



# President's Report

## Annual General Meeting

Aug 22, 2022

It has been a privilege to serve as the President of Arc Canberra (Canberra Student Club) and work towards improving the campus life and experience of UNSW Canberra students. In my term as President, we started during the hard lockdown time of COVID-19 in August 2021, and this was deeply felt in the initial days of operation. A global pandemic was certainly not what I or anyone for that matter had in mind and we really didn't want to start this new chapter of Arc Canberra during that difficult time. But certainly, we have passed that phase really well and though, the impacts of COVID-19 will be felt by the student community for some time to come, it is good to see that the university is coming back to life and hopefully, soon we will reach somewhere close to pre-COVID era.

Every club is run by a team and the successful operation of Arc Canberra during the last 12 months would not have been possible without the support of this great team:

- *President* – Sanket Rawat
- *Vice President (UG)* – Kade Price
- *Vice President (PG)* - Jyoti Paul (first seven months), Dyuti Paul
- *Treasurer* – Kamrul Hasan Rahi
- *EDI Officer* – Muna Al Hawawreh (first seven months), Teresa Chhabra
- *SAS Manager (ex-officio position)* – Meng Chong Jerome Ho
- *Web and Technology Support Coordinator* – Michael Zipperle
- *Public Relations and Communications officer* – Nasataran Nazrul Tui
- *Social Coordinator* – Divij Madan (first 10 months), Tristan Kelly (also serving as PR team lead)
- *UG Coordinators* – Amritha Tuljaram, Guna Prashant Yadlapalli, Riley Vallance
- *Sports Coordinators*- Shuvam Mohanty, Hadi Noori, Supriyo Shafkat Ahmed, Shehzad Hathi, Firesenay Zerabruk Gigar, Hanwen Cui, Shiyao Zhu, Reem Sherif
- *Volunteers* – Caitlyn Ferguson, Julius Emmerson, Anupama Sandamini Arukgoda, Thi Thuy Nguyen, Tarun Kumer Biswas.

## Year at a Glance (Aug 2021 – Aug 2022)

### Constitution and functioning

Official affiliation to Arc UNSW and Finalising club constitution were two major steps taken this year. The executive team was involved in drafting the first constitution of the club and therefore, it was rather smooth to follow as everyone understood the guidelines. The establishment of the constitution has allowed transparency to the club structure and necessary mechanism for different procedures to improve the functioning of the club.

Constitutional procedures were followed in selecting the general committee, conducting the elections during AGM, EGM, and organising general committee meetings. Four committee meetings were organised by the Vice Presidents on 17 Sep 2021, 9 Feb 2022, 4 April 2022 (EGM), and 13 July 2022 and the minutes were documented.

## **Membership**

This year, we started a new way of record keeping of members considering the requirement of the constitution. Qpay.com (a platform used by Arc UNSW) was adopted for signing up of the club membership. All the existing members were divided into associate and full members category, and this was followed for the new members automatically through the membership form.

We started at a membership base of 231 (including full and associate members) and currently we stand at 329 full members and 44 associate members. Considering a 10% error margin due to platform transfer or name overlaps, this is still a huge improvement in the membership base – all thanks to the efforts of the team, SAS, and other staff members of the university. With the increase in the number of incoming students in the future (due to border opening), I strongly believe that this number will continue to rise and will surely make Arc Canberra one of the largest clubs of UNSW.

## **Events**

Arc Canberra is all about improving the student engagement by organising different on- and off-campus events. We started during the lockdown (Aug 2021) and it was expected to have the associated impact. The team was able to quickly adapt to the changing circumstances and we tried organising online events for the first time. Movie watch parties (instead of regular movie nights), lockdown photo challenge etc were organised to try to get the students together. As the restrictions eased, COVID safe procedures were laid out (through two pre and post event forms) and followed for all the post-lockdown events to ensure safety of all the participants and organisers. With all the measures in place, the team again got back on track with full energy and organised UG brunch which garnered a good attendance – the maximum for year 2021. This was motivating enough for us to move forward, and the results kept clearly improving as we moved ahead. The average attendance per event improved from 10 to around 29 from year 2021 to 2022 which is a great success for the club and a great depiction of the efforts put by the team.

We introduced several new activities this year such as Movie fest, Game night, Paintball, Go-kart, Gals CAN, Food and games, Jungle golf which proved out to be very successful and I firmly believe this trend will continue in the years to come. Since movie nights are regular events of Arc Canberra, we were also successful in establishing a continual relationship with the manager of Dendy Cinemas (Civic) so that the tickets can be booked directly through email without any booking or service charge. This sorted out the problem of long waiting queue which our volunteers used to face earlier and saved the club a huge chunk of money. In addition to this, we have continued the trend of regularly organising the sports sessions for

UNSW Canberra students and staff. Currently running sports clubs are Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Soccer, Table Tennis, Tennis, and Yoga.

| <b>YEAR 2021</b>      |                                |                |                   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
|                       | <b>Activity</b>                | <b>Date</b>    | <b>Attendance</b> |
| <b>1</b>              | Lockdown Photo Challenge       | Aug 24 - Oct 4 | --                |
| <b>2</b>              | Movie Watch Party - Free Guy   | Oct-06         | 5                 |
| <b>3</b>              | Movie Watch Party - What If... | Oct-20         | 4                 |
| <b>4</b>              | Farewell                       | Nov-18         | 21                |
| <b>5</b>              | UG Brunch                      | Nov-21         | 30                |
| <b>6</b>              | Movie Fest - No time to die    | Nov-21         | 2                 |
| <b>7</b>              | Movie – Venom                  | Dec-01         | 2                 |
| <b>8</b>              | Movie – Dune                   | Dec-08         | 8                 |
| <b>9</b>              | Movie - Resident Evil          | Dec-15         | 5                 |
| <b>10</b>             | Movie - Spider Man             | Dec-22         | 16                |
| <b>11</b>             | Badminton and Pizza            | Dec-12         | 7                 |
| <b>Average number</b> |                                |                | <b>10</b>         |

| <b>YEAR 2022</b>      |                                 |             |                   |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
|                       | <b>Activity</b>                 | <b>Date</b> | <b>Attendance</b> |
| <b>1</b>              | Movie Night - Uncharted         | Feb-23      | 13                |
| <b>2</b>              | Game Night                      | Mar-05      | 10                |
| <b>3</b>              | Movie Night - Batman            | Mar-09      | 22                |
| <b>4</b>              | Hike to Gibraltar Peak          | Mar-26      | 18                |
| <b>5</b>              | Arc Canberra Get together (EGM) | Apr-04      | 37                |
| <b>6</b>              | Movie Night - Morbius           | Apr-13      | 4                 |
| <b>7</b>              | Paintball Battle                | Apr-23      | 22                |
| <b>8</b>              | Movie Night - Dr Strange        | May-11      | 56                |
| <b>9</b>              | Food and Games                  | May-13      | 58                |
| <b>10</b>             | Gals CAN                        | May-19      | 41                |
| <b>11</b>             | Jungle Golf                     | May-28      | 38                |
| <b>12</b>             | Movie Night - Top Gun           | Jun-01      | 39                |
| <b>13</b>             | Trip to Sydney                  | Jun-13      | 28                |
| <b>14</b>             | BBQ                             | Jun-14      | 33                |
| <b>15</b>             | Movie Night - Jurassic World    | Jun-29      | 26                |
| <b>16</b>             | Movie Night - Thor              | Jul-13      | 39                |
| <b>17</b>             | Go-Kart                         | Jul-25      | 12                |
| <b>18</b>             | Movie Night - Bullet Train      | Aug-10      | 28                |
| <b>Average Number</b> |                                 |             | <b>~29</b>        |

| <b>UPCOMING EVENTS</b> |                                       |  |           |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|-----------|
| <b>19</b>              | BBQ – AGM                             |  | Aug 22    |
| <b>20</b>              | Badminton and Table Tennis Tournament |  | Aug 24-28 |
| <b>21</b>              | Wear it Purple Day BBQ                |  | Aug 26    |

|    |                      |           |
|----|----------------------|-----------|
| 22 | Explore Canberra     | Sep 7     |
| 23 | Diversity Fest, UNSW | Oct 24-28 |
| 24 | Halloween Party      | Oct 29    |

## Key Highlights

Apart from introducing some new events, we also made several other important changes to better the functioning of Arc Canberra and thereby to improve the student experience.

**New Weekly Clubs:** Weekly Yoga sessions were introduced again with the support from the rector office. Kamrul Rahi, Jerome (SAS), and Suzzane (Canberra Research Unit) played an important part in fixing some important issues faced earlier and now we have been successfully running Yoga classes with a good participation. Arc Canberra EDI officer Teresa made a significant advancement for the club by collaborating with the TO EDI representative and requesting them to include civilians in their regular clubs. With the response received from the students through EOI, we have successfully started participating in two TO's clubs namely **Swimming and Dance clubs** and more are on the way.

**New Communication channels:** Major changes were introduced to improve the reach of Arc Canberra and communication among committee members. Kade, in his role as Vice President, began with an overhaul of Arc's online presence including **website and social media channels**, as well as establishing a centralised communications hub through **MS Teams**. In addition to this, Kade also made suggestions to divide the volunteers into different teams which helped us better organise our functioning and the way we communicate with members. This also helped us manage the work of each volunteer in a more effective manner.

**Promoting Transparency:** This was one of the major changes this year. Not only we have opened up a feedback form (available on club website) where everyone can reach out to us directly and provide feedback, we have also started publishing the minutes of the meetings and every important document on the website to let student make aware of the current progress of the committee.

**Club Merchandise:** This is also one of the major changes this year as the club merchandise (customized bottles, pens, masks, sticky notes, ID lanyards and tote bags) was started which got an amazing response. Certainly, this also deserves credit for a good increase in the membership.

**Volunteer award:** The main part of Arc Canberra Committee are its volunteers and to formally recognise their contributions, this year the executives decided to introduce 'Arc Canberra Champion Award'. Michael and Nastaran received the first two awards for their exceptional contribution in improving the website and newsletter respectively.

**Club Grants and finances:** In addition to the regular monetary support received from SAS, this year we also applied for several grants to organise the trainings or events. A grant of amount \$900 was approved by the rector's office, UNSW Canberra to organise the event

for community month. In addition, we also successfully applied for a grant for \$724 to receive the trainings which include first aid, responsible service of alcohol, food safety training, mental health first aid. Recently, EDI officer Teresa applied for a grant of \$950 to organise events during the upcoming UNSW Diversity Fest and we have been successful in that as well. More details about the finance can be found in Treasurer's report.

**Meeting with Rector:** This year the Executive joined in meeting with UNSW Canberra's Rector, Prof Emma Sparks to further develop Arc's vision and partnerships for the future. We have got a great support and hoping to have more interactions to highlight the concerns and update about our progress.

**Relationship with UNSW Canberra:** We continued further strengthening club's relationship with SAS of UNSW Canberra. The main credit goes here to the SAS Manager, Jerome who is also an ex-officio executive member of the club and has been an all-time champion. His support for our club is unmatched. In addition to the continuous support we receive from SAS, this year we also tried to broaden our circle to reach to a wider community of the university. We successfully collaborated with EDI office, Rector's office, School of Engineering and Information Technology, School of Science, Learning and Teaching Group at different occasions to either assist them during the events, or publicize their events.

**Affiliation with UNSW Advantage:** The club affiliation to UNSW Advantage was approved late last year which has been a positive news for all the volunteers. This has also laid out a systematic procedure to recognize the hard work and great efforts by the club volunteers.

**Arc Canberra room:** The Arc room now has a more organised structure with PC, gaming controllers, and is soon going to have a new locker to store sports accessories. The PR and events team actively manage the notice boards in the room to announce the monthly events, weekly sports timing, or other important information about the club.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to the committee members of Arc Canberra who showed such a willingness to do what it takes to continue to provide a high-quality service to students, despite the circumstances we faced. I would also like to offer special thanks to Rector Prof Emma, Deputy Rector Prof Harvi, SAS (Jerome, Vanessa, Brook, Emma, Rong), Arc UNSW (Mitch, Angela, Yui), LTG (Dijana, Martyn), SEIT (Richard), TSG (Matt, David, Jim, Umesh, Yingying), Library (Annett, Anna, Lisa, Alison), Daniel (former EDI Manager) for their valuable support.

My best wishes to the future executive team!



Sanket Rawat  
President, Arc Canberra  
2021-2022