



MINUTES - STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL 5 2012

Wednesday 1st August 2012

6pm, ANUSA Boardroom

Executive

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

Faculty Representatives

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

Department Officers

Renee Jones
Cheryl Cheam
Isobel Morphy-Walsh
Stuart Ferrie
Christopher Karas

General Representatives

Lillian Ward
Harry Wall
Jeff Sun
Ben McMullin
Charmaine Yong
Thomas Nock
Alex Clark
Samantha Teong
Matilda Gillis
Alex Bell-Rowe

Ordinary Members

Galvin Chia

Item 1: Meeting Opens and Apologies

Meeting Opens at 6:09pm

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.

Item 2: Minutes from the Previous Meeting including Matters Arising

MOTION: That the minutes from the SRC4 2012 be accepted.

Moved: Tara Mulholland

Seconded: Vaibhav Sagar

Motion passed

Item 3: Reports and Matters Arising

3.1.1 President's Report (D. Proctor) [Reference A]

- Been away, coming back one of the big things that I've been working on is the online shop.
- We've sold more books than usual and there is a 20% profit for ANUSA

Questions

- **Galvin: Chia:** Can you explain what you said in your report about CBE?
 - **Dallas Proctor:** Best left to CBE Faculty reps at CRC. ANU is trying to cut down on programs and CBE is probably going to be the next one to be subject to changes.
- **Vaibhav Sagar:** What do you mean CBE is going to have changes like those at the school of music?
 - **Dallas Proctor:** it's the first of many faculties that are going to be changed around but it shouldn't be as dramatic as the music school
 - **William Gort:** the college is a cash cow the courses they'll be cutting the non-productive courses.

MOTION: That the President's Report be accepted.

Moved: Vaibhav Sagar

Seconded: Sascha Silberstein

Motion: passed

3.1.2 Vice President's Report (A. McAvoy) [Reference B]

- Residential strategy committee, postponed one week
- We'll find out what's going on next week
- Student space- decided to open it til 9 on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Questions

- **Jack Hobbs:** Have you had your meeting about arts centre?
 - **Alice McAvoy:** Dallas met with them today and we are giving them a list of outcomes that we need.
- **Justin Steele:** What's happening with Shaun Micallef?

- **Alice McAvoy:** We asked him for Commencement and he said he might be free to do something later in the year, perhaps a universal lunch hour.

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

Moved: Harry Wall

Seconded: Vaibhav Sagar

Motion: passed

3.1.2 General Secretary's Report (T. Mulholland) [Reference C]

- Carla Alexandra has resigned as Environment Officer
- **Galvin Chia:** Are there going to be any major electoral system overhauls this year?
 - We've put in the immediate reforms, and are looking at how they work. However, there is still scope for more changes this year.

No Questions

MOTION: That the General Secretary's Report be accepted.

Moved: Sascha Silberstein

Seconded: Vaibhav Sagar

Motion: passed

3.1.3 Treasurer's Report (R. Kazak) [Reference D]

- Take it mostly as read, GST thing is pretty self explanatory
- Exec review has been put on hold
- Code 360 dispute has been settled, we negotiated them down
- Welfare fund, increased the balance to \$60,000, make the most on SSAF now that we have it
- Jellybeans thing is explained, they were bought from O-week surplus and it clearly falls within the SSAF guidelines.
- Changes to financial controls and procedures, only half drafted.
- Once I have something finalised I'll send it through to everyone to look at.
- Commentary about ANUSA's current controls, the idea that ANUSA is lazy when it comes to making sure that we do have good financial control is not true.
- Back in 2009 ANUSA deposited, \$40,000 in cash, 2010- \$70,000- \$80,000. We have managed to cut down on the amount of cash that we're handling with
- Cash control is very difficult to manage, mitigating risk is important.
- Mobile EFTPOS and ticket sales online, there's a lot of steps that ANUSA takes to mitigate risks

Questions

- **Sascha Silberstein:** 9.5.3.2.7.8- I just thought we were a secular body?
 - **Tara Mulholland:** It's going to get removed when we pass the report
- **Galvin Chia:** is there any thing that you want to do with the report
 - **Rashid Kazak:** We're going to talk to our auditor and do some consultation with students. Then send out a finalised draft at a set time and place.

MOTION: That the Treasurer's Report with the exception of section 9.5.3.2.7.8 be accepted.

Moved: Vaibhav Sagar

Seconded: Harry Wall

Thomas: Justin Steele, Isobel Morphy-Walsh, Thomas Barrington-Smith

Motion: passed

3.1.4 Education Officer's Report (T. Barrington-Smith) [Reference E]

- Thanks to Phoebe and her team for a successful bush week
- CITSA- on board for election

Questions:

- **Renee Jones:** with the SERCS launch, will people have to come to Education Committee to find out about it?
 - **Thomas Barrington-Smith:** I haven't had the chance to talk through it with Phoebe but it would be good to do a general ANU launch with clubs and societies.

MOTION: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Vaibhav Sagar

Seconded: Ben McMullin

Motion: passed

3.1.5 Social Officer's Report (P. Malcolm) [Reference F]

- Clubs and Societies event night
- Great Bush Week
- Making the diary for 2012
- Ali French and I are working on a proposal to sell foods on campus.
- Minor changes to the GAC handbook
- GAC days are changing from Thursday to Mondays
- Printing request system, clubs and societies printing, discounted rate all recycled

Questions

- **Vaibhav Sagar:** What's happening with the Knightsbridge End of term party?
 - Phoebe Malcolm: We're looking at having the end of term party there a la the Women's Collective and Woroni.

MOTION: That the social Officer's Report be accepted.

Moved: Vaibhav Sagar

Seconded: Stuart Ferrie

Motion: passed

3.2 Department Reports

3.2.1 Women's Department Report (R. Jones) [Reference G]

- Take it mostly as read
- We're having some issues with Unisafe please email me if you've had any bad experiences
- Ya'll should come to soccer and help us beat the queer* department

Questions

- **Dallas Proctor:** tell us about impurity ball.
 - **Renee Jones:** We've been planning an impurity ball for ages but we didn't announce it on Facebook and now the Art School Ball has a purity theme
 - **Yasmin Masri:** Maybe just speak to them directly, its not that organised
 - **Renee Jones:** feminists have PR issues, we don't want to take on hipster art school.
 - **Yasmin Mari:** Email them
- **Maea Lenei Buhre:** What type of complaints have been made about unisafe?
 - **Renee Jones:** The main issues are that callers have been palmed off and I'm confused as to why no one is available.

MOTION: That the Women's Department Report be accepted.

Moved: Vaibhav Sagar

Seconded: Stuart Ferrie

Motion: passed

3.2.2 Queer* Department Report (S. Ferrie) [Reference H]

- Queer collaborations was in Adelaide, went well as did bush week
- Only 3 people from ANU attended
- QC went well
- Department is preparing a handbook- still finding my way around
- Pride Week- Welcome relief from art school
- Chancelry cancelled meeting

Questions

- **Lilly Ward:** what was Penny's proposal?
 - **Stuart Ferrie:** changing some of the policies, inclusive language in lectures
- **Sascha Silberstein:** when are Queer* Collective meetings
 - **Stuart Ferrie:** 5pm Thursdays

MOTION: That the Queer* Department Report be accepted.

Moved: Alice McAvoy

Seconded: Renee Jones

Motion: passed

3.2.3 Environment Department Report

The Environment Officer has resigned the role will be filled ASAP.

3.2.4 International Students' Department Report (C. Szer Rei) [Reference I]

MOTION: to ratify the appointment of Cheryl to the position of International Students Officer

Moved: Thomas Barrington-Smith

Seconded: Harry Wall

- Conference
- We're working on Harmony day

No Questions

MOTION: That the International Student's Department Report be accepted.

Moved: Vaibhav Sagar

Seconded: Sascha Silberstein

Motion: passed

3.2.5 Disabilities Department Report (C. Karas) [Reference J]

- Thanks to Rebecca Randall, Stuart, Renee, Julie and anyone I've missed for helping out with Spoons
- It'd be great for it to be an annual ANUSA thing
- ANUSA could use more proactive campaigns
- Becca spoke at NOWSA
- Bush Week was great
- Going to do something for the Paralympics

Questions

- **Harry Wall:** What are we going to do for the Paralympics
 - **Christopher Karas:** what aren't we going to do!
- **Rebecca Randall:** someone from AIS
 - **Renee Jones:** Wheelchair basketball in union Court?
- **Isobel Morphy-Walsh:** I have a question about your accounts, I know someone who thinks they are actively on the account. Have you done something to get people off?
 - **Christopher Karas:** We had a meeting today addressing finance. I wasn't aware that other people had access, maybe talk to me after the meeting.
- **Dallas Proctor:** there was an event approval for wheelchair basketball sent through, do you know about this?
- **Christopher Karas:** there is a wheelchair basketball competition this Friday but its not connected to us.

MOTION: That the Disabilities Department Report be accepted.

Moved: Lilly Ward

Seconded: Vaibhav Sagar

Motion: passed

3.2.6 Indigenous Students' Department Report (I. Morphy-Walsh)

- There are two new students I had coffee with both of them
- Review on the indigenous higher education centre, there was no consultation, which I don't think is ok. They publically promised that there would be consultation. However, it keeps being pushed back, arguing about who should sit on the panel
- We have not had quorum, trouble changing over trustees on our accounts.

Questions

- **Alice McAvoy:** What improvements have been made to the Centre
 - **Isobel Morphy-Walsh:** Strained old relationship, more students using the centre
- **Alice McAvoy:** What issues have you been having with quorum
 - We have it so either 10% or 7, so we're lucky to get 4 at a meeting, maybe 5.
- **Harry Wall:** Have there been any moves to change that?
 - **Isobel Morphy-Walsh:** Reluctance to change it to less than that such a small number, you wouldn't expect 10% of students to be at the EC. Could create a bad atmosphere
- **Harry Wall:** trustees
 - **Isobel Morphy-Walsh:** if you don't have quorum so we can't get money, they require a minuted meeting with it on.

MOTION: That the Indigenous Student's Report be accepted.

Moved: Renee Jones

Seconded: Vaibhav Sagar

Motion passed

3.3 Committee Reports

3.3.1 Grants and Affiliations Committee (P. Malcolm) [Reference K]

- Harry Potter Club is affiliated
- I have included the remaining GAC funds in the report (not including productions fund and special purpose fund)

Questions:

- **Galvin Chia:** What are you looking at spending money on for clubs and societies?

- **Phoebe Malcolm:** Marquees, sound system, and the new printing system has been ridiculously popular

Motion: That the Grants and Affiliations Committee Report be accepted

Moved: Vaibhav Sagar

Seconded: Tom Brazier

3.4 General Representative Reports [Reference L]

3.4.3 Thomas Nock – Late Penalties

- University is currently reviewing late penalties, something is in the works, I don't think anything is going to come out of that review.
- Inside colleges is also disparity.

3.4.4 Samantha Teong- Health Centre

- **Isobel Morphy Walsh:** What are you doing for the health Centre, Sam?
 - **Samantha Teong:** Collected data as what would be improved- previously agreed that surveys would be given out in the waiting room, now they don't want that. I have to negotiate more about that.
 - **Isobel Morphy Walsh:** At the ICEC meeting- subset of access and equity, we discussed that indigenous students actively encourage other indigenous students not to go to the Health Centre, I'll send you those details.

3.4.5 Alex Bell-Row

- **Alice McAvoy:** What's your aim with this project? In some cases the word 'may' in the policy can advantage students.
 - **Alex Bell-Rowe:** Mainly want to clarify the policy and make sure students know about it.
 - **Alice McAvoy:** A lot of international students have visa issues as well which can be quite a traumatic process. We can talk about it at CRC.
 - **Dallas Proctor:** Lots of students weren't finding out that they were on academic probation until it was too late
- Dallas Proctor: Thanks to the Gen reps who submitted reports. There is still a big list of projects to work on.

Item 4: Other Business

4.1.1 ANUSA Internship (Galvin Chia)

- After 3-4 months of struggle I'm doing an internship with ANUSA for Philosophy, the purpose is to develop a research paper on the topic of what is ANUSA's role. Gather empirical data.
- I'd like to meet with all of you at least once. The outcome of that is to develop a policy briefing session to let you guys know where we could improve.
- I have a bias to deliberative democracy
- I'd also like declare a potential conflict of interest that I'm also running for ANUSA President

Questions

- **Isobel Morphy-Walsh:** Does this Arts 3000 course have a stream of funding?
 - **Galvin Chia:** No I'm not aware of that
- **Christopher Karas:** Did you pass ethical clearance?
 - **Galvin Chia:** No I haven't done that yet
 - **Christopher Karas:** You should look into that before you ask anyone questions.

4.1.2 Ethical Investments Campaign (Alice McAvoy)

- Tom Stayner approached me from the Environment Collective to see if we are interested in their ethical investments campaign.
- The ANU's investments reasoning is confidential and they also do not provide a full list of investments. If you are interested please get in touch (sa.vicepres@anu.edu.au)

4.1.3 Diversity Week (Stuart Ferrie)

- Diversity Week is next week
- Luce- meeting for that on Friday at 10:30am or 11:30am, turn August into diversity month,
- Renee; (P.O.C) I didn't get email for that. We started it last year with Luce. ANU film group are doing free film screening.
- Inter-department morning tea, Thursday 16th August at 10:00am in the student space

4.1.4 NUS News

- **Isobel Morphy Walsh:** National Disabilities Officer, previously been rolled under equity and access. Two people that moved that were from ANU, disabilities and mental health.
- **Renne Jones:** does NUS have a complaints specific person- national officer, especially in relation to national department officers?
- **Dallas Proctor:** Congratulations to Michael Pettersson who is the new NUS National Welfare Officer.

Item 5: Date of Next Meeting and Close

The next meeting of the Student Representative Council is scheduled to be held on Wednesday 5th September at 6:00pm in the ANUSA Board Room

Expected Close of Meeting: 7.22pm

Released: 30th July 2012 Tara Mulholland

Reference A

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dallas Proctor

Online Shop

Over the holidays, I set up an online shop for ANUSA to sell books and tickets. This has been very successful, with sales so far amounting to \$4940. The URL is shop.anusa.com.au.

We have had some teething issues with inventory processes; however following a stocktake currently underway in the Student Space, these should be resolved quickly. ANUSA makes a 20% commission on

books, so please encourage your friends to use this service.

University Council/University Education Committee

I attended University Council and University Education Committee recently. We are closely following the proposed Educational Operational Plan for 2020, which focuses on research, online education and double (horizontal/vertical) degrees.

Campus Development and Planning

I attended a meeting to discuss the proposal for 'Fellows Park', comprising redevelopment of Fellows Oval and surrounds. We were successful in getting the landscape architect to relocate the bike track to the western side of Sullivan's Creek which will make it easier for Daley Rd college students to access Union Court, Hancock Library and the gym. We will be having further meetings to discuss designs for a BBQ area which I expect will be heavily used by student groups on campus.

We had a meeting about the ANU Arts Centre this afternoon, and will be having follow-up meetings about student common rooms on campus.

Bush Week

I'd like to congratulate all the Bush Week directors and volunteers on running an incredibly successful program of events. The generous sponsorship obtained and the high quality of the BBQs should be noted.

Interactions with College Deans

I met with the Dean and Associate Dean of CBE last week to chat generally about the direction of the college. We've been told that CBE is next on the chopping block of "excellence" so stay tuned.

I also contacted the (now leaving) Dean of Law to discuss issues within that college.

New ANUSA Reps

Welcome to our new representatives! I hope you have a productive four months working with us.

Reference B

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Alice McAvoy

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.

Appeals

Winter break had an impressively large number of academic appeals, and I spent a lot of time meeting with students and the relevant academics. Thanks to some of the fac reps as well, who assisted me with some of these.

Committees

University Access and Equity

- 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

Residential Strategy Committee

- We were expecting to have the proposed changes to housing tariffs to be announced at this meeting but it was postponed the day before to August 8th.

Division of Information

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

Projects

ANUSA Survey 2012

I am 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. I am 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 I am keen to incorporate those. If you would like a question included please come and see me.

Last Lecture

I'm meeting up with Brody Warren (ANUSA VP 2011) to set up the APOLLO system used last year for voting. If anyone is keen to help out with this they are most welcome.

Mental Health Committee

We will be having a semester planning session on Sunday 5th August at 3pm if people want to come along.

Arts Centre

I have organized a meeting for Dallas and myself this week with Wayne Ford to discuss the financial situation of the Arts Centre and the possibility of ANUSA managing the space. It has taken us a while to be able to meet with Wayne, but hopefully the meeting will be productive.

Housing campaign

Myself and Dallas will be working on a housing campaign shortly for the introduction of tariffs, as they are likely to rise above CPI again, to pay for past debt. If people, are keen to help out, please let us know.

Student Space Management

I have 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 tuckshop

I would like to thank them all for the extra work they put in during Bush Week.

SELT 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

Reference C

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Tara Mulholland

New Reps

Environment Officer

The Environment Collective elected Carla Alexandra as the new Environment Officer on Tuesday 22nd May.

International Students' Officer

The International Students' Department elected Cheryl as the new International Students' Officer on Friday 1st June.

Business and Economics Fac Rep

William Gort has been appointed as the new Business and Economics Faculty Rep

Engineering and Computer Science Fac Rep

Junyan Tan has been appointed as the new Engineering and Computer Science Faculty Rep.

General Representative

Kai Kamada Laws has decided to resign from ANUSA due to her other commitments. A new General Representative will be appointed ASAP.

2012 Elections

Nominations are open for the 2012 ANUSA Elections. The Returning Officer is Dale Brosnahan. The dates of the election are the 20th-23rd of August.

OGM2

The next OGM will be held in Union Court on the 29th of August, if you would like to propose any Constitutional changes please email me by next Tuesday with the proposed change.

Attendance & Semester Two Dates

I'm emailing around updated attendance and key dates to reps this semester so that you know when everything is on even if the emails sometimes don't make it through!

Union Reform

The constitutional reform meetings that I have been attending with Alex Clark and members of the Union are wrapping up and it would be much appreciated if ANUSA Reps could attend the meeting where the constitution is made (it will be an historic moment!).

Reference D

TREASURER'S REPORT

Rashid Kazak

1.1.GST:

1.1.1. Initially it was the view of both the Association and of the Chancellery that SSAF distributions from the university to ANUSA would be exempt from GST. However, Luke Beckett (ANU's Tax Accountant) attending a tax meeting in Melbourne in which the consensus was that SSAF distributions to student organisations would include GST.

1.1.2. The problem arises from two issues:

1.1.2.1. The SSAF funds are collected by the university's rather than directly to student organisations. As Luke Beckett stated 'where the ANU engages the student associations to provide services to students and the associations are registered for GST, they should be charging the ANU GST. This is a basic GST taxable transaction that meets the requirements of a supply for consideration connected with Australia. This is similar to if the ANU engaged external providers to provide services to the students, the external providers would charge the ANU GST on their fees. It does not matter that the ANU is paying for these services with the money collected by the SAFF.

1.1.2.2. The other key issue is that the Group of Eight, prior to the introduction of SSAF went to the ATO with a class ruling action which made SSAF payments (by students to the university) GST exempt. Had the university collected GST on SSAF payments by students the GST effect would be offset.

1.1.3. Obviously given our funding of AUD 904,000 from SSAF this leaves ANUSA (given no additional funding) with a GST net credit of AUD 82,000, a significant deficit.

1.1.4. ANUSA and the Chancellery have agreed that we will charge the university for our GST liability on top of existing SSAF contracts (i.e. we will charge the university a further AUD 90,400 to cover our GST expenses). This will result in no net change to the Associations budget, and ANU can reclaim the money in their BAS statements as they are currently collect more GST than they incur. A benefit for both parties.

1.1.5. It was also discussed at the Student Associations Committee the possibility for the university to pay directly for some of our larger expenses, thus avoiding the GST charges all together, a proposition the university was comfortable with. However this would be a measure more relevant for organisations with large capital expenditure (such as ANU Sport) and at this time ANUSA has no need to enter this sort of arrangement.

1.2. ANUSA will be issuing the Chancellery their half yearly SSAF reporting on the 15th August. We will release the forms concurrently on our website and our other social media outlets. Given the close proximity to the release date I will refrain from expanding on this for the time being, suffice to say that our spending is on track and we are not over budget on any of the line items. It should also be mentioned that we may find ourselves significantly under budget on some expenditure items such as GAC. Upon the release of the half yearly SSAF report we will discuss possible ways to reallocate this money to provide other services for clubs and societies such as capital expenditure made directly by ANUSA, I will update SRC accordingly.

2. ANUSA Executive Review:

2.1. As you may be aware, it was the intention of the executive to conduct a review of the executive this year, in accordance with The Golden Tickets election platform. Preliminary meetings were conducted with several management consultancy firms, resulting in the preference for Grosvenor Management Consultancy to conduct such a review. This decision was made due to similar reviews conducted by Grosvenor to other organisations, the initial meeting phase, and the reputation of the firm. Quotes and particulars regarding the type of review that Grosvenor would provide were discussed and possible options included partial pro-bono work. It is an incredibly expensive contract, however one that we feel is necessary and will provide great benefits to the Association in the long run.

2.2. Upon the escalation of the events discussed in section 8 of this report it was decided that it would be best to postpone a review pending the conclusion of these events, and the scope of any review

would be best formed with the hindsight of recent matters.

2.3.I have spoken to Grosvenor several times now, they are very keen to still engage in the project, and while it is unfortunate that current events have resulted in this being postponed, I would highly recommend further action on this once possible.

3. Code360 Dispute Resolution:

3.1.ANUSA had been undergoing a legal dispute with outstanding invoices to Code360, the previous website provider for ANUSA.

3.2.We had budgeted AUD 15,000 for the dispute resolution. Outstanding bills were for AUD 14,238.3 inc GST.

3.3.The resolution of this matter was a team effort to which I must share half of the credit with Dallas. Together with our superhero powers (Dallas stinginess, and my aggressive, childish 'always right' mentality) we settled for the eventual sum of AUD 6,500 inc GST. Thus we were AUD 8,500 under budget and secured a AUD 7,738.3 reduction in the disputed invoices.

4. Welfare Fund:

4.1.As per The Golden Ticket's election platform we have provided a one-off AUD 40,000 reinvestment in the Welfare Fund. This increases the balance of the fund to roughly AUD 60,000.

5. Jellybeans:

5.1.This is included in my report as it is necessary to explain how ANUSA funds expenditure such as this.

5.2.Jellybeans, and other similar expenditure was not funded by SSAF. ANUSA currently (excluding the previously mentioned GST 'revenue') makes 18.7% of their budget from non-SSAF sources (such as O Week ticket sales).

This particular expenditure was funded from income derived from these sources.

5.3.Though while we are on the point Jellybeans do actually meet the SSAF Criteria. Under Section 3.3. 'Subject to this Agreement, and as guided by the Budget, the Funds may be used for the following purposes (a) providing food or drink to students on an ANU campus.'

5.4.Expenditure such as this is generally the result of gains made in other parts of the budget. Such as the surplus made from O Week, or the gains made from the previously mention Code360 dispute resolution.

5.5.I am happy to answer questions relating to these sorts of expenditure, though it would be perhaps more constructive if we didn't debate the jellybeans per se and rather focused on discretionary spending items in general.

6. O Week & Bush Week:

6.1.Currently there are roughly AUD 21,000 in outstanding corporate debts for O Week. Some of these were due to late issuance of invoices, and the vast majority of this figure (\$11,000) is due to one party which will be settling payment late as per our arrangements. Most of the debts seem likely to be serviced, with \$1,500 being written off as a bad debt. We should remain below the bad or doubtful debt provision that was included in the budget.

6.2.Bush Week spending has yet to be finalised. Will be reported on at the next SRC.

7. Financial Position of the Association for 2012:

7.1.SSAF Spending: See section 1.2.

7.2.GAC:

7.3.Outstanding Liabilities: Nothing to report, ANUSA will be able to provide an exact figure once I have the updated journals, mostly relating to general business operations.

7.4.Sponsorship: There is nothing to report since SRC 4, and this matter has been postponed indefinitely, except agreements that may result due to prior contact.

7.5.2011 Financial Accounts: The 2011 Financial Accounts have been complete for several months now, however due to ongoing circumstances the executive have made a decision that it would not be a true and accurate reflection of the position of the association for any financial accounts to be finalised pending the issues discussed in Section 8 of this report. Upon the conclusion of this issue, the accounts will be able to be finalised in a manner that we consider to be one that will reflect the true financial position of the Association for the period 01/12/2010 to 01/12/2011. This is a decision I recommended to the executive based on my own personal opinion and advice sought by our accountant and our auditor. The university was provided a draft version of our 2011 financial accounts, for the purpose of their. I would stress that these statements are preliminary only and it would not be prudent to draw any conclusions from that date prior to the release of the finalised version of the accounts. The Student's Association Committee, the committee that has replaced the previous Student Financing Committee was made aware of the recommendation that I was to make to the executive, to which they supported the position. Due to current circumstances it would not be appropriate for me to state a timeline by which the 2011 financial accounts would be finalised, suffice to say that we will issue the finalised accounts as soon as possible.

8. Ongoing Investigation:

8.1.In effect what is listed below is the same as the statement issued by ANUSA via Woroni, which you may have previously read. The statement is one that has been issued after long consultation with legal advice, and while you may feel that more information should be issued, I am sure that you appreciate that regardless of the wishes of the ANUSA Executive, we must act based on legal advice.

8.2.Issue:

8.2.1.On Tuesday 20th May, following an executive meeting, I referred a matter of alleged financial misconduct to the AFP. The matter is currently subject to an active police investigation.

8.2.2.On Wednesday 21st May a meeting was held with the Pro Vice Chancellor Learning, Teaching, &

Students, Professor Liz Dean, and Chancellery executive officer Dr Andrew Smith who were informed of the matter and of the steps that ANUSA was undertaking to resolve it. The Chancellery has been updated since by Dallas, Alice and myself, and are currently abreast of all matters relating to the investigation to which we have received their full support.

8.2.3.ANUSA has concurrently engaged a top tier accounting firm to conduct a forensic audit of ANUSA's funds for the period referred to by the accountant.

8.2.4.ANUSA's accounts have been reviewed separately by ANUSA's accountant, ANUSA's auditor, and by myself. Until the finalisation of the forensic audit ANUSA, based on legal advice received, will not disclose the findings of the reviews as this may compromise our position.

8.3.Timeline:

8.3.1.Police Investigation: A timeline cannot be provided for the conclusion of this activity as it is dependent on too many variables. Legal advice has indicated that the matter could last several years.

8.3.2. Forensic Audit and Insurance: Likewise a timeline cannot be drawn on this as there are many parties involved and getting them all working to the short time frame that we would prefer has proven to be unsuccessful. It is our hope that the matter will be finalised prior to 01/12/2012.

8.4. Other:

8.4.1. Insurance: ANUSA is a named party on ANU's insurance policy. Pending the conclusion of any investigation the insurer will release their position on the matter. It is highly likely at this point that ANUSA will be covered from any losses arising from the investigation, including expenses incurred in the investigative process.

8.4.2. We do hold being transparent as a valuable quality of our organisation, however, it is not in the best interests of the association to release more information at this point.

8.4.3. There may be other complications as to what information ANUSA can disclose in the future. It is my preference, and the preference of the whole executive, that where possible and subject to legal advice, we disclose as much information as possible. However, due to the nature of these investigations large amounts of the work is covered by confidentiality agreements, for example I am currently not able to release the information of the accounting firm undertaking the audit. Therefore it may be the case that reports resulting from parts of the investigation may not be able to be released. I am looking into the matter, and will report back to you.

8.4.4. There has been much speculation on this matter to which I have the following points to make.

8.4.4.1. The time period under investigation was prior to the introduction of SSAF and as such we are looking at funds not provided for by ANU's student body.

8.4.4.2. The university has been completely supportive of ANUSA, a matter which has been greatly appreciated, i.e. ANUSA is not being dissolved.

9. Changes to ANUSA Internal Financial Controls and Procedures:

9.1. This will be presented at the OGM in full. I am hesitant to list the draft changes here as it would be inefficient to discuss and debate anything other than the final version, but I will provide a short summary upon which questions can be asked, but should be limited, until the final version is released.

9.2. Changes will take place in three forms, direct constitutional changes, the introduction of a new constitutional schedule to deal with financial controls and processes, or inter organisational changes.

9.3. I will seek to receive professional advice on the final draft changes from ANUSA's auditor, and possible other third parties such as the university, and other professional service firms.

9.4. Organisational Changes:

9.4.1. Finance Officer: ANU will be funding the hiring of a full time finance officer to be shared amongst the student associations. ANUSA will be the hiring party. The ANU Union will be excluded from the service.

ANU Sport has indicated that they have no need for the officer as they currently have a large financial department. It is my understanding that ANU Facilities and Business Administration has already advertised for the position.

9.4.2. Complaint and Reporting Mechanisms: We will seek to develop a formal complaint and reporting mechanism for suspicious behaviour. This will allow staff, officers, and members to have a structure in place to report complaints or suspicions anonymously. The structure will extend

above ANUSA to the university, who can then request financial documentation from ANUSA. The exact nature of this hierarchy is still being developed.

9.5. Constitutional Changes:

9.5.1. Additional Requirements for the Role of Treasurer:

9.5.1.1. The executive will seek to introduce constitutional requirements to the role of treasurer, such as minimum level of courses at university that must be undertaken prior to running for office. Currently this would entail the individual to have enrolled in and achieved a P or PS grade in BUSN1001

Business Reporting and Analysis, and BUSN1002 Accounting Processes and Systems. This is to ensure that the treasurer has at least some experience in financial reporting and other portfolio related tasks prior to becoming treasurer. An important measure for any effective oversight of the budget.

9.5.2. The addition of the following passage into the constitution:

9.5.2.1. ANUSA Shall:

9.5.2.1.1. Not enter into any bank liabilities, guarantees or indemnities incurring contingent liabilities other than in the normal course of business;

9.5.2.1.2. Maintain adequate insurance cover, as may reasonably be appropriate, on items not covered by policies undertaken through the University;

9.5.2.1.3. Submit six monthly management accounts to the University;

9.5.2.1.4. Include as an unaudited appendix to its annual accounts a list of external organisations to which the ANUSA has paid a subscription or fee or donation during the period covered by the annual accounts with details of the payments made. This list will include and will indicate those external organisations to which the ANUSA is currently affiliated, whether or not a subscription or fee or donation is paid to those organisations.

9.5.2.2. The Australian National University shall:

9.5.2.2.1. Hold the right to instruct its internal auditors to at any time review the activities of the ANUSA, including, without limitation, in relation to assessing whether University grants have been used for the purposes for which it was given.

9.5.3. New Financial Controls and Processes Schedule:

9.5.3.1. This will form a schedule to the constitution, it can be changed without requiring the same requirements as making constitutional changes, thus allowing it to be more fluid and adaptable. The exact nature of how changes will be made and other such matters will be something that I will seek advice on from some eager law students (Tom, Dallas, Tara, and Alice) and the ANUSA Counsel.

9.5.3.2. Financial Controls and Processes Schedule:

9.5.3.2.1. Purpose and Scope:

9.5.3.2.1.1. The purpose of these Financial Controls and Processes is to document the procedures that must be adopted by all staff, officers and volunteers in the conduct of financial transactions of ANUSA.

9.5.3.2.1.2. Staff and officers must understand and appreciate that these procedures are integral to working for ANUSA and every individual has a responsibility to be familiar with the procedures and

adhere to them. Failure to follow these procedures or any revision to them not formally authorised will be deemed a breach of Financial Controls and Processes and may result in disciplinary procedures being commenced.

9.5.3.2.1.3. The Financial Controls and Processes form a schedule to the constitution and in the event of any conflict the constitution is the overriding document of authority.

9.5.3.2.1.4. ANUSA reserves the right to amend these procedures from time to time, in accordance with the following method (the bit to be developed). These procedures are not contractual and do not form part of the terms and conditions of employment.

9.5.3.2.2. Bank Accounts & Management of Bank Balances:

9.5.3.2.2.1. Bank accounts for ANUSA can only be opened or closed with the formal approval of a minuted meeting of the executive, the minutes of which shall be publicly released; the name on ANUSA's bank accounts will be The Australian National University Students' Association.

9.5.3.2.2.2. Transfers between accounts must be done in AUD 1,000 units

9.5.3.2.2.3. Excluding term deposits or investment funds, all accounts must be held with one financial institution.

9.5.3.2.2.4. All accounts must require two designated authorities to process any transactions, there are no exceptions to this and any breach of the following will be deemed a breach of Financial Procedures and may result in disciplinary procedures being commenced.

9.5.3.2.2.5. ANUSA currently has 6 bank accounts; 4 interest generating, and 2 current accounts. All receipts and payments must be made through these accounts.

9.5.3.2.2.6. Reimbursements will be limited to AUD 1,000 for any single transaction. Purchases made on behalf of ANUSA for an amount greater to AUD 1,000 will be made at the risk of the individual and ANUSA reserves the right to refuse reimbursements for an amount greater than AUD 1,000.

9.5.3.2.2.7. Cheques and EFT payments drawn on these accounts must be authorised by the appropriate authorities mentioned in section 9.4.3.2.3.1 of this report. In the event that a cheque or EFT transfer has been signed by authorities not listed in section 9.4.3.2.3.1, a schedule of all such payments, as soon as practicable after the payments have been made, must be provided to and counter-signed by an authority listed in schedule 1 of section 9.4.3.2.3.1.

9.5.3.2.2.8. Transfers will be made on a daily basis by sweep from the current accounts to the interest generating accounts, ensuring that a minimum balance is kept in the current accounts.

9.5.3.2.2.9. The minimum balance for the current accounts is AUD 30,000.

9.5.3.2.3. Control of Expenditure:

9.5.3.2.3.1. Authorisation of Expenditure:

9.5.3.2.3.1.1. Expenditure may only be authorised by either two authorities from schedule 1 or an authority from schedule 1 and an authority from schedule 2:

9.5.3.2.3.1.1.1. Schedule 1 shall consist of:

i. The Treasurer; and,

ii. The Administrator; and,

iii. The Finance Officer.

9.5.3.2.3.1.1.2. Schedule 2 shall consist of:

i. The President; and,

ii. The Vice-President; and,

iii. Another appointed member of the executive.

9.5.3.2.3.2. Expenditure shall only be made against an approved Budget.

9.5.3.2.3.3. All expenditure items in the budget must be assigned to and managed by an authorised Budget Holder.

9.5.3.2.3.4. An official Purchase Order form must be completed in advance for all goods and services purchased from outside ANUSA, including the University. Nothing should be ordered without a Purchase Order being raised except the items detailed in section 9.4.3.2.3.5 below, which do not require a Purchase Order. The Purchase Order must be raised and signed by the relevant Budget Holder, within the Budget Holder's authorised limit.

9.5.3.2.3.5. Expenditure items which do not require a Purchase Order are as follows:

i. Monthly, quarterly or annual etc. charges under a maintenance or service agreement (e.g. ANUSA's utilities and services agreement with ANU F&S)

ii. Insurance

iii. Audit fees

iv. Rent

v. Rates

vi. Utilities

vii. Telephone

viii. Salaries

9.5.3.2.3.6. For these types of expenditure, the invoice will be stamped, coded to the correct nominal ledger code, and passed by a schedule 1 authority by checking with the contract and signed in authorisation of payment, or passed to the Budget Holder for signature in authorisation of payment, thereby retaining all necessary financial control aspects.

9.5.3.2.3.7. For many suppliers of regular, low value deliveries of goods for resale within ANUSA (e.g. Student Space coffee), for operational efficiency reasons and due to ordering time constraints, can be ordered without the generation of a Purchase Order. Goods received will be reconciled by the Administrator to match against the supplier invoice and entered into ANUSA's ERP system.

9.5.3.2.3.8. Petty cash purchases and staff expenses continue under the existing non-Purchase Order authorisation procedures.

9.5.3.2.3.9. Stocks of pre-numbered Purchase Order forms are held by the Finance Officer and issued to the relevant Budget Holder, who signs and provides documentation evidencing the issue.

9.5.3.2.3.10. The Purchase Order should be copied and presented to: the supplier, the

Administrator, Treasurer, or the Finance Officer, in accordance with the timeframes designated in the Finance Documentation Planner issued to Budget Holders by the Finance Officer, and should be kept by the Budget Holder and filed.

- The following must be included on the Purchase Order:

- i. The supplier's details

- ii. The purchasing department

- iii. The person ordering the goods or services

- iv. The budget heading and code to be billed

- v. A detailed description of the goods or services

- vi. A price from the supplier, including details of any GST

- vii. Date(s) required - this is particularly important if the goods or services are for hire and/or for specific dates.

9.5.3.2.3.11. The appropriate Budget Holder may authorise expenditure up to their approved limits currently ruling as shown on the Budget and in accordance with the Budget Holder Authorisation Limit Schedule held by the Finance Officer.

9.5.3.2.3.12. The Budget Holder has no authority to authorise any expenditure until they have signed a Purchase Order.

9.5.3.2.3.13. It is the responsibility of each Budget Holder to be aware of their authorisation limits.

9.5.3.2.3.14. In the Budget Holder's absence, any necessary expenditure can be authorised by another executive member up to the Budget Holder's authorisation limit. Any order or expenditure for a value above the Budget Holder authorisation

limits must be authorised by the Treasurer, up to that person's authorised limit, or if for a higher value by the Vice President or the President, up to their authorised limits.

9.5.3.2.3.15. Goods or services ordered by telephone from suppliers not included on the exempted supplier schedule under section 9.4.3.2.3.5 above still require a Purchase Order to be processed internally.

9.5.3.2.3.16. If payment is to be sent with the order form, the Budget Holder must attach a pro forma invoice or a booking form, obtained from the supplier, and pass to the Finance Officer. On receipt of the goods or service, in the case of a pro forma invoice, the supplier will issue a GST invoice, which must be passed to Finance to enable any GST to be reclaimed.

9.5.3.2.3.17. For an individual, covered by this schedule, failure to reasonably protect their authorisation codes or an action with the intent to break or otherwise not comply with Financial Controls and Processes will be viewed as gross misconduct and will result in an immediate removal of the individual's authorisation, pending an official investigation.

9.5.3.2.3.18. ANUSA will adopt a Policy of including a contingency of 2% of total budgeted income in the annual Budget. The contingency has two purposes, to make provision for a downturn in revenues, and, for unforeseen overhead expenditure. All unforeseen overhead expenditure over AUD 1,000 must be approved in writing, prior to commitment to the expenditure, two authorities in either schedule 1 or 2. The Treasurer will decide whether such expenditure should be coded to the contingency code or the normal nominal code to which the expenditure relates, based on the nature of the unforeseen expenditure.

9.5.3.2.4. Authorisation of Supplier Invoices for Payment:

9.5.3.2.4.1. All invoices drawn due to the provision of some good or service by ANUSA to the receiving party for an amount greater than AUD 1,000 shall be settled prior to the provision of that good or service, this can be overruled in an Executive meeting for individual cases. [I.e. from now on all payments with ANUSA must be settled prior to the provision of goods and services. This primarily relates to O Week and Busk Week, in which companies usually settle after the good or service has been provided. In theory this will also apply to SSAF funding, however due to the rollover of funds from each year this is unlikely to incur any issue].

9.5.3.2.5. Contracts:

9.5.3.2.5.1. All contracts entered into by The Australian National University Students' Association, excluding any contracts with The Australian National University, for an amount exceeding the lesser of AUD 15,000 or 5% of the total operating budget of the association, must be signed only after receiving written and signed legal advice by the Association's legal counsel.

9.5.3.2.5.2. In the event that it is not possible to obtain legal advice from the Association's counsel, advice must be sought from either external counsel or from The Australian National University's counsel.

9.5.3.2.6. Control of Income:

9.5.3.2.6.1. All till and safe floats must be reconciled each day as part of the banking procedure and any discrepancy over \$50 reported to all members of the Executive. This applies to both positive and negative discrepancies.

9.5.3.2.6.2. Any cash discrepancies resulting from section 9.4.3.2.6.1 will be investigated and reported to a meeting of the SRC.

9.5.3.2.6.3. Statements shall be issued at the end of each month, barring exceptional circumstances.

9.5.3.2.6.4. The credit control process to be used to collect income is as follows:

i. **Stage 1:** All statements issued must include payment due date.

ii. **Stage 2:** On the due date for payment (usually 30 days from invoice date) send MYOB automatically generated email stating that invoice is now due and requesting that payment is made promptly.

iii. **Stage 3:** 7 days overdue, call or issue standard credit control letter 1 (CC1).

iv. **Stage 4:** 10 days later, call or issue CC2 requesting payment within 7 days (follow up call to be made 3 days after initial contact).

v. **Stage 5:** 14 days later if no payment received send CC3 recorded delivery stating payment must be received within 7 days of letter date or legal action will be taken without further notice (final contact).

vi. **Stage 6:** Legal Action to be determined by the Executive to decide between the following options, depending on amount of money outstanding and assessed feasibility of collection:

i. Write off debt.

ii. Take to small claims court.

iii. Send standard solicitors letter.

iv. Engage debt collector.

9.5.3.2.6.4.7. The only exception to this credit control procedure is the when matters are relating to The Australian National University, their affiliates, or affiliates of ANUSA.

9.5.3.2.7. Fixed Asset Register:

9.5.3.2.7.1. A capital asset will be considered such an asset as it is expected to generate future economic benefit or such that the value exceeds the asset threshold.

9.5.3.2.7.2. The capital asset value threshold is AUD 9,000.

9.5.3.2.7.3. A Capital Asset Purchase Authorisation Form, must be completed by the relevant

Budget Holder, and fully approved by all required approval signatories, as detailed on the Capital Asset Purchase Authorisation Form. Prior to commitment to the expenditure being made. This applies whether or not the item is included in the approved Capital Budget.

9.5.3.2.7.4. Commitment to any expenditure must not be made until the Budget Holder has received either:

9.5.3.2.7.4.1. Written confirmation from the President and Treasurer, confirming that the Capital Asset Purchase Authorisation form has been fully authorised, and that the Budget Holder is now authorised to place Purchase Orders relating to the capital asset; or,

9.5.3.2.7.4.2.A hard copy of the signed (by all required approval signatories as detailed on the form) Capital Asset Purchase Authorisation form.

9.5.3.2.7.5.Any commitment to expenditure made by the Budget Holder prior to receiving this written confirmation will constitute a serious breach of these Financial Controls and Processes and is likely to lead to serious disciplinary action.

9.5.3.2.7.6.The only exception to point 9.4.3.2.7.4 is when either the President or the Treasurer are absent and there exists an urgent health and safety issues which requires urgent capital expenditure. In which case an elected individual in either schedule 1 or schedule 2 will email the Budget Holder to confirm authorisation to proceed with placing relevant Purchase Orders.

9.5.3.2.7.7.Justifications should explain the purpose and rationale of the purchase, the benefit it will bring to ANUSA and its members, any risks to ANUSA or its services to our members, or achievement of ANUSA's Budget, associated with the purchase, or failure to purchase, the asset.

9.5.3.2.7.8. (NB This is a joke) From hereon The Australian National University Students' Association shall adopt the Church of Scientology as their official church . This shall be adopted without any prior consent from any members of the Association and will come into effect as of the beginning of the Associations' financial year 2013. [If this doesn't get picked up on I will be very disappointed].

9.5.3.2.7.9.Any proposed disposal of capital assets must be fully authorised on a Capital Asset Disposal Form prior to disposal of the asset, whether it is fully depreciated or not.

9.5.3.2.8.Insurance:

9.5.3.2.8.1.The Treasurer supported by the Finance Officer, shall effect all insurance cover necessary for the safe and secure running of the organisation and to ensure the security of its assets, and negotiate all claims in consultation with other staff and officers as necessary.

9.5.3.2.8.2.Staff and/or Officers shall give prompt notification to the Treasurer or Finance Officer of all new risks or properties that require insurance and/or any alterations affecting existing insurances.

9.5.3.2.8.3.Staff and/or Officers shall notify the Treasurer or Finance Officer immediately of any loss, liability, or damage or any event likely to lead to a claim.

9.5.3.2.8.4.All appropriate employees of ANUSA shall be included in suitable fidelity guarantee insurance.

9.5.3.2.8.5.The Treasurer shall annually, or at such other shorter period as they may consider necessary, review all insurances in consultation with the Executive.

9.5.3.2.9.Financial Reporting and Storage of Financial Information:

9.5.3.2.9.1.Already constitutionalised, considering expanding and possibly moving financial reporting and storage of financial information to this schedule.

9.5.3.2.10.Budgeting:

9.5.3.2.10.1.Already constitutionalised, considering expanding and possibly moving budget to this schedule.

9.6.To summarise I have the following points to make:

9.6.1.The above list is not finished. Please refrain from asking why certain issues have not been addressed, it is not finished.

9.6.2.The above can seem confusing however the changes will be accompanied by appropriate graphs which make it much simpler to understand (as soon as I find a program that can make the graphs look like the ones I drew in the airport waiting for a transfer).

9.6.3.Many of these are in practice currently, however due to the nature of this organisation it is important to codify and formalize these practices in a binding document, this helps ensure that best financial controls and procedures are in place at all times.

9.6.4.This list should in no way be considered as an exhaustive list. There are other changes to be made, however it is important that we keep these proposed changes as a fluid and continual project and not a one off fix-all solution. We will endeavour to implement and put into practice the changes above, though I strongly recommend that future years continue to develop and improve the financial controls and procedures (I have a much longer list of changes that can be made next year if anyone is interested in seeing them implemented in 2013. These range from changes in the governance structure of ANUSA to create a

Board of Governors to oversee the Associations activities, to implementing a CCTV system in all cash control points (SS, Executive Office Safe, Reception)). NB Some of these may actual appear in my finalised proposed changes.

10.OtherMatters

10.1.If you have any questions regrading matters pertaining to my previous SRC reports that have not been covered in this report it is likely that they have been put on hold given the current circumstances. I will endeavor to pick up the rest of my projects as soon as possible, however if you have any urgent follow-ups relating to prior matters it would be appreciated if you could send me an email about it. I should be able to respond to any questions/reevaluate accordingly.

11.Thanks:

11.1.I would like to thank the ANUSA Executive Dallas, Alice, Tom, Tara, and Fee (my favourite) who have all worked very hard recently while at the same time managing their own responsibilities masterfully. You are all very lucky to have such a great executive this year. I was always far to lazy to run for office, that and a strong hatred for students, but these five people have done the long haul and have handled themselves with great professionalism.

11.2. I would also like to extend a special thanks to the greatest assets of ANUSA, our administrator Eleanor, and our counsel Don. ANUSA would be far poorer without these two individuals and they are always impressive in the commitment and hard work they put into this organisation.

12.Other Sections:

12.1.In an effort to lift the tone of this report, or as Peter Garret would say, present it in a more jocular manner, I will be introducing two new segments into my reports.

2.1.1.**Movie of the Week:** This was a segment originally started by Tom in his education

committee reports.

However, due to his poor taste and unimaginative reviews ('Hey Rashid I watched 3 movies with the word 'bridge' in the title on the weekend!') students will be relieved to hear that I will be taking over this segment. My movie of the week is the British comedy *Four Lions*. Possibly the least politically correct movie you will see this year, it is a story of four radicalised Muslim English men aspiring to be suicide bombers from their home in Sheffield, South Yorkshire, England. The movie deals with the sensitive topic with masterful acclaim and provokes the viewer to challenge the absurdity of the stereotypes in current Western political commentary. You will laugh throughout.

12.1.2. My second segment is my **ANUSA Crush of the week**. Normally this will only feature one ANUSA member who has captured my heart for the prior week, however as this is the debut of the segment this week there are two members.

12.1.2.1. Tom Barrington Smith for his devilishly thick and luscious eyebrows; and,

12.1.2.2. Tara 'Under-reaction' Mulholland for forgiving personal grievances against me for the difficulties she is about to go through minuting the questions resulting from this report.

PLEASE READ THIS BEFORE YOU ASK ANY QUESTIONS!

So I understand you may have many questions regarding Section I have tried to say as much as I can in my report, and I will do my best to answer any remaining questions you may have however I will be following these guidelines:

1. I will not answer any questions along the lines of the sort of conspiracy theories that has been going on FB and other social media sites e.g. 'did ANUSA attempt to cover up the incident'. Feel free to entertain conspiracy theories in your own time, rather than wasting SRCs time.

2. I will not answer any questions that have been previously answered in a statement made by ANUSA. Questions relating to the article in the Canberra Times by Adam Spence have been responded to by Alice McAvoy in Woroni. We have nothing more to comment on the matter.

3. Yes my report is long and boring, however I will not answer any questions that have been answered in the report.

4. If it seems as if there were key points not mentioned in my report relating to the financial investigation then it is likely that they are not there for a particular reason, e.g. what is the amount of funds that is currently under investigation.

5. As stated I have tried to say as much as I can in my report, and hence it is likely that any further questions you may have I may not be able to provide an answer to, in accordance with advice provided by our counsel

Don Malcolmson. Ask away, I will either provide an answer, say that we are unable to comment or, if I am unsure, I will take notice of the questions and upon conferring with Don issue a statement on our webpage with our response

EDUCATION OFFICER'S REPORT

Thomas Barrington Smith

Welcome back from the break everyone! I hope everyone can be as amazing in semester 2 as they were for the first half of the year!!!

Bush Week

I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate Fee, Tas, Emma, ABR, Hannah and everyone who helped out on running the most successful Bush Week ever!

Safe Events Respectful Clubs and Societies

Over the break I 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. I'll be working with Phoebe once all the Bush Week mayhem has subsided to help implement aspects of this resource. I'd be happy to sit down with anyone who's interested in discussing this further.

Education Conference

See Appendix.

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 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 with the 2 main ones being housing and transport (no surprises there).

Over the next few weeks we will be meeting with each of the party leaders and they will have the chance to make their case.

Flora and Fauna

Thanks largely to the hard work being done by Connor Drum the Education Committee will be holding a series of panel discussions throughout semester 2 focusing on human rights issues within the law. The first panel will be held on August 8th and will include Lawyers, Pollies and various other spokespersons. There will be free food and wine and I'd encourage everyone to come

along. More details will be made available closer to the date.

Most of the other things I've been doing are relevant to the Education Conference or stem from that, so read that report for more details.

SOCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Phoebe Malcolm

Bush Week

- Bush Bash Week spanned Orientation Week as well as Week One
- ANUSA ran a series of day time and night time events
- It was a success.
- I would like to thank my lovely Bush Week Directors and all of the volunteers for their hard work. Cheers

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

Diary

I am starting to get to 2012 Diary together. If anyone wants to help or has any ideas please come and see me. End of Term Party

- Potentially will be at Knightsbridge
- Negotiating cheap drink prices

Proposal allowing clubs and societies to sell food on campus

- Working with Ali French to make a proposal that will allow clubs and societies to sell food on campus.

Changes to GAC Handbook

- Meeting 3-5pm at the ANUSA Boardroom
- Print Request
 - o Clubs and societies are welcome to apply for print credit with ANUSA. All applications need to be made via the Print Request Form found on our website.

WOMEN'S OFFICER REPORT

NOWSA: The ANU Women's Collective were responsible for hosting the 2012 Network of Women Students Australia conference, which took place over the break from the 9th-13th July. The conference had 70 women from across the nation come together for five days of speakers, workshops, social events and planning for the future. NOWSA was an incredible learning experience for Beth and I (and the collective) and we would like to thank everyone who was involved! Special mentions to Deputy Disabilities officer Rebecca Randall for being an amazing speaker and to all of the people who came along to our launch at Knightsbridge!

National Campaign on Reproductive Rights: One of the resolutions passed at NOWSA conference was that NOWSA coordinate a national campaign on reproductive rights in Australia, which will include a National Day of Action early next year. I have taken on the responsibility to get this project off the ground and it looks like the ANU Women's Collective will be working closely with a new reproductive rights foundation called Global Youth for Reproductive Rights (GYRR) and the Parliamentary Group for Population and Development (PGPD) to head up the National Day of Action here in Canberra.

NTEU and Bluestockings Week: The NTEU have organised some activities for Bluestockings Week (starting from the 13th August). The events that are open to students are a screening of 'Made in Dagenham' on Tuesday 14th August from 8pm and a breakfast at University House on Thursday 16th from 7:45am at University House. Due to all of our efforts going into NOWSA, the collective did not really have time to help organise anything for Bluestockings week, but we have committed to running an event with the NTEU on the theme women in higher education sometime this semester.

Impurity Ball: In incredibly heartbreaking news, the Art School has somehow managed to choose a Purity Ball theme for their ball and will also be running said ball at Albert Hall too. We have moved on from my conspiracy theories on how the Art School Ball team have managed to copy our exact ball (that we have been working on ALL YEAR), the collective have decided to run a week on Women's sexuality and attempt to communicate why hosting the Impurity Ball was incredibly relevant to the Women's Department. This will involve a screening of The Purity Myth, Collective stalls in Union Court to hand out "special gifts" and a series of articles on women's sexuality, purity balls and sexual health etc etc etc.

I apologise for the aggressive and inaccessible nature of this section of my report, but I am still really bitter about not being able to put on Impurity Ball. Soz.

Intercollective bonding times: We are starting a revival of the collective soccer games, starting with a game this Saturday at 12pm on Chifley lawns. I'm hoping the soccer games will become weekly and only sometimes competitive. If ANUSA is interested in challenging the Women's Collective we will accept a formal declaration of war on our facebook page. We are also hoping to host a cook-off with the Enviro collective at some point.

Website: I am hoping to make our 'Women to Watch' series a weekly segment on our website, **so please please please** send me any ideas for women who you would like to see be a part of the series. You can also organise the segment yourself and just send me the piece at sa.womens@anu.edu.au

QUEER* OFFICER'S REPORT

Stuart Ferrie

Bush Week

The Champagne Breakfast during Bush Week was well attended with about 30 people turning up and no leftover bacon. Unfortunately the movie screening we planned to run had to be cancelled, but we plan to do a screening of Rocky Horror Picture Show, costumes, MC, heckling and all that at some stage later in the semester. Our Department meeting didn't quorate, but that's likely due to the fact it was on Friday and no one was around anyway.

Queer Collaborations

Myself and two other collective members attended Queer Collaborations, which is the Queer student conference. The Australian Queer Students Network is up and running, although still without a constitution due to oversights of the organisers. Out of the conference as well, it was proposed that there be a NSW Queer Camp in 2013, similar to what is run in WA, which ACT is welcome to attend.

Department Handbook

The Department is currently in the middle of preparing a handbook, which will be of assistance to students at ANU who are looking for information about the wider queer community in Canberra, including some of the less known about services in the ACT. We anticipate having it published by Pride Week (week 5), although there's still significant work to be done on it.

Pride Week

Pride Week is scheduled to be week 5 and preparations are under way. Queer Ball is going to be the Friday night at the ANU Commons, so it'd be great to see people there as all are welcome at Queer Ball. Hopefully we can provide some welcome relief from the horrors of election week.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' DEPARTMENT REPORT

Cheryl Szer Rei

The ISD has undergone a change in presidency starting July 2012, as our ex president, Raymond Tanuwidjaja stepped down due to him graduating from ANU. Due to this change, the ISD is currently undergoing a restructuring of the committee and we are looking to achieve consensus on the upcoming projects and future direction of ISD. Therefore due to this circumstance, the following report entails existing plans agreed upon by the previous committee and further changes will be reported in the next SRC.

What happened the last month:

On the 9th of July 2012, ISD sponsored two representatives from the committee, Toh Yi Shen and Meyresh Vignaswaran to attend the Council of International Students Australia (CISA) National Conference 2012 held in Brisbane. The conference lasted for three days. Among the international student issues discussed during the conference were: employment in Australia, permanent residency in Australia, rights and policies in place for international students in Australia, regulation and accountability, international students giving back to the community and the benefits of international education.

Plans for the first half of Semester Two:

1. The ISD plans to take on the issues and solutions discussed during the conference and address them to international students of ANU. This will be done through updating the 'Information' section of ISD website, providing informational fliers on campus and facebook.

2. Harmony Day
 - Every year ISD organizes Harmony Day during late August or early September. The purpose of this event is to harmonize all international students from different nationalities and backgrounds.
 - Tentative date of when it will be held is in Week 6.
 - We are currently doing final decisions on the actual date of the event and also trying to get confirmations from the student societies of different countries of their attendance at Harmony Day.
 - Meetings will be held weekly to discuss the execution of the event.

DISABILITES DEPARTMENT REPORT

Christopher Karas

SPOONS Debrief

- The very first awareness campaign for our shiny new Disabilities Collective was an overwhelming success that achieved all of the goals that we set from the start. We started a constructive and informative conversation on campus, empowered people with disabilities to be able to come out and talk about their conditions, and encouraged all people on campus – both staff and students – to spare a few thoughts for how those with disabilities go about their everyday lives. We even got a post on Stalkerspace. Which was also one of our goals.
- I also got a number of enquiries following the event from students seeking advice regarding disability and information about the services provided by the university.
- The campaign seems to have a longer lasting effect than initially anticipated, with many more students coming up to us after the semester break and wanting to know what the campaign was about.
- While the campaign was a great success, there was potential for it to be bigger and better. This was limited by our budget, time constraints, and number of volunteers. In the future a much larger campaign could be run by ANUSA in conjunction with the Disabilities Collective. We have a proven recipe and expertise to use and it would be great to see this become an annual event for the ANU campus.
- The whole campaign came in just under the budget that we set aside for it. The budget was \$1200, total expenditure was \$1129.58.

I'd like to formally thank the following people for the time and energy they put into our Spoons event. They spent many more Spoons than I could ever have asked them to, and for that I am deeply appreciative:

- Rebecca Randall, our Deputy Disabilities Officer
- Stuart Ferrie, our Queer* Officer
- Renee Moretti Jones, our Women's officer and gourmet vegetarian chef
- Julie Harrison, the head of the Disability Services Centre
- Ceilidh Dalton, collective member who engraved a large number of spoons for free
- And our many volunteers who helped us with all the chalking, handing out of flyers, threading spoons through paper, and any of the other little bits and pieces that we threw at them – all without grumbling

NOWSA and Disabilities

Rebecca Randall, our deputy officer, presented to the recently held NOWSA conference to talk about disability and mental health. While I could not attend her talk, I have heard only positive feedback regarding this. A huge thank you to her getting out there and talking about these issues to an audience beyond the ANU Campus.

Bush Week Events

We held a Bush Week Brunch and Movement session last week. The brunch was run smoothly and catered for many hungry students. The amount of food that we provided was about four times that

of O-Week, indicating to us that the knowledge and awareness of ANUDisabilities has had a great increase over the past six months, which we are super excited about.

The Movement session was less successful, with very low attendance. While those who did come along enjoyed themselves and appreciated the session, there was definitely room for improvement in our marketing of the event. Lesson learnt for next time.

Future Events

The Paralympics are coming up fast! Expect to see us jumping on that band-wagon in the next couple of weeks!

Expenses for the account as follows. No money removed as of 29 July 2012 – awaiting final collective approval:

| EXPENSES ANUDisabilities JULY 2012 | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Event/Reason | Place of purchase | Date of purchase | Nature of purchase | Amount of purchase |
| Disabilities Brunch - O-Week | Coles | 9/02/2012 | food for brunch | \$ 109.67 |
| Disabilities Brunch - O-Week | Jindebah Café | 22/02/2012 | Bacon and eggs | \$ 34.90 |
| Meeting food | Woolworths | 14/03/2012 | bananas | \$ 1.78 |
| Meeting food | Woolworths | 14/03/2012 | Grapes | \$ 3.22 |
| Meeting food | Dominos | 15/03/2012 | pizza | \$ 44.65 |
| Meeting food | Woolworths | 28/03/2012 | Grapes + juice | \$ 5.24 |
| Meeting food | Dominos | 29/03/2012 | pizza | \$ 40.70 |
| record keeping for purchases | Office Works | 21/04/2012 | organiser + stamp | \$ 43.62 |
| SPOONS campaign | MavenHospitality.com.a | 22/04/2012 | spoons x 600 | \$ 114.31 |
| Meeting food | Dominos | 26/04/2012 | pizza | \$ 30.75 |
| SPOONS campaign | MavenHospitality.com.a | 5/05/2012 | spoons x 600 | \$ 114.31 |
| SPOONS campaign | cafépress.com | 5/05/2012 | hoodies | \$ 500.50 |
| Meeting food | Dominos | 10/05/2012 | pizza | \$ 44.80 |
| SPOONS campaign | fishpond.com | 10/05/2012 | chalk | \$ 69.90 |
| Visibility of brand | Bannershop.com.au | 18/05/2012 | vinyl banner | \$ 128.04 |
| SPOONS campaign | University printing servi | 23/05/2012 | flyers x 500 | \$ 176.00 |
| Meeting food | Dominos | 25/05/2012 | pizza | \$ 41.80 |
| Disabilities Brunch - bush-Week | CostCo | 24/07/2012 | food for brunch | \$ 244.23 |
| Disabilities Brunch - bush-Week | Woolworths | 24/07/2012 | food for brunch | \$ 49.21 |
| Disabilities Brunch - bush-Week | Shanghai Dumpling Café | 24/07/2012 | Thank-you dinner for volunteers | \$ 47.60 |
| Visibility of brand | Word Press | 10/05/2012 | website domain registration | \$ 26.00 |
| SPOONS campaign | Coles | 12/05/2012 | jelly | \$ 52.60 |
| SPOONS campaign | Big W | 16/05/2012 | cups + spoons for jelly | \$ 13.00 |
| SPOONS campaign | lincraft | 16/05/2012 | paint and fabric for sign | \$ 24.44 |
| SPOONS campaign | lincraft | 18/05/2012 | chalk | \$ 4.99 |
| SPOONS campaign | lincraft | 23/05/2012 | chalk | \$ 9.98 |
| SPOONS campaign | Top Bargain | 27/05/2012 | rubber bands, cellophane for jelly | \$ 30.00 |
| SPOONS campaign | Supabarn | 27/05/2012 | eggs for spoon race | \$ 7.69 |
| SPOONS campaign | Office Works | 25/05/2012 | envelops | \$ 11.86 |
| | | | Total spent as at 29/7/2012 | \$ 2,025.79 |

Reference K

Grants and Affiliations Committee

Phoebe Malcolm

Affiliations

Chinese Students and Scholars' Association

ANU Oaktree Foundation

Socialist Alternative

ANU ASIAA Micronesian and Australian Friends Association

Za Kabuki

ACYA

ANU German Society – denied as no constitution was attached. ANU Harry Potter Club – denied as failed to produce proper bank statement

ANU Photography Club

Grants

ANU United Nations Society applied for \$97 for minor social event – granted ANU Debating Society applied for \$300 for ANU Mini – granted \$250 Students In Free Enterprise applying for \$200 for start-up event – Granted \$100 and directed to ANUSA's printing service.

Street Performance Academy applying for \$12 and \$7.8 for workshop – granted.

ANU Physics applying for \$119 for BBQ and \$180 for information night – granted \$89 and \$135.

AYCC applying for \$23 for Mentors Training Night \$32 leadership forum – granted.

IRS applying for \$45 for Nuclear Brinkmanship Forum – granted \$34. EKTA applied for \$2000 for Cultural Show – denied until more detailed budget is presented.

ISA at 2pm applied for \$138 for Movie Screening and \$160 for Trivia Night – granted.

UN Society meeting at 3:15pm AYCC applied for \$30 for training workshop and \$13 for leadership forum. – granted.

Street Performance Academy applied for \$10 for juggling workshop and \$10 for Magic Meeting – denied until previous receipts have been presented

Meeting with Spanish Club – granted \$54 for Eurovision Night

ANU Catholic Society applied for \$125 for International Market Day BBQ. Denied as receipts have not been presented for previous events.

ANU Chocolate Appreciation Society applied for \$107.25 for membership cards and \$46 for Pancake Parlour event. Granted.

ANU ASEAN Society applied for \$168.71 for banner and \$168.71 for banner stand. Granted.

Hong Kong Student Society applied for \$588.58 for Singing Contest.

Granted \$395.

Street Performance Academy applied for \$30 for AGM and \$60 for dinner outing. Granted \$22.50 and \$60.

ANU Catholic Society applied for \$400 capital expenditure – granted \$300.

ANU Jewish Society applied for:

- \$6 for bagel brunch
- \$64.11 for Cooking Class
- \$208.86 for Lag BaOmer Granted \$210 in total

ANU Psychology Society applied for \$2000 for Psychology Ball - granted Students in Free Enterprise applied for \$500 capital expenditure – granted

Korean Students' Association applied for:

1. \$300 for BBQ Party grant \$204
 2. \$800 for Kpop Night – denied revenue
- Meeting at 2:45 with NUTS – applied for

1. \$2000 for big NUTS Week
 2. \$750 for Arcadia
 3. \$1000 for Gods of Carnage
 4. \$1250 for Catch-22
 5. Granted \$5000
- Meeting at 2:15 with ASIAA – granted \$200
- Meeting at 2:30 with ANUAS – granted \$1600 loss guarantee
- ANU Book Club applied for \$100 for Trivia Night – granted
- EKTA applied for \$1200 for Cultural Show – denied because making profit and alcohol
- AFEC applied for \$500 capital expenditure - grant
- ANU Dance applied for \$250 for Shutup and Dance! – denied as no budget has been produced
- AYCC applied for:
1. \$58 for forum - \$44
 2. \$70 for mentoring skills workshop – granted
- MSO applied for \$1000 for ski trip – granted.
- AMUNC 2012 – granted \$50 per student to attend the Model United Nations Conference
- Black Hole Society applied for:
1. \$25.80 for Public Lecture - granted
 2. \$86 for Venus Transit Viewing – granted
- Science Society applied for:
1. \$2496 for SSANU Ball - \$2480
 2. \$500 capital expense – granted
- Meeting with AFEC granted \$5000 sponsorship bonus.
- Total Spent - \$41267 Total Remaining - \$98 733

General Representative Reports

3.4.1 Amanda Joyce-Neilson

While our group does not have much to report, I have begun to construct the cooking/cheap eats section of the cheap living guide. I have, this week, subjected my housemates to the deal of I cook and prepare all their meals, but they're restricted to a \$50 budget for food for the week - so far, so good! I'll report back with a recommended shopping list/recipes I've used/places for cheap eats out next SRC. If anyone has any recommendations, please let me know.

3.4.2 Ben McMullin

- Cheap living guide with Sam, AJ
- 'going out' section of the guide
- Bush week
- Great week of events
- Posters we did at the end of last semester need to be updated.

3.4.3 Thomas Nock

Uniform Policies and Standardization

I have been 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.

For example, disparities in late penalty:

CASS – 2% per working day

LAW – 5% per working day

CBE – Can be up to 20% depending on course/lecturer.

Science/Engineering/Comp are up to lecturer

(Colleges Reps please correct me if these are wrong, some of the pages I got these numbers off were from a few years ago).

One of the biggest disparities is in the distribution of grades. Each College uses a common grade scale. However not all Colleges have equal proportions of grades.

Again, this info is a bit dated, so would love advice as to if steps have been taken to correct this:

CBE (2009) – HD – 2031 (11.85%), D – 3716 (21.87%), CR – 4884 (28.75%), P-4855 (28.5%), N – 1216 (7.1%) (Total – 16987)

LAW (2009) HD – 286 (5%), D – 1259 (21.97%), CR – 2462 (42.9%), P – 1428 (25%), N -177 (3%)
(Total – 5730)

CASS (2009) HD – 3035 (16%), D – 6393 (34%), CR – 5571 (30%), P- 2460 (13%), N – 219 (1%) (Total – 18589)

CAP (2009) HD – 657 (21%), D - 1114 (36%), CR – 790 (26%), P – 353 (11%), N – 62 (2%)

Unfortunately could not find any published data from Science, Com Sci and Engineering.

This disparity is not very equitable. The main concern developed from this, I think, 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 ect.

Would love feed back on this info!! Plus any other policies that you think need to be universal!

3.4.4 Samantha Teong

Health Centre

- Have formulated list of survey questions to 'issue spot' and printed off 200 copies of the surveys
- Health Centre (Andrew Fernie actually) reluctant to hand out surveys to waiting patients which defeats the main purpose of these surveys in the first place
- In process of negotiating with Laura-Anne
- In the meantime, Imogen Matthew and Wayne Joseph (PARSA) also helping with data collection
- Imogen doing up online survey
- Wayne organising PARSA health fair this Thursday - will distribute these

3.4.5 Alex Bell-Rowe

ANU's Academic Exclusion Policy:

ANU's academic exclusion policy is listed in the Program and Awards Statute, under the heading Academic Progress Rules 2012. This statute dictates the policy for failure, the delegation of authority, re-enrolment in courses, and all the rules relating to the appeal process.

The rules dictating academic exclusion are located in sections 14, 15 and 16. Section 14 states that someone who fails more than 50% of their course load in 1 semester can be regarded as being on probation, and someone who has failed more than 50% in two separate semesters is considered to fail to maintain the standard of the degree program is liable for academic exclusion. The statute repeatedly uses the word may, which implies that the delegated authority, explained in complicated terms early in the statute. The statute also expresses the necessity for swift reporting of the failure to meet academic standards.

It also sets out the procedure for appeals, which is that appeals must be lodged within 20 days (or within a different time period on behalf of the Academic Progress Committee) to the aforementioned committee. This must show material demonstration as to why the student should continue in the program. It references that non-award courses can be a contributing factor, but should not be treated as concrete evidence as to why the student should remain in the course.

The Academic progress committee is comprised of the registrar as its head, and a delegate (not involved in the matter) appointed by the Deans of each of the colleges of ANU. This Committee has the power to (a) exclude the student from the award program permanently or for a period determined by the Committee; or (b) determine that the student transfer to another award program; or (c) determine that the student vary his or her load to take account of the impact of external pressures on his or her academic studies; or (d) determine that the student take leave of absence from the award program for a period determined by the Committee; or (e) impose conditions on the student's re-enrolment in the award program; or (f) refer the student to academic and professional staff for advice and support; or (g) determine other strategies as appropriate. Again this statute grants an open power to the delegates in question with the use of the word may. So whether or not they use this power responsibly, is something that cannot be ensured.

The final course of appeal is in section 17, which is to appeal the decision to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor on purely procedural grounds. The DVC may either affirm the decision, or set aside the decision to be remade by the Committee, in light of new information, gathered by the DVC, to the extent that they see fit. That said, the decision of the DVC is final, and the DVC does not possess the power to remake the decision.

EDUCATION CONFERENCE REPORT

Thomas Barrington-Smith

Education Conference 2012 was hosted this year jointly by UTS and USyd from the 4th to the 6th of July. The conference was attended by roughly 150 students from across Australia representing Students' Associations and Unions from just about every University in Australia. The conference was an action packed 3 days with panels, workshops and presentations from 9-5 each day.

Overview

The Education Conference was much more useful than I was expecting it to be. Getting to meet student activists from all over Australia was absolutely invaluable and the discussions we had on how to improve things at our prospective unis was great. Particularly funny was talking to the Sydney and Melbourne association reps, who separately informed me that their standard tactic for trying to get something passed by the uni was to suggest that the ANU was thinking about doing it or already was; "they hate losing ground to each other". I wouldn't say we employ similar tactics regularly, but they have been known to be effective.

Dr Michael Spence was escorted out of the theatre by security for his own safety after students screaming "shame" and "fascist pig" amongst other obscenities drowned his welcome speech out. Whilst I don't agree with his cuts or responses to student activities I did still cringe when members of the peak body of student reps in Australia were behaving like Brad Pitt trying to figure out what's in the box?

I'd been forewarned about student politicians but didn't really see anything until the last day's resolution session. Whereupon I discovered that the faction heads had been directing their members which workshops to go to, where to sit, how to vote and when to drown out the opposition. Playing factions off against each other doesn't help achieve student issues, and I maintain that Student Organisations shouldn't be run by political wannabes, but by dedicated student activists.

Engaging Diverse Students in Activism - Panel

Student populations at universities are more diverse than ever before, with students of different genders, sexual orientations, cultural backgrounds and socio-economic statuses enrolling. This panel session examined how the student movement can be an inclusive one in which a diverse range of students feel comfortable participating, what universities are doing to support diverse students, and how universities and the student movement can better engage and represent students from diverse backgrounds and campaign on diverse issues. The panel consisted of a range of NGO representatives and university employees such as the head of Amnesty International NSW and the President of the Council of International Students Australia.

The Panel series was interesting in some of the perspectives it presented and whilst it didn't propose any concrete proposals for how to be more inclusive in the university environment. All in all a good start to the conference.

Universal Eligibility to Transport Concessions – Workshop by Newcastle SA

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- An overview of the long-running, all encompassing campaign run at Newcastle Uni, lessons they had learnt and how to learn from their campaign. Covering things like how to get attention from politicians and media and forming links with other campaigns such as student safety. Their campaign was interesting and this is an issue that I have worked on for the ANU. Greater national coordination is needed as this is a state issue and can't really be solved on an individual campus. I've personally allowed this campaign to fall behind as we already have

universal concessions here in the enlightened ACT. I was able to share some of our insights here that seem not to have happened at other campaigns, such as obtaining a letter of support from the Ministry of the Environment.

Rallies are no longer relevant – presentation

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- The Landscape of activism has changed dramatically in the last decade. With the rise of the internet, we have seen a shift towards online organizing and social media campaigns have become increasingly prominent. In this session, Sally McManus, Secretary of the NSW and ACT Branch of the Australian Services Union, debated Nicole Major, NSW Public Education Funding Campaign Coordinator for the NSW Teacher’s Federation, on the importance of traditional methods of organising, such as rallies, versus non-traditional methods of organising. Both speakers drew on their extensive experience in organising a variety of campaigns to inform this session.

My Verdict: No School like the Old School!

Deep Ecology – Workshop by Stephen McCallum...(La Trobe?)

Deep Ecology’s core principle is the belief that the living environment as a whole, like humanity, has the right to live and flourish. Participants must be open-minded to benefit from experimental learning, which will make up a large component of this workshop. Part of this is the confrontation of unresolved emotions of despair, grief, sorrow, anger and rage within activists, which helps to reduce apathy and create a feeling of empowerment.

Lots of hugs, hand-holding and eye gazing....an interesting experience but I think I was too engrossed to actually take anything away from it.

Engaging Youth in Activism and Organising - Presentation

University students are not just members of the university community and affected by university-specific issues, they are part of broader society. The presenter was Tash Lay, a BA/LLB Student at UTS who has worked for Oaktree, Vision Generation and Project Survival. She is an active advocate for young people in south-west Sydney and discussed her experiences in a diverse range of movements agitating for social change, how the student movement intersects with other movements in society and how a diverse range of individuals can be involved in various forms of activism.

This was one of the most interesting presentations and discussed largely how activists groups can often become inclusive and self-involved to the extent that outsiders seeking to become involved can feel intimidated by all the lingo and in-jokes that these groups can employ. Possibly particularly relevant for Department Officers whose collectives can be a pretty tight-knit group of activists but claim to be representing larger groups should be mindful of how their group will appear to an outsider.

Lobbying for Change – Workshop by Monash SA

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Direct action coupled with strong lobbying is a great and effective way to achieve progressive change. This workshop dealt with how University administration operates and how to work within that system, the importance of power-mapping, and looking at the processes within committees and boards, as well as one-to-one meetings to push for left wing change. This was a particularly useful workshop and presented tactics with how to deal with the 3 broad categories of decision makers whom you will have to confront during advocacy; champions, neutrals and nay-sayers.

Lodging a FOI With Your University – Workshop Melbourne SA

Freedom of Information is there for you: maybe when your uni isn't telling the whole truth, when they won't release those damn stats, or they are being just plain uncommunicative. This workshop dealt with the general process of lodging and FOI as well as tactics for how to best use them.

Bit of a miss really as FOI laws change from state to state. Tactics part was good though.

University Funding and Student Fees - Panel

How universities are funded, the level of student fees, the ways in which quality can be maintained in a deregulated system, and the extent to which places at universities should be accessible to a diverse range of students are all hotly contested topics. Senator Doug Cameron and Senator Lee Rhiannon outlined the position of their parties in a panel session. Unfortunately no one from the Coalition was willing to attend.

This was the highlight of the conference! Hearing Doug Cameron's soothing highland tones berate everyone and everything including the Greens was spectacularly insightful. Outlining, in very pragmatic terms, what is generally wrong with all activists including student activists. Namely that everyone has problems they want fixed but very few present ways to fix them. If there is no more money floating around, what would you cut to increase funding for universities. "We simply need to tax more if you want the funding you're demanding. Something that should have been done by that spineless fool Peter Costello. The Liberals say he's an icon of the party and of modern politics....bullshit....he's an icon all right, a perfect example of what someone with a jellyback looks like!" Definitely a highlight for me.

There was also no love lost between the Greens and Labor as both blamed the other for the strength of the coalition at the moment. Business as usual.

Recorded Lectures the Issues, the Arguments and How to Work Your University – Melbourne SA

The recording of lectures is a divisive issue on many campuses with wider implications for how the university engages with the diversity of student populations and the demands they face in the 21st century, particularly in the context of low SES targets.

The work done by ANUSA was pivotal to this workshop and we are somewhat revered at Universities across Australia, given the small student population we draw from compared with the achievements we gain. W4Us! ANUSA loving was actually quite a common theme across the conference...you all just make me so god-damn proud!!!

TEQSA and You - Presentation

The Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) was set up in response to the Bradley Review to regulate quality in universities, TAFEs, and private colleges. TEQSA commenced operating this year. The set up of TEQSA represents a dramatic shift in attitudes towards quality assurance in higher education. In this session students heard from the Director of Regulation and Quality Assurance at TEQSA, Karen Treloar, about how TEQSA functions and how student representatives and student activists can work with TEQSA to get action on issues arising at universities.

The primary point surrounded TEQSA's investigative techniques. TEQSA will not be investigating one-off complaints and will instead wait for a critical mass of complaints before investigating a university. Ergo, if ANUSA does have issues in the future then it will be important to mobilise as many affected students as possible in order to garner TEQSA's attention.

Illegal Course Costs on Campus – Workshop UTS SA

This workshop canvassed the various ways to deal with ancillary course fees at university. It also

provided detailed discussion of the legislation to bolster any submissions that need to be made.

The legislative side of this workshop was extremely useful as I was previously unsure of the actual legal standing of claims under this heading. The workshop was great but was hi-jacked by the Trots to discuss a bunch of other things and it was disappointing to lose valuable discussion time to partisan interests. All in all some good ideas and this will help bolster my work on this campaign.

Accessibility – presentation

Since its election in 2007, the Federal Government has pursued some of the most contentious and radical reforms of the tertiary education sector since the introduction of the HECS system in the late eighties. Sharon Bird, the Parliamentary Secretary for Higher Education and Skills, outlined the government's changes to the tertiary education sector including the deregulation of university places, initiatives introduced to increase participation of students from diverse backgrounds, and measures put in place to maintain and monitor quality.

Disabilities and the Student Movement - Presentation

A discussion around the National Tertiary Disability Confidentiality Standard (NTDCS) being proposed and developed by CAPA (Council of Australian Post-graduate Associations), and disclosure and privacy in the context of tertiary students with disabilities. Dougie Herd, the project manager for the Industry Development Fund, an NDIS activist and former student activist, spoke of how the student movement can better engage with and represent students with disabilities.

Resolution Session

This was a session to propose initiatives and non-binding motions to take to the National Conference in November. This is where the hacks started to show their true colours. Fairly contentious with the only meaningful motion coming out of it was to create the position of a National Disabilities Officer, something that has been in the making for some time.

