

STUDENT-STAFF LIAISON COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Meeting #2, 2023

31st May 2023

Not for general publication

Present: Olivia Uy (Chair), Samuel Weir (Secretary), Prof. Daniel Zizzo, A/Prof. Ian MacKenzie, A/Prof. Heiko Gerlach, Mr. Joe Symons, Mr. John Raiti, Carter Douglas Stuart Hoffman, Nikolas Stamatiou, Francisco Tavares Garcia, Brandon Botting, Hamish Trim, Nishay Bhikha, Amelie Marsland, Margaret Hayes, Danya Mody, Benjamin Stephens, Serena Huang, Sophia Psaros (UQES)

1. Apologies:

Téa Van de Brenk (UQPPES), Eliza Madden (UQWIES), Wen Hsi Chua, A/Prof. Marco Faravelli, Laura McBurnie, Varen Arya

2. Confirmation of the minutes from the previous meeting:

Yes

3. Business arising from the previous meeting:

- i) An update was provided on the success of the SSLC's first two social events of the year with a number of participants at both events.
- ii) Mr. Raiti updated the committee on introductory courses being developed in conjunction with the UQ Library and demonstrated both courses. An emphasis was placed on making them more engaging and interactive with a collection of information from a wide range of sources. Any further recommendations are appreciated.
- iii) Updates on raising the visibility of Economics as a field of study with highschool students were provided by A/Prof. MacKenzie and Prof. Zizzo. Staff within the school are partaking in initiatives to raise awareness with ATSI students in rural Queensland. In addition, A/Prof. MacKenzie discussed with the committee his role in presenting at the *UQ Breakfast Club*, to a number of career advisors. He described that this is a long term but worthwhile process. There is a need to emphasise that Economics is not a maths-only field, and that Year 11 and 12 Economics is not a prerequisite to studying within the School.

4. Business arising from this meeting:

- i) Prof. Zizzo provided a brief update on the School of Economics school review process. There are restrictions placed on discussing the review with undergraduate students, however, there was a widespread appreciation of the school's teaching excellence and how it manages student experience. In addition, employers describe a high esteem for graduates.

- ii) Olivia asked the committee for ideas and comments on raising awareness with students within the school.
 - Prof. Zizzo commented that there a number of relevant issues, including a lack of general visibility of the SSLC, and the nature of engaging with international/external students, especially being the only School within the University with more international than domestic students
 - A number of ideas were raised including online and in person events:
 - An alumni speech event
 - Postgraduate event using the changemakers app to assist with organisation
 - School Barbeque
 - Daniel added that choosing a time and place would be important and need to be considered
- iii) Mr. Symons explained the Student Staff Partnerships program to the committee and suggested that the committee come up with potential ideas.
 - Francisco suggested a review of Econometrics courses in the Bachelor of Advanced Finance and Economics (Hons.) program.
 - Hamish suggested a review of assessments within different courses, such as ECON2300
 - Mr. Symons indicated that all ideas could be directed to the submissions website

5. Actionable before the next meeting:

- i) Organisation of any social events for students within the School.
- ii) Feedback on introductory writing and coding courses.
- iii) Submission of any Student Staff Partnership program ideas.

6. Next meeting:

Wednesday 2nd August, 2pm