



MINUTES

ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING 2 2012

Wednesday 29th August 2012

12pm, Union Court Amphitheatre

Executive

Dallas Proctor- President of the Association
Alice McAvoy- Vice-President of the Association
Tara Mulholland- General Secretary of the Association
Rashid Kazak- Treasurer of the Association
Phoebe Malcolm- Social Officer of the Association
Tom Barrington-Smith - Education Officer of the Association

Department Officers

Cheryl Cheam- International Students' Officer of the Association
Renee Jones- Women's Officer of the Association

Ordinary Members

Cam Wilson
Rosa Considine
Mark Jehre
Tasman Vaughan
Aleks Sladojevic
Sophia Stanley
Shan Verne-Liew
Shaun Wykes
Galvin Chia
Ka Fung Chan
Nick Aaron
Julia Russel
Patrick Hitchinson
Connor Drum
Mark Thomas
Louis Klee
Michael Harrison
Magen Barker
Emma Eriksen
Abby D'Cruz
Paul Wigley
Ian Whalan

Faculty Representatives

William Gort
Yasmin Masri
Roseanna Bricknell
Jack Hobbs
Maea Buhre
Ali French
Tom Brazier
Justin Steele
Vaibhav Sagar
Sascha Silberstein
Matthew Birtwistle

General Representatives

Ben McMullin
Lillian Ward
Jeff Sun
Alex Clark
Amanda Joyce-Neilson
Samantha Teong
Thomas Nock
Matilda Gillis

Item 1: Meeting Opens and Apologies

Meeting Opened at 12:17pm

1. 1 Acknowledgement of Country

I would like to show my respect and acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, of elders past and present, on which this event takes place.

1. 2 Apologies

I have received apologies from: Edward Byrne, Junyan Tan, Alex Clark and Christopher Karas, Harry Wall, Alex Bell-Rowe

1. 3 Explanation of Standing Orders

- All motions and amendments (except for procedural motions) must be handed to me in writing and they require a mover and a seconder
- All movers and seconders have speaking rights
- You may only speak once to a motion unless you are the mover exercising your right of reply.
- Amendments must be relevant to the motion and cannot negate the substance of a motion,
- Movers of amendments have no right of reply.
- Speakers delivering reports may speak for 5 minutes, movers of motions for 3, all other speakers 2 minutes.
- You may at any time move points of order about any irregularity in the proceedings or ask for a point of clarification at the end of a speech.
- If you feel misrepresented you may (without interrupting) make a point of explanation
- Movers of and speakers to procedural motions have one minute.
- The ANUSA Standing orders can be found in the link to our constitution.

Item 2: Minutes from the Previous Meeting including Matters Arising

No Questions

MOTION: That the Minutes from OGM1 be accepted

Moved: Tara Mulholland

Seconded: Justin Steele

Motion Passed

Item 3: Reports and Matters Arising

3.1 Student Representative Council (SRC) Report (D. Proctor) [Reference A]

- Bus purchase, still deciding whether or not to buy a bus come along next Wednesday to SRC if you're interested
- SSAF negotiations for 2013 start today. Obviously we're going to have to do a lot of consultation.
- Clubs and Societies are going through SEEF instead of GAC, concerning to us as Clubs and Societies access clubs and societies insurance, financially accountable, SEEF is such a large amount of money, we need to come up with ways to engage groups on campus
- Event application process, have to go through ANUSA because only we can sign off on the events.

Questions

- **Galvin Chia:** If you look at the Grants and Affiliations committee, it's less than half, it doesn't look like spending is on track?
 - **Dallas Proctor:** We still have money to spend, clubs can apply more and some of the figures haven't been costed correctly.
 - We have total clubs and societies spending, we have SSAF money now, so they're not used to have more funding, obviously with SSAF, clubs and societies have the potential to listen to more spending This report is from 2 weeks ago, there have been 11 balls since then
- **Aleks Sladojevic:** What are the reforms to the Union?
 - **Dallas Proctor:** Mainly just to update the constitution and to make the Union more accountable, also to give ANUSA and PARSA a seat on the Board
- **Galvin Chia:** Official comment on the status of the executive report?
 - **Rashid Kazak:** We did initially engage Grosner management consultancy but we don't want to go into it while we're, pending the AFP investigation.

MOTION: That the Student Representative Council Report be accepted.

Moved: Vaibhav Sagar

Seconded: Matilda Gillis

Motion Passed

3.2 College Representative College (CRC) Report (A. McAvoy) [Reference B]

- First year guide for all of the colleges, if you're interested in talking about that money, next Wednesday
- Holiday length, the mid semester break will be shortened from 2 weeks to one week- the university hasn't provided a strategy, proposal on website
- Marni has thanked ANUSA and PARSA on the efforts on SELT

Questions

- **Galvin Chia:** Potential talks about increases in the costs of accommodation on campus?
 - **Alice McAvoy:** We've started negotiations, with Inter-hall presidents, PARSA, ANUSA. Tariffs increase by CPI, the last option is 44% increase in tariffs, option 2 increase of 6%, bring all the colleges up to OH&S, replacing mattresses.etc.
- **Galvin Chia:** What were colleges responses to the proposed holiday length
 - **Alice McAvoy:** Science is particularly against it, most of the academic colleges are against it,
 - **Roseanna Bricknell:** Science saw holiday length as a key issue.
- **Tasman Vaughan:** Practice of teaching has been removed and replaced as a code of practice?
 - This is something that is not completely entrenched, Marnie Hughes-Warrington has decided that is no longer a policy and that will go through education quality standards committee

Moved: Justin Steele

Seconded: Vaibhav Sagar

Motion Passed

Item 4: Discussion Items

4. 1 Communications Officer (Galvin Chia)

That the position of Communications Officer be added as a seventh member of the ANUSA executive

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

(12) The Communications Officer must, subject to the Constitution, the Regulations and Policy of the Association:

- a) Oversee the dissemination of the Association's policies, activities and other relevant information to the student body, through avenues

including, but not limited to: an email newsletter, the ANUSA website, position papers and media releases;

- b) Develop and implement policies which will encourage student engagement and input with the Association,
- c) Where necessary, assist other members of the Association in the communication of their activities to the student body.

Galvin Chia

- ANUSA is understaffed at the executive level, not having time to move forward
- This is a discussion item very open to anything that you want to suggest
- Have someone looking specifically at the engagement between ANUSA and students.
- Talk to me if you want the proposals in the document, many ticket conveners have agreed that it was a good idea

Question

- **Connor Drum:** What will be the appointment process be?
 - **Galvin Chia:** Special General Meeting
 - **Dallas Proctor:** *Point of Clarification.* In future years it would be elected along with the rest of the ANUSA positions in the annual election
- **Ali French:** What do you see the day to day role of the position being?
 - **Galvin Chia:** In the initial conception it would be able to improve on those flows through the newsletter, physical presences, the website, reflects the issue of the day for instance, help the exec channel the debate
- **Aleks Sladojevic:** How do you see the role being different from Publications Officer?
 - **Galvin Chia:** The Publications Officer just works on one publication. The Communications Officer would report to meetings, run public education forums, public debates, deliberative, things like housing review, posters- about what's currently going on.
- **Aleks Sladojevic:** What sort of technical skills do the Communications need to have?
 - **Dallas Proctor:** My personal view is that they need technical skills, Photoshop, word press, HTML, social media, craft proper logos.
- **Yasmin Masri:** You're not always going to have someone who has both those skills, why not have the role as a paid position?
 - Dallas: We don't want to pay them.
- **Sascha Silberstein:** Could ANUSA to fund training for people interested in the role?

- **Galvin Chia:** This is a comment more so than anything, the state of the turnout at this meeting shows the dysfunction that exists in communication in the association.
 - **Shaun Wykes:** I don't agree with that, I think that O-week is the best example of student engagement, Also the student space has been a really good move towards getting the word out about ANUSA

Item 5: Any Other Business

- **Renee Jones:** Have we have paid our affiliation to NUS?
 - **Dallas Proctor:** We are considering whether or not we should pay them, earlier in the year we experienced a complete lack of support
 - **Renee Jones:** How much did they invoice us for?
 - **Dallas Proctor:** \$44,000
 - **Tasman Vaughan:** How would our payment of the NUS Affiliation fee affect the delegates?
Dallas Proctor: Obviously we are going to ask that before we decide whether or not to pay.

Item 6: Date of Next Meeting and Close

The next Ordinary General Meeting will be held in Union Court at 12(noon) on Wednesday the 17th October 2012.

This meeting is closed at: 12:55pm

Reference A

SRC Report

Housing Tariff Negotiations

Dallas Proctor (ANUSA President) and Alice McAvoy (ANUSA Vice President) attended Residential Strategies Committee to discuss proposed housing tariffs. The university is currently proposing a 6% increase to tariffs (including a 3.7% CPI increase). The proposal is available on the ANUSA website. We are working with the interhall Presidents, who have run a fantastic survey and are actively consulting within their colleges. Negotiations will continue during this month.

The returners policy has also been flagged as possibly being discussed again. The university seems to be open to wide student consultation on this issue and again this will largely go through college networks.

Financial Reform

Rashid Kazak (ANUSA Treasurer) has proposed a new system of financial reform for ANUSA's internal processes. The draft proposal is available in the minutes of SRC 5. We also had a meeting on Monday to discuss the reforms, and other possible solutions.

Arts Centre

Dallas Proctor (ANUSA President) and Megan Lane (ANUSA General Representative) are meeting with facilities and services to discuss improving the Arts Centre. Fortunately there is a new employee who is overseeing and things have improved for the short term but we are still pushing to see if it is viable for ANUSA to take over management of the centre.

SSAF Mid Year Report

The SSAF Mid Year Report was published on 15 August. It is available on our website. Any questions should be directed to Rashid Kazak (sa.treasurer@anu.edu.au)

Bush Week

Big thanks to Fee and her Bush Week team (Alex Bell Rowe, Emma Dunn, Hannah Lawson and Tasman Vaughan) for all their time and effort over the winter break. They did an amazing job! Also to all the volunteers and people who ran events during the week.

New Website

Dallas Proctor (ANUSA President) has created a new website on a \$40 Wordpress template. Rashid and Dallas negotiated us out of previous year's contract so we have a reduced cost to cover. The new website has lots of great features:

- New anonymous reporting services
- New events calendar
- Online GAC affiliation, free printing service
- New pages on academic advice and safety on campus
- Blog with ANUSA press releases, issues, etc.

Free Printing Service for Clubs and Societies

We've developed this service from feedback from clubs and societies greater printing support. Phoebe Malcolm developed the online printing form which is on the ANUSA website. The deal is with University Printing Service, which prints at a competitive rate and is cheaper than Officeworks. Same day service, 100% recycled and A4 only.

Submission for Facilities and Services

Dallas Proctor (ANUSA President) has written a submission for facilities and services on the following topics:

- BBQs: Improving the BBQ booking system and making it through the ANUSA Student Space. Will also be writing a proposal to build a permanent bbq in Union Court which will go to the Students' Association Committee for approval
- Event Management Forms: We want to simplify the current system (make it online and less paperwork). The current system is pretty archaic and unnecessarily burdensome for clubs and societies
- UniSafe Escort service: After Renee Jones (ANUSA Women's Officer) received several complaints about the service, we have chased this up and have made a number of recommendations
- Response to emergencies: After submissions from Penny Rumble (ANUSA Queer* Officer 2011) regarding poor response times when the sewerage leaker in Queer* Space we have made recommendations.

Welfare Fund

The ANUSA Welfare Fund has had \$40,000 added to it. Tom Barrington-Smith (ANUSA Education Officer) has reviewed the previous system and increased the amount available to students.

Greyhound Sponsorship

Dallas Proctor (ANUSA President) has been meeting with Greyhound buses to discuss the Canberra-Sydney route.

They are now offering us:

- \$25 on EVERY service with the ANU25 promo code
- Free WiFi for ANU students
- Brand new buses on 12 services/day
- Online loyalty program
- Timetable changes to better meet student travel needs
- Generous corporate sponsorship to help fund Bush Week

Universal Lunch Hour

We've now run 18 Universal Lunch Hours. Thanks to all the relevant clubs and societies, departments and of course Phoebe Malcolm (ANUSA Social Officer) for the fantastic Thursday events. This week's Universal Lunch Hour is Robogal, followed by AYCC and then the Pakistan Student's Society.

Grants and Affiliations Committee

Phoebe Malcolm (ANUSA Social Officer) is pleased to report that we now have a full Grants and Affiliation Committee for the first time in a few years. Our thanks to PARSAs and ANU Union for working with us on this. Adam Da Cruz will be representing the Union and Chris Cheung and Winnon Brunson Jr from PARSAs.

GAC Fund:

- Total spent: \$54,117.27, total remaining: \$85,882.73

Special Purpose:

- Total spent: \$7,200, total remaining: \$36,200.

Productions:

- Total spent: \$4000, total remaining: \$16,000.

Substantial amount of the GAC budget has also been spent on infrastructure such as \$11,000 on speakers. Money has also been spent on marquees, lights and soup urns. These have been extremely popular and have been regularly used. Dallas Proctor (ANUSA President) has formulated a hiring form and bookings are through Eleanor Boyle (ANUSA Office Administrator) or Student Space Staff. Finalised amounts will be available at the time of the OGM.

ACT Elections

In conjunction with UCSA (and hopefully CITSA and SSA, if they jump on board) we will be releasing a scorecard for the ACT Elections in October detailing how to vote for student issues. The questions have been compiled with help from each of the departments and cover a broad range of issues (e.g. funding for Canberra Rape Crisis Centre) with the 2 main ones being housing and transport. Over the next few weeks Tom Barrington-Smith (ANUSA Education Officer) will be meeting with each of the party leaders and they will have the chance to make their case.

We will also be running a campaign to encourage students to enrol for the ACT elections. Phoebe Malcolm (ANUSA Social Officer) is also toying with the idea of a Politics in the Pub event for the ACT elections.

Mental Health Committee

We are in the process of creating a web resource on mental health. Alice McAvoy (ANUSA Vice President) has been interviewing Heather McLeod (Head of Counselling Centre) and Laura-Anne Bull (Deputy Registrar of Student Services) regarding mental health support at ANU and proposed solutions for this resource as well. We are also recruiting students who would be keen to share their mental health stories on this website. Sarah Longo will also be writing an article for Woroni.

Clubs and Societies Awards Night

- Organised for 18 October (keep your diaries free)
- All clubs and societies will be invited to bring along two executive members

Awards will include:

- Club of the Year
- Best New Society
- Event of the Year
- Volunteer of the Year
- Best Marketing
- Best Joint Event
- Best Educational Event
- Best Production

2013 Diary

Phoebe Malcolm (ANUSA Social Officer) is currently compiling this.

ANUSA Elections

- Thanks to Doug Wylie and Connor Drumm who did a fantastic job as Probity Officers, in what can very often be a difficult situation. Also big thanks to Dale Brosnahan who was returning officer for this year and stepped up, when the university wouldn't let Jan O'Connor do it anymore
- Congratulations to all the candidates who ran and were passionate and brave enough to put themselves forward as student representatives.
- Finally, but not least importantly, big congratulations to ANUSA 2013 Elect. We look forward to working with you over the next few months, and having a great handover.

Union

- Tara Mulholland (ANUSA General Secretary) and Alex Clark (ANUSA General Representative) have been working with them on their new constitutional reforms.
- Spot for the ANUSA/PARSA Presidents on the board

Safety On Campus

- Alice McAvoy (ANUSA Vice President) has been meeting with the university to re-establish the UniSafe Committee. It hasn't met for 3 years. She is working with Luce Andrews to get the committee up and going with several representatives from ANUSA and PARSA, as well as representatives from all the different divisions of ANU Security.
- The ANU conducted a lighting audit, and ANUSA reps put in submissions.
- Alice McAvoy has been talking to the counselling centre about having someone who is specifically trained for crisis situations (in particular sexual assault). Heather McLeod (Head of Counselling) has been really helpful and progress is looking good.
- The Safety on Campus Committee is planning a "The Pledge" campaign which has been booked in for ULH next term. If you are interested in attending meetings please email Renee Jones (sa.womens@anu.edu.au) or Alice McAvoy (sa.vicepres@anu.edu.au)

ANUSA Survey

Alice McAvoy (ANUSA Vice President) is in the process of reviewing the questions for the ANUSA Survey for this year's survey. The survey has been useful in past years for things like the ANUSA Housing Review or for the annual report, as well as a good gauge of important student issues. Alice is also going to be chasing up the College of Business and Economics, who raised queries regarding the statistical validity of the survey. They made recommendations last year, and we are keen to incorporate those. If you would like a question included please come and see me.

Last Lecture

Alice McAvoy (ANUSA Vice President) has begun prep for this year's event which will be held on the last Thursday of Term 4.

2nd hand online bookshop

Dallas Proctor (ANUSA President) and Jeff Sun (ANUSA General Representative) set up the 2nd hand bookshop online. Sales have increased significantly, and we've also had a lot of books handed in to the office.

Student Space

We are now opening Student Space till 9pm on Mon-Wednesday! Alice McAvoy (ANUSA Vice President) has been meeting with the student space staff fortnightly to ensure they have plenty of projects to work on, etc. Things they have been working on so far:

- Surveying students last term for ways to improve the space
- Working on the new online bookshop that Dallas set up
- Creating posters for ANUSA staff, etc
- Developing the tuck shop

University Access and Equity Committee

- Pregnancy Rooms: Apparently ANU has just created brand new pregnancy rooms but no one in the room knew where they are, and students have not been notified of their existence or whereabouts. Am chasing this up with Wayne Ford, who is in Facilities and Services. Imogen (PARSA's new Equity Officer) is interested in organizing a joint forum for parents on campus.
- We had a mental health presentation from the Centre of Mental Health Research to let the university know about their internationally successful e-programs.

Academic Board

- The new Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) Professor Margaret Harding has been appointed and was welcomed at the meeting.
- ANU reported that they have been relatively successful in the recent rounds of government grants and also in rankings.
- As the board is a new thing, they will be setting up a new consultative body (including an ANUSA body) to work out what should be discussed at Academic Board

Division of Information

- Wattle has been upgraded
- Tutorial enrolments went more smoothly this semester than last year

- A new food policy has been introduced in to libraries: hot/cold drinks and cold food are allowed.

ACT Smart Green Accreditation

Tom Barrington-Smith (ANUSA Education Officer) has been working on getting the ANUSA offices green accredited, and we got it last week.

Health Centre

Samantha Teong (ANUSA General Representative) has been working on a health centre survey to be put in the medical centre reception for greater levels of feedback/data that we can use in discussions with the university.

Safe Events Respectful Clubs and Societies

Over the break Tom Barrington-Smith (ANUSA Education Officer) attended the "Safe Events, Respectful Clubs and Societies" launch at Parliament House. The initiative was launched by Senator Claire Moore in conjunction with The National Union of Students, the South Eastern Centre Against Sexual Assault, the Equality Rights Alliance, the National Women's Alliance and the Australian Women Against Violence Alliance.

Independent student-run clubs and societies form some of the most important parts of university life. The initiative launched is a manual for clubs and societies to run safe, inclusive events on campus, as well as for ANUSA to help encourage respectful attitudes amongst clubs.

This is achieved through reasonably simple guidelines centering on the responsible promotion and running of events as well as some basic guidelines to help clubs and societies ensure they are fundamentally sound and respectful to women.

Senator Moore has agreed to come and launch the resource here at the ANU if we decide to do so. Tom be working with Phoebe Malcolm (ANUSA Social Officer) to help implement aspects of this resource.

Reference B

CRC Report

First Year Guides

Carl Reinecke has met with Alice McAvoy (ANUSA Vice President) to discuss his proposal for first year guides for all the academic colleges. He did the SASS one for Arts this year, and is keen to collaborate with ANUSA Fac Reps to get info for these books.

Alice and Carl met with Marnie Hughes-Warrington (Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic)) and she has offered her support to Carl's proposal. His proposal will be brought to SRC 6 next week for official endorsement.

Appeals

After a number of academic appeals this year, Alice McAvoy (ANUSA Vice President) has identified a number of areas which seem to need improvement in the area of internal education:

- More awareness of the college appointments that graduating students can have before their final semester.
- Stronger guidelines around Honours and what is required of a supervisor
- Need for ensuring that all academic advice is written down
- Greater awareness of the basic appeals process

Alice has been creating a relevant section on the ANUSA Website and has interviewed Penny Oakes (Dean of Students) with some FAQs.

Holiday Length

The university has been discussing changing the terms/holiday length to bring it in line with other G08 universities. It would see a 13 week term be reduced to 12 weeks and the mid semester break being reduced to one week. Dallas Proctor (ANUSA President), Alice McAvoy (ANUSA Vice President) and the faculty reps wrote a submission for University Education Committee against the proposed changes. Factors that were mentioned were cutting a course by one week of content, the need for students to have the 2 week break to complete mid-semester assessments, difficulties for people going on field trips and the high number of inter-state/international students living on campus who would be less able to return home.

Late Penalty and Grade Distribution Policy

Tom Nock (ANUSA General Representative) is investigating ways in which ANU can have uniform academic policies across all Colleges. ANU already has uniform policies/requirements in regards to academic honesty and plagiarism, academic progress rules, examinations including supplementary assessments. However, a lot of day to day academic decisions are left up to the individual academic Colleges.

Tom has been looking at consistent late penalties across colleges and also at developing a more equitable grade distribution policy. Tom's main concern from this is access to certain opportunities that are dependent on GPA – the most obvious being exchange opportunities. Possible solutions could include a universal mean, cross-university moderation etc.

Academic Exclusion Policy

Alex Bell-Rowe (ANUSA General Representative) has been researching the policy, and formulating any potential reforms necessary. He is still looking for feedback on this issue, so you have any particular concerns surrounding this project please contact him through Tara Mulholland (ANUSA General Secretary) at sa.gensec@anu.edu.au

SELT Results Campaign

Marnie Hughes-Warrington has formally and informally thanked ANUSA for their hard work with SELT. There was an increase in response rate, so thanks for people who helped with the campaign.

Dallas Proctor (ANUSA President) and Julie Melrose (PARSA President) have written an article in defence of SELT results which can be found on the ANUSA website.

College Specific Reports

College of Arts and Social Sciences by Jack Hobbs and Yasmin Masri

ARTS Night

On Thursday 6th of September we will be running ARTS NIGHT, an evening of visual, performing and written creative works accompanied by wine and cheese. The theme is pocket-sized. We are now looking for submissions from any students enrolled in courses within the College of Arts and Social Sciences.
ART WORKS: Open to any medium, must be smaller than 20cm³
CREATIVE WRITING: 200 words or less
MUSICAL AND THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES: Shorter than 5 minutes

Class Representation across CASS

Our efforts to increase class representation across the college are ongoing, however in schools that do not have a culture of representation at the school level this seems surprisingly hard to foster. Class reps are possibly the best way we have of communicating with students across the scattered college.

Appeals process at the School of Art

Currently the appeals process for marks in practical areas of the School of Art is very difficult for students. Often 100% grades are only given for a course (normally worth 12 units) at the end of the semester through ISIS, with no prior indication of how the student is going. Comments explaining the grade are often not able to be accessed until the next semester (after the 30 day cut off for appeals in CASS). The process of appealing is also further complicated by the ephemeral and subjective natures of art assessment (ie, you put all your work up - talk about it for 10 mins and then take it all down with no real way of showing what was there, and almost any grade can be justified).

We would like to try to introduce some reforms, including:

- A clear outline of expectations of students
- Giving students the chance to get some marks before the end of the semester or giving them a mock grade during review (held in week 7 or 8)
- Formalised way of recording what work a student had at their assessment - maybe receipt system and photographs
- Email Students Assessment Comments on the same day as marks are released on ISIS

School of Music Update

After an extensive campaign, we have admitted defeat. Although some small changes were achieved, such as an increase to the PDA and a legal process of redundancies, this case seems to suggest that ultimately the university is not accountable to student opinion, so long as it can provide financial rationale for its actions. Our role seems now to be simply to assist existing students who are having difficulties finishing their degree in a meaningful way.

College of Asia and the Pacific by Justin Steele and Maea Lenei Buhre

- Improving language courses and establishing class representative systems – starting with Chinese, we have been suggesting improvements to language courses, in particular implementing effective class representative systems. The Department of Chinese Studies has just organised a comprehensive class representative system across their courses, with the first meeting between all teachers and class representatives occurring at the end of Week 5. We hope that these meetings will occur regularly and will continue to push for this. From what we understand, other languages already have good class rep systems in place, but we are continuing to look at where improvements can be made.
- Year in Asia – CAP conducted an official program review of the Year in Asia in late July, which we attended and gave submissions to based on our discussions with a range of students who had completed the Years in Indonesia, Japan and China. The College released their report on the program at the 5th CAP Education Committee meeting on 13 August, and it contained 26 suggestions for improvements to the program. Many of

these suggestions reflect our comments at the review session. More importantly, the Graduate Diploma in Asia-Pacific Studies that students currently receive upon completion of the program will be discontinued from Semester 1, 2014 due to the lack of control ANU has over the education students receive abroad. The full report can be viewed at http://asiapacific.anu.edu.au/staff/sites/default/files/education/CAPE_C_agenda_13_August_2012_DIST.pdf from page 130. We are working with CAP to see how the Year in Asia can be improved in the short-term, and also planning to hold an event for all students who have been on their Year in Asia, are set to go, or are considering going.

- ANUSA rep details now on Wattle – Our contact details are now included in the right column of every CAP wattle page, which we hope will lead to more students seeking our assistance when issues arise within their courses.

College of Business and Economics by Matt Birtwhistle and Will Gort

- Will Gort has been appointed new CBE representative since July 2012.
- We have been drafting a proposal to the CBE faculty about setting up a Wattle Extracurricular groups community.
- We have met with the Dean Jayne Godfrey to discuss proposed budget cuts.
- This will involve various sub-forums, and advertising capacities to assist student groups at the CBE to reach out to existing and potential members.
- We are formulating a submission to the CBE to increase usage and facilities in the ground floor of the new CBE building.
- We are pushing the CBE to set up more couches, microwaves and study spaces in the CBE building for CBE students.
- It aims to be relatively similar to the current Brian Kenyon student space in Union Court.
- We offered a subsidy to students for AFEC ball tickets for their work assisting us in our submission to the CBE regarding the Wattle Community Page.

College of Engineering and Computer Science by Vaibhav Sagar and Junyan Tan

Welcome to Junyan Tan.

COMP1730 - has been revamped due to negative feedback which is warmly welcomed Paul Melloy (CECS Manager of Student Services) mentioned that he would be keen to discuss the idea of supporting a first year camp. This year, we were the only college not to obtain support from the academic college, and consequently it was not run.

Other Initiatives

- Ask administration to port over the Engineering portal from the old (Semester 1 2012) Wattle site to the new one. News updates from Engineering Department states that porting is in progress but perhaps reps will hurry them up. Future improvements: include a section putting the CECS reps names with the official email address and a feedback box.
- Ask administration for an account of possible facilities and equipment available in the engineering department for self-initiated student projects as well as if there are guidelines and forms to apply for non-coursework usage of equipment. End goal for this is to eventually have a student space with some basic equipment for prototyping or a period of supervised lab time for students to come in to work on personal projects, though with waivers to be signed etc.
- Proposal to organise a late night study session in the engineering building with food during the study period for people studying late for exams. Or setting up a healthy snacks booth in Ian Ross Building during Week 13 manned by reps to provide healthy study snacks to students and to obtain feedback.

Education Committee Meeting Notes 16/08/12

- Education Developer position open and to be advertised by HR.
- The Disabilities Department to inform course convenors and lecturers more directly of disabled students in their courses so convenors and lecturers can become more aware of alternative exam arrangements.
- The Code of Practice for Teaching and Learning has been removed as policy and reinstated as a benchmark or quality control procedure. No change to course development but reduction of liability for department.
- For course reviews across faculties, CECS was not singled out for explanation of grade distributions.
- For the academic calendar changes (12 weeks + 1 week break), CECS faculty was strongly against the change, citing reasons such as course content and need for break for conferences as well as student projects.

General consensus among faculty was that examination period was not at capacity yet and can be further optimised and that there was sufficient time to finish marking exams although schedules are tight. General conclusion: Keep the academic calendar as it is and just warn academics to stop complaining.

- Committee was in discussion to change representations of GPA on transcript: Whether to show failed courses in GPA or ignore, for Weighted Average Mark GPA, what weightage, no weightage on 1st year courses? General consensus was not important; just select a scheme because potential employers and PHD committees will look more closely at courses.
- Change to undergraduate engineering degree next year: New Engineering Innovation course to replace Engineering Management and Engineering Law.

- New Masters of Engineering courses to be started next year. Some courses include: Professional Communication, Fundamentals of Solar Cells.

College of Law by Ali French and Sascha Silberstein

- **AQF Honours Submissions**
We have been looking at the COL's Discussion Paper regarding LLB Honours Program and AQF Requirements that was drafted by Stephen Bottomley. In a nutshell, the proposal aims to keep the LLB Honours program within 5 years, and to meet the AQF research requirements, the proposal suggests building in the required research training into later-year electives. We have drafted a response outlining our concerns, focussing on the importance that students be notified of any changes, and how they ought to best structure their degrees.
- **Class Reps Proposal**
We are going to write a proposal regarding class representatives system for COL. The LLB Committee meeting would like to know how the system works in other Colleges. We will circulate this proposal at the next LLB meeting.
- **Special Circumstances**
We are wanting to look into how, why, when students are recognised as having qualified for "special circumstances" for exams, assessments etc. We have heard some conflicting stories from students and thus would like to investigate what circumstances are actually "special circumstances" and how this is administered both in COL and throughout the university.
- **Change to Calendar Proposal**
We submitted a response on behalf of law students in regards to the proposed changes, expressing that we would be against any changes that reduced the mid-semester break to one week. On discussion in College Advisory Board, it was clear that it was a proposed change not necessarily supported by staff either.

College of Science by Roseanna Bricknell and Tom Brazier

Upcoming Science Planning Day

There is a planning day coming up in September.

- Responding to the ANU by 2020 document as well as a variety of other things
- Student participation in the planning day is desirable: will we open it up to anyone who wants to come, how will this be capped, will we utilise the class representatives? At this stage it is undecided how student representation will be achieved. It is assumed that the ANUSA College Representatives will be in some way involved but there is also an understanding that a far greater student engagement with the planning day is desirable.

Changes to the academic calendar:

- Science is strongly objecting to both the 12-week semester and the reduction in the mid-semester break from 2 to 1 week.
- Several arguments are already formulated and Richard will be writing up a report for submission at the university Education Committee but he has also called for any additional arguments people have.
- The purpose of the change is ostensibly to free up time between exams and graduation for exams to be marked – argument against moving graduation back is the viability for international students to stick around for the ceremony.
- Primary arguments include that the changes are particularly unviable for science courses, particularly regarding the planning of practical laboratory classes (sign-ups and administrative organisation, the paired classes that occur over two weeks, issues with rescheduling as required by public holidays in a shortened term) in addition to the reduction in the availability of intensive fieldwork as an integral part of courses.
- We have significantly more fieldwork components in science courses than the bigger universities which is one of the main draws of ANU to some of the people undertaking those degrees
- Basically the change is the equivalent of taking two courses out of a full degree
- Makes the ANU education look like a lesser quality education compared to other universities
- The 2 week break is also important to interstate and international students
- Other G8 universities have overseas graduation arrangements for international students – is this something that the ANU could investigate?

Grade Point Average/Weighted Marks Proposal

The sub deans of the Colleges of Science are recommending that rather than a seven point scale, a four point scale should be adopted as it is less likely to be adversely affected/skewed by fail grades.