



*Better Leaders,
Better Collegiate Life*

UCA ESTABLISHES RESPECTFUL RELATIONS - RESPONSE AND RESOURCES ADVISORY GROUP

In April 2018 University Colleges Australia (UCA) established *Respectful Relations, Response and Resources Advisory Group* in response to University Australia's Respect. Now. Always. Campaign and the AHRC's report *Change the Course*.

The report, which highlighted that more needs to be done not only to encourage students to report incidents but to support them through the reporting process, provided an opportunity for UCA to respond to the needs of the students in their residences.

Drawing on key experts in the prevention and response of sexual assault and sexual harassment, UCA's Advisory Group is chaired by independent expert Julie McKay, Chief Gender Equity Diversity and Inclusion Officer at PwC. The group also includes broad representation of key stakeholders who are committed to working collaboratively to develop a comprehensive resource base aimed at preventing and eliminating sexual assault and sexual harassment and effecting cultural change.

The Advisory Group has established clear terms of reference which will provide:

- A comprehensive resource base based on the prevention of and response to sexual assault and sexual harassment (to include policies and procedures, preventative practices, training for staff and students, reporting and investigation;
- The identification and sharing of good practice;
- A summary of current independent expert led reviews;
- Consider the relationship between universities and affiliated colleges/residences and how they can best work together with a view to developing a charter for joint policies and procedures.

UCA looks forward to sharing the outcomes and framework with members at our Forum to be held in Hobart in September.

UCA re-affirms its commitment to the provision of safe and secure living and learning communities that are free from all forms of violence and intimidation, sexual assault, harassment and discrimination.

Collegiate residence, in often unheralded ways and in addition to providing accommodation, continue to add positive value to the university student experience through academic engagement and support; mentoring and care; sporting, social, cultural and spiritual activities and events; and through a variety of learning and leadership opportunities.