

PARSA Postgraduate Representative Council (PRC)

PRC meeting 1

Date: Tuesday 21st December

Time: 5pm

Location: Zoom

1.0 Meeting Open

5:05pm

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

Delephene (VP)

1.2 Attendance and apologies

Present:

Delephene Fraser (Vice President), Eleanor Cooper (General Secretary), Gunjan Dixit (HDR Officer), Tristan Yip (Coursework Officer), Sonia Jeena (International Officer), Arushi Ganguly (Equity Officer and Queer Officer), Zhangcheng Qiang (CECS Officer, HDR), Harshita Bhatia (Wellbeing Officer), Jhana de Silva (Parents and Carers Officer)

Observing:

Jane Brownbill (General Manager), Clair Zhang (Events Director)

Apologies:

Jhana de Silva (Parents and Carers Officer), Shukla Promite (CoS Officer, HDR) Upasana Pathak (CHM Officer, Coursework), Nancy Zhang (Women's Officer)

1.3. Conflicts of Interest

Members should declare conflicts of interest as they arise throughout the meeting.

1.3 Call for other business

1.4 Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the 17th of December to be approved



Mover: Eleanor

Seconder: Sonia

Outcome: Approved

1.5 Items for discussion

1.5.1 O Week discussion on events and planning

Clair: Provided ANU calendar for o week as well as the draft O-Week calendar, available on PRC Microsoft teams platforms. Asked for feedback from officers as to timing of events and noted that on-campus events will require more time to prepare for due to the need for Functions on Campus approvals.

Arushi: Noted the need for discussion about equity events

Clair: Asked all officers to acquire the COVID Marshall training – this is in the finance process section, as well as to claim events they wanted to take charge of

Sonia: Planning multiple events for international students including Holi, potentially in conjunction with ISD, and Speed Friending as an evening event

Harshita: Suggested an event similar to a Scandinavian 'People's Library' potentially in conjunction with the speed friending event

Clair: ANU Thrive and Batyr do a feast of strangers event similar to the people's library

Arushi: An idea would be to include a more relaxed section after the speed friending so people can mingle afterwards

Harshita: Suggesting a pet-involving event, potentially involving a shelter

Arushi: There has been a parents and carers' event with farm animals in 2021, Jhana would have the details still, which could work

Clair: Offered the details from previous events that involved animals – we can replicate those

Harshita: Farmers market events could be good for both community involvement and nutrition

Eleanor: If an on-campus market is too difficult to organise, then we could lead a walkover to the Haig Park Markets and introduce people to local events

Harshita: Suggested a TED talk event as a way to kick off the semester, as well as a games event like minute-to-win-it



Delephene: Noting the need to ensure that a significant proportion of events will be at a time that suits people with dependants and children

Zhangcheng: Suggesting a VR event for O-Week – he has access to the technology already but will need to be in an indoor space

1.5.2 Advocacy ideas to discussed and any campaigns further to those mentioned on the 17th should be raised

Arushi: We will be running a lot of campaigning around the discrimination bill and would appreciate anyone who would like to pitch in

Delephene: PRC will be advocating on and around Invasion Day, as well as moving forward, and noted she is happy to answer any questions anyone has. Noting that COVID has been another issue which has heavily affected Indigenous communities and that the vaccine rollout has not delivered

Tristan: Noted that his successor had run a history event with an ANU professor

Sonia: We also should do something around the issue of international students and others being paid in cash or not being paid enough. Raised the issue of on-campus rent being constantly raised which creates issues

Arushi: On-campus accommodation is run privately so we have little direct influence but we can do research and write reports on this issue, potentially in conjunction with Woroni or Observer

Eleanor: One avenue to pursue could be to do some campaigning around the ending of the National Rental Affordability Scheme and potentially write a submission to government

Sonia: Regarding student safety, we could advocate for the ANU shuttle service to be run more sensitively, as a discussion with the ANU

1.5.3 Motion to appoint Arushi Ganguly as Equity Officer until the by-elections in 2022

Mover: Eleanor Cooper

Secunder: Soniya Jeena

Outcome: 7 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions

1.6 Other business



Clair: a good campaigning event for accommodation could be a sleepout outside the Chancellery as previous teams have done

Clair: We also need some more ideas around stickers – she asked members send Huiruo and Clair any ideas by email, including any rough sketches

1.7 Meeting close

6:28pm