

NOMINATE NEW AECSD COUNCIL MEMBERS for 2020

The Council invites the Community of Spiritual Directors of Australia, Spiritual Direction Associations, Networks, Formation Programs, and individual spiritual directors to discern and nominate people whom you recognize as leaders in this ministry.

We thank those who have generously served on the Council and have concluded their term: George Warren, Liz Anne Smith, Mary Murphy.

There is a need for three people from the spiritual direction community to be discerned at this time. We ask you to consult with the people whom you intend to nominate about their readiness and willingness to serve on the Council for a four-year term, commencing February 2020.

The criteria for nominating Council members are that the nominee would be:

- committed to the AECSD's [*Contemplatively Forming Tomorrow's Spiritual Directors: Formation Guidelines for Spiritual Directors in Australia \(revised 2018\)*](#) and the [*Code of Ethics for Spiritual Directors \(revised March 2019\)*](#).
- experienced (for some years) in, and currently involved in the practice of spiritual direction.
- engaged with the wider ecumenical spiritual direction community in Australia, for example, an active member of a spiritual direction association, a staff member of a spiritual direction formation program or a supervisor, other.
- committed to pursuing best practice in spiritual direction in Australia as a God-given vocation and charism of the Holy Spirit.
- committed to contemplative discernment on behalf of the Australian spiritual direction community.

The discernment will be attentive to the need to have people from different **geographical** regions of Australia, a **gender** balance and a **denominational** balance.

Further information on membership is available in the [*Constitution of the Australian Ecumenical Council for Spiritual Direction*](#).

Nominations close **at 5 pm on Friday 13th September 2019**. The Council will then discern the new members of the Council at its Council meeting on **Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th October 2019, in the presence of an external witness**.

To assist nominees to discern their availability to serve on the Council, nominees will need to be available:

- to attend three, two-day Council meetings each year, usually held in Melbourne, (the Council reimburses interstate airfares)
- to be involved in the recognition process of spiritual direction formation programs. This may include visiting formation programs that have applied for recognition according to *Contemplatively Forming Tomorrow's Spiritual Directors: Formation Guidelines for Spiritual Directors in Australia (revised 2018)* **These are available on the AECSD website.**
- to help plan and participate in Council-sponsored events, for example, National Gatherings/Conferences as well as undertake specific roles associated with the work of AECSD as discerned.

Maria McCormack
President of AECSD