Uniting Church in Australia - Northern Synod

A g e n d a

By him, through him and for him
To God be the Glory forever

Thirty-ninth Annual Meeting of the Synod

Saturday 20 June to Tuesday 23 June 2015
Dumabudla Centre
Kormilda College, Darwin

Front cover: Graduands from the Certificate III in Theology and Ministry course at Nungalinya College 2014

From left to right: Felicity Amery, Djawut Jacky Goṉdarra, Elizabeth Bulurrumawuy Dhamarraṉdji, Ŋardiny Rose Darcy, Yurranydjil Dhurrkay, Yangay Wunuŋmurra, Andrew Dutney, Ŋandama Gumbula, Märatja Alan Dhamarraṉdji, Stuart McMillan, Gapany Dorothy Gumbula, Helen Richmond, Mätjarra Fay Garrawurra.

THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA

NORTHERN SYNOD

39th Annual Meeting of Synod

A g e n d a

1.	***Program***		
2.	***Recommendations***		Page 7
3.	***Welcome***		Page 10
4.	***Membership***		Page 10
5.	***Apologies***		Page 10
6.	***Reports***		
	6.1	*Moderator*	Page 15
	6.2	*Standing Committee and General Secretary*	Page 19
	6.3	*Placements Committee*	Page 23
	6.4	*Finance and Property Services Committee*	
	6.5	*The UCA Property Trust (NT)*	Page 27
	6.6	*Pilgrim Presbytery of Northern Australia*	Page 25
	6.7	*Northern Regional Council of Congress*	Page 29
	6.8	*Coordinating Support for Indigenous Scriptures*	Page 33
	6.9	*St Philip's College*	Page 35
	6.10	*Kormilda College*	
	6.11	*Nungalinya College*	Page 39
	6.12	*Aboriginal Resources and Development Services Inc*	Page 43
	6.13	*Somerville Community Services Inc*	Page 49
	6.14	*UCA National Assembly*	
	6.15	*UCA Beneficiary Fund*	
7.	***Proposals***		Page 53
	Proposal Form		
8.	***Elections and Nominations***		Page 57
9.	***Farewell and Memorial Minutes***		Page 65
10	***Acronyms***		Page 67

Northern Synod Program

Recommendations

Recommendations

1. Constitution of Synod

1.1 That the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Northern Synod be deemed to be constituted by an act of worship held at Darwin Memorial Uniting Church on Saturday 20 June 2015, and that its members be determined by the list of Members of Synod 2015 which will be adopted at a later business session.

2. Appointments, Arrangements

2.1 That the following be appointed:
Business Committee: Stuart McMillan, Thresi Mauboy, Peter Jones, Bruce Slater, Steve Orme.
Minute Secretary: Roslyn Henry
Returning Officer:
Scrutineers:

2.2 That 'within the house' shall include the entire area of the room in which the Business Session is being held.

2.3 That the Synod Business timetable shall be:

Saturday 20 June 2015

Session 1: 6.00 pm to 9.00 pm at Darwin Memorial Uniting Church

Sunday 21 June 2015

Session 2: 8.30 am to 10.00 pm at Kormilda College
Session 3: 10.30 am to 12.30 pm at Kormilda College
Session 4: 1.45 pm to 3.00 pm at Kormilda College
Session 5: 3.30 pm to 5.00 pm at Kormilda College

Monday 22 June 2015

Session 6: 8.30 am to 10.00 am at Kormilda College
Session 7: 10.30 am to 12.30 pm at Kormilda College
Session 8: 1.45 pm to 3.00 pm at Kormilda College
Session 9: 3.30 pm to 5.00 pm at Kormilda College

Tuesday 23 June 2015

Session 10: 1.45 pm to 3.00 pm at Kormilda College
Session 11: 3.30 pm to 5.00 pm at Kormilda College

2.4 That the closing time for receiving Proposals shall be 12.30 pm on Monday 22 June 2015.

2.5 That the closing time for receiving nominations shall be 12.30 pm on Monday 22 June 2015.

2.6 The ballots shall be held at Session 9 on Tuesday 23 June 2015.

2.7 That the Moderator, the Synod Secretary and the Chairpersons of Presbyteries be authorised to confirm the Minutes of Synod.

2.8 That the procedures for the presentation, discussion and voting on Recommendations and Notices of Motion are as set down in the Manual for Meetings.

2.9 That the program and timetable for Saturday 20 June, Sunday 21 June, Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 June 2015 be adopted.

3. Welcome

3.1 That a warm welcome be extended to:
Ministers attending *Synod for the first time*:
Lay representatives attending Synod for the first time:

4. Membership of Synod – 2015

4.1 That the following be co-opted as a member of Synod.
4.2 That the following be formally associated with the Synod.
4.3 That the list of Members of Synod 2015 be adopted.

5. Apologies

5.1 That the following apologies be received.

6. Reports

6.1 Moderator

6.1 That the report be received.

6.2 Standing Committee and General Secretary

6.2 That the report be received.

6.3 Placements Committee

That the report be received.

6.4 Finance and Property Services

6.4 That the report be received.

6.5 The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (NT)

6.5 That the report be received.

6.6 Pilgrim Presbytery of Northern Australia

6.6 That the report be received.

6.7 Northern Regional Council of Congress

6.7 That the report be received.

6.8 Co-ordinating Support for Indigenous Scriptures

6.7 That the report be received.

6.9 St Philip's College

6.9 That the report be received.

6.10 Kormilda College

6.10 That the report be received.

6.11 Nungalinya College

6.11 That the report be received.

6.12 Aboriginal Resources & Development Services

6.12 That the report be received.

6.13 Somerville Community Services

6.13 That the report be received.

6.14 UCA National Assembly

6.14 That the report be received.

6.15 UCA Beneficiary Fund

6.16 That the report be received.

7 Proposals

7.1 To be circulated

8 Elections

8.1 That the following elections occur:

8.2 That the following appointments be noted:

9 General

10 Farewell and Memorial Minutes

11 Thanks

12 Adjournment

12.1 That the Synod adjourn to meet in Darwin in 2016 at a date and place to be determined by the Standing Committee.

Reports to Synod

Past Moderator's Report Report 1

"I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly" John 10:10b

This was the passage of Scripture I was led to choose at the commencement of ministry in 2010 as your Moderator. It is the passage of Scripture which our President was led to choose giving the Assembly theme Life Overflowing for these past three years of his ministry. It's my firm understanding that God is reminding us, God's church, that this is God's purpose in Jesus, through God's gift of the Holy Spirit for us, individually and as a community. It is out of this life gift our lives overflow with compassion and love for others. It is out of this life gift that we are enabled to "Act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with our God" and be witnesses to the reality of God's love in Christ at work through the Spirit in the world.

I want to thank you for the privilege of serving you in this ministry for the past five years. I want to thank Living Water Congregation for their generosity of spirit and gift to the Synod. I want to thank you the Synod over these past three years for your generosity of spirit as I have been heavily involved as the President-elect in matters of the church nationally. Finally I want to thank my colleagues in the Synod office and throughout the Synod you have blessed me with your wisdom and generosity, your passion and compassion. Especially thank you to Peter Jones a great friend and minister of the gospel.

It was my absolute delight when you chose Rev Thresi Mauboy Wohangara as your Moderator-elect last year. I know God's Spirit has prepared and gifted Thresi for this ministry among you. Our relationship with the Protestant Church in West Timor (GMIT) will be enriched through the relationships Thresi has with this Synod and the people of Nusa Tengara Timur. Thresi and I travelled to Kupang last year for the 400th Anniversary and celebration of the reformed church on Reformation Day 31st October. It was a wonderful, joyous, life overflowing celebration! The special relationships that have grown between UBB the translation workers of GMIT Synod and Coordinate translation workers in our Synod is rich. We are moving to strengthen the relationship between our two Synods in other ways.

Life also involves death and this year has seen three significant NRCC leaders pass from the earthly life to their eternal lives in God. Two wonderful brothers from the APY Lands and a beloved sister from Mowanjum. There have been others too that I don't mention here, much loved members of our communities across the Synod. For each one we give thanks to God for their lives, for their love and witness.

One of those brothers required dialysis and was a passionate advocate for #DialysisOnCounrty. He along with others made sure as Moderator this was a cause I gave my time to. This year we have strengthened the relationship between the Synod and Menzies School of Health, particularly the Director. In March I attended with Lin Hatfield Dodds (Uniting Care National Director) a Parliamentary Breakfast in Canberra for World Kidney Day.

The Breakfast was to highlight the burden of kidney disease amongst First Peoples. The level of bipartisan political support for reform including provision of dialysis close to people's homes and commitment to work with First People to address the underlying issues was heartening.

There has been a major failure of the aged care arm of Frontier Services to care for clients and a failure in accountability and financial controls. We have reported on this previously. For the past three years I have had an increasing involvement alongside other Assembly Officers and a wonderful dedicated team of Uniting Care executives from various Synods, and particularly Queensland in the launch of a new Aged Care company within the Uniting Care network Australian Regional and Remote Community Services (ARRCS). The General Secretary and I value the fresh, professional quality care agency which now delivers aged care in the Northern Territory. Juniper an agency of Uniting Care WA similarly is delivering quality professional care in the Kimberley. Rev Elizabeth Warschauer and I conducted a remembrance and closure service for the residents, their families and staff at Tracy Lodge (a Darwin City Aged Care facility) last year. The General Secretary and Moderator will continue to have close engagement with ARRCS and Juniper into the future on behalf of the Northern Synod.

The Northern Regional Council of Congress (NRCC) has asked the General Secretary and Moderator to be more involved in some of their meetings as Executive and for some strategic planning exercises, as an important part of our partnership in the gospel and our covenant relationship.

This past year the Synod has made three important staffing appointments. Firstly, we have placed Jemma Whittaker on a retainer as our youth and young adults connections worker. The attendance of a enthusiastic group of First and Second people from the Northern Synod at the National Young Adult Leaders Conference (NYALC) in December 2014 was one outcome of Jem's ministry. She was also on the leadership team for that event. Congregations will be hearing from Jemma about the School of Discipleship, NYALC 2016, National Christian Youth Convention (NCYC) and About Face. Jemma is also happy to hear from you about local or regional initiatives you might be thinking about to grow disciples and their connectedness.

The second appointment was Rev Helen Paine as our Safe Church Coordinator. Helen has great experience in this area and we are pleased she felt called and Broome was happy for her to take on this part-time ministry (.25). Helen will ensure we are following safe church best practise, arrange training/in-service opportunities, ensure our paper work is right and with you develop safe church policy for the Synod, utilising resources developed by other Synods.

NRCC will be looking at how the policy and practises of Safe Church can be grown in their congregations and what adaptation of resources may assist this.

Thirdly, I inducted Rev Bruce Slater as the Presbytery Minister for the Pilgrim Presbytery (PPNA) in February this year. This was truly a joy. A joy for our General Secretary who had been carrying a very big load since Rev Jenny Tymms left a year ago. A joy for me because Bruce was to finish in the Katherine Patrol and I believed

that the gifts of God in Bruce should not be lost simply because Katherine was to close. A joy for Bruce because he discerned God's call afresh to this role. And a joy for the congregations and ministries of PPNA because of Bruce pastoral heart and peace-filled productive presence among us.

Regarding ministry in Remote Australia there will have been a National Consultation in early June by the time of our Synod meeting. Given Frontier Services will not deliver any services from the middle of 2015 and will concentrate on its Volunteer programs and the national support network the consultation will look at how we will serve remote Australia into the future. The Northern Synod is committed to ministry throughout the vast areas we are responsible to. We are also committed to the ministers who have been either in placement with Frontier Services or joint placement within the Northern Synod and are working through possibilities with each one.

Two cyclones blew through north east Arnhem Land this year with devastating effect, particularly at Ramingining and Galiwin'ku. Fortunately there was no loss of life or serious injury however property damage was substantial. The Synod is very grateful for the expertise, professionalism and pastoral heart of Rev Dr Stephen Robinson the National Disaster Recovery Officer of the Assembly for visiting and spending time with Rev Steve Orme and the communities. Stephen has also been helping the Northern Territory Council of Churches (NTCC) to re-establish the chaplaincy connection with the NT Government. It may be that the Northern Synod takes a lead role in this. I leave the NRCC to say more on the situation in the two communities.

We continue to have a number of justice concerns which are ongoing:

. Education in communities, quality and praxis together with the dismantling of secondary education;

. Dialysis on Country (mentioned earlier), and

. Homeland funding and the closure of communities here and in our neighbouring Synods.

. Each of these areas will continue to occupy the thinking of the Synod Standing Committee for the next triennium.

The major piece of work for the Standing Committee in the past year has been the Review of the commercial decision to enter into an agreement to lease the land adjoining the Synod offices in Parap to Woolworths and their business partner Caltex for a service station development. This will be reported on elsewhere, however I want to thank Rev Felicity Amery who chaired the Review Group established to do the work for Standing Committee.

Mark Zirnsak Director of the Vic/Tas Synod Justice Unit, who facilitated a workshop for Standing Committee to develop an ethical investment policy and who wrote up the first draft and corresponds on its development. Rev Basil Schild who did much of the writing to get the Standing Committee's thinking into the policy. God's grace is sufficient for all things the Scripture tells us and I believe we saw that grace in last years Synod generously poured out as it has been amongst us as

we have all carried out the wishes of the Synod and sought the wisdom and love of God through the Holy Spirit. Finance and Property Service (FAPS) is the beneficiary of much clearer delegations out of this work and this Synod meeting. Standing Committee is much stronger as a governance body as a result of this process.

My beloved galay, Rev Dr Djiniyini Gondarra OAM has talked often of unity in diversity. It's not "sameness" rather it is "oneness", our oneness in Christ regardless of our cultural and linguistic backgrounds, our denominational and theological formation or our self interest. It's about living in the abundant life God intended for us. It's about life overflowing!

Shalom, Stuart

General Secretary Report 2

1. Enacting the Synod/Presbyteries partnership

- Support for NRCC and PPNA Presbyteries, many conversations with Rev Slater and Rev Orme.
- Weekly liaison meetings with our past Moderator Stuart and support for our new Moderator Thresi as she begins her new role.
- The General Secretary serves as the PPNA Pastoral Relations and Placements Committee secretary.
- Revision of the Synod By-Laws is underway. The FAPS Committee have completed review of the congregation Treasurer's Handbook and have made a good start of the finance and property By-Laws.
- CBD Plaza profit distribution implementation, see details in Chief Financial Officer's report.
- The visit by Rev Dr Stephen Robinson as the National Disaster Recovery Officer was very important following the destruction caused by two cyclones that hit Galiwinku and Ramingining. The pastoral support as well as guidance as to how we can be better prepared for future disasters is greatly appreciated.
- The Frontier Services transfer of aged care facilities in the NT to BlueCare (UnitingCare Qld) and in WA to Juniper (UnitingCare WA) has been completed. The Remote Area Ministry consultation held in June considered how new and existing models of remote area ministry could be conducted.

2. Coordinate: Supporting Indigenous Scriptures (CSIS)

We give thanks for the dedicated work of Hannah Harper, the Coordinate Resource Worker for the last five years. Louise Macdonald is the new Coordinate Resource Worker and we give thanks for the great start Louise has made. It is important to note that cooperation continues with our AuSIL, Bible Society, Nungalinya, ARDS and MAF partners, through which translations into more Indigenous languages and scripture in use materials are being developed.

3. Supporting our Synod agencies

Kormilda College: The General Secretary serves as the Board Chair and FAPS has provided financial loan assistance to enable the College to move to longer term sustainability. The College opened a primary school at the beginning of 2015. Student numbers have begun to increase despite the highly competitive independent school sector in Darwin.

St Philips College: Discussions with the Board Chair and Principal regarding the College becoming separately incorporated along the same lines as Kormilda, whilst still remaining a Uniting Church College, have begun.

Nungalinya College: Support for the Board and Principal, Finance and Property Committee. Of particular note is the interest in Theology Cert III and IV and Media/Music courses. Rev Rronaŋ Garrawurra has been appointed as Chairperson of the College Board.

ARDS: The incorporation of ARDS has changed from the NT Associations Act to ORIC, so ARDS is now an Aboriginal Corporation. CEO Chris Marshall is leading intense activity in discussions with the Commonwealth Government regrading funding for ARDS programs. A highlight is the new ARDS office at 47 Winnellie Rd, Winnellie, opened just prior to Synod.

Somerville: This year celebrated 50 years of service to the community. A related theme is the high number of staff who has also served with Somerville for more than 10 years, with others serving more than 20. Daphne Read serves as the Somerville representative on the UnitingCare National Reference Committee. The role being played by Somerville CEO Vicki O'Halloran as the Chair of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is very significant.

4. Advocating for justice

The main areas of activity and/or advocacy have been:

- Dialysis on Country;
- Indigenous education, specifically the closure of secondary education in Aboriginal communities;
- Withdrawal of funding/closure of homelands in Western Australia and possibly the Northern Territory;
- The NT Intervention and Aboriginal languages/Bilingual Education have been retained in the Our Views section of the Synod website;
- Supporting PPNA/Rev Basil Schild in the social justice/environment area.

Royal Commission into Child Sexual Abuse: A Northern Synod Task Group has been established with Stuart McMillan, Steve Orme, Robyn Kidd, Bruce Slater and Peter Jones. The main focus of the Task Group has been to implement the Safe Church program, which focusses on making our meeting places safe for all who are involved.

5. Furthering ecumenical and inter-faith relationships

Our Moderator has continued to be active with other Heads of Church and through support for the NT Council of Churches. We have ongoing relationships with the Anglicans through Nungalinya and Kormilda College and the Catholics through Nungalinya College and asylum seeker activity.

6. Strengthening our International partner church relationships

Our partner Synod in Nusa Tengara Timur, Geneja Masehi Injili Di Timor – Majelis Sinode (GMIT) is involved in Bible translation work through Unit Bahasa dan Budaya (UBB).

There exists a strong relationship between Bible translators within our Synod and UBB which is about mutual support and encouragement together with professionalism. Together we seek to grow true mutuality in this relationship.

7. Telling our story

The Synod website and occasional eNews distributions have sought to keep people informed. We have also used emails to communicate with Ministers, Congregation Chairs, Secretaries and Treasurers.

Significant Issue – Woolworths/Caltex Petrol Station

At last year's Synod, there was considerable consideration about the FAPS decision to enter into an Agreement to Lease with Woolworths for a petrol station. A separate report is provided in response to last year's Synod decisions.

Rebuilding capacity

Another significant issue concerns rebuilding capacity within the Synod in support of congregation, presbytery and synod mission and ministry activities. It is important to note that since 2008 the following resource people have been added:, one full-time bookkeeper, PPNA Presbytery Minister increased from part-time to full-time, a full-time Property Officer, a part-time National Youth Activities Officer linking our Synod into specific projects such as National Young Adult Leaders Conference (NYALC), About Face, National Christian Youth Convention (NCYC) and the School of Discipleship, a part-time Safe Church Coordinator and from 2105 adding a part-time Moderator.

Score card?

In the view of the General Secretary, Synod performance in implementing the Synod Directions could be rated as:

Very well: enacting the PPNA/NRCC/Synod partnership; Coordinate/CSIS; support for Synod agencies; international church partnerships with West Timor, advocating for justice.

OK: ecumenical and inter-faith relationships.

Poorly: telling our story; communications with congregations; revising Synod By Laws.

Thanks go to the Synod leadership team and Synod staff, without whose support, not much of the above would have happened. Finally, the completion of the Moderator's term draws to an end a five year period whereby Stuart has faithfully and profoundly served our Synod. However unlike Elvis, Stuart will not be leaving the building as he will be undertaking the role of the UCA President from the Darwin Synod office. Our Synod looks forward to having the President located among us and we offer our prayers and support for Stuart's time in this role.

Peter Jones
General Secretary

Standing Committee Members:

Felicity Amery, Richard Dhaŋalaŋal Dhamaraṉdji, Mätjarra Garrawurra, Ken Garrawurra, Djawanydjawany Goṉdarra, Colin Gordon, Barry Hansen, Peter Jones, Gary Lewis, Thresi Mauboy, Stuart McMillan (Moderator), Louise MacDonald, Steve Orme, Bruce Slater, Teubiti Tapera, Basil Schild, Jemma Whittaker.

Meetings of the Standing Committee:

11 October 2014, 4 March 2015, 28 March 2015, 16 May 2015.

Matters considered by the Standing Committee:

- Kidney disease
- Closure of homeland centers in WA and the NT
- Safe Church
- Royal Commission into Child Sexual Abuse
- Disaster recovery plan
- Letter of Comfort
- Frontier Services aged care facilities
- Katherine Patrol and the Kununurra congregation
- Review of Synod By-Laws
- Insurance
- Associate General Secretary
- Unethical marketing of breast milk substitutes
- Woolworths/Caltex petrol station lease

Standing Committee spent most time on the petrol station lease matter. Basil Schild will present the report from Standing Committee on the petrol station lease to Synod.

Peter Jones

Secretary

Placements Committee Report 3

This report will cover two main areas: The work of the Education Mission/Colleges nationally and also Placement Matters in our Synod.

Education Commission/Colleges.

A year ago at a meeting in Adelaide, discussion was had about the provision of UCA theological education being delivered by one provider nationally and on one campus. At this Adelaide meeting there was open and fruitful discussion. Later there was ongoing discussion between Nungalinya College and WA, and there was discussion about entry qualifications. In November at a second meeting in Sydney, whilst the passion for one provider had diminished, the meeting did put in place a data collection activity to assist in greater sharing between the existing colleges. This year Rev Lee Levett-Olsen and Peter Jones reported that the national conversation about one provider of theological education had stalled and 'energy has gone out of the conversation'.

The Northern Synod prayer is that the Holy Spirit would breathe new life into this conversation with a view to a nationally sustainable outcome that provides the range of training required to support God's people into the future.

Placement Matters

Alice Springs Rev Dr Rob Bos provided a Supply Ministry until 25 December 2014. Dr Steve Bevis was commissioned in the Alice Springs congregation and into the Specified Ministry of Pastor on 15th February 2015.

Living Water Stuart McMillan concluded his Ministry on Sunday 29th March 2015.

Supply Ministry has been provided by Rev George Woodward and this concludes at the end of June.

Darwin Memorial had an 8 week consultation with the Rev Gerda Olafsen which began on the 18th August 2014 and the focus of this consultation was to clarify and detail the focus of the second placement at Darwin Memorial. The new placement of a Community Engagement Facilitator in Peace and Reconciliation has been advertised.

Nhulunbuy has had supply ministry. In 2014, following Rev Gerda Olafsen's Intentional Interim Ministry, Rev George Woodwood provided a Ministry until 8th December and Rev Wendell Flentje was able to offer supply ministry from 5 February and he concluded on 20th April 2015.

Palmerston Elsha Koole concluded her part-time placement on 29th March at Palmerston as a Pastoral Care Worker.

Presbytery Minister

From July 2014 interim arrangements were put in place. Rev John Flaherty offered Pastoral Care to Ministers and congregations, and Rev Bruce Slater acted as the interim Chairperson until the end of January 2015.

From February, Bruce became the permanent Presbytery Minister and was inducted at a service held at Casuarina Uniting church on 14th March 2015. This ministry is until the end of 2016.

NRCC Placements

Alice Springs Education and Training – Rev Rob Bos is providing training workshops on a part-time basis in 2015.

Elizabeth Warschauer

Chairperson, Pastoral Relations and Placements Committee.

(Members of PR&PC are: Elizabeth Warschauer (Chair); Peter Jones (Secretary); Bruce Slater; Peter Wait Thresi Mauboy, Joyce Hudson, Hazel Trudgen; Lee Levett-Olson Sue Champion and Sue Forster.)

Finance and Property Services (FAPS) Report 4

The FAPS Committee is charged with managing the Synod's finances and properties for the greatest good of the Synod and the Church generally.

An overview of the performance of funds held by the Northern Synod during the year 2014 is given below.

1. Common Investment Fund

The following balances were held as at 31 December 2014

Harry Griffiths Fund	$3,156,039
N.S. Development Fund	$23,934
NRCC Mission & Service Fund (ii)	$2,762,508
Synod Fund (i)	($3,602,712)
Synod Ministers' Entitlement Fund	$256,708
Synod Insurance Fund	$2,198,692
Pilgrim Presbytery	$90,566
PPNA Congregations Account	$266,884
ARDS Investment Account	$902,426
Other	$16,554
TOTAL	$6,071,599

These were invested in:

Cash	$4,018,085
Capital Growth Managed Funds (iii)	$1,541,973
Loans (iv)	$511,541
TOTAL	$6,071,599

Notes:

(i) The negative balance in the Synod account is largely due to property purchases in the past, but there is a question whether some or all of these purchases should have been paid for from the Harry Griffiths Fund.

(ii) The NRCC Mission and Service Fund received rent from the Mitchell Street property. Rent from the Stuart Highway property goes directly to the NRCC Operating account.

The NRCC Mission and Service Fund committed up to $2,500,000 for purchase of a property to be used by ARDS. As at 31 December 2014, a sum of $1,649,477 was spent on purchase and renovation of 64, Winnellie Road, Winnellie.

(iii) The market value of Capital Growth Funds at 31st December 2014 was $2,085,166.(2013 $2,033,555)

(iv) Loans include an amount of $484,210 provided to Kormilda College.

In 2013, the total of Cash, Capital Growth managed Funds and Loans amounted to $7,741,113. The total for 2014 is $6,071,599 showing a reduction of $1,669,514.

The reason for this is given under note (ii) above.

2. Retail Development Fund (CBD Plaza)

Retail Development Fund continues to be the main income earner for the Northern Synod and generates significant net cash flow.

In 2014, the Fund has distributed $988,571 as follows:

Distributions 2014

Synod	$634,000
Manse Repairs (Living Water – Humpty Doo)	$148,276
PPNA Grant Program for Congregations	$100,000
Reimbursement of Nungalinya Lecturer	$97,556
Reimbursement for DMUC 2nd Placement	$8,639
	$988,471

An amount of $ 693,023 has been set aside for future replacement of the CBD Plaza in accordance with last year's Synod resolution.

This asset replacement fund is invested with UCA Funds of VIC / TAS Synod and totalled $1,374,030 as at 31 December 2014. As at date, the fund has a balance of over $1.7 Million and our expectation is to have over $2.0 Million by year end.

In addition Retail development Fund paid $42,750 to the Synod as reimbursement of Consultancy Fees for the Alice Springs Development.

As mentioned in our report last year, we will be reserving 15% of the total CBD Plaza surplus and other significant property revenues, for future "lean years" in addition to asset replacement reserves. A nominal amount of $100 has been transferred to open a new account for this purpose. As at date, the fund has a balance of over $109,000.

As decided at the last Synod, the FAPS Committee is working through to formulate what change of circumstances would constitute commencement of "lean years"

3. By. Laws & Financial Procedures

During Consideration of FAPS business, it has become evident that the By-Laws are increasingly out-of-date as they are currently phrased.

The FAPS Committee has already reviewed Delegations, Treasurers' Manual and Financial Procedures Manual. Currently, FAPS Committee is reviewing Synod by- Laws, the structure of Synod & Presbytery accounts, and the recommendations will be submitted in due course.

In order to keep up to date, the reviews will be an ongoing item in FAPS agendas for future meetings.

4. Synod Funds

The Northern Synod incurred a deficit of $30,212 in 2014 as opposed to a budgeted surplus of $685.

The significant expenditure variances include:

Derby Development Expenses W/Off $73,136		(Budget $0)
Interest Paid to CIF	$127,472	(Budget $60,000)
Total	$200,608	(Budget $60,000)

The effect of this negative variance was reduced by extra contributions from the Insurance Fund and the reimbursement of $42,750 by Retail Development to pay for the Consultancy Work for the Alice Springs Development Project.

A sum of $14,600 was spent on a new Software Package "PROGEN" for property management.

Attached is an Income and Expenditure Statement showing:

2014 Actual & Budget
2015 Estimate & Budget
And;
2016 Budget

A Full set of Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 is tabled.

5. Finance and Property Services (FAPS) Committee

The FAPS Committee had five meetings since the last Synod up to now, with task group work occurring outside these meetings.

On behalf of the FAPS Committee we wish to thank our Synod office staff for their support. The Committee looks forward to continuing to service the Church in Christ's name.

We thank the Committee members for their commitment to FAPS and the work of the Church.

6.Procedural Matters

We recommend to Synod that it:

(i) Receives the FAPS report;

(ii) Receives the 2014 audited financial statements;

(iii) Approves the Budget for 2016; and

(iv) Appoints BDH Consulting Pty Ltd as auditor for 2015.

On behalf of the FINANCE AND PROPERTY SERVICES (FAPS) Committee.

Peter Jones	Lal Wijeratne
Synod Secretary	Chief Financial Officer

The UCA Property Trust (N.T.) Report 5

1. INTRODUCTION

The Uniting Church in Australia Property Trust (N.T.) is the legal entity of the Church. The Trust is the holder of all property as set out in the Regulations. The Trust is constituted by an Act of the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly.

2. MATTERS REFERRED BY PREVIOUS SYNOD

Nil.

3. REPORT OF THE YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

Membership

The Members of the Trust are – Moderator Stuart McMillan, Synod Secretary Peter Jones, Synod Property Officer Dale Chesson, Mr Barry Hansen (Chairperson), Mr Mike Lane, Ms Cathy Spurr, Rev Bruce Slater, Rev Steve Orme.

3.1 The Trust meets as necessary to execute documents on behalf of the Church.

3.2 During the period from June 2014 to May 2015 the Trust has attended to the following matters and affixed the Seal (register no. 688 to 705) to the relevant documents:-

(1) Release of Mortgage – 47 Cavenagh Street, Darwin;

(2) Transfer of PPK, Lot 1012 to ARRCS in Tennant Creek;

(3) Transfer of Old Timers and Alice Springs, Lot 446 to ARRCS;

(4) St Philips College, NAB Letter of Comfort;

(5) St Philips College, NAB Negative Pledge;

(6) 64 Winnellie Road, Winnellie, Purchase Contract;

(7) 64 Winnellie Road, Winnellie, Pool Declaration;

(8) Registration of Transfer, 64 Winnellie Road, Winnellie

(9) Notice of Extension, Mardy's Café, 47 Cavenagh Street, Darwin

(10) Notice of Extension, Shop 5B, 47 Cavenagh Street, Darwin

(11) Transfer of Lot 1495 Alice Springs to St Philips College

(12) Purchase Contract, 6 Raggatt Street, Alice Springs

(13) Transfer of Lot, 6 Raggatt Street, Alice Springs

(14) St Philips College, Letter of Guarantee

(15) Creation of Easement in Gross, Lot 1447, Winnellie

(16) Lease to AARLS, 18 Griffiths Place, Alice Springs

(17) Remove Covenant, 18 Griffiths Place, Alice Springs

(18) Amendment to Land for Lease, Consolidation, Winnellie

4. BEQUESTS RECEIVED

Nil.

5. PROPOSED POLICY CHANGES

Nil.

6. THE YEAR AHEAD

The Trust looks forward to a year of serving the Church in the tasks entrusted to it.

Barry Hansen
Chairperson

Presbytery Minister/Chairperson

After the conclusion in mid-2014, of Rev Jenny Timms' placement as the Presbytery Minister/Chairperson, Rev's John Flaherty and Bruce Slater were appointed to fill the vacancy on an interim basis. After a couple of unsuccessful interviews took place to fill the position, Bruce agreed to fill the role for 2015. Following a good beginning in the role, he offered also to fill the role until the end of 2016. An offer which has been warmly accepted.

Meetings

In addition to our coming together in June at Synod, the Presbytery meets twice a year.

In September 2014, an in-service training was held to train Ministers in Disaster Recovery Chaplaincy. This was led by Rev Dr Stephen Robinson, the UCA Assembly's National Disaster Recovery Officer. About twelve Ministers attended, and it is hoped that a trained ecumenical chaplaincy network may be established in the NT in the future.

In March 2015, our meeting included;

- a worship service led by the younger members of the Darwin congregations,
- the induction of the Presbytery Minister/Chairperson, and
- a full-day's 'Safe Church' workshop led by the newly appointed Synod Safe-Church Officer, Rev Helen Paine. This workshop concluded with congregations taking away their next practical steps to be implemented in coming months.

Ministers

- Retreat: This was held following the March Presbytery meeting, at the Mary River Conference Centre. The leader was the Rev. Lynnette Dungan from the Vic/Tas Synod, and focussed on the theme, 'Waterholes and Spiritual Well-being'. This retreat gave a good opportunity for reflection, prayer, conversation and renewal.
- Coming: we welcome with joy:
  - Steve Bevis (Alice Springs). He was commissioned in February, to take-up ministry in the John Flynn Memorial UC.
- Concluding: we farewell with deep gratitude.
  - Stuart McMillan (Living Water). He will become the next UCA Assembly President in July.
  - Thresi Mauboy (Indonesian Missionary Congregation) to become Moderator of the Northern Synod for the next three years.

Other Ministries

- Coming
  - Jemma Whittaker – was appointed as National Youth Activities Officer during 2014, and has been appointed for a second year. Her role is to support youth ministry in both Northern Synod Presbyteries and to help networking with national UCA events.
- Concluding: we are grateful to God for the faithful ministries of:
  - Elsha Koole (Palmerston), for pastoral ministry in the congregation and community.
  - Ros McMillan (Living Water School Chaplaincies), for providing pastoral ministry in schools and the oversight of other school chaplains.

Property

The Living Water Community Centre that was burnt down in recent years, is in the advanced stages of approval to be rebuilt. This will be a useful facility for the ministry and outreach of this congregation.

Placements

The Pastoral Relations and Placements Committee has been active throughout the past year. It is especially mindful of those Congregations, either where their Minister is leaving or where the placement is currently vacant. It continues to work hard in support of ministry and mission across this diverse Presbytery.

Rev Bruce Slater
Presbytery Minister/Chairperson.

Leadership:

Robert Hoosan concluded his term as Chairperson at the Annual Meeting in June 2014 and **Rev Djawanydjawany Gondarra** from Galiwin'ku was elected as Chairperson for four years. **Gary Lewis** from Pukatja in the APY lands was elected as Deputy Chairperson.

In September, the new Chairperson led a workshop for Executive and some Synod staff on the relationship between NRCC and Synod using the story of David and Jonathan. Jonathan stood by David even when his father King Saul was trying to kill David. Synod needs to stand by NRCC even when Powers are threatening Indigenous people.

In May this year, a Leadership Summit for Arnhem Land members was held at Riyala. Djiniyini Gondarra gave input on where we have come from, where we are now, and where we are going. A similar gathering will be held in the APY Lands in July this year with a guest visitor, Bishop Samantaroy from Church of North India.

Sadly, the National Elder for the Anangu Area in Central Australia was killed in a car accident in September last year. Ceremonies of Memorial and Burial were held at Pukatja and on his Homeland in October. Many tributes were paid to this remarkable man, the first Anangu to be ordained as a minister in the Uniting Church. The Anangu Area Council meeting has appointed **Mr Stanley Douglas** as the National Elder for the Anangu Area. **Rev Ken Minyipirriwuy Garrawurra** continues as National Elder for the Arnhem Land Area.

Another significant Elder in NRCC passed away late last year. The elder was a leader in the Mowanjum community and a Worora woman from the North West Kimberley area. She was a strong advocate for the Worora language and culture. She was a regular attender at Synod and NRCC meetings.

Ministry:

In September at Gangan, **Marrpalawuy Marika** was commissioned as a Pastor for the Buy'ku Homelands in North East Arnhem Land. She joins a number of Pastors and Community Ministers already working across Arnhem Land and in the APY Lands.

In December at Galiwinku, **Yurranydjil Dhurrkay** was commissioned as a Pastor. She is the Educator for Arnhem Land with NRCC and works as a senior supervisor of translation work, study leader with congregations and assistant teacher at Nungalinya College.

Robert Bos has been employed part time as Anangu Educator in Central Australia. He is working with other churches to establish training opportunities in Central Australia continuing the work commenced by Murray Muirhead. Following

the translation of the Book of Daniel into Pitjantjatjara, Robert wrote a study on the Book of Daniel and led that study in the APY Lands before Easter.

Elizabeth Gurimangu was appointed by NRCC as Women's Ministry Co-ordinator for an initial term of one year.

Peter Garrawurra and **Melissa Marrkula** were commissioned as Pastors with the congregation of Milingimbi and Dhipirri Homeland in a special celebration at Easter time at Milingimbi. The achievement of three graduates in Certificate III from Milingimbi was also recognised at this time.

Education and Training for Ministries:

Candidate for the Ministry of Deacon, **Maratja Dhamarrandji** has commenced studies for a Certificate IV in Theology and Ministry at Nungalinya College. He also attended a Deacon's intensive in Adelaide in February.

In the last three years, 20 NRCC members from Arnhem Land have graduated with a Certificate III in Theology and Ministry through Nungalinya College, and two from the Centre have completed a Certificate III through Yalga Binbi Institute.

Also, some members have completed Certificate I in Foundation Studies in preparation for further studies in English. Others have completed Certificate II in Media and in Music now offered by Nungalinya College.

To address the long felt need for more Indigenous teachers at Nungalinya, three NRCC members have worked as Assistant Teachers in courses over the past year. Nungalinya plans to expand the program into the future. This enables cross cultural learning in the classroom while relieving the burden from Assistant Teachers of having to complete all the Government assessment requirements. Nungalinya is also seeking to identify among current graduates those who are gifted and could be equipped to be teachers at Nungalinya in the future.

Significant changes have occurred in UAICC with regard to training. After the ending of the relationship with Yalga Binbi Insititute in Townsville, UAICC has taken up responsibility for training using Nungalinya as its primary College for accredited courses. Formation for Ministry is regarded as more than academic training and more emphasis is being placed on signs of gifts and skills for ministry. **Murray Muirhead** is National Co-ordinator for Training with UAICC.

A significant learning experience comes through Bible Translation work. In the Centre, the Pitjantjatjara Old Testament Project is proceeding. In the north, a number of translation projects are underway working first with Mark's Gospel. It is planned to have Mark's Gospel in the Maung language printed in preparation for the centenary in 2016 of the commencement of the Methodist Mission work on Goulburn Island. Maung is spoken at Warruwi on Goulburn Island.

The translation work is supported by Coordinate, a ministry of the Northern Synod bringing together a number of partners in Bible Translation work.

UAICC National Conference

The National Conference of UAICC, held every three years, was held this January in Tasmania on the side of the mountains at Poatina. The theme was "Holy Mountains, Healing People". The conference heard the sorry story of the history of Aboriginal people in Tasmania but rejoiced in the resilience of Congress members there. Other stories and ceremonies of sadness were held as well as challenges to look to the future. The Conference called on the Uniting Church to repudiate the "Doctrine of Discovery" introduced into the European church in the 15th Century to justify the colonisation of Indigenous lands across the planet in the name of God.

Rev Rronang Garrawurra completed his term as National Chairperson and was thanked for his leadership, in particular his sharing with the President in the "Destiny Together" prayer vigil in Canberra in March last year. **Rev Dennis Corowa**, from Calvary Presbytery in Queensland, was elected Chairperson for the next three years.

Community Development

Some years ago, Aboriginal Resource and Development Services (ARDS) separated from NRCC and became a stand alone Aboriginal Association with members mainly from Galiwin'ku on Elcho Island. In August 2014, changes were made to ARDS governance structure. It is now an Aboriginal Corporation with a Board appointed by NRCC and Synod.

NRCC, though the Northern Synod, have also purchased a new office facility for ARDS in Darwin which will be opened on the Friday evening before Synod.

In September 2014, ARDS celebrated 40 years of community development work in the north with the opening new studios for Yolngu Radio in Nhulunbuy. Yolngu Radio broadcasts in Yolngu Matha (language) across North East Arnhem Land and in the Darwin Region. They are also developing recording studios and a recording label for Yolngu music.

Like many Aboriginal organisations, ARDS application for Commonwealth Government funding through the Indigenous Advancement Strategy was largely rejected causing closure of a number of programs. IAS is the third major change to Commonwealth support for indigenous communities beginning with the "Intervention" in 2007. It replaces the "Stronger Futures" strategy of the previous Labor Government. Major and frequent changes like this work against the long term implementation of the necessary programs to "Close the Gap". These changes to Government Policy have been described as feeling like "Tidal Waves" across indigenous communities.

Indigenous Education

In the Northern Territory, a major report into Indigenous Education has recommended to the Government that secondary education in indigenous

communities be wound back and in future the only options for secondary education will be boarding in the major centres. This is seen by many as a major step backward for indigenous education. It is a policy based on economics alone. Boarding away from home is a good option for some students but others are better educated at home. It also separates young people at a crucial stage of their lives from the cultural events in their home communities and thus contributes to the demise of Indigenous cultural knowledge and practices. It is a further manifestation of the Indigenous cultural genocide that has been occurring in Australia since European settlement.

NRCC, with the Northern Synod, is engaged in an attempt to support Indigenous Education remaining close to country.

Warruwi Centenary

In the week leading up to Synod next year, the Warruwi community with NRCC and the wider church will celebrate 100 years since the first missionary work was started on Goulburn Island by the Methodist Overseas Mission. It was 22nd June 1916 when Rev James Watson landed on Goulburn Island to establish a Mission Station. This was the beginning of what is now the NRCC across Arnhem Land.

Issues for NRCC

- The need to carry the dream and vision of UIACC on to the next generation of members and leaders.

- The role of pastors and team leadership in congregations. How is leadership exercised by a team? Is there a need for a recognised single "Minister" as leader in those contexts?

- Local congregations finding ways to provide support for local ministry and not being dependent on grants from other parts of the church.

- Covenanting needs to mean working together to produce "real fruit" for both partners. This means listening to and learning from each other so that the learning is two way and not just one way from second peoples to first peoples. Second peoples need to be learning the ways of first peoples for real covenanting to occur.

Rev Steve Orme
Resource Worker

Coordinate: Supporting Indigenous Scriptures Report 8

The year started with farwelling Hannah Harper as the Resource worker for Coordinate and we owe her much gratitude for the work she has done over the last 6 years to build up Coordinate to be what it is now. I began work in January as the new resource worker and after a confusing beginning things became much clearer when I travelled to Nhulunbuy in February for 3 days of handover with Hannah which was very fruitful. I also got to catch up with our enthusiastic Coordinate Ambassador Wendell Flentje as he and Mary generously accommodated me while they were providing supply ministry to Nhulunbuy UCA.

Our next event was the Coordinate Reference Committee Meeting in March in Darwin. Originally this meeting was to be linked to a Scripture in Use planning workshop which it was decided to cancel due to funding and timing concerns. But the meeting was a wonderful time of getting to know the scope of what Coordinate and our partners such as AuSIL and MAF are up to.

Much time has been spent on streamlining the money story for Coordinate, costing and budgeting for translation workshops and negotiating with AuSIL how to manage the amazing increase in translation work that has happened this year. The Maung team of Rosemary, Sandra and Heather have worked intensely for 2 months on finishing the Gospel of Mark, their final consultancy check was completed in April and we are now planning for printing and to get an audio reading by Sandra Makuringu recorded with help from Lucy Rogers at the end of July. The Wangurri and Dhaŋ ‘mi translations of Mark are also rapidly nearing completion with their final Consultancy check booked for early August this year. So thank you for a lot of hard work from Yurranydjil Dhurrkay and Djawuṯ Gondarra and Mally Mclellan.

My next trip was to Galiwin’ku to catch up with the Scripture in Use workers at the Bible Translation Centre there: Mary Ŋändama, Sandra Wäŋgarr Dhamarraṉdji and Margaret Miller. I had a wonderful time with them being shown the incredible creative scripture in Use work that they do there, being shown the island and spending time sorting out the money story.

I have two more trips planned for this year: 5 days in the Centre in July and a trip to west Kimberly in September. The purpose of these trips is to explore how Coordinate can support Scripture in Use work, create a network of those interested in SIU work and how to enable these people to connect and share their ideas between the regions. With the poossible aim of running some form of gathering, forum or workshop for people from accross the Synod in the future.

Our next Reference Committee meeting is tentatively booked for October 30th to be held at Nungalinya College where we can access their resource centre and shop and explore further how to increase our support for Scripture in Use work.

Another priority for the start of my time at Coordinate has been to establish an active social media presence on facebook for Coordinate. Working on promoting the web page and preparing printed promotional materials. I am aiming to have this all ready for Assembly in July. With postcards and a new brochure, an exhibition banner and all our audio visual resources to be available for Assembly members to view at our promotion table at Assembly. Steve and Judy Orme and Sandra Makuringu will be staffing the table and helping us promote our work of Supporting Indigenous Scripture.

It is with great pleasure that I can tell Synod this year that Coordinate is an exciting and thriving project of NRCC and the Northern Synod of the UCA.

We hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God. Acts 2:11

Louise McDonald
Resource Worker

St Philip's College enrolment figures for 2015 are the largest in the history of St Philip's, and as at 20 May 2015 the College has 723 students. There are many factors as to why this is happening, but one of them is the quality of our staff and the enormous amount of energy they expend to ensure our students receive a world class education.

Currently our teachers have come from as far away as Japan, Oman, Northern India, the US and the Seychelles, and excitedly many of our craftsmen are from our own community, having gone to university, travelled, worked and then returned to St Philip's to share their wonderful skills with us.

Our teaching staff was admirably represented by many of our senior staff at the Association of Independent Schools NT Teaching Excellence Awards, and we are pleased to announce the following staff who were winners or were nominees this year. Congratulations to the following winners: Chris Leesong - Outstanding School Leadership, Leslie Tilbrook - Leading Teacher of the Year and Nathan McAuliffe - Outstanding Contribution to Indigenous Education. Congratulations also to the following nominees: Emma Shearer - Graduate Teacher of the Year, Nathan Bailey - Teacher of the Year, Nik Wheeler - Support Staff Member of the Year, Rhiannan Parker - Graduate Teacher of the Year, Pushpa Vida - Teacher of the Year and Troy Wegener - Leading Teacher of the Year. All are great ambassadors of the teaching profession.

With these staff members leading our crew of talented teachers it further emphasises that St Philip's has developed and matured to be a solid educational facility, comparable to many private schools nationally and internationally.

The College's financial situation is secure and this is a fortunate position, well monitored by the board, the Headmaster and Business Manager. Only responsible budgets are produced and safety margins are an important feature of these. The construction of the new Science/Food Technology block is completed, and from 1 June the new landscaping around the building will commence. The development, which will open up the area between the Hall and Reception and the new Science and Technology facility, will be paved and provide lots of seating and shade as well as beautified with gardens. A Cancer Council Shade for Secondary Schools Program grant, made possible with other generous support will enable St Philip's to put up extensive shade sails

2014 continued to see the vibrant College community where initiative, effort, energy and innovation combine to produce further excellent outcomes. The school’s reputation for opportunity, discipline and academic excellence, have seen record high enrolments and this is a positive indicator for the future of the College. Mr Geoff Leedham, Head of Applied Technology again taught the only approved

mainstream Year 12 boat building course in Australia for the fourth year, and two of the boats were launched at Glen Helen 1 $^{1/2}$ hours west of Alice Springs. The four boat building students, their parents and senior staff enjoyed the launch and going for a paddle.

The College has also become well known locally, nationally and internationally for the range of opportunities it offers its students beyond the classroom. Under the banner of Round Square, St Philip's exposure with the international community grows bigger every year. Round Square, a prestigious association of international schools which share a commitment beyond academic excellence to personal development and responsibility through service, challenge, adventure and international understanding. In 2014, 26 Year 10 students travelled to the four corners of the world and St Philip's played host to 35 incoming exchange students and 3 GAP students from Germany. Twenty eight Year 8 students went on national exchange, with 30 interstate students coming to St Philip's and were hosted by our families. Seven students attended the National Round Square Conference in April, 7 students attended the International Round Square Conference in the India.

St Philip's students excelled in 2014 with 2 students in the NT Top 10 and 4 students in the Top 20. Ella Syme placed equal 6th in the NT with an ATAR of 99. Congratulations also to Mark Robertson (who was also placed in the Top 10) and Stewart Thornton and Billie Newton who were placed in the Top 20 in the NT.

Year 7 student, Abeer Srivastava received the gold medal for the top result in English in both the NT and South Australia. Abeer not only received a High Distinction for every test he participated in, but he also won the gold medal for the top result in English in both the Northern Territory and South Australia!

The Performing Arts Department also had a good year with the senior play "*The Seagull".* The annual College musical *'Spamalot* was the most popular musical in the history of the College and the staging, acting, singing, make-up and costumes contributed to it being a memorable experience for all who attended.

The Outdoor Education camps were again memorable and life changing events for many students (and staff) and continue to be an important and integral part of the framework of the College.

For the seventh time, our students sat for a common national assessment task in numeracy, writing, reading, spelling, grammar and punctuation. The national results were made public on the NAPLAN website: www.naplan.edu.au. This has allowed for a comparison between our students and those from other states. Overall they are pleasing results for St Philip's, as we are well above the Territory average. As the results were national, it has given us a good understanding of where we are placed when compared with other schools from around Australia, and it's pleasing to see we're well above the national average in nearly every area.

The Homework Centre has continued to be a popular venue for students doing homework after school. The Homework Centre has been open until 6.30pm Monday to Thursday and 5.30pm on Fridays. Teachers have been on duty to assist students with their homework until 4.30pm. Computers with Internet access are available for students to assist with completing homework. Maths, English and Science Help is offered in the library on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays after school and also PLP and Nutrition on Thursdays.

All Year 10, 11 and 12 students are issued with a laptop, and class sets and dedicated computer rooms are also available for class use.

Horticulture was offered for a sixth year as an elective to Year 9 students, and was successful as evidenced by the flourishing vegetable crop and the care and the care and tendering to the College chickens. Composting was an element of the subject and food was collected from within the school from the Food Technology department, the Boarding House kitchen, lawn clippings and saw dust from the Applied Technology area.

The Art Department ended a successful year with two Year 12 Visual and Practical Art students having work selected for the Exit Art Exhibition, and one student's work was selected for the SACE Art Exhibition in South Australia. This is the sixth year that students from St Philip's had their work selected and the first year a student's work has been selected for SACE.

Ex-activities such as rock climbing and rifle shooting again proved popular with many students. St Philip's students continued to excel in many different areas, locally, nationally and internationally.

St Philip's has a very positive relationship with the local community. Year 9 students complete community service work each week during term and our boy and girl boarders assist every year in numerous fund raising events for local and national charities and also assist at other local community events. Community service and involvement is part of the ethos of the College and is reflected in these and many other events/activities organised by students/staff and parents.

The P&FA had a very successful year with a new President, Mrs Christine Neves. Among the many things they did, the P&FA held a raffle raising thousands of dollars for the College.

The College is proud to be a school of the Uniting Church and always seeks to conduct itself in the best possible traditions of the Church. It is exciting to see the history of the College being produced and in 2014 the College celebrated the 25th anniversary of the day school, together with the 50th anniversary of the Work Party tradition. The future of the College is exciting as we continue to move forward and provide the best education possible for the young children in our charge.

Eric Neil
Chairman of the College Board

Kormilda College Report 10

Mission

Kormilda College, from its **Christian foundation** and commitment to **excellence**, seeks to inspire its students to be **life-long learners** who act with **compassion** and **justice** through their **understanding** of others, and who develop the **wisdom** and **courage** to shape the future.

Kormilda College Board: Directors representing the Uniting Church

- *Peter Jones, Chair, College Board*
- *Barbara Stone, Chair Education Sub-Committee, Board member*
- *Felicity Amery, Board member*.

Strategic Directions 2013-15

Kormilda's short term objective is:	**Kormilda's long term objectives are:**
To adjust the staffing, facilities, curriculum and financing of the College to respond to the impact of increased competition from both the independent and government schools sectors**.**	1. Advance our students' learning achievements; 2. Develop and nurture the wellbeing and spiritual life of our students; 3. Build strong engagement with our community; 4. Enhance our focus on sustainability.

Term 2 2015

Term Two, or the Dry season, brings with it an increased level of student participation in external activities including year-level School Camps (Experiential Learning Activities), outdoor events such as the Athletics Carnival at Marrara Stadium and the Under the Stars evening of music, dance and singing. The latter event was held in conjunction with Twilight Tours and was a huge success with several new enrolments resulting from the effort.

The Primary School continues to engage with the Darwin community. On Wednesday 22 April Charlie Parrott, aged 95 years, a WWII POW and author of a book on his experiences, was a guest for Years 3-5 but other students were welcomed. Charlie was a guest at the ANZAC service earlier in the week and agreed to return. His great-granddaughter is in our Primary School.

Kormilda's Centre for Excellence continues to engage its high achievers with participation in extra leadership training as the term progresses. Kormilda High Achievers Academy will be participating in RED R disaster management training at CDU on Thursday 18 June.

Rev. Margaret Black, Kormilda's Chaplain, has this term continued to provide regular chapel services, support our students and staff and build on our partnership with Nungalinya College.

Students celebrating at the Indigenous Youth Leadership Program Dinner 2014.

The Boarding experience at Kormilda College continues to provide a leadership program for students from remote communities. We are very grateful to the Smith Family for supporting many of our students with extra funds through the Commonwealth Government funded Indigenous Youth Leadership Project (IYLP) to receive extra tutoring support and excursion experiences.

The Clontarf Foundation and Strong Girls programs also continue to support our students through the discipline and commitment required for participation in team sports.

I ask that the Synod members pray for the continued efforts of our teachers, boarding staff and support staff in encouraging the adoption of Kormilda values and Christian practices in all of our students.

Could you also pray for the early return of our Indigenous students from remote communities next term so that they can commence their Semester Two studies as soon as possible in order to achieve to their full potential.

Dr. Helen Spiers
Principal
Kormilda College

Nungalinya College Report 11

Nungalinya College is going through a growth spurt! There is obviously a great desire in the Indigenous communities to study at the College. So much so, that the College cannot offer places to all applicants. It is immensely encouraging to see so many students coming, studying, and even more importantly, graduating.

As we face some significant challenges at the College, this evidence of God's work in communities and in students is what makes it possible to press on.

1. Students

Student numbers are continuing to increase. We had 575 people apply for study this year. Of course not all these will come. Below are actual attendance numbers over the last 3 years and you will see a steady increase:

		Cert I	Media	Music	Cert III	Total
2012	Anglican and other	51	n/a	n/a	24	75
	Catholic	15			22	37
	Uniting Church	48			55	103
	Total	114			101	215
2013	Anglican & Other	27	12		48	87
	Catholic	35	5		35	75
	Uniting Church	53	10		42	105
	Total	115	27		125	267
2014	Anglican & Other	44	9	6	51	110
	Catholic	29	2	4	27	62
	Uniting Church	53	17	10	41	121
	Total	126	28	20	119	293

One encouraging thing has been an increased number of younger students and in particular young men, and many of these are Uniting Church students.

2. Courses

This year the College is offering 5 courses for students. Last year we added the Certificate II in Music, and this year we added the Certificate IV in Theology.

Current courses are:

- **Foundation Studies** is a literacy and numeracy course based on the Bible. Most students do this course prior to further study in theology so they will be set up to succeed in their later studies.

- **Certificate II in Media and Discipleship**. Now in its third year, this is a great course to teach the practical skills involved in making short films, while also reflecting on personal faith development.

- **Certificate II in Music**. This is also a great practical course teaching skills in performing and recording music. The focus of the course is on Christian music and we are seeking to help students write and record in their first languages.

- **Certificate III in Theology and Ministry** has been the core course at the College for many years and equips students with an overview of the Bible, the challenges of gospel and culture, and particular ministry skills like leading worship or working in situations of domestic violence.

- **New in 2015, the Certificate IV in Theology and Ministry.** Many of our Cert III graduates have been asking for a number of years what they can do next. It was great to see the students' desire to engage more deeply with the Scripture, their ability in leadership, and their great joy in following Jesus.

3 Uniting Church Staff News

Currently we have three full time Uniting Church Staff Members - Rev Felicity Amery, Rev Dr Lee Levett-Olson, and Rev Dr Helen Richmond. They are continuing in the same roles as was reported last year. Felicity is the Dean, as well as coordinator and teacher in the Foundations Studies Course. Lee and Helen are both teaching in the Certificate III and IV Theology courses.

In addition to our full-time staff we also have two part-time Uniting Church Assistant Teachers released to work with us. Yurranydjil Dhurrkay is assisting in the Certificate III in Theology, and Sandra Wangarr is assisting in the Certificate II in Media and Discipleship. Matjarra Garrawurra also worked as an Assistant Teacher for one block this year. The role of Assistant Teacher is the first step on a pathway to becoming full teachers at the College. We recognise the great need for the College to have more Indigenous teaching staff and we are continuing to encourage people to consider a teaching ministry.

4. Finance

Changes to government funding are causing some problems for the College. Fortunately, our main source of funding which is the *Away From Base* funding remains in place, although there are some new conditions associated with it that I will refer to below. However, our Supplementary Recurrent Assistance (SRA) funding from the Federal government has been cancelled as of the end of June. This is part of a Federal government reform of their funding for Indigenous support.

All programmes are now under what is called the Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS). In the reform the SRA funding was removed from everyone and we were required to apply for different funding under the IAS.

We applied for 4 different projects, and were fortunate enough to be funded for the Media and Music courses at the College. Unfortunately the amount allocated is only $^1/_3$ of what was requested, and $^1/4$ the amount lost due to the removal of SRA.

This leaves the College approximately $100,000 worse off per year due to the change. The funding for the Media and Music courses is for 2 years only. There is currently no indication of when new funding applications can be made.

This is a matter of serious concern for the College. We currently also require a significant amount of money in donations to continue to operate. College management with the support of the Finance Committee is exploring what options there are to create new income streams for the future.

5. Governance

One of the new requirements of the IAS funding is that the College become registered either under ORIC (Office of the Registrar for Indigenous Corporations) or the Commonwealth Corporations Act. We are currently incorporated under the NT Government Associations Act. We have 6 months in which to achieve this. If possible it is the intention of the College to register under ORIC as this is the preferred option of the Federal Government, and is increasingly a condition of funding. This will require the College to review and revise their Constitution. The current Constitution was adopted in 2008 and has a number of problems, so we can see this as not just a requirement, but an opportunity to improve the governance of the College for the future.

Conclusion

While there are significant challenges for the College at present in terms of finances and compliance, it is also a time of growth and bearing fruit. Last year we had 70 students graduate from 4 different courses. We successfully passed an audit by our Government accrediting body. The Staff team is working well together and there is a shared vision for the future. More and more students are coming to study and we are adding new courses. We appreciate your prayers and support as we look forward to another year of partnering with Indigenous Christians.

Yours in Christ

Dr Jude Long
Principal

Aboriginal Resource and Development Services (Inc) Report 12

Introduction

I commenced as CEO with ARDS on 6 February 2014 as a fulltime employee and with a change management objective. This is my second Synod Report on behalf of ARDS.

In my Report to the 2014 Synod I stated that ARDS had reached a point where its ongoing relevance and viability were in question and that, if it was to survive and thrive, its operational capacity, governance arrangements, organisational culture and external engagement strategies would all need to be addressed.

I reported that, whilst it had been necessary to consider whether ARDS may be nearing the end of its life cycle as an organisation, there seemed to be a general consensus that ARDS has a place and a role to play into the future.

I had therefore committed myself to the task of renewing and revitalising ARDS, in close consultation with the Yolngu leadership of the organisation and with Uniting Church leaders.

Developments Since the 2014 Synod

Corporate Restructure

On 28 August 2014 ARDS was registered as an Aboriginal corporation by the Commonwealth Registrar and so came under the regulatory authority of ORIC (the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations). At that time ARDS ceased to be incorporated under the NT Associations Act.

The process of switching its incorporation arrangements afforded the opportunity to revise ARDS governance structure, so that the new constitution (referred to as a Rule Book in the Act) has the following elements:

- A Board with 7 Indigenous Directors appointed by the NRCC from across the 4 areas that make up the NRCC (that is, not just from NE Arnhem Land)
- A specialist director on the Board, appointed by the Indigenous directors on the recommendation of the General Secretary of the Synod for his/her expertise in law, governance, finance or administration
- A membership confined only to the directors themselves (who are thus member/directors) and one corporate member, being the Uniting Church itself

Relocation of Yolngu Radio

In September 2014 Yolngu Radio was relocated from Darwin to Nhulunbuy – from Larrakia land to Yolngu land, where it belongs. The Manager of Yolngu Radio is now based in Nhulunbuy, the broadcasting point.

On consecutive days later that same month (September 2014) the Prime Minister opened our new studio building in Nhulunbuy – and the following day the Minister for Indigenous Affairs attended the ARDS 40th anniversary celebration and the launch of Yolngu Radio at Nhulunbuy. Gaynguru Studios now houses a recording studio and radio broadcasting facilities and we have great plans to make it a very happening place.

New Office Premises for ARDS

In January this year we moved from the house on Stuart Highway to new premises in Winnellie, purchased for ARDS by the NRCC. NRCC retains ownership of the building, but has given ARDS rent-free use in perpetuity.

The new premises will be officially opened on Friday 19 June – probably by Ministers Bess Price (NT Government) and Nigel Scullion (Commonwealth Government), at the commencement of the 2015 Synod. It is a substantial improvement on the previous office space and provides ARDS with the opportunity to grow the organisation and to provide much better amenity to its staff.

ARDS has been compelled to dip into its own financial reserves to cover cost over-runs (exceeding $100,000) in the building works undertaken to make the new Winnellie premises suited to ARDS operational needs. This had not been envisaged, the funds set aside by the NRCC for the purpose having been intended to cover both purchase and improvement costs.

Staffing Restructure

The departure in December 2014 of long-serving finance/admin staff has been part of a restructuring of financial management and administrative support arrangements at ARDS. The main elements of the new arrangements are:

- There is now no CFO (Chief Financial Officer) at ARDS and arguably no need for one
- We are currently switching to new and better accounting software
- Accounting support is now sourced entirely in Darwin – currently by Barry Hansen Chartered Accountants

Funding Stability

The Commonwealth funding of Indigenous assistance programs is currently subject to a completely new regime, the Indigenous Assistance Strategy – and ARDS, along with every other Indigenous organisation in the country, has had to negotiate its way through this highly challenging funding environment.

At time of writing our negotiations with the Commonwealth are continuing – but I have recently had advice from Canberra that further consideration of ARDS funding level for 2015/16 is being undertaken. We live in hope, but the initial response to our 2015/16 funding submission was extremely disappointing.

ARDS achieved a break-even result as at 30 June 2014 and we are on track for a similar result for the year ended 30 June 2015.

In my report to the 2014 Synod I posed several questions as being relevant to the future direction of ARDS. What follows below is an attempt to offer brief responses to those questions a year further on:

Will ARDS co-locate with Nungalinya College or will it find a home of its own elsewhere in Darwin?

As mentioned above, ARDS now has a new home in Winnellie. The proposed co-location with Nungalinya College did not proceed, for various reasons.

To what extent, if at all, could the operational "footprint" of the new ARDS include the other areas represented on the Executive of the NRCC – rather than just east Arnhem Land?

There is one representative from each of West Arnhem (Maningrida) and APY on the new ARDS Board – indeed, the Chair of the Board is the APY rep. But despite considerable efforts to secure project opportunities in the APY and West Arnhem areas, we have yet to succeed in increasing our operational activity beyond East Arnhem.

Stuart McMillan wrote to the Premier of South Australia proposing ARDS/Uniting Church involvement in assisting APY with its persistent management and governance problems, and I have had numerous discussions with people at APY and in Adelaide, but the relevant State Minister has embarked on a course that does not include ARDS.

As regards Maningrida and West Arnhem, we are currently engaged in discussions that may well open up project opportunities there.

I would hope to see greater opportunity in the future for ARDS to address the NRCC groups in the four areas that make up the NRCC.

To what extent, if at all, could activities be undertaken on ARDS' own initiative in response to Indigenous aspirations, rather than just "service delivery" activities at the behest of government and other agencies?

This issue has not really needed to be addressed in any considered way, mainly because no specific activity arising from Indigenous aspirations has presented itself.

In any event, we have had to focus very much on fee-for-service activities in order to maintain financial viability, though it is important to note that everything we do, whatever the client or issue, is appreciated by Yolngu for the very reason that our ethos ensures that we always operate with an appreciation and understanding of first nation language and culture.

To what extent, if at all, could ARDS actually take on activities that go beyond those that it has historically undertaken?

The answer to this question goes to the heart of a can-do organisational culture. The fact is that, so long as an activity is not at odds with our essential Christian ethos, there is nothing we cannot do.

I have been encouraging our staff to respond to any project suggestion with an initial "yes, we can". Any staff capacity issues that arise as a result are then a matter for management to address – rather than being an up-front impediment.

We are not constrained by history to stay within certain operational parameters. Whether ARDS would take on projects unrelated to the needs of the four areas that make up the NRCC is a question that the Board has yet to address.

To what extent, if at all, could the NRCC subsidise the activities of the new ARDS?

This question has not been the subject of any serious conversation with the NRCC. We have proceeded on the assumption that, having provided ARDS with a new office base, the NRCC expects ARDS to stand on its own feet in terms of operational income and balancing the books.

Whether the NRCC would come to the assistance of ARDS if ARDS' financial reserves were seriously depleted is a question that has yet to be tested. ARDS is a separate legal entity, but its close structural links to the NRCC make that body obliged to maintain a close interest in the financial well-being and solvency of ARDS.

Completing the Change Process

Given that I came to ARDS with a change management brief from the former Management Committee and from the Management Sub-committee, it is important to report on the status of the change process.

The following are those key tasks that I have in focus as being necessary to fulfil my brief at ARDS:

1. The **revised financial management arrangements** need to be fully implemented – involving the installation of new accounting software and the settling of revised staffing arrangements.
2. Once the current building construction works have been completed, there will be a process of fitting out and **equipping the new extensions and setting up the staff for optimal use of the new space**.
3. I am very committed to **building a new staff team**, with a can-do organisational culture and a commitment to excellence. That is the only way

4. that ARDS will survive in the highly competitive future world. I would hope to be able to make more headway on the team building process before I leave ARDS.
5. The **IAS/ABA funding negotiations** will need to have been resolved – and, in relation to IAS, that is still continuing.
6. With our Yolngu Radio and Multimedia Manager, Gaia Osborne, having only very recently moved out to Nhulunbuy, I want to see the **new operational arrangements at Nhulunbuy** settled.
7. Finally – and very importantly – I hope to manage the process of **recruiting a new CEO** – in close consultation with the Board, which will of course select and appoint my replacement**.**

I have advised the Board that I would hope to have largely completed these tasks and have handed over to a new CEO by the end of this calendar year.

In Summary

We are embarked upon a process of renewing ARDS, whilst still retaining and building upon the methodology, the core values and the Christian commitment that have always constituted its foundation.

We continue to seek the prayer support of the Synod, that Almighty God would both guide us as we seek the way forward and bless the work of our hands so that all that we do contributes to the dignity, confidence and integrity of the people with whom we work.

Chris Marshall
CEO

Somerville Community Services Report 13

Somerville continues to be inspired by the loyalty and ingenuity of our staff. There is an energy in the air as we plan for and celebrate our 50 years as a Community Service. We continue in this lively, sometimes over committed environment to deliver on the key strengths and core responsibilities which underpin our day to day work.

Each of our services is delivering focused programs with an ongoing obvious high level of commitment to our Mission. Our external Quality Assurance assessment proved to be very rewarding. We have successfully received the highest *Award Level* certification.

Our piloted Family Services program - Somerville Child and Family Contact Centre has achieved ongoing funding. This program has identified that you cannot underestimate the value of good relationships between parents and their children.

Our Financial Services team assisted over two hundred and forty people to complete their tax returns this year. Our Tax Help Program is a free service. Our No Interest Loans continue at a steady pace whilst our Financial Counsellors and Money Management workers strive to meet the day to day demands for their support and counselling. We remain hopeful the Department of Social Services (DSS) funding will remain intact for the longer term as the demand for our Financial Services increases daily.

National Disability Insurance Scheme

The advent of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) brings about fundamental changes to our disability services in Australia. The trial site in the Barkly Region of the Northern Territory is said to be challenging on many fronts. Mainstream structures and process are not aligning with the cultural landscape in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands. There is much work to be done to achieve the best outcomes for people with disability in remote regions of the Northern Territory. We continue to support the NDIS imperatives which are to improve the provision of services to people with disabilities, this must remain our focus whilst we tackle the inevitable funding and pricing developments, the planning process and overall complex changes.

Our Disability Services program goes from strength to strength as we prepare for the new NDIS world.

50th Birthday Celebrations

Somerville was named to honour Margaret Somerville in 1965. Margaret was a remarkable woman who came to the Northern Territory to live and work with children on Croker Island at an undeveloped Mission station in 1941.

Margaret passed away peacefully on July 30, 2014 in NSW at 101 years of age. We will be forever grateful to have known and loved Margaret. Every day our work at Somerville is inspired by her integrity, humility and commitment to improving the quality of people's lives. Many things have changed over the years, but the fundamental commitment to Margaret Somerville's ideals has never varied. Fifty years later Somerville still proudly acknowledged that Margaret's life and her work with the Methodist Overseas Mission was invaluable. It is pledged to continue her work into the future.

This year we will launch our book "Crossing the Divide". It is timely that we should review our history and put it on record so that we can acknowledge it as the foundation stone for our future.

Celebrations

Some of the key events and celebrations over the last 12 months include: Margaret Somerville's Memorial Service. ASES Award Level Accreditation

Government House Reception to celebrate Somerville's 50th birthday. Parliament House Reception to launch *Crossing the Divide* - a record of Somerville's history

A successful pilot of the Somerville Child & Family Contact Centre program. Enhanced corporate sponsorships

Representation and Communication

Somerville continues to represent our organisation and the sector on key advisory groups, peak bodies, councils and reference groups. These include Ministerial appointments to the NT Disability Minister's Advisory Council on Disability Reform and the Business Events Ambassador program.

We produced eleven newsletters and wrote twenty submissions. We have embarked on a new journey engaging Community Business Bureau (CBB) to set up a virtual marketing team to review and enhance our overall marketing. This will include our Newsletter, Annual Reports, website and other printed materials. Importantly through a brand discovery workshop we are establishing a project plan which will facilitate all areas of our social media and marketing directions.

The introduction of our inaugural Workforce Development Plan has brought about a renewed focus upon our recruitment, retention and career progression of our employees which will assist us to measure our workforce capability and capacity.

Finances

Somerville has ended the year in a more healthy financial condition than last year recording a reasonable surplus not withstanding significant cost of living increases. We continue to rely on the Northern Territory Government for a large percentage of our funding. With ongoing careful expenditure and the opportunity to renegotiate our service agreements in the near future, we remain resilient and hopeful.

Gratitude

Somerville appreciates the support it receives from the Australian Government, Northern Territory Government, corporations, local businesses, families and individuals.

The active and ongoing tireless efforts of the two hundred and sixty strong Somerville team cannot be underestimated. The consolidated teamwork and shared expertise is a blessing.

First class Patrons, the Hon. Austin Asche AC QC and Dr Valerie Asche AM and the Board of Directors headed by our President, Chris Tudor AM lead our organisation in an organised and strategic manner with a focus upon people.

Our resilient Managers, Coordinators and teams are acknowledged as the driving force behind achieving our goals in an often frantic environment.

My Executive Assistant, Elaine Castles is renowned after 18 years for keeping the ship afloat and managing "business" like no other, heartfelt thanks.

The Northern Synod of the Uniting Church in Australia and UnitingCare has again provided outstanding guidance, leadership and support.

Vicki O'Halloran AM
Chief Executive Officer

Proposals

Uniting Church in Australia – Northern Synod

Proposal

Subject:

_____

Proposal:

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Rationale:

_____

_____

_____

Proposers: _____ _____

Those framing proposals are asked to note the following:

1. Each proposal must be signed by two members of Synod OR, where the proposal is from a Church Council, two members of that Council. Proposals from Church Councils need to note the date of the meeting at which the proposal was accepted by the Council.
2. All proposals must be submitted in writing to the Business Table at Synod, or be mailed to the Synod Office prior to the commencement of Synod Business Meetings.
3. Proposers should note that the wording of the proposal will be considered by the Synod Business Committee, which may, if necessary, refer the Proposal back to the Proposers for clarification or re-wording.

Elections and Nominations

Elections

Standing Committee		
Up to 19 members elected annually. No FEWER lay members than ministerial members		
	Current Members	**Elections**
Ex Officio Moderator General Secretary Chairperson, NRCC or nominee Chairperson, PPNA or nominee	 Rev Thresi Mauboy Wohangara Mr Peter Jones Rev Djawanydjawany Gondarra Rev Bruce Slater	
Pilgrim Presbytery of North Australia. The inclusion of both ASC representatives satisfies the requirement of two Presbytery ministers.	Two Ministers and two lay people. Names to be provided by PPNA. Rev Felicity Amery (2014) Rev Colin Gordon (2014) Ms Louise Macdonald (2014) Mr Jemma Whittaker (2014)	Election required 2015
Northern Regional Council of Congress	Two Ministers and two lay people. Names to be provided by NRCC. Rev Teubiti Tapera Rev Minyipirriwuy Garrawurra Ms Mätjarra Garrawurra Pastor Djaŋalaŋal Dhamarraŋdji	Election required 2015
Chairperson Synod Finance and Property Services Committee	Mr Barry Hansen	Election required 2015
Appointed by Synod Up to four persons	 Rev Steve Orme (2014) Mr Gary Lewis (2014)	Election required 2015

FINANCE AND PROPERTY SERVICES COMMITTEE		
Members elected for a term of three years. Secretary is appointed by the Standing Committee		
	Current Members	**Elections**
Ex Officio General Secretary Synod Finance Manager Synod Property Officer	Mr Peter Jones Mr Lal Wijeratne Mr Dale Chesson	
Convenor Elected by Synod	Mr Barry Hansen (2014)	
Three (3) persons elected by the Synod	Mr Matthew Kennon (2012) Mr Mike Lane (2012) One other	Election required 2015
One (1) person co-opted by the Committee	Mr Cathy Spurr	
Two (2) persons appointed by NRCC	Rev Steve Orme (2014) Mr Mervyn Brown (2014)	
Two (2) persons appointed by PPNA	Rev Bruce Slater (2014) Vacancy	

UCA PROPERTY TRUST (NT)		
Five nominations, one of whom is elected by the Synod as the Chairperson of the Trust. Elected Annually		
	Current Members	**Elections**
Ex Officio The Moderator Synod Secretary Chief Financial Officer Synod Property Officer	Rev Thresi Mauboy Mr Peter Jones Mr Lal Wijeratne Mr Dale Chesson	
Trustees	Mr Barry Hansen (2014) Ms Cathy Spurr (2014) Mr Mike Lane (2014) Rev Steve Orme (2014) Vacancy	Election required 2015

KORMILDA COLLEGE BOARD		
Appointed in accordance with Articles of Association of Kormilda College. (2 year term except when a casual vacancy is filled)		
	Current Members	**Elections**
Five appointed by Uniting Church. Synod makes recommendation to Kormilda Company members. The members appoint the Board for 2 years.	Rev Felicity Amery Iain Summers (2014) Peter Jones (2014) Barbara Stone (2014)	Election required 2015 Election required 2016

NUNGALINYA COLLEGE BOARD		
Four Board Members appointed for a term of three years.		
	Current Members	**Elections**
Four persons appointed by the Synod on the recommendation of NRCC.	Rev Rronaŋ Garrawurra (2012) Mr Robert Hoosan (2012) Mrs Nancy Ngalmindjalmag (2013) Rev Djawanydjawany Gondorra (2013)	Election required 2015 Election required 2016

ST PHILIP'S COLLEGE COUNCIL		
In accordance with St Philip's Constitution. Appointed for three years		
	Current Members	**Elections**
	Mr Kevin Davis (2013) Ms Vicki O'Halloran (2013 Mr Eric Neal (2013)	Election required 2015

SOMERVILLE COMMUNITY SERVICES		
	Current Members	**Elections**
Two members appointed in accordance with Somerville Constitution	Mr Bruce March Vacancy	Ongoing

COUNSELLING COMMITTEE		
Elected for a three year term and eligible for re-election		
	Current Members	**Elections**
Up to 6 people elected by the Synod one of whom is elected by the Synod as the Chairperson	Rev Steve Orme – Chairperson (2013)	Election required 2016

NORTHERN TERRITORY COUNCIL OF CHURCHES		
Appointed in accordance with NTCC Constitution		
	Current Members	**Elections**
Ex Officio Three to be elected annually	Rev Thresi Mauboy Wohangara Ps David Crawford (2014) Rev Dr Helen Richmond (2014) Rev Basil Schild (2014)	 Election required 2015

Uniting Church in Australia – Northern Synod

Nomination Form

For Position/Committee _____

Name Proposed: Rev, Mr, Ms, Mrs, Miss _____

Age (circle/tick) up to 30 31 to 50 over 50

List the qualifications/gifts that this person will bring to this position /committee

1._____
2._____
3._____
4._____

Present Committee Membership

Congregation	**Synod**	**Assembly**
(a) _____	(a) _____	(a) _____
(b) _____	(b) _____	(b) _____
(c) _____	(c) _____	(c) _____

Proposed by:_____ **Seconded by:** _____

Signature of Nominee: _____

Uniting Church in Australia – Northern Synod

Nomination Form

For Position/Committee _____

Name Proposed: Rev, Mr, Ms, Mrs, Miss _____

Age (circle/tick) up to 30 31 to 50 over 50

List the qualifications/gifts that this person will bring to this position /committee

1._____
2._____
3._____
4._____

Present Committee Membership

Congregation	**Synod**	**Assembly**
(a) _____	(a) _____	(a) _____
(b) _____	(b) _____	(b) _____
(c) _____	(c) _____	(c) _____

Proposed by:_____ **Seconded by:** _____

Signature of Nominee: _____

Farewell and Memorial Minutes

Acronyms

Acronymns

AMC	Area Ministry Council
APY	Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands
ARDS	Aboriginal Resource and Development Services
ASC	Assembly Standing Committee
AuSIL	Australian Society of Indigenous Languages
FAPS	Finance and Property Services Committee
GMIT	Gereja Masehi Ingili di Timor
MAF	Mission Aviation Fellowship
MEB	Ministerial Education Board
NRCC	Northern Regional Council of Congress of UAICC
PPNA	Pilgrim Presbytery of Northern Australia
PR&PC	Pastoral Relations and Placements Committee
SSC	Synod Standing Committee
UAICC	Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress
UBB	Unit Bahasa dan Budaya (Unit of Language and Culture)