

MINUTES

Meeting opened 5.34pm

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; Dylan Storer, Noor Fellah (online), Hadiya Naeemi, Tahni Rowe, Morgan Mills, Max Zhang, Finn Gardoll, Joanna Kuo, Vivi Choi, Bridget Clifton, Emily Lassam (left 6.23pm), David Phillips, Ebony Whitney, Suhalia Jaffna, Isobel (left at 6.00pm)
- 2.2. Others Present; Vernon Thompson, Moira Aynsley, Tom Harrowing (left at 6.10pm)
- 2.3. Apologies and Leave of Absence;
- 2.4. Absent; Hamide Kocer

3. Disclosure of any potential or perceived Conflicts of Interest

No disclosures declared

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 meetings held on 26/02/2026 as a true and accurate record of proceedings at those meetings.

Moved: Noor Fellah (Secretary)

Seconded: Tahni Rowe

Carried

5. Reports and KPIs

5.1. President – Submitted

1) Industrial dispute (NTEU bargaining / strike action)

Council was updated on the industrial bargaining dispute between Curtin University and the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU). The President advised that formal notice had been received for a 24-hour strike by union members, scheduled for Monday, 23 March. The President outlined that:

- Only union members may participate and participation may vary, noting the financial impact on staff who strike.
- The Guild's stated position is to support the NTEU's bargaining position.
- The President had not been informed in advance of the specific strike date and intended to follow up with the union to improve coordination, particularly to support timely student communications.
- The Guild would assess impacts on students and determine appropriate communications to students, alongside anticipated University communications.

Clarification provided in Q&A:

A councillor asked about differences between earlier industrial actions and the current action. The President explained the earlier matter was not technically a strike (described as a work-from-home action, with subsequent disruption when pay issues arose), whereas the current action is a full 24-hour strike (no online or in-person teaching) intended to cause maximum disruption.

2) Food for Fines (parking campaign related)

The President advised Food for Fines would commence next month (April). Key points noted:

- The Guild Food Pantry would receive 50% of donations under the arrangement.
- The expansion of Food for Fines from two to four rounds per year (a previous advocacy outcome) was reiterated.

Question raised: A councillor asked whether the other Food for Fines periods were known.

Response: The President indicated timing had not been confirmed, suspected they may be scheduled during lower student presence periods, and advised the Guild position remains that Food for Fines should be available year-round. The President stated he would seek clarification through discussions with Parking/Properties.

3) Curtin Link service and transport/parking

The President reported early indications that the Curtin Link service was being used strongly and encouraged eligible students to use it where possible to reduce parking demand.

Council was invited to share feedback for escalation to Properties, noting the potential need to advocate for increased capacity if wait times and demand were high.

Feedback received from councillors:

- Positive personal and peer experience, particularly beneficial during extreme heat.
- Some concerns reported as raised by drivers, including:
 - Inefficient routing (inconvenient paths / random areas)
 - Fuel and time impacts
 - Staffing impacts where some drivers reportedly did not show for shifts, increasing short-notice demands on others
 - A view that the service is operated by a third party and may have logistical issues. The President noted this perspective was of interest and indicated willingness to discuss further.

4) Housing campaign (on-campus and state advocacy)

The President provided an update on housing advocacy, including:

- Attendance at a coalition meeting with Make Renting Fair WA, involving Guild representatives
- The coalition's intention to engage more closely with stakeholders, with a continued focus on strengthening protections for students, including those in boarding/lodging arrangements not currently covered by the Residential Tenancy Act.
- On-campus campaign work: collation of survey results and preparation of a concise draft report for future consideration by the Guild Representation Board as policy adoption.

The draft report's headline findings were described as:

1. Student housing is structurally unaffordable.
2. Much Curtin housing is unbearably hot in summer.
3. Many students feel unsafe in Curtin housing.
4. Curtin housing is governed in ways described as operating "against students."

The report was said to include a scorecard of accommodation near Bentley and proposed solutions, with plans for media engagement and linkage to broader advocacy on heat in cities.

Question raised: A councillor asked whether resident parking/permit impacts would be part of the housing campaign.

Response: The President stated this issue would be reflected as part of "hidden fees" impacts in the housing report, but that a targeted push may align more closely with the Guild's broader parking campaign. The President referenced the complexity of parking capacity during construction works and indicated an intention to raise issues and use data in upcoming University forums, including Academic Board.

5) Support for students impacted by the war in the Middle East

The President briefed Council on ongoing advocacy and student support work, including:

- Preparation of a letter to the Vice-Chancellor outlining requested University actions.
- A scheduled meeting with the Vice-Chancellor to discuss these requests.
- Advocacy points listed included: extending the effective census date for impacted students to 1 May, additional flexibility for international tuition fee deadlines, clearer communications on academic flexibility and extension pathways, access to refunds/remissions for international students where needed, hardship support grants, and guidance for students facing tuition and visa-related challenges.
- The President noted Student Assist was receiving cases and expected demand to increase.

6) Governance/committee structure change (Operations Committee replacement)

The President advised councillors that the existing Operations Committee (a subcommittee of the Executive with standing invites to councillors) would be discontinued and replaced by two committees aligned to the Guild's Student Services and Corporate Services portfolios.

- Frequency described as: previous monthly meetings replaced by two bi-monthly cycles, resulting in one meeting per month overall (across the two committees).
- A draft constitutional instrument for the change was said to be prepared and intended for circulation for Council feedback.

7) Precinct works / refurbishments and project delays

The President noted operational updates regarding:

- Work on precinct planning and improvement of Guild presence and services.
- Delays affecting an equity space and Student Assist consulting room project, though it was described as back on track.
- Planning underway for design engagement for GC Central refurbishment and the Tavern refurbishment, with future consultation opportunities for councillors and students.

8) Staff retirement acknowledgment

The President acknowledged the retirement of long-serving Guild staff member **Maryanne Shaddick** (Manager of Student Engagement; previously Deputy Managing Director), noting her contribution to the Guild and students. The Chair and Council expressed thanks and best wishes.

Action/Follow-up Items (as stated in discussion)

1. **Industrial dispute communications:** President to follow up with NTEU regarding advance notice and coordination, and to develop student communications regarding strike impacts.
2. **Food for Fines timing:** President to seek clarification from Parking/Properties on the scheduling of remaining Food for Fines rounds and continue advocacy for year-round availability.

3. **Curtin Link feedback:** Councillors' student and driver feedback to be collated and provided to Properties/contract managers; consider capacity and operational issues.
4. **Housing report/policy:** Draft housing survey report to proceed to Guild Representation Board for potential policy adoption and subsequent advocacy.
5. **War-impacted student advocacy:** President to meet Vice-Chancellor and pursue identified support measures; Student Assist demand to be monitored.
6. **Committee restructure:** Draft constitutional changes to be circulated for Council feedback.

5.2. Vice President – Education – Submitted

The Vice President - Education spoke to the written report and provided additional verbal updates on education-related campaigns, parking advocacy, union engagement, and student placement advocacy. Council discussed aspects of the report, including universal submission times, student retention, and the planned parking campaign.

1) Student representation and campaigns

The Vice President - Education advised that:

- First Year Representatives had been contacted and work was underway to convene an initial meeting.
- A revised model was being trialled with more than one representative, noting initial coordination challenges but anticipated longer-term benefits.

2) Parking advocacy

Council was updated on ongoing advocacy regarding overflow parking, including:

- Follow-up with the University's Chief Operating Officer regarding accessibility and visibility of overflow parking areas.
- Acknowledgement that progress had been slower than desired.
- The Vice President - Education noted strong student dissatisfaction with parking issues and expressed confidence that, with appropriate direction, the issue could gain traction with both the University and government stakeholders.

Discussion points raised by councillors included:

- The need for a student-facing public campaign, particularly timed to peak parking stress periods such as the start of Semester 2.
- The importance of clearly identifying and prioritising specific campaign asks to strengthen advocacy. The Vice President agreed and undertook to consider these points.

3) Union engagement

The Vice President - Education acknowledged the contribution of Guild representatives (including Vice President - Activities) to the Union Fair, and noted:

- A desire to continue building a stronger union presence on campus through future events.

4) Student placements campaign

The Vice President advised that the placements campaign was progressing, including:

- Close collaboration with faculty representatives
- Recognition of NUS State Branch President, for ongoing work in convening meetings and maintaining momentum on placement-related issues. The campaign was described as focusing on ensuring placement issues remain visible and recognised as requiring change.

5) Universal submission times

Council discussed the implementation of universal submission times. The Vice President - Education clarified that:

- Universal submission times are an established policy, not a trial.
- References to a “trial phase” in the report were acknowledged as incorrect wording.
- Non-compliance was attributed primarily to academic staff adjustment rather than resistance.
- Where academics had been contacted, compliance was generally rectified promptly.

6) Student success and retention

In response to questions, the Vice President - Education elaborated on references in the report to student success and declining retention rates, noting that:

- A significant issue exists with students not completing their courses, particularly among equity cohorts, first-in-family students, and part-time students.
- Students who shift to part-time study are statistically more likely to disengage and ultimately withdraw.
- Existing services were described as often being accessed too late, when students are already at risk of failure.
- Current work focuses on developing preventative systems and supports to assist students earlier and reduce attrition.

7) Communications on parking

A councillor asked what communications had been issued to students regarding the parking campaign. The Vice President - Education advised that:

- No broad student communications had yet been issued.
- Work was underway to develop mechanisms for students to voice concerns collectively, with the intention of escalating these issues to the University.

Actions / Follow-up (as noted in discussion)

1. **First Year Reps:** Continue coordination to establish initial meeting(s) under the revised representative model.

2. **Parking advocacy:**

- Continue engagement with University executive regarding overflow parking.
- Develop a student-facing parking campaign with clearly defined advocacy asks and appropriate timing (e.g. semester commencement).

3. **Placements campaign:** Continue coordinated advocacy with NUS and relevant representatives.

4. **Universal submission times:** Ongoing monitoring and reinforcement of compliance with academic staff.

5.3. Vice President – Activities – Submitted

The Vice President (Activities) spoke to the written report and provided verbal updates on recent and upcoming events, engagement with unions, and University work relating to gender-based violence prevention.

1) Recent events — Careers Week

The Vice President reported on Careers Week, describing it as a deliberate shift toward education-focused events rather than giveaway-based activities. The program included:

- LinkedIn workshop with professional headshots
- Job interview and résumé writing workshop
- Union Fair
- Immigration and visa advice session
- First aid certificate training

The Vice President - Activities advised that:

- Partner organisations and facilitators were highly satisfied and expressed interest in returning for future events.
- Attendance rates were lower than registrations, which was noted as common for free events.
- All activities were free except first aid training, which was offered at \$20 (reduced from approximately \$140) and sold out quickly.
- The Union Fair aligned with feedback from the Guild Representation Board seeking increased union engagement on campus.

Council members provided feedback noting:

- Strong student interest in Careers Week activities, particularly LinkedIn workshops, headshots, and first aid training.
- Capacity limitations restricted participation in some sessions.
- A suggestion that future iterations include multiple sessions, expanded capacity, or repeated offerings.

The Vice President - Activities acknowledged this feedback and advised that:

- Capacity constraints were anticipated as part of the trial format.
- Future planning would aim to expand offerings and scale delivery where feasible.
- Post-event feedback also suggested filming or streaming workshops to improve accessibility for students unable to attend due to timetable clashes or other commitments, which would be explored for future events.

2) Union engagement

Council members commented positively on the Union Fair, noting strong engagement and student sign-ups with participating unions. It was observed that connecting students with relevant unions was a valuable outcome.

In response, the Vice President - Activities:

- Agreed the initiative had been successful.
- Confirmed Careers Week functioned as a trial and expressed support for delivering similar activities again at greater scale.
- Noted interest in further union-focused events later in the year, in collaboration with other portfolio holders.
- Reaffirmed that union engagement is a priority shared across the Guild.

3) Upcoming events

The Vice President - Activities outlined several upcoming activities, noting that many remain in the planning phase:

- **Barnyard Bash:**
Feedback from the previous Council meeting regarding inclusion of students under 18 was incorporated. The event will include a component accessible to under-18 students, to be run alongside licensed areas. The Vice President - Activities noted this as an example of Council feedback being implemented.
- **World Week:**
Formerly Sustainability Week, this event is transitioning to World Week, with a broader focus on welfare, cultural diversity, and social cohesion across campus.
- **Category C event:**
The first Category C event supported through the Reps framework, described as a disability collaboration lunch, was noted as upcoming.

4) Gender-based violence framework

The Vice President - Activities advised that the Executive had met with Curtin University representatives from the DVCA portfolio and received an update on the National Higher Education Gender-Based Violence Code and the associated University action plan.

- Both the Code and the action plan have been published and are publicly available on the University website.

- The Vice President - Activities had not yet completed a full review but noted positively that the action plan includes specific actions relating to student accommodation, an area previously raised by the Guild.
- The Vice President - Activities emphasised the importance of ongoing monitoring and audits of implementation, and of the Guild remaining actively involved in discussions to ensure issues are not overlooked.

Actions / Follow-up (as stated in discussion)

1. **Events delivery:** Continue planning and delivery of upcoming activities, including inclusive arrangements for Barnyard Bash.
2. **Union engagement:** Maintain and expand union-related events and partnerships on campus.
3. **Gender-based violence oversight:** Monitor Curtin's implementation of the Gender-Based Violence Code and action plan, with a focus on accountability and Guild involvement.

5.4. Vice President – Sustainability & Welfare – Submitted

The Vice President - Sustainability & Welfare spoke to the submitted report and provided verbal updates on housing campaign activity, food security initiatives, World Week planning, campus infrastructure improvements, and recent welfare-related installations. Council members asked questions regarding campaign participation and campus works.

1) Housing campaign

The Vice President - Sustainability & Welfare advised that the housing campaign had moved into an active on-campus phase, including:

- Establishment of a TidyHQ platform to support the campaign.
- The platform will be used for student sign-ups, campaign communications, and promotion of on-campus activities such as barbecues at student accommodation sites.
- The campaign was described as progressing alongside the broader housing advocacy outlined earlier in the President's report.

Council discussion:

A councillor asked for further explanation of the campaign structure and how Guild councillors could become involved.

In response, the Vice President advised that:

- A TidyHQ administrative group had been established, with councillor involvement already in place.
- Terms of reference for the platform had been developed and distributed.
- Councillors would be able to sign up to support promotion and participation, with early

councillor engagement intended to encourage wider student participation once publicly launched.

- Formal student launch was anticipated to align with early campaign activities and release of the housing report.

Council members emphasised the importance of broad councillor and representative participation in the housing campaign, noting its significance to the student cohort.

2) Food Charter and food security initiatives

The Vice President - Sustainability & Welfare reported that:

- A first draft of the Food Charter had been completed and circulated for feedback.
- The Charter includes reference to the Frozen Meals Initiative, with meals produced earlier in the year.
- Visiting students from Kagawa Nutrition University (Japan) had engaged with Curtin and the Guild on food security matters, including visits to Foodbank, supermarkets, and the Guild Food Pantry.
- Guild representatives and academic staff had provided an overview of the pantry's development and operations, and the frozen meals initiative.

3) World Week

The Vice President - Sustainability & Welfare reiterated plans for World Week, noting alignment with comments made earlier under the Vice President - Activities report. Key points included:

- The event evolved from Sustainability Week to incorporate sustainability and welfare, with an emphasis on cultural diversity and social cohesion.
- Proposed activities include a mid-week activation/fair day and a night-market-style event, potentially involving clubs sharing cultural food and activities.
- Planning was ongoing, and there is strong enthusiasm for the initiative.

4) Campus welfare initiatives — HIV self-test vending machine

In response to a question, the Vice President - Sustainability & Welfare advised Council of the installation of an HIV self-test vending machine on campus:

- The initiative commenced in April 2025 and involved extended consultation and approvals.
- The machine is now installed in the Clubs Hub hallway, connected to power, and scheduled to be stocked imminently. Council acknowledged the completion of this initiative.

5) Guild Courtyard works

At the request of the President, the Vice President - Sustainability & Welfare provided an update on works in the Guild Courtyard, advising that:

- Newly planted trees were establishing well and ongoing maintenance was underway.
- Seating arrangements were being adjusted to provide more communal seating, including relocation of picnic-style benches.
- Plans were in place to introduce additional low seating on the deck area.
- Large planter pots are scheduled to be painted during study week (late May) by a mural artist, with a participatory “paint-by-numbers” approach allowing student involvement.

Actions / Follow-up (as stated in discussion)

1. Housing campaign:

- Continue establishment and promotion of the TidyHQ platform.
- Enable councillor sign-up and participation ahead of broader student launch.

2. Food Charter:

- Progress draft through consultation and feedback processes.

3. World Week:

- Continue event planning and coordination with relevant portfolios.

4. Courtyard works:

- Progress seating upgrades and mural project as scheduled.

5.5. Secretary – Submitted

No verbal update to the report.

5.6. Managing Director - Submitted

The Managing Director spoke to the submitted report, highlighting key operational, precinct, commercial, governance, and organisational matters. Council asked questions relating to pricing, club engagement with the Tavern, event voucher uptake, and organisational structure.

1) Operational activity and student engagement

The Managing Director reported a strong level of activity and engagement across all student-facing areas, as detailed in the written report, with operational highlights reflected in individual manager reports.

2) Guild Precinct Plan and capital works

Council received an update on the Guild Precinct Plan, noting that:

- Progression of works relating to the equity spaces (Level 1) experienced a delay due to a designer conflict of interest.
- A replacement designer has been appointed, with a formal handover completed.
- Development is progressing toward demolition drawings for the Clubs HQ and subsequent University approval.

- Commencement of works for the equity spaces was still anticipated for April, subject to final approvals.

For the Tavern and Central Café refurbishments:

- The Request for Proposal closed the following day, with all shortlisted bidders confirming submissions.
- A small assessment panel will review proposals and make a recommendation under delegated authority, with reporting to the Finance and Risk Committee.
- Following appointment, designers will provide concept sketches, which will be subject to consultation and iterative feedback.
- Project sequencing is planned as:
 - Central Café refurbishment to commence and conclude during the mid-semester break.
 - Tavern refurbishment to commence during the end-of-year break.

3) Commercial operations and Tavern activity

The Managing Director advised that:

- The commercial strategic plan continues to be implemented.
- Menu changes and operational reviews have been undertaken across outlets.
- A detailed review of kitchen and outlet capability has been completed, with additional training and development underway.
- Staff engagement with these changes has been positive.

Council was also updated on Tavern programming, including:

- Successful quiz nights and “Vibes Friday” events.
- Increased activation of the space and pathway for clubs to host activities.
- Acknowledgement of the work of the Vice President - Activities, Tavern management, and staff in revitalising the venue.

4) Organisational structure and senior appointments

The Managing Director introduced the General Manager – Student Services (Moira Aynsley) and advised that:

- Recruitment for General Manager – Corporate Services had concluded, with Natasha Morgan appointed and commencing in a transitional capacity from the following Monday. The Corporate Services portfolio will include finance, HR, governance, and IT.
- Both General Managers will attend Council meetings to provide portfolio-specific operational and strategic insight.

In response to a request for clarification, the Managing Director outlined the revised organisational structure adopted following the organisational review, noting:

- Creation of an executive-level General Manager layer to provide strategic and

operational oversight.

- Separation of responsibilities across Student Services, Corporate Services, and Commercial operations.
- Existing managers retained their titles and remuneration arrangements as part of the restructure.
- The Managing Director is currently acting in the General Manager, Commercial role while the commercial strategy is implemented.

5) Governance, risk, and audit

The Managing Director advised that:

- A comprehensive review of the Guild's risk management framework is underway.
- The audit of the 2025 financial statements had been completed, with positive outcomes, as referenced later in the agenda.

6) Acknowledgement of staff service

The Managing Director reiterated comments made earlier regarding Maryanne Shaddick, noting:

- Maryanne is currently on annual leave and transitioning toward the conclusion of her tenure.
- Transition planning has been underway since January.
- Formal thanks and recognition were expressed on behalf of the management team for her significant contribution to the Guild.

7) Questions and discussion

Pricing of Tavern menu items

A councillor asked about recent price increases on Tavern menu items. The Managing Director explained that:

- Pricing is based on detailed assessment of raw material costs and target gross margins to ensure financial sustainability.
- Food CPI increases have been partially absorbed by the Guild to balance affordability.
- A holistic approach is taken across the Tavern's operations rather than applying uniform percentage increases.

Club bookings and Tavern responsiveness

A councillor raised concerns about delayed responses when clubs book Tavern spaces. The Managing Director acknowledged:

- Initial confusion regarding booking processes with new management.
- Clarification and streamlining of processes had since occurred.
- An undertaking was given to follow up if issues persisted.

Club activity growth

Council noted a significant increase in club activity, with comparative figures highlighting

growth year-on-year. Acknowledgement was given to clubs, volunteers, and Guild staff for increased engagement and effective marketing.

O-Day vouchers and wayfinding

Questions were raised regarding low redemption rates for O-Day commercial vouchers and difficulty locating stalls. Discussion noted:

- Possible barriers including perceived value, physical voucher format, timing, and wayfinding challenges.
- Feedback from event close-out identified the need for improved distribution, clearer maps, and potentially multiple voucher distribution points.
- Suggestions included physical maps, clearer zoning, and earlier provision of information to representatives. Management advised this feedback had been captured for future event planning.

Actions / Follow-up (as stated in discussion)

1. **Precinct works:** Continue progression of equity spaces, Central Café, and Tavern refurbishments in line with approvals and project sequencing.
2. **Commercial operations:** Ongoing review of pricing, menu, and capability to balance affordability and sustainability.
3. **Club engagement:** Monitor and improve Tavern booking processes for clubs.
4. **Events improvement:** Incorporate feedback from O-Day close-out, including wayfinding, maps, and voucher distribution.

Motion: That the Guild Council approves the reports.

Moved: Noor Fellah (Secretary)

Seconded: Tahni Rowe

Carried

6. Business on Notice

6.1. Safety Report

Council considered the Safety Report as submitted. A councillor raised a question regarding an incident recorded as occurring on 20 February in the Guild Courtyard, seeking clarification on:

- The wellbeing of the staff member involved, and
- The status of any follow-up or investigation.

In response, Management advised that:

- There were no reports of any ongoing safety issues for the staff member.
- The incident was brief and involved a staff response to the situation.
- At the time of reporting, it could not be confirmed that the other individual involved

was a student, with available indicators suggesting the individual was not recognised as a student by Safer Communities or staff.

- Although the incident was marked as “closed” in the report, follow-up inquiries were continuing to confirm the identity of the other individual.
- The “closed” status reflected that there was no ongoing safety risk identified.

No further questions or comments were raised.

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

Moved: Noor Fellah (Secretary)

Seconded: Vivi Choi

Carried

6.2. Finance Report

Council considered the Finance Report as submitted.

A councillor queried Figure 1: 2026 Monthly Set Net Sales Comparison, noting that the Basement outlet appeared as an outlier compared to other venues.

In response, Management advised that:

- There were no identified issues with service quality or product offering at Basement.
- Sales activity in the precinct may be more proportionately shared with nearby outlets, particularly Mallokup.
- Cohort changes (including graduation of previously strong patron groups) may have contributed, with new cohorts not yet fully replacing that demand.
- The matter continues to be monitored, though no specific operational concern had been identified.

Council further noted positively that:

- With the exception of the identified outlier, all venues shown in the comparison were trading above budget, reflecting strong overall commercial performance.

A councillor also raised a question regarding broader economic conditions, referencing potential impacts of international conflict on fuel prices, transport costs, and food pricing.

Management advised that:

- Rising transport and production costs are expected to impact wholesale and retail food pricing.
- The Guild’s commercial strategy is designed to build long-term resilience to such economic headwinds.
- A key indicator of sustainability is gross profit margin, which demonstrates the ability to absorb cost increases while covering overheads.
- Pricing decisions aim to balance affordability and certainty for students, with cost pressures managed holistically rather than through frequent price changes.

No further questions were raised.

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

Moved: Noor Fellah (Secretary)

Seconded: Ebony Whitney

Carried

6.3. Returning Officers Report 2025

Council considered the Returning Officer's Report for the 2025 Annual General Election.

The mover and seconder provided comments on the report, noting concerns including:

- Recommendations made by the Returning Officer regarding campaign materials, which were considered by some councillors to extend beyond administrative or procedural matters.
- Instances where students were reportedly not provided with all ballot papers during polling, including ballots for National Union of Students positions.
- Concerns regarding the availability of ballot papers at certain polling locations, particularly for International Student Committee President, and the potential impact on participation.
- The number of informal votes recorded in several elections, which was noted as comparatively high.
- Delays in the publication of election results, particularly for Guild Council positions.
- Perceived omissions in the report regarding operational issues encountered during polling.

Council discussed whether the report adequately reflected administrative matters arising during the election process. It was noted that, while these issues were not considered to have materially affected election outcomes, members expressed concern regarding the completeness of the report.

During discussion, it was suggested that Council may consider providing separate feedback or commentary on election administration to the Returning Officer or relevant parties outside of the noting process.

Motion: That the Guild Council notes the Returning Officer's report for the 2025 Annual General Election

Moved: Noor Fellah (Secretary)

Seconded: Dylan Storer (President)

Not carried

6.4. 2025 Financial Statements and Audit

The President spoke in support of the motion, noting that:

- The Guild is subject to a thorough annual audit process.
- The audited financial statements demonstrate a strengthened financial position.
- The results reflect sound governance and management and position the Guild well to respond to future financial challenges while expanding services for students.

No further questions or comments were raised.

Motion: The Committee **recommends** that the Guild Council:

- a.) Notes the audit report and opinion;
- b.) Authorises the President and Secretary to certify that:

In the opinion of the Guild Council:

- i. The Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income and Statement of Cash Flows are drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the performance of the Guild for the year ended 31 December 2025;
 - ii. The Statement of Financial Position is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Guild as at 31 December 2025;
 - iii. The Guild has complied with the *Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements*, the *Curtin University Act 1966*, the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*, and the *Associations Incorporated Act 2015 (WA)* and
 - iv. At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Guild will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
- c.) Recommends to the Annual General Meeting that it adopt the Audited Financial Statements of the Student Guild for the year ending 31 December 2025
 - d.) Recommends to the University Council that it note the Audited Financial Statements of the Student Guild for the year ending 31 December 2025

Moved: Noor Fella (Secretary)

Seconded: Dylan Storer (President)

Carried

6.5. General Managers as Standing Invitees for Guild Council

The President spoke to the motion, advising that:

- The proposal establishes a standing Council resolution permitting General Managers to attend Guild Council meetings as ex officio standing invitees.
- Formal inclusion as non-voting members in the Guild's governing documents would require a statutory amendment and University Council approval; however, this motion enables attendance and circulation of agenda papers without altering voting rights.
- The presence of senior management supports more informed discussion and reduces the need to take operational matters on notice.

Council members spoke in support of the motion, noting that:

- The arrangement aligns with common governance practice, where senior executive staff attend board-level meetings to support effective oversight and decision-making.
- The proposal appropriately reflects the Guild's revised organisational structure.

No further questions were raised.

Motion: That the Guild Council **Approve** the General Managers of the Curtin Student Guild as ex officio standing invitations to all meetings of Guild Council.

Moved: Dylan Storer (President)

Seconded: Noor Fellah (Secretary)

Carried

7. Minutes of Committees Reporting to the Guild Council

7.1. Representation Board – 19/02/2026

7.2. Executive Committee – 24/02/2026, 10/03/2026

7.3. Finance & Risk Committee – 04/03/2026

7.4. Operations Committee – N/A

7.5. Legal Committee – NA

Motion: That the Guild Council **Approves** the minutes of the Committees Reporting to the Guild Council.

Moved: Noor Fellah (Secretary)

Seconded: Dylan Storer (President)

Carried

8. General Business

8.1. Ideas and Suggestions

8.2. Other Business

No general business was noted.

9. Meeting Evaluation

Council received the Meeting Evaluation as presented by Councillor Finn Gardoll.

The evaluator reported generally positive feedback on the conduct and content of the meeting, noting in particular:

- Strong alignment with Guild values, including support for union-aligned advocacy, housing campaigns addressing student accommodation concerns, and welfare

initiatives such as the installation of HIV self-testing facilities.

- Positive engagement and transparency, with appreciation expressed for the openness and honesty of Guild representatives and staff in responding to questions, particularly in relation to finance, safety, transport, and student services.
- Effective compliance with Guild procedures, including timely provision of agendas and supporting papers, and consistent adherence to meeting processes.
- Recognition of key initiatives, including:
 - Ongoing housing advocacy and engagement with Make Renting Fair WA;
 - Food pantry and food security initiatives;
 - Career-focused events and student employability support;
 - Curtin Link service improvements, while noting that concerns raised by service staff warrant further attention.
- Inclusive event delivery, with activities reported as accessible and not disadvantaging any specific cohort.
- Responsiveness to student concerns, particularly regarding housing, safety, and financial security.

The evaluation identified area for improvement:

- Late circulation of agenda revisions as an area for improvement, noting that some members may have missed last-minute changes.

The Meeting Evaluation was received and noted.

Meeting closed 7.20pm.

Next meeting is Thursday, 23 April at 5.30pm.