



THE ANU OBSERVER

Meeting of The ANU Observer Council

Date 11/07/2018

Open of Meeting: 1830

Item 1 - Attendance and Apologies

Absent with Apology: Julian Lee

Item 2 - Acknowledgement of Country

Given by the chair. It is NAIDOC Week.

Item 3 - Previous Action Items

3.1 Provide details to Access Canberra

Eliza: I still need to meet with Ming.

Joel: So, we listed this as an action item a month and a half ago, is there any reason you couldn't get things of Ming in the intervening 45 days?

Eliza: That's on me. I apologise for that.

3.2 Eliza to contact Alyssa regarding SEEF

Eliza: Let me do that right now.

Joel: Same point as the last one.

Eliza: I had figured that mid-year SSAF discussions would be a good time to raise this. The round was delayed by over a month, so that went out the window.

3.3 Ebe to prepare ANU+ proposal for Council

Ebe: I haven't written anything up. We're eligible provided the person receives no honoraria or stipend. You listed opportunities as they come up.

Jason: So no transfer of money to them at all?

Ebe: No. If we think of a particular think we want volunteers for, then it can be listed and advertised.

Eliza: There could be things like that in the future - website, etc.

Jason: If somebody comes on under ANU+, can they stay on afterwards?

Ebe: They submit hours, signed off on by Council, and have that acquitted. If they want to join as a regular member afterwards that is fine.

3.4 Ebe to administer the upgrade to Slack Education

Ebe: This is done. I'm very impressed with how fast and easy the process was. Finance update - Slack compensates for active and inactive accounts. You won't be charged if someone becomes inactive. I paid the year upfront, so it'll credit us when that happens.

3.5 Adam to administer the upgrade to G-Suite

Ebe: Documents were lodged on the weekend. I imagine we'll hear back somewhat slower than Education. Chase up again in 10 business days.

3.6 Results from Community Manager working group

Eliza: That was really good. Thanks to Ebe for her submission. We workshopped before we considered Ebe's proposal and merged our proposal with that. That session was minuted. Moving forward the addition of this would be ideal. We also discussed bringing on people now as normal team members with a view towards them becoming this new role. Advertising for specific people who are interested in helping out, team management, and running events.

Ebe: I still think it would be good to have someone who was already here, but there'll be issues as a pilot role regardless.

Eliza: I want a contingency for if there is nobody currently onboard who wants to take it on.

3.7 Contact Jack about getting people access and removing access

Eliza: We contacted the new person who has replaced Jack.

Jason: Responsibility has been given to Taz to handle office matters. We've removed some people, but still need to add the people who should have access.

3.8 Jason and Ebe to discuss attending SSAF Meeting

Eliza: This is redundant as Jules can come to the new time.

Item 4 - Reports

4.1 News Report

Not received.

Jason: Coverage has been limited. The residence piece was still well-received. The Union piece had some drama, which was unfortunate. We conducted ourselves well.

4.2 Digital Report (Appendix A)

Ebe: I take my report as read.

Eliza: Equipment?

Ebe: Kon and I are meeting tomorrow. We want to use the line item. I've been stressing the need to prioritise live-streaming equipment. There was also discussion of getting a safe, due to the absence of lockable lockers.

4.3 Treasurer's Report

Not received.

Eliza: Arbitration made their honoraria decisions just over a week ago. Jules hasn't made the payments, so I'll handle that this week.

4.4 Chair's Report (Appendix B)

Eliza: Apologies for the late submission. I gave a shout out to the confessions post that didn't understand our governance.

Item 5 - Items Requiring Immediate Decision

None.

Item 6 - Items Requiring Discussion

6.1 Digital Editor Vacancy

Ebe: I would support Kon to replace me when I leave. My handover is written for the most part. Kon is keen. He has demonstrated that he is capable of pulling his weight. I'm confident in his ability to perform in the role. I've scheduled a meeting with him and Adam for next week. Otherwise, this is my last Council meeting, so bye all. Thanks for being understanding.

Item 6.5 - Confidential Items

Item 7 - Other Business

7.1 Purchase of a Safe

Eliza: I plan to do this under the office supplies line item. We have \$250 for things like this. I want to do a supply run with Jules before semester begins.

Ebe: If there's still money at the end of the year there are also various other goods that Observer needs that can be purchased with that.

7.2 Motion to amend the Standing Orders to read:

Editorial Board Meetings

1.1. A meeting of the ANU Observer Editorial Board must abide by all aspects of the Standing Orders, except for the following:

1.1.1. All meetings of the ANU Observer Council are considered to open with a suspension of the Standing Orders.

Moved by Jason Pover
Seconded by Eliza Croft
Motion passes unanimously.

Item 8 - Recall Actionables

- Ensure all passed policies are available in PDF format**
- Get everyone office access, again**
- Follow up with upgrade to G-Suite**
- Ensure submission to Access Canberra is completed (3rd action)**
- Contact Alyssa regarding SEEF (3rd action)**

Close of Meeting: 1911

Appendix A: Digital Report

Ebe Ganon

- Team update:
 - Presently, in the digital team, we have myself, Adam, Konstantinos, Tristan and Broneal. Joanna and Georgia chose to step down having not contributed this last semester, despite encouragement and support.
 - Kon is more interested in stepping into video, rather than doing photography. So at this point, we really only have one photographer, and Tristan does have a limited schedule.
- Hiring update:
 - I requested that Adam make a small list of changes to the website that I don't know how to do before I went on leave so that I could advertise the hiring and have it all completed before I go. These changes were to the application forms, as we didn't have one for Graphic Designers, and we will no longer be advertising to just hire live streamers, plus the removal of some unnecessary sections. Some of these changes were originally requested over the summer, and brought up often throughout the semester, and were also not completed in the weeks I gave him before I left, or even in my absence. As of Saturday I gave him a day to finish them and he's since had them done. I plan to schedule all the Facebook advertising on Monday night, advertise for two weeks and interview on a rolling basis. Unfortunately this means that like I had planned, the process will not be complete before I am gone. Adam will be taking the lead on the interviews hopefully.
- Ebe's resignation:
 - I've been on leave due to being at home and being absolutely snowed with UniGames things and work. It's also been a good time for me to step back and look after my health for a bit. As of the council meeting, I will have just under a week left in my role, my resignation being effective on the 16th.
 - Thanks for being understanding about this. I take it that everyone's read the post I made in #council which basically explains my reasoning there. Highlights are:
 - My health and stress levels in this role, with diminishing returns and satisfaction;
 - Having struggled to process Isabel's passing, it's quite hard for me to continue to perform to the level in this role that I would like;
 - Trouble in aligning my values with Observer;
 - My desire to pursue alternate roles to develop skills and to be able to give back to the campus community, which I feel like I haven't been able to do for a long time here.
 - Kon has indicated that he would be interesting in considering taking up the position of Digital Editor and working with Adam. He has my full endorsement. I am not sure what the process is here in terms of filling the casual vacancy (do we

have to advertise seeing as there is a prerequisite of being in the team, and there is only really one person that fits that description?).

- I have written my handover, bar the few sections of the team that are not under my supervision (e.g. video). It should be in the drive, and I will also send it personally to whoever ends up filling the role.
- My recommendations for the digital team in the future are also in the document I did up a while ago about the three-editor structure. I hope that it is able to give the team some future direction.
- Equipment
 - At the time of writing this, I have not yet spoken to Kon, but we will be organising a trip to purchase some equipment for the digital team – e.g. video camera, tripod etc. I will update at the physical meeting. Hopefully this will be able to boost our video output and help our livestreaming woes.

Appendix B: Chair's Report

Eliza Croft

Things have been pretty quiet on all fronts with exams and break. This will consequently be a short report. Sorry about last meeting - I lost track of weeks. Anyway, I was really happy to see the honoraria process play out and would like to congratulate all those awarded honoraria. We also have mid-year SSAF coming up. I was pleased that this was pushed back, even though it means that we cannot bid for things in time for Bush Week.

The final thing I'd like to address is the ANU Confessions post last week. To whoever wrote that, I'm impressed you're reading our minutes. I love that you're engaging in that way. I just wanted to make it clear that a) you're always welcome to raise your concerns directly with Observer, preferably with your own face and name behind it, but also potentially anonymously through an anonymous email or the tip-off form. B) These are Council minutes. The Council is the governing body of Observer and, by design, does not touch the news - it instead deals with governance matters such as SSAF. Our Editorial Board and the rest of the team meet weekly and discuss, almost exclusively, the news. Those meeting minutes are not available because obviously the content is sensitive. Do let me know if you have any further questions or concerns.