



THE ANU OBSERVER

Agenda for Meeting of The ANU Observer Board

Date: 17/09/25

Opening of meeting: 06:00pm

Item 1- Attendance

Rowey

Sophie

Eduardo

Urja

Darcy

Saffron

She

Anish

Item 2- Apologies

Anneysha

Item 3 - Acknowledgement of Country

By Eduardo

I wish to acknowledge the Ngunnawal and Ngambri peoples as traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. We also acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region, and pay our respects to elders past, present and emerging.

Item 4: AGM Week 9

Rowey: So we just need to change the date from 22nd to the 29th on the Facebook event page.

Saffron: Tom Foley is yet to confirm, I think he will want to join Zoom for week 9, and he'll be able to come in person for week 10.

Elections policy outline in email to future returning officer – re; constitutional changes. – tom foley new policy email to him

Item 5: Debate Debacle (alliteration lol)

Rowey: Debate is on Friday, it's coming together really well. I think we need to talk about if we're all on the same page about what is expected of us.

She: As long as we have one member of Woroni and one member from Observer we'll be okay.

Rowey: Because it's in Badger, we'll probably need to bring our own equipment. I was talking to Hamish and he said we could sort of a stage-esque thing for the debaters. We'll have Sophie as a moderator, and potentially Sarah as well – I'll just have to look at the logistics of having two moderators. Might need to chat to Hamish at badger a bit more about how that will work out. I told Woroni that we'd organise a set of rules and vague questions for the night.

If we're happy with a panel forum vibe, if there's 8 people, giving people a chance to speak for 3-4 minutes each that'd be fine. Or maybe 2-3, max it out at 3. For general questions, one minute each and two minutes for a specific question. Do we need any more rules?

Sophie: No right of reply, maybe I can just write up an overview. I'll look at the questions a bit tonight and look at writing a general overview.

Rowey: Awesome, editors can sort out the questions tonight.

Sophie: We'll also need to sort logistics of Badger catering for the night.

Rowey: Let's propose approximately \$100-\$200 for the night for catering.

She: What time should we get there to start setting up?

Rowey: I'll have a look and get back to you.

Item 6: Newsletter - we need more people to sign up < 3

Sophie: What are our numbers right now?

Rowey: We've got 15 so far, as of Monday.

She: I posted and have put up some posters since then so hopefully that's done something.

Sophie: Maybe we should take turns in posting to schmidtposting.

Rowey: Would it be worth potentially doing a reel on instagram to advertise it?

She: Yeah, sounds good!

Rowey: Who would like to be in front of the camera for that one?

Urja: I'm happy to do it!

Item 7: Honoraria check ins

Rowey: Because honoraria submissions are coming up for Friday, I thought it'd be good to be on the same page about nominating. So far, our highest nomination is for Sarah Mcrea, because she writes so much, so we've nominated about \$750 for her, which is the highest we've ever nominated, but upon looking at our website so far I realised that she's written about 80% of our articles this year.

She: Our visual team is quite big, so I'm wondering how you guys go about figuring out nominations.

Rowey: I judge it on the basis obviously of who writes the most, but also who turns up to meetings, who partakes in extracurricular activities like SRC, who is proofreading a lot.

She: So if you have heaps of reporters, does everyone get nominated or just some?

Rowey: Yeah, everyone does get nominated.

Item 8: How do people feel? (Urja's feedback form)

Urja: So the first time I put it out, I got next to no responses. But this time when I put it out, I got way more responses which was good. Everyone seems pretty happy. There were a couple of main themes. Firstly, there were shorter news meetings, and a couple

of people asked for a little earlier but I understand that clashes with the news meetings. I also think shorter news meetings would solve that issue. And the other was more socials, which is my job, so I'll work on that. The other was, obviously, the website but I understand that is a work in progress as well. I think it was mainly just old articles being lost and so on.

Item 9: IB commitments

She: I honestly am not too keen on livestreaming IB again this year. Last year it was difficult because of the outdoors in terms of set-up, etc. I think photos are fine, but the livestream aspect is a bit more difficult.

Darcy: The guy that reached out to us did ask for a livestreaming of the endpoint.

Rowey: He did offer help in setting up and maybe helping run it.

She: If they have electricity, etc, that they're willing to set up then that's fine. But I'm just not too keen on doing last year again.

Rowey: We could set up a meeting with him?

She: Could we do next week? At 1pm potentially. I'm happy to respond to him now.

Rowey: Yeah, I'd love to have some reporters there. I know Fergus was keen.

Urja: Yeah, Fergus would be keen to be on the bus reporting, he also was keen to do part of the run but I think he was just excited.

Sophie: The run may not be the best idea.

She: Last year when we interviewed someone, they threw up mid-interview.

Item 10: We need to hire a new podcast person....

Rowey: Yeah, Katharina is going to go in the next six weeks.

She: Can we start advertising for that next week?

Rowey: Absolutely. What can we do on our end to help you?

She: Just writing a caption would be good. Maybe we can post a blurb of what we're looking for.

Item 11: SSAF Funding Obligations Status

Motion passed unanimously.

Item 12: Other Business

- Running a networking evening for Observer and media organisations with offices based in Canberra
 - (Either office visits)

Eduardo: I think it'd be good, as an added plus for working at the Observer, to leverage NewsCorp and Canberra Times to come in and speak to reporters.

Rowey: Are you able to organise that?

Eduardo: Yeah, I'd just need a little help with contacts for that.

Meeting closed: 06:57pm

Next board meeting: AGM Week 9