

# Coronavirus Update

THURSDAY 26 MARCH, 2020

Dear colleagues

Please see below the latest daily update for staff with information and actions Federation is taking to respond to the coronavirus COVID-19 situation.

## **Census date and online study**

We are extending the census date from Tuesday 31 March to Thursday 30 April (for Teaching Period 2005). Online learning will be new for many of our students and extending the census date will make sure they have time to decide if it is right for them without incurring academic or financial penalty.

Students were sent an email about the change in census date today, along with fact sheets about online study and academic support. The fact sheets are attached to this email and the information will also be updated on our [website](#).

## **Student residences**

The welfare of our students is a key concern as we respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our students living in residence are particularly vulnerable and we are working hard to ensure they are supported and well looked after. Domestic residential students have been advised to return home where possible. We are regularly communicating with and checking on the welfare of both domestic and international students who remain on campus. The university is also developing a protocol for providing ongoing support to our students living in residence throughout the pandemic.

## **Student retention and success**

We appreciate how hard our staff are working to prepare course activities, resources and assessments for higher education online delivery from next Monday. We also know many students will have reservations about the transition and are conscious of the need for student retention and success to be top of mind for our academic staff. There are resources for staff on student retention and success available on our [website](#). Please familiarise yourself with these materials, as well as the support services and information available to students on the university's [COVID-19 response](#) as we make this transition.

The Academic Services and Support Directorate typically run a report in week six to identify students at risk of non-assessment progression so they can be contacted and offered appropriate support. Given the current circumstances, this report will now be run in week seven.

**On behalf of the Critical Incident Response Team**

