



USU Statement Regarding Welcome Fest

It is my pleasure to welcome students and staff back to campus for our Semester Two Welcome Fest celebrations. For many students, engaging with their clubs and societies during this vibrant time is one of the highlights of their university experience. That is why it is ever important that we ensure that Welcome Fest is a robust, but safe place for students of all backgrounds to gather and participate.

The USU is committed to a culture of respect. Respect doesn't mean we shy away from important issues, or that we fail to express who we are, but it does mean that we have due regard and consideration for the autonomy of those around us. Now more than ever, coexisting as one student body united by our academic goals and social aspirations is key to our community's health.

It is important we uphold the values of the [Student Charter](#), and respect the rights of Members to express their views freely and openly. However, under no circumstances should anyone, least of all the USU, condone behaviour that harasses or violates the integrity of another student or staff member. Such behaviour, including discrimination, violence, and prejudice, are not welcome. If any member of our community wishes to seek support through USU's counselling services or the university's support services, please see [here](#) or email us at d.programs@usu.edu.au.

I hope that your Welcome Fest experience is a positive one, and I am looking forward to seeing many of you there.

Bryson Constable
USU President