

Journal of the TCMA

Editorial

A print edition of the journal represents familiar technology: it is reliable and tangible and sits reassuringly on the desk or book shelf. Ultimately, however, it is part of a larger repertoire of technologies that we use for communicating the expertise and imaginings of the Tertiary Campus Ministry Association (TCMA) and its supporters. This larger repertoire includes the email list (elist-bounces@tcma.org.au), Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TertiaryCampusMinistryAssociation>) and the association's website (<http://www.tcma.org.au/>). These represent the newer technologies; intangible, but instant and accessible from nearly anywhere on the planet.

The new technologies with their versatility and accessibility confront the old technology of paper and print. How might they be reconciled? How might the old and new technologies be used to advance the efforts of communication and dialogue for the TCMA? This edition of the JTCMA takes a step towards blending the old and the new by being available in print and also being available online. The articles you will read here are reproduced in hardcopy, and can also be downloaded from the TCMA website as PDF documents. Additionally, there is the option of downloading the full article or downloading the abstract of the article.

There are another couple of developments that are introduced in this edition of the journal. The first is the formalising of the review process; an option that is consistent with a professional society situated within the academic environment of Australia's universities. Potential authors may request double-blind peer-review of their papers, whereby the submitted article is passed on to expert reviewers. The identities of the author and the reviewers are kept confidential from each other and articles that are accepted by the reviewers are recorded as 'Peer-reviewed' in the journal's Contents page. Within this edition there are a range of papers, peer-reviewed and non-peer-reviewed. The authors of the various papers and reflections in this edition make an important contribution to the body of knowledge surrounding tertiary campus chaplaincy. Their papers cover practical reflections and learnings and also present new perspectives and frames by which to view chaplaincy.

The second development to note is the inclusion of a set of book reviews. The purpose of including the reviews is to help spread the word on resources that might be of interest to tertiary campus ministers. Hopefully the reviews will help you identify books of value to your work. I would like to express my gratitude to the reviewers, both the book reviewers and the reviewers of articles for the generosity they have demonstrated in the quiet work they have done behind the scenes.

Further developments for the JTCMA are planned for the future, starting with providing online access to past editions of the journal. It will take some time to make this happen, but when this project is completed it will increase access to the valuable resources contained within past editions. Combining the past records with the future technologies will offer new opportunities to those interested in university chaplaincy.

I hope that the blending of technologies will facilitate richer, deeper, wider communication as the members and supporters of spiritual ministries continue to reflect upon their practices in the service of their tertiary campuses.

Robert Lingard
Editor
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