

## **Minutes**

The External Advisory Committee (EAC) of the Department of Government and International Relations met on **Thursday 14 March 2013**. This was its nineteenth meeting.

### **1. Call to order and apologies**

The following members were present: Michael Lambert (chair), Rosie Giddings, Alister Henskens, Alice Oppen, Emily Scanlan, Jeannie Douglas, Natasha Burrows, Shaza Barber, Graeme Gill, and Michael Jackson. Apologies for Trevor Cook, Ann Corlett, Anika Gauja, Ross Gittins, and John Gore

### **2. Minutes of the meeting of 6 December 2012**

The minutes of the meeting were approved without any changes

### **3. Matters arising from the minutes**

The Making Policy Work newsletter has been listed in the 1850 Society Booklet thanks to Ann Corlett, the listing making it eligible for possible donations.

Professor Graeme Gill, Chair of Department has a meeting scheduled with officers of the Institute of Public Administration, Australia to follow up on discussion at the previous meeting on how the EAC and IPAA could work together.

### **4. Chair of Department's report**

Professor Dr Graeme Gill

Australia Day Honours

- Associate Professor Ken Turner
- Paul Salisbury
- Michael Hintze

Enrolments are healthy. Undergraduate: first year = 1096, years II/III = 1653, IV Hons = 40, Masters = 450 and PhD =40.

Staffing: Two new appointments Professor James Der Derian, Director of Centre for International Security Studies; Dr Robert McNeil in Environmental politics. Professor Pippa Norris's Electoral Integrity Project staffed. For details see <http://www.electoralintegrityproject.com>

Dr. Jackson agreed to send details of the project to Antony Green.

Michael Hogan proposes to prepare a history of the Department. The Committee will invite Dr Hogan to a meeting to hear more.

The Master Classes arranged with John Fahey and Barry Unsworth for 27 March will be rescheduled due to industrial action on that day.

Professor Gill undertook to see to it that notices of Department research seminars were circulated to members of the Committee provided Jackson gives him the email addresses.

It was agreed that a meeting with the Chair of the EAC and the Dean would be arranged by Professor Gill in due course

## **5. Best and Brightest**

The event is scheduled for the Theatre at Parliament house 22 May 2013. Dr Gauja has briefed current Honours IV students. Faculty alumni and marketing have been engaged.

President of the Legislative Council, Honourable Mr Don Harwin will again host and open proceedings. Politics Society has agreed to staff welcome desk. Dr Gauja has identified panellists and is recruiting them. Theses abstracts are in hand and a draft program will be complete by 27 March. Planning is on the basis of 150 programs being printed.

The Dean is unable to attend and instead we will invite the Head of School to close proceedings. No intern is available to support the project this year.

The Sydney Morning Herald has declined to continue sponsoring the reception after the formalities. The sum is \$6,000. The Committee asked Dr Jackson to make sure Ross Gittins knew this. The chair has made contact with the Fairfax Company Secretary to determine if the matter can be reconsidered.

Members of the Committee discussed alternative sponsors and agreed to make inquiries. Dr Jackson has raised it with one prospect. Others were mentioned.

Dr Jackson will prepare a draft prospectus for potential sponsors and distribute it to Committee members. It is attached as appendix 1.

It was noted that the SMH as part of its sponsorship has previously arranged for a Master of Ceremonies. In the absence of the Sydney Morning Herald we will need a Master of Ceremonies on the night.

## **6. Politics Society**

Natasha Burrows, President, and Shaza Barber, Treasurer, reported on events for the year, including academic workshops and guest lecturers. The Politics Society is sponsored by the Department and, in addition, now charges \$3 for membership. This fee did not reduce membership. Events that are being planned by the Society include: an election event that will feature a major issue; the Hedly Bull lecture which this year is being given by Dr Michael Fullilove, Executive Director of the Lowry Institute.

The Society advised that the biggest problem was obtaining access to suitable venues. They were encouraged to contact the Head of Department whenever they need assistance in this area.

Any suggestions for future speakers for the Hedley Bull lecture should be provided to Michael Jackson.

Click for information about the Politics Society. [More](#)

## **7. Priorities**

Members considered the Discussion Paper on priorities. A summary of the key points discussed follows as appendix 2.

This will be used to develop a work plan that will be circulated to the EAC.

## **8. Other business**

The Committee congratulated Ann Corlett on her election as president of Alumni Council.

The Committee thanked Emily Scanlan for meeting IV Honours students.

The contact list of members will be updated and circulated

## **9. Meeting dates 2013**

All are Thursdays 4-6 pm: 13 June, 12 September, and 12 December.  
Merewether 397 has been reserved for these meetings.

## **Appendix 1.**

### **Sponsorship for Best and Brightest Showcase Reception**

#### **What is Best and Brightest?**

Best and Brightest is a showcase featuring a selection of outstanding IVth Year Honours students to discuss their thesis research work. A panel of four or five outstanding recent graduates describe their research and respond to questions from the audience. In addition, the program contains the abstracts of all theses done in the previous year. The panellists range over topics in NSW government, to Australian federalism, to regional conflicts, environmental issues and the like. They reflect the range and depth of student interest.

#### **Who attends?**

We invite alumni, student prize sponsors, internship hosts, research associates, guest lecturers, parents and current IVth Year Honours students. We have averaged about 100 guests. They have included members of the NSW parliament, a retired High Court judge, journalists, investment bankers and the like.

#### **Where is it held?**

It is held in the early evening at Parliament House on Macquarie Street. It is hosted by the President of the Legislative Council, who this time is the Honourable Mr. Don Harwin. Students from the Politics Society (an undergraduate organization of current students) staff the welcome desk, act as ushers and handle the microphone in question time.

#### **What is sponsorship for?**

After the formalities of the presentations and questions, the guests and panellists retire to the lobby for a reception to meet, mix, and mingle with a glass of wine and a snack.

#### **What benefit does the sponsor obtain?**

The sponsor can have a logo and note of sponsorship on the email invitation and poster announcing the event. The sponsor can also display its logo on the stage at the event and leave leaflets on the welcome desk. The sponsor can also provide an individual to chair the proceedings and while at the podium can make clear its sponsorship. The sponsor's name will be before an informed audience at a very positive event.

The sponsor's nominated chair of proceedings will meet some outstanding recent graduates and members of the University.

The sponsor can also bring the Showcase an agreed number of guests.

A private sponsor may prefer to discuss mutually agreeable terms.

#### **How much is sponsorship?**

A sum not to exceed \$6,000 for each year is sufficient.

Contact Dr Michael Jackson, Professor Emeritus for discussion. [Michael.jackson@sydney.edu.au](mailto:Michael.jackson@sydney.edu.au) or 0412194672

## **Appendix 2. : Summary of Discussion on Agenda Item 7, Priorities**

The aim is to develop a work plan to guide the work and activities of the Committee. The focus is on identifying and relating to the external and internal communities relevant to the Committee. Among the points of discussion were:

### 1. Improving relations with relevant communities

The actions are divided into two: new initiatives and continuing activities.

#### (A) New Initiatives:

a. Potential Students: The Faculty of Arts and Social Science marketing officer be contacted to see how the Committee might help in recruiting students, particularly Masters Students for the new Master of International Relations.

Assess how to track students who undertook World Politics in terms of whether they enrolled in the Department. A simple search of enrolments with a two year lag would be easy and clear.

Explore ways to more effectively market the course such as advertising the course in the History Teachers Association newsletter.

b. Alumni: Contact be made with an officer from the University's Careers Service to discuss tracking careers of graduates, sources of data, and the like and exploring what is the role of social media in the future for tracking careers information. Published reports from the Graduates Destinations survey could be compiled for the Department. We will also explore the application of Linked-In as a means of establishing and maintaining contact with alumni.

c. University: Chair of the Committee to met the Dean to raise the profile of the Committee within the University.

d. Current students: Follow up with students who organize the model United Nations to assess how this could be more effectively linked to attracting student enrolment.

Assess whether there is merit in re-establishing for the benefit of students an internship program. This will need to be discussed with the Dean as it would involve departmental resources.

e. Research and policy communities: Engage with local Think tanks to explore in what ways the Department and the think tanks could work together in a cooperative and mutually beneficial manner. A first step is to invite a representative of such think-tanks to attend the Best and Brightest Showcase on 22 May 2013. It will also be necessary to set out a value proposition identifying in what ways the Department could productively interact with appropriate think tanks.

### Continuing Activities

f. Alumni and potential students: Continue to develop a working relationship with the Institute of Public Administration, Australia. Invite representatives to a Committee meeting each year to keep the bridge open.

g. Department: Chair of the Committee to attend a Department Board meeting to renew profile within the Department. This was last done in 2010.

h. Discuss future of the New South Wales Board of Secondary Studies Board-approved and University delivered course World Politics with the chair of department and the lecturer with a view to identifying ways to enhance its impact.

2. Alumni and current students: Continue to identify alumni and invite them to Best and Brightest.

i. Current students and alumni: continue with Best and Brightest. Secure funding for the reception both for the current year and for near future. Department to assume management of the event, leaving Dr. Jackson free for other projects.

j. Current students: encourage and aid Politics Society in recruiting alumni for its events. Continue to liaise with the Politics Society and the editors of the Sydney Globalist.

2. Enhancing relations within the Department

It would be desirable to enhance relations with the department and in particular to boost the profile of EAC with the Department and its staff. Agreed that the chair should speak at a Departmental meeting and that the department should notify members of forthcoming departmental seminars. Also would be helpful to obtain information and update from time to time on the research interest of staff.

### Matters Arising From Minutes of the Meetings of the EAC

Matters arising from minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2013.

Agenda item	Action	Responsibility	Status
3.matters arising	Follow up with IPAA on working together	Graeme Gill	In train
4. Chair of department report	Detail of electoral integrity project to be sent to Antony Green	Michael Jackson	Done
	Dr Hogan to be invited to EAC to discuss his history of the department project	Michael Jackson	Done
	Notices of departmental seminars to be circulated to members	Graeme Gill	Done
	Meeting to be arranged of EAC chair with the Dean	Graeme Gill	8 Amy 2013
5. Best and brightest	Ross Gittins to be informed of the withdrawal of the SMH sponsorship	Michael Jackson	Done
	Draft prospectus for potential sponsors to be prepared	Michael Jackson	Done- see appendix 1
	Contact to be made by members with potential sponsors	Members coordinated through Michael Jackson	In train
6. Politics Society	Any suggestions for speakers for Hedley Bull lecture to be provided to Michael Jackson	members	One suggestion has been passed on
7. Priorities	Revised work plan to be circulated to members	Michael Lambert and Michael Jackson	
8. Other business	Member contact list to be updated and circulated	Michael Jackson	Done