



Dear staff and students

Many of you will be aware of the allegations made about the actions of some senior officers and employees of the ANU during testimony before the Senate hearing into the quality of governance at Australian higher education providers on 12 August 2025.

The University is taking these matters very seriously, acknowledges the distressing nature of them and recognises that the current situation is likely difficult for all those directly involved, as well as for our broader community.

Specific support has been offered and is being provided to those directly involved. It is understandable that this situation will be and has impacted our broader community and if you are feeling unsettled, anxious or distressed, please access the support options and external services available using the links provided below. University leaders, supervisors, HR business partners and local WHS officers can assist, as well as with arranging for confidential assistance which is always available.

Senior officers and employees of the ANU that are subject to allegations in the Senate have also been offered specific support and a right of reply process.

On 19 August 2025, Council met to consider the matters raised. The Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor excused themselves from the meeting. The next longest serving member of Council, Tanya Hosch chaired the meeting.

At this meeting Council was informed that the University is taking steps to ensure that those directly involved in the Senate hearing have appropriate support.

Council decided that:

- the University's response should be developed by a group operating independently of Council
- the group should seek immediate external and independent advice to inform the University's response, before determining next steps
- the group should include independent externals and officers and staff of the University without current allegations against them and, who were not witnesses to the key events described in the allegations, and have relevant expertise and experience, including experience in public sector and University governance.

The group, known as the Senate Hearing Governance Group', has the following members:

- Mr Andrew Metcalfe AO (Chair)
- Professor Christine Nixon AO APM
- Professor Rebekah Brown FSSA, Provost and Senior Vice President

The group first met on 20 August and is committed to overseeing a process that is fair and just, trauma informed, restores public trust, and keeps the community informed.

The wellbeing of our staff and students is extremely important and it is essential that we support each other and uphold the [ANU values](#) during this challenging time.

Sincerely,

Mr Andrew Metcalfe AO
ANU Council Member
(Chair)

Prof. Christine Nixon AO APM
External Member

Prof. Rebekah Brown FASSA
Provost and Senior Vice-President

Do you need support?

This week's edition of OnCampus provides comprehensive information on the range of support services available to ANU staff and students. For ease of access, a summary is provided below.

Internal ANU support options

- Students requiring support can call or text the ANU Wellbeing and Support line which is available 24/7.

Call 1300050327

Text 0488884170

- Staff requiring support can speak to your supervisor, HR Business Partner or local WHS officer who will be able to assist in connecting you with appropriate support.

Further information on University support options is also available at [University support services - Guide for managers and staff](#). Alternately you can email communitywellbeing@anu.edu.au

Other support options

- A range of student support services can also be accessed through [Health, safety & wellbeing | Australian National University](#) – “How to book or change an appointment”.
- Staff can access external support through the [Employee Assistance Program](#).
- Visit the [Urgent Support page](#) for a list of other 24/7 and crisis support options.
- For life threatening emergencies first call **000** (or 0000 if dialling from an internal phone), then call ANU Security at **(02) 6125 2249**.