

s 22

**From:** Jo White <Jo.White@anu.edu.au>  
**Date:** 24 August 2020 at 7:00:57 pm AEST  
**To:** Steven Roberts <steven.roberts@anu.edu.au>  
**Cc:** Jane O'Dwyer <Jane.ODwyer@anu.edu.au>, Vinh Lu <vinh.lu@anu.edu.au>  
**Subject:** Media request

Hi Steven,

I have been in contact with the journalist to confirm this and the journalist has assured me the article will accurately reflect that BCG was not involved in the event or the decision to change hosts.

I have also offered for s 22 to contact me directly if he still has concerns.

Jo

Jo Meehan  
Communications Manager  
The Australian National University  
P: 0436 605 635

On 24 Aug 2020, at 6:54 pm, Steven Roberts <[steven.roberts@anu.edu.au](mailto:steven.roberts@anu.edu.au)> wrote:

Jane,

I just want to make sure that the journalist is contacted and told that BCG was not involved in any of the decisions – Vinh spoke to the speaker from BCG and my understanding is that the decision was made in his personal capacity not by BCG. Important this is clarified.

Vinh can provide further information if required.

Cheers

Steven

**Professor Steven Roberts**

Dean  
ANU College of Business and Economics  
The Australian National University  
Canberra ACT 2601 AUSTRALIA

Executive Assistant: **Samantha Fischetti**  
T: +61 2 6125 3596 | E: [ea.cbe@anu.edu.au](mailto:ea.cbe@anu.edu.au)

CRICOS Provider #00120C

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**From:** Steven Roberts  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 August 2020 6:44 PM  
**To:** Vinh Lu <[vinh.lu@anu.edu.au](mailto:vinh.lu@anu.edu.au)>  
**Cc:** Jo White <[Jo.White@anu.edu.au](mailto:Jo.White@anu.edu.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Media request  
**Importance:** High

Hi both,

Just want to confirm that the journalist has been contacted and told that BCG was NOT involved in any of the decisions.

Cheers

Steven

**Professor Steven Roberts**

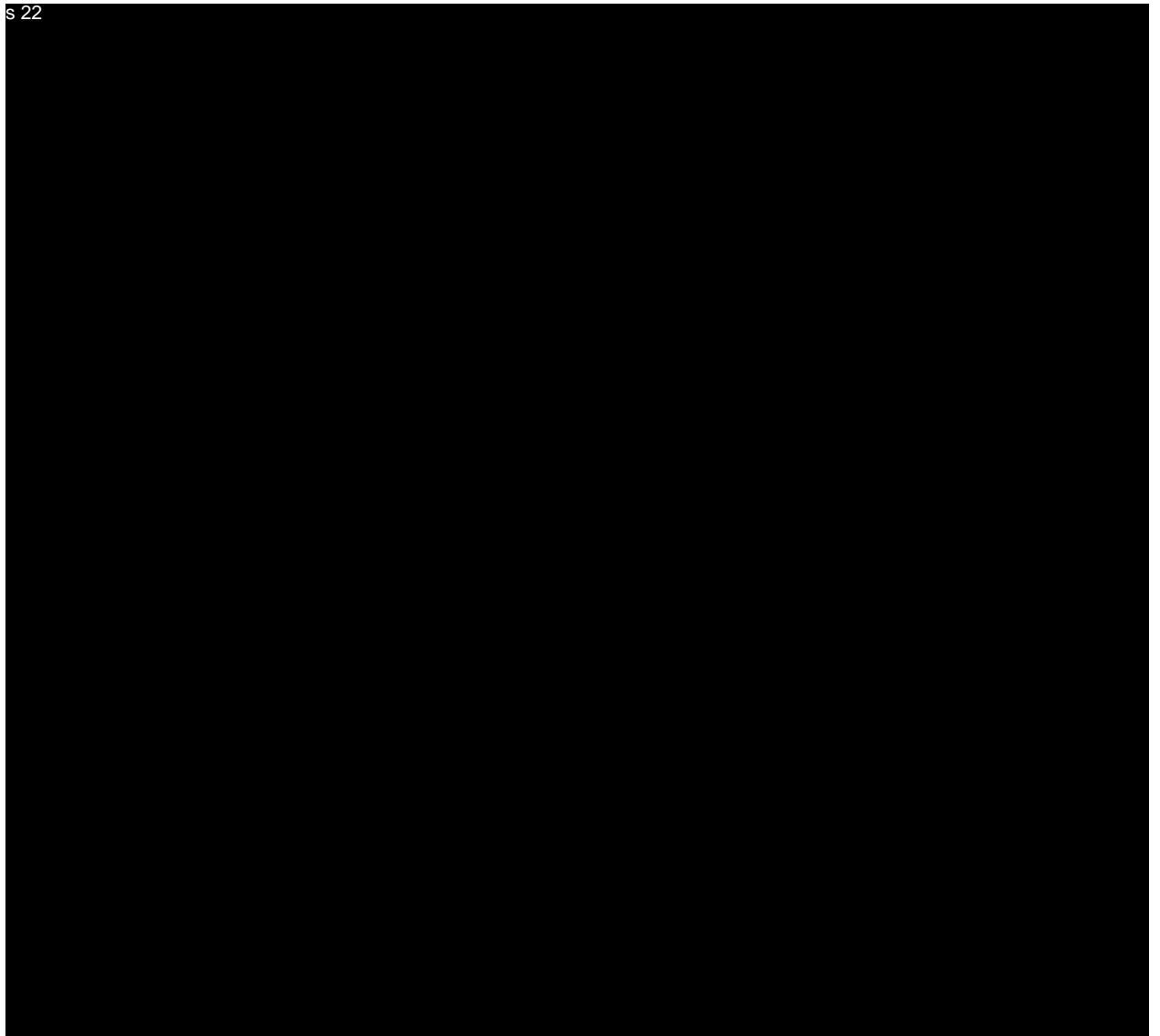
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The Australian National University  
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s 22





**From:** Jo White  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 August 2020 2:08 PM  
**To:** Steven Roberts <[steven.roberts@anu.edu.au](mailto:steven.roberts@anu.edu.au)>; Louis Summerfield <[Louis.Summerfield@anu.edu.au](mailto:Louis.Summerfield@anu.edu.au)>  
**Cc:** ANU Media Team <[Media@anu.edu.au](mailto:Media@anu.edu.au)>; Vinh Lu <[vinh.lu@anu.edu.au](mailto:vinh.lu@anu.edu.au)>; Colin Allen <[Colin.Allen@anu.edu.au](mailto:Colin.Allen@anu.edu.au)>; Edward O'Daly <[Edward.ODaly@anu.edu.au](mailto:Edward.ODaly@anu.edu.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request

Hi all,

Vinh – can you please let s 22 from Boston Consulting know about this media enquiry, as a courtesy.

Jess – can you please send the below to the journalist (as approved by Steven Roberts and Jane O'Dwyer) and let me know if/when we get follow up questions.

- We understand that ANU professor Priya Dev was removed as moderator for the panel on the COVIDSafe app - can you confirm this? **Dr Dev was replaced as host with Professor Vinh Lu.**
- Who made this decision? **The University made this decision.** Was Boston Consulting Group involved or did they make any comment on her involvement? **Yes.**

- Is the ANU concerned about the impact of this decision on academic freedom? **Academic freedom is one of our founding principles. We can understand the decision to replace Dr Dev as host of this event could have impacted Dr Dev's academic freedom and the University is taking steps to rectify this.**

Thanks,  
Jo

**Jo White (nee Meehan)**  
**Senior Strategic Advisor**  
0436 605 635

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**From:** Steven Roberts <[steven.roberts@anu.edu.au](mailto:steven.roberts@anu.edu.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 August 2020 1:39 PM  
**To:** Jo White <[Jo.White@anu.edu.au](mailto:Jo.White@anu.edu.au)>; Louis Summerfield <[Louis.Summerfield@anu.edu.au](mailto:Louis.Summerfield@anu.edu.au)>  
**Cc:** ANU Media Team <[Media@anu.edu.au](mailto:Media@anu.edu.au)>; Vinh Lu <[vinh.lu@anu.edu.au](mailto:vinh.lu@anu.edu.au)>; Colin Allen <[Colin.Allen@anu.edu.au](mailto:Colin.Allen@anu.edu.au)>; Edward O'Daly <[Edward.ODaly@anu.edu.au](mailto:Edward.ODaly@anu.edu.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request

Can we discuss?

Cheers

Steven

**Professor Steven Roberts**  
Dean  
ANU College of Business and Economics  
The Australian National University  
Canberra ACT 2601 AUSTRALIA

Executive Assistant: **Samantha Fischetti**  
T: +61 2 6125 3596 | E: [ea.cbe@anu.edu.au](mailto:ea.cbe@anu.edu.au)

CRICOS Provider #00120C

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**From:** Jo White  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 August 2020 1:38 PM  
**To:** Louis Summerfield <[Louis.Summerfield@anu.edu.au](mailto:Louis.Summerfield@anu.edu.au)>; Steven Roberts <[steven.roberts@anu.edu.au](mailto:steven.roberts@anu.edu.au)>  
**Cc:** ANU Media Team <[Media@anu.edu.au](mailto:Media@anu.edu.au)>; Vinh Lu <[vinh.lu@anu.edu.au](mailto:vinh.lu@anu.edu.au)>; Colin Allen <[Colin.Allen@anu.edu.au](mailto:Colin.Allen@anu.edu.au)>; Edward O'Daly <[Edward.ODaly@anu.edu.au](mailto:Edward.ODaly@anu.edu.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request

Hi all,

I've just added an extra line in for Steven approval:

*The Australian National University hosted an event featuring alumni from the College of Business and Economics on xx. The purpose of the event was to demonstrate the skills and experience of our alumni and how they apply what they learned at ANU in their professional lives, using the very timely example of the COVIDSafe app.*

*Dr Priya Dev was scheduled to host the event. However, the University decided that to achieve the objectives of the event – to demonstrate the skills obtained at ANU that can be applied in industry – that Professor Vinh Lu was best placed to facilitate the discussion. No other individual or organisation was involved in the decision to change hosts. Academic freedom is one of the University’s founding principles and protecting our academics’ right to their freedom of expression is one of our main priorities. In line with that commitment, the event was open to anyone to attend and all participants were able to ask questions of the panellists.*

s 22

Thanks,  
Jo

**Jo White (nee Meehan)**  
**Senior Strategic Advisor**  
0436 605 635

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**From:** Jo White  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 August 2020 1:16 PM  
**To:** Louis Summerfield <[Louis.Summerfield@anu.edu.au](mailto:Louis.Summerfield@anu.edu.au)>; Steven Roberts <[steven.roberts@anu.edu.au](mailto:steven.roberts@anu.edu.au)>  
**Cc:** ANU Media Team <[Media@anu.edu.au](mailto:Media@anu.edu.au)>; Vinh Lu <[vinh.lu@anu.edu.au](mailto:vinh.lu@anu.edu.au)>; Colin Allen <[Colin.Allen@anu.edu.au](mailto:Colin.Allen@anu.edu.au)>; Edward O'Daly <[Edward.ODaly@anu.edu.au](mailto:Edward.ODaly@anu.edu.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request

Thanks Louis. I have also just spoken to Vinh.

Vinh/Steven - below is my draft response for your review and approval.

*The Australian National University hosted an event featuring alumni from the College of Business and Economics on xx. The purpose of the event was to demonstrate the skills and experience of our alumni and how they apply what they learned at ANU in their professional lives, using the very timely example of the COVIDSafe app.*

*Dr Priya Dev was scheduled to host the event. However, the University decided that to achieve the objectives of the event – to demonstrate the skills obtained at ANU that can be applied in industry – that Professor Vinh Lu was best placed to facilitate the discussion. No other individual or organisation was involved in the decision to change hosts.*

s 22

Steven – can you please give me a call about this when you have a moment. I'm on 0436 605 635.

Thanks,  
Jo

**Jo White (nee Meehan)**  
**Senior Strategic Advisor**  
0436 605 635

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**From:** Louis Summerfield <[Louis.Summerfield@anu.edu.au](mailto:Louis.Summerfield@anu.edu.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 August 2020 12:39 PM  
**To:** Jo White <[Jo.White@anu.edu.au](mailto:Jo.White@anu.edu.au)>; Steven Roberts <[steven.roberts@anu.edu.au](mailto:steven.roberts@anu.edu.au)>  
**Cc:** ANU Media Team <[Media@anu.edu.au](mailto:Media@anu.edu.au)>; Vinh Lu <[vinh.lu@anu.edu.au](mailto:vinh.lu@anu.edu.au)>; Colin Allen <[Colin.Allen@anu.edu.au](mailto:Colin.Allen@anu.edu.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Media request

Hi Jo,

Thank you for reaching out and for your assistance with this.

**can you please help me understand what happened with this event, and the host.**

- The original proposal for this event was for two alumni to speak about the COVIDSafe app from two perspectives, § 22 (Special Counsel at Clayton Utz) as an expert in government ICT projects, privacy and data protection and § 22 (Boston Consulting Group) who was involved in the design of the COVIDSafe app. § 22 had advised he was only able to comment on aspects of the app that were already in the public domain.
- Dr Priya Dev was originally proposed as the moderator for the event, however, after a planning session that included both speakers and Dr Dev, § 22 outlined some concerns that Dr Dev might ask questions that would place him in a position where he would be uncomfortable or unable to comment. § 22 was concerned his inability to comment might reflect poorly on himself and/or the firm as well as potentially damage the relationship between BCG and their client (Digital Transformation Agency). § 22 was one of Professor Vinh Lu's students and asked if Vinh could moderate the session.

**Can you please confirm we changed hosts and, if we did, can you please explain why. Who within ANU made this decision, and who was consulted? Who was the new host and why were they chosen? We'll use this information to prepare the response and have it cleared through Steven.**

- Yes, we changed hosts per the above request from § 22 and his existing relationship with Professor Vinh Lu. Professor Vinh Lu was consulted and agreed to this change.

§ 22



Please let me know if you require any further clarification.

Kind regards,

**Louis Summerfield**  
**Alumni and Donor Relations Manager**

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<image001.png>

**Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge and celebrate the First Australians on whose traditional lands we meet, and whose cultures are among the oldest continuing cultures in human history.

**I am a member of the ANU ALLY network**

<image002.jpg>

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**From:** Jo White

**Sent:** Monday, 24 August 2020 11:48 AM

**To:** Louis Summerfield <[Louis.Summerfield@anu.edu.au](mailto:Louis.Summerfield@anu.edu.au)>; Steven Roberts <[steven.roberts@anu.edu.au](mailto:steven.roberts@anu.edu.au)>

**Cc:** ANU Media Team <[Media@anu.edu.au](mailto:Media@anu.edu.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Media request

Hi Louis,

I understand you've just spoken with my colleague Jess about this issue.

As you can appreciate, there are some sensitivities with this line of questioning, particularly relating to academic freedom. To help us frame an accurate response so the journalist's story is properly informed, can you please help me understand what happened with this event, and the host.

Can you please confirm we changed hosts and, if we did, can you please explain why. Who within ANU made this decision, and who was consulted? Who was the new host and why were they chosen? We'll use this information to prepare the response and have it cleared through Steven.

Thanks,  
Jo

**Jo White (nee Meehan)**  
**Senior Strategic Advisor**  
Strategic Communications and Public Affairs  
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The Australian National University  
East Road, ACTON ACT 2601  
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[www.anu.edu.au/media](http://www.anu.edu.au/media)

Looking for expert comment? Try <http://experts.anu.edu.au/>

ANU  
<image003.png>  
broadcast contribution service

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**From:** s 22  
**Sent:** Monday, 24 August 2020 10:28 AM  
**To:** ANU Media Team <[Media@anu.edu.au](mailto:Media@anu.edu.au)>  
**Subject:** Media request

Hi there,

Hope you're going well and had a nice weekend. I've got a media query regarding an ANU CBE Alumni Expertise panel on the COVIDSafe app that took place last month. Please let me know if it's possible to get a response - my deadline is 2.30pm today. Thanks very much.

- We understand that ANU professor Priya Dev was removed as moderator for the panel on the COVIDSafe app - can you confirm this?
- Who made this decision? Was Boston Consulting Group involved or did they make any comment on her involvement?

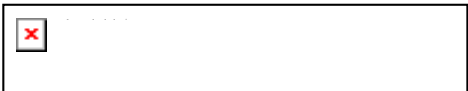
s 22

- Is the ANU concerned about the impact of this decision on academic freedom?

Thanks again,



s 22 [Redacted]



s 22 [Redacted]

A The Commons, 36-38 Gipps Street, Collingwood, VIC