

Friday 30th August 2019
ANU Students' Association Media Release

Do Better ANU

ANUSA supports the strike action of the Interhall Council and supports residential students and Griffin Hall. There continues to be significant concerns in the student community regarding the failings of the pastoral care model and the significant unfair, unsafe and unsustainable burden that it places on student leaders. ANUSA stands with IHC for an inclusive, affordable and safe community.

ANUSA supports the IHC's desire for greater financial transparency in the Residential Space and continues to be concerned with the growing unaffordability of Residential Halls at the ANU. The increased rent results in the pricing out of students from attending the ANU and being able to engage with residential life. If the University is trying to increase diversity and equity within the University, why are they pricing students out of accommodation?

There has not just been apathy towards consulting with students on these issues, but a disregard for student requests for consultation. There are more students living on campus than ever before and there are plans to build much more accommodation.

After six months of lobbying for a consultation, the University arranged a one hour session expecting 80 students to attend. Over 400 students attended this consultation. Such student mobilisation demonstrates the severity of this lack of communication, indicating that the student body and those who call ANU home, feel unheard and have been left in the dark.

Lack of effective and timely action in responding to the Nous Residential Review and actioning change in the residential space is frustrating, disappointing and continues to place student leaders in an unsafe position. If ANU wants an unrivalled on campus residential experience, progress needs to happen and student leaders need to be a core part of this.

Student leaders deserve better. ANU residents deserve better. Do better ANU.