HELP THE ECONOMY AND STUDENTS

The UWA Student Guild is calling on the Rudd Government to act in the best interests of Students and the Economy, by including increases to support payments for students in the Second Stimulus Package.

UWA Student Guild President, Dominic Rose said,

‘Students, like the rest of Australians, are doing it tough. Job security is a huge issue with most students employed in industries like Retail and Hospitality which are being hit hard by the economic crisis.’

‘Throw in below the poverty line payments for Youth Allowance, Austudy and the Australian Postgraduate Award, and things are not looking good for students.’

The Government can be assured that students will be doing their part to stimulate the economy, Dominic Rose suggested;

'With First Semester less than a month away, students need to buy their books and invest in educational items such as Computers and other hardware. With single books costing well over $100 each, UWA’s over 18 000 students will be putting significant money back into the economy'.

'Extra money for students, either through increases in Support Payments or one off grants, is good economic policy; and any investment in Higher Education will promote sustainable, long term economic growth.'

'Additionally, it is essential to ensuring a fair, equitable universities system in Australia, with student poverty now the greatest barrier to participation in higher education.' Dominic Rose continued.

'Pensioners got their well deserved increase and support, but students have been left waiting by the Rudd Government and are not sure how much longer they can hold out.’

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