

## ACU Announcements

Wednesday 22 July 2020

Dear staff and students

The health and wellbeing of our community is extremely important to us, and we remind you to continue to exercise good hygiene practices to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. I would like to provide some information on the latest developments in relation to our COVID-19 response.

### **Wearing of masks in Melbourne and Mitchell Shire**

- The State Government has announced that all residents of Melbourne and Mitchell Shire are required to wear a face covering from midnight on Wednesday when leaving their house. People caught without a mask may receive a \$200 fine.
- ACU staff and students living in these areas should acquire and wear their own masks. The university will also have a stock of masks available for staff and students attending practical classes on the Melbourne Campus. Students can collect these at their practical classes, and staff can collect from Campus Concierge.

### **Acknowledging the efforts of our academic staff**

- In response to COVID-19, academic staff have been asked to undertake additional work in often very tight timeframes, initially to meet the requirement to deliver courses online from 30 March 2020, and then to continue to deliver online and in blended formats in Semester 2.
- The effort and commitment of our academic staff has been acknowledged at all levels, including by the Vice-Chancellor and university Senate, and recognising this effort through academic workload allocations is important. The efforts have placed ACU in a favourable position in adapting to a new learning and working environment and are a testament to the dedication of our staff. University leadership has worked with the NTEU to identify consistent, fair and equitable arrangements for inclusion in academic workload and this is being implemented for both Semester 1 and 2.

Thank you again for your patience and understanding as we work together to adapt our approach through these uncertain times. As the situation continues to evolve, we ask that

you please stay engaged with our communications and visit our [FAQs](#) page, which we are updating as things change.

**Dr Stephen Weller, Chief Operating Officer, on behalf of the Recovery Management Team**

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