MINUTES

RSHA Executive

MEET No. 12, 2015
DATE/TIME Friday 20 November 2015, 1pm
VENUE Lady Wilson Seminar Room, Sir Roland Wilson Building (120)

ITEM 1. Reimagine our ANU

Associate Professor Message welcomed Professor Hughes-Warrington to the meeting to update members on the “Reimagine our ANU” plan.

Professor Hughes-Warrington reported that the plan has been postponed by Council following discussion of the University’s finances. The Reimagine Our ANU campaign is a long-term project, and commencement is not likely until 2020 or later.

A summary of the main points discussed by Professor Hughes-Warrington and the committee are listed below.

- The accommodation in AD Hope was originally designed for library compactus and is not appropriate for current needs.
- People will be relocated from the AD Hope building in a sequence which is agreed upon prior to the redevelopment. The aim is for a single relocation of people. One possibility might be for staff in the AD Hope building to be relocated into a renovated Chancelry building (Chancelry would move into Chifley). There is a plan to get people out of demountables and the intention will be to avoid using temporary or transitional accommodation for areas.
- It is important to keep related groups together such as languages and the School of Archaeology and Anthropology.
- She is aware that collections, books, objects etc. are currently housed in AD Hope and that they will need to be moved as well. The University will require advice from those in AD Hope in relation to these. Collection and laboratory spaces are needed. In the short term she will talk with CAP about their collections and laboratory spaces and see what might be possible.
- The ANU is moving to flexible, flat teaching spaces for between 60 to 90 people instead of traditional lecture theatres. The new RSSS building lecture theatre will have retractable tiered seating so it can be used as a flat space.
- The ANU would like to establish a main entrance and bring back the SOM and the SOA into the ‘spine’ of the University.

Professor Hughes-Warrington reported that she will receive the updated proposed staging plan for the proposed redevelopment today or next week. Once she is happy with the proposal she will then need to talk with the interim Director, RSHA and the Heads of School from SLLL and the SAA to get their feedback and input. Meetings and discussions about the redevelopment
will be held next year.

**Action:** The SAA to forward its collection list to Professor Hughes-Warrington. Professor Hughes-Warrington to report back to A/Prof Message on the staging plan.

**ITEM 2. Attendance**

Associate Professor Kylie Message (Chair), Professor Marnie Hughes-Warrington (for agenda item 1), Associate Professor Denise Ferris, Dr Royston Gustavson, Ms Suzanne Knight, Dr Philip Piper, Professor Catherine Travis and Mrs Rosemary Shepherd (minute officer). Professor Will Christie and Professor Laurajane Smith were apologies.

**ITEM 3. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes were accepted.

**ITEM 4. Matters Arising and Action Items**

Philanthropy posts

Ms Knight emailed Schools with an update on the philanthropy posts in CASS.

4.1 CASS response to Review of International Student Recruitment report

The RSHA response has been sent to CASS. The School of Music had nothing more to add to the RSHA response.

4.2 Beonics Paper

The RSHA response has been sent to CASS. Dr Gustavson reported that the paper had been discussed at the University Education Committee meeting held last Friday and a number of concerns were raised. The data was based on the size of the lecture theatre rather than the size of the cohort and other methodological issues were raised. As a result of the feedback the paper is going to be reworked.

Associate Professor Message reported back on the five key points that were mentioned in the RSHA response as a result of feedback received from the Schools. These are listed below (full response attached).

1. Education activities in RSHA typically involve lectures as one part of an overall delivery approach that might also include small-group classes or other online learning environments. (Many also use laboratory, workshop, or other discipline-specific modes). This means that the paper’s suggestion that ‘many students are not attending or listening to lectures’ is problematic - they may be gaining course content in another way.

2. Low attendance at lectures does not necessarily relate to low student satisfaction with either the teaching model or lecture format

3. Education activities in RSHA are, in general, already focused on being interactive, and it is important to note that even lectures can be interactive in style (an approach
that can be difficult to capture in recordings and which would provide justification for mandatory attendance).

4. RSHA welcomes the document’s statement that ‘the University would like to support staff in the delivery of education activities that are more interactive and a positive experience for them and students alike.’ However we strongly make the point that for educational innovation to be effective for all – staff and students alike – it must be properly resourced. How does the University propose to support this?

5. RSHA does not support making a blanket ruling across the university, which risks determining course content by timetabling rather than disciplinary requirements or learning pedagogies.

4.3 CASS response to Gender Institute Review

Associate Professor Message sent feedback to Kate Bisshop-Witting. The latest CASS response is attached for information.

ITEM 5. Confidential Items

No confidential items were noted.

ITEM 6. Director’s Report

6.1 Budget

Associate Professor Message reported on the ANU Budget Forum she had attended. The 2016 budget was not approved by ANU Council and will be resubmitted on 4 December. As a result we do not have the new draft budget but Schools within RSHA have been asked to submit provisional casual sessional staffing bids to Ms Knight by 25 November.

Mr Chris Grange’s forum notes are now available online at http://renew.anu.edu.au/budget-forum/ Student numbers went up in 2014 but came down in 2015. He gave a list of reasons why there is a problem with the budget which included: the increase in professional staff numbers across all areas and the drop in the Australian dollar which badly affected the library.

Professor Travis reported on the breakdown of funding as presented by Mr Grange, involving three categories: core operating activities (teaching and research), commercial enterprises (e.g. student accommodation, University House) and investments. Mr Grange reported that Council would like to see all three areas generating a profit, but currently only the commercial enterprises and investments are doing so.

Professor Travis pointed out that it is our core operating activities that generate the use of student accommodation and University House, thus the distinction is a false one.

6.2 CASS Executive Committee

Professor Travis reported on the CASS Executive Committee meeting she attended on behalf of Associate Professor Message.
6.2.1 Update from Senior Management Group

- Budget – not yet approved. Going to Council for consideration at its December meeting
- ANU will become self-insured. An advisory group will be set up and will include high risk Schools eg. SOA, SAA. Associate Professor Ferris noted this is a very complex area and the ANU will need to find a provider. More investigation and consultation is required. It was agreed that Ms Knight would contact Melissa Deaner to find out more about the advisory group.

6.2.2 RSSS building

- Over budget by approximately $6 million dollars; the Dean will be requesting more money to cover this, and may include some funding for RSHA refurbishments.

6.2.3 Gender Institute Review Report

The Executive thought that the funding model was unclear and recommended that the institute should have a business plan in place which includes sources of funding. It also recommended that the institute convene the gender major and minor.

6.2.4 Associate Dean (Students)

CASS has created a new position to remove the oversight and teaching of the PhB program from the Associate Dean (Students). The role would be a day a week, and may be a good opportunity for staff in areas with limited undergraduate programs to gain teaching experience. Potential people for this role will be identified and EoI will be sought.

**Action:** Ms Knight to contact Melissa Deaner about the self-insurance advisory group.

**ITEM 7. DLD Decommissioning and Echo360 rollout**

Noted.

**ITEM 8. Education matters**

Dr Gustavson reported on a number of education matters:

The School of Music curriculum has been revised and approved by the University Education Committee. All affected parties are happy with the new curriculum.

Education deadlines are being brought forward so everything can be advertised at Open Day. The recruitment round will start in March for 2017.

MOOCs are growing very rapidly and taking off across the world. It is a very dynamic space with significant players involved. There is a debate on whether or not students should get credit for MOOCs. He noted that students learn in a different way from the past with the advent of smart phones etc. so it is important for ANU to watch this space carefully. Dr Gustavson is now a member of edX so he can keep up to date in this area.

The ANU needs a new Learning Management System.

Internships fit under the extra-curricular space. Some students have to do internships as part of a course eg. SOA and SOM students. Students should organize their internships through ANU processes and not contact potential internship places directly. We need to make sure we protect our relationships, particularly those that have been built over time. Ms Knight will contact Dr Peoples asking for information on the Museum and Collections internship program and then forward this to Dr Gustavson for information.
Action: Ms Knight to request internship information from Dr Peoples and forward it to Dr Gustavson.

**ITEM 9. Research matters**

9.1 HRC Internal Fellowships

This will be discussed at the next meeting.

9.2 Mapping of collaborations

Professor Waldby mentioned at a RSHA Executive meeting that she had asked for a collaboration and external stakeholders map for RSSS for research. The RSHA Executive members discussed whether we should put a similar map together or if it should include both research and teaching collaborations. We could get the information about research collaborations from the CASS Research Office. It would be useful to have on hand links with industry and we already have an impact list. It was agreed that next year we would focus on links with industry and public impact. Ms Knight will send an email to Schools about this next year.

Action: Ms Knight to email Schools about links with industry and public impact next year.

**ITEM 10. Workplace Health and Safety**

Ms Webster (SOM) is talking with Ms McConchie (SOA) about the SOA OHS systems in place. Dr Gustavson noted that some performance students have injuries.

**ITEM 11. Any other business**

11.1 Coombs Fellowship selection meeting

It was noted that the selection meeting had been held prior to the RSHA Executive meeting.

**ITEM 12. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday 4 December 2015 at 2pm.

The meeting closed at 2.30pm.