

From the acting Vice-Chancellor,
Professor Hayden Ramsay

Thursday 30 January 2020

Dear students,

We are looking forward to the start of the academic year and to your return to campus next month.

As you prepare for the new year you may have some concerns about measures the university is taking to address potential cases of Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV). The disease was first detected in Wuhan in China, and there have been a small number of reported cases in Australia.

I would like to reassure you that Australian Catholic University is in regular consultation with the Australian Government and the health authorities in each state and territory.

The Department of Health advises that at this stage the risk of contracting the disease in Australia is low but there are precautions that should be observed.

ACU recommends that students who have arrived in Australia from Wuhan City (Hubei Province, China) – or who have had contact with a person with a confirmed or suspected case of coronavirus – stay at home, and not come to university for 14 days after arrival. If you have recently arrived from Wuhan City and live in one of our ACU residences, please contact residence staff for advice and support.

If you are not sure about whether to come to campus, please refer to the attached fact sheet from the Department of Health.

ACU health centres will provide the same guidelines as well as advice on following best hygiene practices. We recommend that any student who is experiencing flu-like symptoms immediately contact a doctor.

Please ensure you assist by observing good hygiene practices.

If you are feeling unwell, do not come to class, and contact a health professional for advice. If you suspect you may have the novel coronavirus, call the dedicated hotline on 1800 675 398. Please keep Triple Zero (000) for emergencies only.

ACU will continue to follow advice from the Australian Government and the health authorities in each state and the ACT and we will inform you of any updates.

Please follow updates on the ACU website for further advice and information.

Sincerely,



Professor Hayden Ramsay
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