



# Guild President 2023 August Report

Dylan Botica

## President's Representation Board Report

**Covering Dates:** 14/07/2023 – 14/08/2023

**Submitted to:** August Representation Board

**Leave:** 10 August (TOIL)

11 August (PL)

### 1. University / External Meetings

Date	Meeting	Comments
14/07/2023	Remuneration Tribunal Hearing	
14/07/2023	Global Student Leaders Network	
17/07/2023	Welcome Semester 2 – New Students	
20/07/2023	Academic Board Executive	
21/07/2023	Adobe Story Telling Challenge Judging	
25/07/2023	University Accord Response	NUS Session
28/07/2023	Academic Board	And AB Pre-Meeting
31/07/2023	University Health and Safety Committee	Increase in student reports of fieldwork / placement incidences. Requested further information and involvement in safety measure rollouts for students who rarely are engaged.
1/08/2023	DVCA Monthly Meeting	Curtin Counselling will get one additional staff member.
7/08/2023	Library SSAF Projects	Discussed which projects to continue. Advocated to keep Grammarly premium and less funding for Studiosity.
8/08/2023	Uni Council Candidates Meeting	Met with each candidate to discuss Guild role

8/08/2023	Leadership Workshop Conversation	For induction / training
9/08/2023	Welfare not Warfare NDA	
14/08/2023	President x VC	<p><b>Curtin Counselling</b> – Highlighted issues with wait times. VC to follow up.</p> <p><b>Welfare</b> – VC suggested Accord engagement and better Uni funding to allow for better services.</p> <p><b>Academic Integrity</b> – Discussed AI and workloads in Academic Integrity – advocated for draft portals and student AI Turnitin reports.</p> <p><b>Volunteering</b> – Asked for information to provide a proposal to situate volunteering in the Guild.</p>

## 2. Guild Meetings

Date	Meeting	Comments
14/07/2023	Executive Committee	
17/07/2023	President x MD	
17/07/2023	President x Student Engagement	
18/07/2023	External Clubs Support Presentation	<p>Key Recommendations:</p> <p>Approvals and Renewals: Enhance Club Committee training, simplify New Club Application, streamline Sponsorship process with one fund, consider digital vouchers.</p> <p>Events: Simplify 'Event Application,' auto-approve similar events, offer 'Proforma Event Packages,' clarify off-campus event support, expedite approval.</p> <p>Communication: Categorize emails, assign personalized addresses, hold regular briefings, improve online event calendar.</p> <p>Governance and Compliance: Appoint Governance Officer, adopt Incorporated Model, address financial and compliance issues, shift governance to Associations Act, transition to incorporation (estimated</p>

		cost: \$176 per club).
18/07/2023	Operations Committee	
18/07/2023	Voice to Parliament Campaign Planning	
20/07/2023	Higher Education	
20/07/2023	Representation Board	
24/07/2023	President x MD	
24/07/2023	President x Student Engagement	
25/07/2023	Tav Menu	
25/07/2023	Legal Committee	
26/07/2023	ODay	
27/07/2023	Enrol to Goat Planning	
27/07/2023	Higher Education	
27/07/2023	Guild Council	
28/07/2023	Executive Committee	
28/07/2023	Y2K Start Of Sem	Beers, Beats, BBQs
31/07/2023	Executive Committee	
1/08/2023	Enrol to Goat	
2/08/2023	Talent for Tomorrow	BBQ Coordinator / Acting VP-A (for a few hours) My dream jobs
3/08/2023	Higher Education	
7/08/2023	President x MD	
7/08/2023	President x Student Engagement	
7/08/2023	SDP Names (Student Assist PM)	Student names being listed on misconduct reports causing issues. Is being followed up.
7/08/2023	Students as Partners Agreement Progress Check In	
9/08/2023	Club Compliance Procedure Meeting	Discipline Tribunal to be primary actor for non-compliance.

9/08/2023	Executive Committee	
14/08/2023	President x MD	
14/08/2023	President x Student Engagement	

### 3. Items of Significance

#### 3.1. Remuneration Tribunal

The Tribunal has had hearings, submissions and finalised its inquiry. The final determination has been made and published.

#### 3.2. Commercial Strategy Review

The Executive has been working on reviewing the existing Commercial Strategy and refreshing it with the Managing Director, this strategy has been discussed by Guild Council with recommendations about improvement to operational execution.

#### 3.3. Communication

Communication regarding the Guild's representation activities, priorities and wins will be made with all students.

Further Executive has discussed improving the communication of "Guild wins". If Officers note something that could be communicated as a win, please highlight this as often we reflect that while we communicate the fight and campaign, we often don't communicate our wins.

#### 3.4. Self-Certification

Following the Representation Board's special meeting, I have communicated the Board's views against further restriction to the use of self-certification on assessment extensions to the Academic Registrar and the DVC-A.

The University has now paused its planned change rollout pending a meeting between the Guild and AR in the coming weeks.

A general representation communication has been distributed via email including this proposal. A working group will now be established.

#### 3.5. Academic Calendar

The University has finally commissioned its review into the calendar. We have successfully narrowed the scope down to the changes from the previous calendar with a focus on the loss of tuition-free weeks. This restricts the University's capacity to re-introduce the concept of trimesters in this process.

I have recommended Guild representatives to sit on the panel. This work is ongoing.

### 3.6. Voice to Parliament

Materials have been included in orientation packs and at Guild O-Day. A stall for O-Day was held with another in week 3. A raft of events will be held during the Semester to promote engagement with the Voice to Parliament campaign.

### 3.7. WA Government Universities Review

The Guild's submission to the WA Universities Review Discussion Paper has now been submitted.

The meeting with the Universities review panel was effective insofar as putting forward the Curtin Student Guild's perspective on the sector. The student experience was focused on as well as the importance of student choice.

The panel's report will not be made public or shared with stakeholders, which is something all WA Guilds have concerns with.

### 3.8. Liquor License Objection

The Application is now with the Director for a decision. The Guild as an objector and the Applicant (IGA Group) have now make four submissions each.

Our submissions focus on these key points.

- Inadequate Safety Consideration & Locale Definition: We argue that the applicant's safety measures and definition of the locality are insufficient. The proposed liquor store might lead to harm for the susceptible group of people under 25 years old living nearby.
- Need and Accessibility of Existing Stores: The applicant's evidence doesn't convincingly demonstrate a need for an additional liquor store, given the existing options and their convenient accessibility.
- Questionable Arguments and Relevance: The applicant's arguments about extended opening hours, one-stop shopping, and alignment with state strategy are seen as immaterial or irrelevant in the context of a liquor license application.
- Misinterpretation and Misquotation: We highlight inconsistencies and misquotations in the applicant's submission, undermining their credibility. Accusations against us for policy breach and stifling competition are firmly refuted.

### 3.3 Tenancy Reform

I am committed to improving student life and is actively voicing concerns for tenancy reform to protect student renters. We recently addressed a letter to the Minister for Housing, expressing our support for the "Make Renting Fair WA" campaign and its goal of secure, affordable housing including protecting student residents under the residential tenancy act. The alliance's focus remains on eliminating no-grounds evictions and advocating for fair rental practices, protecting students, lodgers boarders and to push for crucial tenancy reforms.

We have been invited to join the alliance which I have accepted. We will be having our Upcycle Market / Thrift Shop contribute to the Shelter WA advocacy.

We will also need to campaign for students to complete the survey and share their rental stories.

### 3.4 Parking Campaign

The Parking Campaign at Curtin University is gaining momentum with a petition featuring nearly 8,000 signatures. This petition, accompanied by personal stories, has been delivered directly to the university's senior executives to underscore the necessity for fixing the problematic parking system.

Throughout the campaign, the team has taken several actions:

- Public events and demonstrations were held to gather opinions about parking issues.
- On-vehicle advertising was executed across the campus.
- A petition was launched and key demands were promoted.
- The team presented their views directly to University executives.

Noteworthy accomplishments of the campaign include:

- A freeze on parking fee increases in recent years.
- Implementation of a permit system, aimed at student housing residents at Twin Dolphin and St Cats.
- Better enforcement of warnings instead of fines.
- More options for donations in place of fines.
- A decrease in cases referred for debt collection.
- The petition is now waiting for a response from the University's administration. The decision to address the issues in the current parking system lies with the University management.

The campaign has leveraged multiple social media platforms for sharing updates and engaging the community.

A meeting with the Chief Operating Officer has now been scheduled. I will communicate the outcome.

### 4.5 Other Matters

- A competition to rename the newly to be launched student evaluation system has been sent out to students!
- Leadership Training Modules and a better handover and induction process is being developed by Executive.
- Names on SDP Reports is causing issues – following up with Student Conduct Office.
- Curtin Counselling issues with wait times and triage are ongoing. Improved welfare / wellbeing initiatives are needed as well as fundamental increases to funding of Curtin Counselling.

## 4 Travel

Nil

## Vice President – Education

Representation Board Report – 10/07/2023 – 10/08/2023

Veronika Gobba – She/Her

Date	Meetings	Comments
10/7/23	Exec Committee	
12/7/23	Advance HE visit	Showcased a presentation with President on Students as partners- how it works, what works well, what doesn't, etc.
	Yes23 WA	Meeting with coordinator
13/7/23	VPE x Health Sci Rep Check-in	
	Higher Ed	
14/7/23	VPE x QO Check-in	
	Exec Committee	
17/7/23	Student Discipline Panel	10 Cases, all Gen AI allegations
18/7/23	Exec x MD x dMD	Clubs support evaluation
	Guild Presentation at Uniready Orientation	
	Operations Committee	
19/7/23	VPE x AO Check-in	
	Guild Survival Guide	Hosted by Jasmyne and myself. Great turnout and engagement, almost half of the attendees asked questions from the floor or to us directly afterwards.
20/7/23	Higher ed	
	Representation Board	
21/7/23	Textbook & Learning resources with LITEC	Working group for improving the access to learning resources. The Guild has highlighted that required texts should be made available to students before the publish of the unit outline, Curtin is discussing having a webpage where students can look up the required texts for units similar to the UWA model.

		Curtin is considering changes to the Course Quality Assurance Manual which will force unit coordinators to properly consider the accessibility/costs and relevance of a resource before making it required.
	Students as Partners catch-up	
24/7/23	VPE x PSC President catch-up	
	Fieldwork Governance Group	In response to feedback I had given to the fieldwork governance group about students experiencing ableism or harassment on placements, the group is looking into mechanisms to blacklist hosts or individual supervisors.
25/7/23	SaP Community of Practice	Discussion regarded the functionality of SaP governance structure and the purpose of the community of practice. Work needs to be done to give these groups more purpose and meaning for the average student.
26/7/23	Guild O-day	The Representation stall featured the following student campaigns: Parking, Students against war (Welfare not Warfare), change the age of Centrelink, tenancy reform for students and placement poverty. Students were particularly attracted to the parking campaign, tenancy reform and placement poverty. There was also a placard for students to pin what sustainable initiatives they want to see at university.
27/7/23	Student as Partners catch-up	
	VPE x Health Sci Rep check-in	
	Higher Ed	



	Curtin's Peer mentor well-being program consultation	
	Guild Council	
28/7/23	Academic Board	
31/7/23	Check-in with WO	Discussed plan for EROC #IDeserveSafety Campaign
	NUS Universities Accords info session	
	Exec Committee	
1/8/23	VPE x FBL catch-up	
	'Enrol to Goat' stall	
	Courses Committee	
	Meeting with Health Sci Rep and Student Assist	To discuss further steps on issues in oral health therapy course
2/8/23	VPE x QO check-in	
	Talent for Tomorrow Guild BBQ	
3/8/23	Exec & Student Engagement	Commercial Communications strategy meeting
	Higher Ed	
4/8/23	ADVC, Learning Innovation and Transformation panel interview	
	VPE x HUM Rep check-in	
	Student as Partners check-in	
	Curtin AI Taskforce Meeting	University is interested in exploring ways AI could improve and enhance learning and teaching capabilities.
7/8/23	University LSEC	Clarification on Guild's stance was needed for self-certification since the last LSEC. The university is also looking into improving/changing the Blackboard system.
9/8/23	Meeting with Health Sciences Senior Leadership Group	
	'Welfare not Warfare' Boorloo Protest	
	Exec Committee	

10/8/23	Office Bearer Sem 2 check-in	
	Students as Partners check-in	
	VPE x Health Sci Rep check-in	
	Shortlisting meeting for Manager, Student Misconduct (Academic)	

## Projects

1. I have been appointed to a panel for selecting Curtin's new Manager Student Conduct (Academic), the panel has made a shortlist and interviews will be happening in late August.
2. Two submissions are currently being drafted: one for the national rental crisis inquiry and one to respond to the Australian Universities Accords Interim Report.
3. Planning for Guild's Excellence in Teaching Awards has commenced, the criteria questions students answer for their nominations has been altered to better reflect teaching excellence from a student perspective.
4. A Guild sustainability stall will be on campus on 16/8/23, to build networks of students who want to be involved in climate/sustainability campaigns and also to giveaway DIY coffee scrubs made from recycled coffee grounds from Guild outlets – as per the feedback from the representation stall at O-day.

## **BUSINESS & LAW - Representative Board Report #8**

For the Representation Board held on Thursday the 17th of August

### **Summary Of Meetings**

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Type of Meeting</b>	<b>Comments</b>
O-Day	26/7/2023	Guild	O-day second semester was rad. Heaps of engagement and I met plenty of new students.
Pub Quiz Briefing	27/7/2023	Faculty	Briefing on the structure of the pub quiz and my role for the night.
Seminar: Stan Perron Applied Ethics Dean	27/7/2023	Faculty	A faculty wide seminar on the direction of the faculty as it relates to sustainability in academia.
VPE x FBL catch up	1/8/2023	Guild	A catch up and briefing on my objectives for this semester
FBL SE x Faculty Rep catch up	2/8/2023	Guild	Discussion pertaining to the strategy of the faculty of Science and Engineering on Generative AI. FBL looking at approaches based on discipline, unit or school.
Talent for Tomorrow	2/8/2023	Guild	A good event where I helped grill some dogs, big shout out to the cheese sauce manufacturer.
FBL Pub Quiz	2/8/2023	Faculty	A good turnout for the pub quiz, I helped host and had a designated round. Over 100 people packed into the Tav about 5x more people than the pub quiz semester 2 2022.
SAP Project Christina Do meeting	4/8/2023	SAP	Update on the progress of the SaP project for students transitioning from year 12 to uni and understanding assessment rubrics and university expectations in

			assessment.
Meeting x PVC	7/8/2023	Faculty	Update on the faculty objectives for the semester, an enhanced discussion on the promotion of sustainable business practices within the faculty.
SDP Panel	7/8/2023	Committee	Consider cases of academic misconduct pertinent to FBL. - 7 cases
FBL SE Sustainability Showcase	7/8/2023	Faculty	Help set up the sustainable showcase in the hallways of building 407, showcasing the norway study tour amongst other undertakings by students to enhance their academic understanding of sustainable business practices.
FBL x VPA check in	7/8/2023	Guild	Check in and discuss the return of the Angazi Fry... more to come.
Study Tour Debrief x Micheal Baird	8/8/2023	Faculty	Discussion of the study tour, both pros and cons and areas of improvement, as well as a general catch up and discussion of the schools plan for the upcoming semester.
Catch up x Subra Dean of Teaching and learning	8/8/2023	Faculty	Discussion pertaining as to the degree to which the faculty is increasingly looking to include the SDGs and ESGs in course specific and common core units.
Faculty Courses Committee	8/8/2023	Faculty	Approval of Advanced commerce double majors to join in the pool of courses approved for the advanced commerce streams.
FBL x SCI-ENG rep catch up	8/8/2023	Guild	Discussion as to the faculty directive in relation to Gen AI amongst other questions.
L & T immersive sustainability showcase	9/8/2023	Faculty	Presentation of the aspects of the Faculty that are increasingly adopting and adhering to sustainable practices. This included me presenting on the Norway study

			tour.
FBL x Health Sciences rep. catch up	9/8/2023	Guild	Discussion as to the faculty directive in relation to Gen AI amongst other questions.
FBL x Humanities rep. Catch up	9/8/2023	Guild	Discussion as to the faculty directive in relation to Gen AI amongst other questions.

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**Final Notes:**

- Since I have been back from leave I have been thrust back into the swing of things. I have meetings planned with the Heads of School for next month and therefore updates shall be provided on a school basis.
  - The next month will likely see me increasingly pressure the faculty to do more on the grounds of sustainability. This will include meetings with the directors of teaching and learning on the basis of inclusion of SDGs and ESGs in tuition.
  - It is likely that I will input a student reflective perspective into a paper produced on behalf of an independent research group that I have been involved with in the faculty.
  - The SCC re-design process continues to be underway and will launch this semester. Staff have been warm and receptive to meeting me, offering student inclusion where possible and enabling a Guild student perspective at the table.
  - The push for greater assessment feedback within the Faculty progressed slightly, raising the work done with Christina Do with the Dean. Next month I will endeavor to spread the work done and present a case study to Subra on the basis of the amendments made to assessment rubrics.
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Science and Engineering faculty Report

Zhongzheng (Max) Zhang (He/Him)

Representation Board – August 2023

Date	Event type	Event to note	Comments
17/07/2023	Faculty Meeting	Faculty Executive Team	Discussions surrounding students having first aid certs on fieldtrips.
18/07/2023	O-Week	Science Orientation	
19/07/2023	O-Week	Postgrad SciEng Orientation	
20/07/2023	O-Week	Engineering Orientation	
21/07/2023	Meeting	Meeting with Director Student Engagement regarding Feedback Week	Discussed rollout plan of feedback week and messaging to students.
24/07/2023	Speaking	Speaking about the Guild at a lecture for unit COMP1007	
25/07/2023	Meeting	Meeting with new Dean L&T	Mainly discussed handover and communications.
26/07/2023	O-Day	O-Day Faculty Stall	
28/07/2023	SDP	SDP Panel	2 cases
31/07/2023	Faculty Meeting	Faculty Executive Team	Discussion regarding Curtin Planet Positive undergrad certificate, offering 50 scholarships with the course.
02/08/2023	Faculty Meeting	Learning and Teaching Council	
10/08/2023	SDP	SDP Panel	14 cases

**Faculty of Health Sciences Report**  
**Hiba Alsoeady (she/her)**  
**Representation Board – August 2022**

***Guild and University meetings, progress and planning***

<b>July</b>		
	<b>Event</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>25/07</b>	CSDP Hearing	General Misconduct
<b>25/07</b>	Faculty Courses Committee	This included providing feedback on current course reviews and unit changes
<b>26/07</b>	GUILD ORIENTATION DAY	It was a very good day! Met so many people and gave away all my charms!
<b>28/07</b>	Health SDP	Mostly Gen-AI cases
<b>August</b>		
<b>1/08</b>	Diversity, Inclusion, Belonging Working Group	Attended in person and discussed how survey and advertisement should be completed for their current project
<b>2/08</b>	Talent for Tomorrow	Attended towards the end of the BBQ and assisted with pack up
<b>3/08</b>	Health SDP	Again, many Gen-AI cases
<b>8/8</b>	Student as Partners Meeting with Exec	Discussed current progress on student as partners contract review and provided feedback
<b>9/8</b>	Update from the Dean, Gender Equity, Inclusion Diversity	Heard from University representatives and Faculty representatives about their current initiatives to promote gender equity and inclusion diversity. Also discussed a few of the projects that the Guild is working on. Proposed the possibility of Womens and Queer Reps possibly attending one of these meetings in the future.
<b>9/8</b>	Why I support a Voice to Parliament - Video	Recorded a short video as to my thoughts on the proposed question regarding enshrining a Voice in the constitution.
<b>10/8</b>	Rep Catch with FBL and Humanities	Discussed projects and SDP approach
<b>11/8</b>	Office Bearer Fire up Meeting	Re future Health Science events
<b>11/8</b>	Health SDP	Eleven cases
<b>17/8</b>	Representation Board	

## HUMANITIES FACULTY REPORT – AUGUST

JUDE SOUSSAN

DATE	WHAT	NOTES
12/07/2023	Emailed Nicole Slatter on Guild's stance on self-certification in response to the notes from the LSEC meeting	Was told that "the university is listening"
26/07/2023	Guild O-Day	Not many Humanities students this semester :(  People loved my game though!
04/08/2023	Student Disciplinary Panel	
04/08/2023	VPE x HUM check in	
07/08/2023	VPA x HUM meeting	Spoke about the upcoming Humanities event I am working on.
07/08/2023	Began the bi-annual unit outline review	
07/08/2023	Meeting with Humanities Student Senior Partner (Athina)	Spoke about resuming meetings with Humira and the Adobe Challenge events' success and the potential to expand it more next semester.
10/08/2023	HUM Courses Committee Meeting	



## August 2023 Representation Board Report – Student Assist

Case statistics for Student Assist is as follows:

	May	June	July
Academic sessions	259	289	337
Financial Counselling sessions	21	21	41
LifeHacks	142	75	99

Academic sessions in the month of July were mainly in relation to complaints, tuition fee payment, and academic misconducts.

### Welfare

Student Assist provided emergency relief to five students through grants. Three of these were to international students and the remaining two to domestic students.

9 Loan Laptops were loaned out in July.

# ISC president Report

## Representation board

### August 2023 Submission date August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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#### **COMMITTEE AND INTERNAL MEETINGS**

- Meeting with VPA and VPE to get the updates and also to discuss the events happening in the future.
- Had meeting with VPE Guild on the issue with unilodge regarding first preference to Curtin students
- Unofficial Meeting with ISC committee members to discuss the possibilities of events
- Planning to conduct official ISC meeting to discuss on a week and strategy path w to take for the next semester and was discussing possible Ideas for official communication with all International students via Discord
- Met with some new possible candidates to fill in the roles of Reps who were interested in joining the ISC during orientation
- Had discussion with my vice-president and Humanities rep regarding Discord servers and social media activities.

#### **Events**

- Event: pathway migration agency combined with ISC conducted a seminar on 8th of August to provide visa related knowledge to students and it was attended by approx. 100 students and the feedback we got were very positive.
- Have scheduled Migration events for the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of sem and yet to confirm
- ISC worked closely with Curtin Connect to deliver a program called Café Connect which was very informative session to international students.
- The café connect hosted by ISC and Curtin was a grand success many students were so much interested in ideas and what we do and wanted to join the committee
- International showcase bbq for new international students during orientation week was done
- Guild O day was conducted by Guild and ISC had so many students enquiring about the events we do and also suggestions were also shared by students

Bhaarith Kathiravan

ISC PRESIDENT

PRONOUNCE HE/HIM

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**PSC President's Report**

SUBMISSION DATE: 14/08/2023

FOR MEETING DATE: 17/08/2023

NAME: Mitch Craig

POSITION: PSC President

**GUILD MEETINGS/EVENTS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Comments</b>
13/07/2023	Higher Ed	
14/07/2023	Exec	
19/07/2023	PSC President x Student Assist	Monthly catchup w/ Andrew to discuss postgrad issues and trends
20/07/2023	Reps Board	See Minutes
24/07/2023	VPE x PSC President catchup	Caught up w/ Veronika and updated on current projects and issues
25/07/2023	Tav Menu	Met with President and MD about the Tav menu
26/07/2023	Legal Committee	Recommended By-Laws to Guild Council
27/07/2023	Guild Oday	Had a stall at Oday, was able to engage with many students
27/07/2023	Guild Council	Attended Guild Council as an observer
28/07/2023	Academic Board pre-meeting	Met w/ other AB attendees to discuss the upcoming academic board meeting
31/07/2023	Exec committee	
03/08/2023	Guild commercial strategy	Heard and gave feedback on the guild's digital engagement strategy
03/08/2023	Higher Ed	
07/08/2023	LSEC pre meeting	Met with Veronika about LSEC
07/08/2023	Students as Partners Review	Met to discuss SAP and what the new agreement should look like
09/08/2023	Welfare not Warfare Rally	Attended rally, Veronika spoke very well, marched to ADF recruitment center
09/08/2023	Exec	

**UNIVERSITY MEETINGS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Comments</b>
17/07/2023	DTS Directory Consolidation	Went through with DTS what would be in the best interest of students and raised particular issues that would come about from the directory consolidation

17/07/2023	PSC President x DVC - Research	Met with Lindy to discuss current HDR issues including software provision, travel procedures,
18/07/2023	Business & Law Postgrad Orientation	Presented on the Guild & PSC to more than 250 students starting a PG degree in FBL. Also attended the networking session afterwards
20/07/2023	HDR Orientation	Multiple presentations. Presented on Guild and PSC to new HDRs. Presented on Student Assist. Presentation on research tips and advice.
20/07/2023	EMCR Conference	Attended on invitation from the chair of the Curtin EMCR network.
20/07/2023	Regulation Signing	Attended the signing of new regulations by the Guild President and University Administrative Secretary
28/07/2023	Academic Board	Nothing controversial discussed
02/08/2023	University Research Committee	Discussed HDR career support, travel procedures
07/08/2023	University LSEC	Discussed SAP in teaching, self certification

### **PROJECTS/General**

- Working on the DTS directory consolidation
- Working on PSC/ISC election schedule w/ exec
- PSC "Journey Through Academia" event was successful with ~30 attendees with highly positive feedback from attendees and panel members alike
- Worked on By-Laws updates for legal committee
- Working on additional software to be provided to HDRs
- Travel procedures have been reviewed by research committee and GRS at my request, some updates to make the process clearer and easier for candidates
- Working to have an early career conversation included for HDRs during their degree to give them better clarity and help them prepare for a career after they submit
- Am part of the Academic Calendar working group
- Working on the Students as Partners Agreement review

### **KPIs**

- Held an event for Research Candidates
- Am working on several projects for postgrads
- Attended all meetings
- Responded promptly to all emails

### **tl;dr**

Lots of meetings. Projects are going well. Held event for Research candidates. Attended a protest.

**QUEER OFFICER'S Report**  
**Representation Board Meeting 9/2023 – 17.08.23**  
**10.08.2023**



**GUILD MEETINGS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Weekly	VP-E x QO Catch Up	
14.07	Curtin Pride Chat w/ VP-A	Going over ideas and plan for Curtin Based Pride parade
21.07	Queer Department Brainstorming/Planning	Meeting w/ David, Maryanne and Aleena to go over goals for the rest of the year
26.07	Deadnaming Project Update w/ President	Quick check in and update on where the deadnaming working group is at currently

**UNIVERSITY MEETINGS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Notes</b>
19.07	Radiation Therapy Inclusivity Workshop Discussion	Discussing potential to deliver a session on LGBTQIA+ perspectives in the health system
21.07	Gender Equity and Inclusion Advisory Group – Informal Committee Introduction	First round of introductions and going over the scope of the advisory group
26.07	Deadnaming Project check-in	Update with Linda on where the project and group is at and making plans for when the group should meet next
04.08	We All Need to Pee Committee Meeting	Discussions on how to move forward and bring our issues/ideas up with those who can help start actioning them
04.08	Curtin Pride Parade Planning Meeting	Meeting with Sheldon and Richard to go over the plans for a Curtin based Pride Parade in order to help figure out what the Guild and Curtin can each bring to it
09.08	Deadnaming Working Group scoping for BA work	Going over the scope of work for the BA's being brought in to investigate the current Curtin systems, any updates on systems that have been fixed in the interim and to prepare an official communication summarising where the group is currently at and

		what work still needs doing. Overall, a productive meeting
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## **PROJECTS**

Deadnaming: We have made a decent amount of progress since last month and things seem to really be rolling along nicely with work to identify a long-term solution for all the systems issues will be starting in late August. Meanwhile the final changes needed to allow students (and staff) to update their Curtin ID cards to show their preferred name are also currently in progress. Along with this the ALLY team and myself are continuing to work on ways to provide student facing staff the training required around deadnaming and misgendering.

We All Need To Pee: While not much visible progress has been made, a lot of things are happening to hopefully bring attention to this campaign and the issues surrounding bathrooms on campus to the necessary people within the university who have a more direct ability to implement effective, long term changes.

## **OTHER**

O-Day: Very busy and productive day. I lost my voice a few times talking to people, however had a lot of interest in our "A Queer's guide to Curtin" handouts and our new extended range of koi fish stickers. A lot of people also were happy to just chat about what they can do to get more involved on campus both as queer people themselves and as Allies which is always good to hear.

***IMARI MORRIS (They/She/He)***  
**QUEER OFFICER**

## Women's Officer Report - Representation Board

17/08/2023

Date	Meeting	Comments
21/07/2023	Friend Speed Dating	
21/07/2023	We all Need to Pee updates + conversations about what can be done with reporting systems.	Further Explanation Attached below
21/07/2023	Gender Equity and Inclusion Advisory Group Informal Committee Introduction	Introduction to everyone, rough plan on what the group is about and aims.
25/07/2023	Humanities SDP Panel	
26/07/2023	O – day!!	So amazing!! Great turnout!
27/07/2023	Humanities SDP Panel	
31/07/2023	WO*VPE	#IDeserveSafety campaign planning
1/08/2023	Enrol to Goat	Helping out with our enrolment drive
2/08/2023	Talent for Tomorrow BBQ	Helping out with BBQ, great turnout.

### O – Day

O – day was on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July and for my stall, we decided to go with donuts and a raffle. The requisite for receiving a donut was scanning the link on the QR code and following the Women's Instagram. As a result of that, we increased our follower count by over 100!! There was a lot more engagement this semester thanks to the donuts and overall, I'm very satisfied with how it all turned out.

### Reporting Procedures

In the meeting with David, Maryanne and a Student Assist staff, there was a conversation of whether a review of the sexual harassment and assault reporting procedures was needed. It was concluded that in terms of procedures, there might be very little to reform due to the nature of reporting, and our focus should be on supporting victims and allowing them to feel supported through their journey.

### #IDeserveSafety Campaign

End Rape on Campus and Fair Agenda are running the **#IDeserveSafety campaign**, which calls upon the government to have an individual review system void of influences from universities for sexual violence on campus. As part of the campaign, an aspect of it is giving students space to share their stories and allowing their voices to be heard. We have joined the campaign and made an Instagram post supporting this and encouraging students to share their stories with the

hashtag. This is an ongoing campaign, so there will be an extended effort to sustain it and more activities to follow.

**TLDR;**

**O day, SDP Panels, Gender Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee Informal Introduction, Reporting Procedures Planning Meeting, #IDeserveSafety Campaign kickstarted.**

*Aleena Shaji*

*Women's Officer 2023*

Submitted 13/08/2023.



# Accessibility Department

## Representation Board Report: August 2023



### University/External Meetings

Date	Meeting	Notes
14/07	Neurodiversity CoP	
19/07	GTL Lab Access Meeting	
20/07	LAWG	Notes below
24/07	AC@C	
25/07	B204 Lab Access Tour	Notes below
28/07	PWDA NDIS Focus Group	

### Guild/Student Meetings

Date	Meeting	Notes
19/07	VPE Check-in	Cancelled
02/08	VPE Check-in	Cancelled

### Additional Information

#### LAWG

Vicky Barnett – the chair of the LAWG – has been invited to some sort of science educators conference in Tasmania, where she plans to speak about the LAWG and CoP to promote increased accessibility in Laboratory environments.

#### B204 Lab Access Tour

The LAWG was invited to tour the Engineering First Year (EFY) Labs in B204 to assess the accessibility of the space and make suggestions for potential improvements. The outcome was that the EFY Labs are currently reasonably accessible and only minor modifications would be required for the lab spaces themselves to meet the LAWGs standards (e.g. installing height-adjustable desks).

Building 204 as a whole was found to be less accessible, with the main issue being bathroom availability. B204 does not have a UAT that meets current access standards. There is a bathroom marked as a UAT on the ground floor, however it does not even come close to meeting accessibility standards and therefore needs urgent signage replacement. There are Male-designated bathrooms located on every level of the building, but Female-designated bathrooms only featured on levels 1, 2, and 4 – at least one of which is restricted to staff-only access. We proposed requesting for some of the male-designated bathrooms to be changed to all-gender, and installing a UAT somewhere in the building, however these projects are likely to be very slow.

### Other Stuff Happening

- ADHD Senate Inquiry submissions have been published and give consistent and comprehensive feedback on the shortfalls of ADHD diagnosis, treatment, and care in Australia. I am hopeful that these submissions will be used appropriately to improve the lives and experiences of people with ADHD.
- The Accessibility Audit of all general teaching spaces has been completed and we expect a report from the auditors on or around the 10<sup>th</sup> of July (i.e. any day now).
- I was contacted by a student within Health Sciences whose reasonable adjustments were rejected on the basis of Inherent Requirements and Risks posed by the adjustments, however no documentation has been provided and the same reasonable adjustments were approved for the same unit in a previous study period. I am supporting this students self-advocacy on the matter.

### Ongoing Projects

- ~~Students/Staff with Disability Procedures Review~~
  - ~~CAP De-Medicalisation~~
- ACROD Parking Review
- ~~Accessibility Audit~~
- Chemistry Laboratory Accessibility
  - ~~B316 Consultation~~
- CSMP/CSG Stability
- DIBC
- ~~NUS HyFlex Campaign~~
- ~~ADHD Senate Inquiry Submissions~~

### Events

**AD x QD PowerPoint Party – Pending reschedule**

**Equity Festival - TBC**

**TL;DR** – I've had a few meetings with the university and students over the past month. There are ongoing issues with CAP reasonable adjustments not being implemented in the name of 'Inherent requirements' and 'unreasonable risks', documentation for which has not been provided.

### **Glossary:**

- **AAS:** AccessAbility Services – the university body that organises and coordinates CAPs
- **AC@C:** Accessibility Collective @ Curtin. This is the University body for staff with disabilities to find social and advocacy support.
- **CAP:** Curtin Access Plan. A personalised document entitling students to reasonable adjustments to their studies enabling equitable access to education for those with specific access requirements.
- **CMS DIB:** Curtin Medical School Diversity Inclusion and Belonging Working Party.

[Document title]

- **CoP:** Community of Practice
- **COMPAS-S:** Checking On Mental health and Providing Alternatives to Suicide - for Students
- **CSG:** Curtin Social Group – A social group run during common free time on Wednesdays for Autistic and ADHD students who are involved in the CSMP.
- **CSMP:** Curtin Specialist Mentoring Program. This program allows Autistic students to engage in a weekly social group (CSG), as well as access to an Honours or Postgraduate Psychology student as a mentor. The mentor is there to help their Autistic mentee to navigate University and develop skills in self-advocacy, confidence, and other areas.
- **DIBC:** Diversity Inclusion and Belonging Committee
- **DVCA:** Deputy Vice Chancellor – Academic.
- **DTS:** Curtin University Digital and Technology Solutions.
- **GPG:** Gender Pay Gap
- **GTL:** Geoff Tucker Lab – B300.204
- **LAWG:** Laboratory Accessibility Working Group
- **NUS:** National Union of Students
- **UAT:** Universal Access Toilet
- **UDWG:** Universal Design Working Group. The University committee tasked with improving disability access across Curtin.
- **VP-E:** Vice President – Education

## Higher Education Report August 2023

### Labor restores 3pc of GDP research pledge to party platform. The Australian

Labor has restored to its [draft platform](#) a goal to boost Australia's spending on research to nearly 3 per cent of GDP, following a campaign driven by former Labor senator Kim Carr.

The research pledge, which has been in the Labor platform since 2014, was [left out of earlier drafts](#) of the 2023 platform which will go to a vote at the ALP National Conference in Brisbane later this month.

Currently Australia spends 1.8 per cent of GDP on research – a figure which has declined from 2.2 per cent in 2008 – less than the OECD average of 2.7 per cent.

The latest version of the [ALP 2023 draft platform](#) says “Labor will work with business, industry, universities and research institutes to boost Australia's investment in research and development as a percentage of GDP, getting it closer to 3 per cent of GDP achieved in comparable countries”.

### Covid-era visa sparks student worker boom

Almost 66,000 international [students](#) and temporary workers are having their stays in Australia extended under a special Covid-era permit, fuelling claims that the surge in [visa](#) approvals is creating a “Big Australia” by stealth.

Despite calls from the international education industry to end the pandemic permit, the government issued 65,859 special Covid-19 visas between June and March – including almost 27,000 in the first three months of 2023.

Labor has granted more pandemic event visas in its first 10 months than were given when international borders were shut.

About 23,900 Covid work visas were granted to international students by the government, eclipsing the 11,885 permits approved by the Coalition during the pandemic.

The Covid-19 pandemic event visa (subclass 408) allows people to work if employed or if they have an offer of employment in any sector of the economy.

Temporary graduate visa holders can “apply for and be granted a pandemic event visa with a two-year period of stay”.

The pandemic event visa allows holders to remain in Australia for 12 months and include “members of the family unit in your application”.

The Home Affairs Department revealed the number of migration and temporary visa applications finalised in the financial year to March had increased by 290.5 per cent to almost 6.2 million people.

### Fair Work Act changes will raise cost of employing researchers

Universities and medical research institutes warn they face a “catastrophic impact” from changes to federal employment laws coming into force in December that place restrictions on the fixed-term job contracts commonly used in the research community.

In a submission to the federal government, they warn the new rules will raise employment costs and drive researchers away from Australia.

Changes to the Commonwealth Fair Work Act, which apply from December, mean fixed-term employment contracts of over two years will be regarded as continuing jobs in most cases, affecting many researchers in universities and medical research institutes who are often employed on fixed terms of three, four or five years, based on the typical funding period of research projects.

The Australian Higher Education Industrial Association, which represents universities, said the new laws, as well as a lack of longer term research funding, led to “an unsustainable situation where the nation’s world-class university research is now at risk of reaching a choke point”.

“These challenges may significantly impact on the country’s research capabilities, with research not being undertaken or researchers seeking opportunities overseas,” AHIEA executive director Craig Laughton said. In a [joint submission](#) to the federal government, the AHIEA and the Association of Australian Medical Research Institutes said the new laws could force universities and institutes to employ researchers on either a casual or a continuing basis, and both options would lead to large additional costs.

Casual employment would be less secure for researchers and “with the application of 25 per cent casual loading to rates, valuable funds will be exhausted prematurely, and the research projects will be under greater risk of not achieving outcomes”, the submission states. If researchers were employed on a continuing basis, then universities and institutes would face high redundancy costs when research funding ended for a particular project, it said.

“The severance payments for staff employed under enterprise agreements across some medical research institutes and universities are far in excess of community standards, and it would not be tenable for these organisations to pay such severance to multiple former fixed-term staff,” the submission said.

Mr Laughton said there was potentially a high cost for universities to convert casual and fixed-term workers to more secure employment because of provisions for high redundancy payments.

“Redundancy provisions associated with permanent university employment are a key driver of additional costs. These provisions provide for up to 104 week’s salary or eight times the National Employment Standards (13 weeks),” Mr Laughton said.

“The risk of converting fixed-term research staff to permanent positions without assured funding is financially irresponsible.

“This reality is a contributing factor as to why researchers are often employed on a fixed-term basis.”

Both the AHIEA and the AAMRI call on the federal government to change the Fair Work Act to offer more exemptions to the rule restricting fixed term contracts.

“It is crucial to strike a balance between promoting job security and providing flexibility to adapt to the unique challenges faced by our sector,” their submission said.

### **University clears academic over contentious tweet**

The University of NSW has dismissed a complaint by Australian Jewish Association public affairs director Robert Gregory over a lecturer’s pro-Palestinian message on Twitter.

The dispute centred on Dr Tatour’s tweet that “Palestinians have the right to resist Israeli occupation, colonisation and apartheid”.

A UNSW spokeswoman on Wednesday said it had taken the complaint seriously and reviewed Mr Gregory’s concerns.

“After careful consideration, UNSW did not find cause for disciplinary action against Dr Lana Tatour,” she said.

“The university protects academic freedom and freedom of speech wherever people express their views within the law.”

### **Students need mastery of maths and English to detect AI trickery**

A top university has demanded schools teach “strong foundational skills” to students so they can’t be tricked by artificial intelligence hallucinations and deep fakes.

As federal parliament debates [new laws forcing universities to provide more support to struggling students](#), the University of Sydney questioned the academic calibre of some school leavers.

The university calls for education policy and funding to focus on equipping “all Australians completing secondary school with strong foundational skills and AI literacy”.

“We stress the critical importance of current and future generations of young Australians leaving secondary school with strong foundational skills – English language, literacy, numeracy, digital literacy and employability – if they are to participate effectively and meaningfully in society, post-school education and work,” the university told a Senate inquiry into the [use of AI in education](#).

“Foundational skills also underpin an individual’s capacity for critical analysis and to discern truthful and accurate information from the [intentionally fake or otherwise erroneous information that increasingly sophisticated Gen-AI models will be able to produce](#).”

University of Newcastle academic Erica Southgate, a professor in the School of Education, has warned the Senate inquiry that children “bond” with AI.

“At a developmental level, children have difficulty discerning reality from fantasy until the ages of around seven to 11,” she states in her submission. “User-facing AI, especially that designed to mimic human interaction, is being designed to keep us engaged. [Teachers will need to make careful decisions](#) about whether this type of AI is suitable for their learners. Some adolescent and adult students will form bonds with AI that may not be good for developing their capability as active, questioning and agentic learners.”

The university’s pressure on schools comes as the federal government legislates to improve academic, financial and welfare support for tertiary students struggling to finish their degrees.

Education Minister Jason Clare has introduced legislation that would [fine universities nearly \\$20,000 each time they fail to support a struggling student](#) with tutoring or counselling.

Federal opposition education spokeswoman Senator Sarah Henderson has also [criticised universities over high dropout rates and called for a refund scheme for poor-quality degrees](#).

### **Expert appointed to support safer university campuses**

The Government has appointed Patty Kinnersly to a Working Group that will provide advice on how universities can create safer campuses for students and staff.

Ms Kinnersly is currently the CEO of Our Watch, a national leader in the primary prevention of violence against women and children in Australia.

The Working Group is part of the Albanese Government’s response to the Universities Accord Interim Report.

In 2021 the National Student Safety Survey found that one in 20 students had been sexually assaulted since starting university. One in six reported being sexually harassed.

The Working Group will provide advice to Education Ministers on the immediate actions we should take to improve university governance.

The Working Group will consult with advocacy groups like STOP, End Rape on Campus and Fair Agenda, and develop an action plan on the immediate steps needed to improve the safety of students and staff.

Each State and Territory will be represented on the Working Group. The first meeting is scheduled for next week.

### **Higher Education Support Amendment (Response to the Australian Universities Accord Interim Report) Bill 2023**

Introduced and read a first time	03 Aug 2023
Second reading debate	09 Aug 2023
Second reading debate	10 Aug 2023

The Bill:

- Abolishes the 50 percent pass rule, introduced as part of the Job-ready Graduates Scheme
- Delivers demand-driven funding for all Indigenous students to attend university if they are qualified for admission to the course.
- Strengthens accountability and reporting requirements for higher education providers to ensure students are properly supported to study. Higher education providers that fail to meet the new requirements will face compliance action, including possible financial penalties.

### **Universities Australia put on notice as consent hearings come to a close**

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-07-27/final-day-of-consent-law-hearings/102652112>

Universities Australia (UA) has been grilled by senators over why a \$1.5 million anti-sexual violence campaign funded by taxpayers never eventuated.

Key points:

- Universities Australia received a \$1.5 million grant to roll out a consent campaign that never eventuated
- Senators questioned the organisation today at an inquiry into consent laws
- Two hundred and seventy-five students are sexually assaulted in a university setting every week

Instead, a 46-page good practice report was produced for "primary prevention practitioners".

The body representing Australia's 39 universities was questioned at the final hearing for the Senate inquiry into consent laws today, after twice declining to appear.

UA said that the campaign that was developed wouldn't have had enough cut through.

### **Young People questioning if degree debt is worth it?**

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-07-27/young-people-questioning-if-degree-debt-is-worth-it/102655922>

### **From free university to \$15,000 a year for an arts degree — tracking the cost of Australia's higher education over three generations**

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-07-27/generational-hecs-debt-university-access-higher-education-cost/102480290>

Higher education was free in Australia from 1974 until 1989

- In 1989 the Hawke Labor government introduced the Higher Education Contributions Scheme (HECS). Initially, all degrees cost the same — at first, \$1,800 a year.
- In 1996, the Howard Government brought in three-tiered rates and fees rose from a \$2,454 flat fee to \$3,300 for band one degrees, which included education and humanities, and \$5,500 for band three degrees such as law and accounting.
- In 2005, fees increased again.
- In 2017, the Turnbull government increased fees. Over the next two years, the government also lowered the income threshold (the amount you need to earn before starting to make HECS repayments)
- 2020 Jobs Ready Package

## Part 2—Supporting students to succeed

### *Higher Education Support Act 2003*

#### 19-43 Support for students policy

*Providers must have a support for students policy*

- (1) A higher education provider must have a policy (a **support for students policy**) that deals with the support provided to the provider's students to assist them to successfully complete the units of study in which they are enrolled.
- (2) A higher education provider's support for students policy must:
  - (a) include information on:
    - (i) the provider's processes for identifying students that are at risk of not successfully completing their units of study; and
    - (ii) the supports available from or on behalf of the provider to assist students to successfully complete the units of study in which they are enrolled; and
  - (b) comply with any requirements specified in the Higher Education Provider Guidelines.
- (3) Without limiting paragraph (2)(b), the requirements may relate to the following:
  - (a) requirements for the higher education provider's support for students policy to include specified information;
  - (b) requirements about the presentation, format and availability of the policy.

*Provider to comply with support for students policy*

- (4) A higher education provider must comply with its support for students policy.

*Provider must report on compliance with support for students policy*

- (5) A higher education provider must give a report to the Minister about the provider's compliance with its support for students policy.
- (6) The report must:
  - (a) include the information required by the Higher Education Provider Guidelines; and
  - (b) be given within the period, or at the intervals, specified in the Higher Education Provider Guidelines.

*Civil penalty for non-compliance*

- (7) A higher education provider contravenes this subsection if the provider:
  - (a) is subject to a requirement under this section; and
  - (b) does not comply with the requirement.

Civil penalty:           60 penalty units.

### **Government forces universities to help struggling students and stamp out sexual assaults on campus. The Australian**

Universities will be fined nearly \$20,000 each time they fail to support a struggling student with tutoring or counselling, under government legislation introduced to federal parliament on Thursday.

Universities will be required to [identify struggling students](#) and intervene with academic support, financial assistance, housing information and mental health support.



The bill will force all universities and private tertiary institutions to have a Support for Students Policy, to “proactively identify” students at risk of falling behind, and set out what they will do to help them succeed.

Wherever possible, universities must identify struggling students before the “census date” – the cut-off date when students can drop out of a degree without incurring tuition fees or Higher Education Loan Program (HELP) debts.

Students must be given access to targeted individual literacy, numeracy and other academic supports.

Trained “academic development advisers” must be hired to help students identify “what’s holding them back and come up with the right response for that student”.

Academic staff must also ensure “targeted in-course support”, including check-ins and flexibility on assessment, such as deadline extensions.

Mr Clare said universities will have to provide “sufficient non-academic supports for students, such as financial assistance, housing information and mental health supports”.

Universities that are aware of a “significant life event” for a student – such as the death of a loved one or a family breakdown – must proactively offer “special circumstance” arrangements to help them stay at uni.

“This is important because many students struggle because of non-academic issues,” Mr Clare said.

The bill axes part of previous Coalition government’s Job Ready Graduates rules, which cancel taxpayer support for students who fail more than half their subjects in a given year.

“(This) has seen disproportionate number of students from poor backgrounds being forced to leave university,” Mr Clare said.

“More than 13,000 students at 27 universities have been hit by this in the past two years, mostly from disadvantaged backgrounds.

It fails to set up a student Ombudsman to deal with complaints, but requires universities to tell students about “protections and supports already available to them”.

“(These include) [the ability to obtain refunds](#) where their university has failed to properly assess their ability to undertake a course, or has let them take on too heavy a workload,” Mr Clare told parliament.

“Or where a student has had to discontinue a course for reasons beyond their control.”

The legislation also guarantees a taxpayer-funded place in university for every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student who meets entry requirements, apart from degrees in medicine.