

Minutes

Meeting opened 5.30pm

1. Acknowledgement of the Traditional Owners

The Curtin Student Guild pays our respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members of our community by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land on which the Bentley Campus is located, the Wadjuk people of the Nyungar Nation; and on our Kalgoorlie Campus, the Wongutha people of the North-Eastern Goldfields. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this university, city and this region.”

2. Attendance

- 2.1. Members Present; Ben Burgess, Max Zhang, Ebony Whitney, David Phillips, Dylan Storer, Bridget Clifton, Noor Fella, Coben Foster, Hadiya Naeemi, Razanne Al-Abdeli, Callum Baxter (5.42pm), Emily Lassam, Hamide Kocer (5.36pm online)
- 2.2. Others Present; Julie Parolo, Vernon Thompson,
- 2.3. Apologies and Leave of Absence; Mitch Craig
- 2.4. Absent;

3. Disclosure of any potential or perceived Conflicts of Interest. None

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting and Circular Resolutions

4.1. Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion: That the Guild Council approves the minutes of the previous meeting held on 24/07/2025 as a true and accurate record of proceedings at that meeting.

Moved: Noor Fella (Secretary)

Seconded: Max Zhang

Carried

5. Reports

5.1. President – Submitted. As read. Dylan Storer noted that the Guild was stronger now than it had been in years. He noted the introduction and popularity of the \$5 Student and the launch of the Guild's Student Pantry. Dylan reported that the Guild had mobilised to support psychology students who had their exam formats changed half way through the semester with 1200 students signing our open letters. He said that Curtin broke its own policy. The Guild managed to reverse the university decision. The West Australian ran a story on the unacceptable state of security in older Unilodge accommodation buildings. Since that coverage, there has been a surge in students coming forward with their own stories. The Guild secured overflow parking. A special general meeting would be held on Palestine and Australian university ties to weapons countries. Dylan noted the national march for Palestine and the WA University Review. Ebony Whitney said that The West Australian article was useful and that security guard attended Vickory House for a time afterward. She said that there was a meeting with residence and the police regarding safety. Hadiya Naeemi asked about opening and closing times of the overflow parking and suggested that entry point signage was required.

5.2. Vice President – Education – Submitted. Ben Burgess noted the push for universal submission times. This was raised at the Deans of Learning meeting. He said that consultation was sought with students during Orientation. Feedback was included in the report. 72% of students said it would reduce stress. Bridget Clifton queried whether the university backdown was relevant to all psychology students.

5.3. Vice President – Activities – Submitted. As read. Bridget Clifton noted the success of O Day, House Party and Sustainability Week. She reported that there was a level of antisocial behaviour at the Hose Party. Love and Consent Week was taking place next week.

5.4. Vice President – Sustainability & Welfare – Submitted. Razanne Al-Abdeli reported that students around the country would receive information from the Australian Human Rights Commission. Razanne noted that the Guild had been working with the Commission in association with other groups including UWA to make sure the survey

would serve the best interests of students. There were concerns about anti-Palestinian racism and the endorsement of problematic definitions that could be an attack on free speech. There would be a form available for students who did not wish to use website link. Student privacy would be ensured as names would be hidden from universities. Razanne noted that the recycling Hub had been launched and it was located in level 3 of the Library. Razanne reported on Sustainability Week commenting on the coffee grounds which could be collected and used as mulch and the work of PR students in promoting the bring your own mug promotion. Razanne noted the halal, vegan free and sugar free range of lollies at G Mart. Razanne commented on the Strike for Gaza and the National March for Gaza and the role of Curtin Guild in supporting Palestine. Razanne spoke about the Ethnocultural collective – students who come from CALD backgrounds who were domestic students and their differing needs from international students. There was a query about pizza lolly and the length of time to restock. Issues around multi-faith services. Recently a new multi-faith officer employed. Concerns about opening hours for multi-faith and meditation rooms. Bridget asked about religious cults recruiting for members at the universities. Razanne said that she liaises with Safer Communities about this issue.

Secretary – Submitted. Noor Fellah said planning for 2026 budget was ongoing. Noor noted that she was working on changes to regulations and bylaws for the ethnocultural officer. As well, Noor reported working with Bridget Clifton on a sustainability grant and award which would have to be in line with clubs policy.

5.5. Managing Director – Submitted. As read. Vernon Thompson noted a lot of activity in the operation of the Guild. He was pleased that the student kitchen had opened. Work had begun on the retreat and stage 2 of the Student Clubs Hub was near completion. Vernon noted the expansive needs of running the Guild and the support by consultant David Price and Elevate. Ebony Whitney asked how Guild funds would be reinvested in student services in the future. Vernon Thompson said the financials were looking positive and that we were on a journey, and we first have to reinvest in our strategic plan. There was a query about access to the Clubs Hub. Dylan Storer noted the excellent performance of Student Assist. There was discussion about club banking and the clubs content on social media on Guild O Day.

Motion: That the Guild Council approves the reports.

Moved: Noor Fellah (Secretary)

Seconded: Ben Burgess

Carried

Callum Baxter left the meeting at 6pm and returned at 6.10pm

6. Business on Notice

6.1. Safety Report

Noor Fella noted that the safety inspections had been completed on time in June and July.

Motion: That the Guild Council **notes** the Safety Report.

Bridget left 6.02pm returned 6.08pm.

Moved: Noor Fella (Secretary)

Seconded: Ebony Whitney

6.2. Finance Report

Vernon Thomson said he was pleased with how we were tracking particularly in Commercial. Key information was presented as a dashboard. Review of pricing, rostering and focus on wages, promotion and product range had a role to play in the positive performance.

Motion: That the Guild Council **notes** the Finance Report.

Moved: Noor Fella (Secretary)

Seconded: Callum Baxter

Carried

6.3. Proposed Amendment to the Curtin Student Guild Organisational Structure

Motion: That the Guild Council:

Approves;

- a) A change to the organisational structure of the guild to establish an additional layer of management between the Managing Director and Portfolio Managers to be known as "General Managers";

- b) The amendment of any associated contracts, position descriptions and reporting lines associated with this change; and
- c) **Notes** that final costings for the new structure will be provided to the Executive for decision under Delegation 6.14/0 before implementation.

Moved: Dylan Storer (President)

Seconded: Noor Fellah (Secretary)

Carried

Motion that the discussion is in camera.

Moved: Dylan Storer

Seconded: Noor Fellah

Carried

6.4. Guild Strategic Plan 2026-2029

Motion: That the Guild Council:

discusses and **approves** the Curtin Student Guild Strategic Plan 2026-2029.

Moved: Dylan Storer (President)

Seconded: Noor Fellah (Secretary)

Carried

6.5. Amending Regulation and By-Law Update

Motion: That the Guild Council:

Notes that draft amendments to the Student Guild (Guild Council) Regulations 2018 and Student Guild By-Laws 2022 have been prepared pursuant to the resolution of 24 July 2025.

Notes that the draft amendments (excluding the formal amending regulations) have been circulated to the Legal Committee for review.

Notes that Guild Council will be asked to consider the proposed amendments once the Legal Committee has reported back with its approval.

Noor Fellah said changes were completed and sent to the Legal Committee. She noted that the Guild was still working on the amending regulations which Legal must approve and go to University Council.

Moved: Noor Fellah (Secretary)

Seconded: Dylan Storer (President)

Carried

6.6. WA University Review

for discussion only

Dylan Storer provided a background to the WA University Review. He said that former Labor Minister Alannah MacTiernan was the Chair. Dylan noted that university mergers appeared to be on the table and that possibility Curtin could be part of a merger. He said that the Guild's focus was protecting student outcomes. He noted that the Guild believed that there should be changes to how universities were run, managed and governed. The sector was facing challenges including corporatization, underfunding, worsening learning conditions and the workforce casualization. However, Dylan noted that the Guild did not think mergers in WA were the answer. Dylan spoke about the possible impact of mergers on regional and overseas campuses, especially WASM. Ebony Whitney raised the issue of course fees which varied at WA's universities, course length and educational approach which suited different learning styles. She said that many students chose the university they would attend based on their unique strengths. Ben Burgess commented on the link between student numbers and student satisfaction. It was noted that WASM should remain independent from any merger proposal.

Emily left meeting at 6.59pm.

7. Minutes of Committees Reporting to the Guild Council

7.1. Representation Board – 17/07/2025

7.2. Executive Committee – 11/08/2025, 18/08/2025

7.3. Finance & Risk Committee – 16/07/2025

7.4. Operations Committee – Nil

7.5. Legal Committee – Nil

Motion: That the Guild Council approves the minutes of the committees reporting to the GV

Moved: Noor Fellah

Seconded: Dylan Storer

Carried

8. General Business

8.1. Ideas and Suggestions

8.1.1. Tavern A/V Equipment

Max Zhang reported that the audio equipment at the Tav had degraded in the beer garden and bistro area and was not suitable for events. He said that the equipment needed to be replaced and/or upgraded. Ben Burgess said that he had run quiz nights at the Tav and that there were delays in getting the equipment set up. There was a lack of training for staff working at the Tav. Vernon Thompson said that an immediate response was required.

8.2. Other Business

Coben Foster asked about the reference to cults and what evidence there was to assume they were cults and not Christians. Bridget Clifton noted a group interested in the Book of Revelations. Looking into this she said it was a known cult. Bridget confirmed it was not the Curtin Christian Union. Max Zhang said that there were a number of groups that operated on campus that have been named by churches/authorities as cults.

Julie Parolo asked the Guild Council to accept Uniready as eligible to nominate for Guild Council. Dylan Storer said he did not understand why Uniready students could not stand as a candidate in the Guild elections. He said it was important to represent all students at Curtin. Dylan said the Guild would look into this issue

9. Meeting Evaluation

The meeting evaluation was carried out by Hadiya Naeemi.

10. Next Meeting

The next ordinary meeting of the Guild Council will be at 5:30 pm on the 25th of September 2025, to be held in the University Council Chambers.

Meeting closed at 7.31pm