

MINUTES

MEETING **RSHA Executive**

MEET No. **8, 2015**

DATE/TIME Friday 28 August 2015, 2pm

VENUE Lady Wilson Seminar Room, Sir Roland Wilson Building (120)

ITEM 1. **Attendance**

A/Prof Kylie Message (Chair) Prof Will Christie, Prof Catherine Travis, Prof Laurajane Smith, Ms Suzanne Knight, Ms Alice Macdonald (minute officer)

Apologies: A/Prof Denise Ferris, Dr Royston Gustavson

ITEM 2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes were accepted with one minor amendment to page 3, meeting no 7, first paragraph, “recognising that promotion applications and SAA’s have different functions”.

ITEM 3. **Matters Arising and Action Items**

ANU Workers Compensation Self Insurance Project

A/Prof Message asked if Ms Deaner had contacted relevant School managers and conducted the conversations about needs and requirements that had been agreed to at the previous meeting.

Action: Ms Knight to send Ms Deaner contact details for RSHA School Managers.

3.1 Statement of Academic Activity

The email conversation circulated between Prof Travis and the Planning and Performance Measurement Department group was informative and very helpful. There was discussion regarding the use of SELT reports in SAAs and it was noted that staff should be aware this may be a concern for jointly taught courses. In terms of discussions about the relationship between the SAA and promotion it was clarified that the report was not developed with the intention of being used in promotion and that while an academic may use their SAA to support their promotion application it is not mandatory.

3.2 Honorary Degrees

Prof Christie suggested nomination applications for Ian Donaldson and Andrew Sayers be completed promptly.

Action: Ms Knight to complete applications as soon as possible, even though completed applications aren't due to the committee until November.

3.3 ANU Recruit Feedback

A/Prof Message received feedback from Ms Komidar, Mr Buzby and Ms Knight, which she has forwarded on to Ms Addison as requested. This has since been sent to Central HR.

Promotions

A/Prof Message had requested further feedback from CASS HR regarding the use of SAAs by LPCs. The reply she received confirmed that SAAs are not mandatory for promotions process, however can be included if both applicant and committee are given adequate notice.

Action: Ms Knight to circulate email from CASS HR manager about SAA and promotions questions.

Coombs Fellowship 2016

SoA and SLLL have agreed that the 2016 HC Coomb's Creative Arts Fellow will be a Writer, followed by a Visual Artist in 2017. This has been updated on the website.

3.4 RSHA space vision - Redevelopment of Union Court

Ms Knight attended the "Reimagine our ANU" session on Tuesday 25 August at 6pm and presented a summary of the presentation to the Executive. She reported that staff are invited to submit feedback on the proposal and display boards are located in the foyer of the ANU Arts Centre. It is intended that the proposal will be presented to ANU Council following the consultation process, although the timeline for this process was not clear.

There was some discussion regarding the proposed redevelopment, particularly in relation to the AD Hope building. RSHA Executive members should visit the display and note issues that may affect their disciplines and areas. Committee members agreed to invite the DVC(A) and the Director, Royalla Management Services to an RSHA Executive Meeting, once Heads have had a chance to consider the proposal.

Action: RSHA Executive members to visit display and note any issues for their areas.

Action: RSHA Executive members to send dot points to A/Prof Message of issues/concerns and needs/ vision for their areas.

Action: A/Prof Message will compile a RSHA response, including questions for DVC(A) and will invite DVC(A) to RSHA Executive.

Action: Ms Knight to find out closing date for comments and date for next ANU Council Meeting.

Ms Knight reported that Prof Chris McAuliffe will attend the RSHA Executive Meeting on Fri 9th Oct.

3.5 Review of Australia's Research Training System

A/Prof Message provided feedback to A/Prof Evans on behalf of the RSHA, which was collated into the CASS submission.

3.6 Review of Research Policy and Funding Arrangements

Referred to later in the agenda:

3.7 Field schools and field research administration

Mr Buzby has broadened these guidelines to be more relevant across all College disciplines. The document will be tabled at the CASS Executive.

ITEM 4. Confidential Items

No confidential items were noted.

ITEM 5. Director's Report

Associate Professor Message reported on a number of items:

Dr Gustavson was welcomed to the RSHA Executive as Acting Head of the School of Music. Dr Gustavson will continue to manage the position of Associate Dean, Education, CASS, concurrently. Three new positions (1 A-B and 2 D-E) have been advertised for the School of Music. A/Prof Message provided an update on the refurbishment of the Recording Studio which has been funded through Dr Samantha Bennett's successful MEC grant as well as contributions by F&S, CASS, the SoM, and the RSHA.

Preliminary discussions about the 2016 budget have commenced between the College and Schools. The income allocation model has yet to be determined, however, a small gross increase looks to be a likely result of increased fee income (rather than performance). Heads of Schools were reminded to check the draft 2016 budget information provided by CASS Finance.

Nanjing University just completed a successful return visit to CASS. They were enthusiastic about setting up exchanges between staff and students in Sociology, Anthropology, Development Studies and Heritage studies and open to ideas about languages and literature and Australian Studies.

New RSSS Director, Kathryn Waldby will begin next week. Professor Waldby has worked in the Humanities at University of Sydney with Prof Christie and is regarded as an outstanding interdisciplinary scholar. Her primary research work is concerned with the sociology of medicine, obesity studies, biobanking, and biomedical issues related to public policy.

Preparations are completed for Open Day on Saturday and we are looking forward to an exciting day.

ITEM 6. Education matters

6.1 ECHO 360

Ms Knight reported on a meeting with Enterprise Systems ITS and College School Administrators with responsibility for timetabling. RSHA Executive members expressed concern in relation to a lack of consultation in the disestablishment of recording equipment in teaching rooms and the decision making process for acquiring Echo 360. The decisions appeared to be ad hoc and are very frustrating. It was reported that the same concerns had also been raised through the Education Committee.

Action: A/Prof Message to seek information from Dr Gustavson about the Education Committee's response to these problems.

6.2 Quality Indicators of Teaching and Learning Framework.

This item was noted.

ITEM 7. Research Matters

7.1 Review of Research Policy and Funding Arrangements for Higher Education

Prof Christie expressed concerns regarding the risk of humanities and the arts being excluded from this policy review, arguing that the terms of reference do not reflect the Review's real interest in promoting research contributions to a narrowly defined field of 'industry'. Humanities must be recognized along with STEM and not cut out of new funding arrangements for research. There was discussion regarding an industry focus on technology, business and science that excluded a broader community contribution to industry, i.e. non-government, cultural and educational institutions. The interpretation of what humanities does offer is very narrow in this document. The role of ERA was also discussed. ERA hasn't become the main motor for research funding distribution that was originally promised by the federal government and which it should do (replacing HERDC).

Action: All Heads to consider Prof Christie's draft and contribute dot points for their areas around any concerns they may have and send these to A/Prof Message before Monday 31st Aug.

Action: A/Prof Message to collate an RSHA response paper to send to CASS.

ITEM 8. Workplace Health and Safety

No items were discussed

ITEM 9. Any other business

9.1 Reimagining our ANU

This matter was discussed under Matters Arising and Action Items.

ITEM 10. Next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday 11 September 2015 at 2-4pm.