

## ACU welcomes foundation Professor of Canon Law from the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome

Australian Catholic University's (ACU's) Thomas More Law School welcomed Dr Michele Riondino this week as the foundation Professor of Canon Law. Dean of the Law School Professor Rocque Reynolds said that Professor Riondino was a scholar with an outstanding international reputation.

Professor Riondino comes to ACU from the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome where he has enjoyed a distinguished academic career. After obtaining a LL.M., Th.M. and Ph.B., he earned his Ph.D. at the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome.

In 2013 he became full professor of Canon Law and Children's Rights at the Lateran University where he has taught since 2010.

Canon law is the set of ordinances and regulations made by Church leaders for the government of a Christian organisation, church and its members.

Professor Riondino is author of two books, "*Famiglia e Minori. Temi giuridici e canonici*" (2011) and "*Giustizia riparativa e mediazione nel diritto penale canonico*" (2011; 2nd edition 2012).

He is coauthor with Manuel J. Arroba Conde of, "*Introduzione al diritto canonico*" (2015; 2nd edition 2017; 3rd edition 2019); the English translation will be published in May 2019 under the title "*Introduction to Canon Law*". Professor Riondino is also author of numerous academic journal articles and book chapters.

In 2018 Professor Riondino was the visiting scholar at Heythrop College-University of London focusing his research on law and religion in educational matter. He has also acted as keynote speaker at numerous conferences and lectures in Europe, Africa, America, Asia and Oceania.

From 2013 to 2016 he was the adjunct professor of Canon Law at LUMSA University School of Law. Since 2012 he has been a lawyer at the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

Thomas More Law School Deputy Head Dr Catherine Renshaw said the appointment was a reflection of ACU's committed to the pursuit of knowledge, the dignity of the human person and the common good.

"Our goal is to carry out world class research and to produce law graduates who are principled, ethical and equipped to succeed in a rapidly changing and increasingly globalised profession," said Dr Renshaw.

"Professor Riondino brings with him an international perspective and a strong commitment to advancing the Catholic values of the law school."

Professor Riondino will hold a joint professorial appointment with the Faculty of Law and Business and the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy. He will be based in the Law School at the Sydney campus.

The Thomas More Law School places human dignity and standing up for people in need at the heart of our degrees. Students learn through real-world experience in the form of pro bono placements and mooting competitions at home and abroad.

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