
DRAFT MINUTES - STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL 3 2011

Tuesday 17th May 2011

6pm, 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 (attended for less than an hour)

Hannah Purdy – Social Officer of the Association

Christian Dent – Education Officer of the Association

Kate McMurtrie – Women's Officer of the Association

Robin Shannon – Environment Officer of the Association

Gus Little – Sexuality Officer of the Association

Angeline Tan – International Officer of the Association

Isobel Morphy-Walsh – Indigenous Office of the Association

Maneka Sivanathan – General Representative

Emily Bennett – General Representative

Ridah Hassan – General Representative

Josh Wiseman – General Representative

Skye Webb – General Representative

Shan Verne Liew – General Representative

Elaine Li – General Representative

Nuwan D'Alwis – General Representative

Sarah Jane Collum – General Representative

Jamie Bryce – General Representative

Emily Criticos – General Representative

Maea Lenei Buhre – General Representative

Callum Brindley – General Representative

Thomas Barrington-Smith – General

Representative

Lisa Judge

Ryan Turner

Issac Wright

Meeting opened at 6:10pm.

Item 1: Meeting Opens and Apologies

Apologies were received from Ridah Hassan and Steph Smythe.

Item 2: Minutes from the Previous Meeting including Matters Arising

MOTION: That the minutes from SRC 2 2011 be accepted.

Moved: Shaun Wykes

Seconded: Leah Ginnivan

Motion passed.

Item 3: Reports and Matters Arising

3.1 Executive Reports

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

- Taken mainly as read
- There is an issue with the management contracts of SA4 as mentioned at the AGM last week. ANUSA had advocated that they should be run by the ANU or that it should go out to a competitive tender process and that people could decide what would be the best value which ANU has not done. ANU are now negotiating directly with UniLodge. Overall demand for pastoral care, SRs and support is high. There have been problems with UniLodge in the past and it is not good to be replicating that current model. The decision itself is pretty unacceptable.
- School of Art and Music Libraries – event on Thursday at 2pm in round around the Arts School. Don't think there will be decision on it in the next couple of weeks.
- Concession cards – Galvin, Fleur and Talha made a video for Andrew Leigh's Big Ideas Competition. Andrew Leigh said he is pretty interested in the idea. The national concession card is something easy to due and overdue

Questions

- **Issac Wright:** Arrangements of Davey Lodge – understand it was on a 4 year contract and it will end soon. It should go out on tender. Building ownership is 13-20 years though.

MOTION: That the President's Report be accepted

Moved: Victor White

Seconded: Emily Criticos

Motion passed.

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

- Can be taken as read

No questions

MOTION: That the Vice-President's Report be accepted

Moved: Kate McMurtrie

Seconded: Josh Wiseman

Motion passed.

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

- Can be taken mostly as read

MOTION: That the General Secretary's Report be accepted

Moved: Jamie Bryce.

Seconded: Emily Criticos

Motion passed.

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

- SSAF – each student used to be charged for extra services – ANUSA, PARSA, Sport and Rec – went to university and then it was split up. The committee was headed by the DVC. There were only 4 student bodies then.
- Trying to put 5 student reps and 4 uni reps so we can outvote the university. The problem with the current legislation is that the money does not need to come to the university. The guidelines are stringent but university can get around it. This will happen when the new senate comes in in July.
- Peer group: joint submission that could be taken to the other body. Some extra money could go into the capital development fund. That would happen through the peer group – Treasurers would sit on that. Meet 4 to 5 times a year to figure out what to propose

Questions

- **Callum Brindley:** How is money distributed currently distributed?
 - **Victor:** There is a sum of money that is currently paid out every year – Liz Deane makes that decision every year.
- **Callum Brindley:** Are we accepting the introduction of the student services and amenities fee?
- **Issac Wright:** We have no choice under the current legislation, any consideration to run a campaign that this money goes to student groups?
 - **Victor:** We want to sign a memorandum of understanding that the money will go into university student groups.
 - **Leah Ginnivan:** if we do it before the legislation, may have a greater bargaining power, other student associations sorting this out
- **Ryan:** What is the anticipated income of the SSAF?
 - **Victor:** 3.2 million dollars a year

MOTION: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted

Moved: Shan Verne Liew

Seconded: Kate McMurtrie

Motion passed.

3.1.5 Social Officer's Report (H. Purdy)

- Creating a new handbook for Clubs and Societies – found an intense version made by the University of Sydney website.
- Easily understood guidelines for how to apply for funding. This will simplify questions that we get every week.
- Started Bush Week preparation. Planning a slightly low key week. People don't really seem to go to events in bush week.
- There will be two big night events, Market Day and a few day events.

Questions

- **Thomas Barrington-Smith:** Have all the invoices been settled for O-Week?
 - **Victor:** There are still a couple of people who haven't paid us for the stalls
- **Thomas:** Moose was under the impression that quite a big invoice to come in
 - **Hannah:** Quite certain that they have been invoiced, itemized invoice

MOTION: That the x Report be accepted

Moved: Victor White

Seconded: Thomas Barrington-Smith

Motion passed.

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

- Been working on the International Student Visa review
- If anyone is keen on getting involved in the Fair Fares campaign let Christian know ideas
- Idea at education committee: idea to create a "how to live cheaply" handbook, university to Sydney have a similar handbook, could be good to pursue that
- 6-8 July: NUS education conference, UOW or Curtin university
- SSAF – in principle think it's a really good thing, everyone saw what VSU did to student organization
- NUS is doing a campaign to give to democratically elected student bodies the SSAF money – looks unlikely that this will be in the final legislation – overall ANUSA will be getting more money for it

Questions

- **Issac Wright:** Have you considered running campaigns around altering the legislation?
 - **Christian:** Would be keen to give it a tweek
- **Robin Shannon:** Anything about getting rid of student learning entitlements– every undergraduate student would get student learning entitlements? Used to be allowed to get 7 years of HECS
 - **Christian:** Will follow up

MOTION: That the Education Officer's Report be accepted

Moved: Emily Criticos

Seconded: Hannah Purdy

Motion passed.

3.2 Department Reports

3.2.1 Women's Department Report (K. McMurtrie)

- Take as read.

Questions

- **Leah Ginnivan:** When is "Reclaim the Night" happening?
 - **Kate:** Not til way later
- **Lisa Judge:** How have you successfully engaged first year women?
 - **Kate:** A lot of it came from Market Day, they seemed interested and bought their friends.

MOTION: That the Women Officer's Report be accepted

Moved: Brody Warren

Seconded: Maea Lenei Buhre

Motion passed.

3.2.2 Sexuality Department Report (G. Little) [Reference F]

- Department voted for it to be called the Queer* Department
- Passed the new constitution
- The bank accounts all sorted out – Victor will be invoiced soon

Questions

- **Lisa Judge:** Safer spaces – engaging in political action – could that be raised?
 - **Gus:** Can't think about a quick solution, happy to bring it up as

MOTION: That the Sexuality Officer's Report be accepted

Moved: Christian Dent

Seconded: Kate McMurtrie

Motion passed.

3.2.3 Environment Department Report (R. Shannon)

- Rally on the 6th June – World Environment Day – all big environment organizations were organizing rallies in every city except Canberra so now we are organizing a big rally – have committed a lot of energy in the next two weeks to get a lot of ANU students along – got green reps at all the colleges to put a leaflet under peoples door – jumping castles are awesome
- Lunches at the food coop are back on Wednesday

MOTION: That the Environment Officer's Report be accepted

Moved: Leah Ginnivan

Seconded: Kate McMurtrie

Motion passed.

3.2.4 International Students' Department Report (A. Tan) [Reference G]

- Busy preparing for international ball
- Visa review
- Elections were more difficult – planning to update constitution
- International education office – similar events as o-week
- Harmony Day: nothing has been planned as of yet

MOTION: That the International Students' Department Report be accepted

Moved: Nuwan D'Alwis

Seconded: Jamie Bryce

Motion passed.

3.2.5 Disabilities Department Report (S. Smythe)

Steph Smythe was not in attendance and did not submit a report.

3.2.6 Indigenous Students' Department (I. Morphy-Walsh) [Reference H]

- Take report as read
- In a meeting stemming out of the RAP – there is a student prize for reconciliation – pool of students working on reconciliation is so small and won't change as it currently is - changed into creating a competition – creative submission on reconciliation
- Still having quorum issues at meetings

Questions

- **Leah Ginnivan:** Just a bit confused on the project
 - **Isobel:** Draft title is 'Creative Reconciliation' – can submit essay, image, promote reconciliation within ANU
- **Issac:** Is it open to non-indigenous students?
 - **Isobel:** Yes
- **Lisa Judge:** People are always had quorum issues – is it the number of students required?
 - **Isobel:** quorum is 10% of the student population – have discussed it in the collectives
- Leah: Is there anything ANUSA can do to help the quorum issues?
 - **Isobel:** Spend lots of time at Jabal but students that don't come to meetings engage on other issues – aware of these things, but not doing anything about it

MOTION: That the Indigenous Officer's Report be accepted
Moved: Leah Ginnivan
Seconded: Emily Criticos
Motion passed.

3.3 General Representative Reports

3.3.1 Shan Verne Liew [Reference I]

- Report can be taken as read
- A lot of people have been transferred out of Lyneham Hall – there are enough people left still to make things fun

Questions

- **Skye Webb:** Would we be able to organize a BBQ for Lyneham Hall
 - **Shan:** Definitely a good idea – applicable to UniGardens
- **Ryan Turner:** Do you know what is happening with people who are living there next year? Priority entry into colleges?
 - **Leah:** It is not expected that next year there will be temporary accommodation with SA4.

MOTION: That the General Representative's Report be accepted
Moved: Christian Dent
Seconded: Josh Wiseman
Motion passed.

Item 4: Items for Discussion

4.1 Incorporation and meeting requirements (S. Wykes)

- There will be two schedules of membership under the new Constitution. Schedule A and Schedule B. For the Student Representative Council the Executive, Department Officers and General Representatives will be listed under Schedule A and Faculty Representatives will be listed under Schedule B. For College Representative Council the President, Vice-President, General Secretary and Education Officer will be listed under Schedule A and the General Representatives will be listed under Schedule B. Representatives will have breached their meeting requirements if they miss 3 meetings where they are on Schedule A or 4 meetings where they are listed under Schedule A.

4.2 Student Accommodation 4 (L. Ginnivan)

- **Leah Ginnivan:** The university is discussing a contract exclusively with UniLodge for SA4 – we are not happy about it – the management level is not appropriate – statistics showed that from the 2000 applications made for accommodation last year only 200 were for UniLodge directly. There is a problem with the existing problems at UniLodge and then there are problems with replicating a current structure when this could be a new opportunity.
 - ANU exempt the discussions from their own procurement policy – they said it was technically allowed – will be taking that up at University Council
 - Would be good to get a motion from SRC about this – good to look at how university is making these decisions
- **Issac Wright:** Had a meeting with ANU Exchange with David Lemont and Bart Meehan – they said 3 tenders were put in for Davey Lodge. Unlike at most colleges, at UniLodge you have to sign a 52-week contract, there is 1 SR per 90 residents, \$3 for washing. When I spoke to Bart and David they said lots of students want this kind of accommodation and that there is a demand. There are a proportion of postgrads who are after that. ANUSA needs to come out strongly against SA4
- **Leah:** Agree with most of what was just said. Some of the university's figures to do with UniLodge are out by a high magnitude.

- **Josh Wiseman:** Was offered UniLodge originally but it was ridiculously expensive comparatively even to student housing.
 - **Leah:** UniLodge has received National Rental Affordability money which means they are meant to charge 75% of the market rate. No matter who runs it it will still be quite expensive because they need to recoup costs. If ANU managed it they could reinvest the profits.
- **Callum Brindley:** Was the president at Burton and Garren – they should not allow these contract to go out to private companies – price is the key to this – university has entered into a private partnership – they want to make money out of student housing. UniLodge is isolating and it does not have the same kind of collegiate atmosphere because of the way it is built and run. There is no direct student accountability– think ANU should take on responsibility for SA4 and the other three – this requires pressure from below
- **Leah:** The issue is about who will manage it. There is a different layout to the other UniLodges with a “third floor cafeteria”, common room space etc. It will be a bit different.
- **Nuwan D’Alwis:** Agree to a certain extent –UniLodge is on par with academic results – the SubDean is funded through UniLodge – ANU pays for the general manager and the bulk funding. We don’t want UniLodge to be isolated.
- **Jamie Bryce:** It is not a perfect system though through spending personal time there it is improving very quickly. Academic programs are coming up. It is not as bad as what people say it is.
- **Leah:** Would like a motion that reflects the SRC’s position – need to reaffirm that we believe pastoral care is paramount and that it is affordable –would like that we can address them in one motion
- Elaine Li, Shan Verne Liew, Skye Webb, Gus Little, Issac Wright and Robin Shannon all expressed interest in working on UniLodge.

MOTION: SRC believes that UniLodge should not be considered for the management of SA4. SRC believes that a non-profit or the University should run student accommodation and SA4. When the contracts expire they should be moved to University management or non-profit. The University should consult with ANUSA, SRs, RAs and PARSA before negotiating the management of student accommodation.

Moved: Issac Wright

Seconded: Lisa Judge

Issac Wright: This is not saying that there is no hard work going on at UniLodge – we just need to know what do we want university accommodation to look like –need to talk about how we want them managed –how is the big company and shareholders affecting students on the ground – would be good not to review the contracts, don’t support splitting them – need to know what’s being improved – need to start running campaigns

Speakers:

Robin Shannon

Brody Warren

Skye Webb

Josh Wiseman

Christian Dent

Leah Ginnivan

Gus Little

Riddah Hassan

Motion passed.

Abstentions from Jamie Bryce, Gus Little, Emily Criticos, Shaun Wykes and Nuwan D’Alwis.

4.3 Gen Rep Portfolios (S. Wykes)

- **Shan Verne Liew:** At the the beginning of the year Christian started Gen Rep Portfolios off –it was not followed through
- **Christian Dent:** There are concerns about an Exec Members pushing a Gen Rep – compromised if an exec member is telling a gen rep what to do
- **Skye Webb:** Portfolios need to be more defined,. Was the Gen Rep Coordinator and organized a meeting and only Shan replied.

- **Shaun Wykes:** We need motivation rather than a push
- **Skye Webb:** It is difficult to know what is going on – hard to know what people need help with
- **Josh Wiseman:** The best point is the communication – we need to communicate better together – having a meeting is a really good idea – meeting gives a good idea of what everyone is working on – gen reps are unsure of what is happening– individually feel disconnected
- **Maea:** We could have a meeting together – starting next semester – not really done that much in terms of keeping the exec accountable
- **Emily Criticos:** General representatives need to have a meeting – gen reps have to meet once a semester to discuss things – whether that means just meeting in the pub
- **Leah:** There is a capacity for gen reps being able to work on projects together, get a bunch of things, youth parliament, going to more committee meetings. They could be interesting and good experiences.
- **Christian:** We could send an exec email to state things that are going on and who can help out
- **Isobel:** Gen reps should have structured meetings – it should be the same principle as departments –don't need assistance from the exec – at least one a month – something put into the constitution
- **Maneka:** We don't actually have a goal. We need more clarity with portfolios.
- **Robin Shannon:** Could the list of things be sent to department officers as well
- **Ryan Turner:** Alice Mcburney and Scott Walker were an example of how ANUSA can be run more successfully – the position of gen rep is what you make it – when gen reps want to get involved they can
- **Issac:** Gen reps should be talking to people and bringing motion to SRC to force the executive to do things.
- **Callum Brindley:** Formal meetings are not a substitute for doing things – we need to move motions – don't need formal meetings for that
- **Maea:** We all have different portfolios – the meetings could be good for getting ideas – reporting on progress
- **Isobel:** Is once a month enough?
- **Josh:** The risk may be that the meetings become redundant
- **Leah:** It could be once a term, nothing to stop meeting more regularly.
- **Isobel:** Is it so small that they don't have things to meet about?

MOTION: The executive shall send a fortnightly email to General Representative as to ways they can get involved. Gen reps shall meet at least once a term.

Moved: Shaun Wykes

Seconded: Skye Webb

Motion passed.

Item 5: Other Business

5.1 First Year Guarantee

MOTION: In recognition of the fact that UniLodge offers a fundamentally different form of accommodation that comes at too high a cost with too little pastoral care; ANUSA calls for its removal from the First Year Guarantee until it is managed by a not for profit or the university. This motion is to be sent to University Council.

Moved: Lisa Judge

Seconded: Callum Brindley

- **Lisa Judge:** UniLodge is not appropriate and too expensive.
- **Callum Brindley:** This is a good motion. It puts pressure on the university. The only option for the university is to move towards managing the lodges themselves.

Speakers list:

Against

- **Skye Webb:** We should keep in mind what the two UniLodge residents said – we should encourage the university to make these changes
- **Leah Ginnivan:** This is extremely counterproductive – in some ways it does not meet the first year needs – it is also not something the university would ever do

- **Josh Wiseman:** The reasons for this motion are incorrect – first year guarantee is not the only reason we are popular – this is counterproductive – we need to focus our energies more on improving the pastoral care rather than cutting the first year guarantee
- **Isobel Morphy-Walsh:** Agree with those who have spoken – if we take UniLodge out of the guarantee then we are going to have Lyneham and CitiGate again
- **Angeline Tan:** People want to stay in UniLodge because it is close to campus – not everyone want a collegiate experience – international students can't find accommodation outside of the university

For

- **Issac Wright:** The university shouldn't promise what it can't deliver therefore university should not get away with it. People have been lured here and should be delivered on what we are promising. We can't advertise them as Bruce Halls or Fenners.
- **Riddah Hassan:** If ANU cares then they shouldn't make false promises

For: **2**

Against: **11**

Abstentions: **5** (Gus Little wished to be noted)

Motion failed.

5.2 Exam period student space roster

- **Leah Ginnivan:** Thought something that would be really good for a Gen Rep to organize – the new student space is now opened and it would be good to have it open til 9pm. Would be great to have ANUSA reps staffing it for a couple of hours. Could work out with the executive and security in terms of security
- **Robin Shannon:** Sometimes have meetings in the Student Space.
- **Callum Brindley:** Instead of doing things like this we should be discussing people who have to pay \$240 per week for their rent

5.3 Student Services and Amenities Fee

MOTION: That the President of the Students Association writes to the PM, Senator Evans, Senator Brown and Tony Abbott in support of the NUS campaign requesting that the SAF Legislation is to be amended such that the money collected is to go to democratically elected student bodies. The President is to present the letter at the next SRC.

Moved: Ryan Turner

Seconded: Issac Wright

Speakers:

Ryan Turner

Issac Wright

Victor White

Leah Ginnivan

Lisa Judge

Shaun Wykes

Josh Wiseman

Isobel Morphy-Walsh

Victor White

<i>The Student Representative Council lost quorum at 8.45pm.</i>
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Item 6: Date of next meeting and close

The next meeting of the Student Representative Council will be held in August 2011 at a date to be advised by the General Secretary.

2nd August 2011 Shaun Wykes, General Secretary

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Leah Ginnivan

Incorporation

Yay, we passed incorporation! This is a big milestone for ANUSA and I think we can all agree that Brody and Shaun deserve many high-fives.

Housing issues

Hopefully 2011 is the last year the ANU will have to resort to temporary accommodation. This year, an oversupply of rooms in Lyneham and UniGardens has been extraordinarily costly for the ANU. Over the year ANUSA reps (big shout out to the amazing Shan Liew!) have been working with the RAs and SRs of these temporary colleges. We are concerned about plans to 'sell off' the remaining beds at UniGardens which would mean students would have to share rooms. While this was part of the contract, we want to make sure people don't have to move during in exam time and are given plenty of opportunity to share with people they know and get along with.

The contracts for SA4 are currently being negotiated and ANUSA is working to make sure they provide for better pastoral and academic support. We have been unsatisfied with aspects of UniLodge's operation in the past and have raised this many times with the ANU.

(I will talk more about this at meeting)

Progress on the co-op has been slow, but we are hopeful about opportunities with community housing providers in Canberra. There is a major review of tertiary student accommodation happening in the ACT. Both ANUSA and the Co-Op will be making suggestions stressing the need for more affordable rental accommodation in the inner north.

Offices

We've been making an effort to get the offices in good shape so they can be used by more people. Woroni moved out last month and we're going to move the Treasurer, Social Officer, General Secretary and Education Officer into that office. Their current office will be used as a second meeting room/ space for collective meetings/ place where General and Faculty Representatives can plot the next batch of wins for students!

School of Music and Art Libraries

There was a lot of confusion around the proposed merger of the Music and Arts School libraries. After getting little response from the heads of school and chief librarian, ANUSA and Art and Music School reps went to meet with the new VC, Professor Ian Young. Professor Young today gave us a formal proposal that students were asked to write a response to. We're working on this at the moment and will respond to the VC by late May. Student concerns about the merger include: restricted access to scores and prints, a lack of study space, Full credit to the music and arts school students involved in this as well as to Fleur and Gal.

ANUSA Neighbourhood Day

A fun side project in the works. ANUSA reps are going to organise a day of volunteering in the local Inner North community. The ANU has indicated it will fund this project and we're now doing up a budget and making contact with local not-for-profits and community groups who could use extra help. The project is aimed at building connections with the Inner North community and also for new students to meet people. A pilot is planned for mid semester 2 and if successful will be held in semester 1 next year sometime after O week.

Safety on Campus

A small working party of ANUSA reps and other concerned campus citizens has been working on planning a campaign around issues of sexual harassment and assault on campus. The focus is on prevention through education. After a lot of work on identifying the main issues we'll now be working on a physical marketing campaign, a web presence, and the introduction of campus student safety people (catchy name TBA) who will be able to be a safe and sober presence at events.

Concession Card

For many years, ANUSA and other student organisations have been advocating for a national student concession card – we also think this must include International students. There is some movement on this with the ACT community services minister, Joy Burch, taking it to the next national meeting of her ilk.

Complaint review

Reviewing the Policy for Student Complaint Resolution has been one of the big issues for ANUSA this year.

At this stage our main concerns are

- policy is vague and unhelpful on matters that might be sensitive or timely
- students concerned about the DoS role
- a focus on informal problem solving needs to be kept while ensuring serious matters are dealt with appropriately
- the policy ostensibly deals with issues of harassment and assault but makes no reference to these issues.

I have asked widely for feedback on this policy and invite any and all suggestions/comments.

In addition to the policy review we are proposing a webpage that has clear directions on the policy as well as examples and links to the relevant people's emails. We'll also get it so it's the first thing that comes up when you search for relevant terms on the ANU website.

Strategic Plan

The ANU is currently making its strategic plan until 2020. The VC will soon be coming to explain it to student reps and we'll be giving our input on a range of student issues. After the consultations, the VC will write a discussion draft to be circulated for comment. VC is coming to a JRC meeting soon!

Exchange Program

The poor quality of the official ANU Exchange program has been a problem for some years now. The ANU has not had a dedicated senior-level person with the International portfolio. We strongly believe that a PVC International would assist in the program. Co-ordinating the exchange program through the colleges (and not, as is currently the case, through the Registrar) would also assist hugely in making exchanges worthwhile and relevant.

Graduations

We suggested that graduations have a student speaker, something that has been suggested by many in the past. Wrote a proposal, got VC approval, voila, student speakers at this years' graduations.

Government Policy-other

The Education officer and Education committee have been involved in action and submissions to the Base Funding Review and the current review on student income support.

Other

I have been involved in helping set up a student-led forum for the 50th anniversary of Australia-Korea diplomatic relationship. I'm also assisting a student in setting up an informal group for students with Asperger's syndrome.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Brody Warren

Incorporation

As you all know, we passed the content proposed Constitution at last Tuesday's AGM, complete with Legal Advice from DLA Piper here in Canberra. We have put forward a submission to University Council, for their meeting at the end of this month. With the approval of the Council, we can lodge the paperwork with the Office of Regulatory Services in time for next Semester. We know this is only the first step along the way, and acknowledge that not everyone was happy with every part of the Constitution, but it is an extremely good start and an improvement on the current document, so thank you all for your input and support over these last few months.

ANUSA Survey

The Association's survey will be released very soon, and we will have it open for as long as we can, depending on the requirements of the Quality and Standards Sub-Committee, to allow maximum student input. We will be assessing the standard criteria, including student demographics, teaching and learning methods, accommodation, employment and youth allowance as well as adding a few new sections on exchanges and international opportunities, the 'student experience' in general.

Exchanges + International

I am about to kick off an investigation into the exchange programs and general international opportunities here at the ANU. There was some research done last year into the ANU's lack of exchange partners comparative to other Go8 universities, but we'd like to take this further and look into the exchange program as a whole, including also the complexity of the application process, the value of the exchange personally and academically, as well as the credit transferring process once students have returned.

Another aspect of this is to strength ANU's profile from a student level, independent of the International Office. The idea has been floated to create a student-produced information video, as well as strengthening the student linkages within the IARU network. If you know of anyone that has any ideas or even general comments, both positive and negative, about exchanges, please let me know.

Logo Competition

The logo competition was concluded two weeks ago, with the winner being selected from a surprising number of entries. We will be working with the winner over the coming weeks to combine a few of his designs into one, with the introduction of the new logo expected to coincide with the Association's incorporation.

Meetings

EMPC (Environmental Management and Planning Committee)

- The Solar panels have been having a few problems but should be functioning properly very soon. ANU Green and F&S would like to have an Official Opening before the end of term, but I'm in touch with them so we'll be in on the organising as well.
- The committee has expressed its general approval for a proposal to incorporate sustainable education into degrees here at the ANU. The idea is essentially that all degrees would have some compulsory content or even a whole course, which studies the application of sustainable practices to

that discipline. The Committee has asked for ANUSA's assistance in getting this proposal at looked at by the Chancellery.

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SEC (Student Experience Committee)

- The Committee is discussing the introduction of a qualification of some sort to give credit for extra-curricular activities at the ANU. Several different models have been tabled, so I'd like to come back to those in Other Business.

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TTLC (Technology in Teaching and Learning Committee)

- The Committee are asking for ways in which they can get students to actually complete the end of semester course evaluation surveys.

DOI (Division of Information)

CPDC (Campus Planning and Development Committee)

QASSC (Quality and Standards Sub-Committee)

CASC (Campus Advisory Sub-Committee)

- these ones are all coming up soon.

Appeals

Only two at the moment, concerning course credit (again) and an odd assessment schedule for a course.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Shaun Wykes

Incorporation

We we we so excited. ANUSA is now on it's steps to incorporation. Brody and I look forward to the day that we can take the Constitution to the Office of Regulatory Services and take a photo in front of the building with the Constitution. It'll be a good moment.

AGM

Thank you all for coming to what was a very successful meeting. We had over 80 attendees. This is what OGM's should be all about! ☺

Housing Review

The ACT Legislative Assembly is undertaking a submission into student accommodation. Now that the Constitution task of my life is over I look forward to working on this. Am hoping to help create something that can be used for both the review but also for other areas within ANU to show some information about housing at ANU.

Disputes Committee

I am yet to hear back from the Disputes Committee about Thomas Barrington-Smith's appeal. Tom remains a Gen Rep until we hear otherwise.

IRC with VC

Sorry about the change of dates but it was important that we took up the VC's offer to come and talk to ANUSA about the strategic direction of ANU at it is important that everyone comes along.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Victor White

Budget

Please see budget attached for this section. There is nothing exemplary to report in the last period. Spending is ahead on the Legal Officer and this line item will go over budget. This is due to the increased salary meaning that the Legal Officer fees are now subject to GST. As stated previously there was a very healthy profit recorded in O-Week and the association is in a strong situation financially.

Student Amenities Fee

I am currently in discussions with the Treasurer of PARSAs and the CEO of ANU Sport and Recreation about preparing a joint memorandum about how we would like the Student Amenities Fee divided up. We want to present a united front to the University when they are making decisions based on how to split the money. This will be done through the Peer group that was previously in place. I will speak more to this in my report.

Collectives

After my discussions with the auditor we should be withholding payments made to bodies that do not have an ABN where they are not an individual. Whilst the Collectives are part of ANUSA, they are autonomous and the Treasurer does not (and should not) have the power to tell them how to spend your money. When Collectives invoice ANUSA with the ABN it allows us to keep proper and transparent records as well as ensuring that Collectives have the financial autonomy to spend their money.

- Having an ABN (as well as your own constitution) ensures autonomy by giving them control over their own affairs. Depending on what your constitution stipulates you may have to disclose your spending to your collectives and getting an ABN will not affect this. They will **not** have to report expenditure to the ATO, as all organisations with a yearly spend of less than 6,000 dollars are automatically tax-exempt. This means they will not have to do BAS statements.
- **Getting an ABN will not remove Collectives from ANUSA.** It would not distance ANUSA from the collectives either. It is simply an recognition that they enjoy financial autonomy from ANUSA. To remove Collectives from ANUSA would require significant amendments to the ANUSA Constitution.
- If Collective's receive any income from any other organisation, person or business other than ANUSA they must **legally** have an ABN. It is not enough to use our ABN, as ANUSA does not effectively have control of these funds.
- We already require that all clubs and societies registered with us have an ABN. Even though they have a separate ABN they fall under our insurance policy. Obviously Collectives have a very different role than clubs and societies in the ANUSA framework, however, it is an example of groups that do fall under ANUSA's framework.

EDUCATION OFFICER'S REPORT

Christian Dent

Review of Student Income Support

I made a submission on behalf of ANUSA to the recent Federal Government review of student income support. Essentially this was a review of the recent youth allowance reforms that the government introduced in 2010. In the submission I stressed the point that whilst the recent reforms have been positive, the system is still inadequate. In particular I emphasized ANUSA's position that the age of independence should be reduced to 18, that both the parental income test for dependant youth allowance is far too low, that student's should not have their youth allowance payments reduced for working too much, and that the current classification scheme for regional and rural students is completely absurd. The ANUSA submission will be put up on our website shortly.

Consultation Session on Youth Allowance

On Friday 29th April I attended a consultation session at the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR). This formed part of the Federal Government's review of student income support. It was run by Professor Kwong Lee Dow, former Vice-Chancellor of Melbourne University. I stressed the same points that were made in the submission, and Professor Kwong appeared relatively receptive. It was widely accepted in the room that the current system simply isn't good enough.

International Student Visa Review

I made a submission to a Federal Government Review on International Student Visas. I worked with Angeline Tan and Elaine Li, who may wish to elaborate on international student issues in this meeting. The points we made in the submission were regarding the high costs of both living in Australia and applying for the Visas, our desire for International Students to have a positive experience in Australia not just at University, and the benefits International Students provide to the Australian economy especially in areas where there is a recognized skills shortage.

Federal Budget

The Federal Budget was overall fairly encouraging in terms of higher education. The main changes were:

- Students who pay their HECS fees upfront will have their 20% discount halved. It seems unfair that just because some students have more money when they start University they receive a discount on their fees. The \$480 million savings the government will make should be reinvested in higher education, although it is unclear at this stage where the money will go.
- \$110 million will be invested into regional universities. It is unclear if ANU will receive any of this funding.
- The government committed to funding 500,000 new university places in preparation for the university sector become demand-driven in 2012.

TEQSA Legislation

The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Authority (TEQSA) proposed legislation will be presented to parliament soon. TEQSA is to be introduced next year as a national regulatory body for higher education, replacing the current state-based regulators which operate unevenly. A senate committee report has ensured that universities have the ability self-accredit courses of study, which was unclear in the previous legislation. Both the National Union of Student's and Universities Australia have endorsed the legislation. The ANU stands to benefit from this new regulatory body in that it will be recognized leading and unique teaching and research university.

YMCA ACT YOUTH PARLIAMENT

The ACT Youth Parliament is held annually at Old Parliament House. It gives people aged 15-25 the opportunity to participate in engaging political debate. If you are interested in participating, log on to the website to sign up. <http://ypact.org>.

Fair Fares For All Students

Firstly, well done to Fleur Hawes, Talha Baseer and Galvin Chia for their fantastic video. Check it out on the ANUSA facebook page. As you know, Australia has no national concession card. A motion has been moved by Labor backbencher John Hargreaves MLA in the ACT to bring this issue to the forefront of the federal agenda and look into the creation of a national concession card scheme. NUS is running a campaign on this and it would be fantastic if ANUSA did so as well. If you're interested in this please let me know.

Education Committee

Education committee met on Tuesday 17th of May. I'll report on the discussions that took place verbally. Previously we'd met to discuss ANUSA's response to the youth allowance submissions. The idea of compiling a 'how to live cheaply handbook' was also suggested, and may be something ANUSA reps may want to look into.

NUS Education Conference

The annual education conference will be held in Perth at the University of Western Australia and Curtin University on the 6-8th of July. Let me know if you would like to attend and we can have an ANUSA delegation going. All expenses will be at least partly subsidized by ANUSA and NUS.

SEXUALITY OFFICER'S REPORT

Gus Little

Since the start of term two Sexuality Department has continued its busy pace set during term one. Of major note is the Sexuality Collective's vote to change its name to the Queer* Collective/Department. In preparation for the incorporation of ANUSA, the Collective has also passed a constitution, which the department has been without for several years. As a result of this, relevant to this meeting, the collective will vote to direct the vote of the Officer at SRC Meetings unless not practical and not relevant

Also, at long last, by the time of this SRC, all financial concerns should have been resolved.

Queery discussion forums are still happening fortnightly, with this term's first discussion being Gay Marriage: Do We Want It?

The Collective's fortnightly meetings always achieve quorum, but we have to review the implementation of our safer spaces policy follow concerns that some people do not feel comfortable in meetings. Deputy Sexuality Officer Danni Day has also started a process to create an annual mission statement to improve the culture of the department.

Furthermore, collective members have expressed concern at the lack of confidence other members have in speaking at ANUSA AGMs and OGMs. Consequently, this week Isaac Wright and Lisa Judge will be holding a information session about meeting procedures for Department members. Also, fortnightly meetings of the Department will begin to be conducted under ASNUSA Standing Orders to

Fundraising and submission taking is ongoing by the Querelle Organising Committee, with the presentation of the Australia's national queer universities publication coming up soon at the Queer Collaborations Conference being held in Perth in July. Due to the expense of travelling to Perth for this conference, I am investigating the number of students interested in attending in order to apply for appropriate grants, in particular through ANUSA Grants and Affiliations Committee.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS DEPARTMENT REPORT

Angeline Tan

1. A student engagement barbeque was held on the April 7th 2011 in conjunction with the ticket sales of International Ball.
2. I have submitted the visa review submission with the help of Elaine Yi Li and Christian Dent. The report outlined the problems that international students face with the recent changes to the international students' visa requirement.
3. The ISD has just organized the International Ball on the 6th of May 2011 in the National Convention Centre. It was well attended with 250 attendees whom were provided with access to our after party in Meche.
4. The executives are discussing about the amendments of certain provisions of the ISD constitution.
5. All work in the committee has been put on hold till the end of exams. This includes the preparation of International Orientation week and Harmony Day in the 2nd semester.

INDIGENOUS OFFICER'S REPORT

Isobel Morphy-Walsh

Deputy Officer

The department elected a Deputy Officer at the last meeting on the 2nd of May; Charlee-Sue Frail.

Trustees on the account

The paperwork has been filled out by all and now the three department members on the account are Frank Gaffa (member), Jack Simpson (member), Isobel Morphy-Walsh (the Department Officer).

Indigenous Department Constitution

The constitution has been drafted a few minor changes still have to be made such as the addition of a section of trustees on the financial account as per ANUSA requirements and a few other definitional things. However it is expected to be passed by the next meeting.

Indigenous Games

An expression of Interest has been sent to Melbourne University who are hosting the games this year and currently an expression of interest form is circulating the indigenous students as to who wants to join the team. Applications for funding will need to start being drawn up soon.

Financial Report

No money has been taken out of the account since Indigenous Games in September 2010. The department had an ABN but not on record. This has been rectified and ANUSA will be invoiced for the money ASAP.

GENERAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORT'S

Shan Verne Liew

UniGardens

The students there are doing well - they've formed strong friendships between each other and they've got strong connections with their SRs and Deputy Head. This is definitely a huge improvement as compared to last year in terms of community and support structures. One big factor this has been having an effective Deputy Head in their building (as opposed to an off-site Deputy Head with other responsibilities).

I've been dropping by occasionally to host 'mini-ANUSA games nights' and provide information about ways to get involved/supported outside UniGardens. Because their community is now quite established, my focus here will be on talking to Hugh and the SRs to see how we can add to the environment within the building, particularly with regards to bridging and reaching out to the international cohort there.

UniGardens is officially linked to Bruce Hall - Bruce has been inviting UniGardens resses to sports, weekly meals and social events, and there have been a few enthusiastic participants. Advertising for sports has been quite 'out there' - both the ex-Bruce residents living in UniGardens and the rescom at Bruce has been putting in effort to make it welcoming and inviting for them.

Academic mentoring has been plastered all over their walls - credit for this goes directly to Bruce's Academic Mentoring SR. I plan on working closely with this towards the exam period as a way to bring in the less active UniGardens residents and get them more involved (in other more non-academic areas).

Lyneham

Before the mid-semester holidays, Lyneham was going well - it had an enthusiastic group of students taking initiative to make enjoyable and welcoming events. They've also joined onto activities (i.e. sports and academic mentoring) from a range of Halls/Colleges, but more importantly, the small quantity of students there creates a very family-like dynamic between the students and between the SRs.

Overall however, it is not yet clear how many students will be transferring from Lyneham at the end of the semester. Typically this would only be a minor change, but Lyneham is unique in that the community size there is quite small. I'll be keeping track of this and things should become clearer within the next week.