
MINUTES - STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL 5 2011

Wednesday 28th September 2011 - ANUSA Boardroom

Attendance List:

Leah Ginnivan – President of the Association

Brody Warren – Vice-President of the Association

Shaun Wykes – General Secretary of the Association

Victor White – Treasurer of the Association

Hannah Purdy – Social Officer of the Association

Christian Dent – Education Officer of the Association

Penny Rumble – Queer* Officer of the Association

Kate McMurtrie – Womens Officer of the Association

Sean Munro – Environment Officer of the Association

Angeline Tan – International Officer of the Association

Isobel Morphy-Walsh – Indigenous Officer of the Association

Stephanie Smythe – Disabilities Officer of the Association

Ridah Hassan – General Representative

Elaine Yi Li – General Representative

Jamie Bryce – General Representative

Emily Criticos – General Representative

Maea Lenei Buhre – General Representative

Callum Brindley – General Representative

Thomas Barrington-Smith – General Representative

Dallas Proctor – General Representative

Sarah Jane Collum – General Representative

Faculty Representatives:

Abby D'Cruz

Fleur Hawes

Galvin Chia

Mei Godfry-Yik

Nakul Legha

Ipshita Mondal

Talha Baseer

Nithiya Mohan

Item 1: Meeting Opens and Apologies

Meeting opened at 6.06pm.

Apologies received from Marie Ngiam, Maneka Sivanathan, Simon Ngo, Shan-Verne Liew and Gabi Dutton.

Item 2: Minutes from the Previous Meeting including Matters Arising

MOTION: That the minutes from SRC 4 2011 be accepted.

Moved: Shaun Wykes

Seconded: Leah Ginnivan

Motion passed.

PROCEDURAL MOTION: That we consider Item 5.1 immediately, before returning to the agenda as planned.

Moved: Fleur Hawes

Seconded: Emily Criticos

Motion passed

Absentions: 1

5.1 Degree Changes and Drama (M. Tee Ka Foo & R. Graham)

- **Remy Graham:**
 - Come here in capacity as President of N.U.T.S. (National University Theatre Society)
 - There have been changes made to Drama Faculty – courses cut down, lecturers let go – seems to be that Drama will not be functioning soon
 - Seems to be issues with transparency and communication with students
 - A lot of people didn't know what was happening until there was nothing that could be done about it
 - Just wanted to have a discussion about different options students could in engaging with people about this issue
 - A lot of the frustration behind the "Save the Humanities" campaign was that no one knew what was going on before it was too late
 - Other than huge meetings with loads of course changes – what procedures are in place for students to find out about this?
- **Fleur:** Do you think class reps can give out information when they meet with people (such as Joan Beaumont)?
 - **Remy:** Got sideline answers - at no point were we given confirmation about what we could do with this process
 - **Fleur:** Is an issue with admin treating students?
 - **Remy:** There was a top down approach within CASS – would be interested in seeing greater effort to show people why the changes are being made to their degrees before the changes are made
- **Callum:** What are the cuts to courses?
 - **Fleur:** Drama is a minor now as per the course changes – Joan Beaumont is saying there are not other lecturers and not willing to hire them – part of the specialization
 - **Callum:** Request for consultation doesn't mean much if ANUSA doesn't fight against these cuts
- **Galvin:** Experience with Art and Music School libraries – students had a lot of frustrations – Art and Music school students approached students – is we hear about a possible issue should students approach ANUSA? Or should ANUSA approach students?
 - **Remy:** Would be good for an attempt to increase the accessibility students have to come and talk to ANUSA reps – Fleur and Galvin came to find Remy but that came too late in the process – wasn't aware of the avenues except of talking to the Heads of CASS – but they were just consolations rather than an opportunity to act upon anything
- **Fleur:** Agree with concerns – on how can ANUSA deal with it better – do you have any suggestions?
 - **Remy:** Having people accepted as the people to talk to – students who are interested should go and talk to specific students –tricky to work out means of dealing with it – need consolation at an earlier stage
- **Callum:** Save the Humanities and Stop the Library Merger – campaigns working for the betterment of students – do you think Drama students would like to fight these cuts? ANUSA could be the body that could help with that.

- **Remy:** Subjective opinion – looking to fight against the cuts – Drama students have had the wind knocked out of their sails – students now feel like they can do nothing about it
- **Christian:** Drama students tried something similar last year with Save the Humanities but they did not feel it was very successful because no one talked to them – they felt it was better to seek out systems
- **Mei:** Does anyone know if the Executive knew this was happening? What aren't Arts Reps sitting on board dealing with this?
 - **Fleur:** When Arts Reps got handover there were lots of question marks around Drama – huge disconnect and then suddenly the decision was made
 - **Brody:** Got a handover of the majors and minors – when Leah and Brody raised it with the University Deans they presented as though it has already been done
 - **Remy:** Went to the same meeting in question – heard talk of a SASS survey but made it look like they were just looking at courses
- **Leah:** Same position as Brody – when pressed upon it they said they hadn't been doing well in Drama and felt that it wasn't up to scratch – their rationale was that they could offer it 'properly' as a minor but it could not be as rigorous as a major
- **Remy:** Not questioning rationale behind the decision – doesn't call for much research and it is a stepping stone to other drama academies – 1 or 2 people come back for PhD research – what was most upsetting that 50-200 had invested time into what they thought would be a finished degree – being aware of those changes is important
- **Shaun:** What would you like to get out of this?
 - **Remy:** Thought it was a good point to bring to ANUSA – looking to generate ideas about how to have more transparency
- **Isobel:** Are you annoyed at ANUSA? Or at the process? Or would you like ANUSA to advocate further?
 - **Remy:** Process was intrinsically flawed – people most flawed had nothing to do with the process – reversal may not be possible but to make some change as to how CASS goes about consultation
- **Ridah:** Question of whether ANUSA should take a step – that does not need to be one or another – position should be that we oppose these cuts to drama – there is a general trend that students are blocked out of the process – meetings aren't getting us anywhere – ultimately university is a business
- **Maea:** Asian Studies perspective – with their majors and minors reshuffling they dealt with it well – sent out an email to all students – perhaps ANUSA should put forward policy so that all students need to be consulted
- **Emily Criticos:** Going to say exactly that – make sure that agendas for all meetings are available to the public and that the reps can get access to it
- **Cal (Point of Clarification):** Happy to downgrade majors?
 - **Maea:** No, because degrees being affected were discussed
 - **Ippy:** Forum for CAP – Pacific Studies students were disillusioned so they held the meeting – was a good outcome
- **Remy:** One further issue – students felt like they were being sidelined – they were being told they didn't have an option and that they didn't know anything – Jackie Low said that the Papermoon theatre company hadn't been shut down which was a lie – flaw is people if CASS think that is ok
- **Galvin:** Difficult with student consolation – interpretation of VC strategic plan – curious with how SASS interacts with university and ANUSA?
 - **Mark:** SASS is to protect students – not informed before hand so that is the dilemma
 - **Galvin:** Would you like to sit in on Educational Committee meetings?
 - **Mark:** Yes
- **Leah:** In College Education Committee meetings is where these decision are being made – not sure how Fac Reps get out what is happening in the agenda to get people to talk about – good to include more visibly agenda items - CASS & CAP are creating new majors quite regularly – important that it is important where students want to study but can't at the moment
- **Abby:** Although good that consultation and student meetings have had good outcomes – that doesn't seem to be a blanket ban – CASS seems to put students aside sometimes
 - **Remy:** Happy having everyone here know about it
- **Callum:** Different disciplines – Science or Asian Studies are creating majors for what people want

MOTION: ANUSA hereby condemns the university's decision to downgrade the drama major to a minor and reiterates ANU students' right to study disciplines of interest without the need to be financially justified. ANUSA hereby endeavors to seek the views of drama students on campaigning to reinstate drama as a major. ANUSA should further explore ways to engage students, particularly in regards to faculty reps.

- Moved:** Callum Brindley
- Waive right to speak

Seconded: Remy Graham

- Would love to hear more feedback about amendments, decisions

Speakers

- **Leah:** Following on from Cal's point of studying things regardless of cost – need to take issue seriously. Don't think we can enter discussions about learning whatever we want to learn regardless of cost.
- **Isobel:** Disagree with Leah – as student representatives we should be fighting for what we want – ANU finds itself in a very profitable position – we should not be worried about ANU
 - **Remy (Point of Clarification):** Told there were lots of costs with cutting down courses – Drama wasn't financially the strongest course but it was a preemptive decision
- **Abby:** Agree with Leah – have responsibility to relay concerns to university and not to just pay for it no matter what it cost – we need to make a point about the consultation process and the consistent lack of consultation
- **Mei:** Disclaimer before it is talked about – if motion is too aspirational it won't be taken seriously.
- **Callum:** Don't think we need to make any amendments – need to look at how students would make decisions about majors – how do you put a value on drama? The university has plenty of money, refitting building across the university but merging two libraries to save \$200,000 – we are paying for our courses – Govt funding has fallen from 90% to just over 50% - why can't we say what students want?
- **Penny:** We shouldn't be bending over backwards to be in line with the university
- **Victor:** Not looking at the budget – have to be realistic – none of us have the budgets of the departments before us – we need to push harder with the university
- **Emily C:** Trying to do a drama major and not sure if they will be able to finish it – Drama has quite a lot of popularity so people are still interested – important for students to be behind other students
- **Galvin:** Dealing with college issues – university is just a homogenous entity – university is very catty – for students to look at financial concerns it doesn't matter – what Cal is advocating is for more student action
- **Ridah:** Agree with Isobel – not trying to make it more attractive to management – advocating for the best way to move forward – playing on their terms will end in defeat – being reasonable doesn't always work – library campaign have gone through the correct channels – still not getting any information out of the VC – need to fight for what students want

AMENDMENT: That the first sentence reads: "ANUSA, bearing in mind the necessary resource constraints placed upon the university, condemns the lack of consultation on the decision to downgrade the drama major to a minor and the policy of forcing students to financially justify their academic interests."

- **Moved:** Mei Godfrey-Yik
 - We really need to think about the issues – not worth running courses where there are eight students
- **Seconded:** Abby D'Cruz
 - Responsibility to students - irresponsible of us to not take into account reasonable measures – what is the best way we can affect the proposal

Speakers

- **Isobel:** Irresponsibility is a bad word – don't see how the motion is unreasonable

VOTE

For: 14

Against: 7

Abstention: 3

Returned to discussion of amended motion.

- **Callum Brindley (Right of Reply):** Important that student act on these issues – pressure on university to oppose music and art school libraries and needs to be followed up with action

VOTE

For: 23

Against: 0

Abstain: 2

MOTION AS PASSED: ANUSA, bearing in mind the necessary resource constraints placed upon the university, condemns the lack of consultation on the decision to downgrade the drama major to a minor and the policy of forcing students to financially justify their academic interests. ANUSA hereby endeavors to seek the views of drama students on campaigning to reinstate drama as a major. ANUSA should further explore ways to engage students, particularly in regards to faculty reps.”

- **Remy:** Thanks for people for bearing through that – great that we could be heard and that action could be taken against it

Item 3: Reports and Matters Arising

3.1 Executive Reports

3.1.1 Presidents’ Report (L. Ginnivan) [Reference A]

- DOI is making its strategic operational plan to see it through the next 3 years about what students think it important – Space Services, computers etc – seem a bit out of touch – when Java comes up on WebMail – if people think DOI could be better then now is the time – send all stuff through to Leah or DOI
- CASS/CAP – fighting that is unconstructive with student issues – Head of Politics think CASS is a pretty serious issue – VC willing to intervene if there are good ways for it to be solved

Question

- **Fleur:** What is co-op issue in your report?
 - **Leah:** Food co-op after some negotiations will be in SA4 next year and won’t have to pay any rent – ANU Student Media is also moving over there

Motion: That the President’s Report be accepted.

Moved: Brody Warren

Seconded: Victor White

Motion passed.

3.1.2 Vice-President’s Report (B. Warren) [Reference B]

- Can be taken as read – nothing too exciting

Questions

- **Galvin:** Did we pay for the font in the logo? IP issue?
 - **Brody:** Will check.
 - **Galvin:** Would be good to find out what font it is

Motion: That the Vice-President’s Report be accepted.

Moved: Tom Barrington-Smith

Seconded: Kate McMurtrie

Motion passed.

3.1.3 General Secretary’s Report (S. Wykes) [Reference C]

- OGM Constitutional changes coming up
- Dallas Proctor replacing Josh Wiseman as General Representative
- Date of CRC and SRC have been swapped
- Robin Shannon decided not to dispute his removal from office– Sean Munro is the new Environment Officer

Motion: That the General Secretary’s Report be accepted.

Moved: Kate McMurtrie

Seconded: Galvin Chia

Motion passed.

3.1.4 Treasurer's Report (V. White) [Reference D]

- Please submit Department ideas of what you would want if you had more money – not mega urgent but to give an idea for the Treasurer of what the Department budget should be – within the next couple of weeks

Questions

- **Isobel:** Will departments get different amounts?
 - **Victor:** Not against the idea of departments getting different amounts of money - Not sure if the SSAF legislation will pass and, if it does, what the university will do with the money.
 - **Isobel:** Giving one department more money may seem mean to be valuing the departments differently
- **Ridah:** Does ANUSA have position on where money will go?
 - **Victor:** Yes
 - **Leah:** VC said it would go to democratically elected student representatives – issue that university may want to spend money on organizations that are not democratically elected, think that all money should go to central committee of student organizations
- **Emily C:** Splitting up the money may seem unfair but giving one department more money may be necessary and it should be on a needs

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Brody Warren

Seconded: Christian Dent

Motion passed.

3.1.5 Social Officer's Report (H. Purdy) [Reference E]

- Report is very short
- Information in the booklet – Dallas was instrumental in setting up the handbook – 100% finished – didn't print out booklet
- Putting it up at the OGM – to amend the regulations
- 2012 Student Diary – may be joint with PARSAs but still working on that
- Making "How to" guides for O-Week – way to cut down the work

Questions

- **Callum:** Funding prohibitions are problematic – illegal activities that are justified – student movements have done things that are illegal in the past
- **Victor:** ANUSA doesn't support crime – shouldn't support third party groups committing crimes
- **Dallas:** Lots was copied and pasted from Sydney Uni Union
 - **Hannah:** Would be good to have it in there – illegal things like killing is bad
- **Mei:** Good legal reasons to keep it in there
- **Penny:** Regulations override everything
- **Mei:** Article 11 talks about compliance with Anti-Discrimination legislation – some groups challenge anti-discrimination

Motion: That the Social Officer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Kate McMurtrie

Seconded: Victor White

Motion passed.

3.1.6 Education Officer's Report (C. Dent) [Reference F]

- Taken as read

Motion: That the Education Officer's Report be accepted.
Moved: Victor White
Seconded: Kate McMurtrie
Motion passed.

3.2 Department Reports

3.2.1 Women's Department Report (K. McMurtrie) [Reference G]

- Clothing swap – Saturday 8th October

Motion: That the Women's Department Report be accepted.
Moved: Penny Rumble
Seconded: Brody Warren
Motion passed.

3.2.2 Queer* Department Report (P. Rumble) [Reference H]

- Taken all as read – working to make ANU a Queer* friendly campus – no idea how it will go down – good to hear thoughts on proposal

Questions

- **Isobel:** Could the proposal it be sent around?
 - **Penny:** Yes!
- **Penny:** Need non-discrimination in language policy
- **Kate:** Penny is an amazing trooper
- **Mei:** Policy looks really comprehensive
- **Brody:** Coming to Access and Equity?
 - **Penny:** Yes, never been to one
- **Leah:** Have you spoken to any members of the committee?
 - **Penny:** Spoken to Deb, speak to Dean of Students
 - **Isobel:** Luce is involved with Diversity Committee
- **Leah:** What is the specific outcome?
 - **Penny:** Tried to do as much work as possible – not writing a non-discriminatory and language policy

Motion: That the Queer* Department Report be accepted.
Moved: Brody Warren
Seconded: Galvin Chia
Motion passed.

3.2.3 International Students' Department Report (A. Tan) [Reference I]

- Taken as read – mostly about Harmony Week
- Elections for ISD with Shaun – hopefully get that done by week 11

Motion: That the International Students' Department Report be accepted.
Moved: Fleur Hawes
Seconded: Tom Barrington-Smith
Motion passed.

3.2.4 Indigenous Students' Department (I. Morphy-Walsh)

- Indigenous games went well – 14 to 3 students – went with ACU and Melbourne University instead
- Financial report – money has been withdrawn and all of it has been reimbursed from department

- Apparently there are 90 indigenous students at the university at the moment – which means collective needs 9 students for quorum - Collective doesn't believe it is only 90 students – may be some fudging of numbers

Questions

- **Callum:** If university is not supporting the Jabal Centre that is not good enough
 - **Isobel:** Not that there is no funding, just not allowed to be on panel, haven't had quick hiring policies
- **Callum:** Is it administrative or failing of the university? Would it be helpful for ANUSA to pass a motion?
 - **Isobel:** Precarious situation with the university – the more I push the more the student body is being alienated
- **Leah:** Can we go above the Jabal Centre?
 - **Isobel:** Need to wait for official complaints – but no one is willing to stand up
 - **Leah:** If you are getting students concerned – you can go to the Head of the Jabal Centre

Motion: That the Indigenous Students' Department Report be accepted.

Moved: Brody Warren

Seconded: Emily Criticos

Motion passed.

3.2.5 Disabilities Department (S. Smythe) [Reference I]

Steph had to leave the meeting.

3.2.6 Grants and Affiliations Committee (H. Purdy) [Reference K]

- Currently investigating CSSA – appropriately responsive and still talking to them about some discrepancies
- Being funded by embassies is not a big deal

Motion: That the Grants and Affiliations Committee Report be accepted.

Moved: Victor White

Seconded: Brody Warren

Motion passed.

3.2.7 Education Committee [Reference L]

- Taken as read

Questions

- **Isobel:** What was decided at Education Committee about NUS?
 - **Christian:** Decided NUS still has a lot to answer for in terms of accountability, shame that the factionalism which occurs is quite disenfranchising – necessity to have a national union for students – need to keep the relationship going
- **Isobel:** Was there discussion about funding?
 - **Christian:** Depends on Treasurer.
 - **Victor:** Met up in January with Gen Sec of NUS – looking at where he saw funding to go
- **Isobel:** How is the decision made? And by whom?
 - **Victor:** Applied for a fee waiver – which is why they got a lower fee – work with next Treasurer for the next budget
 - **Leah:** Issue mostly for next year

Motion: That the Education Committee Report be accepted.

Moved: Hannah Purdy
Seconded: Tom Barrington-Smith
Motion passed.

3.3 General Representative Reports

3.3.1 Shan Verne-Liew [Reference M]

- **Isobel:** When did Gen Reps meet last
 - **Shan:** Before meetings
- **Isobel:** Would it be good to mandate meetings?
 - **Emily C:** Hard to find times that suit everyone - Have a facebook group

MOTION: That the General Representative Report be accepted.

Moved: Brody Warren

Seconded: Tom Barrington-Smith

Motion passed.

Item 4: Notice of Motions

4.1 ANUSA Annual Report

That the ANUSA executive will organize and compile the ANUSA Annual Report to be presented to the last ANUSA Ordinary General Meeting of 2011.

Moved: Victor White

- ANUSA published an Annual Report in 2009– would like exec to replicate it
- Report from all exec members – reports from collectives and departments – Fac Reps and Gen Reps who have something substantial to report – better in content and design
- Good record of what was done – but also about long term for what was done

Seconded: Brody Warren

- *Reserved rights*

Speakers

- **Callum:** Having a record is valuable – unsure if time spent in preparing report is useful – could be a substitute for what ANUSA should be doing which is advocating for students – think that Students Association is a living organisation – not worthwhile time and energy
- **Isobel:** Is this kind of a handover? Wouldn't it operate in that kind of way with discussing long-term goals?
 - **Victor:** By it's nature it will be a kind of handover – but this is a public handover for seeing what ANUSA has actually
- **Emily Criticos:** How much time will it take? How much will it cost?
 - **Victor:** Won't cost more than \$1000 – only a small number printed off – should take 4-5 hours to collate and 4-5 hours to put together
- **Leah:** The last Annual Report was the most comprehensive account of ANUSA – valuable that we can have something about this for students to see what we've done over the year
- **Hannah:** Timing – Victor and Hannah have largely finished the required tasks so now available for other tasks
- **Galvin:** Good idea for source of triumph – could print in black and white

Motion went to a vote.

Motion passed.

Against: 1 (Callum Brindley)

4.2 Executive Outcomes

That every member of the executive shall present a report at the final SRC of each year outlining their aims at the start of the year, and what they have achieved thus far by the final SRC of every year.

Moved: Maea Lenei Buhre

- Haven't been keeping the exec too in check this year – good to see what the executive has achieved and what they aimed for – motivation for execs to report back what they have achieved

Seconded: Emily Criticos

- Sounds good

Speakers

- **Hannah:** Had a meeting at the beginning of the semester about this, which was good.
- **Leah:** How do you know that they achieved everything they said?
 - **Maea:** Could be better at the beginning of the year?
- **Ridah:** Couldn't you just go to the website?
- **Brody:** Go back to the website to hold exec to account
- **Maea:** Might be better to have at the beginning of the year – to see how objectives have changed

Motion went to a vote.

Motion passed.

Item 5: Items for Discussion

5.2 Discussion at SRC (E. Li and A. Tan)

- **Ang:** About SRC 4 and the motion that was proposed – no problem with the content of the motion – had a problem with the procedural part of the motion – motion put up to a vote without listening to the international student department side of the story – no meetings before hand about the content of the motion – feel that they were caught off guard – that they couldn't speak –the procedural motion can lead to not having a right to speak – went to a vote without considering international students
- **Isobel:** Just like to reiterate the department stands by the motion – did not move or second the procedural motion– didn't say anything before on purpose because they were fed up – apologies for that
- **Elaine:** Would like to reiterate this is not about ISD/Indigenous – great that we can spend an hour talking about some things but not allow departments or collectives to comment on motions that effect them – important to note that Ang was the only international student in the room
- **Brody:** Apologize for my part in that – not done in the best way – this could be something that we can avoid –could change the Standing Orders about letting people speak who are affected by motions?
- **Isobel:** Majority of people voted for the motion – that's what the majority of people wanted to do – moved through because of the time
- **Leah:** So many issues with procedure – raised a pretty solid point that it was unfair – like if we could have less Standing Orders – especially where it was between people – potential that we could have discussion where we suspend standing orders
- **Ridah:** Not about people attacking particular people – it is a bit more broad – people leave as soon as they can and people who stay are snarky – just passing reports and leaving is a problem
- **Cal:** Reiterate Ridah's point – if people are silenced that is an issue – agree with the Standing Orders and they are there to facilitate order – experience in ANUSA appears to be less and less – Student Association is less lively – if you are engaged early it is good to know about the Standing Orders – good to have guidance at the beginning of the year to assert
- **Christian:** SRC this year has been a lot better than last year – it was very exec heavy last year – but good that there have been discussions this year – positive SRC this year – Standing Orders there to structure

the meetings – can remove standing orders to remove them for a particular period of time – need some sort of formula

- **Emily C:** Standing Orders are good or otherwise it would be crazy
- **Isobel:** Problem was that people didn't want to be in the room – that is still going to occur unless people want to be here – could have food here

Item 6: Other Business

6.1 Ratification of Environment Officer

The SRC ratifies the election of Sean Munro by the Environment Collective as the new Environment Officer.

Moved: Shaun Wykes

Seconded: Victor White

Motion passed.

Item 7: Date of next meeting and close

The last meeting of the Student Representative Council will be held on Wednesday 19th October 2011.

Expected close of meeting: 8.58pm

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Leah Ginnivan

Welcome back from the holidays!

Short report from me today. Will tell yas more in the meeting.

-I've been working on the housing review with Shan, Skye, Elaine, Christian, Galvin and Maea, so we'll be doing consultations with colleges next week and will bring pizza etc.

-I recently went down to the forum on constitutional recognition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. It was awesome. I encourage anyone who is interested to make a submission at <http://www.youmeunity.org.au>. Closes on 30 September.

-Areti and I are meeting with the VC next week to discuss tariffs. I also wrote an article for this week's Woroni on it and have gotten some nice emails from college students which is divine.

-SSAF: I will speak to this in the meeting.

-I have been spending a lot of time on co-op business

Other news

-elections week is now (obviously), so I encourage you to all get out.

-I'm writing a guide to appealing a mark for the website, will also write a guide to making complaints in the uni generally. Yay to Brody for making the website!

-I'm on two selection panels at the moment, for Pro Vice Chancellor (International & Outreach) and the University Librarian. I was on the panel for the new Residential Life Manager at UL.

Personal shiz: My thesis is due on Oct 24! Wish me luck. I'll be out of the office a fair bit and working on stuff from home so please email me if it's desperate.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Brody Warren

Student Survey

Not much has been happening on this front, we should have the summarised results from ANU Stat Services by next week woo! And the lovely Em Bennett has done some collating for us, more info to come – and once we receive all the data back – we'll put it in our big end of year annual report.

SSAFF Proposal

Leah and I had a meeting with some Chancelry folk in the holidays about our proposal for the introduction of the Student Services Fee Committee. Victor's proposal is pretty comprehensive, and it was reasonably well received, but they'll still need some convincing as to why it should not just be a return to the old Finance Committee. The Vice-Chancellor and Dean of Students are looking over it and we'll be having follow-up meetings in the coming week.

Last Lecture

Voting is open now! We've already received a heap of responses so that's exciting. Voting will continue until Thursday, and the result announced next week. The lecture itself will on Thursday 3rd November (Week 13) from 5pm. Get excited and get voting!

Website + Branding

Check it out... anusa.anu.edu.au – still a work in progress but the crucial documents and info are up. DOI should be redirecting (finally) in the next couple of days... YAY!

Other Relevant Info from Committees

DOI (Division of Information)

I'll have this meeting on Wednesday afternoon so I'll be able to report on any updates then. The good news is that I've now been able to include PARSA reps in our monthly meetings, as they've felt a bit out of the loop for while.

TEGC (Teaching Enhancement Grants Committee)

This was a marathon meeting during the holz, basically determining which teaching and education-related innovative projects deserve ANU funding etc. The results are still confidential at present but there are some seriously good projects going on and I'll update you all when I'm allowed to release the info.

CASC (Campus Advisory Sub-Committee)

Investigations are underway for a new carpark. Very preliminary but it's a plus as parking is always a problem.

Actual construction in the Pauline Griffin Building (for the new student hub/Griffin Hall area) will not actually begin until 2012.

ANU Security is also looking at extending the security presence on campus by adding an outpost at Lena Carmel Lodge, given the high density area it will be by next year (with UniLodges, the Enrolments Office moving, and general Civic foot-traffic). Win for Secure Students.

The long-term capital strategic plan for Halls and Colleges (particularly the buildings and facilities themselves) will be commencing soon. It's mainly an architect's perspective kind of review about renovations etc. It will most likely be conducted next year, but I'll let you know if there are any new developments between now and the end of the year.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Shaun Wykes

Appeals

Steph Smythe was successful in her appeal against her removal from office and has been reappointed.

Jarrod Hulme-Jones and Sarah Jane Collum are currently appealing their removals from office.

Robin Shannon breached his meeting attendance requirements and has decided to not appeal.

Removal from Office Constitutional Changes

I have been in discussion with the Disputes Committee about the current process under the Constitution for representatives with meeting requirements and the process of appealing a removal from office if these requirements are breached. A constitutional change has been put up for the next OGM to make this process simpler.

Housing Review

Leah and I made verbal submissions to the ACT Government Housing Review and spoke to the committee for about half an hour. We discussed UniLodge, securing off campus housing and the co-op amongst other things.

Environment Officer

The election for the new Enviro Officer will be held on Tuesday 26th September at the scheduled time for Enviro Collective meetings.

General Representative

As Josh Wiseman decided not to appeal his removal from office, Leah Ginnivan as the convener of the *Engage* ticket has chosen Dallas Proctor to take the position as per the Constitution.

Meetings

The meetings left for this term are CRC in Week 10, SRC in Week 11 and OGM in Week 12.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Victor White

Student Amenities Fee

During the holidays Brody and Leah met with Brok Glenn and Liz Deane to discuss the issue of the Student Services Amenities Fee. ANUSA's position is as follows:

The Student Services and Amenities Fee, currently before the Federal Parliament, would reintroduce a yearly fee upon students for services on campus. We want to set out an understanding between the University and the relevant Student Bodies for the distribution and accountability of this funding. We would like to see the creation of the Student Services Committee. We would also, independent of the University, reinstate the Peer Group, whereby the relevant Student Bodies would submit a joint proposal to the University for funding of the Student Bodies.

The SSAF will be compulsory for all students and as such, it can only be used to provide funds for Student Organisations that represent all students. The SSAF cannot be used to fund halls or colleges that are available to only some students. It would be an unfair and illogical use of all student funds on exclusive groups.

The ANU Students' Association proposes that all of the monies received under the Student Services and Amenities Fee be directed to the Student Bodies through the means of a newly formed committee, the Student Services Committee. At the ANUSA Joint Representative Council meeting of May 31st 2011, the Vice-Chancellor agreed that student bodies would receive all ANU's proceeds from the SSAF, and we believe this is the best way to fairly and accountably divide this income.

We will be continuing with the consultation process in the next couple of weeks. The unfortunate part of the situation is that we are completely dependent on the Senate to pass the legislation or the point of our proposal is moot. As such, we are currently also drawing up a proposal for that scenario.

Budget

Please find the budget attached. Expenditures are on track, with staffing costs higher than expected. ANUSA will likely not be returning a surplus when capital expenditures are taken into account.

End of Year Report

This year, ANUSA will compile an end of year report. This will be my purview. Reports will be required from all executive members, faculty representatives and officers. Please have a look at the 2009 one on the ANUSA website for an example about how to do one.

SOCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Hannah Purdy

Handbook COMPLETE! (see copies floating around the room)

Regulations COMPLETE! (pending feedback.. see copies floating around the room).

Currently working on the 2012 student diary

Next project: Writing up "How to guides" for O week.

EDUCATION OFFICER'S REPORT

Christian Dent

Review of student income support

The federal government undertook this review in response to criticisms of some of the recent changes to youth allowance. ANUSA made a submission to the review, and also attended a consultation session. The review recommends:

- Zones for income support be scrapped, and introducing a new system of independence eligibility that will be applied to all students.
- Increase in the value of relocation Scholarships
- Increase in the parental income test
- Abolish the rural tertiary hardship fund
- Investigating income-contingent loan schemes for student income support
- Triennial reviews of student income support

Following the review, the main changes to youth allowance are:

- Students from inner regional areas will be able to access independent Youth Allowance under exactly the same rules that apply to students from Outer Regional, Remote and Very Remote areas
- Increase in regional relocation scholarship
- Extending eligibility for youth allowance to master's degree course work has been postponed by 2 years
- Winding up of the rural tertiary hardship fund
- Start up scholarship reduced by 10%

Review of Student Visa Programme

ANUSA also made a submission to this review. Overall the changes, which are making the visa process more streamlined, are very positive, as it is making it easier for international students to study here. The main changes are:

- Reducing the amount of money international students have to have in their bank account
- Allowing students two years of work rights after the completion of a bachelor degree
- Removing any English language proficiency requirement. The level of English required is now going to be determined by the Higher Education provider
- Removing any distinction of high risk/low-risk countries that previously existed. (eg. Students from high risk countries like India and China, had stricter/more difficult visa conditions).

The review also recommended removing the automatic or mandatory cancellation of visas if student's breached certain visa conditions (eg. Unsatisfactory progress or class attendance), as well as increasing the amount of hours international students may work from 20 to 40 hours.

Student Services and Amenities Fee

The government has agreed to one of the amendments that NUS, ANUSA and campuses around the country had been lobbying for. Under the updated National Student Representation Protocols, universities will be required to engage in a formal process of consultation with democratically elected student representatives about specific uses of proceeds from the fee, and to consider their views on funding priorities. It is extremely pleasing to see the federal government listening to students' concerns, and this amendment proves that

student organisations, including ANUSA, can influence the government and make a real difference for students.

National Student Concession Card

Following the motion at the OGM I wrote to the Premier, Education, Transport and Community services minister of each state urging them to support the implement a National Student Concession Card. Hopefully this will be discussed at the upcoming Community and Disability Services Ministers' Conference (CDSMC).

The online petition is still going at <http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/a-national-student-concession-card.html>.

Education Committee

The Next Education Committee meeting will be on Wednesday the 12th October at 5pm in the ANUSA board room.

WOMENS OFFICER'S REPORT

Kate McMurtrie

Recent Activities

Reclaim What? Forum

The Womens Collective ran a forum in collaboration with the ACT Womens Network about the future of sexual violence campaigning. Two campaigns which took centre stage were Reclaim the Night and SlutWalk (which the ANU Womens Collective ran earlier this year). There was a good turnout and great discussion. I then attended the ACT Womens Network meeting and they used the discussions from the event to dictate what Reclaim the Night this year will look like. I have been attending ACT Womens Network meetings which is a great opportunity to engage the wider community of Women in Canberra. The Collective has also been selling Canberra Rape Crisis Centre merchandise to help them raise funds.

Womens Rape Crisis Centre Meeting

Members of the Collective met with members of the Canberra Rape Crisis Centre to discuss a campaign around safety for students which will launch in O Week in 2012.

NOWSA Planning Group

The Womens Collective has been running NOWSA working groups to start discussing what topics and speakers we would like to see come to the ANU next year for NOWSA 2012. There needs to be a general theme to the event which will go for 5 days and a coherent structure. When more details are finalised we will approach the ANU about providing some funding for the project.

Movie Night

The Collective ran another movie night which included Wonder Woman and Easy A.

Meeting with Joy Burch

The Womens Collective ran a meeting that hosted Joy Burch. It was really informative to hear what the Minister has been doing in the ACT, and it was great to have an opportunity to ask her questions.

Upcoming Events

Collective Clothing Swap at ANU – Saturday October 8, 11 am – 2pm

Expenditure

\$90 – Sofa for the Rapunzel Room

\$100 – Movie Night

\$40 – Wall Decal for the Rapunzel Room

\$200 – Reclaim What Forum (includes catering and set up for the event with speakers, etc)

Total - \$430

QUEER* OFFICER'S REPORT

Penny Rumble

The Queer Spacepocalypse

The Queer Space's beloved annoying drip transformed into a horrific sewage leak last term, so there was much yelling at Facilities and Services for leaving it on the back burner for six months, and much purging of old stuff. We had to chuck about a quarter of what was in the room, including old banners and things, which was sad. On the upswing, we've had a carpet and paint job and replaced some of the old stuff, so it's looking better than ever.

Proposal to the University Access & Equity Committee

The DLC Officer and I recently finished up and submitted a proposal to the UAEC, with a laundry list of proposed changes including:

1. Changes to Staff Code of Conduct
2. Changes to Policy for the Prevention of Discrimination, etc
3. Changes to Equal Opportunity Policy
4. Creation of a binding non-discriminatory language policy and guidelines for its use, modelled on the Universities of Sydney, Wollongong and Melbourne, to be completed by the end of the year
5. Creation of an online training module or other method for disseminating the policy to staff and students, to be implemented in time for first semester 2012
6. Clarification of complaints procedures and points of contact, and inclusion of the Queer* Officer as a support person
7. Every academic and residential college to have at least one trained Ally, and an online list to be kept. The complaints policy and procedure must link to this list
8. Online facility for anonymous reporting of homophobic, sexist, transphobic and intersexphobic incidents to be established in time for first semester 2012
9. The conversion of a number of men's toilets around campus to unisex – involving changes to signs
10. Future reviews of relevant policies, and inquiries into student equity, should be conducted in consultation with student representatives

The major reason for the policy changes 1, 2 & 3 was that the old discrimination definitions were so out of date that you could tell they were written under the influence of 80s hair. I've attached the whole proposal, if you're interested, and I'd love to hear everyone's thoughts on it. The UAEC meeting's set for October 5th, so we'll see what happens.

Pride week planning

The Queer* Collective and Jellybabies are gearing up for Pride Week, which is set to be in week 11. The Queer Ball will return, as well as other fun stuff.

Total recent expenditure:

Replacing some of the damaged stuff in the Queer Space: \$450 so far (to be reimbursed by Facilities & Services)

Reimbursement for last semester's Queery food: \$84

Reimbursement for QC: \$225

Badge stuff: \$140 (\$42 to be reimbursed by Ally)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS DEPARTMENT REPORT

Angeline Tan

Harmony Week was organized in week 4 in conjunction with some nationalities based clubs and societies. There were events held throughout week 4:

1. - Korean National Day celebration
2. - Engagement Day in union court
3. - International movie night
4. - Harmony Day

The week culminates with Harmony Day being held on 20 August 2011(Saturday) which was filled with a diverse range of cuisine, performances, and a number of other exciting activities. We sold out 500 tickets.

There were in total 9 student societies which participated in the event, serving various types of international food, beverages and desserts. There were various performances being performed, including a Samoan dance by the ANU Pasifika Society, Flash Mob dance by ANU dance, solo singing performances by ANU international students and an Arabian instrumental performance.

DISABILITIES DEPARTMENT REPORT

Steph Smythe

Personal Complaints

I have received a few personal complaints from students with regards to the operations and advice given by the centre, in particular by one member of the staff there. I am looking into each of these complaints and speaking the appropriate people to see that a solution is reached which will hopefully be satisfactory to all persons involved.

Residential Halls and Colleges Applications

At the second meeting of the Disability Sub-Committee, the issue was raised of the online application form for admission to the halls and colleges. The current form as it stood when applications were opened up for next year, had only a single question asking perspective students if they have a disability and a 140-character response allowed. The concern was made that this type of question does not allow for students to fully describe their disability and if they require assistance what facilities are in fact offered by each of the halls for students with disabilities. There is also no disclaimer on this form clarifying the intentions with the gathering of such information and that they would not be placed at any disadvantage.

The sub-committee assigned a person at accommodation services to review this question and the decision was made to remove the question from the application form altogether for the time being. I believe that this is not an appropriate solution to the situation but I have been informed that this is the best thing to do until a new question or set of questions can be approved to go on the form for future intake years.

I raised the issue with a person of the sub-committee that it is not only the questions on the application form which need to be improved but also the information and advertising which halls and colleges have available to future students. I am going to speak to hall administration about including what facilities are available for students requiring assistance and a process for establishing what halls can and cannot offer students.

Disability Action Plan 2009-2012

There is a process currently being carried out for a review of the Disability Action Plan and the sub-committee have asked for input into the review before it is taken to the University Access and Equity Committee. It has become a consensus that Action Plan as it currently stands is neither ineffective nor appropriate to the needs of students and the university. There are significant elements missing from the Action Plan and it is believed that the whole plan needs review and a new one to be established.

It is a very eager goal of the department and the sub-committee to write a new Action Plan which properly addresses the needs of students as well as staff in its operation.

Finances

The department has had no expenditure since last meeting. I am awaiting the documents from the tax office to complete the ABN process which thanks to the end of the financial year has proven to be a very slow process.

Reference K

GRANTS AND AFFILIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Hannah Purdy

Expenditure since last report:

ANU Volunteers	\$346.5
Singapore Student's Acss	\$500.00
Chemistry Society	\$750.00
Japan Society	\$400.00
Pakistan Students Ass	\$350.00
ANU Management Consu	\$200.00
ANU Social Skate	\$200.00
League of Extraordinary	\$100.00
Chocolate Appreciation S	\$400.00
ANU NZ Student Society	\$200.00
ANU Music Society	\$250.00
Mahjong United	\$160.00
Korean Society	\$500.00
Hongkong Students Ass	\$600.00
Biology Society	\$600.00

CSSA:

I am currently investigating complaints received about the Chinese Students' and Scholars Association.

They have been very helpful in providing me with the required information however I am still sorting through some discrepancies in the data.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Christian Dent

Last Meeting

At the last meeting I went through the NUS education conference report. We talked ANUSA's relationship with NUS, as well as other higher education issues including the Student Services and Amenities Fee and deregulation.

Next Meetings

The Next Education Committee meeting will be on Wednesday the 12th October at 5pm in the ANUSA board room. We will be discussing the recent reviews on Student income support, International Student Visas and (hopefully) the Base funding review. We might even look at the "campus crime" stoppers campaign being run by NUS.

Expenditure

Education Committee has spent \$ 256.00 this year. The majority of this was spent on the National Day of Action.

GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT'S

Shan Verne Liew

1. Neighbourhood Day

2. UniGardens

- With Skye and Maea and Jamie
- Social visit - they had a Chinese Moon festival celebration last week on Sunday
- In loose contact with their deputy head, but we should make another personal visit imminently
- Their Deputy Head is calling more of the shots re: community there

3. Accommodation Survey

- With Elaine
- Trial in Union Court during Bush-week - transformed into the Housing Review
- Keeping the qualitative answers

4. Housing Review

- With Leah, Elaine, Maea, Christian, Galvin

5. Gen Rep Meetings

- With Skye, Emily, Maea at the last one before OGM 3