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For immediate release

NUS INTERNATIONAL STUDENT DEPARTMENT LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN ADDRESSING PLAGIARISM AND GHOST WRITING

The National Union of Students International Department and have launched a campaign to combat plagiarism and to crack down on dodgy academic ghost writing providers. This campaign was launched by the National International Officer, Ziyang Zhang, and the Deakin University Student Association (DUSA) President, Matthew McDonald.

The launch of this campaign is the result of work between the National International Officer and international students at various universities across Australia, who are fighting back against the exploitation of international students by unscrupulous ghost-writing providers. This campaign will be co-ordinated by the NUS International Department, but is being rolled out in conjunction with NUS affiliates Australia wide.

“In rolling out this campaign, I hope to inform international students about the dangers and academic consequences of purchasing assessments from ghost-writing providers. For international students, this can lead to the cancellation of enrolment and deportation from Australia” says NUS International Officer, Ziyang Zhang.

The launch of the campaign at Deakin University is very important, as the rate of academic misconduct resulting from plagiarism accusations at Deakin University is above the national average. Further, Deakin University is also home to a large and growing international student population. NUS sees Deakin as the site of the first battle in what will be an ongoing campaign to crack down on ghost-writing providers.

NUS recognises the damage that ghost-writing companies do, particularly to international students, whose hope of continuing their studies in Australia rests upon their academic integrity and performance. As a result of rigid study load requirements and inflexible visa working hours, international students often see no choice but to seek help from ghost-writing providers. These companies often advertise in languages other than English in order to target international students and avoid detection by university administration.

“I will be contacting government agencies, legal experts and all necessary bodies to ensure that ghost-writing companies are called out and shut down” say NUS International Officer, Ziyang Zhang. NUS is encouraging students to inform the National International Officer, as well as relevant authorities, about the activities and practices of these providers.

Authorised flyers and posters will shortly be produced and distributed Australia wide in multiple languages in order to inform students about the dangers of getting a paper written for them. To date, no material for this campaign has been authorised or published. In the

coming weeks, NUS and DUSA will organise activities at the Burwood campus to inform students about this campaign, and to tell them that NUS says 'NO' to ghost-writing.

For Further Comment Contact:

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