



## Student Guild of Curtin University

### Representation Board - Meeting #2

Held 19th of January 2023

In Council Chambers 100.301

Meeting opened 5.30pm

#### Minutes

#### 1. Acknowledgement of the Traditional Owners

*"The Curtin Student Guild would like to pay 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; Imari Morris, Aleena Shaji, Ryan Kirby, Hiba Alsoeady, Hannah Northey, Veronika Gobba, Joren Regan, Jude Soussan, Mitchell Craig, Rey Nairn, Danica Scott, James Cabrera,
- 2.2. Others Present; Andrew Cameron (Student Assist), Maryanne Shaddick (Minute Secretary), Erin Russell (observer)
- 2.3. Apologies and Leave of Absence; Dylan Botica, Athina Hillman
- 2.4. Absent; Veer Singh

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

#### 4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

- 4.1. Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion: That the Representation Board approves the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 1/12/22, as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved: Veronika Gobba

Seconded: Imari Morris

Carried

#### 5. Matters Arising from the Minutes. None

#### 6. Items Not for Discussion. None

#### 7. Reports

President – Submitted. Rey Nairn asked a question enquiring about the President's position on reducing vaping on campus and whether prescription medications were an exception to that.

2. Vice President – Education – Submitted. As tabled. No questions
3. Faculty of Business and Law Representative - Submitted. As tabled. No questions.
4. Faculty of Science and Engineering Representative – Submitted. As tabled. No questions.
5. Faculty of Health Sciences Representative – Submitted. As tabled. No questions.

6. Faculty of Humanities Representative – Submitted. As tabled. No questions.
7. Student Assist – Submitted. Andrew Cameron noted that Student Assist was waiting on the November and December life hacks program. No questions.
8. International Students Committee President – Vacant
9. Postgraduate Students Committee President – Submitted. Mitchell Craig noted that the first PSC meeting took place in January. There were no questions.

10. Queer Officer – Submitted. Imari Morris noted an online games night to be held at the weekend. No questions.
11. Women's Officer – Submitted. As tabled. No questions.
12. First Nations Officer – Vacant
13. Accessibility Officer – Submitted. Rey Nairn noted that they had a meeting with the NUS Disabilities Officer. Rey also reported on a national campaign against TEQSA's advice that all university students enrolled in Australian universities had to be onshore, advice which had been interpreted by universities to mean attendance would have to be in person. This interpretation is not accessible. The campaign would start in March.
14. Higher Education Developments – Submitted.as tabled.
15. Chair of the Representation Board\* - Verbal report. Hannah Northey reported they had attended higher education meetings, executive meetings and meetings with Student Assist and Student Engagement

Motion: That the Representation Board notes the

reports. Moved: Veronika Gobba  
 Seconded: Ryan Kirby  
 Carried

## 8. Items for Discussion and Resolution

### 1. Stipend Rate Increase

Motion: That the Representation Board notes the work of the Post Graduate Student Committee (PSC) in successfully advocating for an increase in the Stipend rate for post graduate students

Moved: Ryan Kirby (Faculty Representative for Business and Law)).  
 Seconded Veronika Gobba  
 Carried

Ryan Kirby noted that the 1% increase elevated the stipend above the Henderson poverty line.

### 2. 2023 Invasion Day Rally Endorsement

Motion: That the Representation Board endorses the 2023 Invasion Day rally as a means of solidarity with First Nations Peoples.

Moved: Veronika Gobba (Vice President- Education)  
 Seconded: Ryan Kirby (Faculty Representative for Business as Law)  
 Carried

Veronika Gobba noted that the Guild had supported this campaign action for a long time and that it was something it would not let up on. It was noted that the campaign would normally be the responsibility of the First Nations Officer, a position that was vacant at the moment. Representation Board members were encouraged to attend the event or if they could not attend the protest it was suggested that members did not celebrate on the 26 January. Danica Scott said that they would like to find a seconder for the motion to abolish Australia Day and asked the Guild to support a stand against the Banksia Hill Detention Centre and the indigenous incarceration rate in WA which were horrific injustices. Veronika Gobba clarified that the Guild supported not celebrating 26 January however it did not have a position on the

change the date campaign as there were many viewpoints and it was difficult to develop a position while the Guild did not have indigenous voice.

3. January 26 is Invasion Day, Abolish Australia Day!

Motion: That the Curtin Student Guild recognise January 26 as Invasion Day in solidarity with First Nations Peoples and support the movement calling for the abolition of Australia Day

Moved: Danica Scott (Ordinary Representation Board Member) Seconded: No seconder  
Motion lapsed

4. Abortion Rights and International Women's Day

Motion: That the Curtin Student Guild note that, while progress has been made towards improving abortion access in WA due to pressure from protests, there is still much more the state government must do to remove the barriers to abortion access, most importantly by making the procedure free and available in all public hospitals

Moved: Danica Scott (Ordinary Representation Board Member)  
Seconded: Aleena Shaji,  
Carried

Danica Scott spoke to the motion noting that while it was good that WA's abortion laws has been changed to remove abortion from the criminal code more needed to be done and that the procedure should be free for women.

Motion: That the Curtin Student Guild support the protest being held on International Women's Day by the Defend Abortion Action Group Perth to demand the increased access to abortion in WA

Moved: Danica Scott (Ordinary Representation Board Member)  
Seconded Aleena Shaji  
Carried

Danica Scott spoke to the motion requesting the Guild promote and encourage students to attend the protest and recognise the importance of the protest on International Women's Day. Aleena Shaji said that it was important to support women's rights and abortion rights.

## 5. National Union of Students Conference Reports

Motion: That the Representation Board note the delegates' reports from the National Union of Students National Conference 2022

Moved: Veronika Gobba

Seconded: Joren Regan.

Carried

Veronika Gobba requested that questions be directed to Dylan. Danica Scott said that the NUS was an important body and that there were important debates at the conference that Representation Board members should be across. Danica noted the conference discussion of the Federal Government's Higher Education Accord. Danica was critical of the NUS working in collaboration with other groups participating in the Accord saying it was a misguided strategy as the Accord was not going to represent the interests of students. Veronika Gobba said that we needed to engage with the process as it provided a better leg to stand on if student demands were not met.

## 9. General Business. None

## 10. Next Meeting

The next ordinary meeting of the Representation Board is Thursday, the 9<sup>th</sup> of February at 5:30pm to be held at Council Chambers. Documents and motions are to be submitted no later

than 5:00pm on Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February to [chair.representation@guild.curtin.edu.au](mailto:chair.representation@guild.curtin.edu.au) and [secretary@guild.curtin.edu.au](mailto:secretary@guild.curtin.edu.au)

The meeting closed at 6pm