

Clubs Council Executive Meeting Agenda/Minutes

2019-11-11

ANUSA Boardroom

Meeting Opened: 6:25pm



1. Acknowledgement of Country

Delivered by James

2. Attendance and Apologies

In Attendance:

James (chair) (he/him)
Ji (communications) (she/her)
Ben (political branch) (no preference)
Jason (secretary) (he/him)
Celeste (incoming faith and religion branch) (she/her)
Ebe (outgoing community/incoming chair) (they/them)
Heather (she/her)
Stavros (he/him)

Apologies:

Cahill

Absent:

Emily
Paris
Henry
Matthew
Eli
Andrea
Skanda
Claudia
Cahill
Niam
Claudia



3. Actionables Arising

a. Ebe to follow up with Slack stuff (this year & next year?)

Ebe: Haven't done directly as is currently irrelevant

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b. Ebe to meet with Kate re: website (Visibility) & Ebe to follow up with Lachy re: AICD training (AICD Training)

Ebe: Meeting with Kate tomorrow and done with AICD Training

c. Jason to shift ownership of Affiliations Policy Google Doc

Done

d. James to make email introduction for Ebe with new PARSA president and reps

Currently being followed up on

e. Jason to meet with Jordyn to look at Afghan Soc constitution

Jason: to complete soon

4. Budget and Process Reporting

Jacob: Approximately \$1500 remaining, a number of backlog applications won't be able to be funded, as foreseen. Admin assistants and Jacob to process remaining grants and contact clubs who have grants refused as final deadline approaches, any remaining to be handed over to incoming Executive. No possibility of using next year's budget to fund this year's grants.

5. Portfolio Reports

5.1 Chair

James: Thank-you celebration with ANUSA next Wednesday, 4-6pm at Fellow's Bar. RSVP needed by 5pm this Friday. Believe it is all paid for.

Have met with Eden for final formal meeting (will remain in contact until handover). Fairly relaxed, no substantive news.

5.2 Communications

Ji: Emails looking good, helping Cahill with updated constitutions

5.3 Political Branch

Ben: Nothing to report

5.4 Secretary

Jason: Nothing to report

5.5 Funding

Jacob: Wrapping up final acquittals

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5.6 Community

Ebe:

Incoming exec casual drinks and planning session completed
One on one meetings with all incoming officers bar 1 also completed
Ring-fencing around all of Marie Reay by Student Life for O-Week - this a concern for clubs who may want to use for bookings, will be work done to try to get some movement and timelines around this
Have spoken to FoC (Geraldine) about training happening soon
Casual vacancies - have gotten multiple applications for most roles, many looking promising but lower than desired post-grad representation, but should have sufficient skill and other diversity.
Have begun discussion of campaigns and projects for next year
Have drafted SSAF feedback template emails for clubs
Will be meeting with Kate to get better website visibility for CC
Will be meeting with Eleanor and ANUSA lawyer on Wednesday to discuss how best to provide legal advice to clubs
Handover with James to happen soon.

6. Items to Discuss or Decide

6.1. SSAF (Ebe, Discuss and Despair)

Ebe: Will ultimately come down to decisions of incoming Executive, some preliminary suggestions. Have met with Lachy, Erin and Eleanor to discuss future working relationship, at this time received SSAF numbers. Currently allocated \$125 000, total, for next year. This down from \$196 000 in previous year. Expectation that this will have substantial and dire impact on clubs. Need to balance funding large, established clubs and newcomers.

First action to lobby for a future topup from ANUSA, as it is likely that CC will be unable to function at some stage later next year and will require ANUSA's reserves.

Second action to gain support from clubs and societies, have their execs provide feedback prior to publication of SSAF numbers (consistent with Kambri booking precedence).

Third action to potentially reform funding policy and regs in order to stretch budget over the year. Unlikely that we will actually get more SSAF money regardless of efforts, and risk we won't be able to get ANUSA top-up. This will have to be done with a mind to remain functional over the year even in worst-case scenario. Potential reforms include:

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1. Lowering threshold for when grants become discretionary
2. Removal or reduction of travel grant (while this is important, also arguably a bonus and less key, are some alternative sources for clubs through colleges)
3. Reduction of funding cap (minimal effectiveness as few clubs cap out)
4. Lowering of per-head rates (undesirable given already extremely low funding, risk grant becomes non-functional)

Unfortunately, all measures will disproportionately impact certain types of clubs, it is difficult to find any perfectly equitable way to save money. Hope that greater consultation with Clubs will make any reforms easier to pass at CCM1, noting clubs generally don't like any sort of measure that cuts the amount of money they can receive. Clear communication of problem and how these reforms will help all clubs in long-term should make it easier to pass reforms. Additionally, hopefully high level of club engagement with SSAF feedback will result in some change to amount of funding CC receives, if not this year at least next year.

Jason: Do we know broader allocations?

Ebe: Equivalent of 2 staff positions have been cut, so great deal of reallocation to try to make up for this. BKSS hours have been cut, as have the hours of some other staff members. O-Week and FNP directors have also had hours cut. All full-time staff have maintained their hours and pay, difficult for this to have been impacted because of employment arrangements, but still disappointing. Student assistance grants also reduced. Changes to Erin's role also means less support will be given to us from admin assistance, community life officer.

Jason: Will ANU need to sign off on ANUSA's proposed budget? Noting ANUSA usually able to move around money within budget and get rubber stamp from ANU, so long as budget total remains the same.

Ebe: SSAF different this year, decisions made by panel instead of individual staff member. Once all organizations received initial allocations, were asked to cut an additional 2.7% from totals. It is possible that final allocations could be changed, but ANUSA likely to prioritize staff due to their importance in ANUSA's functionality.

James: Is next year's CC considering reform in position as independent bidding body, or considering a shared position with ANUSA and PARSAs?

Ebe: Haven't yet broached these topics. My position is that we can't function in those ways, although are receiving increasingly less support from ANUSA, in

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future may end up with no support. A joint arrangement with ANUSA and PARSA may be more realistic so as to gain some institutional support, necessary because will have to have some full-time staff for CC to remain functional, unable to do that without some support. Obviously may not be final position of next year's CC, discussion for after CCM1.

James: Seems like current budgetary trajectory is on the decline.

Ebe: Diversion of support not entirely budget-driven, also a testament to CC's success in 2019 and relative self-sufficiency, as well as lack of reliance on admin. May have resulted in ourselves being seen as not needing as much support. This has altered my previous opinions on this matter.

Jason: 2020 budget is disastrous, as ANU has capped number of students, the SSAF pool is also capped. Means that ANUSA is unlikely to ever receive more money, particularly as ANU increasingly moves money to DSL and CAPX. ANUSA also about to sign new EBA, salaries indexed to 3.8%p/a, which is well above inflation. Very likely that ANUSA will run through its savings and run out of money in coming years. Question of how CC deals with that long-term risk?

Ebe: There are a number of different long-term strategies we could pursue. Current problem is mitigating the problems with the 2020 budget cuts. Going forward, will have to make noise about importance of program in short-term. In mind-term, ANUSA will need to make choices about what is worth funding, and prioritization of spending (e.g. things like merchandise may need to be cut in order to continue to support departments, clubs and societies). Probably can cut staff as well. Will also target PARSA, hope that they may become interested in helping to fund us as well (noting we reach far more students than SEEF ever does). Have seen student bodies move from CC to DSL in past (e.g. IAC), we may be able to also get some support from DLS in a similar way - many of our societies are better at targeting specific student groups than DSL is. Long-term strategy is essentially to hope that things improve, noting how catastrophic a failure of ANUSA to function would be.

Jason: Medium-term strategy looks good, do we have any additional thoughts on public advocacy?

Ebe: Options through student media and other groups, some concern with targeting government (risk they may opt to cut SSAF entirely). Hope that we can get mass student movement to support us, and rely on at least some members of university admin being sympathetic. Will need to ensure future executives keep these problems in mind to ensure that strategies are carried out.

Jason: May need to develop a 5-year plan or similar.

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Ebe: I'm a slut for long-term planning.

Jason: Seems like full budget not yet publicized, but this all implies it will be very broadly dire and cuts across the board. ANUSA will need to pass the budget at first GM of next year, and likely to be more controversial than normal. We may need to explore how we can influence it through that GM.

Ebe: Also noting that many line items are not expended, and then all get blown in a stupid way at the end of the year (e.g. suddenly dropping \$7000 on merchandise). Need to improve the way that ANUSA handles rollover from year to year.

Dash: Seems like it would be hard to reduce department funding.

Ebe: Not necessarily about reduction, but efficient allocation and use of end of year surpluses. Plenty of other line items that this applies to, including programs and campaigns that simply never get off the ground but are still listed in the budget.

Jason: All points are good, but CC is not on SRC. Have you done work with incoming gen and college reps?

Ebe: Not yet, as half have yet to come online. Have started networking with incoming SRC to get some agreement with ANUSA so that things are acceptable to them. If we have to, we can always stack an OGM or SGM to get our stuff through. If anyone has any additional thoughts on strategies, would love to have them submitted to me in writing. Everyone should also read through draft emails submitted on slack and suggest feedback.

Jason: Numbers would be compelling, especially on second to last paragraph. Should also clarify that clubs reach more people than departments.

Ebe: Our affiliations process means we have minimal actual figures. Should ask clubs to submit approximate membership, number of events next year so we can get those numbers.

Jason: Could extract it from information gained from this year's grant applications, but the system is extremely arduous.

Ebe: Would like to get this information out today if possible.

Jason: Should also add in 2018 budget to demonstrate the long-term cutting and trend.

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Ebe: Sounds good. This budget is awful, but likely manageable, just requires a great deal of attention and some additional work over the summer for incoming Executive.

James: Will require lots of consultation with clubs so they understand the situation and don't blame us.

Ebe: Agreed.

Jacob to find 2018 numbers for budget.

Ebe to post and finalise the statement about the SSAF allocation.

6.2. Email Access (Ebe, Discuss)

Ebe: Have spoken about this in all one on one meetings. Some anxiety around not having access until 1st of December. Would like approval of outgoing CCE to get access to all incoming reps as soon as possible to both drive and sa.clubs email. Other emails contain slightly more sensitive information, so happy to not provide these early. Drive contains some unique documents that would be valuable.

Jason: Can do drive immediately, email access will take more time.

Ebe: Agreed, but hope to get done as soon as possible to reduce time lag.

James: May be useful to ask in advance if all exec emails can be transferred on December 1st?

Ebe: Unlikely this would actually succeed, IT deprioritizes this, but may be able to get it to happen if aggressively followed up on.

Jacob: Part of reason it takes so long on December 1st is that there are a large number of other emails that all get access transferred on December 1st.

Ebe: Are there any current objections to granting access to new office bearers? Most people should have moved any personal information out

No objections made

Ebe: Does anyone have password for theclubscouncil@gmail.com?

James: Had to reset due to attempted access from Argentina.

Motion: Grant email access to all incoming reps, to individual officer emails and main sa.clubs email account and grant google drive access to all incoming reps as soon as is convenient.

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Moved: Ebe

Seconded: Jason

Motion carries.

6.3. Project Reports, WG updates (James, Discuss)

James: Everyone should be somewhat aware of working groups, useful to allow projects to be pursued and to take some content out of CCE meetings. Most working groups have been unable to come to final conclusions. Would like them all to create final reports to pass on to incoming Executive so they can decide how to carry on that work. Some information around affiliations reform may have already been done -

Ebe: Neither affiliations officers (outgoing/incoming) are here so this unclear.

James: True, would like this to be clarified by next CCE meeting. Important for incoming Executive to be able to see previous work and build on it if desired.

Ebe: A number of those things likely in handovers, but some are outside of particular roles. Anything like that should be noted in some way so they can be passed on and potentially worked on over the Summer.

James: Probably unnecessary to move this, can leave it up to those heading up those working groups.

Action item: Anyone chairing or convening a working group to create those reports and pass them on to next year's Executive.

Ebe: Travel grant reform may not be useful, as likely that that grant will be axed next year. Potentially useful to pass it on for 2021 Executive who may want to reinstate it.

Jason: Could 'take offline' for next year.

7. Funding items

7.1. RRRS Ball Profit Cap (Jacob, Decide)

Jacob: Ball was run well, RRRS would normally be eligible for \$200 profit funding, but should exercise discretion and cap this. Particularly important to cap this grant, as original submission didn't even take into account any profit. Normally would like to reward them doing better than expected, but rewarding in these circumstances is effectively queue-jumping.

James: Sounds reasonable.

Ebe: Loathe to take away this given how little funding will be available next year, but given circumstances this is probably necessary.

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Jacob: May even want to consider reducing ability to profit off of grants entirely for next year, given budgetary constraints. When RRRS finalized acquittal, probably could be reasonably expected that wouldn't be money to fund it.

Motion: to cap the profit for the RRRS ball grant at \$0.

Moved: Jacob

Seconded: Ebe

Motion is carried

8. Other Business

8.1. Erin - CLO (Ebe, discuss)

Ebe: This is effectively to explain more about how this is going. Erin has been brought on board to support ANUSA's social portfolio - this quite different to how Sam was brought on specifically to support clubs council. He provided great deal of assistance and support for training programs, also attended CCMs. Also important to note that the way that the community life officer was initially bid for was to provide support to CC. That role has now changed to support ANUSA's social portfolio, particularly campaigns that require physical presence.

For us, that means we have significantly reduced staff help. Particularly in terms of monitoring emails. Erin's hours dedicated to CC have not been clarified, but it's unlikely we'll have much support from her until March at the earliest. Her strengths are in events and events planning, so we should keep her linked in to our activities, particularly so if something needs to be brought to ANUSA, a staff member is aware of it in advance. This is consistent with past precedence. If any incoming Executive have any concerns, please register them.

Need to have pending acquittal information passed on to incoming Executive.

9. Recall Actionables

- a. **Jacob to find 2018 numbers for budget.**
- b. **Jacob to find deadline, if any, for funding acquittals.**
- c. **Ebe to post and finalise the statement about the SSAF allocation.**
- d. **Anyone chairing or convening a working group to create those reports and pass them on to next year's Executive.**

10. Meeting Close

Meeting Closed: 7:26 pm