

Molo Kanye kunye.

E-Newsletter

I have managed to put together a fairly complete list of affiliate campus contacts including office bearers, collectives and other interested students and sent out my first e-newsletter to over 100 email addresses in the lead up to o-weeks to introduce myself and provide campaign material to anyone interested. If anyone would like to be added to the list you can subscribe at: www.eepurl.com/beauYX9

O-Week

I feel I will be able to make the most use out of my modest travel budget by mostly using it to carry out the Ethno-cultural Student Experience Survey and the Ethno-Cultural Campus Resources and Representation Audit - particularly focusing on follow ups with campuses identified as needing the most support. As such I was unfortunately only able to visit campuses in my home state of South Australia during o-week, however, I was still able to engage with a large number of students with a particular focus on advertising the upcoming NDA. It was a pleasure for the National Disabilities Officer and myself to host the National General Secretary, Welfare Officer, and Women's Officer during their time in our Great State.

'Racism Is' Campaign

I am in contact with the ANU International Students Department to roll out the campaign there late this month with the view of making it a yearly campaign!

Ethno-Cultural Student Experience Survey

I am currently in the early stages of setting up this survey with the intention that it will be conducted online.

The survey will collect a range of information including ethnic and linguistic diversity, access to income support, educational background, course area studied, experiences of racism and discrimination both within their discipline, their university and the community, awareness of university cultural services and awareness of ethno-cultural representation on a university level.

I intend to consult heavily with a number of stakeholders to ensure that the right questions will be asked and that the data we need will be collected.

I will shortly begin engaging with campus Ethno-cultural representatives, collectives and clubs as well as student organisations more generally to utilise as many mailing lists as possible to distribute the survey.

I also intend to create and distribute poster artwork to be displayed on campus to promote engagement with the survey.

The findings of the survey will be released with recommendations in the 'Ethno-cultural state of the Union' report in semester two.

Ethno-Cultural Campus Resources and Representation Audit

Similarly, I plan to conduct an audit into the services and representation available to ethno-cultural students across Australia over semester one with its outcomes also presented in the 'Ethno-cultural state of the Union' report.

The audit will create a register of what representation exists for Ethno-cultural students within campus student organisations and university administrations, what services are available to specifically assist CALD students, if any cultural sensitivity or diversity training is provided to student activists and representatives as well as university and student organisation staff, and the presence of any Ethno-cultural/CALD/POC clubs or collectives on campus.

A key focus for me will be to use the data collected by the survey and audit to provide extra attention and support to specific campuses with room to improve Ethno-cultural student representation and support services including helping to establish new Ethno-cultural collectives.

I hope to use the report to create a dialogue with student organisations and university administrations on how to better cater for the varied needs of CALD students with a particular focus on how to support students during times when their cultural practices or days of significance may clash with academic demands.