

Providing student accommodation services when you don't own or manage any housing

Abstract

Accommodation is obviously a key issue for international students & their parents, as well as for the marketing staff within our institutions. However, our educational institutions' core business does not usually include housing. This tension presents significant challenges - none more so than at UniSA, which doesn't own or manage any accommodation, with the exception of its regional Whyalla campus.

Assuming that South Australia's experience is somewhat representative of international students' accommodation patterns, the vast majority of students reside in either off-campus student housing which is unaffiliated with the educational institution, or in 'private rental' accommodation. Rather than completely absolving education providers of responsibility, this scenario creates a number of major challenges for our institutions.

This interactive presentation will examine how UniSA

- offers a wide range of suitable accommodation options
- endeavours to tackle wide-spread ignorance / apathy regarding legal and practical issues related to renting accommodation
- raises awareness of accommodation support services available to students.

Community resources are necessarily engaged to further these goals.

Participants will have time to ask questions and start examining the merits of these strategies.

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unisa.edu.au/accommodation