# MASTER BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION OF N.S.W.

## Moore needs to be More

The need to equip men and women who are thoroughly prepared to take the biblical gospel to the world and to teach and care for the churches is as urgent as ever. Moore College's role in this is critical. Now we are planning to redevelop the campus to make the College's highly sought-after experience of study and community more available, more transformative and more effective.

very year about 600 students gather on the College campus to study together what God has made known about himself, the world, and themselves in the Bible. Living and learning together dramatically changes their lives. Thousands more testify to the impact of our distance education programs. The demand for gospel workers trained at Moore College

keeps increasing and the College is now known around the world as a centre for theological education that is gospel-focused and Bible-based, as well as for effective ministry training.

Central to the Moore College experience is the daily opportunity to enjoy serious academic study in the context of a vibrant and prayerful Christian fellowship. Living out together the things we are learning is a key ingredient in shaping people for a lifetime of faithful ministry.

However, the facilities limit our ability to achieve this goal. If we are to be effective in preparing future generations of gospel workers, Moore needs to be More.

When completed a six level, purpose built facility will include:

An expanded ministry training precinct with other Christian organisations

New purpose built research and study spaces for students

An assembly hall with capacity to bring together the entire student body under one roof

New and larger classrooms

Expanded library space

Additional oversized lecture theatre

The extraordinary growth with which God has blessed the College over the last ten years means that it is becoming increasingly difficult to provide each student with all that is needed to facilitate their learning. The last significant investment in capital works was almost 20 years ago, making investment in appropriate additional space urgent.

As well as a lack of space for students to learn, study and research, ageing facilities are a problem. The electrical and communication wiring is inadequate for today's needs and there are environmental and access issues. Addressing these concerns is costly and so we need to set priorities. After a great deal of prayerful consideration and careful planning, our top priority is immediately to redevelop part of the campus, including the building often referred to as the library. The new building will be much more than a traditional library for Moore.

Within the one facility there will be **new classrooms, lecture spaces and a conference hall.** These larger teaching spaces will have the flexibility to be divided into smaller classrooms as education moves to needs modes of teaching. They will have multiple uses: workshops, seminars, Bible study, teacher training and private study.

A large conference hall will enable the entire student body to gather in one place for chapel services, lectures and special events, and will even provide a new permanent home for graduation ceremonies.

#### Nobody graduates from the library, but nobody graduates without a library

A new teaching centre, far more than a library, will be at the heart of the new development. It will be a place where academic study and Christian fellowship meet. Part of the library's massive 240,000 holding of books, journals and other material will be housed here. What is stored offsite will be easily accessed on a daily basis and our already impressive digital resources will continue to expand.

The library space will be welcoming, innovative, communal and functional. Dark spaces will give way to natural light, small uninviting study areas will be replaced by larger and more versatile spaces. 'Information commons' will allow students to access technology, reference materials, audio-visual equipment, etc., while being supported by the library's dedicated staff.

#### Extending our global reach

Since the 1950s Moore College has been involved in various forms of distance education. Currently around 5,000 students a year from 50 countries access our correspondence course. This redevelopment will provide our distance education program with a new home and resources—extending our capacity to make a difference across the world.

### A proposed 'Ministry Training Precinct'

Over the last few years Moore College has established the Priscilla & Aquila Centre, the Centre for Christian Living and the Centre for Ministry Development to serve our churches and God's people. The redevelopment will provide appropriate facilities to allow these and other centres to expand and to access the best resources available. There may also be an opportunity for other diocesan organisations to co-locate on the campus and work in closer partnership with the College.

#### What's next?

We intend to begin construction in November next year. In support of this exciting plan, we will soon launch the Being Moore Campaign to raise \$20 million. These funds are urgently needed to help build the new facilities. In the months ahead we will be providing readers with updates on our progress and details on how you could help Moore be More.