

30 May 2024

Prof. Genevieve Bell  
Vice Chancellor  
Chancelry Building  
10 East Rd, Acton, ACT 2601  
Australian National University



Dear Vice Chancellor,

I am writing as Leader of the ACT Greens to express my concern regarding the treatment of peaceful student protestors at the Australian National University (ANU) Palestine encampment. These students are rightly raising their voices against the university's partnerships with organisations complicit in the ongoing genocide in Palestine.

On Monday, 27th May 2024, I was dismayed to learn that the ANU had called the police and security guards on these peaceful protestors in an attempt to remove them from their original encampment site. Further, this action was done without substantial notice, thereby heightening tensions and fears within the student groups.

This abrupt action only served to exacerbate an already sensitive situation.

I was pleased to read in the Canberra Times yesterday that the Deputy Vice Chancellor has subsequently agreed to meet with students to discuss their demands. I urge you to also attend this meeting and engage with the students.

The ACT Greens support the students' calls for the ANU to divest from companies complicit in the genocide in Palestine and, as Leader of the party, I urge the ANU to commit to this call.

Already, tens of thousands of Palestinians have been killed by Israeli forces and now their military is decimating Rafah, the last refuge in Gaza. Calls to end this deadly invasion are echoing across university campuses, not just at ANU.

Students, like so many of us, are rightly horrified by the killing of so many in this genocide, and it is only right that they would be outraged by the ANU's connections to these atrocities.

I urge you to meet with students in good faith and commit to disclosing and divesting all ties to the genocide. I look forward to your response and hope for a positive outcome.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane Rattenbury".

**SHANE RATTENBURY**  
Leader of the ACT Greens