



COVID-19 Forum – TAG Student Outcomes, Clubs & Volunteering 10.00, 17/03/20

Daniel Randell **(DR)** – USASA

Tegan Jardine **(TJ)** - USASA

Eleanor Boyle **(EBo)** – ANUSA

Erin Behn **(EBe)** - ANUSA

Hassan Riaz **(HRi)** – ANUSA

Thomas Quinn **(TQ)** – UOW Pulse

Romy Bradmore **(RB)** – UOW Pulse

Emma Ross **(ER)** – UOW Pulse

Jaimee Evans **(JE)** – UOW Pulse

Scarlett Ha **(SH)** – Arc@UNSW

Nicole Lane **(NL)** – RMIT Student Life

Holly Ruhle **(HRu)** – Griffith University Campus Life

Tania Court **(TC)** – UNE Life

Ben Muller **(BM)** – UCX

Jo Young **(JY)** – Southern Cross University

Ann-Maree Wilkinson **(AW)** – Southern Cross University

General

SK UTS directive to cancel all non-essential events, so the Aerial UTS Function Centre will be significantly impacted.

DR Just received notification from the university that all face to face teaching will cease from next week until the end of June.

TQ All classes migrating to online next week.

AW Uni directive is that no events or graduations over 500 until end of June.

HR Uni has cancelled all events until June, and all teaching migrates online next week.

Are converting their usual grocery support vouchers for students to digital vouchers

NL Paused all face-to-face events and programs until Easter.

TC Paused all events until at least the end of April.

Clubs

DR How do you police clubs from holding events that are in contravention of event restrictions?

EBo Struggling to prevent clubs from moving meetings off campus to avoid restrictions.

- TJ** Considering that the university has only just now announced closures, USASA will have to quickly develop policy on how to control club events off-campus.
- SH** Similar situation as USASA.
- Has adopted the stance that club events that are in the system for this week will be maintained but are encouraging them to move them online, postpone them, or cancel them altogether, but are not enforcing that. If they do proceed, they are being advised to follow recently issued Arc guidelines on hygiene, social distancing, etc.
- Events from next week are being cancelled, even if they are confirmed.
- Looking to support cancelled club camps if they can't recoup deposits, etc.
- Has an existing clubs grants system funded by the UNSW, but granted on Arc recommendation. Aim is to hopefully encourage UNSW to pay the grants regardless of whether the events take place to help mitigate the financial impact.
- HRu** Students have currently been told to be mindful for their events and large gatherings at this point, but additional communications will be going out today.
- EBe** Has thought about clubs going out of business due to lack of memberships (due to travel ban) or requests for refunds because no events can be held.
- TQ** UOW clubs are not generally dependent on member fees, instead funded primarily by UOW Clubs.
- Perhaps a radical rethink of how we support clubs need to be considered: Rather than reimbursing clubs for events, proactively fund their events. By doing this, we can perhaps entice clubs back on campus where we can exercise some control of their events.
- Clubs portal is currently only available by VPN because UOW site is on lockdown.
- EBo** Proactive funding is likely to be prohibited by ANUSA regulations.
- TAG** TAG member financial support for clubs may be significantly diminished, which may have a knock-on effect for the future viability of some clubs.
- SSAF support may diminish as universities feel significant financial impacts from the crisis.

Digital Engagement

- TJ** Uni provides Zoom access to students, so will probably piggyback on that.
- HRu** Offering downloadable colouring sheets that students can do at home.
- Collaborated with their fitness centre for exercises that can be done at home.
- Healthy, pantry-style recipes for students to access.
- SH** Checking to what access they may have to UNSW online platforms.

Also have access to MS Teams.

Looking at what programs are available to their volunteers to use in engaging students at home., eg; recipes, how to start a herb garden, knitting classes.

Scheduled leadership classes for later in the term to possibly be migrated online, with adjustments for the group work component. Potential to create resources that may remain viable when things return to normal.

TQ No Zoom but have existing Moodle pages.

Wellness programs already in the pipeline will go online but ensuring that activities that students are undertaking off-campus are safe is of paramount importance.

BM Checking to see if MS Teams is accessible to students. If so, they will hold some short webinars to bring students up to speed as to how to best utilise it.

Existing cooking classes to be migrated online.

TC Engagement of students in “official” channels such as Zoom may be low. Better to use channels that they regularly access voluntarily, such as Facebook groups. Move it out of the “teaching sphere” into the “social sphere”. Zoom, while good for group meetings, is not a social sphere.

End Task is a free online program that is great for clubs to keep them on track.

Tips for students: exercises to do home, books to read, series to binge watch.

Dominos now delivers with a no-contact option.

HRu GU Campus Life has a platform separate to the university called 'What's on at Griffith' and is used across Facebook and Instagram.

HRi ANUSA has a strong Facebook presence amongst their students.

NL RMIT has MS Teams, although recent conversations with students suggests that Facebook engagement will be more effective.

Important that all advice remains distributed through RMIT channels.

AM Had an on-campus Week 3 event called Check In based around the traditional format of physical stalls, etc., That has now been moved into an online event, with surveys and incentives.

Despite being a university department, they are now considering creating a standalone social media presence away from the university facebook page, to be more engaging.

JY Already looking at semester 2 planning, using the online resources now being developed for the current situation, as ongoing support for the usual physical programs.

TAG AM later emailed this list of digital engagement options:

Webinars: Most people recommended Zoom, up to 500 people can participate, with online facilitators. Another recommendation is OBS (Open Broadcaster Software), free and open-source software for video recording and live streaming, but we do have a Zoom account at SCU

and tech support. Interested if anyone has used OBS. Eventbrite can also manage registration etc. of webinars.

Facebook Live: Great if people have Facebook accounts. A good example is Pub Choir's Couch Choir <https://www.facebook.com/events/2501350546785658/>

Websites: See for example The Social Distancing Festival a site for celebrating artists and the work that has been canceled/delayed/disrupted

Virtual presentations: include Virtual Lightning Talks (5-minute flash video presentations) or Virtual Posters with facilitation of peer-to-peer discussion

Video: people are using YouTube and other platforms, like Twitch (originally built for gaming but also has live channels, talk shows, podcasts, special events, etc.)

Twitter: you can go live on twitter using live video and engaging people with #

Staff and Closures

AW Have had to redeploy 90 volunteers trained for orientation.

TJ Enforced break will not be deducted from annual leave at this stage.

SH In a short-term disruption (a couple of weeks), they will work from home, doing planning and forward preparation.

Longer disruption will likely see casuals either being taken off work or redeployed.

TQ Next two weeks is classified as recess, so will work as usual under that status.

BM Same as above, and busy identifying projects that can be worked at from home for when that eventuates.

MS Sharepoint will facilitate communication and meetings for staff working from home.

TC Employs students as casual announcers. For many it is their only job. Looking for options as how to support them, feels that smart rostering will identify workarounds.

Messenger is the most effective way of communicating with students, and staff working from home.

AM Despite experiencing a recent two-day closure, SCU is currently not shut down, but they are preparing plans to work from home.

NL Still open but are being encouraged to test working from home this week in preparation.

Casuals are suffering at the moment.

EBo Identifying alternative duties for their casual receptionists as they are committed to maintaining their hours if possible.

- TAG** How do we ensure that staff working from home have a safe work environment? Is self-assessment effective? FWA feels that employers who compel staff to undertake a self-assessment of their home working space have established concern for the well-being of staff and compliance to the law.
- HRu** Griffith has a 'work from home' checklist must be completed before they can work from home. also have online training modules for ergonomics etc. that need to be complete as part of that checklist.
- SH** Arc has a usual working from home form which includes a risk assessment component and a photo of the workstation, which must be approved by HR before they start working from home. There's a slightly adjusted one that is being used during COVID-19, that everyone is completing in advance.