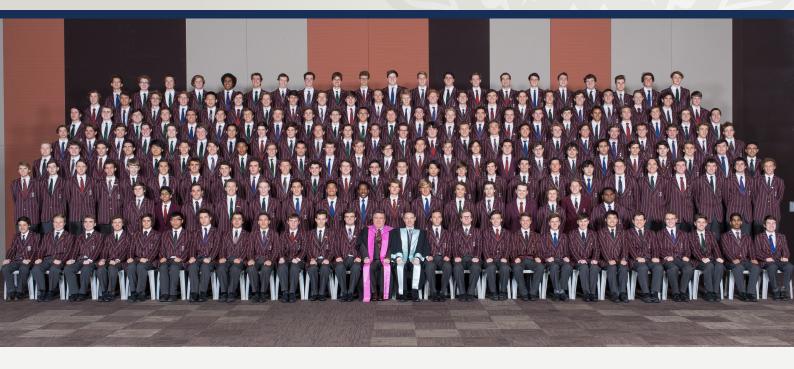
**CONGRATULATIONS TO** 

# The Class of 2016





# From the Headmaster

It gives me great pleasure to provide my report on the academic performance of the class of 2016. On behalf of the Scotch community I want all students to know that we are very proud of their achievements and know that each student can go forward with confidence into 2017 in pursuit of their chosen pathway.

In summary, all of the ATAR benchmark cut off points were outperformed in 2016. Significantly our median ATAR was up 2.6, our IB average is up 4.54, meaning that we are 5.33 above the world average and we had 22 students, our highest ever, attain a Certificate IV in VET. Further details about each of our course offerings is included in this summary.

Over the last six years we have implemented a system of community feedback via surveys so as to ensure that we continue to not only meet but exceed the expectations of our families with regards to the reasons for making Scotch their school of choice. Two consistently high rating reasons are the provision of a balanced education and the pursuit of academic success. Parents continually rate the quality of teaching and diverse learning opportunities as reasons for choosing Scotch and report that their expectations in both of these factors were either met, or more importantly exceeded. Balance means the provision of both a strong academic and co-curricular programme.

In presenting this year's summary of academic achievement, I do so



within the context that your son's success at Scotch should be a very personal measure composing far more elements than just an ATAR, IB Diploma score or a VET qualification. Our goal is to ensure each individual improves on his potential and achieves personal success.

# Academic Profile - WACE, Diploma and VET

In total there were 209 Year 12s. Of the cohort, 139 boys received an ATAR, and 35 boys sat the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme exams with the goal of attaining entrance into a tertiary institution of their choosing. In 2015 the College had 14% of students completing the IB Diploma, in 2016 this rose to 17%.

It is also important to remember that 35 other students made equally valuable decisions to pursue either VET or other alternative post school pathways with 22 boys achieving a Certificate IV. This is the highest number of Certificate IV completions. The Dux of our VET programme, Braden Retallack, also performed exceptionally well in his chosen work place programmes.

The following detailed summary of results pertains to those who pursued an ATAR or an IB Diploma score.



### WACE Results

There were over 11,217 full-time eligible students from across the State who sat four or more WACE exams this year. The College's median ATAR was 87.3 compared to the state-wide median of 82.05. This equates to half of the Year 12s attaining an ATAR of 87.3 and above.

The breakdown of student numbers attaining an ATAR above 80 and their respective position in the WA cohort is represented in the following benchmarks.

#### Significant WACE benchmarks

4% achieved an ATAR above 99

placing them in the top 1% of their state-wide cohort

22% achieved an ATAR above 95

placing them in the top 5% of students of their state-wide cohort

37% achieved an ATAR above 90

placing them in the top 10% of students of their state-wide cohort

In summary, 70% of our students attained an ATAR of 80 and above. This is the minimum requirement for gaining entry into most of the Group of Eight (GO8) Universities across Australia, comprising of University of Western Australia, University of Melbourne, Monash University, The Australian National University, University of Adelaide, Sydney University, University of New South Wales and The University of Queensland.



We had some outstanding subject performances in WACE released by the Schools Curriculum and Standards Authority. It was very pleasing to see that Alex Crump achieved the highest ATAR of 99.75. Alex also won Course Exhibitions in History and Business Management and Enterprise. I am sure he will go on to make a significant contribution at the tertiary level.

Certificates of Excellence were also awarded to Alex Crump for Business Management and Enterprise, Economics and History, Kate Egelton (PLC) for Business Management and Enterprise, Fraser Cull for English and Bede Hunt for English.

Scotch College students also received 22 Certificates of Distinction and 37 Certificates of Merit. Scotch College also placed in the Schools with the highest performing students in Accounting and Finance, Business Management and Enterprise, Design, Economics, Literature, Mathematics Methods, Mathematics Specialist, Media Production Analysis, Modern History, Physics and Politics & Law.

## International Baccalaureate Diploma Results

The comparative which follows, is based on the 2016 International Baccalaureate May Statistical Bulletin. Over 160,000 students sat the May exams; which collates the results of the majority of Diploma students from across the world. There were also over 14,000 students who sat the Southern Hemisphere November exams. It is also worth noting that 216 nationalities sat the IBDP worldwide.

The College is delighted with the boys' achievements. Of the Scotch Diploma cohort, 11% graduated in the top 5% in the world, 31% placed in the top 20% in the world, with 97% of students earning a score that provides eligibility for entry to the GO8 Australian universities.

Approximately 25% of the candidates scored a 90+ ATAR equivalency and all students continued to perform very well in Literature, Physics, Chemistry, History, Mathematics and Languages. The converted median ATAR for the IB cohort is 92.3. However as of 2017 for Curtin, and 2018 for UWA, conversions are not required as the Universities will accept students with their direct IB points.

The students also performed exceptionally well in core elements of the Diploma Programme. Within the Extended Essay nine students scored an A grade and in the Theory of Knowledge seven scored an A grade – both of these results as a percentage of the total cohort are significantly higher than the IB world average. These components of the Diploma are the most challenging, so our boys have performed exceptionally well.

Our students scored an average of 34.54 Diploma points, 5.33 points higher then the global average of 29.21.

Our highest achieving IB student Drummond Orr scored the College's first perfect score of 45



placing him in the top 0.6%. Four students scored above 40 points placing them in the top 5% globally.

Congratulations to Leslie Zhu who was awarded our second bi-lingual Diploma having demonstrated proficiency in two languages.

For further information about the Diploma Programme and the International Baccalaureate in general please visit www.ibo.org

## Final reflections

2016 has yielded increased success across all of our course offerings and improvement on all of the benchmarks which we use to measure the students' performances. The boys have performed very well and in the majority of cases performed as well or better than expected. The analysis provided in this bulletin is simply to give our community a macro look at how our Year 12 cohort performed.

At the start of 2017 we will again ask our teaching and learning team to oversee a student-by-student, subjectby-subject analysis to be completed by all Curriculum Leaders, teachers and any other staff involved in improving teaching and learning at our College, including myself.

This in-depth analysis takes place every year regardless of how we perform.

Our agenda of continual improvement will be driven by our annual subject-by-subject analysis, coupled with assessing how the teachers and each student has performed in all of the subjects we offer.

Our continued strategy of commencing the school year in October, coupled with the extended mid-year break, provides our Senior School students with a unique transition and opportunity to excel in their chosen subjects. It is important for the community to understand that for our Year 12 teachers, the start of a new school year in October brings with it extra challenges and professional commitment. However, our continued focus on operating our school year as it is, offers difference and ensures that our ongoing strategy of teaching dual curriculum at Year 11 and 12, can be maximised given the time requirements for both WACE and the International Baccalaureate Diploma.

In 2016 our boys excelled and achieved excellence in local and international academic challenges that we will build upon in 2017. We remain committed to providing Scotch boys with opportunities to be benchmarked on the international stage in programmes such as our inaugural Summer School Programme 'Stanford International Youth Program' that will again take place in 2017 at Stanford University in September. Stanford specifically wrote this programme for Scotch College.

We are also continuing to pursue a strategy to enhance and build on our current VET programme and its respective offerings.

In 2016 over 20 Year 10 students completed an exchange programme with overseas member schools through our participation as a member of the Round Square group of schools. This is aimed at providing our boys with exposure to other school systems and curriculums in order to prepare them for graduation into the global community. You may wish to find out more about the Round Square organisation at **www.roundsquare.org** 

Our achievements and strategic intentions highlight the College's commitment to preparing our students to achieve personal academic excellence locally and globally. I would like to acknowledge and thank our sister school PLC, and their teachers for supporting and working to deliver our cross campus upper school classes. This initiative continues to deliver more choice to the students at both colleges.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the entire Year 12 cohort for their commitment to their educational journey at Scotch. Furthermore, thank you to all of the staff who are simply outstanding in their areas of teaching expertise. While we are reporting on Year 12 results, this is the culmination of the work of many teachers over the learning journey of each boy. It is the teachers' drive that ensures each boy works towards achieving personal academic excellence.

Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to reporting on the class of 2017.

#### Dr Alec O'Connell

Headmaster 10 January 2017