



## MINUTES – College Representative Council (CRC) 7 2020

Wednesday 30 September 2020

Zoom – 6:15pm

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

Meeting open: 6:17pm

#### 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 continuing connection to lands, waters, and communities of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. We pay our respect to Elders, past and present, and commit to standing with our First Nations people.

#### 1.2 Apologies

Apologies were received by the General Secretary.

#### 1.3 Passing of previous meetings minutes (CRC 6 2020)

Motion: To approve the minutes from CRC 6 2020.

Mover: Maddie Chia

Seconder: James Eveille

Status: Passed

Procedural motion: To suspend the standing orders in so far as to allow for discussion.

Mover: James Eveille

Status: Passed

Procedural motion: To move all reports en bloc.

Mover: Ben Yates

Status: Passed

### **Item 2: Executive Reports**

Procedural motion to move Lachy's report to after the College Representatives Reports.

Mover: James Eveille

Status: Passed

#### 2.2 Vice President's Report (M. Janagaraja) [Reference B]

- Lachy and Madhu had a conversation with Grady today about the changes to the CECS degree majors. The university is working with the College closely on the changes. Also talked about changes to the Discipline Rule to be brought in line with the Student Code of Conduct.

### 2.3 General Secretary's Report (T. Heslington) [Reference C]

- Let Taylor know if you are concerned about any course or degree changes. Disestablishment of courses passes through AQAC.

## Item 3: College Representative Reports

### 3.1 College of Engineering and Computer Science [Reference D]

- CECS announced that they do not have the capacity to teach around 20 courses because of the budget cuts. CECS made the decision to disestablish two undergraduate and two postgraduate majors. The exact decision-making mechanism for this solution is unclear. Students and staff found out at the same time. Have been working with Lachy, Madhu and Taylor to figure out a response. Pushing for a 6 or 12 month delay in the decision to allow for consultation. No matter if it's passed or not, 20 courses will be cut next semester. Working on developing a teach-out plan with CECS.
- Sai: Why are they dropping these two majors?
  - Sophie: Three year slight decline in completion (despite its popularity over the past ten years) for one of the majors was a given reason. Another given reason was staffing issues, but there has be no staff mapping to determine why these particular courses have been cut.
- Sai: Who makes these decisions?
  - Sophie: I think this decision was made mostly by the School Director. College ADE found out at a similar time to staff and students. School-focused decision without much consultation.

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

- The BA Review is ongoing. Expecting recommendations to come out before the end of the year. If you have specific questions about what recommendations have been discussed so far, speak to Sam.
- Concerned about the staff cuts that are taking place across the university. The recent announcement is likely the beginning of systemic staffing cuts.
- A couple of course issues have been dealt with.
- CASS will likely see some staffing cuts in the long-term. If anyone hears anything about course cuts, let Sam and James know.

### 3.3 College of Law [Reference F]

- Law school has said that things will be largely the same in semester one 2021. They're looking at increasing on-campus offerings and potentially making classes with less than 50 people in-person, with online options still available.
- A number of students have reached out about a lack of individual feedback for assessments. Have heard that there have potentially been cuts in the tutor marking budgets. Potential protest idea could be a mass appeal on grades at the end of the semester. Speaking to the ADE further about this issue.
- Sophie: There is no tutor budget for marking for most courses in RSEEME. Will keep an eye out for anything in this space.
- Georgina: What do people think about protest by appeal?
- Maddie: Good concept. Worthwhile speaking to the NTEU and seeing where they stand on this.
- Skanda: Mass appeal thing is a potential way to move forward if there is no action from the law school before then. Next steps could be raising this in CECs.
- Georgina: The ADE has put it on the agenda for our meeting tomorrow.
- David: Where is the decision for tutor budgets made?
- Georgina: Assume it is done at a College budget level. Don't think it's an ANU-wide policy.

- James: Could be worth a broader discussion with the NTEU. There is a shift towards a model in CASS where the Course Convenor is the marker for everything. A recent appeal took three weeks. Should take this to our CECs.
- Spencer: Have not heard anything in CAP about this issue. But worthwhile to ask in CAP CEC to see if this has happened.
- Georgina: The assessment appeals process has changed over the past few years.
- Andrew: There has been a change in CoL policy regarding the treatment of late assessment.
- Madhu: Can only do an informal assessment appeal if the grade has been finalised is what Madhu remembers from 2017.
- James: This is the same in most CASS courses.
- Andrew: CoL cut the tutor budget. Especially concerning for first year courses when they don't receive feedback. Currently no guarantee that the marking budget will come back next year.
- Andrew: Have we heard anything about in-person graduation ceremonies?
- Georgina: Madhu may know more about this.
- Madhu: There is still an intention to hold graduation ceremonies in-person, but will have to wait on F&S.

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

- No major updates.
- Few things came up at the last CEC. The College is going to disestablish the Diploma of Science and integrate those students into Bachelor of Science courses. Course Convenors holding in-person only courses next semester was a discussion item. Concerned about students who will still be off-campus next semester.
- James: Hybrid model will continue in CASS next semester. Colleges seem to want to get back to in-person learning next semester.
- Madhu: University-wide intention is to maintain a hybrid model next semester.

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

- CBE seem to be expecting the hybrid model to continue next semester.
- RSE are introducing an interview with the Honours Convenor if you received a CRS mark on certain courses.
- Sophie: Haven't heard about anything similar to the CBE Honours interview in CECS, but am concerned about the precedent. You learn a lot during the first few weeks of Honours.
- Andrew: Destroys the point of CRS.
- Georgina: CRS marks are excluded in the calculation of Law Honours marks. WAM for Supervised Research Paper will not take into account CRS grades.

#### 3.6 College of Asia Pacific [Reference I]

- Process of applying for CRS/CRN grade for a non-standard session is not being run centrally.
- Funding issues for mobility programs. Students who started their degree last year or this year need exposure to the Asia-Pacific region. NCP funding is available but they aren't sure how to use it for virtual programs.
- David: CBE have received some of the grants that are normally used for travel.
- Spencer: They were suggesting using money for museum entry virtual tours. Not anywhere near the grant amount however.

#### 2.1 President's Report (L. Day) [Reference A]

- Nothing to add to report.
- Got confirmation today that Joint TLDC will be going ahead. All College

Representatives are invited to attend.

Motion: To accept all reports.

Mover: James Eveille

Secunder: Millie Wang

Status: Passed

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

##### 4.1 Joint TLDC agenda items

- Lachy: Joint TLDC will be on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Grady is keen to talk about academic integrity, largely due to the Proctorio discussion. Could put in an item about the job losses. Joint TLDC is the expansion of the TLDC. Joint TLDC was formed out of the Student Partnership Agreement. Ensures that an amalgamation of students and staff get together twice a year to talk about big education issues.
- Skanda: Potential agenda items we discussed in March were working students (could be tied into the job cuts), climate-focused criteria for education, Course Representatives. Will need to discuss items with PARSA.
- Georgina: Would the discussion about course feedback and changes to marking be appropriate for TLDC?
- Skanda: Could include an item about course quality, covering changes to marking.
- Lachy: Joint TLDC is also a way for issues to be raised above the College level. The PARSA team will be completely new, so this is a chance for us to take leadership in what issues to bring forward.
- James: Could bring working students into a bigger discussion about ongoing access to remote learning and academic issues of marking budgets. COVID response fits all of these discussions into it.
- Andrew: Given that they are opening study hubs overseas, are there intentions to open study hubs in major population centres in Australia?
- Lachy: Not that I've heard of. Will chase it up.
- Andrew: Thinking of students that are voluntarily studying from interstate. There may be a decent student contingent who choose not to come back next year.
- James: Have heard feedback from WA students that the border closure is likely to continue into semester one next year. Should be a study hub in Perth.
- Lachy: Will talk to some of the Guild Presidents in WA to see if we can get a mutual effort going. Will start a Google Doc on the Slack to get ideas for agenda items going.

##### 4.2 Course representatives going forward

- Lachy: When the Student Partnership Agreement was created, it involved the establishment of partnerships between students and their lecturers through Course Representatives. Got a policy almost through AQAC before COVID hit. Been hard to get feedback from Colleges since. What solutions do people have going forward?
- Ben W: Not a lot of courses have been running Course Reps. Going to run into the issue of students not knowing what ANUSA does, Course Reps are a way to get students engaged with ANUSA. Falls under the Student Partnership Agreement because it sets a base level for student involvement.
- Sophie: In CECS, they pushed for Course Reps but got fewer people signing up this year. Could create a plan for publicising the Course Rep process to make students want to get involved.
- James: Would be good for us to talk about at Joint TLDC.
- Lachy: Issue with a weekly survey is that some lecturers may struggle with it.
- Sophie: Tutors don't know that they should be doing things like that. Could be put in tutor training.
- Lachy: Will get in touch with a few of you to put together a discussion paper for TLDC

about it.

#### 4.3 CRC budget – CAPSS cocktail night

- Spencer: Letting you all know that the CAP reps would like to spend money on the CAPSS cocktail night.
- Lachy: Send an email to the College Reps and then send an email to the trustees (Lachy, Madhu and Maddy).

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

- None

#### **Item 6: Meeting Close**

Meeting close: 7:23pm

Expected close of meeting 7:30pm

**Reference A**

Please refer to the President's SRC 6 report.

**Reference B**

Please refer to the Vice-President's SRC 6 report.

## **Reference C**

Please refer to the General Secretary's SRC 6 report.



## Reference D



Australian  
National  
University



### COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE REPRESENTATIVES' REPORT #6

[Sophie Burgess & Kriti Tripathi]

#### Main Updates

- RSEEME has announced the cutting of two undergraduate majors in the Bachelor of Engineering program
- Honours Support Initiative progressing in Semester 2

Agenda	Further Information
RSEEME Major Cuts	<p>On the 3rd of September, CECS announced that they would be disestablishing two majors from their Bachelor of Engineering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mechanical and Material Systems</li><li>- Biomedical Systems</li></ul> <p>This came as a shock to students and staff alike. The executive within the school are currently working on developing a 'Teach Out' plan for the impacted majors, which will go to the CEC on the 12th of October, before going to AQAC and the Academic Board.</p> <p>While all students currently enrolled in the BEng or BEng(R&amp;D) programs will still be able to complete their chosen majors, the courses which they will need to complete will change. These alternate courses may be a mix of other CECS courses, JCOS courses or equivalent courses from other universities. Many in the RSEEME community are not satisfied with the level of justification that has been provided, and are frustrated by the lack of transparency into how this decision was made.</p> <p>Sophie will continue to monitor the unfolding situation.</p>
Job Cuts	<p>The ANUSA CECS representatives oppose the job cuts announced by the university. These job cuts will severely impact the quality of education that ANU students receive. We encourage students (CECS and otherwise) to take a stand and make sure that our voices are heard.</p>
Honours Support	<p>We have been communicating with the CECS admin team and working with them to reach out to the current honours convenors. We have also been working on event promotional materials like fliers and FAQ documents. Things are progressing on track.</p>

## Reference E

### ANUSA CASS Representative Report CRC 7

By James Eveille and Samuel Lee

#### Executive Summary

1. Introduction
2. Bachelor of Arts Review
3. Staffing cuts and fee hikes
4. Timetabling Committee – Samuel
5. Miscellaneous

#### Introduction

Between CRC 6 and CRC 7, it has been very quiet on our end and we are conscious that as the semester nears the end issues may arise. As exams and due dates inch closer and closer, we want to remind students of the support and assistance we can provide them over the rest of our term.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us through our email ([sa.cass@anu.edu.au](mailto:sa.cass@anu.edu.au)) and raise any issue or concern with us. A number of ongoing changes to the ANU are providing uncertainty and concern into the future and we are continuing to be of as much assistance to students as we can.

#### Bachelor of Arts Review

The CASS Bachelor of Arts degree review continued since the last College Representative Council. On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September and Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September Samuel attended two BARTS Review Feedback sessions. The meetings were chaired by the CASS Associate Dean of Education Dr Geoff Hinchcliffe and was attended primarily by members of the CASS Education Committee to check over the final recommendations for the new BARTS. We are pleased with the outcomes and believe they will help future BARTS students.

#### Staffing cuts and fee hikes

We are greatly concerned about the prospect of further job losses at ANU and the impact this will have on courses at ANU. We are especially concerned that the over 460 jobs losses cumulatively this year will result in significant and ongoing decline in course provision and quality. We stand in solidarity with the NTEU, the NUS and the Education Committee in fighting against job losses and the ongoing damage occurring across the higher education sector as a consequence of lack of government support and aid. This is an issue we are closely monitoring and students learning of prospective course cuts or changes should let us know through our email address [sa.cass@anu.edu.au](mailto:sa.cass@anu.edu.au).

#### Timetabling Committee – Samuel

Samuel has finished his meetings as the student representative on the Timetabling tender evaluation panel, which he found to be a new and interesting experience. Still some more reviews and finally approval will need to be done, which will be completed in October. Samuel looks forward to seeing the final outcome.

## **Miscellaneous**

### **Specific Course Issues**

A few students from the course “Food for Thought” (ANTH2132) reached out to us regarding the course not having a course representative and concerns about the teaching of the course. We directed them to speak to the CASS ADE Dr Geoff Hinchcliffe. We condemn any course that does not have student representatives. If this is the case for any particular CASS course you know of please let us know via email [sa.cass@anu.edu.au](mailto:sa.cass@anu.edu.au) or on our Facebook page.

### **Discussions with ANU Culture Bridge**

A consultant from the ANU Culture Bridge branch reached out to us to start a discussion about our experiences with engagement between domestic and international students at ANU. This is part of their wider effort to promote international integration and cohesion. If CASS students have any thoughts they would like us to pass on please let us know. We look forward to discussing with this consultant and hopefully helping them out in this effort.

## **Reference F**

### **CRC REPORT 7 – COLLEGE OF LAW REPRESENTATIVES**

#### **Executive Teaching Continuity Working Group**

Georgina attended the second meeting of the Covid-19 working group. During this meeting there was discussion about the likely structure of classes for Semester 1 2020. It was indicated that at this stage arrangements for next year would be largely similar to this semester, however the college is looking to extend the on-campus offerings of tutorials. Additionally, they are looking at offering elective courses for less 50 people on campus, with recordings being made available to students who are unable to attend in person.

The college confirmed that while boarder restrictions remain in place (both nationally and internationally), there will be options for students to study online. Georgina emphasised how much students had enjoyed the flexibility and often increased accessibility that has come with online study, and that there would remain an interest for some online tutorials in all courses when and if study was to return to 'normal'. The college said that this is something that would be kept in mind in future planning as teachers are now also trained for online delivery.

#### **Reduction in Individual Assessment Feedback**

We have been approached by LAWS1204 (Contracts) students who shared with us posts from their course convenor that informed them they would not be receiving individualised feedback on their 40% essay. In light of this we have used Facebook to reach out to law students to ascertain how widespread this issue is and will use the information we have received when raising concerns with the college leadership team.

We expect that we will receive further communication on this issue as students continue to receive feedback from mid-semester examinations. This is something we are particularly focused on responding to given the large weighting of law assessments, and the fact that many courses only have two assessment components.

## Reference G

### CRC 7 JCOS Report

*Joint College of Science Representatives: Sai Campbell and Yasmin Potts*

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#### **1. College Education Council 23/09/2020**

Sai attended the CEC meeting on 23/09/2020. There were a number of major discussion items that concerned students. The first relevant discussion item was the changes to how academic integrity complaints would be resolved. Course convenors are now responsible for investigating academic integrity violations and cannot, for example, delegate investigation to tutors or other casual academics. Should convenors fail to manage and review evidence appropriately, students may appeal an outcome on procedural grounds. In instances where the course convenor is not able to directly investigate a violation, this should be delegated to the Associate Dean of Education.

The second pertinent discussion item was the disestablishment of the Diploma of Science. Under the new proposal, students who have not obtained the required ATAR will be able to pursue an alternative pathway to undertake a degree with the support of the Academic Skills and Learning Centre. These students will be integrated into the same classes as other students. However, they will most likely not be accorded special privileges such as extensions for assignments.

The third item of relevance was the expected format of classes for next semester 2021. Unfortunately, it is presently unclear what restrictions will be in place but the general consensus is that we will most likely be having a hybrid semester as it is extremely unlikely that many international students will be able to return to Canberra. We expect that there will be no large face-to-face lectures next semester as it will be difficult to comply with social distancing. However, one discussion item was the fact that a number of courses, particularly in the medical school, require in person practicals in order to meet learning outcomes. The question of whether any courses will be on-campus only was raised. The ADE confirmed that this would be extremely rare and would not apply to any compulsory courses. Sai is concerned as to whether any courses should be permitted to be on-campus only as this could discriminate against international students. Sai will update the CRC on further developments relating to this discussion item.

#### **2. Handover and next year plans**

Sai will be continuing in her role as JCOS representative and she looks forward to beginning the handover process for her co-representative as soon as they have been confirmed.

#### **3. One Girl Initiative**

Just wanted to give a shout-out to the STEM@ANU One Girl initiative which aims to raise money to support girls in underprivileged areas with financing their education. The team has already raised over \$11,000 which is absolutely fantastic and we are hoping to exceed our goal of \$12,000 very soon.

<https://www.onegirl.org.au/fundraisers/STEMANU>

#### **4. ANU Student Research Conference (SRC)**

Sai was pleased to work with the Student Research Conference as a program coordinator and the conference was a resounding success. Sai was pleased to see a number of high quality contributions from particular science students and she hopes that the JCOS representatives may play a bigger role in supporting students pursuing original research here at ANU. However, Sai is concerned about informal reports on cuts to the number of places available for students hoping to pursue research courses here at the ANU outside of degree programs where it is a requirement of said degree. She believes that students outside of these courses should have the opportunity to pursue research that is recognised through a course and is concerned with how this development could exacerbate perceived elitism in JCOS.

#### **5. Events back on campus**

We are very pleased to see that events may now be held on campus and we look forward to seeing what initiatives will be put forward by societies this coming term. We welcome communication from student societies who may be looking for administrative or financial support from their JCOS representatives.

#### **6. Financial Summary**

<b>Credit Name</b>	<b>Credit Amount</b>	<b>Sum Credit</b>	<b>Debit Name</b>	<b>Debit Amount</b>	<b>Sum Debit</b>	<b>Net Position</b>
ACT Seed Grant	1575	2303.38	Kirsten Banks	330	830	1473.38
College Rep Pool	728.38		Hackathon Prize Money	500		

The JCOS budget currently has a large surplus due to unused funds from ANU National Science Week. Sai contacted the National Committee about the surplus and was advised to use the funds for equipment that could be needed for future National Science Week events. Sai will be contacting the national representative to confirm whether this may be kept liquid for future events so that the JCOS representatives for 2021 may not need to rely on obtaining highly competitive grant funding to run a successful National Science Week. We are also very much open to hearing suggestions from other CRC members and the general public on how these funds could be appropriately used.

## **Reference H**

### **CBE report for CRC 7**

It has been a quiet for weeks for us since the last CRC, we have not received much student correspondence since then, however there has an education committee meeting with some important information about next year.

Education committee points:

- CRS and CRN not expected to be in use in 2021
- Blended delivery will likely continue next year due to border closures
- The Economics honours program will now include an interview with honours convener and a requirement to have a supervisor ahead of time.

## **Reference I**

### **CRC 7 Report ANUSA CAP Representatives Spencer Cornish & Millie Wang**

#### **Updates from the CAP Student Centre**

In our most recent meetings with the CAP Student Centre, we have been given a few updates. First, if students would like to request to have a CRS/CRN applied to their grade for a 2020 CAP non-standard session course, they must send an email to [cap.student@anu.edu.au](mailto:cap.student@anu.edu.au) with their request. For 2020 standard session courses, the application of CRS/CRN grades is handled centrally. The College is also in the process of developing virtual mobility programs and virtual internships for 2021 to give students the chance to gain some exposure to the Asia-Pacific region during their time at ANU, especially with the ongoing COVID-19 travel restrictions. The CAP Associate Dean of Student Experience has also invited us to participate in the judging of the CAP Teaching Awards in November.

We will also be beginning our handover to the 2021 CAP Representatives soon.

#### **Funding for CAP Social Events**

We have been involved in an ongoing process with CAPSS and the ANUSA Executive over securing funding for the CAPSS Cocktail Night. This will be discussed in more detail within our motion for approval for this funding.

The Za Kabuki Club also contacted us requesting funding for one of their upcoming events, but the College is not able to provide funding for the rest of the year due to restrictive administrative processes.

#### **Student Contact**

We've had a couple students contact us over issues relating to course credit and degree transfers. To our knowledge, all of them have been resolved and were mainly caused by students being unable to access online information about the process during this period of remote learning.