

GRADUATE RESEARCH STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

PRESENT: Professor Lachlan Paterson (Acting Chair), Professor Richard Blaikie (Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Enterprise), Peter Boston (Graduate Research School) Associate Professor Chrys Jaye (Division of Health Sciences), Mathew Schep (OUSA Postgrad Rep), Jasmina Ceron (Humanities PhD Rep), Mino Cleverley (Pacific Islands PhD Representative), Hemu Rajamanicam (Commerce PhD Rep), Ellie Torbati (International PhD Representative), Amanda Clifford (Maori PhD Representative).

APOLOGIES: Professor Rachel Spronken-Smith (Chair, Graduate Research School), Linda Buss (UOC Representative) Andrew Lonie (Graduate Research School), Wei Zhang (UOW Representative).

IN ATTENDANCE: Ruth Sharpe (Academic Committees)

DATE: Friday, 30 August 2019

New representative Hemu Rajamanicam PhD representative for Commerce was welcomed.

	Item	Action
1.	<p>Minutes of previous meeting The minutes for the meeting held on Friday, 31 May 2019 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting with the addition to be added 'student service fee payment' under the report of OUSA Postgrad rep Dermot Frengley so the sentence reads "He relayed key points from a meeting to discuss whether student service fee payment and the travel insurance payment for international students, could be split into monthly payments." And under the report of Christchurch representative Linda Buss, words should read 'a PhD survival guide' was a session held within our postgrad symposium.</p>	
2.	<p>Matters arising from previous meeting</p> <p>a) <i>List serves for graduate students (Professor Spronken-Smith):</i> This matter is in process with ITS.</p> <p>b) <i>Completion dates from Planning and Funding (Professor Spronken-Smith/Andrew Lonie):</i> This matter was followed up; while a transition occurs from Planning and Funding to Strategy, Analysis and Reporting (SAR), it will take time as SAR currently do not have resources to produce such reports.</p> <p>c) <i>Visa issues for International Students (Professor Spronken-Smith) (Andrew Lonie)</i> Immigration NZ attended Deans and Directors of Graduate Studies and advised pressure of the last year has affected the whole system. They have assessed the situation and put measures in to catch up.</p> <p>d) <i>Vaccine availability (Yasmin Abdul Aziz)</i> There are complex access issues to free vaccinations for International students. It is free for postgraduate students undertaking tutoring work as a university employee.</p> <p>e) <i>Student Service Fees (Wei Zhang & Professor Spronken-Smith)</i> A query has been placed regarding whether student services can be paid by semester.</p>	<p>RSS</p> <p>YAA</p> <p>RSS & WZ</p>
3.	<p>Christchurch update (Linda Buss) report submitted Key points discussed were: Linda tendered an apology but submitted her report which was read to members. She reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a range of social, academic and cultural events that have occurred and are forthcoming. - the Associate Dean Postgraduate Associate Professor Margaret Currie will attend future PSOC meetings to provide updates on actions raised in the OUSA report on the consultation regarding compulsory student services fee. 	
4.	<p>Wellington update (Zhang Wei) report submitted Key points discussed were: Zhang tendered an apology but submitted her report which was read to members. She reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a range of social, academic and cultural events that have occurred or are forthcoming. 	
5.	<p>Distance candidates update (Renee Hamel) No report received from Renee Hamel</p>	

6.	<p>Updates from all Graduate Research Student Liaison Committee Reps (ALL) Each of the representatives at the meeting gave feedback and several who sent their apologies submitted a report. Key points arising were:</p> <p><u>Hemu Rajamanicam (Commerce PhD Rep)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commented that CODEL workshops are being successfully undertaken alongside HEDC (Collaborating on Demand Learning). - When raising gaps in PhD Induction sessions, it was noted this is challenging to balance to student's needs. <p><u>Jasminda Ceron (Division Humanities Rep)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reported on the heating system in some buildings is insufficient when working late. - Security issues with insufficient lighting in some campus walkway areas. - There are geographical limitations on the services which Campus Watch can offer at night which could be clarified on their website. Students living outside north Dunedin campus are recommended to plan in advance and have a conversation with their department when working outside normal hours. <p><u>Amanda Clifford (Maori PhD Rep)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acknowledged the mahi of Pete Russell and the importance of his role. He was congratulated on his new role. GRS was acknowledged for finding a replacement and facilitating a handover to incoming Rachael Sizemore. - The MAI doctoral conference is coming up later this year. - Clarification was sought and given regarding including published work in a thesis, particularly around 'coherence criterion', 'redundancy', and including an unchanged publication but reformatted paper in a thesis. Information variations exist in different parts of the website. <p><u>Matthew Schep (OUSA Postgrad Rep)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reported work is in progress recruiting Masters representatives for vacancies on GRSLC. <p><u>Mino Cleverley (Pacific Islands PhD Rep)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reported on his attendance at a range of social, academic and cultural events that have occurred and are forthcoming. His community is small and widely dispersed so the Pacific Postgrad Research Group meetings are the best way to meet up. <p><u>Ellie Torbati, (International PhD Representative)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reported she attended and presented in the welcoming workshop for international students know as "spot the difference" focusing on the cultural differences of people coming to NZ. - Visa issues continue for some International student nationalities; also for visa applications including spouses which also affect their scholarship. Mr Boston said if contacted, he can facilitate Scholarship extension when there are visa extension issues. - Reported she will attend and present at a Health Science workshop for students on 20 September where staff will focus on the Health Sciences admission process. 	RB
7.	<p>Graduate Research School Review Draft Implementation Plan The Implementation Plan was discussed and noted. Significant challenges to extending doctoral scholarships by up to 4-6 months were discussed. Professor Blaikie indicated the status quo is likely to remain for the short term.</p>	
8.	<p>Convenor's Business The recent loss of Tahu Potiki was acknowledged and his immense mahi and influence for the University of Otago was noted.</p>	
9.	<p>General Business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recruitment of representatives to fill Masters student vacancies on GRSLC is underway. 2. Director International or nominee to be a member of GRSLC was raised and approved to facilitate conversations regarding international student matters such as visa status. 	

The date of the next meeting is **Monday, 29 November 2019 at 2.00pm Committee Room North, first floor Clocktower.**

Distribution:

Professor Rachel Spronken-Smith (Chair), Dean, Graduate Research
Professor Richard Blaikie, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research & E
Andrew Lonie (Graduate Research School)
Peter Boston (Graduate Research School)
(Division of Commerce Representative)
Hemu Rajamanicam (Division of Commerce Representative)
Jasminda Ceron (Division of Humanities Representative)
(Division of Humanities Representative)
Yasmin Abdul Aziz (Division of Health Sciences Representative)
(Division of Health Sciences Representative)
Joseph Altobelli, (Division of Sciences Representative)
(Division of Sciences Representative)
Ellie Torbati (International Representative)
(International Representative)

Mino Cleverley (Pacific Islands Representative)
(Pacific Islands Representative)
Linda Buss (UOC Representative)
Wei Zhang (UOW Representative)
Amanda Clifford (Māori Representative)
(Māori Representative)
Matthew Schep (OUSA Postgraduate Representative)
Renee Hamel (Distance Representative)

Dr Sophie Bond (GRC Humanities Representative)
Associate Professor Sally Shaw (GRC Sciences Representative)
Associate Professor Lisa McNeill (GRC Commerce Represent
Associate Professor Chrys Jaye (GRC Health Sciences Repres
Ruth Sharpe (Academic Committees)