



From the
Vice-Chancellor
and President



Dear ACU community

I realise that this will be an unsettling time for all of us. But we will respond to the current situation with our usual resilience, and I have no doubt we will cope with it as we have coped with other challenges in the past.

As Vice-Chancellor I naturally take full responsibility for managing and directing our response to COVID-19.

Our community's safety and wellbeing are paramount. We will comply rigorously with all government guidelines and policies.

Beyond this, the university's Critical Incident Response Group has been working around the clock with government and health authorities and has developed multiple best practice business continuity plans.

These are plans to ensure that the university continues to provide outstanding education to our students during this challenging period. The group is comprised of ACU staff from all areas of the university, and you can see the full list of members [here](#).

We are following government advice and our campuses will remain open to students and staff. We are working rapidly to increase our ability to deliver teaching online so as to provide flexibility for our students and will be in touch with regular updates on this. We are also reviewing arrangements for staff to work remotely and will have an update on this later in the week.

We have today decided to cancel all non-essential events and move meetings to video or phone conference where possible. Regrettably we have had to make the decision that graduation ceremonies for Semester 1 will be cancelled, in line with government policy around large gatherings. We will shortly be contacting students who have registered for these ceremonies with alternative opportunities for celebration.

The Critical Incident Response Group will be sending an update after each meeting – on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. You can find a log of all past correspondence [here](#).

If you have questions or concerns, please speak to your supervisor or course coordinator. Professional support services are available for staff who may feel anxious or distressed, and you can find information on these services [here](#). Similarly, support services for students are available [here](#).

Yours sincerely

Professor Greg Craven AO, GCSG

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The Vice-Chancellor has signed the **Pay Equity Pledge** and is committed to promoting and improving gender equality.

