



PARSA Postgraduate Representative Council (PRC)

Education Committee 7

Date: Wednesday, 26 October 2022

Time: 9 am

Location: PARSA Boardroom and on Zoom

Part 1 Procedural Items

1 Attendance and apologies

Attending: Gunjan Dixit, Tristan Yip, Akrti Tyagi, Irina Samsonova, Jose Cobian, Yalan Chen, Moon Lajawn, Charlene Zheng, Upasana Pathak

Apologies: Ruonan Chen, Vidhu Chaudhary, Zhangcheng Qiang, Jiayi Shen, Siddharth Mittal, Leonard Ho, Rubab Bahar, Oass Yaduvanshi

2 Minutes and Matters Arising

2.1 Minutes

Motion: that the Committee accept the Minutes of the College Education Committee held on 14 September as a true and accurate record.

Attachment: EC 6/2022 Minutes

The Committee accepted the Minutes of the College Education Committee held on 14 September as a true and accurate record.

2.2 Call for other business

2.3 Update on action items

Part 2 Reports

3 Reports – for information and discussion

3.1 HDR Officer's Report

The last HDRC meeting discussed the pros and cons of oral exams. There was also discussion of international student English language equivalency and difficulties with using English as a second language in the research writing context. Monthly catch-up with Grady (DVCA) with discussion of difficulties with teaching processes and marking (including administrative



inconveniences) for casual HDR tutors and how the entire process can be improved. At Academic Board, several important items brought forward which discussed research at the ANU, including the new Research Strategy.

3.2 Coursework Officer's Report

Attended Academic Board on 18 October, where the new Teaching and Learning Strategy was approved. PARSA's new nomination to the Appeals Panel, Neil Pollock (replacing Gunjan) was also approved at the meeting.

Attended the CASS Class Representative Town Hall with Yalan on 5 October. Class representatives raised a number of issues with the College regarding lecture recordings, responsiveness to feedback and online exams.

Attended an update from ANU Library staff on 12 October. The library is currently undergoing a series of website and digital infrastructure upgrades. Work is also progressing on renovations of the Chifley Library, with work on the Law Library to commence once this has been completed.

Provided feedback to AQAC on several policies under review, including the Class Representatives policy, the Student Academic Integrity policy, and the Forced Offers procedure. Suggested AQAC undertake a mapping exercise into the effectiveness of current class representative programs in each College.

At high-level, have been continuing work around PARSA's defunding, negotiations with ANUSA and developing a new model for June 2023.

3.3 Reports and Issues Raised by College Representatives

Committee to receive a report from College Representatives:

College of Arts and Social Sciences (CASS) - Yalan organised and ran an Academic Skills event in collaboration with the ANU Library and CASS. On 16 October, Moon and Yalan collaborated on a visit to the National Gallery of Art, with a detailed report provided to the Executive Committee by Yalan afterwards. Yalan has been working on planning a handover for the potential next CASS representative, especially to ensure the existing relationship with CASS continues. Ruonan was not available to give her report.

College of Asia and the Pacific (CAP) [including report missed at last meeting] – Akrti noted the CAP Education Committee meeting in September was cancelled. CAP is most focusing on online exam strategy and how to properly implement online examinations (eg. Zoom invigilation). Creation of a CAP Design Committee to examine course guidelines with reference to the Curriculum Management System.

College of Business and Economics (CBE) – Siddharth was not available to give his report.

College of Engineering and Computer Sciences (CECS) – Zhangcheng and Jiayi were not available to give their reports.



College of Health and Medicine (CHM) – Upasana noted an upcoming Joint Colleges Education Committee next week, which Charlene would attend with her. Small transitions occurring within the School of Psychology and School of Medicine, related to internal policy changes and the addition of a combined Director for both schools. CHM Ice skating event was very popular with good feedback and demand for a repeat event. Organising an end of semester party for Health and Medicine students, to be handed over to Charlene once the current PRC term ends.

College of Law (CoL) [including report missed at last meeting] – Moon attended the CoL Education Committee, where the Committee discussed word count policy, recording of teaching activities. On 12 October, attended the CSES meeting with Leonard (incoming CoL representative) with discussion of the Law Textbook Bursary, the terms and amount of the bursary, and how to market it better. Also discussion of how to get better response rates for SELT surveys. Moon and Yalan collaborated on a visit to the National Gallery of Art on 16 October.

College of Science (CoS) – Oass was not available to give her report.

Part 3 Items for Discussion/Noting

4.1 Welcome and Handover to New Committee Chairs and Members – for noting and discussion

To provide an induction to the work of the Education Committee, meeting arrangements and activity undertaken under the Education portfolio.

New Committee members were provided with an induction to the Education Committee policy and the work of the Education Committee in 2022. The Committee also noted the College Representative briefing document and discussed potentially adding a contacts section with relevant College lines of communication.

Attachment: College Representative Briefing

4.2 Changes to Education Committees Policy – for decision

To discuss proposed changes to the Education Committee policy, to clarify the operation of disciplinary measures under the policy and to make administrative changes to the subcommittee timings.

Motion: to make amendments to the Education Committee policy.

The Committee approved a motion to make changes to the Education Committee policy as attached, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.

Attachment: Proposed Revisions to Education Committees Policy

4.3 Student First Workshops – for noting



To note the upcoming Student First HDR consultation workshops, and to encourage representatives to sign up or forward information to other students.

The Committee noted the importance of these workshops to ensuring student perspectives are raised in ANU decision-making and for raising greater awareness of postgraduate-specific issues. The Committee noted that participation in these workshops is remunerated, and encouraged members to sign up for workshops or consultations in the coming weeks.

Attachment: Student First Workshop Email

4.4 Teaching and Learning Strategy – for noting

To note the final Teaching and Learning Strategy, which has now been approved by Academic Board for implementation.

The Committee noted Academic Board has approved the Teaching and Learning Strategy. Implementation of the strategy is likely to take up much of the 2023 work of the Teaching and Learning Development Committee, with set-up of delegated working groups which will be assigned to College Representatives to represent PARSA on.

Attachment: Teaching and Learning Strategy

4.5 Appointment of New College Representatives – for noting

To note that new College Representatives (names to be confirmed) will be joining the Committee, as we have received nominations for several positions.

The Committee noted that several nominations have been received for CoL, CASS, CoS and CBE positions in both HDR and Coursework. The Committee discussed the potential to appoint multiple Coursework students as representatives if no HDR candidates nominated for a College, and how this would work administratively.

Any Other Issues/Forward Agenda Items

Jose asked about when the next Education Committee would be held and whether he would need to attend in-person. Akrti gave an update on upcoming HDR meetings in CAP and administrative details of how future Education Committees would be run.

The Committee thanked Gunjan and Tristan for their work as Chairs and noted this would be their final meeting.

The Committee also thanked outgoing College Representatives for their work.

Next meeting: TBC by new Committee Chairs