



22 January
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UNI REFORMS STILL BAD FOR AUSTRALIA

The National Union of Students has called on Minister Pyne to stop clutching at straws, and to dump his disastrous higher education reforms. The call comes as Minister Pyne suggests he will reduce the percentage of funding coming to universities.

NUS National President Rose Steele said that we should have the aim of increasing university funding, no negotiating on how much will be cut.

“Our universities have been underfunded for years.

“Minister Pyne needs to scrap his disastrous reform. This means invest in universities, walk away from plans to deregulate university fees and give Australia a brighter future.

“Dumping this 20% cut to university funding will leave universities where they are at the moment; chronically underfunded and unable to provide a quality education for students. We need more money, not less.

“It seems minister Pyne is clutching at straws in an attempt to have deregulation pass.

“Students are currently accepting offers for the 2015 academic year. These students face a world of uncertainty. They don't know what their course will end up costing them, and they don't know how much funding will be cut from their university. Make no mistake, funding cuts impact the quality delivery of university courses.

“NUS is calling on all senators to reject this latest impasse and reject this legislation.

“NUS is backing the call from Senator Xenophon for an inquiry on this legislation and on what it will mean. It is time to see a real alternatives discussed,” Ms Steele said.

For media enquires contact:

Rose Steele
National President
National Union of Students
0411 6060 808
pres@nus.asn.au