

# AGENDA – College Representative Council (CRC) 5 2020

Wednesday 5 August 2020

Zoom - 6:15pm

https://anu.zoom.us/j/95696409984?pwd=eHREOE50OFFmRmcxU0Z3dUhqRktvZz09 Meeting ID: 956 9640 9984 Password: 426992

## **Item 1: Meeting Open and Apologies**

# 1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Ngunnawal and Ngambri people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which ANUSA operates. We recognise the Ngunnawal and Ngambri people as the Traditional Custodians of the land on which ANUSA operates. We pay our respect to Elders, past and present, and commit to standing with our First Nations people.

#### 1.2 Apologies

Received by the General Secretary via email.

1.3 Passing of previous meetings minutes (CRC 4 2020)

Motion: To pass the minutes from CRC 4 2020.

Mover: James Seconder: Sam Outcome: Passes

Procedural motion moved by Sai to suspend the standing orders in so far as to allow for discussion. Passes.

Procedural motion moved by Ben to move motion 4.1 to now. Passes.

#### **Item 4: Discussion Items**

- 4.1 Online learning feedback/issues
  - Lachy: Adrian from PPM is here to gather feedback. Space for us to talk about online learning, take stock about successes/struggles and moving into next semester.
  - Adrian: PPM are creating a topic paper that is going to the university executive, as they would like a data-driven approach to whether online learning is working. Been doing interviews with staff. Would like to gather the student perspective through ANUSA.

Anything that is spoken about will go into a topic paper and be joined with data from PPM to go to the university executive.

- Adrian: Does anyone here have a blended course that is not fully online? Or do you have an online course where you have had an experience that you were not anticipating?
  - Sophie: All courses are online. CECS are trying to make sure that everything is online. Very hard to engage with other students online. Best approach has been smaller breakout rooms in workshops. However, students are not feeling comfortable to speak in these breakout rooms also – may be feeling isolated.
  - o Adrian: I had a Wattle course where they did not upload information until just before the lecture.
  - Lachy: Courses not being up on time was rampant across the Colleges. Looks like the university is letting its academic standards slip in terms of its organisation. There is also nowhere for students to do tutorials if students are studying on-campus. The way that lectures have been either pre-recorded or viewed as compulsory has been problematic for accessibility. Lack of resourcing and training for tutors seems to be an issue and something that the uni promised to do.
  - O Ben W: Some Course Convenors seem to be struggling to use Wattle in a fully online context. These Convenors used to be able to convey things better in live lectures. Also some lecturers seem to be struggling to record online lectures. I have a course with an on-campus tutorial the two tutorials that were on-campus filled up in under two minutes. Seems that students want to see people.
  - O James: Students do want to be on-campus as much as possible. There are not enough adequate spaces on-campus for students to participate in their tutorials. Uni has prioritized particular courses that are taught on-campus. Substantive majority of language courses are online impossible to learn a language online.
  - David: In CBE, the biggest issue has been recycled lecture content and courses that are only uploading recordings. Also had issues with the Wattle pages. Some course outlines that have been uploaded are very vague.
  - O Georgina: Had student concerns in COL about lectures including breakout rooms that involve activities that are normally conducted in tutorials. Think there may be options for how lecturers can record it, and whether breakout rooms themselves are recorded. Have also heard from students that have privacy concerns about lectures being recorded.
  - o Max: Breakout rooms are regular in lectures to build discussion. You just see what the teacher sees when lectures with breakout rooms are recorded.
  - Lachy: There have been a large number of courses, often 3000-level courses, that have exclusively workshops or seminars. This may be a way for lecturers to make lectures basically compulsory.
  - O John: I have a blended class and a few purely online courses. Was very excited to have a class in-person. Good to be able to interact with people. Online classes are not the same. Have heard that the staff member running one of my courses has the responsibility for cleaning and sanitizing also seems to be indicative of a trend of the university asking staff to pick up the extra work and not adequately supporting them to do that.
  - Sophie: The concern with having blended courses is that students who physically can't come back to campus may experience a poorer quality course. Also really miss in-person learning, but I'd prefer having the entire class online so that the experience is the same for all students.
  - o Skanda: Some students have bad internet connections.
  - o John: We are facing the inverse problem from before COVID where there are no rooms available on-campus. There is a huge demand for library study rooms. There

- is no mechanism to book empty classrooms.
- o Lachy: Currently talking to F&S about booking classrooms. Also looking at turning whole library floors into social floors where people can do online classes.
- Madhu: Think it's good that we're looking at tangible short-term solutions. What we also should do is look at the long-term multi-modal course development is not a new thing, and it needs to be course-specific. Every course having two different ways of engaging (online and in-person) would maintain the quality of both forms of delivery.
- o Adrian: If anyone has any further feedback, welcome to send an email.
- o James: Access to tutors and lecturers for contact hours has been an issue. A vast majority of tutors and lecturers are on-campus.
- o John: Weekly consultations by appointment only has been an issue for a while. We already know that our teaching staff are overworked, which is a structural issue. The focus should be on online content being to the highest quality it can be.

# **Item 2: Executive Reports**

- 2.1 President's Report (L. Day) [Reference A]
  - Lachy: Welcome everyone to CRC. Welcome people to their first ANUSA meeting. Happy to give feedback on election policy. Will provide a more comprehensive report at SRC 5.
  - Cahill: ANUSA has almost exhausted the budget for Student Assistance grants allocation can students still apply for grants? Will ANUSA be able to access more money?
    - Lachy: Our grant figures are approaching \$495,000 spent. We do have the buffer of the initial \$40,000 from our initial student assistance budget line item. ANUSA has also been given leave to do another internal allocation to put more money into grants. We identified budget line items to pull more money from at the exec planning day. ANUSA has bid for an extra \$500,000 from the university it is unclear if we'll get the full amount yet. We're not cutting the amount that people are getting through grants. Reach out to <a href="mailto:sa.assistance@anu.edu.au">sa.assistance@anu.edu.au</a> if you have financial needs.
    - o Maddy: Currently, \$445,733 have been spent of the \$500,000.
  - John: Is the \$500,000 the extra money that was allocated by the uni?
    - o Lachy: Yes.

Procedural motion moved by Sam to move all Executive and College Representatives en bloc.

- 1.4 Vice President's Report (M. Janagaraja) [Reference B]
  - Madhu: Have mainly been working on welfare reports over the past few weeks. If anyone's considering running for VP, come and talk to me. Go and talk to Lachy about election policy if you are concerned about conflicts of interest.
- 1.5 General Secretary's Report (T. Heslington) [Reference C]
  - Taylor: Will send an AQAC agenda item for feedback to the CRC about the Flexible Double Degrees recommendations. Feedback is due by Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August.

### **Item 3: College Representative Reports**

- 3.1 College of Engineering and Computer Science [Reference D]
  - Sophie: Take report mostly as read. Everything in the report is coming up in further discussions in agenda items. College budget and resources has been an issue.
  - Kriti: Towards the end of semester one, found out there were difficulties with admin getting in touch with the Honours Convenors. Hopping to have Honours-related events take place in

second semester.

# 3.2 College of Arts and Social Sciences [Reference E]

• James: Take report mostly as read. Have been able to deal with some issues with lecture recordings. Had a constructive conversation with the CASS ADE about cuts to the CASS budget. Both James and Sam are engaged in the national campaign against the fee hikes.

# 3.3 College of Law [Reference F]

- Max: Take report mostly as read. Time adjustments were made for exams. New committee
  has been established in CoL to look at student experience during COVID-19. Dealt with a
  number of questions around the impact of CRS/CRN on Honours grades. Update to the GPA
  required to enter the law degree made slightly higher than what it was, but not high
  enough to meet the ATAR requirement. Proctorio is not being used by the College of Law in
  semester two.
- Georgina: There were accessibility issues with lectures being posted on a cloud system
  rather than on Echo. Also some lectures were only going to be put up for as long as the
  cloud allowed meaning some students would not have been able to catch up on lectures, or
  review lectures before exams.

# 3.4 College of Sciences, Health and Medicine [Reference G]

• Sai: Take report as read.

#### 3.5 College of Business and Economics [Reference H]

- David: A couple of specific course updates: PPE 3 has a new convenor hopefully that will fix some ongoing issues. There were a few later year economics courses that were cancelled. Was not a lot of courses using Proctorio last semester. Heard other Colleges might be planning to use Proctorio this semester.
- Georgina: Has lecturers not being available been a constant issue across the Colleges? The CoL had to scramble and find different lecturers for law courses. The voluntary separation deadline is not due until the middle of August, so lecturers may leave in the middle of semester two.
  - Sophie: Have not had an issue with this in CECS, however there was a course that
    was planning to be discontinued at the end of this year, but they ended up cancelling
    it early because of the workload it would be to move it online.
  - Sai: This has occurred in JCOS, especially for courses that would have had a large online component.
- Georgina: Do you know if people were taking voluntary separation in CBE?
  - o David: I think so

## 3.6 College of Asia Pacific [Reference I]

• Spencer: A lot of contact with students has been regarding issues with admin, e.g. course enrolment, degree transfers. Made a couple of posts on Facebook page and emailed people about communicating information.

Procedural motion moved by Cahill to accept all Executive and College Representative reports. Passes

#### **Item 4: Discussion Items**

### 4.2 CRC budget update

• Maddy: As mandated at SRC, going to give an update of how much is left in the College Rep budget. We do not record-keep specific purchases. Of the original \$5,000, there is

- \$3,752 left. Actually \$3,552 as there is an invoice from the JCOS Representatives that is still being processed. This does not include the money that was received for Science Week.
- Sai: Is the invoice being taken out from the Science Week grant or the College Rep budget?
  - o Maddy: Happy to take it out of the grant if necessary.
  - o Sai: Can it be split \$200 from grant and \$300 from College Rep budget item?
  - o Maddy: Email and we can sort it out.
- Lachy: The SSAF process starts almost directly after elections. Would be good if people have initiatives to tell us in advance at a future CRC, so we can tell the uni that we intend to spend the money.
- James: If the CRC was to decide that the line item would be best spent in another item, can we?
  - o Lachy: Yes. It may impact the College Rep line item in the next SSAF bid though.
  - o Maddy: The process for changing the line item is very simple. Email us telling us that what the College Representatives' decision is, then it's forwarded to the PVC(UE) to approve the reallocation of the money.
  - o Madhu: We used projected costs for last year's SSAF bid.
- Sophie: Struggling to come up with ideas for how to spend money. We could start a Google Doc with ideas for how to spend money in an online world.
- Maddy: Could think about things like virtual equipment, subscriptions for things that students may find helpful.
- John: Underspending one year is used as a justification for not adequately funding things in future years. Looking at things to purchase that would benefit future students is a good idea.
- James: Should set up a Slack chat about budget. James will set up the Slack chat. Need to have an idea by CRC 6 about what to use the line item for.

#### 4.3 Academic misconduct

- Sophie: Heard in CECS and JCOS that with assessments being online, there has been an increase in academic misconduct. A lot more courses in CECS will be considering using Proctorio as a result. Have any of the Colleges heard similar things about an increase in academic misconduct? How to mitigate without Proctorio?
- Kriti: In computer science, a lot of students aren't aware of the consequences of contract cheating services.
- Lachy: Student Assistance have been swamped with requests relating to academic misconduct. First, in online exams people have been uploading the exams to discussion forums hosted by contract cheating services. Second, services often get caught after a year or so. Chegg has a privacy policy that states if you are under investigation for academic misconduct, Chegg will give your information to the university. This has also been used by the DVC(A) to say why we need Proctorio.
- Sai: This has been a big problem in JCOS. Have got feedback from students about them being aware of other students colluding. Deans have been using this to push Proctorio. JCOS are thinking of using Proctorio more this semester too.
- Spencer: One of his courses changed from Proctorio to not using Proctorio because of student pressure. It was changed to online Zoom exams, but it was unfair on tutors to have to monitor students.
- Sophie: Noticed on the ANUSA Facebook page that a post had been done about Chegg and the release of data. We should make students more aware of this, and the university should better support students so that they don't cheat. This has been a problem in CECS for years, they are beginning to look at more consequences. Seems to be some students who think that it is fine to engage in academic misconduct. A social peer pressure approach of going against cheating may work.

- James: It would be a very interesting opportunity for College Reps to run a joint information campaign about academic misconduct. Notice a lot of talk about academic misconduct in online forums. Students seem to be unaware of the consequences of academic misconduct. And also should make students aware of the ANUSA resources that they can access.
- Sophie: Potentially good to discuss this again at the next CRC when more information comes up.

# 4.4 First year experience

- Sophie: The first year cohorts in CECS have missed out on the opportunities to form student networks. They seem to be really struggling. Student societies have not been rising to the challenge because they're facing difficulties of moving their own stuff online. Have other Colleges noticed this? Could we form ideas to engage first year students in events?
- Kriti: Obvious from our CECS Education Committee meetings that CECS are aware of this, and they're trying to work on something, but we haven't heard anything concrete yet.
- Sai: In-person events are the way to go if we can hold them. Next year, we could have ANUSA College Camps that are open to second years too.
- Spencer: This is an issue we've noticed in CAP. Been working with CAPSS to gather all the Asia and Pacific related groups to create a central forum with the leaders of those groups. We're planning a consolidated effort for the rest of the semester.
- Sophie: Love the idea from Sai about having ANUSA College Camps widened to anyone who wants to attend.
- Spencer: The leaders of CAP student groups (e.g. Za Kabuki and other related groups) are having a central meeting to plan events that can be cross-advertised and promoted. CAPSS have had limited turnout to their events. Trying to create one consolidated effort.
- Sai: Interested to hear about any cool events that have been good for interaction online. Would love to hear about successful online events.

# 4.5 Course representative training

- Lachy: Course Rep training will be on Friday next week and Monday the week after. The events have been posted will send the links to the Slack channel, please share them from your pages.
- Ben W: Course Rep program is different depending on the College students are in. Thinking of running the training itself, then running breakout rooms with each College Rep and their College's Course Reps so they can be briefed on College-specific information. Would be great for one or both College Reps to be at the sessions. Have heard from people that not a lot of courses are engaging in the Course Rep program. Thinking of bumping in Slack for people to be Course Reps for their courses, even if lecturers haven't advertised it.
- James: Have heard it's been hard to get Course Reps in CASS. Have not been able to get any interested students to be Course Reps. Some lecturers seem to have not been trying very hard to get Course Reps for their courses though.
- Lachy: This is an issue that CBE has had for a while, to a point where they have other feedback mechanisms instead of Course Reps. Would be good to push the Colleges to have other feedback mechanisms there themselves. The essential part is the cohort being able to represent themselves to a Course Convenor.
- David: There were some instances in CBE where the Course Rep was an active barrier to engagement with the cohort. Important for people to continue to be represented in courses.
- Ben W: We're looking at the different ways that the Course Rep program can be run. There isn't a consistent approach to Course Reps across the university.
- Sai: Taking a while for JCOS to get back to me about Course Rep contacts.
- Spencer: Have not heard from CAP, but have a meeting on Friday where we can hopefully

- get contacts.
- Sophie: Have not heard from CECS, but they have tried a different way of getting Course Reps to sign up this semester. Sent out a link to students so they can by-pass contacting the Course Convenor.
- Lachy: Props to Ben W for his work on Course Reps this year. Will post all the info on Slack.

#### 4.6 Proctorio in semester two

- Lachy: Linked to what Sophie was saying earlier. Preliminary chat about Proctorio in the light of academic misconduct complaints. Uni seems to be trying to strong-arm Colleges into using it. Want to share information about steps that can happen over the next few weeks
- Skanda: At TLDC last week, Grady confirmed that they're intending to use Proctorio again this semester. This is frustrating because of the issues that students had with using Proctorio last semester. We have the experience and time to launch a coordinated campaign on this. Interested in hearing from Colleges if they've heard anything in College Education Committee meetings.
- Kriti: CECS used Proctorio for a few exams last semester. There was a case where they were trialling Proctorio and got one of their best students to use it, and they did much worse than usual because they were worried about looking like they were cheating. Seems like CECS is still planning on trying to use Proctorio.
- Sophie: Researcher from Monash emailed us to see if CECS students want to participate in research on how they feel about biometric invigilation. Could do a survey of how students who used Proctorio last semester felt about it. The uni gave Course Convenors so little training Course Convenors who used Proctorio did not enjoy the experience.
- Lachy: Could collaborate with the NTEU on this. Will have this as a standing item for future CRCs and keep the Slack channels open on this. Like the idea of a survey on Proctorio. Might have to pick the time that we release the survey carefully to avoid survey overload. If people have updates about Proctorio, please get in touch.
- Sai: Are in-person invigilated exams still being considered?
  - Lachy: Want flexibility and accessibility as the priorities. See no harm in an option
    of an in-person invigilated exam. The biggest thing is flexibility the more options
    that can be given to the uni, the more engaged they will be. Not limiting ourselves to
    right/wrong on this issue.
  - Sai: A number of small courses in JCOS have confirmed that they will be running some in-person exams.

### **Item: 5: Other Business**

# 5.1 Kill the Bill campaign

- Skanda: Want to promote the Kill the Bill campaign. Got notice of the proposed Federal Government fee hikes over the holidays. Looking for continued buy-in from College Reps. Good way to engage with ordinary students to get College Reps involved. Could share within your College groups if you're comfortable. Getting the university to come out against this is ideal. Has anyone had a discussion in their College Education Committees about this?
- James: CASS Associate Dean of Education is opposed to the fee hikes, which is a good step. This Bill has a huge impact on CASS and course availability. In discussions with CASS College Education Committee about their approach.
- David: Raised it in the CBE College Education Committee, but it was the day after the news had come out, so no-one was too phased yet. Impression from the Head of the Research School of Economics is that they are not particularly worried, as their funding will be increased.

- Skanda: There will be an Education Committee meeting next week to talk about this. This is something that affects all students in some way.
- John: Would be great if any College Reps who are involved in discipline Clubs could galvanise student resistance. Individual societies have resisted the fee hikes, and are a great way to organize students.
- Skanda: Earlier today at a meeting we discussed doing a satellite selfie where a bunch of people hold up signs.
- John: This Friday there is a speakout at Zed Seselja's office about the fee hikes.

# **Item 6: Meeting Close**

Expected close of meeting 8pm

Close of meeting: 8:02pm

#### Reference A

# **President's Report** CRC 5 – 12/8/2020

# **Summary**

- 1. Internal ANUSA responsibilities
  - a. Welcome
  - b. COVID-19/WHS
  - c. Executive update
  - d. Elections
  - e. Academic issues/updates

# 1. Internal ANUSA Responsibilities

a. Welcome

Welcome to CRC 5! For those who are unfamiliar with the concepts of CRC's, they provide an opportunity for students to engage with their representatives to see what they have been up to since the beginning of their terms (or the previous meeting). If you have any questions about any of the reports in this agenda, please do not hesitate in asking a question at CRC to clarify! Particularly CRCs are focused around academic advocacy

If you have suggestions about ANUSA can help or, if you need help, feel free to email me at <a href="mailto:sa.president@anu.edu.au">sa.president@anu.edu.au</a>, I would love to hear your feedback.

I would also like to note that if people are in financial distress, they can email <a href="mailto:sa.assistance@anu.edu.au">sa.assistance@anu.edu.au</a> to begin the process to access an emergency grant from ANUSA's Student Assistance team.

#### b. COVID-19

#### i. Staff/Office update

ANUSA transitioned back to the office from July 27<sup>nd</sup>. WHS/COVID-19 safe guidelines were developed to ensure that ANUSA stays a safe work environment. These guidelines are aligned with ACT Health and ANU Guidelines . This will likely involve flexible working arrangements continuing for the foreseeable future. I have been in contact with Department Officer and exec who will be able to regularly work in the office in order to organise some sort of schedule to ensure that the workplace maintains social distancing rules throughout the week. If General Representatives/College Representatives want to work in the office, please get in touch so I can do my best to place you in the schedule and ensure a workspace is available for you to use.

The ANUSA Offices will not be accepting any student walk-ins/in person service provision for the foreseeable future so if students have concerns or would like to book a student assistance/legal appointment please send an email to <a href="mailto:sa.admin@anu.edu.au">sa.admin@anu.edu.au</a>. Additionally due to the safety risk, the BKSS will also remain closed.

### ii. Campus shutdown update

The university announced that Semester two will continue to be taught remotely (or hybrid for some courses) for the majority of courses with some courses being offered in person, social distancing rules still applying. ANUSA is continuing to lobby for greater resources to be invested by the

university into upskilling course convenors to ensure they can teach to high standards even through the continuing pandemic.

Chiefly and Marie Raey are currently available for students to use as study facilities but please make sure if you are going into university that you wash your hands regularly and keep a personal log of your movements in case contract tracing needs to occur on campus.

#### iii. Bursaries

The ANU has provided \$500 000 to ANUSA for the distribution of emergency grants to student in financial need. ANUSA has been distributing this through the usual SA team, with the assistance of an additional staff member who has been on boarded on a temporary basis. Currently, this fund is just about exhausted and we are entering negotiations with the university to access an additional \$500 000 over the next semester. This is going to be particularly important when the Jobkeeper allowance is decreased by the government as many students will find themselves unemployed or underemployed and in need of funds urgently.

# c. Executive update

Over the course of the winter break I engaged each of the executive to complete their second quarterly Professional Development session as required under the Financial Regulations. These have gone swimmingly and I have been incredibly impressed with the reflective nature of the conversations and constructive lens which they have applied to their own work. The executive will be returning the favour in the coming weeks which I keenly await.

Additionally, before Week 1 began, the executive undertook a strategic planning day. At this day, a range of exercises were undertaken to encourage the executive to plan out the rest of their year in addition to beginning their handover preparation. This was incredibly productive and was also the first time the executive was in the same room as each other in four months which was a happy addition to the day. This day was completed at no cost to ANUSA and hope to have another day based around the wind down of the year and handover process in the mid semester break.

#### d. Elections

Election season is currently underway and I wish everyone running in the elections luck. As I have said in numerous previous meetings, if any candidates (no matter what position you are running for) would like to consult me/receive advice on existing policy, please let me know and I would be more than happy to put aside time.

Additionally, I would strongly encourage everyone running in the elections to deal in good faith with each other. No one serves ANUSA by dealing in ad hominem attacks and doing so just reinforces the perception of toxic stupol culture. Additionally, if you are a member of ANUSA currently, I think there is a fair expectation on all of your to ensure that people running with you on your ticket are dealing with true and factual information. Misrepresenting ANUSA or attempting to misguide voters is never a good op and you'll be doing probity a favour by keeping everything above board

#### e. Academic issues into Semester Two

I keenly await this CRC to collate a number of the academic issues that have been brewing in a number of the academic colleges particularly in light of the additional online semester. Things like Proctorio and academic quality continue to be big issues and I am excited to collaborate with the CRC throughout the next few months.

### 2. Time sheet

From May 25 – Aug 4, I have worked 386.5 hours (1263 YTD). I have taken three days of annual leave in that time (9.5 YTD). If you would like a more information about my work schedule please email me at sa.president@anu.edu.au

Please see my SRC report next week for a more thorough report of my work over the past two months.

#### Reference B

# **Vice President CRC 5 Report**

[Madhumitha Janagaraja]

- 1. General Updates
- 2. University Research Committee
- 3. Timetabling Committee
- 4. Proctorio
- 5. Summer Course Offerings
- 6. Student Assistance Cases

# **General Updates**

Please refer to my SRC 5 Report once it is published for the full breakdown of work completed over the last two months. A key priority this semester has been ensuring that lecture content is original for this semester, limiting the use of old recordings, and also that all content is recorded and uploaded. Have been in communication with the DVCA, Student Registrar and certain Deans to ensure compliance from convenors regarding this.

#### **University Research Committee**

The University Research Committee is currently focused on ways to ease the full transition to working back on campus for all researchers and research students who require access to labs, how paid outside work is managed and approval processes for work completed outside of the University.

### **Timetabling Committee**

The timetabling committee is now approaching a stage where options for the final rollout of the timetable are being considered. We are continuing to meet with the change manager to discuss how to best alter the process to involve student consultation and feedback along the way. Huge shout out to Sam Lee for taking the lead on this committee, especially over the last few weeks.

#### **Proctorio**

There is now cause for concern regarding how (and to what extent) Proctorio will be utilized during Semester 2 Examinations if COVID restrictions continue. Currently in conversation with the DVCA and other stakeholders regarding this.

### **Summer Course Offerings**

Would really like to see an expansion in offerings for Summer Courses this year (if not permanently and into the future) considering this will assist greatly with the fact that many courses this year have been cancelled or disrupted due to COVID. There has been tentative support from some University Executive regarding this, and I hope to reach out to college reps soon to gather a list of courses that would be suitable, subject to staffing resources.

#### **Student Assistance Cases**

I have mainly been working one on one with students on alleged academic misconduct cases, and others on late withdrawal and deferred exam applications.

#### Reference C

# General Secretary CRC 5 report Taylor Heslington

This report will focus on the academic committee side of my work (and some brief stuff about elections). I'll provide a more comprehensive update on my other work at SRC 5.

# 1. Academic Quality Assurance Committee (AQAC)

AQAC 04/2020 took place over the holidays on Thursday 23rd July. I'll break down things that were covered below.

Disestablishment of courses: AQAC received the report for courses that haven't been taught over the past three years. Colleges were required to justify why those courses shouldn't be disestablished. The majority of the courses in this report were disestablished, which should hopefully contribute to the reorganisation of majors/minors and solving the issue of students being misled about what courses they can take in their degrees.

Dean of Students report: Associate Professor Miriam Gani provided the annual report from the Dean of Students' office. Recommendations included examining the role and purpose of supplementary exams, the requirement that Colleges should audit their forms for student complaints to ensure consistency, and an audit of internal College policies to ensure compliance with broader ANU policies.

Flexible Double Degrees report: Due to feedback from AQAC members, the recommendations for Flexible Double Degrees (bachelor-bachelor) have been revised. Colleges raised concerns about how prioritisation of degrees would be determined and how improved administration support would actually be carried out. I'll ask College Reps for feedback on the updated recommendations soon.

Academic Integrity Rule: It was requested that AQAC members provide feedback on an amended Academic Integrity Rule. I've circulated this to people within ANUSA, but if you're a College Rep who's particularly interested in having a look and giving feedback, let me know and I'll send it through to you.

I also now sit on the Credit Policy and Procedure review working group, which was established by AQAC. If you have any strong thoughts on the Credit Policy and Procedure, email them through to me and I can take them to a meeting. We're meeting on Tuesday 4th August and Tuesday 18th August, with the potential for a third meeting. From the preliminary documents, it looks like the focus will be on clarifying the Policy and Procedure and ensuring their consistency with other ANU policies.

# 2. Elections

Good luck to everyone who is running in elections this year! Elections are always a very stressful time, so make sure to take some time to unwind and do something not ANUSA-related (a bold concept I know).

If you're running for General Secretary, I'm more than happy to have a chat about your policy or review any policy drafts if you'd like my feedback. However I do have to prioritise actual Gen Sec work (which is quite hectic at the moment), so if you'd like to have a meeting or want me to review your work, please keep in mind that it may take me up to a week to get there.

# 3. Timesheet

From May 25th 2020 to August 2nd 2020, I have worked 127 hours. I have taken 5 days of leave and there have been two public holidays. If you'd like a detailed breakdown of what I spend my time doing, please email me at sa.gensec@anu.edu.au.

	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Total hours
25/05 - 31/05	0	4.5	5.25	2.5	1.75	14
01/06 - 07/06	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	3	4.5	1.75	2	11.25
08/06 - 14/06	PUBLIC HOLIDAY	3.25	3	2.75	2.25	11.25
15/06 - 21/06	4	3	2.25	2.5	2.25	14
22/06 - 28/06	6.25	4	4	0	0	14.25
29/06 - 05/07	LEAVE	LEAVE	LEAVE	LEAVE	LEAVE	0
06/07 - 12/07	4	3.25	4	1	1.75	14
13/07 - 19/07	3.75	2.25	2	1.25	5.25	14.5
20/07 - 26/07	4.5	3.5	2.25	2.75	1.5	14.5
27/07 - 02/08	3.5	2	3.5	2	3.25	14.25





# COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT #5

[Sophie Burgess & Kriti Tripathi]

# **Main Updates**

- A lot of discussion about academic misconduct and contract cheating in the recent CDC and CEC meetings.
- Concerns about course budget have been raised and have been a subject of discussion in recent meetings.
- Honours initiative to be postponed for next semester.

# **Academic Issues**

Agenda	Further Information			
Academic Misconduct and Contracted Cheating	A big item of discussion in ANU and CECS has been academic misconduct, with many courses experiencing cases of cheating in assignments and final assessments. This has been a big discussion item over the last few CECS meetings. As a result of this, it has been suggested that more courses will look to use Proctorio in Semester 2.			
Course Budgets/Resources	We have been hearing a lot about reduced course budgets and resources going into Semester 2. While unsure of total impacts across the board, we have heard a lot of anecdotal reports of tutor contact hours being slashed (as well as many tutors still not having formal confirmation that they will be tutoring in Semester 2). We are concerned about the impact that this under-resourcing will have on teaching quality, and will be monitoring the situation.			

# **Social Initiatives**

Agenda	Further	
	Information	

# Honours Support Initiative

Honours support initiative will not be going through for this semester but it will be for the upcoming semester. Convenor availability and cooperation made it harder for CECS admin and us to organise the events this semester but they will still be going through next semester. Additionally, we have been involved in creating and promoting honours material which was to be advertised and circulated throughout O-Week and Week 1 for CECS.

First Year Engagement	It has been observed in engineering that 1st year students are struggling to engage with each other and with older students due to not being able to make social connections. This has so far only been flagged as an issue and very early conversations are being started on how to support 1st years further with ESA and the school.
-----------------------	---

# Other Agendas

Agenda	Further Information		
Course Rep Changes	Discussions with CECS Student Services regarding Course Rep changes have continued, with a survey going out to conveners and past course reps in the near future. With this survey data, we hope to be able to work with CECS to make the course rep process more effective and more rewarding for everyone involved.		

#### Reference E

# **ANUSA CASS Representative By James Eveille and Samuel Lee**

# **Executive Summary**

- 1. Welcome
- 2. University Humanities Fee Hikes
- 3. Meetings
- 4. Issues
- 5. Governance Review (James)
- 6. ANU Timetabling Project (Samuel)
- 7. Miscellaneous

#### Welcome

Welcome to Semester 2, 2020! Our names are James Eveille and Samuel Lee and we are your ANUSA CASS Reps for 2020. If you are a new CASS Student welcome to ANU, and if you are a returning CASS Student we hope you enjoyed your well-deserved winter break. This year will continue to be a challenging one unfortunately due to the university, CASS and all of us adjusting to living in a COVID 19 world. We as your CASS Reps are always here to support, advise and advocate for you. So if you have any issues please feel free to reach out to us via email <a href="mailto:sa.cass@anu.edu.au">sa.cass@anu.edu.au</a> or by messaging our Facebook page <a href="https://www.facebook.com/anusaCASSreps/">https://www.facebook.com/anusaCASSreps/</a>. All the best for Semester 2 2020!

#### **University Humanities Fee Hikes**

On Friday 19th June 2020 Federal Education Minister Dan Tehan announced a proposal to increase student fees across the higher education sector. In particular many humanities degrees will see their cost increased from next year by up to 113%. Both of us are fundamentally opposed to such fee hikes for humanities university degrees. Most concerning to us is the fact that baseline funding across the university will be cut which will certainly mean course cuts and less resources. We will both actively campaign against such fee hikes, in conjunction with the Education Committee and the NUS. We have taken part already in several protests and initiatives including the Kilil The Bill: ANUSA Against Fee Hikes campaign that started on Friday 24th July and will continue every Friday until August 28th. We look forward to the National Day of Action on 28 August and encourage all students to attend. We particularly commend Education Officer Skanda Pandarithne and Abby Flynn, the ACT NUS Education Vice-President for their work on this.

#### **Meetings**

# **CASS Education Committee Meeting**

Samuel attended the third CASS Education Committee Meeting of 2020 on Monday 6th July. Most notably unfortunately it was reported that the CASS budget has been greatly reduced by the university. Therefore there is not much money for teaching awards, with many other colleges abandoning them completely.

# **CASS ADE and ANUSA CASS Reps Meeting**

Both James and Samuel had another personalised meeting with the Associate Dean of CASS Geoff Hinchcliffe later that week on Friday 10th July. This is a key initiative of ours which is engaging in regular, personalised dialogue with the CASS Ade, particularly around the time of CASS Education Committee meetings to raise student issues and perspectives.

This meeting was an extremely productive and encouraging discussion. On the whole CASS wants things to go back to normal. Dr Hinchcliffe has pledged to ensure that core CASS courses are running. Unfortunately some courses are out of their control (i.e. fieldwork) as even before COVID they were financially difficult to deliver. He stated that this is not a staff vs. students issue and that everyone is disappointed with the funding cuts and the fact that not as many things can be done on campus. Both of us expressed our concern about the prospect of course cuts and urged Dr Hinchliffe to consider alternative cost saving measures over changes to courses or programmes.

Importantly as well Dr Hinchcliffe expressed his opposition to the university humanities fee hikes. He pointed out as well that it may even cause the opposite effect: that universities will make more money by promoting humanities degrees and thus they will become more "prestigious."

Dr Hinchcliffe also noted one positive coming out of the COVID situation which is that there is an increased move and improvement in online learning, which he stated would be crucial moving forward in the 21st Century. Lecturers are looking to elevate and make their two hour online lectures more exciting and engaging to students.

The My College and PAL mentorship initiatives are going well as well. Despite still being in a pilot stage there is good engagement with students coming to ask questions as they are more comfortable talking to other students than the CASS office. CASS will continue to make videos regarding study, essays, etc. into Semester 2 and have every intention of keeping the initiative going in the future.

Finally in terms of **student consultation** there is a **new booking system**. Program and Course Advice Sessions are now online, replacing the drop in session since the CASS Office is still closed. Zoom links and bookings can be found at this link, **which we encourage CASS Students to use if they have questions about their courses and degrees: <a href="https://cass.anu.edu.au/current-students/student-office/drop-sessions">https://cass.anu.edu.au/current-students/student-office/drop-sessions</a>. There will be a drop in session every Monday from 10am to 12pm. CASS Students can also make bookings for scheduled appointments every Tuesday and Thursday from 10am to 12pm, though we must note these fill out fast! Very encouragingly Dr Hinchcliffe wants to continue these online consultation sessions into the future past the COVID situation, which is something we are very pleased with. Also according to the CASS ADE, <b>SELT will be back in Semester 2.** Dr Hinchcliffe noted that whilst this is good, he is looking to create a way so that students can provide feedback earlier in the semester so that course conveners can change their teaching if necessary.

#### **Issues**

# **Certain Lectures Not Being Recorded**

On Wednesday 29th July we were made aware of two CASS courses where the lectures had not been recorded. They were: POLS1006 and ANTH1003. At the time of writing the POLS1006 was now having lectures recorded, whilst ANTH1003 is under investigation. We would like to commend Disabilities Officer Zoe Ranganathan for coordinating the campaign against this effort. We encourage CASS Students to email their course conveners if their course lectures are not being recorded and let either us, the ANUSA CASS Reps, or the Disabilities Student Association know. The DSA's email is sa.disabilities@anu.edu.au

#### **ANUSA Governance Review (James)**

The CRC met for a second consultation on the 30th June for a discussion about the developments that have unfolded as a consequence of the Governance Review thus far. I was pleased that seven CRC members attended and participated in the discussion. The review is doing well and is preparing for public consultations. I will update the CRC on further developments as they happen.

# **ANU Timetabling Project (Samuel)**

The university is looking to create a new personalised timetabling system that students will be able to use by hopefully December 2021 or January 2022. There is currently an ANU Timetabling Committee, otherwise known as the "Class Allocation Project" committee, dealing with this initiative. Samuel along with ANUSA Vice President Madhumita Janagaraja are currently the ANUSA representatives sitting on that committee. Meetings with the entire committee and with just Business Change Manager Susan Scarlett have been occurring on a monthly basis. Currently the project is at procurement stage, with several vendors sending in bids to create the new timetabling system. The tender evaluation process will occur from 4th August to 9th September. Samuel will be the student representative for the Procurement Tender Evaluation Committee and will provide feedback and recommendation to the vendors' bids.

#### Miscellaneous

On Tuesday 21st July Samuel attended the CASS CAP Semester 2 Induction for new CASS and CAP Students, along with ANUSA CAP Reps Spencer Cornish and Millie Wang. It was fantastic to be able to promote the services we as ANUSA CASS Representatives provide. We commend Spencer as well for hosting a portion of the event.

Over the winter break we have continued to help Cameron Langfield and CASS promote the My College initiative on the ANUSA CASS Rep page, CASS Students @ ANU Facebook group and ANU Schmidtposting. We encourage all CASS students to check out and utilise this amazing resource on Wattle.

#### Reference F

# **CRC 5 Report**

#### **Orientation week Semester 2**

This semester the same slides that were used to briefly introduce ourselves in O-Week were provided to accompany the College of Law's pre-recorded induction session for new students.

# **Time Zone Adjustments In Exam Timetables**

During the final exam period of semester one, several students reached out seeking support to secure changes to their exam timetables due to timezones making original exam schedules unduly difficult. After we brought it to their attention, the College of Law readily worked with these students to accommodate their various timezones by adjusting their exam timetables as best they could.

#### New teaching and students working group established

The College of Law established the Teaching and Students Working Group to take over from the Student Experience Working Group and oversee remote delivery of courses and the student experience during the COVID 19 response. They are currently meeting every 2-3 weeks by zoom and members are:

- ADE
- Head of Law School
- Director LLB and JD
- Director LLM
- Manager, Student Administration
- Manager, College Education Support Team

Both of us are sharing responsibility for representing law students in this working group.

#### **CRS/CRNS** Grading questions

We received queries from students regarding the effect of CRS/CRNS on their honours grading within the law degree. Essentially the key issue was how many courses could be labelled CRS/CRNS without affecting the calculation of their honours grade or when they graduate. These issues were quickly clarified by the College of Law which outlined that students required 16 units at least to calculate their honours grade. This meant of their 24 units, students having used 4 units on exchange and 4 units on CRS/CRNS could not opt in to CRS/CRNS again without affecting their honours grade calculation and time of graduation.

#### **Concerns Over Potential Course Cancellations**

Due to teachers taking up the voluntary separation schemes designed to assist the ANU in these tough financial times, students raised concerns about the potential cancellation of courses without convenors. This was a serious issue because it was threatening some student's ability to graduate. The College of Law informed us that they would not be cancelling these courses but required leniency while they sourced new course convenors. So they did.

# ANU College of Law Internal Transfer GPA Review

The ANU College of Law recommended to AQAC:

That the Committee endorse, for transmission to Academic Board for approval the use of a GPA of 5.6 (equivalent to an ATAR of 92) for applications for internal transfer in 2021 from other ANU programs into the LLBHons and FDD Law.

This was to account for ATAR conversions, new UAC equivalency and the impact of COVID-19.

We understand this was passed.

#### GRADED LECTURE PARTICIPATION

Students had raised some concerns over lecture and tutorial participation grades being assessed in online classes this semester. We followed this up with the ADE and have confirmed that unlike last semester courses in the college are able to assess participation online. It was confirmed that in keeping with ANU academic policy attendance itself cannot be assessed. We have conveyed this back to the students concerned along with the opportunity for further follow up. The course that was primarily raised is no longer assessing participation.

The ADE emphasised that the reason participation grades were removed last semester was because of the sudden shift to online learning. He advised that academics are keen to ensure engagement with this semester's courses now that students have been able to familiarise themselves with online learning.

#### LATE CRS OPT-INS

Unfortunately some students have missed out on opting in to the CRS/CRNS scheme, however, the College of Law has advised them to look at Late Withdrawal processes as an alternative.

#### ISSUES WITH LECTURE RECORDINGS

We have had a post-grad student raise concerns regarding lecture accessibility in a co-taught JD and LLB course. The concerns were primarily around the fact that lectures were being uploaded to a cloud rather than Echo and that they would not be available for the duration of the semester. We followed this concern up with the student admin team and also looped in the PARSA and ANUSA Disability representatives. We have been advised by the student that the issues regarding recordings not being available for the whole semester have now being rectified. In relation to the use of the cloud, we have been advised by the student admin team that the lecturer was not aware of this issue and will now be using echo.

# **International opportunities**

The ability for the College of Law to facilitate international opportunities is awaiting determination. Ideally, they plan to proceed with these opportunities from mid-year onwards and are liaising with their international partners as well as the university on this.

#### Proctorio

Proctorio is not being used by the College of Law for any courses in Semester 2.

# **CRC 5 JCOS Report**

Joint College of Science Representatives: Sai Campbell and Yasmin Potts

#### 1. Proctorio Update

A number of students have brought to our attention that some courses have indicated that they will be using Proctorio for their final examinations. As a number of these students have indicated that they are strongly opposed to using Proctorio, we were disheartened to hear about this development. As detailed below, Sai raised her concern at the most recent CEC meeting on 27/07/2020. Following CEC, Sai contacted Anna Cowan (ADE JCOS) to reiterate students' concerns and open discussion on pursuing in-person exams for students who are on campus and do not wish to use Proctorio. Anna advised that this matter would be discussed between course convenors over the coming weeks and some courses may be able to hold inperson invigilated exams. However, we also recognise that this option does significantly disadvantage students who are not able to be on campus due to travel restrictions. Anna also communicated that the University has indicated that all courses must be available for remote participation and hence offering physically invigilated exams are potentially unfair.

#### 2. CEC 27/07/2020

Sai attended the CEC meeting on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> August. The primary topic of discussion was the use of Proctorio and the development of a centralised timetable system. Please email <a href="mailto:sa.science@anu.edu.au">sa.science@anu.edu.au</a> for her full report.

#### 3. Academic Concerns as of 31/7/2020

A number of issues concerning academic integrity arose during the previous semester which was highlighted by both convenors and students. We are exploring ways to work with convenors to ensure assessments are fair and are open to suggestions and feedback from students.

#### 4. College Rep Governance Review Consultation

Sai attended the College Rep Governance Review consultation on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June. For those who are interested, please contact James Eveille for more information on what was discussed.

# 5. Future of Course Reps Review

Sai attended the Future of Course Reps consultation on July 2<sup>nd</sup> and it was insightful to learn how other colleges have run their course rep programs. Sai has disseminated the course rep contact sheet that was put together by Ben Wicks to the schools within JCOS and has advised Anna of course rep training in Week 3.

#### 6. National Science Week 2020

A lot of progress has been made since the previous CRC. We have an exciting line up of events with an emphasis on interactive online events. We would like to thank our collaborators which are the CECS reps, ANU Astronomy Society, ANU HiSoc Society, ANU Science Society, IBM and the marketing teams from JCOS and CECS. We are excited to be kicking off the week on August 15<sup>th</sup>. Students can look forward to a health innovation

hackathon, Q&As with Nobel Prize winner Peter Doherty, a Women in STEM panel, an interactive live astronomy event with Dr. Brad Tucker, a talk on 65,000 years of Aboriginal Astronomy with Kirsten Banks, Science Chats with ANU Science Society, and ACT Satellite Selfie. We are supported by a generous grant from the ACT National Science Week Committee and the JCOS rep budget line.

# 7. Financials

Please email <a href="mailto:sa.science@anu.edu.au">sa.science@anu.edu.au</a> for a thorough breakdown of the JCOS budget.

# Reference H

#### Reference I

# ANUSA CAP REPS Spencer Cornish & Millie Wang CRC 5 Report

#### CAPEC 6

CAPEC 6 was held on Monday 27 July and featured a couple guest speakers. A lot of their material focused on issues related to postgraduate study and meant that student concerns were mentioned mainly by CAP's PARSA Reps. However, there was again a small discussion about the current structure of Flexible Doubles Degree where concerns were again raised about its effectiveness. Additionally, we provided a short report to the committee which expressed the issues that ourselves and other CAP related societies/groups have had in maintain student engagement (which we hope to partially solve through the CAPSS-run CAP Leaders Forum on August 12<sup>th</sup>).

#### **O-Week Induction Session**

On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup>, CASS and CAP held a joint O-Week Induction Session over Zoom. Within this, one of us chaired a panel with the CAP and CASS deans who both spoke on their experiences as first year university students. Then, after some time, ourselves and the CASS reps gave a short introduction to ANUSA and our roles within it. All of this seemed to go down well with students. The session was attended by around 50-60 students and many took the time to ask ourselves and other speakers questions about starting university.

#### **Student Matters & Student Societies**

Since the end of the Semester 1 teaching period, we've had a few students contact us about

course credit transfers and course permission codes. There seemed to be some delay for students in getting in contact with the CAP Student Centre, so students reached out to us for some assistance in this regard. This difficulty in communication with the Student Centre seemed to be exacerbated by the current environment with everything being online. We have tried to help solve this issue by posting the link to the CAP Student Centre Virtual Front Desk that was sent to all CAP students earlier in the year, in the hope that it will serve as a reminder and clear instruction for future communication with the Student Centre. There has also been some concern from students over the word limits of assessments in some CAP courses, which has been brought to the attention of the CAP Student Centre.

The College of Asia and the Pacific Students' Society also held a 'Study Session' over Zoom before the Semester 1 Exam Period began, which saw a few later-year CAP students enlighten some first-year students with their personal academic experiences.

For Semester 2, we have set up a weekly Consultation Hour that runs on Thursdays from 1-2pm via Zoom. The meeting link is posted on our Facebook page every week (either Wednesday or Thursday).

As per usual, we have been meeting with the CAP Student Centre once every fortnight. This is where most of our communication with the Student Centre occurs.