



Arc @ UNSW limited
PGC MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, 14 July 2022
TEAMS
4:30 pm

Present: Joshua Karras (PGC President), Suhyun Kweon, Anthony Sunjaya, Andrea Tsui, Ece Egilmezer, Olivera Nesevski, Hang Bui in-part

Apologies: Reem Almasri, Dana Tribbia

Attendance: None

Absent: Umme Laila Urmi

1. MEETING OPENING

The meeting opened at 4:38pm.

1.1. Acknowledgement of Country

Completed by the PGC President.

1.2. Apologies

Apologies were received from R. Almasri and D. Tribbia.

RESOLVED

THAT the apologies received from R. Almasri and D. Tribbia are accepted.

CARRIED

1.3. Conflicts of interest disclosure

The PGC President noted that he is an UNSW Council Committee member.

1.4. Previous minutes

1.4.1. Confirmation of previous minutes: 7 June 2022

1.4.2. Confirmation of previous minutes: 20 June 2022

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes from the PGC meeting held on 7 June 2022 are accepted as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

THAT the minutes from the PGC meeting held on 20 June 2022 are accepted as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED

1.4.3. Matters arising/ action list

The action list was noted.

1.5. Meeting administration

1.5.1. Items flagged for immediate discussion

There were no items flagged for immediate discussion.

1.5.2. Selection of meeting observer

O. Nesevski was appointed as the meeting observer.

2. MATTERS FOR DECISION

2.1. Appointment of International Committee Liaison

The papers were taken as read. The PGC voted to appoint the above position.

H. Bui joined the meeting at 4:50pm.

RESOLVED

THAT Eman Ali Ahmed Alzghoul be forthwith appointed as International LO.

CARRIED

3. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

3.1. Hybridisation of events

The paper was taken as read.

There have been discussions and complaints about the lack of attendance for PGC events. Hybrid events will allow them to be more inclusive and have the potential to increase attendances. Having in-person only events is not fair for students who may be in isolation, off-campus or off-shore.

Many University events endeavor to be in-person and offer virtual opportunities on a case-by-case basis. It was suggested that the PGC can offer online components, although in-person is the preferred way of attendance. The PGC President suggested a policy that involves all portfolios include online components in all events and that the infrastructure in the rooms is utilised, along with recording and uncapitalised captioning.

While technologies for events are free on-campus and available most of the time, there is the option to engage with Arc to find available solutions if any are not free, or to use Zoom. Systems in lecture theatres work better than Zoom and are suggested as good tools to hold hybrid events. It is also possible to connect to the lectern and use personal webcams.

4. OFFICE BEARER REPORTS

4.1. President

The report was taken as read.

Further points raised:

- With the change for RTP scholarship in progress, a paper will be developed to support it.
- The engagement with UN global goals has not been significant in activities and events. Ideas for how that can be more effectively conveyed is welcome from all Officers.
- It was emphasised that 3 cruise ideas are to be reported at next month's meeting.
- All members are to be directly responsible to bring 5 people each for the cruise to drive ticket sales.

ACTION

THAT all PGC members bring 5 people each to the PGC cruise to drive ticket sales.

4.2. General Secretary

The report was taken as read.

The Council was reminded that all are responsible for providing updates for the PGC Newsletter, so T. Le can draft and release it by next month.

4.3. Equity Vice President

The report was taken as read.

Further points raised:

- Coffee catchups have been on hold temporarily to give the Equity team a break after the Postgrad Fest.
- The movie night ticket sale success is attributed to the pricing, which can be a learning point for other portfolios in the future.
- Details are underway for the organisation of Tell Me Your Story event as the theme will be different.
- A grant will be applied for the Diversity Fest, which will run in October if successful.
- The UNSW parenting website is in development, with UNSW EDI requesting contributions and feedback.
- Work on the Welcoming Universities pilot program is underway. This involves working with other universities to review and provide input on cultural diversity and anti-racism aspects.

4.4. International Vice President

N/A

4.5. Research Vice President

The report was taken as read.

Further points raised:

- Most work has been around the Postgrad Fest.
- There is continual engagement with GRS around supporting more workshops, where practical workshops are seen to be in greater demand.
- Nominations have started for the PGC Research Awards. Everyone is encouraged to share or nominate.
- The Thesis Bootcamp with GRS had low attendance due to the bad weather and short notice.

4.6. Coursework Vice President

The report was taken as read.

Further points raised:

- The event with Hongkong Australia Business Association saw lower than expected attendance due to bad weather and train strikes. The event itself was well-run and organised.
- Coffee and Chat events will be organised for Stress Less Week.
- The Cockatoo Island trip will have lower ticket prices and will be promoted in the upcoming PGC newsletter.

The Coursework Vice President questioned where the video for 2021 Arc PGC Ambassador and Course Coordinator of the Year Award can be found. It was noted that it can be located in the PGC YouTube account.

4.7. Canberra Officer

The report was taken as read.

Further points raised:

- The PGC President was thanked for being the tour guide for when Canberra postgraduate students visited Sydney. The Sydney Harbour Tour was fun, and more networking events are anticipated for the future between Sydney and Canberra.
- After having confirmed the cruise dates, the Canberra Officer will contact Arc Canberra to organise funding for the overnight trip of Canberra postgraduate students visiting Sydney for the PGC cruise. Undergraduate students who are interested in studying postgrads can also be invited to the cruise to drive ticket sales.

- The Canberra Officer has been contacted to be an HDR representative whilst representing PGC. There is the goal to spread the voice of PGC to both Sydney and Canberra campuses. As many PGC members have a role in other student associations, it would be beneficial for members to increase PGC's network by spreading information and the work of PGC through different channels. The Canberra Officer welcomed any member to email her their details of roles in other groups in order to promote PGC through various avenues.
- There are plans to collaborate with Arc Canberra, as well as to catch up with postgraduate students and understand their expectations for future events.
- Food Hub has been denied by the Foodbank and OzHarvest. The plan has been to contact the bakery for potential support.
- A Facebook group is in development in collaboration with Arc, so people can exchange resources to create a zero waste and environment friendly community. It also helps form cohesion between international and domestic students.

4.8. Paddington Officer

N/A

4.9. Media & Communications Report

N/A

5. MATTERS FOR NOTING [discussed only on exception basis]

5.1. Archive Old Documents in Microsoft Teams

The issue with archiving old documents has yet to be resolved. It has been raised as a group issue for the PGC and very importantly for the new PGC that will be appointed. Old documents should be archived into separate folders to save confusion and make finding documents easier for all.

6. Q&A (if any)

It was asked where coffee capsules and other ingredients for making coffee can be obtained or whether they needed to be purchased. Answer was given that they will be available in the PGC President's office.

7. MEETING FINALISATION

7.1. Meeting evaluation

The meeting had a good flow and went quickly. However, there was some confusion around who the action items were for in the first part of the meeting.

The PGC President raised that he would note the assigned person of each action item, and that it would be helpful for people to pre-read, as well as have the agenda open during the meeting.

7.2. Next meeting date: 2 August 2022

7.3. Meeting close

The meeting closed at 5:31 pm.



PGC President Signature – Joshua Karras
Date: 16/08/2022