



THE ANU OBSERVER

Meeting of The ANU Observer Council

Date 25/07/2018

Open of Meeting: 1906

Item 1 - Attendance and Apologies

Absent with apologies: Adam Cass, Julian Lee (slacking in)

Councillors in Attendance: Eliza Croft, Jason Pover, Joel Baker

Officers in Attendance: Tasneem Hudson, Jessica Whiting

Item 2 - Acknowledgement of Country

Given by the chair.

Item 3 - Previous Action Items

3.1 Provide details to Access Canberra (immediate actioning)

Secretary's note: This has been an action item since March 6 - nearly 5 months.

Eliza: Everything is here and ready to submit.

Joel: Please submit it tonight.

3.2 Contact Alyssa regarding SEEF

Eliza: Done. She thinks it is reasonable that we be on the panel. Either Joel or Jules should follow up and be our representative.

3.3 Progress update on G-Suite upgrade

Eliza: As of Monday we still haven't heard back. I assume Adam will pass it on if he hears something. Next Monday is the end of how long it should take.

3.4 Ensure all team members have access to the office

Eliza: Everyone should have access now.

3.5 Ensure all passed policies are in PDF format

Joel: Done.

Item 4 - Reports

4.1 News Report (*not received*)

Jason: We had 3 publications last week. The Psych story did quite well, got a lot of traction. We want to return to a normal level of coverage moving forward now that Term has started. We may not get up to that level this week due to Bush Week, but next week we're hoping to hit 5 stories.

4.2 Digital Report (*not requested*)

Eliza: With Ebe's resignation we didn't request a report from Adam. I have however been impressed with the Digital Team's work the past week. The market day live feed was fun.

4.3 Treasurer's Report (*Appendix A*)

Eliza: Accepted.

4.4 Chair's Report (*Appendix B*)

Eliza: I take my report as read. Additional note that our constitutional changes passed ANU Council.

Item 5 - Items Requiring Immediate Decision

5.1 Motion that the ANU Observer Council, noting the departure of Rebecca Ganon, appoint Konstantinos Katsanis to the position of Digital Editor.

Moved by Eliza Croft

Seconded by Jason Pover

Speaking:

Eliza: Kon was the only application I received for the position. You can find his application in Appendix C.

Joel: To my knowledge his work ethic over the past month has been exceptional, so I am in favour of his appointment. I also understand he's been in Observer for longer than I have.

Jules: In favour in absentia.

Motion passes unanimously.

5.2 Call Semester 2 General Meeting

Joel: I'd like to call this Semester's General Meeting in Week 6.

Eliza: I would like to hold in later, and hold elections in that meeting.

Jason: I'd prefer to have an earlier election and only one General Meeting. Say Week 10.

Joel: I just might not be around, so someone else will have to handle everything for it.

Eliza: Let's set day/date/time next meeting.

Item 6 - Items Requiring Discussion

Item 6.5 - Confidential Items

Item 7 - Other Business

7.1 Market Day Interest

Jason: Did we get many expressions of interest in joining today?

Eliza: Yes, we got quite a few people. Strong interest, market day was good.

Item 8 - Recall Actionables

Close of Meeting: 1935

Next Meeting: 1800 08/08/2018

Appendix A: Treasurer's Report

Julian Lee

- Applications made to SSAF for our small items. We faced very little, if any, opposition, except from ANUSA raising the 'students on call' concern, which Eliza responded to well.
- Honoraria has been paid out, after an unfortunate delay. Congratulations to all those who received honoraria! I would like to apologise for my personal life interfering with my work and causing such delays.
- All stipends have been paid. *(from June?)*
- My thanks to Eliza for her support during my time working with you all. She's been extremely helpful and picked up slack in times that I was not available. I sincerely hope it does not need to happen again.

Appendix B: Chair's Report

Eliza Croft

Bush Week is keeping us all busy so I shall make this brief.

- Farewell to Ebe, whose resignation was effective 16 July. I appreciate the work she did for Observer and wish her all the best.
- Mid-year SSAF is going well; it appears that the modesty of our bid is appreciated. Hopefully that is successful.
- I have at last prepared everything for Access Canberra. Sincere apologies for the delay in this.
- Market Day was successful; it was nice to at last be able to purchase things with Observer money. We got great engagement and I am keen to read our news tips.
- Venue has been booked for the ANUSA debates. We are hoping to collaborate with Woroni on these.

Appendix C: Application for Digital Editor

Konstantinos Katsanis

As I have been part of ANU Observer for almost a year now, I would like to rise to the position of a digital editor. There is a lot of potential for the digital part of the organization that I aim to improve. Last semester, Observer took larger steps to improve in the digital content it promoted on campus, but I believe there is still a lot of work to be done if we would like the rest of the ANU body to know that Observer is actually “doing” digital stuff. I have had conversations with the past and present digital editors and we have plans to improve in livestreaming and video content, as well as in graphics, photography and communications in general. I have an in-depth understanding of those fields and believe I would be able to train other members to operate the digital equipment.

Digital marketing of content using video and photography are my strongest fields, therefore I am willing to manage those two fields. I’ve had experience with photography as a theory and its equipment since a very young age and I know how this field operates. At the moment, Observer needs photographers. Not only can I complete photographic assignments in a professional manner myself, but I can also find the right people for the job and train them. Additionally, I have a very strong video side, too. I have completed a number of short films and commercial clips in the last three years, having been a director, cinematographer and editor at different points. My in-depth knowledge of video equipment and my expertise in applications such as Adobe Premiere and After Effects qualify me to provide the best quality of digital content. Furthermore, when it comes to hiring new members, such as videographers and video editors, I would be able to recognise the most suitable candidates. I am willing to teach everyone in the video faculty how to film, livestream, edit and export video content online. Those are skills that should be essential to every member who is interested in video and I am willing to dedicate as much time is needed to teach them what is required.

I am well aware how Observer works and how it has changed since its origins. I have attended the majority of the meetings and I have experience operating in the field. I believe it is an organization with a lot of potential, but we would need to promote its digital capabilities even further, so that we would be able to attract a greater audience and catch the interest of people who are willing to get involved with the organization to some extent. I am a great person to work with and this has been demonstrated through my involvement in the organization since July, last year. I always listen and respect other people’s opinions and I try to be temperate and neutral when it comes to sensitive or important topics. Nevertheless, I always aim to express my honest opinion in an appropriate manner whenever it is required. I believe my statement above would highlight the reasons why I would be suitable for the role of a digital editor.