

**2022**

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# **Annual Report**

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**CURTIN  
STUDENT  
GUILD**

# Our Mission.

Create a fun and vibrant community that maximises the student experience.

# Our Vision.

To be the leading independent student-run organisation in Australia, which is highly valued by all of the university community, especially our members.

# Our Values.

## **Autonomy**

*Student control of student affairs for the benefit of our members.*

## **Integrity**

*Our behaviour builds trust.*

## **Diversity**

*Valuing difference between people and standing for equity, equality and fairness.*

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# President's Report

Dylan Botica  
54th Guild President



Guild representatives are the student voice on campus



Top: Stress Less Week. Below: Pasar Malam

**“Welcoming students back to a face-to-face learning environment and activating the campus were priorities to reinvigorate the student experience.”**

COVID-19 continued to throw a few challenges our way as community transmission became a reality in WA. The Guild and the university worked together to introduce a vaccine mandate at Curtin's WA campuses in February which meant events including semester one O-Day required modification. The Guild supported the mandate which remained in place until August as it provided the highest level of protection for Curtin students and staff.

Additional funding from Curtin for club activities was extended in 2022 to coordinate events and encourage signups. This was a great help as club activities had suffered as a result of the restrictions imposed during COVID-19 lock downs and the pivot to online learning. At the same time, the Guild made administrative changes to improve turnaround times for renewals, grants and event approvals as well as offering additional Guild staff support to club committees. There was an increase in clubs adopting a new club management software which streamlined governance processes. More than 1000 events were coordinated by clubs in 2022. The Curtin Illustration Club was Club of the Year and the Curtin Podcast Society was awarded the Best New Club of 2022.

Curtin students voted in a referendum in March to continue Curtin Student Guild's membership of the National Union of Students. The National Union of Students, known as the NUS, was established in 1987 to represent post-secondary students in Australia. Its primary objectives include working for the interests of students in the areas of quality of education, academic freedom, access to education, social security, health and welfare.

The Guild organised a campaign to encourage eligible Curtin students to enrol to vote in the lead up to the Federal election in May and provided information about the policies of parties and independent candidates, especially with regard to higher education, climate change and income support.

An external review of the Guild's governance found that we were performing well with opportunities to improve the induction of student representatives, the assurance of the Representation Board and processes around stakeholder identification and obligations.

The Student Guild by-laws were reviewed and updated in 2022 to address inconsistencies identified following the publication of the Student by-laws 2018 and to reduce the barriers for students joining subcommittees and collectives.

Guild representatives worked on a number of initiatives as part of the Students as Partners agreement between Curtin University and the Curtin Student Guild. Students as Partners offers opportunities for all Curtin students to become involved in decision making and to enhance learning and teaching, the student experience and outcomes for students.

Encouraging students back to a face-to-face learning environment and activating the campus were priorities to reinvigorate the student experience. While there was some disruption in the early stages of semester one, students enthusiastically participated in a range of activities including more free events, larger scale Tav parties, Grill the Guild sausage sizzles cooked by student representatives and countless give-aways. Tickets to the Guild Ball sold out in record time and Pasar Malam, organised by the International Student Committee, continued to be Curtin's most important community event.

The Guild adjusted the requirements to join collectives and the First Year Committee making it easier for Curtin students to become involved with the Guild.

There were continuing challenges for international students and the International Student Committee and Postgraduate Student Committee worked throughout the year to assist students caught out by the State Government changes to the opening of WA borders and quarantine requirements which impacted students completing placements.

Dispute resolution, safety, maintenance and the lack of rights of those in student accommodation were highlighted by the Guild which called for a more effective and transparent process from the university and the overhaul of the Residential Tenancy Act by the State Government.

The Guild requested some reasonable changes to parking at Curtin's Bentley campus which would make the system fairer and more accessible. Unfortunately, the university rejected any changes despite the fact that thousands of students signed a petition.

We approached the university to seek support to revitalise the student amenity surrounding the Agora Courtyard with a modern bistro to replace the aging Tavern and Café Central, a clubs hub and facilities for volunteering.

The Guild submitted a comprehensive report to the Federal Government's Higher Education Accord that recommended changes to the Jobs Ready Package, Student Services Amenities Fee (SSAF), model, income support, paid placements, the introduction of a Duty of Care Code of Practice at tertiary institutions and increasing the repayment threshold for HECS.

While we had to contend with some curveballs, 2022 offered us the opportunity to participate in a wider range of on-campus learning and activities, welcome back some of our international students and take part in the conversation about the future of higher education.

Dylan Botica  
54th Guild President

# Managing Director's Report

David Luketina  
Managing Director

**"To enhance the campus experience, we delivered lively events, supported clubs, and provided assistance to our members."**

2022 saw COVID-19 slowly release its grip and we eventually waved goodbye to scanning in, masks, online only learning, working from home, restrictions on the number of people in cafes, and virtual events. However, supply chain issues continued, inflation reared its head, the Guild Café Library was closed due to library renovations and Angazi Café was closed due to issues with building 408. Despite all of this, operations continued, improvements were implemented and we stayed true to our relentless goal of creating a fun and vibrant environment for members so that they can enjoy and succeed in their university experience.

Our staff were amazing and kept our operations going despite COVID-19 impacts and a state-wide shortage of staff. At one stage, we had to temporarily close a café due to many of our staff having COVID-19 at the same time. Getting equipment was also a challenge with over a 12 month wait to get a pizza oven!

We kept the Curtin community fuelled at affordable prices with everything from donuts to great coffee to lunch specials. To give an idea of the scale of our operations, we had over 64,000 grocery sales, prepared more than 480,000 hot beverages and provided more than 40,000 meals in the Tav. We also kept people dressed and moving, selling over 10,000 items of clothing and over 6,700 SmartRider cards.

To enhance the campus experience, we delivered lively events, supported clubs, and provided assistance to our members. We continued our membership discount of 10% resulting in members receiving discounts of \$367,461 in 2022 and most events had free entry.

2022 was the year of adaption. Due to COVID-19, the Toga party was held later than normal and Clubs Carnival was cancelled and replaced with five daily club stalls in the Guild Precinct. The annual election polling days were

(suddenly) adjusted due to the day of mourning for the Queen's death and the footprint of our street food festival Pasar Malam had to work around two building closures.

The decline in event attendance seen in previous years seems to have arrested. 400 attendees enjoyed the Swan Lake (Barbie Edition) themed Guild Ball, more than 7,000 people attended the street festival Pasar Malam, and around 550 people were at Oktoberfest which included live German bands, dress up options, German inspired food, beer and cocktail offerings.

Around 11,000 students were supported across 89 clubs with new secure lockers and storage being made available in the Club HQ storeroom.

In 2022 our Student Assist team conducted 3,284 student sessions covering academic/university, welfare and personal issues. The Loan laptop program saw a total of 58 laptops loaned to students and 973 students did our life skills courses. The Student Assist team worked with various schools and departments on a range of improvements such as appeals and supporting student disclosures, mainly around the disclosure of sexual harassment and assault.

Improvements to services included opening The Lab in July – this bright fun outlet provides bubble tea and treats. The air-conditioning in G-Mart has been replaced - so no more melted chocolates! Major refurbishment of the Guild's Library Café is due to be completed in time for the start of semester 1, 2023. As part of this, the coffee kiosk will be enlarged and the food offering will be revised and updated. We have replaced

our outdated financial system with MYOB Advanced and our customers will be able to place and pay for their Kirribilli Catering orders online in 2023. Also, our larger meeting rooms now have modern video conferencing facilities.

Food and beverage sales were lower than budgeted due to the campus being relatively quiet. This, coupled with rising staffing costs and rising cost of goods, resulted in a total comprehensive loss of \$148,646 at 31 December 2022 – this is after a non-cash cost of \$568,820 for depreciation and amortisation. The key components of the 2022 revenue were \$6,147,323 from trading and operating activities and \$3,893,595 from grants and SSAF. The main costs were \$5,384,974 for staffing and \$2,542,934 for cost of sales expenses.

A new Employee Consultative Agreement is in place for professional staff for the period 2023 to 2025 and we are well set for the next few years with lease extensions in place until the end of 2025 for the Library, Basement, Angazi and Mallokup cafes. However, the commercial operating environment remains challenging, with a significant number of food and beverage outlets due to open as part of the Curtin Exchange development.

We look forward to supporting our members and the Curtin Community in 2023 and beyond.



David Luketina  
Managing Director



Stress Less Week 2022



Guild representatives keeping students nourished with George the therapy dog



## Executive

Pictured above members of the 2022 Guild Executive team (from left) Madison Ainsworth, Theo Rohl, February Metcalf and Dylan Botica  
Not pictured: Jasmyne Tweed and Hameed Mohammad.

## Faculty Representatives



BUSINESS & LAW  
Jasmyne Tweed



SCIENCE & ENGINEERING  
Rachel Taylor



HEALTH SCIENCE  
Amber Hilston



HUMANITIES  
Veronika Gobba /  
Adam Reader

## Guild Councillors

Dylan Botica, Theodora Rohl, February Metcalf, Rachel Taylor, Harry Brooking, Joshua Cooper, Sophie Scott, Yie Xin Cheong, Hameed Mohammad, Athina Hillman, Cassidy Pemberton, Adam Reader, Veronika Gobba.

## Ordinary Representation Board Members

Marcus Fernihough, Imari Morris, Sophie Scott, Jasmyne Tweed, Zoe Wing.

# 2022 Student Representatives



## Equity Departments



ACCESSIBILITY  
Rey Nairn



WOMEN  
Salwa Kilzi



QUEER  
Cassidy Pemberton



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT  
COMMITTEE PRESIDENT  
Sofia Gonzalez Torres /  
Ashok Radhakrishnan



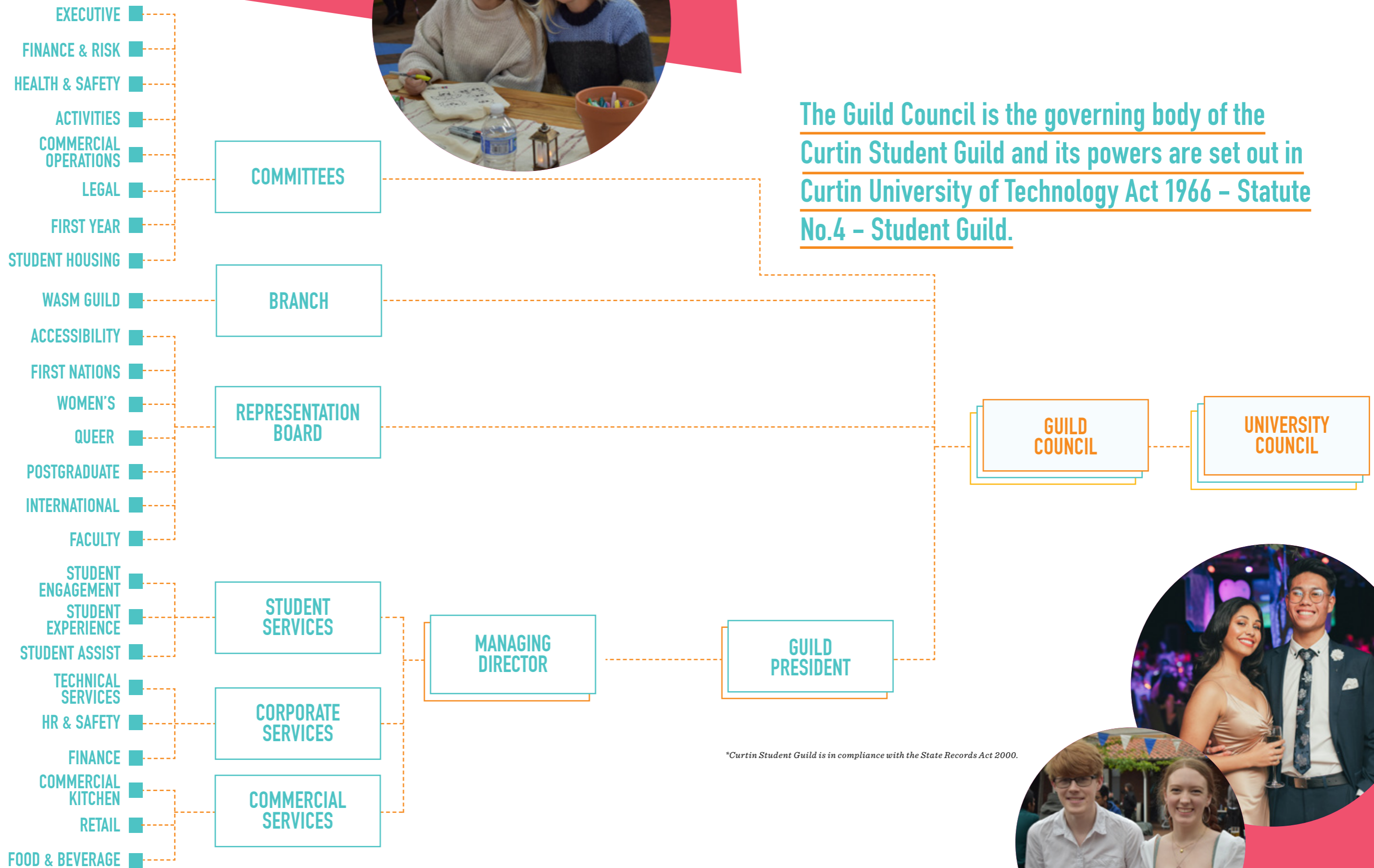
POSTGRADUATE STUDENT  
COMMITTEE PRESIDENT  
Hameed Mohammad /  
Mitch Craig

\* The position of First Nations Officer was vacant

For more information on Guild representatives go to <https://guild.curtin.edu.au/theguild/representatives/>



**The Guild Council is the governing body of the Curtin Student Guild and its powers are set out in Curtin University of Technology Act 1966 – Statute No.4 – Student Guild.**



*\*Curtin Student Guild is in compliance with the State Records Act 2000.*

# Education and Representation Activities



Excellence in Teaching awards 2022

## Guild representatives actively contribute to dozens of university boards, committees, working groups, student discipline panels as well as the Student as Partners agreement.

### JANUARY 26 CAMPAIGN

Guild representatives took part in the Invasion Day Rally in recognition of 26 January as a day of mourning for many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

### COVID-19 MANDATE

The Guild supported the introduction of a COVID-19 mandate at Curtin university and, as a member of the Curtin Critical Incident Team COVID-19, worked to keep students up-to-date and ensure robust processes were in place to limit the risk of transmission on campus. The Guild agreed with the revocation of the mandate in August 2022 as it was in line with other educational institutions and community and student expectations.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The decision by the State Government to postpone the opening of WA borders created havoc for international students. The Guild moved swiftly to lobby the Government for the immediate return of international students and worked to ensure those affected had access to information and assistance. In a win for international students, travel restrictions were eased and the State Government announced subsidies to assist with quarantine compliance and accommodation. As community transmission of COVID-19 spread in WA, strict quarantine rules impacted the ability of students to undertake placements. This was especially difficult for international students and the Guild helped provide accommodation in response to the issues with placements.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT NURSING GRADUATES

WA's GradConnect program became eligible to onshore international nursing graduates following a successful campaign from the Guild's Postgraduate Student Committee which lobbied the State Government with the support of the Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations (CAPA); Professor Archie Clements, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Health Sciences; Professor Seth Kunin, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Curtin Global and Professor Phill Della Head of School – Nursing. GradConnect provides employment opportunities for graduating nurses and midwives within the WA public health system and participating private hospitals. The Guild recommended widening eligibility of the program as many onshore international nursing graduates had years of clinical experience in their home countries and could assist with the nursing deficit in WA.

### POSTGRADUATE MENTOR PROGRAM

The Postgraduate Student Committee lobbied the university to reintroduce a postgraduate mentor program to offer additional support especially for international, mature age and PhD students.

### DEADNAMING AT UNIVERSITIES

The Guild coordinated a petition with the National Union of Students to call for Universities Australia and Vice Chancellors to stop deadnaming students. A report has been written by the Queer Officer which provides insight on the problem of deadnaming at Curtin and is being reviewed by the university.

### PARKING

More than 5000 students signed a petition calling on the university to make changes to parking at Bentley campus.

The Guild argued that changes to parking would offer greater flexibility and encourage students to be on campus more often and to stay longer. Three main changes were asked for:

- An alternative to the Cellopark app which was more user friendly
- Reduce fines from \$45 to \$20
- A mixed PAYG/Permit system to offer greater choice

### PLACEMENTS

A Guild report highlighted the need for structural change including the introduction of mental health support, cultural safety and sensitivity training for staff, enhanced support from schools, an evaluation platform and user-friendly incident reporting system for students. As well, it was noted that students had no say in the allocation of their placement and some clinical placement locations required students to travel significant distances.

### HDR STIPENDS

The Postgraduate Student Committee successfully lobbied Curtin University to increase the minimum full-time stipend for HDR students to \$32,250 a year in response to increases in the cost of living. This was an 11.8% increase from 2022. The change applies to existing and new students participating in the Research Training Program and University strategic scholarships.

### STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

The Guild called on the State Government to amend the Residential Tenancies Act to safeguard thousands of students living in accommodation owned and/or operated by third party providers from unfair practices. Curtin students living in on-campus accommodation reported to the Guild that there were ongoing issues with maintenance, transparency, safety and dispute resolution.

### RETURN OF TUITION FREE WEEKS

Guild representatives continued to call for Curtin to reinstate the tuition free weeks phased out of the academic calendar from 2021 and successfully negotiated for the review of the Academic Calendar to be brought forward by 12 months.

### UNIVERSITY ACCORD SUBMISSION

Curtin Student Guild made a submission to the Australian Government Universities Accord with recommendations to improve the quality, accessibility, affordability and sustainability of higher education for students.

### eVALUate

Guild representatives were involved in a working party assessing a replacement for eVALUate, Curtin's online system for gathering and reporting student feedback about their learning experiences. The Guild ran student focus groups to workshop changes to the feedback system that are now in the process of being implemented.

### EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARDS

The outstanding contribution of Curtin academics was recognised at the Excellence in Teaching Awards. Students nominated their teachers and the award winners were chosen by Guild faculty representatives. More than 270 nominations were received. The Excellence in Teaching Awards are unique in that they focus on how teacher communication and engagement meet the needs of students.

### ACCESSIBILITY

The Guild's Accessibility Officer worked on the design of Curtin University's Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2022-2030 and was part of the recruitment panel for the incoming AccessAbility Services manager. The Guild supported changes to the Curtin Access Plan (CAP) including creating a dual pathway system for obtaining a CAP which was a recommendation Australian Disability Clearinghouse on Education and Training (ADCET).

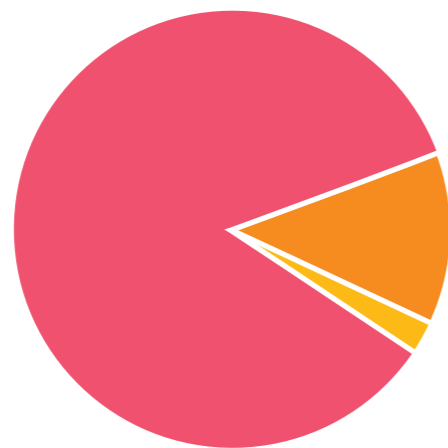


Pasar Malam 2022

# Student Experience

## Supporting our Students.

The Guild's independent support service Student Assist provided 3284 sessions to students in 2022 compared to 2828 sessions in 2021.



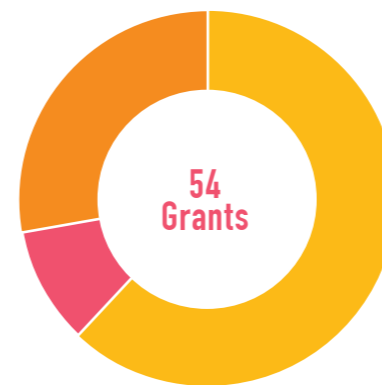
Student Assist Cases

Academic / University Related Issues (83%)

Financial Counselling (15%)

Personal Issues (2%)

## Grants and Programs.



54 Grants

- Hardship Grant (63%)
- Emergency Aid (26%)
- Childcare Assistance Grant (11%)



58 Laptop Program Loans



Life skills and vocational training: (973) participants over (133) courses

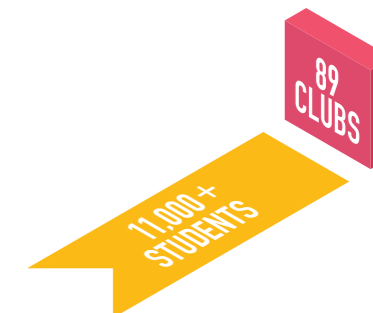
## Clubs, Events, and Activities.



14 Major Events

42,855 Attendees

More Than 1,000 Club Events



1st Club of the year: Curtin Illustration Club

Major Guild events ranged from single day to week-long activities.

They included:

- New club award categories and spot prizes
- Increased access to club grants
- New club software roll-out
- Semester One events were still somewhat interrupted by COVID-19 restrictions, yet most events were able to proceed in a reduced capacity
- Guild Wellbeing Week was introduced
- Oktoberfest
- Guild Ball was more popular than ever
- Regular Grill the Guilds and Guild giveaways
- Pasar Malam
- 1000+ Club Events

Best New Club: Curtin Podcast Society

Most Improved Club: Curtin Divers

Best Club Event: Curtin Filipino Students' Society - Intrams

People's Choice Award: Curtin Illustration Club & Women in Business Curtin





Top sellers at a glance.



**COFFEE**  
480,000  
hot drinks  
poured!



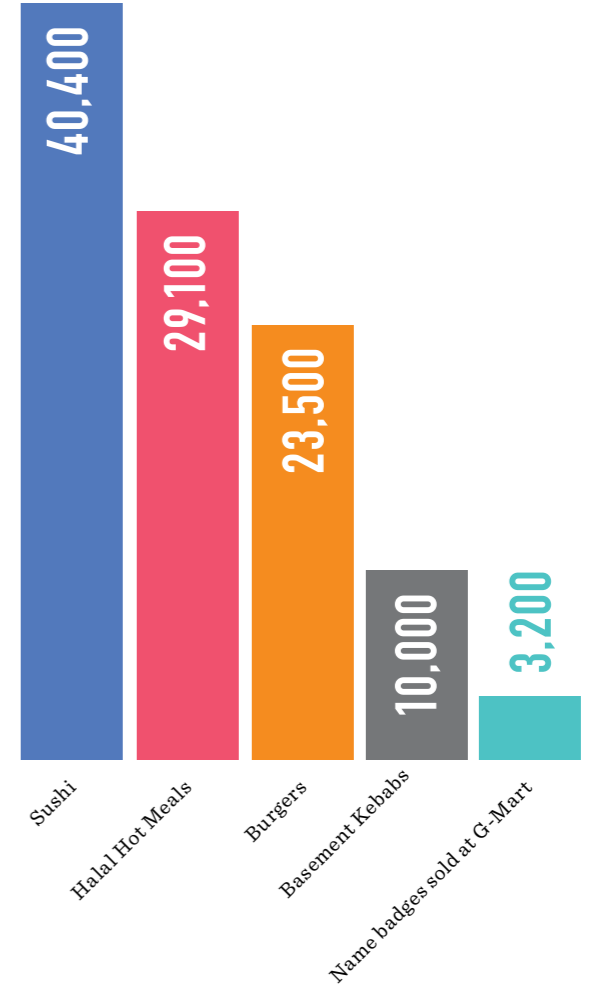
**SushiMe**  
40,400 Sushi



**Halal Hot Meals**  
29,100

# Commercial Services

- Our commercial operations were affected by staffing shortages, supply chain issues and increased costs.
- Food and beverage sales were lower than budgeted as students were slow to return to campus
- Guild members received discounts of \$367,461
- Bubble tea enthusiasts celebrated the opening of The Lab in July.
- Angazi was forced to shut its doors as a result of the closure of Building 408.
- Guild Cafe Library remained closed due to the Robertson Library renovations.

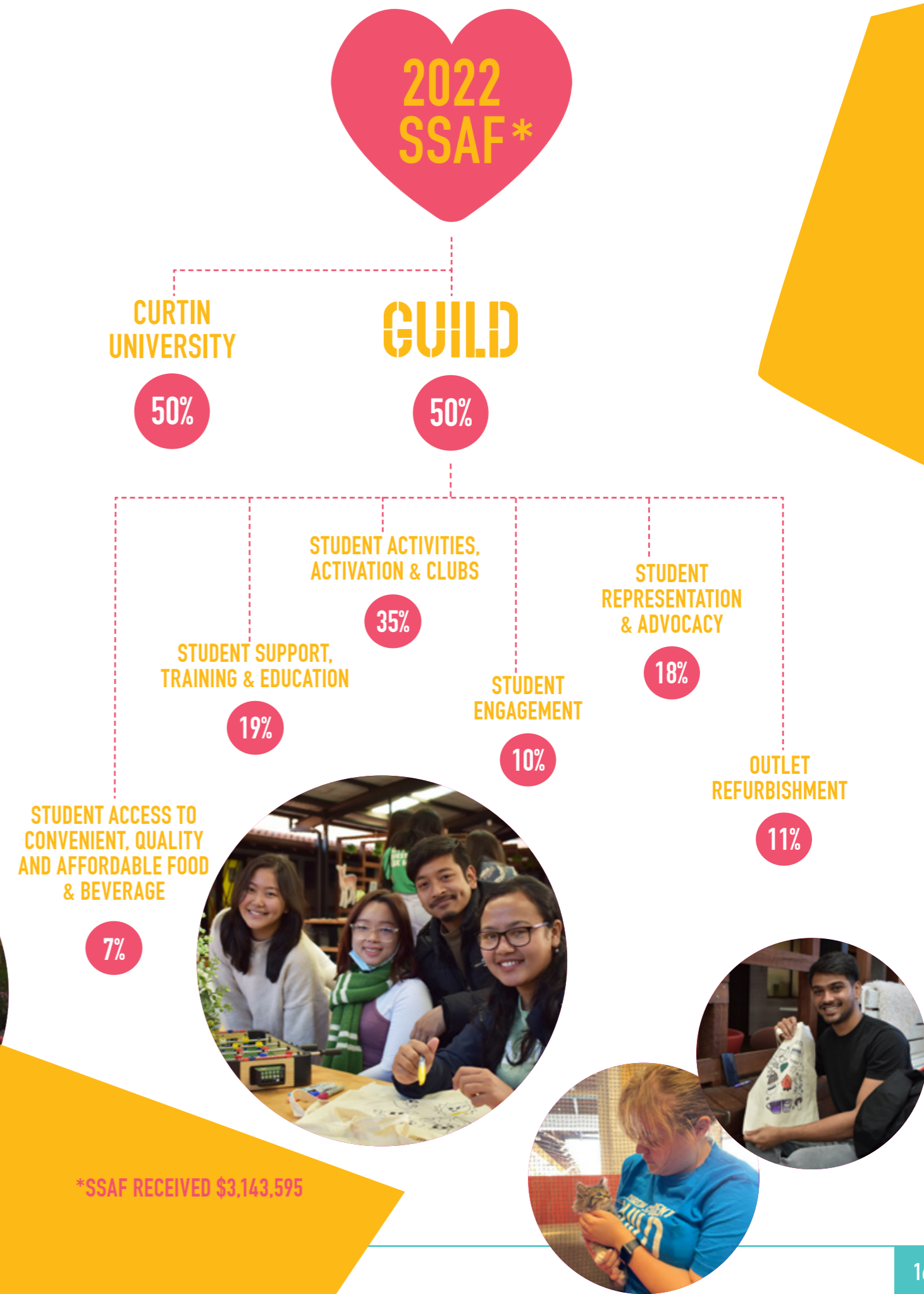




Club Award Winners

# Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) Expenditure in 2022

The Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) is used to provide a wide range of services and amenities to students and to support student-focussed initiatives such as sporting and recreational activities, employment and career advice, advocacy and support, financial issues and food services.





O-Day 2022

# Financial Reports

## Financial Performance.\*

	2022 (\$)	2021 (\$)
<b>Revenue</b>		
Sale of Goods	5,941,789	6,133,372
Rendering of Services	169,009	168,962
Rental Income	21,392	21,392
Finance Income	15,133	2,136
JobKeeper Income	-	426,030
Other Income	4,156,343	4,216,911
	<b>10,303,666</b>	<b>10,968,803</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Cost of Sales	(2,542,934)	(2,432,527)
Employee Benefits Expense	(5,384,974)	(5,673,892)
JobKeeper Top-up Payments	-	(52,837)
Depreciation	(568,820)	(666,713)
Interest Expense on Lease Liability	(8,395)	(31,970)
Occupancy Expenses	(436,450)	(517,716)
Administrative Expenses	(502,282)	(459,715)
Finance Costs	(57,986)	(54,612)
Other Expenses	(950,471)	(955,106)
	<b>(10,452,312)</b>	<b>(10,845,088)</b>
<b>Operating Profit/(Loss) from Operations</b>	<b>(148,646)</b>	<b>123,715</b>

\*The Guild's financial year is from 1 January to 31 December

## Grant Expenditure in 2022

Curtin University provided a grant of \$750,000 to Curtin Student Guild with the expenditure as follows:

ACTIVITY OR SERVICE	PORTFOLIO	ALLOCATION*
Student Welfare	Student Assist	\$110,433
Student Societies	Student Experience	\$79,191
Student Publications	Student Engagement	\$214,116
Social Activities	Student Experience	\$123,863
Student Representation and Advocacy	Student Representation	\$102,397
SSAF Admin Costs **		\$120,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$750,000</b>

\*Includes support costs. \*\*Paid to Curtin University.





## Cash Flow Summary.

	2022 (\$)	2021 (\$)
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Receipts from students/customers	7,101,270	7,156,076
Receipts from SSAF	3,143,595	3,158,928
Receipts from the ATO	-	678,600
Interest Paid	(8,395)	(31,970)
Payments to suppliers & employees	(10,310,848)	(10,216,489)
Interest received	15,133	2,136
<b>Net Cash (used in)/provided by operating activities</b>	<b>(59,245)</b>	<b>747,281</b>
<b>Cash flows used in investing activities</b>	<b>(337,468)</b>	<b>(309,368)</b>
<b>Cash flows used in financing activities</b>	<b>(82,442)</b>	<b>(72,635)</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash held</b>	<b>(479,155)</b>	<b>365,278</b>
Cash at beginning of financial year	4,170,796	3,805,518
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>	<b>3,691,641</b>	<b>4,170,796</b>



## Financial Position.

	2022 (\$)	2021 (\$)
Current Assets	4,159,739	4,656,306
Non-Current Assets	2,054,313	2,466,795
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>6,214,052</b>	<b>7,123,101</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>(1,834,368)</b>	<b>(2,594,771)</b>
<b>Net Available Assets</b>	<b>4,379,684</b>	<b>4,528,330</b>

## Profit from operations has been derived from the following:

	2022 (\$)	2021 (\$)
Administration	45,034	500,618
Representation Services	10,134	(269,551)
Student Services	77,723	161,520
Commercial	(281,537)	(268,872)
<b>Operating Profit/(Loss) from operations</b>	<b>(148,646)</b>	<b>123,715</b>

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**CURTIN  
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