

## ACU Announcements

Monday 3 August 2020

Dear staff and students

As a result of the state government's move to place Victoria in a State of Disaster, the following changes will apply to our Melbourne and Ballarat Campuses.

### **Melbourne Metropolitan Area / ACU Melbourne Campus**

ACU Melbourne Campus will operate virtually, effective from Tuesday 4 August 2020 at 6pm. Staff need to work from home and students need to study remotely.

ACU essential staff letters under Victorian State of Emergency will be no longer valid from 8pm on Tuesday 4 August. A small group of essential staff will still be allowed to access the campus under the Victorian State of Disaster. ACU will issue a new letter to these staff.

The essential staff under Victorian State of Disaster who can attend Melbourne campus include:

- Associate Vice-Chancellor, Victoria to attend campus as needed
- Specific Facilities Management staff will be nominated to attend campus to supervise essential campus activities
- Specific Information Technology staff will be nominated to attend campus to supervise essential campus activities
- Specific Academic staff who do not have suitable facilities or technology to conduct their online classes from home
- Specific research staff whose work requires them to attend the campus (specifically MMIHR undertaking research that requires their attendance on campus at 215 Spring St and St Vincent's Research Centre).

If you do not fall into these categories, then you **may not** attend campus.

No students can attend campus.

No staff can attend campus unless they have a letter advising that they are essential staff under Victorian State of Disaster.

The following functions and facilities are now operating virtual where possible:

- Library (virtual)

- AskACU (available online and via telephone or chat)
- Bookstore (online bookings)

The café and the gym are closed.

There will be limited access to campus on 4 August before 6pm; if you need to collect materials from campus to move to remote class activities or learning, you may do so.

### **Regional Victoria / ACU Ballarat Campus**

At the ACU Ballarat Campus, all classes are online. However the campus remains open for practical classes and Library services for staff and students.

Staff who have worked from home during the COVID shutdowns should continue to work from home until further notice.

Staff and students who live in Melbourne metropolitan area and have attended campus during level 3 restrictions should now work and study from home until further notice.

### **Stay engaged**

This is new territory for all of us and we will continue to adapt our approach to follow government instructions while ensuring your welfare.

It is important that ACU staff and students carefully monitor, review and follow the [Victoria Government's announcements and public health orders](#).

These continued and tougher restrictions are very challenging. The whole ACU community is behind our Victorian colleagues and students.

[Please make sure you seek out any of the services ACU has to offer staff and students](#). If you do need any extra support, particularly for those of you in Victoria, please access this support.

Finally, as information is changing rapidly, we will continue to communicate when more details come to hand. I encourage you to remain engaged with our communications and [FAQs](#) page which we are updating as things change.

### **Dr Stephen Weller and the Recovery Management Team**

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