

## CEUC Chair's Annual Report, 2019-20

The last year has seen some monumental changes for every one of us. Churches have been closed for corporate worship, university campuses have been in lockdown and only now are we seeing some green shoots of a return to 'normal'. And all of us have experienced life and work differently; some of us have thrived, but not all of us.

The CEUC Board have continued meeting throughout the past year, and we were fortunate enough to meet in person, in Budapest in early March, just before the lockdown commenced!

The Board have met every month since our fantastic conference in Neuendettelsau. The most important aspects of our work were in three areas: how best to host the 2020 IACHE Conference; how to improve our contact with and support for university chaplains from Central and Eastern Europe and lastly, to examine the best ways to use the finances accrued from the last three, well-attended conferences. As you will see from our 2020-21 Budget, we want to prioritise the development and improvement of our website, we have committed ourselves to support the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary book project and finally we will provide financial backing to the IACHE conference when it happens next year.

The new year found us writing to Australian colleagues to express our support for them during the awful bushfires. But of course, as we know now, we had a much bigger problem on the horizon. We met in Budapest in early March to plan for IACHE and establish our financial priorities. And of course, we have all been in lockdown ever since, although I know for some of you, things are beginning to change.

My fear is whether the CEUC has offered enough help or support to our members during this trying time? I really hope you have found encouragement and resources from our Facebook group as well as via Zoom meetings and WhatsApp conversations! And I am encouraged by folks going out of their way to seek company, friendship, guidance and inspiration from this vibrant group from which we all gain so much. God bless,

David Hutchison  
May, 2020