

Australian National University
Law Students' Society



Minutes for Committee Meeting

Date: 26/3/17

Time: 6.34pm

Location: LSS Common Room

Present: Anna, Tony, Eden, Maddison, Brigid, Ashish, Victoria, Felicity, Lucy, Katharine, Eddie, Lily, Shiban, Belinda, Jess, Shani, Kathy, Bede, Suchara, Matt, Rocky, Max, Joe, Sheng, Mickey, Campbell, Sarah, Bryce, Em, Carina (late), Kate (late)

Left early: Ashish, Mickey, Sarah, Max, Belinda, Kate, Bede, Felicity

Absent with Apologies: Julia, Angela, Hugo, Laksshini

Absent without Apologies:

- **President Report:**

- Welcome to the FYOs
 - Assigned to 2 portfolios
 - Make use of FYOs – shouldn't be over or under-worked
- Welcome to Campbell
 - Off to a stellar start
- Exec members will be doing Mental Health First Aid training during the break
 - Can go to your VP as well as Em

- **Administration Report:**

- ISD – only international students (as opposed to domestic) can apply
 - Remember that this is a pilot role year, so there is scope for change if appropriate

- Please encourage any of your friends who would be good for the role to apply!
 - Peppercorn
 - Being picked up from the printers on Monday or Tuesday
 - Launch is 12-2 on Tuesday – free coffee and maybe a pug! COME!
- **Finance Report:**
 - Finally gotten hold of the bank accounts
 - Merch
 - Following the poll – sports shorts seem to be the top option
 - Looking up doing merch through Kukri or QPay
 - Lucy: Rojo Customs in Civic is another good option
- **Careers Report:**
 - Careers Guide is online
 - All groundwork for Clerkship Guide and evening done
 - Questions have been sent to the firms
 - Draft design has been done
 - Shani getting lots of emails from students about proofreading resumes/finding people jobs – please direct people to ANU Careers
 - Bryce: after the rush of O-Week, there won't be many events which are committee-wide compulsory attendance, but Clerkship Night is one (9th May)
- **Competitions Report:**
 - Nothing much new
 - In third round so far
 - Hopefully client interviewers from the Committee have had fun
 - Drop-out rates
 - Bad for mooting – cancelled on 4 judges in first round
 - Implementing rule – drop out within 48 hours of submissions/round then they will be blacklisted for the next year
 - External comps
 - Negotiations external comp at UTS
 - Free rego!
- **Education Report:**
 - ALSA Report posted in the Drive – any questions, email Eden
 - Exam database
 - Requests for more exams
 - Taken down old and low-D level marks
 - Vague answers because we don't know what the final plan will be
 - Electives guide
 - Taken down off website – needs to be proofread by the college
 - JD Forum
 - 1st May in Phillipa Weeks Library
 - Mark Nolan, Merran Coulter, and Merran's replacement will attend
 - Organising speaker series for this term
 - Will have to start thinking about Pre-Exam Tutorials
 - Wanting to create a "How to Appeal your Mark" Guide and Honours Guide

- **Events Report:**
 - Law Ball theme ideas:
 - Versailles?
 - Any other ideas, please message Felicity
 - Will be 3rd August at QT (tentatively)
 - Security issue from last year has been dealt with
 - Plug lunchtime soccer to Colleges and share-houses (it's FREE!!!)
 - **Action:** go home and tell 3 people about LSS Lunchtime short

- **Social Justice Report:**
 - GMD lunch on May 9th
 - Same day as Clerkship Night – but during the day
 - Cambodia interviews are happening this week
 - WIL Breakfast – emailed Noor Bloomer
 - Indigenous Speaker Series
 - Linda Bernie is in
 - Trying to get in contact with Megan Davis – but she's super busy
 - Law Foyer isn't formal enough
 - Event on 3rd May
 - Sarah met with Simon Rice re event format – questions, Q&A session
 - Contact Sandy Hawke at ANU VIP Services if you have an important person (e.g. a HCA Judge)
 - SJ Dinner
 - Potentially want Deng Adut
 - Out of budget if we have to pay for his flights/accommodation etc.
 - Homeless initiative
 - Street Law doesn't have capacity to take on anyone as interns
 - Going down the advocacy line
 - Organising a sleep out
 - Speaker series in term 3 on homelessness
 - Drafting submissions?
 - More LRSJ's job

- **Wellbeing:**
 - Law Mental Health Week is in Week 10
 - Working with CoL Wellbeing Initiative – staff and student MH wellness
 - JD Committee passed a mental health provision – now a mandatory consideration
 - Exec needs people to be engaged – talk to your VPs if you have ideas/feel over or under-used etc.

- **Discussion of Proposal: delivery of sexual assault content in LAWS1206**
 - Em disclaimer and welcome
 - Ella was meant to come but she can't now, so Bryce will present
 - Unit presented in Week 9
 - Mandatory part of education
 - Important part of education especially if you're going to practice criminal law
 - Specially effects survivors – very different for people who have experienced it

- At ANU
 - Lecturers are understanding
 - Flagged the week in advance and provide themselves as there to talk
 - Don't know how much it works
 - Last year's exam had a very visual question on Sexual Assault
- The course does not change
- The content of the course doesn't change
- Now an alternative for people the current system doesn't suit/work for
- Rather than going to lectures, people have another option (seminar)
 - Resources are right outside the door
 - Teachers are aware of the situation
 - Teaching style better for these people
- Bryce's reservation is that the Convenors must be on board – they are talking this week
- Ella is keen to hear feedback – there is still time to amend it
 - Mickey: concerned with "later year law students who have survived sexual assault" and whether those people could be not prepared to talk about it/mental health training
 - Maddison: people's experiences are very different and can be ineffective to recommend things if they won't work for a survivor's experience
 - Campbell: is the idea with peer support so that they are there to gauge whether the content is effectively being delivered?
 - Bryce: to what extent are the peer involved in the teaching and learning process? He hasn't had a lot of time to engage in the proposal
 - Em: similar concern – CRCC run an "introductory crash course" on how to deal with sexual assault – the peer support shouldn't be counselling – we need some clarity
 - Bryce: no one is forced to attend
 - Lucy: not sure how turnout would go re revealing that you are a survivor
 - Em: the way autonomous spaces are made safe is the "don't ask don't tell" mantra – can be empowering for some students – comes down to the people who run it
 - Bryce: being separated for the cohort – attendance would not be public or known to anyone who was not there
 - Maddison: not attending the tutorial that week (and attending the seminar instead) might out people as survivors anyway
 - Campbell: presentations in Week 9, so sexual assault tutorial should be in Week 10
 - Lily: what about the exam questions?
 - Bryce: possibly changing the exam format, give extra options, maybe separate rooms – already can apply for special conditions in exams
 - Em: Access and Inclusion organises special conditions but can be very difficult to organise – maybe they should work together to organise separate rooms?
 - Bryce: they should not remove the sexual assault content from the exam content altogether
 - Mickey: loop in Amelia and Wayne because they can get onto A&I straight away
 - Suchara: they don't need to tie in sexual assault question with another topic in the exam question

- Bede: was there a warning on the 2016 final exam question which described a sexual assault? Answer: no, but there should have been
- Suchara: LSS and Library past exam databases have sexual assault answers (Eden to address LSS database issue)
- Kathy: can they print the questions in separate papers with the warning on one paper so people don't even have to open that question booklet if they are uncomfortable with the idea of answering a sexual assault question?
- Lucy: the mid-semester exam is redeemable but you have to do both questions in the final
- Em: have a Q2 a) and b) – one of which does not address sexual assault
- How do we engage people?
 - Stalkerspace = no
 - Women's Department = maybe through Holly but block comments?
 - Convenors Wattle forum post?
 - Campbell: not everyone engages with Wattle posts
 - Lucy: administrative announcements before lecture
 - Kathy: content warning should be made during Week 9
 - Em: CRCC's number and 1800 RESPECT's number on the first slide
 - Shani: never did content warnings after the Week 9 lecture for revision lectures etc.
 - Shiban: warnings on reading lists?
 - Em: Lifeline's number on the Wattle page at all times
 - Anna: other content could be distressing for people, not just sexual assault, so the general Lifeline number should definitely be there

Meeting close: 7.41pm