

*From the Registrar:*

We have now come to the fourth week of the semester and administratively, this is an important week in the academic calendar, and a good time for me to remind you of four things:

- **Friday 29 March 2019 is Census Date** for CIS for all units of study (except those running in intensive/extensive mode). Any student wishing to drop a unit of study needs to do so by 4pm that day, using the standard form available from the Registry shelves or online.
- After Week 4 students can only apply for a “Withdrawal Without Academic Penalty” result by special application, through the Dean, to the CIS Academic Board. This procedure is detailed in the CIS Academic Regulations which are available on the website and the Registry shelves. Such a withdrawal can only occur in the presence of extenuating circumstances, i.e., they are not granted automatically. If a Withdrawal grade is granted, you are still liable for the unit’s tuition fee. Please note that **after Week 10 of the semester you may not apply to withdraw from a unit.**
- A friendly reminder about attendance. Students ordinarily **must attend 80% of classes** in order to pass a course unit. This means that you can really only be absent for a maximum of two classes. There are exceptions to this in extenuating circumstances. Should they present, this issue needs to be negotiated with your lecturer and myself or the Academic Dean before the absences occur.
- **Continuing students please note:** there are still a number of essays from Semester 2, 2018 that are **awaiting collection. These may be collected from the Library. Those essays not collected by Friday 29 March 2019 will be destroyed.**

Best wishes,

*Jason Israel*

## COMING EVENTS AT CIS:

### ◆ Learn about ‘Canon Law in Parish Life’ at CIS 2019

Dates: Module 1, Friday 29 March 2019  
 Module 2, Friday 31 May 2019  
 Module 3, Friday 23 August  
 Module 4, Friday 18 October 2019

Four Day-Long Courses at the Catholic Institute Of Sydney  
 (see CIS website for more details and costs)

### ◆ CISSA Welcome Wine and Cheese Evening

Date: Friday 29 March 2019  
 Time: 6.30pm start  
 (rsvp Hugo Chis at [hugo.chis@wf.catholic.org.au](mailto:hugo.chis@wf.catholic.org.au))

### ◆ ACCULTURATION DAY

Date: Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup>,  
 Time: 9.30 am – 12.30 pm  
 Presenter: Fr Noel Connolly and Sr Michele Connolly

### ◆ Australia’s Biggest Morning Tea hosted by the Veech Library

Date: Monday and Tuesday 20 and 21 May 2019  
 Time: 11am

Come join us for a cup of tea and a cake and help the Cancer Council of Australia fundraise for a needy cause, gold coin donation required.



25/3/2019

4/19

THE INSTITUTE NEWS  
CISSA

Dear Students,

I hope and pray that the start of the 2019 academic year has been fruitful. From my own experience, I already know the overwhelming reality of various readings, tasks and assessments as we head back into reality after a nice long break. Please make sure that you look after yourselves during this time. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those staff and students who assisted and joined at the 2019 Opening Mass at St Mary's Cathedral with Archbishop Anthony Fisher O.P. It was a wonderful occasion for our Institute to be acknowledged publically and made known to the wider Church of Sydney by the Archbishop in our Cathedral.

Our CISSA council met 2 weeks ago to discuss various items and concerns within the institute. Already we as a council have been approached by various students over a number of issues that we have discussed as a council. At our last meeting we discussed a few issues that were raised by students here at CIS. Such items raised included;

- *Some misunderstands that have occurred with assessment tasks and requirements*
- *The number and amount of readings that have increased due to Moodle*
- *The effectiveness of Moodle vs the traditional readers*
- *The introduction of weekly reflections from the readings (Assessed/non assessed)*
- *The introduction of student purchasing of Text books for some classes and its impact on students finances.*

I thank you all for bringing these issues to CISSA and as your President I assure you that these issues have been taken to our CIS President and will be spoken about by our student rep on the academic board. Additionally I would like to remind all students that if you have any issues within your lecture as a majority, your first port of call is your class rep that was elected at the start of the year to discuss issues with the lecturer. Then if the issue is not resolved, please feel free to discuss any issue with a member of CISSA. Another item that was brought to our attention was that there is no Crucifix in our entrance foyer. With a lengthy discussion among CISSA we came up with the idea of purchasing a crucifix as a student body and donating it to CIS to be placed above the notice board of the foyer. I understand we have some beautiful art work around the institute depicting Our Lady and Christ, yet as Christians we take heart at the words of Saint Paul to the Corinthians, ***"We preach Christ crucified"***, (1 Corinthians 1:23). I have brought this to Sr Isabel and we will continue the discussion. If you have any objections, please feel free to see me at any time.

I also remind you of our "Welcome Wine and Cheese night" that will be held on March 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. I really encourage you to join us! Students called for a better social life at CIS and here we have it! Please RSVP to me on [hugo.chis@wf.catholic.org.au](mailto:hugo.chis@wf.catholic.org.au) by the 28<sup>th</sup> if you can make it.

As we continue our journey in Lent as a pilgrim people of God towards the great mysteries of our faith, we are reminded of the necessity to seek God's mercy and help so our hearts may change as we walk towards our redemption. I leave you a little quote that may help us along our Lenten journey,

***"God never tires of forgiving us; we are the ones who tire of seeking his mercy."***-Pope Francis

God Bless,

*Hugo Chis*  
*CISSA President*

## ACCULTURATION DAY

On Saturday March 30<sup>th</sup>, 9.30 am – 12.30 pm, Fr Noel Connolly and Sr Michele Connolly will present a morning on acculturation for CIS students who come from a culturally and linguistically diverse background. Students who wish to attend this morning should notify Mrs Tropeano at front Reception.

**WEEKDAY MASS is celebrated in the chapel,  
Tuesday to Thursday at 12.40pm this week.**

