

RESEARCH CLINIC

General information

Supervisors:	Dr. Ann Marie Wilson & Dr. Brandon Zicha
Title of clinic:	Campus Governance and Community Building in Higher Ed
Number of students:	4-6
Major (<i>if applicable and approved by the Major Convener</i>):	GED
(Pre)requisites (<i>if applicable</i>):	Completion of The College Project course, OR service experience on the Programme Council, Programme Board, College Council, Faculty Council, or Fortuna Board. When you apply, please indicate which team (see below) you wish to join.

Research context

Student life outside the classroom is an important part of the ‘hidden curriculum’ within institutions of higher ed. As such, colleges and universities must be mindful of the way student community and (self-)governance is constituted. LUC is no exception.

This research clinic will divide its participants in two mutually supporting teams. The **Research Team**, made up of alumni of The College Project, will continue and/or expand upon the research projects that began in Block 2. In addition, this team will be responsible for compiling and helping to disseminate the collective learning outputs of the course, both for the next group of College Project students (for whom they will also provide research mentoring) and the broader LUC community (and LUC’s various governing bodies, in particular). The **Proposal Team**, working in close consultation with the Research Team, will produce an academically informed proposal for the reform of student community and governance at LUC. In carrying out their

work, both teams will draw upon scholarly literature, as well research into LUC practices (via interviews and reviews of survey data).

Students' tasks and activities

Research Team, reporting to Dr. Wilson

- Conduct further research into select topics in higher ed.
- Review, collate, and assist in the dissemination of research completed in the Semester 1 College Project.
- Provide research mentoring for current students in The College Project, and research input for the Proposal Team.
- In tandem with the Proposal Team, review research findings about LUC practices in community building and student governance.

Proposal Team, reporting to Dr. Zicha

- Review research from Semester 1 College project, 2020 Semester 2 Research Clinic Grand Survey results.
- Conduct student assessment survey, focus groups, and confer with the Fortuna Board regarding college life, governance to substantiate and extend findings from previous research.
- Develop problem statement regarding needs for student governance reform based on the above to be disseminated by the end of Block 3.
- In tandem with the Research Team and a larger group of stakeholders, convene a Taskforce to develop and justify on the basis of academic literature (where possible) a proposal for concrete reform of student campus governance from Fortuna, to councils to subsidiary bodies.

Please specify the tasks and activities, timeline, the learning aims and how they are assessed, i.e. what the deliverables will be.

The learning aims include working as an interdisciplinary team with higher-education stakeholders; research, editing, writing, and presentation skills; and knowledge about student affairs policies at LUC and beyond. The Research Team will follow a timeline partly set by the syllabus of The College Project, with a greater focus on independent research in Block 3 and a greater focus on research mentoring in Block 4. The Proposal Team will develop three documents over the course of this RC: (I) Problem statement for dissemination and discussion (II) a reform proposal and (III) a document justifying the reform proposal all for dissemination. Both teams will convene a task force for II and III; host community forums to discuss them; and develop a procedure for ratification with the College Board and Fortuna Board.