



The Executive of University Colleges Australia **re-affirms** its commitment to responding in positive, collaborative and constructive ways to the findings and recommendations of the Australian Human Rights Commission's National Report on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment at Australian Universities commissioned by Universities Australia. We also re-affirm that behaviours such as hazing, misogyny and bullying have no place in university residences or anywhere else in society, and we will continue to work with our members, our universities and wider community agencies and organisations to ensure the safety and wellbeing of students and to develop and encourage a culture that supports reporting and enhances respectful relationships.

We are conscious of recent publicity on the '60 Minutes' program that particularly focused on St Mark's College Adelaide and its Master and our President, Rose Alwyn. We commend Rose for her reflection, actions and honesty in this very difficult situation, and for her consistent, determined and tireless leadership in the task of care and change. This is demonstrated especially in the setting up UCA Respectful Relations Response and Resources Advisory Group, chaired by Ms Julie McKay, Partner and Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer at Price Waterhouse Coopers. The Advisory Group comprises independent experts in sexual assault and sexual harassment and in drug and alcohol harm minimisation; Heads of both independent and university managed residences; leaders of postgraduate, international, and resident student associations; as well as occasional participation of Universities Australia and the Australian Human Rights Commission.

As leaders of university residential communities, where young people learn and develop in decision-making, leadership and broader life skills, we are fully committed to and engaged in front-line care and change, education and training, and policy and procedures development in dealing with unacceptable behaviour and responding to reports of abuse. It is a challenging and at times a confronting task which requires every support and encouragement.

We look forward to the continuing work and privilege of enhancing the student experience through collegiate residential life.