Wednesday 25 March

Dear staff and students

We are making excellent progress adapting campus-based delivery of our units to modes of online delivery and are on track for the majority of ACU courses to be fully online when classes resume on Monday March 30. I would again like to thank academic and professional staff for their extraordinary efforts, and students for their patience and understanding as we work through this together.

Classes move online

From Monday 30 March, ACU will be moving the majority of our classes online in order to minimise the spread of COVID-19.

Information about the new delivery method for each of your classes is currently being updated and will become available in the Location field of Allocate+ over the next week.

	You're allocated.								
	Message								
	This class will be taught via Adobe Connect for the remainder of the semester. Your school will provide you with details of how to access the class.								

	Activity	Day	Time	Free	Campus	Location	Staff	Duration	Weeks	Description
✓	01	Tue	15:00	17	2	BRI_Online Adobe Connect	FUNDIC, Leonela	3 hrs	25/2-17/3, 31/3-19/5	PATRISTICS: THE EARLY CHURCH FATHERS

Your school will be in touch shortly to give you more information about how to access your classes. If you have any questions about accessing the platform or participating in the class, please contact your school.

Campuses and libraries

Campuses will remain open, including libraries. Strict social distancing will be enforced, especially in areas like libraries and computer labs. They are areas for research and the use of teaching infrastructure for activities like online education. They are not communal meeting points or centres of social activity. In the event that the government closes university libraries, our library is fully prepared to go to online service.

Student placements

We are committed to ensuring all our students will meet the necessary requirements so you can graduate and register for professional practice, if this is a requirement of your degree. The Vice-Chancellor and Executive Deans are in discussions in all states and at all levels of government to secure as many placements as we can during this time. Many placements are still occurring, so please make sure you monitor your university email account for information and updates specific to your program.

Returning to work or study after a positive diagnosis of COVID-19

Any staff member or student who has a confirmed COVID-19 infection must follow health guidelines and directions from health professionals. ACU will require evidence that you have been assessed by your treating health professionals as no longer infectious.

NSW Health advises that people with a confirmed COVID-19 infection are required to stay in isolation under the care of medical specialists until they are no longer experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 infection. Before people are released from isolation, they undergo tests to see if they still have COVID-19 and they are assessed as no longer infectious. Once people are discharged, they have a follow up assessment by the medical team to make sure they remain well.

Self-assessment guide

ACU has developed a self-assessment guide. If you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 or have symptoms, please use the self-assessment guide as a first step, then take action to notify the relevant authorities if needed. Based on the outcome of your self-assessment you may be advised to notify the university by filling in an ACU reporting form.

ACU research

We have taken the difficult decision to suspend all face-to-face contact with research participants, effective immediately and until further notice. For more details on changes to research, please visit the FAQs.

Looking after yourself

We are facing very challenging times. COVID-19 is affecting every aspect of our lives; we will each respond and cope differently, and we will all need different levels of support. As well as the staffAccess EAP and counselling services for students, there are many organisations which can provide support. Beyond Blue has guidance and is a good source of summary information. Please take care of yourselves and your loved ones during this difficult time.

Please make sure you stay alert for additional updates, and check the ACU FAQs, which will be updated to reflect this announcement by the end of today.

On behalf of Dr Stephen Weller and the Critical Incident Response Group