**Minutes Pacific Institute Board Meeting**

**22 July 2016**

**9.30 – 11.00am**

**Talanoa Room Coombs Building**

**Present**: Colin Filer, Chris Ballard, Vicki Luker, Deveni Temu, Miranda Forsyth, Hannah McMahon, Roannie Ng Shiu, Alan Rumsey, Matt Dornan, Nicole Haley, James Batley, Rochelle Bailey, Kerryn Baker, Terry Hull, Margaret Jolly, Ingrid Ahlgren, Christine Bryan, Katherine Daniell, Rebecca Monson, Lorrae van Kerkhoff, Richard Eves, Matthew Allen

1. **Apologies**

* None

1. **Previous Meeting Minutes**

* The minutes of the meeting of 31 March were accepted without changes.

1. **Update on Pacific Institute issues and budget**

* Miranda reported that there are approximately $10,000 uncommitted funds to be spent on PI activities before end of the calendar year. These funds cannot be carried forward into 2017.
* In addition to the $10,000 in uncommitted funds, $1500 has been committed to PI prizes and $2,500 to the PI publication subsidy.
* $1,000 has been spent on the transportation of a pallet of equipment containing books, technological equipment, archival stationery, cleaning products and shelving from PAMBU to the Kiribati National Library and Archive.
* The PI prepared a statement to express its support of continued funding by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) for the Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute (PacLII).
* The PI supported a prayer vigil following the police shootings at UPNG. The PI convenors thanks those involved in hosting the vigil.
* In May the PI hosted an inaugural lecture by Mike Bourke on the impact of the 2015-16 El Niño drought and frosts on the lives of rural Papua New Guineans.
* Miranda also stated that some money had been spent to hire Brett Baker to assist in keeping the website up to date while waiting for the CAP regional institute person to be hired. She proposed that in future when such opportunities arise the first source of appointees that should be investigated are Pasifika students and the Board agreed with that proposal.

1. **Subcommittee reports**

* *Activities and events* 
  + The activities and events sub-subcommittee sought PI board members’ endorsement to invite President Hilda Heine, Marshall Islands, to deliver the annual PI lecture.
    - The board endorsed the request and the allocation of $6,000 PI funding for the President’s visit.
    - It was noted that additional funding will need to be sought from the Chancellery or other areas of the ANU to support the visit. The amount of additional funds will depend on the number of staff that accompany the President.
  + The board approved the allocation of $2000 PI funding to support the ACT Pacific Island’s United - Pacific Youth Connect Day on 15 October 2016. The event, which will take place in ANU’s Union Court, is co-hosted by the Pacific Islands United Council and Pasifika Australia. It will involve a large number of members of Canberra’s Pacific community from various organisations.
  + The board approved the allocation of $2000 PI funding in support of an exhibition of works by Elizabeth Durack acquired by the ANU. The exhibition is scheduled for late October- early November 2016.
* *Education* 
  + Roannie reported that the Pacific studies committee has mapped Pacific studies courses across CAP to establish the nature of offerings.
  + The committee has identified a number of courses that are fit for cross-listing into Fenner School programs and are pursuing related discussions with Fenner School colleagues.
  + The BPASI review is currently on-hold. Will likely re-commence after Peter Dean’s successor has been appointed.
  + Chris Ballard provided an update on the MAPS review and confirmed that increasing the visibility of Pacific studies through the Pacific specialisation within that program was a priority of the review.
  + Matt Tomlinson has been appointed as the new Convenor of MAPS
  + The PI discussed the status and conditions for Pacific internships within the ANU. The PI board agreed to make a submission to Peter Dean in support of continuing Pacific internships within the ANU.

ACTION: Vicki Luker to draft email to Peter Dean in support of Pacific internships within the ANU for feedback.

* *Prizes and grants* 
  + The sub-committee will investigate what is left of the funds available for prizes and grants and the possibilities for allocating these funds.

ACTION: Chris Ballard to work with Katherine Daniell and Margaret Jolly to have the prizes listed on the website and available for award by the end of 2016.

* *Publication subsidy* 
  + No report.
* *Website* 
  + The PI board agreed that obituaries for Pacific scholars could be posted to the PI website.
    - Margaret Jolly offered to prepare a draft for Guy Powles with Areti;
    - Nicole Haley and Alan Rumsey discussed pathways for an obituary for Tom Ernst.

1. **Pacific Institute mailing list**

* The PI board discussed appropriate rules to govern what is sent to the PI mailing list – at present there are no rules.
* The board agreed to three rules:
  + The content of the email must be relevant to the Pacific;
  + The content of the email must not be offensive; and
  + The name of the author of the email must be included in the email.
* The board agreed that all emails sent via the mailing list should include a disclaimer that content sent to the PI mailing list does not equal endorsement of that content by the PI board.

ACTION: Miranda to draft the disclaimer for approval by the PI board.

1. **PI co-convenor successors** 
   * Nominations were sought for a successor for PI co-convenor Chris Ballard, who will step down from the position from August this year.
     + Alan Rumsey volunteered to take on the position. Alan’s nomination was accepted by the board.
     + Rebecca Monson has volunteered to take over from Miranda as co-convenor from January 2017 when Miranda’s term as co-convenor expires.
     + Ingrid Alghren, PI board student representative, will leave ANU in the coming months after submitting her PhD. It was agreed that Roannie Ng Shiu would propose the names of potential student representatives to the board at the next meeting.

ACTION: Roannie Ng Shiu to provide names of potential PI student representatives at next PI meeting.

1. **Dean’s report**

* Veronica Taylor, CAP Dean, joined the PI board meeting to discuss the role of Pacific studies in CAP/CASS and the Pacific Institute’s role.

*Pacific Institute*

* Veronica conveyed her appreciation to Chris Ballard and Miranda Forsyth for their contributions to the Pacific Institute, particularly over the past twelve months, which have helped to reinvigorate the PI.
* The outreach and partnership activities that have taken place under the PI will continue to be preferentially funded and it is hoped that the Pacific theme will continue to be woven through competitive college grant schemes such as APIP.

*Education*

* The Dean reported that she is pleased with the discussions taking place regarding the future of Pacific studies education within CAP. A committee for the BPASI review will be appointed soon and it will then morph into a management committee for the degree.
* The Dean reported that a process is underway within CAP to establish a management committee for each existing degree.
* Matt Tomlinson has been appointed the new convenor of MAPS

*Journal of Pacific History (JPH)*

* The Dean indicated her interest in further pursuing some of Vicki Luker’s suggestions regarding an expansion of activities related to the JPH.

*CAP-CASS governance*

* Area studies CAP-CASS working groups are to be established in the coming months. The purpose of the groups will be to map teaching courses and expertise across the Colleges and to provide advice to the Deans reading areas of strength and potential opportunities for collaboration within and between disciplines and regional/area studies.
* Matt Allen discussed the importance of these discussions contributing to, and being informed by, the discipline-based working groups. The Dean welcomed Matt’s advice regarding the best way to coordinate these discussions.

ACTION: Matt Allen to draft a proposal about how to proceed and to circulate it to the Board.

*Pacific Languages*

* The Dean reported that CAP is preparing a bid in response to a DFAT tender for language instruction, in which Pacific languages are key.
* The Dean also reported that CAP has secured the continuation of the Languages Subsidy over the next few years and must now work to identify which Pacific languages are prioritised.

*CAP strategic plan*

* The Dean reported that a new CAP Strategic Plan will be released soon. The Strategic Plan includes a new mission statement, which reflects the centrality of Pacific studies to CAP.
* Chris Ballard raised concerns regarding the number of Pacific scholars funded by soft money and asked the Dean how the new CAP strategic plan would influence the allocation of resources for Pacific studies.
  + The Dean encouraged the Pacific Institute to consider how it can most effectively frame priorities for resourcing Pacific scholarship in CAP. The Dean also noted that ANU contributes resources to positions funded by soft money.
  + The Dean reported that the Vice Chancellor will announce fresh money for strategic hires as a part of the ANU’s 70th anniversary celebrations and suggested that this was an opportunity to anchor Pacific studies.

ACTION: Next Board meeting to discuss how to prioritise Pacific studies needs at the ANU and make a collaborative submission in relation to the new hire funds.

*Other business*

* The Dean encouraged Pacific researchers and professional staff to engage with the CAP marketing team to promote Pacific studies and CAP’s engagement in the region on the CAP website and in its marketing material. There is a need to provide them with compelling images of the Pacific to use in communication materials.

ACTION: Board to collect images for use in marketing materials and work with marketing on the development of a flyer. Suggestion that the focus is on “Pacific Studies at the ANU” rather than the “Pacific Institute” was approved.

* The PI Board discussed the potential for Pasifika scholars to be considered by Tuckwell Scholarships and agreed to continue discussion related to this possibility.
* The Dean noted that the new college philanthropy manager starts on Monday and encourage the PI to make contact.

ACTION: Invite the College Philanthropy Manager to the next PI Board meeting to discuss possibilities of endowed chairs in Pacific studies etc

1. **Pacific Island census data held by the Australian Data Archives**

* Terry Hull, School of Demography, RSSS, CASS, brief the PI board on survey and census data sets of relevance to researchers working on the Pacific Island nations and territories held by the Australian Data Archives in CASS.
* He encouraged the PI share information regarding the existence of the data sets which date back to the 1950s and 1960s.
* The PI board agreed to include links to the resources on its website.