

AGENDA – College
(CRC) 4 2021



Representative Council

Wednesday, 28 July 2021

Zoom – 6:15pm

Item 1: Meeting Open and Apologies

- 1.1 Acknowledgement of Country
- 1.2 Apologies
- 1.3 Passing of previous meetings minutes (CRC 3 2020)

Item 2: Executive Reports

- 2.1 President's Report (M. Janagaraja) [Reference A]
- 2.2 Vice President's Report (C. Flynn) [Reference B]
- 2.3 General Secretary's Report (M. Malone) [Reference C]

Item 3: College Representative Reports

- 3.1 College of Engineering and Computer Science [Reference D]
- 3.2 College of Arts and Social Sciences [Reference E]
- 3.3 College of Law [Reference F]
- 3.4 College of Sciences, Health and Medicine [Reference G]
- 3.5 College of Business and Economics [Reference H]
- 3.6 College of Asia Pacific [Reference I]

Item 4: Discussion Items

Item: 5: Other Business

Item 6: Meeting Close

Expected close of meeting 7:15 pm

Reference A

Please see the President's pending report at SRC 4.

Reference B

Please see the Vice President's pending report at SRC 4.

Reference C

Please see the General Secretary's pending report at SRC 4

Reference D

College of Engineering and Computer Science Representative Reports

COMP2100 Student Concerns

- During Semester 1, there were several complaints and concerns raised regarding COMP2100. Sandy has met with the school and addressed all concerns raised and both CECS and the RSCS authorities are aware of the issues and are actioning solutions to improve the course quality.
- The School would like to reiterate that this quality of teaching is not indicative of the standards within RSCS and CECS, and there will be no recurrence of these issues.
- If you are being affected by the course (or any other course), there are many avenues of support available for students. ANUSA is always here to help support and advocate for you. Additionally, wellbeing services within the University are also always available to students.

Cancelled Courses in CECS

- Last week CECS announced a long list of course cancellations - mostly 3000/4000 level courses. There are no definite replacements for every cancelled course.
- If the course cancellations are affecting your degree/majors, please contact your program convenor. Quickest way is to find a course that you would like to use as a replacement, and email your program convenor for permission to adjust your program.
- Student Services is available to guide you through any special processes.
- Sandy has spoken with some program convenors who are looking to find suitable replacements for these cancelled courses in Semester 2, 2021.

Committee Updates:

- Swatantra attended the SOEN CDC on Tuesday 13th July.
- Sandy attended the CECS Educational Committee meeting on the 23rd July. Exciting updates to Undergraduate programs are pending approval :.)

Meeting with JCOS representatives

- On 12th July, Sandy met with Metta and Sai to discuss Professional Development opportunities for students across both JCOS and CECS.

Reference E

CASS Representative Report CRC 4 - Yasmin Kirk

Executive Summary:

1. Semester 1 CRS/CRN Appeals
2. Contact CASS student office
3. Semester 2 drop-in hours
4. CASS Courses with Issues

1. Semester 1 CRS/CRN Appeals

- I have been getting emails from students looking for support and advice on rejected CRS/CRN applications. For those still having issues with the application process and any rejections, I encourage you to get in contact with the CASS student office as soon as possible (students.cass@anu.edu.au)! They will be able to help you with overturning your appeal.
- That being said, I am also happy to support you in your application as my position as the CASS rep. Feel free to reach out with questions, or just cc the CASS email in on anything you have concerns about (sa.cass@anu.edu.au).

2. Contact CASS student office

- I have also been receiving other general inquiries about degree planning. I'm more than happy to give advice when I know the answer, but all my advice is just coming from the ANU Programs and Courses page. For a more informed (and probably much more helpful) response I'd encourage you to again reach out to the CASS student office at students.cass@anu.edu.au. They are often quite swamped at the beginnings and ends of semesters so may take some time getting back to you, but when they do I promise their help will be invaluable!
- Also, if you're not hearing back from them in a week or two feel free to reach out to the CASS email again and we can send follow up emails for you, but this shouldn't be an issue.

3. Semester 2 drop-in hours

- I'm aiming to hold CASS drop-in hours on Thursday mornings again this semester (likely 10-11am), but keep an eye on the CASS Facebook page for confirmation. These will be on both zoom and in person (bottom floor Marie Reay) again this semester. If you can't make that time, reach out to the email or message the page on Facebook and I'll be able to help you through those avenues instead.

4. CASS Courses with Issues

- POLS2069 Politics in Russia
 - A student reported that the course convenor was dismissive and condescending of those that had views contradicting his. He appeared to present the course material in a biased way given his personal ties to Russia.
- POLS3038 Media and Politics
 - A student reported that the course convenor was displeased with the number of extension requests she received for the final assessment. Some students felt that she had been dismissive towards EAPs.

Reference F

College of Law Representatives' Report

Lily Henke and Isabel Marsh

CRC 4 - 28/07/2021

Summary

1. Introduction
2. On Campus vs Online Learning this Semester
3. Online Exams
4. **Welcome to Semester 2**

1. Introduction

We have had a relatively quiet period since presenting our report at CRC 3, but have continued to meet with staff from CoL Student Administration Services to receive updates. We also attended the fourth College Education Committee meeting of the year on Wednesday 21st July. The College staff has provided us with much of the information we will share below and has given us ample opportunity to raise student concerns.

2. On Campus vs Online Learning this Semester

The College of Law had planned for most tutorials to be held on campus this Semester, but is aware that many students may be unable to return to Canberra for the start of Semester due to COVID-19 restrictions. Course convenors have been asked to monitor students' needs and provide more online tutorial options where this is necessary. First year law courses including LAWS1204 - Contracts and LAWS1202 Lawyers, Justice and Ethics in particular have reported a significant number of participating students unable to attend class in Canberra, and will therefore offer many online tutorials.

Elective law courses will retain a primarily on-campus mode of teaching, unless the ACT enters a lockdown period. Students studying these courses who cannot study on campus will be catered for via recordings of class content.

Should any students have feedback about the number of on campus or online tutorials provided for a particular course, please feel free to reach out and we will address these concerns with the College.

3. Online Exams

The College received a number of enquiries and complaints from students last Semester relating to online exams. Many of these concerns related to inconsistent grace periods for

uploading exams to Wattle.

The College has informed us that it will discontinue the use of grace periods (ie, an additional 10-15 minutes after writing time to enable students to upload their exam paper to Wattle) this Semester. The College found that most students were using this additional time to continue writing, and that the grace periods had little utility in minimising problems with uploading. The College will continue to ensure that the ANU College of Law Course Support team monitors its emails for the duration of all law examinations. Students who experience technical difficulties during an online examination should email this team. Students who experience technical difficulties submitting their examination paper, should email the ANU College of Law Student Administration Services team immediately and attach their paper as this will provide the College with an attempted submission time.

The College has also started to engage in discussion about changes to policy regarding the regulation of online exams. The ANU College of Law does not currently use identity checking systems, nor the invigilation of online exams to ensure academic honesty and integrity. The College has been able to take this flexible approach because various Legal Admission Authorities across the country gave Australian law schools, including the ANU College of Law, a temporary dispensation on stringent exam requirements, in response to the COVID-19 situation. However, the College advises that these exemptions may not continue into the future.

The College does not have any concrete nor immediate plans (notably, nothing that will affect Semester 2, 2021) to introduce a system of invigilation nor identity checking. We will attempt to monitor developments in this area to ensure students are adequately consulted prior to any changes to policy.

5. Welcome to Semester 2

We would like to congratulate all students for their efforts throughout a particularly challenging first Semester this year. Welcome everyone to Semester 2! We encourage law students with any academic issues or concerns this Semester to reach out to us at sa.col@anu.edu.au as we are always willing to lend a helping hand and point students in the right direction to receive support.

Reference G

CRC 4 JCOS Report

ANUSA Science Representatives: Metta Chalapati & Sai Campbell

1. General Student Welfare Concerns

A primary issue of concern that arose from the end of Semester 1 was a lack of invigilation for some students in the course MEDN2001. This was particularly concerning to us considering the large size of the cohort. We received the following complaints concerning the course:

- 2 The communication leading up to the final exam was confusing and contradictory:
- 3 The exam assessable content was changed two days before the exam.
- 4 During the exam, the exam structure was different than previously stated.
- 5 Some students completed the exam without Proctorio or any invigilation at all.
- 6 Students had raised concerns regarding Proctorio before the exam, however the decision to require Proctorio was confirmed.

In response, we were advised by the ADE that they would carefully examine the scripts of students who sat the exam without Proctorio which could include a comparative exercise between marks in the exam with grades received from other assessment pieces. We had suggested an opt-in resitting of the exam but it was pointed out that this could advantage some students because they would have more time to prepare. This would also make mark moderation difficult. Students who have felt that they have been disadvantaged, or treated unfairly, were advised to submit a final assessment appeal.

We are concerned that this issue will arise again in the Semester 2 assessment period. This is more likely to happen with the number of interstate - as well as ongoing international - travel restrictions. It has been difficult to find alternatives to ensure academic integrity is maintained in exams and this incident has highlighted the technical challenges of using software such as Proctorio during closed book exams. An alternative that has been practiced in a number of courses have included open book exams that involve Zoom invigilation. We recognise, however, that this does not prevent students from communicating with one another online. We are thus still considering what would be the best way forward for exams.

2. JCOS/CECS Student Professional Development Program

We were delighted to hear about plans in the College of Engineering and Computer Science to investigate ways the college could support student professional development. It was felt that there is significant overlap between JCOS and CECS and hence a joint program might be more cost efficient. Sandy, Sai and Metta met online on Monday 12th July 2021 to discuss what a professional development program might look like in CECS and JCOS. We looked at the College of Business and Economics for inspiration as they have a well-established careers support program. We were particularly impressed by the CBE Student Opportunities Newsletter which was kindly shared by Sandy. This is a monthly newsletter which includes a

short message from the Dean as well as academic and job opportunities, personal development programs, and social events. We did note, however, that the CBE employs part-time staff to manage these programs which may not be an option for JCOS and CECS. Presently, JCOS runs an Science Internship Program which is advertised usually once a year via email to students. We think there may be some value in putting together a similar newsletter and are interested in presenting this idea to the appropriate bodies in JCOS. It was noted that the CBE Student Opportunities Newsletter included content that seemed much more applicable to students in JCOS such as Robogal events and so it could also be a valuable means for science societies here at ANU to also reach students.

3. National Science Week

We are delighted to report that we were successful in obtaining a grant from the ACT National Science Committee of \$925. This grant was drafted in collaboration with the ANU Science Society. We also have \$1,045 that has transferred on from the previous year. This places us in a good position to run another of events for National Science Week as well as potentially fund ventures by other science societies at ANU. Metta has been largely responsible for corresponding with ANU Science Society and is the best contact for any questions or queries. We have been advised that Science Society will be using the funds to run the following events:

1. Women in STEM Coffee Catchups
2. STEM Panel
3. Bonfire
4. Science Mayhem
5. Stargazing Soiree
6. 3 Minute Thesis
7. Careers Fair
8. Science in the Pub
9. Science Ball

More details about these events can be found here: <https://www.scienceweek.net.au/>
 We strongly encourage any other groups here at the ANU to speak to us if they require funding for any last minute events as we do have an excess of funding.

4. Current Financial Position

The following table excludes the funding provided by the College Representative Budget.

Line Item	Credit	Debit
ACT National Science Week Grant 2020	925	
ACT National Science Week Grant 2021	1045	
Science Society Leaders Lunch		300
Net position		1670

Reference H

ANUSA CBE Representative Report for CRC 4

7 Issues with final exams

- We received a lot of emails regarding feedback and complaints about the course or the final assessment in particular. We raised this with the college and encouraged the students to submit a detailed SELT review for the course.
- We also had a conversation in CBE Education Committee 04/21 about special exam arrangements for international students at different time zones. The college appeared to understand the issues present but was reluctant to assume responsibility in implementing a solution. We would like to push for this further and expect the college will independently implement their own system.
- There seems to be a large proportion of special consideration for final course grades related to mental health issues for students at residential college, as per comment of one of the lecturers in the meeting. The committee mentioned including access and inclusion information on class summaries or increasing the visibility on wattle sites.

8 Courses/degrees adjustment

- The other major issue arising from CBE Education Committee 04/21 and 05/21 was the disestablishment of some undergraduate courses that haven't been taught in the last three years.
- There was also mention of program amendments to a few programs in RSM and RSE, however these were mostly postgraduate master programs. Some amendments are due to the disestablishment of courses, some are minor adjustments with only a change in the wording.

Reference I