**Implementation of recommendations from *Change the course:
National report on sexual assault and sexual harassment at Australian universities***

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| **University name: Australian Catholic University** |
| **Recommendation no.** | **Action already taken** | **Planned/future action** |
| 1 | * Established an RNA Advisory Committee (RNAAC) for consultation and advice with representatives include students, staff and members of NSW Police. Three RNAAC meetings are scheduled each year.
* Developed an ACU Action Plan consist of activities and strategies under five sections:
* Submitted an RNA Briefing Paper to Senate in July 2017.
* Provided updates to the ACU Standards and Compliance Committee in relation to TEQSA’s *Higher Education Standards on Wellbeing and Safety* in November 2017 and April 2018.
 | * The RNA Advisory Committee consisting of internal University and external stakeholders will continue to meet three times a year for consultation and advice on the implementation of the University’s Action Plan.
* Progress on the implementation of ACU Action Plan is available to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students, Learning and Teaching) and the Vice-Chancellor.
* The University’s progress towards implementation of Australian Human Rights Commission’s recommendations to be published on the ACU website by December 2018.
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| 2 | * Developed and published online resources on the Student Portal:
* How to report a safety issue including sexual assault and sexual harassment
* ACU support services and external support contacts
* Definition of sexual assault, sexual harassment and consent
* Safety in relationships and in the community
* Ethical bystander behaviour
* Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) Program
* Relevant ACU policies and procedures
* Promoted RNA during O-Week and in student orientation sessions.
* Updated forms within Student Enrichment and Health, Sport and Wellbeing to include a declaration by student/staff on their commitment to a safe and inclusive environment for students at ACU events and activities.
* Effective risk management developed and implemented for student social events including the safe service of alcohol.
* Collaborated with Student Association on initiatives for a safer campus, e.g. peer-to-peer communications via video and news feed on the Student Portal.
 | * Review the education program to developed by UA to ensure its appropriateness and relevance to ACU students.
* Develop an implementation plan which ensures the education program is administered across all student cohorts, during the Orientation program, in the compulsory program for student leaders and as part of recognised co-curricular programs.
* Continue to promote respectful relationships and behaviours through various communications on the Student Portal, at campus events and on social media.
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| 3 | * Developed an RNA section on the ACU public website and on the Student Portal:
	+ ACU public site – [www.acu.edu.au/respect](http://www.acu.edu.au/respect)
	+ Student Portal - <http://studentportal.acu.edu.au/respect>
* Developed an information sheet and a flowchart to guide staff in the policies for responding to a student report of sexual assault and sexual harassment. The documents are published on the ACU Policy site: <https://www.acu.edu.au/policy/1339780>
* Developed an annual RNA Communication Plan targeting prospective students, current students, international students, residents at the ACU Managed Residences and current staff.
* Promoted information and support services, including adoption of the SafeZone app and drop-in counselling services.
 | * Develop an RNA section on the ACU Staff Site in addition to the public website and the Student Portal.
* Continue implementing actions from the RNA Communication Plan 2018.
* Review and implement the training modules for staff and students developed by UA.
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| 4 | * Reviewed ACU policies, procedures and processes in relation to sexual assault and sexual harassment.
* Updated the following policies and their associated procedures or guidelines:
* *Critical Incident Management Policy*
* *Discrimination and Harassment Policy*
* *Student Conduct and Discipline Policy*
* *Student Complaint Management Policy*
* Developed a new *Policy on Managing a Student Threatening Self-Harm*.
 | * Continue to undertake internal reviews of existing university policies and processes. This will extend to policies and procedures in relation to sexual assault and sexual harassment. Findings and recommended actions will be reported to the RNA Advisory Committee.
* Review and enhance the University’s current policies and supporting resources according to UA’s best practice guidelines.
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| 5 | * Stakeholders more likely to receive disclosures of sexual assault and sexual harassment are identified as being within student facing services.
 | * Review the first responder training program developed by UA and offer the program to all staff and student leaders with consideration to the University’s policies and procedures.
* Implement UA’s principles to guide interaction between supervisors and postgraduate students.
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| 6 | * Students’ needs for counselling and disability services are monitored through data collection and program evaluation.
 | * Develop system and processes to collect and store confidential information related to disclosures and reports of sexual assault and sexual harassment.
* Provide de-identified reports to the Vice-Chancellor every six months.
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| 7 | * Reviewed the capacity of the Counselling Service to respond to students’ request for counselling and the associated waiting time.
* Provided ACU counsellors with specialist professional development in the area of sexual assault and trauma. This was conducted by Canberra Rape Crisis Centre, CASA House (The Centre Against Sexual Assault) and Northern Sydney Sexual Assault Service.
* Provided ACU counsellors with training on working with gender diverse clients through Queer Space.
* Provided ACU counsellors with access to trauma specialists for referral, as appropriate.
 | * Implement UA’s specialist training module for all ACU counsellors.
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| 8 | * Agreed to participate in the follow-up national student survey in three years’ time.
 | * Participate in the national survey in 2019/2020.
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| 9 | * Provided ongoing training including the upholding of principles in the ACU Student Handbook and risk management for all staff at the ACU Managed Residences.
* Included ‘RNA Statement’ in the ACU Student Handbook 2018 which is signed by residents before check-in occurs.
* Distributed letters from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students, Learning and Teaching), which emphasise zero tolerance for sexual assault and harassment, to all residents of ACU Managed Residences in NSW (Camperdown), ACT (Canberra) and Vic (Ballarat). The letters were distributed in September 2017 and April 2018.
 | * Staff at the ACU Managed Residences to complete first responder training program developed by UA, when it becomes available.
* Continue promoting the resources related to RNA to staff and students at the ACU Managed Residences.
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