

Minutes, Thursday 12 September 2013.

Please note that the action items follow in a table.

1. Attendance and apologies.

Members attending: Michael Lambert (chair), Trevor Cook, Ann Corlett, Rosie Giddings, Alister Henskens, Ross Gittins, and Antony Green together with Michael Jackson and Graeme Gill.

Apologies from Jeannie Douglas, John Gore, Alice Oppen, and Emily Scanlan.

Also present for specific agenda items were David Smith, Ryan Griffith and Vidushee Deora, and Will Read from the Sydney University United Nations Society.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 13 June 2013.

The minutes of the meeting were approved.

3. Matters arising from the previous minutes not treated elsewhere in the agenda.

- Michael Lambert noted that development of priorities continued.
- Emily Scanlan reported that she is consulting with 3 or 4 current honours students.
- Ross Gittins confirmed that he has arranged a workshop with Matt Wade and writers for [The Sydney Globalist](#).

4. Sydney University United Nations Society.

Vidushee Deora and Will Read described the activities and connections of the SUUNS. Noted that there are 400 members and that the society undertakes a number of activities including the model United Nations simulation it runs for tertiary students in December and for high students in July. The July simulation involves more than one hundred high school students from the greater Sydney area. See the accompanying pdf file SUUNS for more detail. More generally on the Society, see <http://www.usydunsociety.org>

In the effort to develop closer links between the UN simulation and the Department the Society invited Dr David Smith to address it, and in return the Department offered invitations to the ten outstanding students at the simulation to attend Best and Brightest 2014 accompanied by a teacher. .

The Society has also graciously shared its mailing list with the Department for use in identifying and recruiting students to the HSC World Politics course in Summer School.

Rosie Giddings who attended the July simulation was enthusiastic about what she saw and reported that teachers in international studies at Taylor's College high school and the University of Sydney Foundation

Program were eager to work with the Society in offering a like simulation to their students. She also asked about lecturers from the Department who might assist, with Dr. Bob Howard suggested as a first contact. .

Ms Deora will provide a short summary of the Society to be distributed with these minutes.

The executive of the Society will change in October and Michael Jackson asked Vidushee to arrange a meeting at that time with the new executive to maintain good relations between SUUNS and the Department.

Finally Ms Deora asked if members of EAC could provide suggestions for speakers on international relations. One suggestion was Bob Carr. EAC will follow up on this matter.

5. Dean of Arts and Social Science, Professor Duncan Ivison.

The Dean discussed current developments, in particular the priority given to re-developing the Merewether Precinct from the University Regiment building to the Merewether Building to concentrate the Social Sciences, combining office and teaching space, student accommodation, and retail. Members of the Committee expressed the hope that this ambitious plan would come to fruition.

The Dean said that a new position in public policy had been approved for the Department to enhance its continued role in education and research in public policy. The Committee noted its efforts to renew relations with the Institute of Public Administration, Australia (NSW Branch). It was also noted that the future of the Graduate School of Government will need to be considered.

Michael Lambert briefly referred to the Committee's project to liaise with think tanks in the local environment to develop relations where mutually beneficial. The Dean offered encouragement.

The need to identify and engage alumni was stressed. Best and Brightest offers one way to do that. The Dean noted that the Economics Department uses their alumni to assist with teaching and to promote the department. There may be other opportunities for EAC to explore in involving alumni. Michael Jackson and Ann Corlett will continue to explore ways to access the government alumni list.

The Dean noted there were various advisory bodies like EAC with other schools and departments and he would be happy to provide contact information.

Michael Jackson asked the Dean's advice about inviting the Vice-Chancellor to open or close Best and Brightest 2014. The Dean endorsed this suggestion and offered to make the invitation himself. This offer has been noted.

6. World Politics.

Dr. David Smith reported on the advertising for the HSC World Politics course in the Teaching History Journal, and the mailing to the school list used by the Sydney University United Nations society. There were 16 students this

year, drawn from both year 11 and 12 but that these were drawn from fewer high schools. Dr Ryan Griffith introduced himself and discussed the transition from Smith. Members of the Committee discussed ways to make the Summer School course more widely known in schools. It was noted that the fee involved meant that the feeder schools were most likely to be both private schools and public schools from higher socio economic areas. An option to further explore would be to provide some scholarships to facilitate participation of students from lower socio-economic areas. It was agreed to continue consideration of this matter at future meetings.

Michael Jackson said he would distribute a list of the school that have to date sent students to the HSC World Politics course. The students in 2011 and 2012 came from the following schools: Abbotsleigh, Caringbah, Fort Street, Knox Grammar, North Sydney Girls, Pymble's Ladies's College, Smith's Hill, and Sydney Church of England Girls' Grammar.

7. Chair of Department report.

Professor Graeme Gill noted the approval for a lecturer in public policy. Two had been requested, but in the circumstances securing one was a very good outcome.

He noted the arrangement for Dr Ryan Griffith to teach the HSC World Politics course in 2014.

He reported on the Prizes Ceremony in July and thanked members for their participation and support of student prizes.

He also observed that several members of the Department had contributed to the media during the September Federal Election campaign.

8. Chair of the External Advisory Committee report.

Michael Lambert noted that the key current priorities were as follows:

- Securing funding for Best and Brightest
- Expanding World Politics and maintaining and improving relations with relevant student societies.
- Developing strategic partnerships with suitable Think Tanks and IPAA(NSW)
- Exploring ways to tap the expertise and experience of alumni

Michael Jackson will talk with Professor Gill about auditing current contacts with think tanks by member of the Department.

9. Best and Brightest 2014.

The prospectus for fund raising is now complete and Michael Lambert and Michael Jackson will take that forward.

Michael Jackson reported that Cindy Chen, a 2013 panellist, had agreed to chair Best and Brightest 2014, depending on scheduling. If she proves to be unavailable, he would turn to Will Thomas, another 2013 panellist. Sitting dates are promulgated in January and soon as they are Jackson will book the theatre in Parliament House on Macquarie Street and

also see about inviting the Vice-Chancellor to open or close. If he agrees, his presence would be included in the invitations to raise the profile of the event.

10. Any Other Business.

Michael Jackson referred to The Sydney Globalist's next issue on 'The Knowledge and Information Economy,' and editor Rebecca Dang's request for help in identifying and recruiting a speaker to launch that issue in June of 2014. Members of the committee mentioned several names: Daniel Petrie of Netus (Alister Henskens), Mark Scott of the ABC (Michael Jackson), Malcolm Turnbull who is likely to be Minister of Communication, and Ziggy Switkowski (Alister Henskens). The sense of the Committee was that Turnbull could be approached by the students directly. Michael Jackson will communicate this discussion to Rebecca Dang of The Sydney Globalist.

11. Meeting dates 2013

Next meeting 4-6 pm: 12 December. Merewether 397 has been reserved for this meeting. Professor Gill confirmed that the Department's end of year drinks in the Merewether courtyard to coincide with this committee's meeting 12 December. The aim will be to limit the agenda to 4 – 5pm so that members may join the Department for drinks.

Action items.

Agenda item	Action	Responsibility	Status
4. Sydney University United Nations Society.	Liaise with new executive.	Michael Jackson	October.
4. Sydney University United Nations Society	Summary of SUUNS to be circulated to members	Ms Deora	
4. Sydney University United Nations Society	Contacts to be facilitated with possible International Relations speakers	Michael Jackson and Michael Lambert	
5. Dean.	Monitor Government alumni list.	Ann Corlett and Michael Jackson	Continuing.
5. Dean	Invite Vice-chancellor to Best and Brightest 2014.	Dean and Michael Jackson	January 2014.

5. Dean	Dean to provide contact details for advisory bodies in other departments and schools	Michael Jackson and Dean	
6. World Politics	Distribute list of schools which have had students in World Politics to date.	David Smith and Michael Jackson,	Done. Included above.
8. Chair of Committee's Report	Audit current contacts with think tanks.	Michael Jackson and Graeme Gill	Soon.
9. Best and Brightest 2014.	Seek funding	Michael Lambert and Michael Jackson	Continuing.
9. Best and Brightest 2014.	Secure student chair.	Michael Jackson	Cindy Chen has agreed.
9. Best and Brightest 2014.	Book State Theatre	Michael Jackson	January.
10. Suggestions to <u>The Sydney Globalist</u> ,	Prospective speakers at launch of next issue.	Michael Jackson	Done.

