



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Wednesday, 22 June 2005

### **AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY SPORT BUOYED BY NATIONAL PARTY OPPOSITION TO VOLUNTARY STUDENT UNIONISM**

Australian University Sport (AUS) and its member associations were today buoyed by the National Party's opposition to the Federal Government's Voluntary Student Unionism (VSU) legislation.

An AUS working group has spent much of the past three months seeking to raise awareness of the legislation's devastating impact on sport and recreation at campuses around the nation.

"In introducing this legislation, the Federal Government will deprive students of essential on-campus services as a result of removing \$32million of funding for the provision of sport at university," said AUS Chief Executive Officer, Daniel Marsden.

"The loss in funding will not only mean an instant and irreversible erosion of sporting activity on campuses, but affect the ability of universities to provide facilities to the wider community," Mr Marsden added.

The AUS working group - in tandem with national student union and guild representatives - has advocated amending the legislation to provide for a services and facilities fee that would preserve current levels of support for sport.

"Today's indication by National Party representatives reflects the need for the Federal Government to take note of the detrimental impact this legislation will have on university communities," said Mr Greg Harris, Executive Director of Sydney University Sport.

The introduction of VSU legislation will have a catastrophic effect on more than 450,000 students and community members who utilise university sporting clubs and facilities.

**-Ends-**

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