets during peak (University hours) and see all the near collision caused P Plate students who are going in and out of traffic trying to find parking before their classes start
- 6. It is getting harder to get out of our driveways because they are blocked by students parking inches away from our exits. We cannot see the oncoming traffic. Again a safety issue.
- 7. Maybe ACU should look at expanding the University on Liverpool Road, this makes more sense. There are many sites more suitable on the main roads.
- 8. Also, the infra-structure is already in place.

4/ 4

Students Numbers at Present

As we understand it, the current Development Consent allows for 750 students in attendance at a time.

The enrolment figures show that ACU currently have 2,200 students on campus, at least 1,232 of those students are on campus at a given time. I know because I live in Barker Road and watch students frantically trying to find parking in an area that is not meant for this sort of traffic flow.

ACU are in breach of their current Development Consent.

Car park

It is evident from the number of cars parked not only on Barker Road, but in the surrounding streets, that there is not enough parking to accommodate the current students.

The car park proposed in the Plan as a solution/fix to the problem will fall short of what is currently required. Further, it will also fall short of the amount of car spots it will required if the plan is approved. (4,400 students in the next few years) again, this is not City Road, Broadway.

The proposed 'fix', that no parking is allowed on Barker Road at any time, does not account for the resident parking nor parking of the resident's visitors.

We are hardworking rate payers and demand our council (Strathfield Municipal Council) look after us. This is a democracy and we will be voting in the next election.

We ask that you reject the ridicules application made by the ACU, to turn our quiet streets into Highways. We are currently seeking legal advice on potential compensation for the loss we may suffer as a result of the approval.

PLEASE DO NOT ALLOW OUR QUITE STREETS TO BECOME HIGHWAYS

Yours sincerely

QAK/e.

Antoinette Akle 118a Barker Road, Strathfield NSW 2135

FAX 92.28 6455

Mee Forg Yap 11 FLORENCES STREET STRAINELELD 2135

12/3/12-

Date

NA A

Mr Mark Brown Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir

RE: AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY APPLICATION NO: MP10_0231

As residents of Strathfield and residents directly affected by the operation of the Australian Catholic University (ACU) expansion proposal, we write to lodge our objection to the above Concept Plan. We strongly urge the Department and Minister to decline the proposal.

Key reasons for objecting to the Concept Plan are as follows:

- The proposal detracts from the character of the surrounding residential precinct
- It diminishes the privacy of local residents by including new 3 and 4 storey buildings near the boundary of the ACU on Barker Road.
- The Neighbourhood Policy included in the proposal fails to address the parking, traffic and other amenity impacts on the neighbourhood.
- The ACU's lack of integration with the local community is highlighted by its wilful breaches of its original planning approvals and Order of the Land and Environment Court. The ACU's actions have impacted negatively on the neighbourhood contrary to the intentions underlying the approval.
- The proposal contains invalid parking and traffic analyses due to an incorrect assumption in relation to the growth in student numbers. This flaw in the analysis completely invalidates the conclusions reached by the university and its consultants. The proposal will have substantial traffic, parking and other amenity-related impacts on the surrounding residential precinct. The expansion of the ACU represents a breach of residents' rights to the quiet enjoyment of their properties and will further interfere with their safety, peace and convenience.
- The ACU's consultation with the local community has been inadequate. The ACU's selective provision of information to a handful of residents was not comprehensive. More recently, the ACU's attempt at consultation via the distribution of a Flyer and the holding of a meeting at short notice does not reflect on the ACU's bona fides in seeking to consult with affected residents and in providing an opportunity for

1

residents to express and have their views and concerns addressed and considered. At best, the ACU's consultation is merely an exercise of ticking the boxes.

Information in the ARUP report analyses out of date data relating to student numbers in 2008 and 2009. This is 2012. The report was prepared 14 December 2011 yet there is no analysis of student numbers in either 2010 or 2011. Why and how can a plan with such significant and negative impact on residents not be subject of up to date student information.

The ACU is sited on 5 hectares of land in a residential area. The current land is totally inadequate for the expansion objectives of the ACU and it does not provide equitable student to land ratio, say between the University of Western Sydney and Macquarie University.

Barker Road is a local road – the Council states that the volume of traffic should not exceed 4,000 per day. What the ACU proposals will see further intolerable and dangerous traffic conditions in that street and the local streets of Strathfield.

ARUP acknowledges the positive decision of the ACU not to provide adequate on site parking and notes that while the parking increase proposed appears substantial it is inadequate.

 The concept plan by the ACU will not minimise the impact on traffic and parking or residents.

The concept plan also fails to maintain and enhance the character of the existing built environment and will not be a sympathetic treatment of the historical site – in fact such over development will destroy the heritage character.

The Department and Minister should reject the ACU proposal. The misinformation, use of out of date student information, the errors and deficiencies in the analysis presented by the ACU and its consultants mean that no reasonable decision maker could make a valid decision in support of the proposal. If these reasons alone are not sufficient for the proposal to be declined, it should be declined on the fact that the ACU is situated on a mere 5 hectares, has buildings of historical significance and will see an erosion of open-green space and not have comparable or adequate student: land ratio and because the ACU has failed to adequately engaged with the community.

We confirm that we have made no reportable political donations in the previous two years.

Yours faithfully

2



Ministerial Correspondence Unit - FW: Proposed ACU Development in Strathfield

From:	Kacey Cogle <kacey.cogle@minister.nsw.gov.au></kacey.cogle@minister.nsw.gov.au>
То:	"'Ministerial.Correspondence.Unit@planning.nsw.gov.au'"
	<ministerial.correspondence.unit@planning.nsw.gov.au></ministerial.correspondence.unit@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date:	3/9/2012 1:00 PM
Subject:	FW: Proposed ACU Development in Strathfield
Attachments:	2-12-28.31ACULetter.pdf

submission

From: Lyn Judge and Bruce Green [mailto:westlaw.1@bigpond.com]
Sent: Thursday, 8 March 2012 10:23 AM
To: Public Hazzard's Office Email
Cc: wakehurst@parliament.nsw.gov.au
Subject: Proposed ACU Development in Strathfield

Dear Sir,

Please find herewith a copy of our submission to the Department of Planning.

It is our observation that this proposal is causing a significant amount of anxiety amongst the residents of Strathfield and does not have the support of the community.

Lyn judge and Bruce Green.

TEL - HOME: (02) 9746.0267 TEL - MOBILE (0418) 201.557

7 WILSON STREET STRATHFIELD NSW 2135

28 February 2012

1-12-)#JIACollaine opd

The Proper Officer Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39, <u>SYDNEY</u> NSW 2001 Also by Email - PDF

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Concept Plan For ACU Strathfield - Application Number MP 10-0231

We are residents of Strathfield and live in Wilson Street, Strathfield just over one block south of the proposed redevelopment site. We are in our early fifties. We own our home which we built here seventeen years ago. Prior to building our current residence we lived in a home owned by us in the same street for approximately four years. We have raised two children in the area.

We make the following submissions in strong opposition to the proposed redevelopment of the Australian Catholic University.

- The proposal to expand the campus through a proposed car park expansion from 346 to 674 spaces and the erecting of six buildings of up to four storeys purportedly in order to cater for an anticipated 30% increase in student numbers over the next decade will change the character of the area permanently and for the worse.
- 2. It would be plain to any reasonable person applying simple mathematics that the proposed extra 300 plus car spaces allegedly to cater for a 30% growth in overall student numbers, which will in fact be far in excess of 300 students, will mean that

PAGE 1 OF 4

there will be increased parking in our local streets and increased traffic flow. The increase in traffic in our street (which leads to the proposed car park entry) will exceed that which could ever have been anticipated when buying into the area.

- 3. The Catholic Church owns land all over Sydney and regional NSW which it could utilise to develop satellite campuses for additional students thereby saving them the need to commute. The Central Coast for example is crying out for university places. All of the major universities in NSW have satellite campuses. The University of Sydney Faculty of Health Sciences is at Lidcombe.
- 4. The development of large university precinct is out of keeping with the expectation of local residents who moved into a quiet, mainly residential area and who have been accepting of small scale, low level school and seminary development that had existed there for some years and some reasonable recent small scale university development.
- 5. The ACU in its current form is a relatively recent development. It literally sprang up overnight and with virtually no community consultation. It could not have been anticipated by locals that the area would be developed as a much larger university involving, as it inevitably will, a much larger number of students and their motor vehicles entering the area on a daily basis.
- 6. The current proposed expansion is completely out of keeping with the amenity of the surrounding area. The streets are already to our observation 50% busicr than they were five years ago. While some change must always be anticipated with growing population, this new development will change the character of the area completely.
- Currently, during term time students park daily in the surrounding streets in disregard of driveway boundaries and "No Parking" areas (such as next to the Post Box in Newton Road).
- 8. It is unrealistic to expect that te expansion of a car park will resolve street parking issues, particularly with the number of students increasing at the same time. If

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students are able to park they will not use public transport. The ACU bus which can be seen driving between Strathfield Station and the ACU Campus (and should be a wonderful resource for students) is very much underutilised.

- 9. The cars belonging to the additional hundreds of students accessing the Car Park will be passing through normally quiet suburban streets increasing traffic flow.
- 10. We did not buy into a university area like those living around the University of NSW or Sydney University. Frankly the major reasons that people buy into the area are relatively reliable public transport, the availability of on street parking, pleasant housing and the quiet suburban environment. We more than suspect that this is all likely to change as a result of this development.
- 11. The heritage buildings in the ACU development have already been aesthetically subsumed by extensions that do not appear to be visually compatible with the existing heritage buildings. We live in modern house and have nothing against modern buildings but the subsuming of old buildings with modern ones is a cost saving/profit driven exercise which has already contributed to the destruction of a large number of old beautiful buildings in the Strathfield area. Frankly the ACU as it now is, is a much uglier set of buildings than the old seminary or the old St Pats College. We hate to think what the new buildings will look like.
- 12. Our land values will drop significantly. Whilst this may well be regarded as a self interested submission it is made by those who, drawing on their own university educations, worked hard to put themselves in a position to be able to live in a beautiful low rise urban area, where homes are well maintained, the streets are pleasant to walk, transport is easy and the amenity of the area respected by those living there. Like many "baby boomers" our home is our major asset and represents a significant proportion of our future financial security. We cannot be blamed for wanting to preserve that position.
- 13. This proposed development will take this away from us and destroy the investment in

1 GOF TIACOLOGICA PR

lifestyle and housing nurtured over a 20 year period. The ACU proposed development should not be allowed to proceed.

Yours faithfully,

Lyn Judge and Bruce Green

LYNETTE JUDGE and BRUCE GREEN

- cc Mr Charles Casuscelli RFD, Member for Strathfield
- cc Mr Paul Barron, Mayor of Strathfield
- cc Cardinell George Pell AC President Catholic University

2-17-77 1: ACG.Letter - 14
Mrs Diana Wong RGN, CEN, CM, Dip App Sc, MCP, Grad Cert Disaster Health 55 Newton Road, Strathfield NSW 2135 Mailing Address: PO Box 267, Strathfield NSW 2135 Mobile: 0411 636 208 dianafwong@optusnet.com.au

21 FEB 2012

17 February 2011

Brad Hazzard MP Member for Planning and Infrastructure Minister for Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW Level 33 Governor Macquarie Tower 1 Farrer Place Sydney NSW 2000



Application Number: MP 10_0231

As a Strathfield resident, I am writing to you to express my objection to the proposed expansion of the Australian Catholic University (ACU) at Strathfield. We live close to the university and are already being negatively impacted on by the increased traffic in the area. There is currently significant congestion in the local area (which is a **residential** area) related to the university and it is evident that a further increase in student numbers will only compound an existing unsatisfactory and potentially dangerous situation.

I object to the expansion of the ACU and have highlighted some of my concerns below:

- I would like to know what student numbers the ACU has approval for and how many attend ACU as there is confusion and inconsistencies in the limited information that is available. Over many years that we have lived in our current home at 55 Newton Road, Strathfield, we have noticed an increase in student numbers parking in and around the ACU. There has been no community consultation informing us of student numbers or increases in student numbers over the years.
- 2. The residential area of Strathfield has been zoned with a two storey limit and the proposed expansion of the ACU is for four storey and three storey buildings and not in keeping with the character of the local area.
- 3. Most universities are located on large areas of land and not in residential areas, the ACU site is located on a 5 hectare site that is located in the middle of a residential area and already has a negative impact on the local residents. An expansion of the ACU does not best meet the needs of the community.
- 4. The proposed parking restrictions will not address the parking issues and will negatively impact on local residents. There has been very little consultation with local residents and traffic surveys have been attended when students are not attending university, therefore, these traffic surveys do not provide a true reflection of the state of the traffic in and around ACU.
- 5. The proposed changes to Barker Rd, Wilson Rd and South St are of concern and there has been limited time for community consultation and as previously mentioned, traffic surveys have not been undertaken during university semesters.
- 6. Overall the community impression is that there has been inadequate consultation and lack of clarity in the limited information that is available to local residents.
 - 1

- 7. Currently, due to student/staff vehicles, there is frequently no parking available for residents or visitors on the street from 8am until 9pm.
- 8. There is increased congestion around the university, including the transformation of streets, such as Wilson Street, into a single lane thoroughfare as a result of parking along both sides of the street. There is increased traffic in South Street, which impacts on our ability to cross South Street when travelling along Newton Road and stopping at the Stop sign.
- 9. A large number of students park illegally around ACU, including partially or totally obstructing residential driveways, parking in Australia Post mail box zones and bus zones, etc.
- 10. We have witnessed many episodes of unsafe driving techniques from the ACU students and while I acknowledge that ACU has very little control over individual student driving behaviour, these behaviours are very unsafe and do not help promote community collaboration with the university. The majority of students are provisional licence holders and statistically have higher rates of accidents and have less experience making them more prone to inexperienced decisions while driving, such as illegal three point turns in very narrow streets, overtaking over unbroken lines and exceeding the speed limit of 50 kph.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my reasons for objecting to the expansion of the ACU. I look forward to my concerns being listened to and addressed appropriately. Furthermore, I request that the current issues of traffic and parking congestion be addressed. I would be more than happy to discuss these issues further with you if needed.

Regards,

VQA CALLAGO

CC: NSW Department of Planning, Strathfield Council, Mr Charles Casuscelli (MP) and Mr Barry O'Farrell (MP)

Dr Sarah Wong (MBBS) 55 Newton Road, Strathfield NSW 2135 Mobile: 0404 163 890 sarahw3@gmail.com

17 February 2011

Brad Hazzard (MP) Member for Planning and Infrastructure Minister for Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW

RE: Australian Catholic University (ACU) Strathfield Campus, Strathfield

Application Number: MP 10_0231

I am writing to express my concerns and objections as a Strathfield resident to the proposed expansion of the Australian Catholic University (ACU) at Strathfield. I live nearby to the university and am already negatively impacted by the significant traffic congestion related to its daily operations. Further expansion of the university will only exacerbate the existing problem on surrounding local streets, creating potentially avoidable road and traffic hazards that are unsatisfactory within this residential area.

I have highlighted some of my concerns below:

- 1. I would like to make an informed decision regarding the ACU expansion. Currently, the information passed on by the university is inconsistent, unclear and inaccurate. What I need is for the facts to be conveyed in an impartial and transparent manner to all members of the Strathfield community. In particular, I would like to know the exact current ACU student numbers enrolled at the campus. As far as I am aware, the ACU has exceeded their approved student numbers. Also, the completed traffic reports are unsatisfactory and biased because they have selectively surveyed certain sections of roads (such as the university parking entrance), at certain times (such as during semester holidays), therefore favouring the ACU expansion plans. This is misleading and not a true reflection of how the expansion will affect any Strathfield resident.
- 2. The proposed traffic alterations along Barker Rd, South St and Wilson St greatly concern me due to the safety, maintenance of road quality, difficulty of local residential access and parking and peak hour traffic behaviour. The current road infrastructure barely supports the current volume of traffic brought about by the university; suffice to say it will not support increased volumes as a result of the ACU expansion. The cost of developing new road infrastructure would not be funded by the ACU, who then would be responsible for the ongoing maintenance required along these residential streets due to the proliferating number of vehicles?
- 3. Parking remains an issue and I feel the proposed changes will only escalate the existing problem. I would like the right to park out the front of my own house without being boxed in. As I understand, the proposed expansion includes plans to develop several multi-level car parks, creating an additional 580 off-street car spaces yet the ACU has been very discrete about its current student capacity. How will they manage further expansion? Will these car parks be free for students? It is a well known fact that students will choose free parking and a short walk over paid parking. Regardless, this does not change the volume of traffic or need for road alterations around the university, particularly as Barker Rd will be the main access road for these 580 proposed new car parks.

- 4. I am concerned about the safety impact the road congestion poses. At present, Wilson St and South St have extremely poor visualisation due to the number of parked cars creating avoidable traffic risks. Unfortunately council and police lack the authority and/or time to enforce the No Stopping zones around these streets. Similarly this is the case with people parking across your driveway. Residents are offered no support or means of addressing this issue. I have to wonder what consequences will need to occur before change is instigated.
- 5. In addition to the residential street congestion, the ACU expansion has proposed increased numbers of public transport vehicles. As a resident, I struggle to negotiate the congested intersections where I must also navigate around buses in streets reduced to one lane due to over-parking. I fail to understand how increasing the number of buses, for example, will reduce the on-street parking issue, especially if students travel from public transport deficient areas. The operational hours of the university also exceed public transport convenience and safety making driving a more attractive means of travel.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my reasons for objecting the proposed ACU expansion. I look forward to my concerns being listened to and addressed appropriately. I request that the ACU expansion be thoroughly investigated with community considerations taken into account before proceeding any further. I have a right to make an informed decision based on the facts being openly communicated and to-date, the ACU has not done this.

Regards

Dr Sarah Wong

CC: NSW Department of Planning, Strathfield Council, Charles Casuscelli (RFD MP) and Barry O'Farrell (MP).

23 February 2011

Brad Hazzard MP Minister for Planning and Infrastructure Minister for Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW Level 33 Governor Macquarie Tower 1 Farrer Place Sydney NSW 2000

RE: Australian Catholic University (ACU) Strathfield Campus, Strathfield

Application Number: MP 10_0231

As a Strathfield resident, I am writing to you to express my objection to the proposed expansion of the Australian Catholic University (ACU) at Strathfield. We live close to the university and are already being negatively impacted on by the increased traffic in the area. There is currently significant congestion in the local area (which is a **residential** area) related to the university and it is evident that a further increase in student numbers will only compound an existing unsatisfactory and potentially dangerous situation.

I object to the expansion of the ACU and have highlighted some of my concerns below:

- I would like to know what student numbers the ACU has approval for and how many attend ACU as there is confusion and inconsistencies in the limited information that is available. Over many years that we have lived in our current home at 55 Newton Road, Strathfield, we have noticed an increase in student numbers parking in and around the ACU. There has been no community consultation informing us of student numbers or increases in student numbers over the years.
- 2. The residential area of Strathfield has been zoned with a two storey limit and the proposed expansion of the ACU is for four storey and three storey buildings and not in keeping with the character of the local area.
- 3. Most universities are located on large areas of land and not in residential areas, the ACU site is located on a 5 hectare site that is located in the middle of a residential area and already has a negative impact on the local residents. An expansion of the ACU does not best meet the needs of the community.
- 4. The proposed parking restrictions will not address the parking issues and will negatively impact on local residents. There has been very little consultation with local residents and traffic surveys have been attended when students are not attending university, therefore, these traffic surveys do not provide a true reflection of the state of the traffic in and around
- ACU.
- 5. The proposed changes to Barker Rd, Wilson Rd and South St are of concern and there has been limited time for community consultation and as previously mentioned, traffic surveys have not been undertaken during university semesters.
- 6. Overall the community impression is that there has been inadequate consultation and lack of clarity in the limited information that is available to local residents.
- 7. Currently, due to student/staff vehicles, there is frequently no parking available for residents or visitors on the street from 8am until 9pm.

- 8. There is increased congestion around the university, including the transformation of streets, such as Wilson Street, into a single lane thoroughfare as a result of parking along both sides of the street. There is increased traffic in South Street, which impacts on our ability to cross South Street when travelling along Newton Road and stopping at the Stop sign.
- 9. A large number of students park illegally around ACU, including partially or totally obstructing residential driveways, parking in Australia Post mail box zones and bus zones, etc.
- 10. We have witnessed many episodes of unsafe driving techniques from the ACU students and while I acknowledge that ACU has very little control over individual student driving behaviour, these behaviours are very unsafe and do not help promote community collaboration with the university. The majority of students are provisional licence holders and statistically have higher rates of accidents and have less experience making them more prone to inexperienced decisions while driving, such as illegal three point turns in very narrow streets, overtaking over unbroken lines and exceeding the speed limit of 50 kph.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my reasons for objecting to the expansion of the ACU. I look forward to my concerns being listened to and addressed appropriately. Furthermore, I request that the current issues of traffic and parking congestion be addressed. I would be more than happy to discuss these issues further with you if needed.

Regards,

CC: NSW Department of Planning, Strathfield Council, Mr Charles Casuscelli (MP) and Mr Barry O'Farrell (MP)

I request that my personal information is not disclosed to any person, body or agency, other than to the individual addressed in this letter.

2

Mrs Diana Wong RGN, CEN, CM, Dip App Sc, MCP, Grad Cert Disaster Health 55 Newton Road, Strathfield NSW 2135 Mailing Address: PO Box 267, Strathfield NSW 2135 Mobile: 0411 636 208 dianafwong@optusnet.com.au 29 FEB 2012

23 February 2011

Brad Hazzard MP Member for Planning and Infrastructure Minister for Assisting the Premier on Infrastructure NSW Level 33 Governor Macquarie Tower 1 Farrer Place Sydney NSW 2000

RE: Australian Catholic University (ACU) Strathfield Campus, Strathfield

Application Number: MP 10_0231

I was fortunate enough to attend the consultation meeting at the ACU Strathfield campus on the 23rd of February. I was disappointed at the manner in which Professor Craven addressed his audience. I attended expecting to hear about the ACU concept plan and their perspective. Instead, the residents endured a 30 minute disrespectful and personal attack regarding our concerns. The approach of Professor Craven set an aggressive and negative atmosphere that escalated as the discussion points became more heated. While I share the passion of my fellow residents, as a lawyer and representative of the ACU, I believe Professor Craven to have the experience and virtue to conduct himself in a more professional manner – something I would have liked to have seen at the consultation meeting. I had hoped the meeting would add clarity to some of the issues raised below. Unfortunately the constructivity of the meeting was sabotaged from the beginning much to the disappointment of many of Strathfield residents.

Professor Craven's dismissal of our concerns aside, there remain a number of unanswered issues that I would like timely answers to:

- 1. The student numbers (whether in hourly or daily numbers) remain elusive to me. This question was debated at length in the consultation meeting yet there is still a lack of transparency and clarity.
- The residential area of Strathfield has been zoned with a two storey limit and the proposed expansion of the ACU is for four storey and three storey buildings and not in keeping with the character of the local area.
- 3. The traffic report is incomplete. To make an accurate assessment of the impact ACU has on the surrounding local streets and traffic volume, a continual surveillance program needs to be in place to accurately determine the affect of the ACU in Strathfield. I propose that the traffic report is in effect every week for a year to make a valid observation of the on-peak and off-peak influence of the ACU. This is required because school, university and work calendars do not align, consequently the ACU related traffic will have variable affects on Strathfield residents. The ACU's time of operation at which students and teachers attend the campus must also be taken into consideration. Exclusion of these details invalidates any traffic report that is completed.
- 4. Most universities are located on large areas of land and not in residential areas, the ACU site is located on a 5 hectare site that is located in the middle of a residential area and already has a negative impact on the local residents. An expansion of the ACU does not best meet the needs of the community.
- 5. The proposed parking restrictions will not address the parking issues and will negatively impact on local residents. The two hour parking suggestion from 9am-3pm is impractical. The ACU has lectures/tutorials from 8am-9pm. The other side of the street has unlimited parking, as per the ACU development application. These restrictions impede the rights and freedoms of the local residents on these streets. I propose that local residents should be exempt from any parking restrictions on their own street for as many cars as reside on their property, not the proposed 2 vehicles per residence. I also propose that there is a 2km radius of parking restrictions around the ACU. This radius provides consistency and encourages the students to use the ACU shuttle bus and public transport services.

This concept would improve the safety and congestion surrounding the ACU. I look forward to more consultation being made with residents to address and formulate solutions to the parking and resultant congestion and traffic safety problems.

- 6. In addition to my above point, traffic infringements such as parking in front of the postal box and in "no stopping" zones and on/near street corners are current problems.
- 7. The proposed changes to Barker Rd, Wilson Rd and South St are vast and concerning. These local streets are not built to sustain the volume of traffic incurred upon them at present. Most of this traffic is related to the ACU. I do not believe that the proposed road changes present a safer or more economic solution to the existing problem. The road width is inadequate for buses, parked cars and commuters to share. The ACU parking expansion is disproportionate to its proposed increase in student numbers, therefore, it cannot claim to reduce the problem. The proposed changes to Strathfield's local roads are unsafe. For the volume of parking and traffic the onsite car parks will instigate, why not have more traffic lights not been proposed? I do not believe the Strathfield campus is suitable for expansion of this scale. I cannot offer a solution to the road problem other than suggesting the North Sydney ACU Campus be expanded instead due to its location in an industrial area.
- 8. There remain inaccuracies and a lack of community consultation. This is evident by the number of people who still do not know about the ACU expansion and how it will objectively affect them. Overall the community impression is that there has been inadequate consultation and lack of clarity in the limited information that is available to local residents.
- 9. The congestion around the ACU is already a huge problem. Local streets, such as Wilson St, are transformed into a single lane thoroughfare as a result of parking along both sides of the street. It becomes dangerous to exit from our driveway due to poor vision and reduce street width.
- 10. A large number of students park illegally around ACU, including partially or totally obstructing residential driveways, parking in Australia Post mail box zones and bus zones, etc.
- 11. We have witnessed many episodes of unsafe driving techniques from the ACU students and while I acknowledge that ACU has very little control over individual student driving behaviour, these behaviours are very unsafe and do not help promote community collaboration with the university. The majority of students are provisional licence holders and statistically have higher rates of accidents and have less experience making them more prone to inexperienced decisions while driving, such as illegal three point turns in very narrow streets, overtaking over unbroken lines and exceeding the speed limit of 50 kph.

I look forward to my concerns being listened to and addressed appropriately. Furthermore, I request that the current issues of traffic and parking congestion be addressed. I would be more than happy to discuss these issues further with you if needed.

Regards,

Dula

CC: Strathfield Council, Mr Charles Casuscelli (RFD MP), Mr Brad Hazzard (MP) and Mr Barry O'Farrell (MP)

Yolanda Kramer Kindergarten

73a Albyn Road, Strathfield NSW Ph 9842 3550 PO Box 466 Strathfield 2135 Email: ykk@people.net.au ABN 57 951 744 104

14 March 2012

By Fax: 9228 6455

Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

To Sir/ Madam,

RE: Australian Catholic University Application No. MP10 0231

Yolanda Kramer Kindergarten is located in Albyn Road, Strathfield. We are a small non-profit preschool servicing the families in the area with quality preschool education.

The street in which we operate is already suffering from major traffic congestion in the morning and afternoon drop off times and the safety for our children and parents has been of concern to us. This is an issue which we have brought to the attention of Strathfield Council on numerous occasions.

We are concerned that with anticipated changes to the Australian Catholic University this will exacerbate the already congested area which is becoming increasingly dangerous to our students and their families.

We strongly urge the Minister to decline this proposal outright to prevent further congestion in an area that has not been designed to handle the increase in traffic.

We confirm that we have not made any reportable political donations.

Regards,

almebort.

Avrille Langbart Director

Mark Brown - Written Submissions	s Objecting against ACU	expansion plans.
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Page 1	of!
(545)
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From:	
To:	<mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au></mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date:	14/03/2012 12:56 PM
Subject:	Written Submissions Objecting against ACU expansion plans.
CC:	"David Backhouse" <council@strathfield .nsw.gov.au="">, "Charles Casuscelli"</council@strathfield>
	<strathfield@parliament.nsw.gov.au></strathfield@parliament.nsw.gov.au>
Attachments:	

Dear Mr Brown,

Please find enclosed two signed submissions for:

Due to the lateness of receipt and that today is the final day of submisssions, I have scanned the documents in jpeg format and emailed them to you. The signature holders are unable to submit online themselves.

Copies have been forwarded to both the General Manager at Strathfield Council and to Mr Charles Casucelli, Member for Strathfield.

Yours Sincerely,

Your message is ready to be sent with the following file or link attachments:



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DATE

17-01-12

Mr Mark Brown Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning & Infrastructure GPD Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Brown,

RE: AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (ACU) APPLICATION NO: MP 10_0231 OBJECTION AGAINST CONCEPT PLAN FOR ACU STRATHFIELD CAMPUS

1Kul 2130

As residents of Strathfield and residents directly affected by the proposed expansion plans of the Australian Catholic University (ACU) for a World Class Precinct, we hereby lodge our objection to the Applicant's Concept Plan for the ACU Strathfield Campus.

We strongly unge the Minister to reject the proposal for the following masons.

- The proposal reduces the heritage appeal and character of the surrounding low density residential area.
- The total bulk and scale of the proposed building mass directly impacts on US, to our "rights to privacy both visually and aurally" and the "preferred neighbourhood character" CL 8.1 of <u>Strathfield DCP 2005 Part A (DCP2005)</u>. The proposed building mass includes 2 multi storey developments on the boundary of Barker Road including one 4-storey building opposite South Street and one 3-storey building opposite Wilson Street. It not only spoils the streetscape but will be an invasion of our privacy, and in time, detracts and reduces the property values of the surrounding neighbourhood suburb.
- The Neighbourhood Policy included in the proposal substantially fails to address the issues of parking, traffic and other amenity impacts on the neighbourhood.
- The ACU's lack of Integration with the local community is highlighted by its wilful breaches of its original planning approvals and Order of the Land and Environment Court. The ACU's actions have impacted negatively on the neighbourhood, contrary to the intentions underlying the approval.
- The proposal contains invalid parking and traffic analysis data based on an incorrect assumption in relation to the growth in student numbers. This flaw in the analysis completely invalidates the conclusions reached by the University and its consultants. The proposal will have substantial traffic, parking and other amenityrelated impacts on the surrounding residential precient. The expansion of the ACU represents a breach of resident's rights to the quiet enjoyment of their properties and will further interfere with their safety, peace and convenience.
- The Transport & Accessibility Study restricts our rights to visit family and friends. The Strathfield area has a unique community. Each family member, friend or accuaintance is separated by only 1 or 2 degrees. Facebook has helped us to stay connected. Almost everyone knows someone on each street or each block.
- The ACU's consultation with the local community has been lacking and inadequate. The ACU's selective provision of information to only a handful of residents was not comprehensive enough. More recensly, the ACU's attempt at consultation via the distribution of a Fiyer and the holding of a meeting at short notice does not reflect on the ACU's bona fide in speking to consult with affected residents and in providing an opportunity for residents to express and have their concerns addressed and considered. At test, the ACU's consultation is merely an exercise of political pretence. There was no sincerity or good faith in their actions.
- The ARUP report analysis was based on out of date data relating to student numbers in 2008 and 2009. This
 is 2012. Notwithstanding this, the report was prepared on 14 December 2011 and yet there is no analysis of
 student numbers in either 2010 or 2011.

Why and how can a Concept Plan with such a significant and negative impact on local residents, not be the subject of up to date student information?

- The ACU is sited on 5 hectares of land in the midst of a Low Density Residential Area. That Low Density Residential Area within the ACU's immediate vicinity, bordered by Parramatta Road to the north. The Boulevarde to the east, Cooks Raver to the south and Centenary Drive to the west, is approximately 300 hectares, i.e. the ACU site takes up approximately 1.67% of the total Low Density Residential Area that is our home. Why should 1.67% dictate the living standards of the rest of the 98.33% of Strathfield Residents?
- The current land holding by the ACU is totally inadequate for the expansion objectives of the ACU. The site
 will become an unattractive area of large dominant buildings, paved or concrete footpaths, covered
 walkways integrating pedestrian linkages throughout the campus and a mini city within its gated walls.
- It does not provide equitable student to land ratio with say, the University of Western Sydney or Macquarite-University.

	No. of Students	Prestators	No. of Students
			Per Hectare
UWS Campbelltown Campus	4,830	165h	29
Macquerie University	30,000	1.30h	230
Australian Catholic University	4,800	54×	960

The student to area ratio is dense and inadequate, and unsuitable for the chosen environment.

- Basker Road is a local road. The Council has subulated that the volume of traffic should not exceed 4,000 vehicles per day. The ACU proposal will see further intolerable and dangerous traffic conditions on Barker.
 Road, as well as an increase in speed and traffic in the surrounding local streets of Strathfield.
- The ARUP report has acknowledged the ACU's decision not to provide adequate on-site parking and is content to accept this decision. It further notes that whilst the on-site parking increase proposal appears substantial, it is inadequate to meet the needs of the University.
- The Concept Plan by the ACU will NOT indulnise the substantial impact on traffic and parking problems of the residents.
- Furthermore, the Concept Plan fails to maintain and enhance the character of the existing built environment and will not be sympathetic to its surrounding environment, to its surrounding historical heritage nor will it do any justice to the site left by the Christian Bros in 1993. In fact, such a development will destroy the heritage character of Mount St. Mary and the aesthetics of Mount Royal Reserve.

The Department and the Minister of Planning should reject the ACU proposal wholeheartedly. The misinformation, the use of outdated student data and the errors and deficiencies in the analysis presented by the ACU and its consultants, mean that no reasonable decision maker can make a valid decision in support of this proposal.

If these reasons alone, are not sufficient for the proposal to be refused, then the proposal should be refused on the fact that the ACU is situated on a mere 5 hectares in the midst of a 300 hectare low density residential area, has buildings of historical significance, will see an erosion of open green space and will not have comparable or adequate student and area ratios, not to mention that the ACU has failed to adequately engage in consultations with the local community.

We hereby declare that we have made no reportable political donations in the previous two years nor up until the application is determined.

Please do not release my personal details to the ACU.

Yesura Fainhfully,



派翻

c.c. Cordinal George Pell, Politing Centre, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney NSW 2020. Ph. 9390-5100. Email: <u>Chartering withercatholistors</u>

Mr David Bickhouse, General Manager, Strathfield Council, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield 2135. Email: council@strathfield.new.gov.au

Mr Chorkes Cosuscelli, Shop 1, 54 Burwood Rd, Burwood 2134. Ph. 9747-1711 Email: Strathfield@parkament.nsw.gok.au

编编编程 A.18041-83

DATE 13-03-12

Mr Mark Brown Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning & Infractructury GPO Box 39 SYDNEY MSW 2001

Dear Mr Stown,

RE: AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (ACU) APPLICATION NO: MP 10_0231 OBJECTION AGAINST CONCEPT PLAN FOR ACU STRATHFIELD CAMPUS

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			het Hettate
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We bereby declare that we have made no reportable political donations in the previous two years nor up until the application is determined.

Please do not release my personal details to the ACU.

Fride Fuilthfully.



576N C.C.

Condinal George Pell, Polding Contre, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney NSW 2000. Ph. 9390-5100, Email: ChapeSry@systemycatholic.org

Mr Dowid Backhouse, General Manager, Strathfield Council, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield 2135, Email: council@strathfield.new.gov.ou

Mr Charles Cospecelli, Shop 1, 54 Burwood Rd, Burwood 2134. Ph. 9747-1711 Email: StrathileId@carliament.mar.gov.au

Mark Brown - Submission Details for Vasili Kolesnikof

Vasili Kolesnikof <vaskolesnikoff@asa.asn.au></vaskolesnikoff@asa.asn.au>
<mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au></mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au>
14/03/2012 2:59 PM
Submission Details for Vasili Kolesnikof
<assessments@planning.nsw.gov.au></assessments@planning.nsw.gov.au>



Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Vasili Kolesnikof Email: vaskolesnikoff@asa.asn.au

Address: 17 Barker Road

Strathfield, NSW 2135

Content:

I refer to my submission emailed directly to Mr Mark Brown on 14/03/12 - I request that document be read in conjunction with this submission and be attached. I formally object to MP 10_0231 - Australian Catholic University - Strathfield Campus Concept Plan, as described moe fully in that document. I request that the Minister immediately exercise his authority under Part 3A to reject the ACU proposal.

IP Address: 203-206-174-119.perm.iinet.net.au - 203.206.174.119 Submission: Online Submission from Vasili Kolesnikof (object) https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_diary&id=27374

S ubmission for Job: #4471 MP 10_0231 - Australian Catholic University - Strathfield Campus Concept Plan https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_job&id=4471

Site: #2434 Australian Catholic University - Strathfield Campus https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_site&id=2434

Vasili Kolesnikof

E : vaskolesnikoff@asa.asn.au

Powered by AffinityLive: Work. Smarter.

From: To:	Vas Kolesnikoff <vaskolesnikoff@asa.asn.au> Mark Brown <mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au></mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au></vaskolesnikoff@asa.asn.au>
Date:	14/03/2012 2:51 PM
Subject:	RE: MP 10_0231 - Australian Catholic University – Strathfield Campus – Concept
-	Plan
CC:	Charles Casuscelli < Charles. Casuscelli@parliament.nsw.gov.au>,
	"ElectorateOffice.Strathfield@parliament.nsw.gov.au"
	<electorateoffice.strathfield@parliament.nsw.gov.au></electorateoffice.strathfield@parliament.nsw.gov.au>
Attachments:	ACU Submission 140312.doc

Mark Brown - RE: MP 10_0231 - Australian Catholic University – Strathfield Campus – Concept Plan

Hello Mr Brown,

Please find my submission attached, objecting to MP 10_0231 - Australian Catholic University – Strathfield Campus – Concept Plan.

I shall also fill in the submission form on the DPI website, and attach this document there as well.

As I understand in the case of other fellow concerned residents, I have copied this submission to the office of the Member for Strathfield for his record and information, who I know is well aware of the concerns and objections of the residents in his electorate.

I thank you for your assistance, and I look forward to contributing to the review process.

Kind Regards,

Vas Kolesnikoff Chief Executive Officer Australian Shareholders' Association tel 02 9411 1505 Fax 02 9411 6663 Mob 0421 705 251 Local 1300 368 448 Web www.asa.asn.au

Follow us on Twitter: www.twitter.com/AustSharesAssoc

From: Mark Brown [mailto:Mark.Brown@planning.nsw.gov.au]
Sent: Wednesday, 14 March 2012 1:23 PM
To: Vas Kolesnikoff
Subject: Re: MP 10_0231 - ACU

Vas,

You can forward your submission with attached word document to myself.

Thanks,

Mark Brown Senior Planner, Metropolitan & Regional Projects South NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure | GPO Box 39 | Sydney NSW 2001 T 02 9228 6385 F 02 9228 6488 E <u>Mark.Brown@planning.nsw.gov.au</u>



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>>> Vas Kolesnikoff <<u>vaskolesnikoff@asa.asn.au</u>> 12:08 pm 14/03/2012 >>> Dear Mr Brown,

I am a Strathfield resident on Barker Road. I intend to lodge my submission today, however, I understood that I could attach my word document as my submission. Just reading more clearly, is this allow or will you reject this and only PDF is allowed?

Kind Regards,

Vas Kolesnikoff Chief Executive Officer Australian Shareholders' Association tel 02 9411 1505 Fax 02 9411 6663 Mob 0421 705 251 Local 1300 368 448 Web www.asa.asn.au

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Mr Vasili Kolesnikoff 17 Barker Road STRATHFIELD NSW 2135

14 March 2012

Mr Mark Brown Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning & Infrastructure GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

By email to: mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Brown,

MP 10_0231 Australian Catholic University (ACU) - Strathfield Concept Plan 167-169 & 179 Albert Road, Strathfield Objection to Concept Plan

The purpose of my submission is as follows:

- 1. To lodge my formal objection to the ACU development proposal and concept plan
- To avoid repetition of comments made in other residents' objections to the ACU proposal; however, in doing so, to confirm my support for all other submissions which have been lodged by residents in objecting to the ACU plan, and
- 3. To provide a summary of my facts and circumstances, and objections

I am 44 years of age, and have lived in Strathfield from 1975 to the present, with the exception of a 10 year period between 1997 and 2006. My parents lived in Strathfield from 1975 till their passing ultimately in 2006. As a single father of two boys, aged 10 and 11 years, I have returned with my boys to Strathfield to live a quiet and peaceful life, where my children can grow up safely and attend school, currently at Trinity Grammar Preparatory School, which is located on the Boulevard in Strathfield.

From the past to the present, I have seen a significant deterioration in the quality of life and safety conditions in Strathfield, and particularly around my residence at 17 Barker Road, Strathfield, which is located 100 metres east from the ACU and the Mount Royal Reserve. The conditions for residents and most importantly, for my small children, have become very dangerous during university hours, which are totally attributable to the ACU and its expansion to date. I am well qualified to comment on this deterioration, as I have been a witness over many decades.

Accordingly, my objections can be summarised in no particular order and without limitation to what others have already addressed (and especially noting and supporting the objection of Strathfield Council acting on behalf of all resident), however, including the following comments:

- 1. The area surrounding ACU, and my immediate neighbourhood, is a long-established residential community. It is a leafy and quiet community, primarily families with small children and the retired. ACU has sought to establish itself and impose its requirements which are not consistent with a quiet suburban and family oriented area; firstly in terms of the unacceptable design and position of the 10 metre buildings and secondly the huge traffic increases as a result already of the past breaches of restrictions of the 1994 Land and Environment Court and the catastrophic increases which would be evidenced upon ACU expansion.
- 2. ACU's plan to build 10 metre buildings in the immediate presence of single and double story residential houses is unreasonable to a normal and reasonable person. The design proposals are fundamentally out of character for the area and even the existing building in the university grounds. I note that the existing building are set well back from the residents, while the ACU proposal is to attack residents directly with 10 metre building on immediate street frontage and in immediate residential vision.
- ACU premises are not presently zoned for educational premises, so it is clear that ACU has no regard for due legal process, appropriate community consultation or the interests of the community in which it finds itself.
- 4. Other educational institutions in Strathfield, of which there are many with Strathfield having more schools and educational institutions that any other suburb, blend well into the community. ACU should not be allowed to ignore the character of the suburb and community. If anything, ACU (or any other business seeking to establish or expand) must conform with the community!
- 5. Most people come to Strathfield because of its safety and access to the excellent schooling facilities for their children. The imposition of ACU is inconsistent with the existing condition and historical background of Strathfield, that of a quiet, family-oriented community.
- 6. Having regard to the family orientation of Strathfield over the last century, the traffic escalation witnessed over the last few years attributable to ACU students has become extremely dangerous to the community and children. I have personally called police, having witnessed accidents in which students have significantly exceeded speed limits of 50 km/h to crash into other vehicles on or round the corner

of Oxford and Barker Road. Such existing traffic and expected tripling of student traffic through the ACU proposal and proposed huge increase in student numbers, is and would on an increasing basis put the lives of small children at risk. The community is not capable nor should it be, of taking such huge traffic increases, nor should it and the elected parties representing the people of the community, accept such risks.

- 7. Each morning as I back out of my driveway with two small children in the back, I am increasingly placing the lives of my children at risk as there is no visibility for oncoming traffic due to student cars "clogging" Barker Road from Oxford Road to South Street. This situation must stop and cannot even be contemplated to be made worse through any possible consideration of any expansion of the ACU in this child-oriented and suburban area.
- 8. I am also noting on an increasing level that students are totally disregarding the residents by parking across driveways, of which I have photographic evidence. Even earlier this week, my children's grandfather could not return them home by entering my driveway because of a student car parked across it. Should the Minister consider any acceptance of the ACU application, then in doing so, he must be put on notice that he will be endangering the lives of children. Short of a fleet of a dozen rangers patrolling our streets on university days to book students, with the hope that they will desist in such practices, then this situation will not be resolved. Any expansion of ACU will only worsen the current unacceptable and dangerous environment which has been created.
- 9. The ACU proposal on removing on-street parking in various suburban areas is unacceptable. ACU is attempting to change the character of family-oriented streets to create student vehicle thoroughfares. This is inconsistent with the suburban environment in existence and cannot be supported. Residents (and their guests) must have the ability to park their cars on their street, if for example they were doing something in their garage or their driveway. Why should ACU limit the lives of residents in this area, where residents in most other suburbs have free access to the on-street parking areas in the front of their houses. Furthermore, in the case on my neighbour who is 90 something with live-in and drive-up carers, any restriction of parking the front of his house, or perpetuation of current over parking of students in our street, has the effect of gravely jeopardising access to him in the event of emergency.
- 10. ACU is located in a suburban area, well away from public transport. I understand and support the advice of a traffic expert employed by a resident of Barker Road and also Strathfield Council, which confirms that the ACU traffic report as part of its submission was inappropriate, taken at incorrect times and misleading. The real traffic report suggests that already residents' quality of life has been detrimentally impacted, however, the 300% increase in traffic if the ACU proposal is accepted would render residents' lives "intolerable". It is already very close to this level now, as I see a material difference in traffic and safety between university days and university holidays and weekends.

- 11. Since transport is not close, it is foolhardy for the ACU to suggest that a few buses from Strathfield Station would be sufficient to move the proposed increased student body. The ACU plan has made no reference to this, which I suspect is as a result that it's traffic study and increased student movements have not appropriately been considered, and in fact, ACU's reports may be considered as misleading.
- 12. In the morning of 12 March 2012, various residents including myself conducted a review of students entering ACU. I personally witnessed and counted 399 students entering the Barker Road gate to the ACU (near South Street) between the hours of 7am and 8am. I also personally witnessed the increased traffic and parking congestion which was attributable to students. In total, our residents' group counted the following to confirm ACU's breach of the 1994 court ruling:
 - a. Net number of people arriving at the campus between 7am and 10am was 1,579, after subtract people leaving the campus over that period (note the 1994 and 2002 court rulings allowing a total of 750 people); and
 - b. Cars parked in the streets surrounding the ACU was totalled and estimated at 675 plus 344 on campus, between 12pm and 1pm. This count took place after residents' expected peak period for the ACU of 11am
 - c. We understand that enrolments at the university already exceed the 1994 court ruling of 1,100 students by day and 700 students by night. I believe that university website and records would be clear in identifying this blatant breach of the Court ruling.
- 13. Having witnessed the already huge escalation of student numbers, it is clear that ACU is in breach of its 1994 Land and Environment Court approval. It would have been expected that the court at that time would have had significant consideration to the community and residents in making its ruling. ACU's actions have clearly defied the court and shown total disregard for the Strathfield community and even the university working on trying to be part of the community. Professor Craven's threats of legal action against any concerned member of the community are clear evidence to the disregard and disrespect that ACU and its executive officers have shown for the people surrounding ACU.
- 14. ACU current and proposed student numbers per square kilometre are significantly lower than other tertiary educational institutions, including Sydney University, Macquarie University and University of Western Sydney. Accordingly, ACU's proposal represents squeezing more people into an already overcrowded campus, in an established and old suburban area which is inconsistent with such overcrowding. The ACU proposal is again fundamentally flawed.
- 15. In an article appearing in "Strathfield Scene" in March 2012, the president of the student's association is understood to have been quoted as saying that part of the reason why students choose ACU is because of the unlimited parking in the surrounding suburbs. Motives of students and ACU executive officers are clearly aimed to create a material and unreasonable detriment to the community, which they themselves would not accept in their communities.

16. I call on the Minister to reject the ACU proposal under Part 3A. There can be no reasonable basis for approval of the ACU plan. Furthermore, the Minister is to be aware that legal action is proposed to be taken by Strathfield Council against the ACU for breaches of the 1994 and 2002 courts. Until resolution of this action is understood, the Minister must reject the ACU proposal. Due to the bad faith shown by ACU towards the community, it must be firstly made compliant with court rulings, and secondly compliant with other restrictions on other educational institutions in the Strathfield community. ACUs breaches are so fundamental, and its proposal is so fundamentally ill-conceived and detrimental to the Strathfield community that any reasonable person reviewing the matter could never approve ACU's proposals.

In conclusion, I object to the ACU plan listed as MP 10_0231 and request the Minister to immediately reject the proposal in his discretion under art 3A. Furthermore, I call on relevant government to commence a formal public enquiry into all facts and events concerning the historical operations and expansion of the ACU (one which presently does not even have appropriate zoning), and circumstances in which all items put forward in the ACU proposal listed as MP 10_0231 where determined as correct and appropriate. In doing so, I also call on government to investigate any intimidation and threats of legal action against concerned members of the Strathfield community made by executive officers of the ACU. If proven to be correct, then it must be examined whether this is an appropriate exercise of power by an executive officer receiving government (public) funding for a tertiary educational institution during a supposed community consultation and engagement phase.

Yours sincerely,

Vas Kolesnikoff

288370-22742-3377

Mark Brown - Submission Details for Steven Devine

From:	Steven Devine <sdevine@devinere.com.au></sdevine@devinere.com.au>
To:	<mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au></mark.brown@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date:	14/03/2012 2:53 PM
Subject:	Submission Details for Steven Devine
CC:	<assessments@planning.nsw.gov.au></assessments@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Attachments:	img-314134434-0001.pdf



Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name: Steven Devine Email: sdevine@devinere.com.au

Address: 7 Newton Rd

Strathfield, NSW 2137

Content: Attention: Mr Mark Brown

Please find letter attached expressing my strong opposition to the proposed development involving the ACU.

IP Address: - 210.215.146.221 Submission: Online Submission from Steven Devine (object) <u>https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_diary&id=27372</u>

Submission for Job: #4471 MP 10_0231 - Australian Catholic University - Strathfield Campus Concept Plan <u>https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_job&id=4471</u>

Site: #2434 Australian Catholic Universi ty - Strathfield Campus https://majorprojects.affinitylive.com?action=view_site&id=2434

Steven Devine

E : sdevine@devinere.com.au

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Steven Devine 7 Newton Road STRATHFIELD NSW 2135

13TH March 2012

Mr Mark Brown Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Brown,

Re: ACU Application no: MP10 0231

I write to express my strong opposition to the proposed manifestly unreasonable major development in Strathfield on what is now known as the Australian Catholic University. The more I have studied the proposal the more I've come to realise that there are huge inconsistencies, ambiguity and outright misleading and distortion of current student numbers and other facts necessary to form a true picture of what has been going on. More importantly, what the future of Strathfield may look like. The magnitude of such ambiguity can only lead to the logical conclusion that this seriously and fundamentally flawed 3a proposal must be rejected.

By way of background, my family and I have been part of the Strathfield community since 1955. A time when the site was designed as a Christian Brothers seminary. The subject site was a in keeping with the beautiful Strathfield architecture. The Christian Brothers were good neighbours. Strathfield retained its status as an "oasis in the West".

Fast forward to recent years. With no consultation with me, the site has morphed into a massive commercial enterprise, well beyond the capacity of its original design. All done so, at the very least, by questionable means. The means by which and breaches of consent are currently subject to Strathfield Council legal action. Given such outstanding action, how can the merits of the current 3a proposal be properly assessed when the University has yet to answer outstanding Council and community concerns? The very concerns that were meant to be resolved through Justice Talbert's decision in the 1994 Land and Environment Courts case.

Let me share my experiences as a neighbour in recent years. In 1997 I move from 20 Ada Ave Strathfield (800 Metres away from the current entrance of what is now become a University) to 4 South St Strathfield (300 meters from the same entrance) where we initially enjoyed our home without interference from students parking out the front of our home, in a tidy environment . Within a matter of years we experienced consistent intrusion from students parking out the front of our house, across our driveway, together with increased rubbish being discarded by students. This negative impact on our lifestyle were major factors in our decision to move some 500 metres from the entrance, where we thought we would be far enough away to restore our enjoyment of living in Strathfield. We did enjoy living there until recently where history is now repeating itself. More parking issues, more rubbish and the occasional obstruction across our driveway. We thought of retreating back to Ada Ave, but guess what? That's right, our old neighbours back in Ada Ave are now experiencing the imposition thousands more local residents are enduring caused by the jugernought expansion of this commercial enterprise. Where would Professor Craven and his University like us to move, so we can enjoy what we once thought was a right, "quiet enjoyment"?

Last Sunday morning I went for a drive around the surrounding streets counting approximately 50 cars parked out the front of homes. By mid-morning on Monday the journey along the same streets resulted in an additional 1,100 cars parking out the neighbourhood. Whilst I'm sure a small percentage of these cars would fall under the category of bona fide "visitors" or "tradesman", the shear increase in vehicles belies the fact that they are associated with the University. The University claims to have reports and statistics to show that they comply with the 750 students per hour on campus at any given time. The Land and Environment Court decision in 1994 actually allowed only 510 students. I've not been consulted on the 900 students they now claim utilise the facility at any given hour, nor has the University been able to produce the DA approval they claimed they had from Strathfield Council that allowed such numbers as proclaimed at the recent debacle "consultation". At this same meeting the Vice Chancellor also advised bewildered residents that 1,500 students a day travelled to the facility via a shuttle bus. Maths is clearly not the Universities strong point; whichever way you look at it, they are clearly in breach of any consent that has been granted. The neighbours have been treated with contempt. This week our neighbours took the initiative and counted the number of students entering the campus and confirmed what Blind Freddy already knows; the University is already "trading" at 300% beyond what they are entitled to. What is going to happen to our neighbourhood if they are allowed to more than double the capacity they are currently at?

Consideration for the proposal comes under 3a given the alleged "state significance" and that they propose to spend over \$30 million on infrastructure (\$55 million they claim). Having consulted 3 independent valuers, all who confirm that surrounding property values will be effected by at least 5-15%, an obvious question arises. Where is the equal consideration for the neighbours who stand to accumulatively loose significantly more than what the ACU are proposing to spend?

The proposed traffic plan is nothing but a taunting embarrassment to the intelligence of the neighbours. How many children will have to die as a result of the impractical, ill-conceived and logistically unviable traffic plan that utilised out dated and plainly wrong data. Destroying Mount Royal Reserve to change an entrance is intolerable. The proposed new additional entrance at Wilson Street will alter the dynamics through the creation of a dangerous major intersection.

This is the only University in the Sydney Metropolitan area that offers students unlimited "free" parking (largely due to Strathfield rate payers). Why wouldn't students want to drive there? Located over 1.5 kilometres from rail infrastructure, our streets are already experiencing intolerable overspill and congestion. The site simply does not have the infrastructure or capacity for such a proposal.

The proposed multiple four storey buildings will destroy the heritage integrity of the site. The current magnificent heritage listed buildings have been part of the Strathfield environment for over 100 years. The current landscape and setbacks around these heritage listed buildings forms very much the basis of its intrinsic beauty. The current proposal would be nothing short of heritage "rape".

The proposed bulky buildings are completely out of character within the neighbourhood and creates visual pollution for hundreds of neighbours that will be forced into having the dense buildings overshadowing their homes. Trees have been the dominant visual outlook upon the site, the proposal will destroy this and the character of my neighbourhood.

I call upon the Minister to withdraw his delegated authority to the PAC and take it upon himself to assess the unjust merits of the 3a application. I would then expect that he would see for himself the seriously and fundamentally flawed proposal and accordingly reject the application. I further call upon the Department to have a full and open public meeting and hearing where further aspects and disclosures from the ACU can be aired.

Yours sincerely,

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From:isy l <isybrennan@yahoo.com.au>To:"plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au" <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>Date:2:28 pm 14/03/2012Subject:ACU Concept Plan MP10_0231 Submission OpposingAttachments:61 Barker Road.docx

Please find attached submission opposing ACU plan

Lidia Kaban

STRATHFIELD NSW 2135 14 March 2012

Mr M Brown Department of Planning & Infrastructure 23-33 Bridge Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Brown

Re: Application MP 10_0231: Australian Catholic University (ACU) Campus

I refer to the above application and to my submission dated 9 MRCH 2012. This submission is in addition to the material contained in that document and advances further reasons why the ACU's concept plan must be refused outright.

The ACU's concept plan will totally destroy the suburb of Strathfield and the low density neighbourhood. What the ACU has presented is severely flawed, based on false assumptions, significant misinformation and dated information, and such factual design traffic errors that one must question the bona fides of the ACU and its expansion plan at all cost!

Vice Chancellor Craven has been reported as stating that his role is more that of a property developer than that of an academic and that he wants the Strathfield Campus to be developed to be the largest university in the Southern hemisphere. That may be the ultimate aim of the ACU however the ACU is on a limited land size in a residential neighbourhood. The residents have been here much longer than the ACU and have invested significantly in the locality. The ACU, despite any smoke screen via statements that it seeks to provide educational opportunities for the west, is not interested in providing world class facilities for students in an appropriate environment, but in cramming students onto an inappropriate site location and maximising its profit at all cost and with nothing but a cursory regard for the significant, detrimental and intolerable impact of it on residents and the community of Strathfield.

The ACU's concept plan and intensification of student numbers on the limited land size of the campus must be rejected as bad planning as it will so dramatically; significantly and fundamentally alter the character of the suburb and the amenities of the residents in and around the ACU that it must be rejected. The negative impact on the residents is too severe and onerous!

Further, the impact which the ACU has placed on the residents and the community of Strathfield by its actions in breaching orders of the Land and Environment Court to limit student numbers on the site at any given time is already intolerable. The ACU sought to increase its student numbers by purchasing another parcel of land, not directly attached to the existing site however the ACU through stealth, and one must surmise bad faith, has continued its over enrolment practices. The

ACU is not above the law. The ACU must also be subject to good planning decisions. The concept plan in its present form must be rejected. Further, the ACU through the guise of Part 3A cannot and should not be allowed to usurp the very considered decision of the Land and Environment Court in 1994 which carefully and at great length considered the ramifications of student intensification. The ACU has taken deliberate steps to create a situation that cannot go unchecked. The ramifications of the ACU's concept plan will create an unsustainable situation for residents, it will significantly compromise safety on the roads and further overburden already overburdened roads. The ACU plan student intensification will also create further havoc in and around the Strathfield Station.

The ACU's application for the limitations of the site is fundamentally flawed. The concept plan makes assertions about the minimal impact that will result on traffic flow and what should be acceptable for residents. Nothing can be further from the truth. As has been demonstrated by independent reports the traffic designs advanced by the ACU are unworkable, will severely compromise safety, as well as detrimentally and totally change the character of streets. The ACU concept plan focuses some recognition of the impact of its student intensification on residents, traffic and parking, but it does not consider significant impact it will have on those seeking to attend in and around the Strathfield Station. The roads in and around Strathfield, because of bad planning decisions now cannot cope. The ACU proposal will exacerbate problems (traffic, parking, rail, safety, privacy, noise, and neighbourhood amenities, loss of precious green space and unsavoury treatment of heritage buildings) to such an extent that the neighbourhood will be totally destroyed.

Statements by the ACU that modes of transport other then vehicle will be encouraged are nothing but statements of desire. To quote Joel Walker, President of the University's Student Association, part of the reason many students choose the ACU is because 'many students are happy to get free parking which is part of the reason why they choose to come to the ACU's Strathfield Campus'.

The negative impact of the ACU's concept plan on the heritage buildings on site cannot be allowed. In Sydney we have too few fine heritage buildings – the site and green space should not be allowed to be destroyed. The construction of four storey buildings of the size proposed on the boundary of the campus site and the disproportionate and detrimental impact on neighbours/residents and the Strathfield community will not only be an eye sore but will compromise safety, privacy, create significant noise pollution given the proposed sanctioning of student intensification of the site that the character of the area will be so fundamentally and fatally altered that it cannot be allowed. The concept plan is bad planning – it is presented under Part 3A as the Vice Chancellor believes this process gives him the best option of getting a bad and flawed concept approved.

If residents wanted to live along Parramatta Road around Camperdown, in and around Broadway or the University of NSW and localities supporting medium and high density then that is where the choice would have been made. Residents long before the ACU came to town chose to live in Strathfield, to invest in the neighbourhood and live harmoniously and make a contribution to the State.

The ACU's concept plan for the limited land size of the Strathfield campus is the ACU's plan to maximise profit at all cost at the expense of residents and students. The ACU's proposal is flawed, it is bad planning and the application must be rejected as its impact is too disproportionate to what is

acceptable. The concept plan places an intolerable burden on residents not just immediate but on going into the future. The proposed student intensification will destroy the neighbourhood, further exacerbate traffic problems, and reduce amenities, compromise privacy and right to quiet enjoyment. The detrimental impact of the ACU's proposal cannot be underestimated. Residents deserve voice – the ACU's proposed student intensification and destruction of Strathfield is not an overstatement by a resident but what in reality will occur if planners do not carefully consider all the ramifications of the ACU's ill considered and totally flawed concept plan for the limited land mass on which the Strathfield campus is situated.

Thank you for taking on board the above submission.

Yours sincerely



From:To:<plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>CC:<council@strathfield.nsw.gov.au>, <strathfield@parliament.nsw.gov.au>, <...</td>Date:11:01 pm 13/03/2012Subject:ACU objectionAttachments:ACU objection.pdf



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Mr Mark Brown Major Projects Assessment Department of Planning & Infrastructure GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Brown,

RE: AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (ACU) APPLICATION NO: MP 10_0231 OBJECTION AGAINST CONCEPT PLAN FOR ACU STRATHFIELD CAMPUS

As residents of Strathfield and residents directly affected by the proposed expansion plans of the Australian Catholic University (ACU) for a World Class Precinct, we hereby lodge our objection to the Applicant's Concept Plan for the ACU Strathfield Campus.

We strongly urge the Minister to reject the proposal for the following reasons:

- The proposal reduces the heritage appeal and character of the surrounding low density residential area.
- The total bulk and scale of the proposed building mass <u>directly impacts on US</u>, to our "rights to privacy both visually and aurally" and the "preferred neighbourhood character" Cl. 8.1 of <u>Strathfield DCP 2005 Part A</u> (<u>DCP2005</u>). The proposed building mass includes 2 multi storey developments on the boundary of Barker Road including one 4-storey building opposite South Street and one 3-storey building opposite Wilson Street. It not only spoils the streetscape but will be an invasion of our privacy, and in time, detracts and reduces the property values of the surrounding neighbourhood suburb.
- The Neighbourhood Policy included in the proposal substantially fails to address the issues of parking, traffic and other amenity impacts on the neighbourhood.
- The ACU's lack of integration with the local community is highlighted by its wilful breaches of its original
 planning approvals and Order of the Land and Environment Court. The ACU's actions have impacted
 negatively on the neighbourhood, contrary to the intentions underlying the approval.
- The proposal contains invalid parking and traffic analysis data based on an incorrect assumption in relation to
 the growth in student numbers. This flaw in the analysis completely invalidates the conclusions reached by
 the University and its consultants. The proposal will have substantial traffic, parking and other amenityrelated impacts on the surrounding residential precinct. The expansion of the ACU represents a breach of
 resident's rights to the quiet enjoyment of their properties and will further interfere with their safety, peace
 and convenience.
- The Transport & Accessibility Study restricts our rights to visit family and friends. The Strathfield area has a unique community. Each family member, friend or acquaintance is separated by only 1 or 2 degrees. Facebook has helped us to stay connected. Almost everyone knows someone on each street or each block:
- The ACU's consultation with the local community has been lacking and inadequate. The ACU's selective
 provision of information to only a handful of residents was not comprehensive enough. More recently, the
 ACU's attempt at consultation via the distribution of a Flyer and the holding of a meeting at short notice does
 not reflect on the ACU's bona fide in seeking to consult with affected residents and in providing an
 opportunity for residents to express and have their concerns addressed and considered. At best, the ACU's
 consultation is merely an exercise of political pretence. There was no sincerity or good faith In their actions.
- The ARUP report analysis was based on out-of-date data relating to student numbers in 2008 and 2009. This
 is 2012. Notwithstanding this, the report was prepared on 14 December 2011 and yet there is no analysis of
 student numbers in either 2010 or 2011.

Why and how can a Concept Plan with such a significant and negative impact on local residents, not be the subject of up-to-date student information?

- The ACU is sited on 5 hectares of land in the midst of a Low Density Residential Area. That Low Density Residential Area within the ACU's immediate vicinity, bordered by Parramatta Road to the north, The Boulevarde to the east, Cooks River to the south and Centenary Drive to the west, is approximately 300 hectares, i.e. the ACU site takes up approximately 1.67% of the total Low Density Residential Area that is our home. Why should 1.67% dictate the living standards of the rest of the 98.33% of Strathfield Residents?
- The current land holding by the ACU is totally inadequate for the expansion objectives of the ACU. The site
 will become an unattractive area of large dominant buildings, paved or concrete footpaths, covered
 walkways integrating pedestrian linkages throughout the campus and a mini city within its gated walls.
- It does not provide equitable student to land ratio with say, the University of Western Sydney or Macquarie University.

	No. of Students	Hectares	No. of Students
			Per Hectare
UWS Campbelltown Campus	4,830	166h	29
Macquarie University	30,000	130h	230
Australian Catholic University	4,800	Sh 💡	960

The student-to-area ratio is dense and inadequate, and unsuitable for the chosen environment.

- Barker Road is a local road. The Council has stipulated that the volume of traffic should not exceed 4,000 vehicles per day. The ACU proposal will see further intolerable and dangerous traffic conditions on Barker Road, as well as an increase in speed and traffic in the surrounding local streets of Strathfield.
- The ARUP report has acknowledged the ACU's decision not to provide adequate on-site parking and is
 content to accept this decision. It further notes that whilst the on-site parking increase proposal appears
 substantial, it is inadequate to meet the needs of the University.
- The Concept Plan by the ACU will NOT minimise the substantial impact on traffic and parking problems of the residents.
- Furthermore, the Concept Plan fails to maintain and enhance the character of the existing built environment, and will not be sympathetic to its surrounding environment, to its surrounding historical heritage nor will it do any justice to the site left by the Christian Bros in 1993. In fact, such a development will destroy the heritage character of Mount St. Mary and the aesthetics of Mount Royal Reserve.

The Department and the Minister of Planning should reject the ACU proposal wholeheartedly. The misinformation, the use of outdated student data and the errors and deficiencies in the analysis presented by the ACU and its consultants, mean that no reasonable decision maker can make a valid decision in support of this proposal.

If these reasons alone, are not sufficient for the proposal to be refused, then the proposal should be refused on the fact that the ACU is situated on a mere 5 hectares in the midst of a 300 hectare low density residential area, has buildings of historical significance, will see an erosion of open green space and will not have comparable or adequate student:land area ratios, not to mention that the ACU has failed to adequately engage in consultations with the local community.

We hereby declare that we have made no reportable political donations in the previous two years nor up until the application is determined.

Please do not release my personal details to the ACU.

Yours Faithfully.

C.C.

Cardinal George Pell, Polding Centre, 133 Liverpool Street, Sydney NSW 2000. Ph. 9390-5100. Email: <u>Chancery@sydneycatholic.org</u>

Mr David Backhouse, General Manager, Strathfield Council, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield 2135. Email: council@strathfield.nsw.gov.au

Mr Charles Facuscelli Shan 1 54 Russiand 9d Russiand 2124 Dr. 0747 1711