



PARSA Postgraduate Representative Council (PRC)

Executive meeting

Date: 6/02/2023

Time: 12:36 pm

Location: Online

1.0 Meeting Open

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

1.2 Attendance and apologies

Apologies: Jacob (notified in advance), Akrti (no notification given) – it is proposed to send her a note about her absence for several meetings in a row.

Apologies: Jacob (notified in advance), Akrti (no notification given) – it is proposed to send her a note about her absence for several meetings in a row.

Observer: Jane Brownbill

1.3 Approval of minutes from previous meeting

Motion: To accept the minutes of the previous Executive Meeting (30/01/23) as an accurate and true statement of events

Proposed: Tristan

Decision: Yalan proposed amendments to the last meeting's minutes (details sent to Jacob, Tristan, and Neil). It was decided to defer approval of the minutes until the next Exec meeting.

1.4 Call for other business:

Tristan: 1. Disability Officer's proposed subcommittee.

2. O-Week

Jane: 3. Survival Guide

4. First Aid training

5. PARSA Cycles



2. Reports

2.1 President's report

1. Met with Student First together with Akrti – they look at 3 aspects: (1) uplift, (2) focus group, (3) Learning and Teaching strategies improvement of governance of ANU. Their aspiration – to turn this into Student Hub for ANU students (Like Access Canberra).

They also have government subcommittee that wants to connect students around ANU with university faculty members. We are invited to attend that. We wait for the info from them.

Set up a monthly catch-up time for Akrti to attend.

2. Attended the Postgraduate services and Support Program control group with Neil and Yalan. Received a timeline from ANU on merging with ANUSA, this timeline looked very rushed and probably not achievable, or will lead to the eventual collapse/disenfranchise postgrad students. Also noted that ANUSA will be doing the work for proposing and coming up with the model, PARSA is just being consulted. ANU, in turn, did put a lot of conditions for their proposal to be accepted.

3. IDEA Governance committee email circulation - updates on strategies: LGBTQI+ will start work in August, Mental Health strategies - in July, Anti-Racism taskforce - in February.

4. Class representative work with Akrti – Akrti will be delivering training for the upcoming semester. Idea is to send a postgraduate-wide email with info.

2.2 Vice-President's Report

1. Project Control Group (PCG) second meeting. Reviewed timeline and undergrad association first cut services expansion proposal. Timeline seems aggressive. Services expansion model seems pre-emptory given we haven't concluded the 'as-is' review. Feedback from us is due 08 Feb 2023.

2. PARSA Cycles: Kieran has resigned but need update from Jane.

Other meetings/activity: Week disrupted by health issue

2.3 General Secretary's Report

n/a

2.4 Equity Officer's Report



1. Plans and notes for Equity Portfolio: push to create as many external collabs in hopes that advocacy campaigns will continue when PARSA is gone.

- Women's Officer, Jiayi, will restart SASH group
- Disabilities Officer, Ruth, lot of plans. About them later, in the discussion section.
- Parents and Carers Officer, Claudia, works with Australian Parents for Climate Action Canberra. Possible collab with external bodies.

2. Advocacy.

- Accommodation Survey – the file size is too big, a lot of background work with SPSS Analysis cannot be shared. Decision - to remove entire analysis of SPSS and keep the report only, remove additional parts, too. Problem – no background and raw findings to come with the report.
- Parents survey with Claudia.

3. Events.

- Lunar New Year celebration – successful event, many attendants.
- Zoo Trip (Yalan and Claudia)

2.5 HDR Officer's Report

31/01 - finished compiling the draft of the report that will be sent to Ann Evans (Dean HDR) concerning my advocacy campaign on Human Research Ethics Committee. Clair helps to shape it into its final form. We expect to have it more or less ready by next week.

1/02 - Ruth and I met with Ann Evans (Dean HDR) to discuss Accessibility feedback related but not limited to Confirmation of Candidature process. This meeting was a great success - Ann listened to us, agreed on many points and acknowledged that there is a big problem with accessibility needs of HDR students. Ruth, Ann and Kirsten Farrell will be collaborating on this issue further.

2/02 - met with Jules Lumbers, former HDR Experience officer, now Student Voice Hub Manager. This was a catch-up meeting.

Discussed:

- ANU does not cater for the 'true' student diversity - only for easily identifiable cohorts (young undergrads, mature postgrad, international students from specific countries etc). They do not account for such cohorts as mature undergrads, young parents, diabetic students and staff (in terms of catering on campus).



- ANU is also a non-family-friendly campus. (No easily accessible play rooms or breastfeeding rooms)

- Overall, Jules said that Student Voice is very happy to continue collaborating with PARSA and we are always welcome to reach out to them.

2/02 - Ben Langley consulted ANUSA on their hypothetical plans on the future of SUAW. He reported that they had a very limited understanding of what that is and why is it important for HDR students. They said that they consider relinquishing SUAW and its budget. In anticipation to this, Ben and I are browsing for other ANU divisions to take over SUAW. We requested a meeting with Ann to hear if she is ready to promise us that the budget for SUAW will continue to be allocated if we find someone to run the program for us.

2.5 Social Officer's Report

1. Received BBQ location from ANUSA, informed Haiwen. Await ANUSA update on BBQ day requirements.
2. Organised PARSA ice-cream giveaway, 3pm-4pm, 14th of Feb. Dan to purchase ice-cream. Sanchita (CBE) and Junmin (CASS) to help distributing.
3. PARSA star gazing happening 6th of Feb, today. We are able to see a green comet came from half million years ago to our side of galaxy.
4. Launched PARSA open-category photo competition. Receiving great artistic photos from postgraduate students. Positive feedbacks received from photography entry emails stating: 1. PARSA is doing well with events 2. Request to organise more artistic activity.
5. Zoo trip was successful. Positive feedback from participants. Parents and Carers' cohort requesting more similar activity.
6. CHM First Year medical student welcome coffee, great success, 80 registration, 69 students came. Excellent work from CHM officer Charlene integrated our event into their orientation program. Excellent team work from Alley Zhu helping, CASS officer.
7. Alley Zhu and Charlene Zheng will be attending Mini Fair on Monday of O-Week.
8. Currently organising O-Week Postgraduate Welcome Night event, will need Dan's assistance.
9. Uploaded PARSA international student information content to ANU O-Week.
10. Manning Clark Hall & Lobby, Function on Campus form approved.
11. Continue organise school of music performance.
12. Finished reviewing VC-Briefing and running sheet for Postgraduate Welcome Night.



13. Received request for collaboration with National Film and Achieve. This is excellent collaboration opportunity to help broaden student social life and knowledge. As part of the social event strategic planning, I was going to reach out to them anyway together with National Museum and Galleries.
14. Continue working on a presentation for Future of Educational ANU Symposium as invited by CASS, hosted by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic).

2.6 Coursework Officer's Report

n/a

3.0 Items for discussion

3.1 O-Week merchandise

Background: O-Week merch's status - welcome bags have arrived. Nothing else at the moment. Badges are delivered somewhere on ANU – location is unknown, Haiwen is chasing them up. T-shirts have not been ordered – discussion whether we need them.

For decision: Decided to order PARSA T-shirts for PRC.

3.2 Ruth's Accessibility and Flexibility committee.

Background:

Ruth's proposed projects are numerous and they involve forming a PARSA Accessibility and Flexibility committee, collaboration with Dean HDR, ANUSA Disability Officer, Student First, and others.

Discussion: work overload on PRC due to the size and scope of these proposed projects due to their long-term goals such as systemic governance changes, curriculum and HDR programs design changes, intersectional scope, involvement of many people and resources such as time, manpower, attendance of meetings, presentation of strategies, etc. We need to focus on what we can achieve for this semester until PARSA closes doors.

Overall, currently Ruth's advocacy campaigns are identified as not viable considering PARSA's limited resources.

Decision: Neil and Tristan will get in touch with Ruth and discuss her proposal.

3.3 O-Week:

3.3.1 Roster

Background: most days are covered, but not enough sign ups. We need to sign in college reps – CW reps are not signed up.



For discussion and decision: Irina proposed to allocate reps and portfolio officers. Agreed and accepted.

3.3.1 Event sign-ups

Background: Generally good sign ups. Checking if reps emailed to colleges about staff attendance.

Response: Akrti – cannot provide response as she is absent. Irina – HDR Reps: Eweha awaits reply, Junmin did that, Jose did that, Zhangcheng provided no info to me, Ernesto provided no info. Irina will follow this up with all College Reps, CW and HDRs.

Decided: O-Week event briefing to volunteers, distribute to PRC

3.3.2 Dan's update from Jane.

- Chat and Chill – event ready
- Stargazing event is ready
- Putting together a little calendar for O-Week events for promotion. Shameek is meeting SRs from College residences and he will hand out calendars to them.
- Survival Guide – work on the way, feedback received.
- First Aid – make sure each event must have a First Aider.

4.0 Other Business

4.1 PARSA Cycles

Background: Kieran is going on leave.

Discussion: plans on PARSA Cycles while he is away: temporary shut down? Permanent shut down? Give it to ANU? Then bicycles and stock needs to be taken care of by Kieran. Options: we invite someone to man the PARSA Cycles store while Kieran is away. Re-Cyclery? Private individual? Ask Re-Cyclery to take over the store?

Decision: brainstorm and come to a decision after consideration.

5.0 Meeting close and next meeting

Meeting closes at 1.47pm

Next meeting 13/02/2023