PRC Meeting #9
22/02/2016 – Monday 6PM

This meeting is to address outstanding agenda items from the previous PRC meeting (15 February 2016), due to a loss of quorum at the end of last meeting.

Attendance: Hannah (Indigenous Officer), Binota (General Rep), Defu (Treasurer/ CBE rep), Chris O (General Secretary/ CoL rep), Olivia (General Rep), Tha (CPMS rep), Yekti (General Rep), Alyssa (Acting Vice President, Women’s Officer and CASS rep), Pablo (CPMS rep), Dom (International Officer and General Rep), Shahid (General Rep), Elaine (Equity Officer and General Rep)

Chair: Alyssa Shaw (Acting Vice President)

Minutes: Alyssa Shaw (Acting Vice President)

Meeting start: 6.14pm

- Welcome and acknowledgement of country
- General Managers Report – soft copy to distribute from last PRC.
- Budget requests
  - Staff parking – Chris O briefing PRC re staff parking arrangements. Notes sent out ahead of previous PRC meeting, for information and consideration by PRC.
    - DECISION: PRC (through general consensus) accepted Executive’s decision to pay parking changes for Cat and Ray. Parking arrangements will be reviewed by PARSA going into the next SSAF bid.
  - CSSA (Crawford Students Association) Events request– CAP has provided $5000, CSSA requested additional funding from PARSA for other events.
    - DECISION: PRC has requested that the CSSA apply to SEEF and if application rejected then PRC will consider funding request at future PRC. CSSA was also encouraged to look to affiliate under GAC for future funding and in order to ensure sustainable funding for the organisation that would not be dependant solely on PARSA or CAP funding. The work of the CSSA was noted by several members as doing great and valuable work for the postgraduate community.
• ANU Chinese Mentoring Program – Dom, on behalf of Chris W (on leave) briefed PRC regarding the Mentoring Program which has been developed by a postgraduate students out of the VC Leadership Program that PARSFA funds.
  • DECISION: As there was not enough information available as to the program, including the amount requested, as such this budget request is being deferred to next meeting.

• Filling vacancy of Environment Officer – Binota and Olivia had both expressed interest in the role, prior to the meeting. 2min candidate statements were given, followed by 3 (of the same) questions directed to both candidates.
  • DECISION: Chris Orchard voted unanimously as returning officer for the vote.
  • RESULT: Binota elected after secret ballot vote. Chris O acted as returning officer and Dom as scrutineer.

  • DECISION: Interim arrangements – PRC unanimously voted Chris O as interim President whilst Chris W is away. As discussed at PRC, the Executive team will be making decisions collaboratively wherever possible.

• Election regulation changes, vote required. As seen in PRC Meeting 8 agenda item (notes sent out).
  • DECISION: PRC voted unanimously to empower Chris O to make changes as needed to ensure the PRC’s prior decision to move the next election to August is carried out. Changes will be circulated to PRC after they are made.

• Constitutional changes and date for PARSA AGM – brief by Chris O. Example of changes: Presidential pay restrictions changes; mistake regarding provisions for Women’s, Indigenous, and International Officer roles.
  • DECISION: Given approval to changes to timetable for elections; next AGM (still to occur in May) PRC will put a motion to make changes to constitution. Changes will be distributed to PRC prior to AGM for comments and feedback.

• Update on Library fines and potential way forward. PARSFA has had several meetings with Library representatives regarding possible solutions, and outlining the concerns of the postgraduate community. Defu and Alyssa to convene postgraduate student forum Tuesday, 23 February. The feedback from this will be included in PARSFA’s report to the Library.

• Other business PRC by-election. As there are several General Representative Vacancies on the RPC, the Executive wishes to conduct a by-election to fill these vacancies and proposes doing so through Apollo (the online voting system) rather than through physical ballot boxes in Union Court, in order for the election to be accessible to all postgraduate students. Final number of vacancies to be determined and by-election to be managed by General Secretary.
  • DECISION: By-election will be conducted through Apollo (online), to take place week beginning 14 March preferably, or as soon as possible based on regulations and the availability of a returning officer.

Meeting close 7.02pm