ANU Emeritus Faculty

Agenda

Minutes of the 75th meeting of the ANU Emeritus Faculty Committee held on Wednesday 5 July 2006 at 3.30 pm in the Molony Room, Fellows' Lane Cottage.

PRESENT: John Molony (Chair), Peter Stewart (Deputy Chair), John Sandeman, Adrian Brooks, Di Riddell, Barry Ninham, Nik Fominas, Peter Scardoni (Treasurer), Giles Pickford (Secretary)

1. Apologies and Welcome

Apologies were received from Angela Giblin, Ian Mathews and John Grant

2. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2006 were confirmed.

3. Reports

3.1 2006 Colloquium on Energy

John Sandeman reported that the Colloquium sponsorship program was making progress and that the budget was now a break even situation. Therefore the Colloquium is going ahead, having passed the point of cancellation. The numbers enquiring from secondary education indicated that the Visions Theatre was not going to be large enough to contain the Colloquium and it had been moved to the H C Coombs Theatre.

He also reported that the Australian Science Festival had secured Asa Wahlquist of *The Australia* as a moderator for the Forum. The ASF has promoted the Forum from a fringe event to a blockbuster event which will ensure a good attendance in the 400 seat Bradman Theatre at the National Convention Centre. The Committee agreed that the Colloquium Chair should invite the Vice-Chancellor and DVC Education to the dinner and the Forum.

It was also agreed that the Chair should invite Ministers and Bureaucrats with environmental portfolios to the Forum.

3.3 ACT Govt. & Industry

3.3.1 Security Specialists Course

Nik Fominas reported that the ANU had nominated Chris Johnson to join the September meeting on this course.

3.3.2 Solar Energy Project

This item is in abeyance until after the Colloquium.

3.4 ANU Civic Interface

The Committee noted that the Chancellor Allan Hawke is available for the Lindsay Pryor Memorial Lecture which has been moved to Tuesday 26 September.

3.6 Membership Officer

Di Riddell reported that Keith Crook had joined. She circulated a list of people who had not renewed yet and members volunteered to make some phone calls to find out if these members intended to renew.

3.7 External Outreach

(a) The Committee noted that there had been no response from the CSIRO retirees to date.

(b) The Chancellor of the University of Canberra, Ingrid Moses, has expressed an interest in the ANUEF and the Committee agreed that John Molony and John Grant should call on her to explain how we are set up.

(c) The Secretary reported that he had recently visited the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wollongong to promote the idea of an Emeritus Faculty at that University.

(d) Barry Ninham reported on an idea of inviting an Emeritus Visitor annually. The Committee agreed that this would be a good initiative.

(e) The Committee noted that Barry Ninham had provided some new names of possible new members and the Secretary agreed to follow through on that after the list had been circulated to the Committee for comment.

(f) Barry Ninham suggested that the ANUEF should de-emphasise the idea that a person could apply for membership and begin to adopt a stance that invitation to be a member ought to be the principal way of joining the Faculty.

3.8 Ideas for the Future

Peter Stewart tabled a letter from Michael Dwyer, President of U3A and it was noted. It was agreed that Peter Stewart should circulate the members about U3A's need for presenters, and request reciprocal action from U3A pointing out the advantages of ANUEF membership.

3.9 Web Site Officer's Report

Nik Fominas reported that he had spent a year getting nowhere with the idea of moving the ANUEF web pages onto the ANU Main Frame computing system.

Barry Ninham suggested that the web site should be moved to the RSPhysSE server and Nik agreed to follow through on that lead.

3.10 Events

The Committee noted that the Lecture series is booked out to April 2007. The Committee then noted the 1st Circular for the Kioloa Event, which had been circulated to members.

3.11 Musical Excursions

Angela Giblin had provided an exciting program of musical events in Sydney and Canberra and the Secretary agreed to circulate it to members.

3.12 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer tabled the accounts.

The Committee suggested that the Colloquium income and expenses ought to be shown separately from the main accounts in future.

The Committee agreed that the accounts be accepted and that the expenditures be approved.

4. General Business

4.1 The Secretary will report on FASTS membership at the next meeting.

4.2 The Chair reported on the follow-up to his visit to Hungary. He warned that if Australia ignored what is happening with the Bologna Process, it would be left a long way behind. He is waiting for advice from the Embassy about freighting donations of Books to the University of Pécs. When these arrangements are ready the members will be asked for book donations through the ANUEF *News*.

4.3 The Chair reported that Mark Cranfield proposal discussed at the previous meeting had been taken up by the *Canberra Times*.

4.4 Barry Ninham spoke about the incongruity of Australia having a skills shortage on the one hand, and exploiting PhD students on the other hand by offering them less than kitchen-hand remuneration for their support. The Committee agreed that this theme needed to be developed further at the Kioloa Event in November.

GP 7/7/06