



2016-17 PRC Meeting #2

Monday 26th September 2016 6.00pm

PARSA Boardroom

Attendance: Storm Viall, Novie Leman, James Shin, Jasmine (Juemin) Shi, Hansika Chopra, Phoebe (Jie) Pan, Lydia Nemai Bobola, Rajan Gyanchandani, Wellington Barchue, Tanuj Parakh, Akeel Feroz, Bethany Ellis, Nathalie Blakely, Ellen Riley, Reeba Nasim, Lauren Sadow, Kim-Marie Spence, Alyssa Shaw

Administrator (Minute taker): Mike Heffron (General Manager)

Chair: Alyssa Shaw (President)

1. Welcome & Acknowledgement of Indigenous Australians

2. Declaration of Interests and Confirmation of Minutes

- **Conflict of interest**
 - President explains Declaration of Conflict of Interest
 - Should a PRC member have to make a decision in the meeting that will raise a potential conflict of interest, it should be declared at this point in the meeting. The PRC will then collectively decide what action, if any, is necessary to mitigate this conflict.
 - President circulates Conflict of Interest form for PRC to fill out – lists outstanding conflicts
 - President notes there will be a discussion in the meeting about CAPA and that she sits on the Executive of the Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations
 - President notes there is financial proposal from Toad Hall on the agenda, and that there are many residents of Toad Hall that are taking part in the PRC meeting, and as such encourages them to declare a conflict of interest

Motion: That the minutes be accepted.

- Moved: Alyssa, Seconded: James
- Motion passes (2 abstentions)

3. President's Report

- **2017 Student Services Amenities Fee bid**
 - The deadline for bids to be submitted was extended by one week due to the late addition of forms that ANU made associations complete, including detailed proposals for new projects or initiatives costing over \$30,000.
 - PARSA's initial bid will be for around \$2 million. The President will review the bid and seek general approval from the PRC at this meeting
 - PARSA conducted a survey of membership that came back with over 260 responses; each one was read and a number of ideas proposed in the survey feedback are part of the bid. Feedback was also received at member consultation forums, and from meetings with PRC members, staff and other organisations.
 - Noted that the summary review is confidential and not to be shared outside PRC.
 - President commenced with a summary of PARSA's SSAF proposal
 - Any further suggestions, ideas, edits must be sent to Alyssa as soon as possible as number of negotiations with different parties going on

- **Honoraria proposal**

- Current payment for honoraria for officers in \$19.21/hr. This rate was agreed to as it was supposed to reflect a pay point in the Higher Education Award (HEW), Adult - Professional, admin, clerical, computing and technical staff - Full-time & part-time at the 1.1 level. However after investigation this was inaccurate. PRC to decide at this meeting what rate to pay in 2017 as part of SSAF bid process.
- It was noted that honoraria is not automatically granted. Officers are paid based on performance. A log book system has previously been used where officers record their hours. This system needed to be reviewed as the feedback received from officers is that it is onerous and from a legal standpoint, could be construed as an employee relationship – which is not the intention of honoraria
- For the remainder of 2016, Exec will determine case-by-case whether sufficient hours are being worked by Officers, and may use a log book as an indicator. The President will speak to people individually if there is concern they are not working an appropriate amount of hours. The President will also determine the honoraria for Executive, and the Executive will raise any concerns regarding the Presidents honoraria payments.
- Taxes need to be paid as part of honoraria, but also noted that honoraria is not considered a wage, and that PARSA does not pay superannuation payments to those receiving honoraria
- College and General Representatives do not receive honoraria because they are not expected to work as much as Officers. A review of whether this the correct way to continue can be conducted if PRC wishes to look into it.
- In this discussion, ANUSA compensation for officers was raised owing to proposed changes: ANUSA is moving to a situation where reps are considered employees and covered by the Enterprise Agreement. PARSA has not taken this approach due to the restrictions placed on international students that are paid employees – given the higher number of international students involved in PARSA.
- Discussion of rates- whatever rate is approved at this meeting will come into effect in 2017. Three proposals are:
 - \$19.21/hr – Current rate
 - \$19.67/hr the Higher Education Award (HEW), Adult - Professional, admin, clerical, computing and technical staff - Full-time & part-time at the 1.1 level (as was originally intended
 - \$23.48/hr – minimum salary point in Enterprise Agreement
 - Australian minimum wage is approximately \$17.70.

Action: A review of how to track hours worked will be conducted this summer and brought back to PRC for discussion and approval

Motion: General Reps and College Reps (who do not received honoraria) should discuss privately which rate should be paid and make recommendation to wider PRC. After general consensus of room, Chair declares motion approved.

- Majority recommendation (5) by General and College Representatives is rate of \$20.28 (tied to 1.3 rate of Higher Education Award. Noted that this rate will go up if

there are changes to award e.g. inflation as provided for in the Award). Four votes for proposal of \$21.40. One vote for rate of \$19.67.

Action: Unanimous recommendation from General and College Representatives that PRC develop an award framework for honoraria as part of the general review of honoraria.

Motion: Honoraria to be paid for 2017 at rate of \$20.28, (tied to 1.3 rate of Higher Education Award) and that PRC develop an award framework for honoraria.

- James moves, Lauren seconds. Motion carries unanimously

Motion: To approve the proposed PARSA's 2017 SSAF bid

- Moved: Alyssa, Seconded James
- Motion passes unanimously

- **Walker Review**

- General Meeting needed to pass recommendations of the Walker Review and related constitutional changes
- President summarises outcomes of Walker Review that affect PARSA and proposed wording changes to Constitution
 - Review recommends PARSA position on ANU Council should be decoupled from PARSA
 - Students would be able to vote for postgrad representative separately as part of the PARSA elections. Candidates running for President could also be elected to council role.
 - Proposal was originally brought to AGM in May 2016 and Was voted down
 - "Recommendations" will be implemented whether or not PARSA members approve changes. If voted down, ANU would hold the elections rather than PARSA
- Potential future General Meetings will be needed in 2017 to discuss proposals for a longer handover

Motion: PARSA to hold an Ordinary General Meeting before the end of October 2016

- Moved: Alyssa, Seconded: James
- Motion passes (2 abstentions)

Motion: PRC to propose changes to constitution at Ordinary General Meeting related to Walker Review AGM

- Moved: Alyssa, Seconded: Tanuj
- Motion passes (1 abstention)

Motion: To amend language in PARSA Election Regulation to remove the work "Apollo" and replace with "Voting system as agreed to by RO and the President"

- Moved: Alyssa, Seconded: Tanuj
- Motion passes unanimously

4. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer making changes to expenditure report to make sure portfolios that are overspent have enough funding

5. Other Business

- Toad Hall residents declare conflict of interest

- Toad Hall Spring Fling
 - 2nd October, Toad Hall will host Wellness Day in conjunction with Grad house and Uni house
 - Classes, games, food (aimed for all students, including student parents)
 - Organisers have been told to apply for funding through SEEF.
 - Discussion over whether organisers should receive funds If the SEEF bid is unsuccessful
 - Executive has previously discussed inequitable distribution of PARSA funds to Toad Hall
 - Event organisers also asked for promotion help from PARSA

Motion: PARSA will contact Toad Hall representatives and ask them to apply to SEEF for this grant. PRC to provide \$2500 of funding to event organisers for the 'Spring Fling', should SEEF bid be turned down, and extend invitation to all postgraduate students

- Moved: Alyssa, Seconded James
- Motion passes (5 abstentions)

Meeting Closed: 8pm