

ROSEWORTHY OLD COLLEGIANS ASSOCIATION INC

AGENDA

COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday 18th November 2014 at 6.00pm

FREE Eyre LTD Meeting Room, Hutt Street, Adelaide

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- 1 Welcome:** Light meal 6.00pm until 6.45pm
- 2 Apologies:** Don Chambers, Adam Stone.
- 3 Present:** Dale Manson, Dick Turnbull, Rob Smyth, Mark Rodda, Alan Richardson (via Skype), Fiona Hill (new member of committee) , Ray Taylor, Dave Spencer.
- 4 Confirmation of Minutes:** 15th September 2014
Moved: Ray Taylor, Seconded: Dave Spencer.
- 5 Business arising from Minutes:**
- 5.1 Amendments? Mark
Change Brian Ashford to "Brian Ashton" in Point 10
- 5.2 Honor Board David
Unfortunately, a mistake was made in the changes to the Honour Board casting process, so the mob on Port Road who were contracted to complete the job are now re-doing the plaques. Should be completed by Christmas.
- 5.4 ANZAC Day 2015 Plans Dick
On the 25th (Saturday) there will be a Dawn Service at Roseworthy and Dick will attend that event to maintain the tradition. Term starts the following Monday , so on the previous day (Sunday 26th) , the campus hierarchy have agreed in principle that there will be an event at the campus with Dr Michael Titan, author of the "The Forgotten Men... the history of the Australian Veterinary Corps". He will conduct a seminar on his book and there will hopefully be a lunch in the main dining room to follow. This should be well attended by students returning to campus that day.
We need to send out a circular to ROCA members (and students?) to ensure they are aware of this event. Suggest we send a notification in January/February, then another one closer to the event. Will involve spending some money for a mail-out however. We also need a flagpole to be erected outside the Chapel. Dick suggests ROCA stump up the money to buy a suitable flagpole. There is some money in the ROCA Anzac Appeal fund. (\$2,500 approx) . This will go towards renovating the statue and refurbishing the brass Honour Roll in the chapel as well as the flagpole. Mark will arrange for an engineering firm to make the flagpole, and the University will then hopefully concrete it in place.
Moved: Dick Turnbull, Seconded: Dave Spencer. "That ROCA fund the erection of a flagpole near the Roseworthy Campus Chapel up to the value of up to \$1600."
Carried.
- 6 Correspondence:**
- 6.1 Invitation to Alumni Recognition Awards 12 Nov 14 Mark
Mark and Dale attended this event last week. Saw Phil Laffer receive the Distinguished Alumni Award and also Harry Stephen was recognised as an Alumni Fellow.

Dave suggested formal thanks be noted to Dale for his comprehensive write-up supporting Harry's nomination as a Fellow of the Alumni Association.

6.2 Roseworthy end of year Dinner – 15 Oct – 90 new members Mark

Signed up **every** resident at the end of year dinner, with a bit of "gentle persuasion"!

Mark suggested we do need to raise more money for scholarships and student support measures to show that we are relevant to the current students.

6.5 Faculty end of year Celebrations – Dick and Don to attend this event in next week behalf of ROCA.

7 Treasurer's Report:

Dick

We have \$7500 profit from wine sales. Dave says, there is some concern that we are paying a premium price to post out the ROCA Digest as we are doing it through a third party. May be cheaper to use "Pack & Send" suggests Dick. Mark suggests we ought to get some quotes for combined printing & packing of future Digests. Dick & Mark will arrange to get some competitive quotes. Dave suggest we send a letter to all our overseas mail recipients to make sure they are still at their current address. It costs a lot of money to send the Digest overseas. Mark will speak to Ruth Rosie and ask her to draft a suitable letter and send it via the Alumni Association.

8 Roseworthy Campus & Student Fund: Ray

Only had a small turnout of co-patrons at the last meeting (4). Approved the transfer of funds for the Bruce Eastick prize to be presented on the 4th of December to the top student in the Vet Science Course. Moneys for the 2013 prize had not yet been approved so retrospectively approved that transfer as well!

The University is tending to phase out such committees and prefers to deal directly with an individual if possible. At the next committee meeting in December, the RCSF committee will consider their future role and how they may move to a different format which takes up less University staff time. (The University provides a secretarial service to all these sorts of committees). The December meeting of the Committee could be interesting, as a number of members will resign. Also need to look at how to get more funding support. Sadly the ROCA membership itself has not delivered much in the way of funds, but ROCA members do have good contacts with people in agri-industry who DO have disposable money!

Mark suggests the Waite Agricultural Student Fund be combined with the RCSF in future as both funds have common goals and are lobbying common potential funding sources. Dick and Mark commended Ray on his hard work with this fund in the past and emphasised that we all need to provide more support.

Note that the Trevor Dillon Scholarship ceases in 2016 as the money will run out by then. Need to consider what we do with this scholarship in future. The RCSF will inform Trevor's widow of this situation.

9 Adelaide Alumni and Membership:

Dale

The Alumni Council (of which Dale is a member), seems as though it's still searching for a role. Almost as though they are looking to emulate the ROCA model in fact! Their biggest issue is how to engage with their members and how to give graduates a reason to join their alumni body.

ROCA was asked to chase up living descendents of people who had items named after them at the Roseworthy Campus (roads, buildings etc). These people were invited to a black tie dinner recently, perhaps with the idea that they'd like to donate money to the University in future! Dale says he met the new SA Governor Hieu van Le and reminded him of his contact with Basil & Pat Sheehan when he first arrived in SA. He has fond memories of Roseworthy through that association.

Sadly on the negative side, at the recent 50 year reunion of all University graduates, not ONE RAC graduate turned up. Was disappointing and embarrassing.

The University is trying to get "year champions" to act as the contact point for their various Alumni year groups... much as ROCA does in the lead up to the AGM!

Membership. Still have lots of lost members, We do need to track them via our existing membership. We need their latest E-Mail address, but we DO also need their physical address in case they change their ISP (as often happens)

Ruth Rosie is keen for us to let the Alumni Council know who has attended our recent ROCA events so they can keep in touch with members who are still actively engaged with the University. Maybe the key people involved with the year groups need to be asked to send their mailing lists to the ROCA committee so we can then send them an E-Mail asking them to submit their address details. Also an opportunity to sign up new members! We currently have around 1800 members.

Dale now has obtained a copy of the University database of ALL Roseworthy graduates, including those who are not ROCA members. We now have an opportunity to set up a comprehensive database of our own and then send them all an E-Mail or letter inviting them to join ROCA. Need to use a paid E-mail service to ensure our E-mails are not flagged as Spam. Mark will set up an appropriate account in "Mail Chimp" to enable this process.

Moved: Mark Rodda, Seconded, Ray Taylor. "That ROCA spend up to \$500 to set up a new E-Mail account and database to facilitate contact with potential new ROCA members." Carried.

10 West Coast ROCA Branch:

David

Dave is canvassing suggestions for the new West Coast rep to serve on the ROCA committee. Dave will contact a few people who may be prepared to take on the job. The West Coast dinner is likely to be on a Saturday evening in late February

11 South East ROCA Branch:

Alan

Next dinner is likely to be at Coonawarra in late July.

12 Riverland ROCA Branch:

Kym

No report. Need an active person to arrange this event. There are plenty of members in the area. Dale Manson may have a go at arranging the next event, but he's keen that others should take on this role.

Moved: Dale Manson, Seconded Dick Turnbull. "That the ROCA committee organize the Riverland reunion in 2015, with a view to local members taking over the organisation in future years". Carried.

13 ROCA Membership – new members Dale

Covered already by Dale.

14 General Business:

14.1 Review of AGM and Annual Dinner

Dale

Mark thought it was a good night. Speeches went well (apart from one evangelical effort!). All the groups kept it fairly succinct and entertaining. The University "heavies" were suitably impressed with the event. Perhaps we need to market the dinner more heavily to members of the various year groups to encourage better attendance.... Especially the more recent graduating groups who now tend to get poor attendance. Dale suggests more strict guidelines for the Award of Merit recipients to avoid them "rabbiting on" too much.

May need to develop a new format for the dinner in future as the more recent graduating groups will be pretty thin on the ground.

Dale suggested we invite the Governor of SA or the University Chancellor to attend as our guests next year.

Dale also suggests we lock in the third Friday in October at the Glenelg Golf Club every year to allow forward planning by all concerned.

Ray suggests we thank the Glenelg Golf Club for the excellent meal ... Dave has in fact already done this on our behalf.

14.2 ROCA Committee, office holders and job allocations

Mark

Don Chambers will be Vice President.

Minutes Secretary will be Alan Richardson with standby person being Fiona Hill.

14.3 ROCA Digest – coordinator may be Adam Stone? (Mark will approach him re this role)

14.4 ROCA website update, facebook, communications (email coordinator) Allan / Mark

The plan is to have the new ROCA website launched by Christmas. Need four stories, but perhaps also need to avoid starving the ROCA Digest of material.

Dave suggests we also include the Campus Newsletter in the website....and perhaps link to past newsletters as part of the archives.

Suggestion from Fiona that the website also include a summary of "Positions Vacant" in agriculture. Maybe provide links to various agri-business sites that list jobs. Mark will follow up with Ruth Rosie re feasibility of this proposal.

14.5 Sponsors Update

Mark

Not much to report. They were very keen about attendance at the AGM.

14.6 Fundraising – Plonky’s Pick update; next fundraiser?

Dick / Mark

14.7 ROCA committee meeting dates for 2015

Mark

February 16th, April 20th, June 15th, September 7th, November 16th

The AGM will be Friday 16th October.

14.8 ROCA’s focus for 2015 and beyond

Mark

We need to ask and answer the question, “What does ROCA stand for?”; “What is our focus?”
Mark suggests we ponder this question and offer our thoughts later in the year. Is it simply networking, & convening reunions or promoting & supporting agricultural education, promoting & supporting the campus, offering scholarships, career advice, linking with agribusiness, running industry seminars etc?

15 Other Business:

16 Next Meeting:

Monday February 16th