

Summer 2017



The Courage to Teach - The Courage to Lead

For many years, I yearned to find the means to balance work, life and my heart calling to mission. For many years, I yearned to find a hero, a champion that might inspire and affirm my ponderings.

A journey into the world of deep reflection had been one that I'd dipped in and out of. A search for a mentor proved elusive.

My Arrow Leadership experience offered time to step out and look in to set a course to find the connections and congruence that I'd so longed for. It provided the means by which I understood the qualities of self and how I might, by grace, impact the lives of those with whom I worked alongside every day. Through reading, learning, connection, reflection and ongoing searching, I have a sense of discovering the inner life of the teacher and leader in a way that I know has been transformational.

Encountering the work of Parker J. Palmer, proved instrumental. In his book, *The Courage to Teach*, Palmer captivated me and challenged me to bring the threads of so much that had been separated by my own determining, into one. He speaks of good teaching as moving far beyond technique to find its roots in the identity and integrity of the teacher. Palmer challenges teachers to grow by flying

in the face of academic culture, to take risks to engage in conversation about our inner lives. He speaks of relational trust built on the movements of the heart where teachers find connection through empathy, commitment, patience and the capacity to forgive. He speaks of hope, faith and love transcending the personal.

Bringing *The Courage to Teach* to the common room and the sphere of professional reflection for staff has proved such a blessing. Palmer speaks of relational trust which binds at every level. Differences aside, staff are a team, bound together in our professional lives where good teaching cannot be reduced to technique, where good teaching comes from the identity and integrity of the teacher. Teachers are committed to connecting with their students, providing a window into the lives of families who form the fabric and heart of community.

It is my prayer that I might continue to share *The Courage to Teach*.

Thank you, Parker J. Palmer.



Martin Conway
Education
Executive Leaders
State Coordinator

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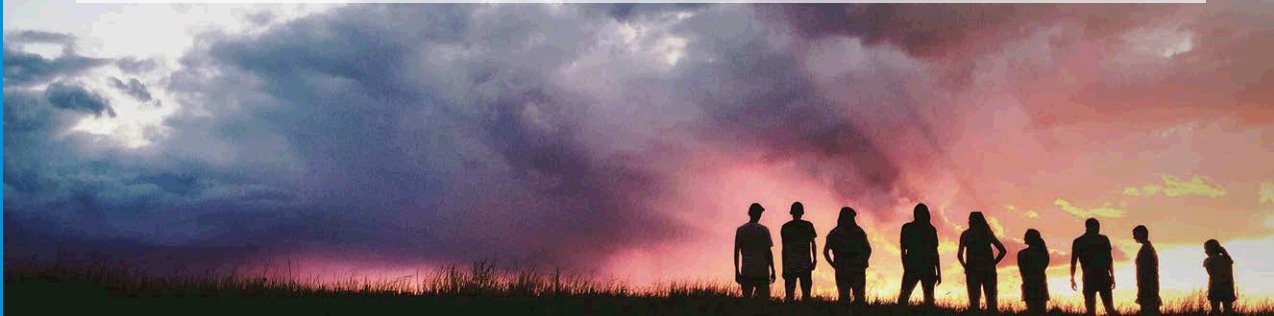
Our Year at a Glance

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Our Year at a Glance



We entered into 2017 prayerful and expectant about God going above and beyond what we hoped or imagined.

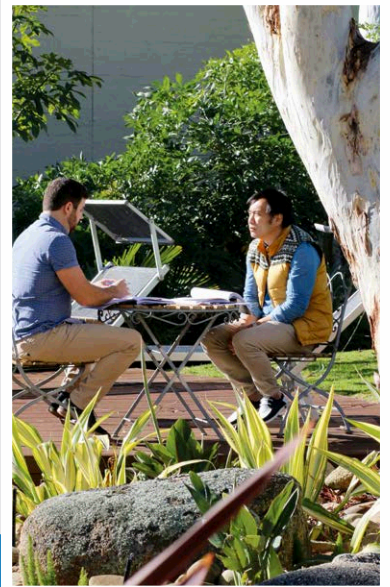
And true to label, God has affirmed and extended our ministry of engaging, stretching and releasing leaders around Australia.

The staff team were blessed to be joined by Cath Tallack as Emerging Leaders Program Director, serving from Brisbane and Aash Parmar as Recruitment Coordinator, serving from Perth. Their verve, focus and energy is contagious and helpful as we continue to understand how best to individually and collaboratively achieve our outcomes.

20% more Emerging and Executive Leaders concluded their program in 2017 than this time last year, bringing to their context renewed understanding of their call to lead, the centrality of character as they lead and new capabilities in the way they lead.

International Development continued to explore and identify new countries in which Arrow Leadership can serve by developing indigenous leaders as Julian Dunham commenced in his new role as International Development Program Director.

We thank the generous support of many in the Arrow Community, facilitators, evening speakers, financial and prayer supporters who enabled in 2017 God's call for Arrow of developing leaders throughout Australia and beyond.



Diane's Story

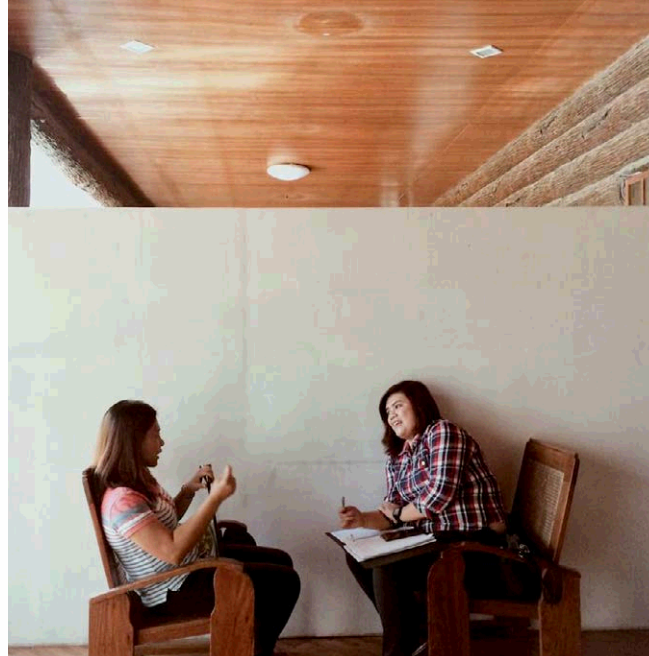
In May, I travelled to the Philippines to observe the Arrow Team launch their second cohort of Emerging Leaders.

I admit I was nervous about how the team would go. They had undertaken most of the planning and organisation. They had recruited the participants, lined up the facilitators and guest speakers, prepared the folders, booked the venue, prepared the menu (admittedly that is pretty much rice every day) and written the schedule.

To say it was gratifying when it went really well would be an understatement. What I witnessed was a truly Filipino version of Arrow and try as I might to improve it, I couldn't. It was just perfect - better than anything I have ever designed.

Most inspiring of all was the testimony of one leader, Diane, whose sacrifice and courage is a powerful witness to all who meet her. Diane was a real estate agent on a very high salary by Filipino standards. When her pastor left her church late last year Diane observed that many things weren't being done.

So, she decided to step up and lead. It soon became clear there weren't enough hours in the day so she quit her well paid job and started working for the church. When she heard about Arrow she pleaded to be given a place in the cohort and offered to pay her own way, including the ferry trip from her hometown of Iloilo.



Diane sharing with her prayer partner

Despite her lack of experience the team couldn't deny her enthusiasm and passion and therefore granted her a place. I'm so glad they did. Diane was so emboldened by the training and affirmation she received at Arrow that when she returned to her church she began to inspire others in a refreshed vision, especially in proclaiming good news to the poor of Iloilo. After many years of stagnation, the church has come alive with new believers.

My prayer is that all the Diane's out there (in whatever country they reside) will have the opportunity to experience Arrow.

Julian Dunham
International Development Program Director



Expect to be Loved

"From now onwards, I'm just going to expect to be loved"

...The shocking and unexpected words, that came out of my mouth, through tears at my first residential for a 'LEADERSHIP' program.

Yes....that's the kind of thing that can happen in Arrow.

Now that I am halfway through the program, I have realised that it is not a program at all! I prefer to call it an 'EXPERIENCE'. When I came into the first residential, I had been through some tough leadership moments. I was feeling very vulnerable about my weaknesses and failings. I had significantly questioned my ability to continue doing ministry, and had remained suspended in my calling.

By the end of the first residential, I had a much greater certainty of who I was, a humbled certainty of my place in His church, a realistic view of ministry and an understanding of how I could nurture my heart and soul in the midst of the guaranteed challenges to come. These revelations were not ideas I could have JUST learnt in a textbook, or a classroom. They were *experienced*.

Because of Arrow, by the time later in the year when my workplace went through some significant cultural challenges, I was ready and affirmed in my calling to serve. I was able to put myself in the place of a change agent. Now with the second residential behind me, I am breaking through some tough ground before me, with confidence and gusto.

I am grateful to Arrow for so much.

And I'm only halfway!

Melanie Seward
Arrow 19 - Emerging Leader



From Liam

It is always a joy to share with you the exciting Kingdom work in which the team at Arrow has been engaged. I'm sure you'll be encouraged as you read some of the stories of leaders who have been impacted by the ministry of Arrow Leadership.

Arrows are used in many ways, historically as weapons of warfare and in contemporary contexts providing direction. At Christmas we recognise the significance of the star that provided direction for the wise men from the east to discover the Christ child. In this Christmas season we also recognise the profound gift of Jesus, providing direction for humanity to God and his Kingdom.

Arrow Leaders provide direction for the people they lead so that, ultimately, more will be led to Jesus. Your participation, in whatever form, in the ministry of Arrow Leadership enables more Christian Leaders to provide focus and direction at an individual and organisational level on Jesus and expressions of his Kingdom. Thank you.

We are excited about God's work in the lives of Arrow Leaders and the Arrow Team throughout 2017, and increasingly expectant about opportunities in 2018.

Liam Glover
Executive Director



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National Tour

I was encouraged and inspired from participating in the Arrow Leadership National Tour day in Sydney.

It provided many topics of conversation for our team.



Specifically I loved the 'teasers' of the calibre of Arrow content from Peter and Cath. The decision for Julian to talk about Generativity was brilliant. It personally gave me some great material to further ponder and strategically apply. Time to discuss the content around tables assisted both in processing, but also in engaging relationally with others while space to connect with friends over coffee and pastries was also terrific. And finally my 13 year old couldn't believe that dad came home with his own fidget-spinner! Very cool.

I love being part of the Arrow Community that offers God their best.

Craig Corkill
Emerging Leaders State Coordinator

