# **GUILD PRESIDENT REPORT**

## REPORT FOR REPRESENTATION BOARD

## Guild President Dylan Storer (he/him)

Period: 14/2/25 – 6/3/2025 Travel • WASM Guild (Kalgoorlie) | Mar 4 – Mar 7 Leave

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## Summary

I'm writing this report on the train back from Kalgoorlie! It's been a busy month - now ticking over 120 meetings, activities and engagements I've had as the Guild President. Every day that I have the

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opportunity to work alongside our amazing exec, reps and staff is something I don't take for granted. We're doing an incredible job in advocating for students and that is something that will continue throughout the 56th Guild Council and beyond!

I have written at length in regard to academic freedom in this report so please to take the time to engage with this important subject. I'm very proud of the work that the Guild has done in light of the recent Universities Australia decision and hope that it provides some level of comfort for academic freedom at our institution. With that said, the concerted efforts to attack these freedoms is something that our Guild needs to stand against.

Looking forward to answering your questions!

In Solidarity,

Dylan

## **Meetings**

#### **University Meetings**

Date	Meeting	Comments
14/2/25	Multifactor Authentication Meeting	
14/2/25	Academic Board Induction w/ Chair of Academic Board	
21/2/25	Janet Smith (Curtin Properties)	Tour of proposed locations of period product dispensers on campus
21/2/25	Academic Board	
26/2/25	Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic	Monthly meeting. Discussed club funding matter, academic freedom and UA antisemitism definition (discussed further below).
27/2/25	Vice Chancellor & Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic w/ Guild Managing Director	Monthly meeting. Resolved club funding matter and discussed the need for Curtin to defend academic freedom in light of the UA decision on the definition of antisemitism (discussed further below).
28/2/25	Student Charter Working Sub-Group	A sub-group of the working group established to review the Student Charter. This sub-group will report to the main working group which will create something. ANYWAY, the Guild will write the first draft of the new Student Charter should we set up a working group to do that?
6/3/25	Kalgoorlie Wellbeing Advisor	A great meeting discussing issues that students in Kalgoorlie are facing. Of particular note is a lack of accommodation leading to compounding issues. We also discussed how we can further promote and integrate Guild Student Assist into Kalgoorlie following Student Assist Officer Myles' visit to campus the week prior.

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6/3/25	Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre	Meeting regarding the Youth in Focus event and report launch I will be MC'ing next week.
7/3/25	Curtin Kalgoorlie Campus Director	Wonderful to meet with Tanya and to go over a number of issues that she and her team has been working hard on in Kalgoorlie. Tanya is deeply committed to the Guild providing decent representation, support and community-building services to the Curtin Kalgoorlie community and I'm looking forward to working with her and our Kalgoorlie President, Nilmer, to see many of these great ideas become a reality.
14/2/25	Multifactor Authentication Meeting	
14/2/25	Academic Board Induction w/ Chair of Academic Board	
21/2/25	Janet Smith (Curtin Properties)	Tour of proposed locations of period product dispensers on campus
21/2/25	Academic Board	
26/2/25	Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic	Monthly meeting. Discussed club funding matter, academic freedom and UA antisemitism definition (discussed further below).
27/2/25	Vice Chancellor & Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic w/ Guild Managing Director	Monthly meeting. Resolved club funding matter and discussed the need for Curtin to defend academic freedom in light of the UA decision on the definition of antisemitism (discussed further below).

## **Guild Meetings**

Date	Meeting	Comments
17/2/25	Managing Director	
17/2/25	Manager - Student Assist	
19/2/25	NUS President & NUS General Secretary	Visiting Perth as part of O-Week tour of country
20/2/25	Representation Board	
17/2/25	Managing Director	
17/2/25	Manager - Student Engagement	
17/2/25	NTEU Campus Committee	
26/2/25	Managing Director, Manager - Student Experience and Manager - Student Assist	Discussion around admin and reception requirements in the Guild
27/2/25	Manager - Student Assist	Discussion around Student Charter review working group
27/2/25	Coben Foster Guild Council Induction	
27/2/25	Guild Council	
4/3/25	Guild Kalgoorlie Branch President	
5/3/25	Managing Director	
5/3/25	Finance & Risk Committee	
5/3/25	WASM Social Club President	Very positive discussion regarding securing the future of the Social Club in

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17/2/25 17/2/25 19/2/25	Managing Director Manager - Student Assist NUS President & NUS General Secretary	Visiting Perth as part of O-Week tour of
20/2/25	Representation Board	country
17/2/25	Managing Director	
17/2/25	Manager - Student Engagement	
17/2/25	NTEU Campus Committee	
26/2/25	Managing Director, Manager - Student Experience and Manager - Student Assist	Discussion around admin and reception requirements in the Guild
27/2/25	Manager - Student Assist	Discussion around Student Charter review working group
27/2/25	Coben Foster Guild Council Induction	
27/2/25	Guild Council	
4/3/25	Guild Kalgoorlie Branch President	
5/3/25	Managing Director	
5/3/25	Finance & Risk Committee	
5/3/25	WASM Social Club President	Very positive discussion regarding securing the future of the Social Club in Kalgoorlie and how the Guild can assist in facilitating that in light of Curtin's request for additional oversight.
5/3/25	NUS National Executive	Ť
6/3/25	Kalgoorlie Branch President, Secretary & VPE	Branch planning for 2025

## **Other Meetings/Activities**

Date	Meeting	Comments
17/2/25	O-Week Official Welcome Address	
17/2/25	Guild Survival Guide Presentation	
18/2/25	Hosting Friend Speed Dating	
19/2/25	Guild O-Day	A huge success, including the dunk tank!
28/2/25	UnionsWA International Women's Day	
	Rally	
28/2/25	Guild Toga Party	
6/3/25	Student Networking Night	

## Matters of Representation

#### **Attacks on Academic Freedom**

I'm very concerned of the concerted push from many universities in this country to implement rushed and blanket restrictions on the rights of students and staff. We have seen concerning recommendations coming out of the parliamentary inquiry into antisemitism at Australian universities

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which include political interference into research funding and the possibility of a judicial inquiry into these matters, we have seen the attacks on student announcements recently announced at GO8 universities such as UWA and we have seen the Universities Australia definition of antisemitism leave the door wide open for universities to discipline students for criticising Israel and Zionism.

It is important to note that much of this repression is being initiated by the Group of 8 universities but many other institutions are falling in line.

I can't stress enough how disturbing this situation is and how utterly disappointing - but not surprising - it is. Universities need to be bastions of academic freedom. Once we loose this, we will never get it back. It's concerning the speed of which many universities are prepared to throw all of this out of the window, it's not good enough and student unions need to stand up to defend our rights.

The week of the Universities Australia announcement consisted of a strong and concerted effort from myself and the Exec to seek clarification from Curtin University regarding Curtin's plans to implement this definition. On the day of the announcement, I wrote to the Vice Chancellor expressing that the Guild, as outlined in the MOU we signed after the encampment, does and will oppose any policy that silences criticism of Israel and Zionism and impacts on academic freedom. That day, I also expressed the Guild's concerns in-person to the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic.

The following day, I met with the Vice Chancellor and DVCA and expressed the same sentiments. I am pleased that, during that discussion, the Vice Chancellor confirmed that Curtin does not view criticism of Israel and Zionism as Antisemitic and that Curtin will not discipline any student who engages in criticism of Israel and Zionism along with an expression that students and staff need to be involved in the implementation of any definition. I expressed that it was important that this be placed on the record, for the peace of mind of students who felt under pressure from this announcement and, thus, the Guild published a statement stating our views on this matter and the Vice Chancellor's views and commitments.

I must say that this is very much still a live issue and the Guild must always defend academic freedom for students and staff at Curtin and in all campuses. I am concerned that, at the time of writing, that it appears the Curtin Guild is one of two student unions to make a statement on this issue (props to UTS!) and the NUS has also not made a statement on this. This is a time where freedom of political communication is under sustained attack and I think it's important that all student unions put aside differences and work together to stand up and fight back.

The speed of which the Curtin Guild was able to secure vital assurances from the Vice Chancellor is in large part thanks to the strength and professionalism of our Guild and was strengthened further by the MOU signed after the encampment which makes clear that the Guild is opposed to policy like this.

We must remain vigilant and we will.

#### **Student Charter Review**

The Vice Chancellor has initiated a review of the Student Charter, which is being led by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic). Initially, I was the only Guild representative set to be represented on the Working Group but, following engagement with the DVCA, was able to secure greater Guild representation (two Student Assist Officers as well as the VPE and VPSW) and an understanding that the university and Guild will work genuinely collaboratively, in the spirit of the Student Partnership Agreement, on this project.

The working group has formed a new sub-group, which has met. In the sub-group meeting it was decided that the Guild will work on the first draft of the new Student Charter and that it will be a

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charter that consists of student rights and responsibilities. Exec will work with Student Assist on a rough copy of this new draft before circulating it to members of Representation Board for further input. I will do everything in my power to avoid us needing to set up a working group to report to the subgroup which will report to the working group but we'll see!

I'm happy to hear from anyone if they wish to discuss this or have any ideas

#### **Housing Campaign**

The Turn Down the Heat petition has reached over 700 signatures, indicating this is an issue that is pertinent for students in **accommodation**. We are working on channels of communication with UniLodge to present this petition ahead of launching phase two of this larger campaign.

Reps are currently running BBQ and discussion sessions at **accommodations** so that students can express concerns or issues they're facing in **accommodation** which we'll compile and put into a report with recommendations we will advocate for.

Whilst I was in Kalgoorlie, I visited the Agricola student **accommodation** that Curtin directly operates (not UniLodge - thank god!) and I can't express how nice the facilities are for less than the price of **accommodation** in Perth (and every room has aircon!). The big issue for **accommodation** in Kalgoorlie is there simply isn't enough and I'm keen to work with the Kalgoorlie Branch on advocacy around this matter moving forward.

#### Inquiry into University Governance

The Guild made a submission into the Senate Inquiry into University Governance. I have attached it at the end of this report for your information.

## **Guild Operations**

#### Kalgoorlie Branch in 2025

I and Science & Engineering Rep Cooper had a bloody brilliant time in Kalgoorlie working with our incredibly motivated Kalgoorlie Branch Committee. Observations and discussion below;

- **Guild Precinct** | The Guild consists of an office, some storage rooms, a gym, a currently unused kitchen and sub-leases out a bar area to the WASM Social Club. There is a desire from the branch committee to clean up the kitchen and open as a student kitchen and common room, to set up a room as a Women's Room, to consolidate storage, clean up and upgrade the gym (discussed further below) and set up an office space for Student Assist (discussed further below). There is also a need for refreshed and updated signage to increase awareness of the Guild and update the logos. I'm very confident that these projects can be done in a very cost effective manner and that they will all benefit the students of Kalgoorlie.
- **Gym** | The Guild Gym in Kalgoorlie is a well utilised space that is included in a tier of membership that the branch promotes. Access is hyper affordable at \$15 a month. There are some issues with the age of the equipment and the general condition of the room. The committee will work with the university to attain a risk assessment, a maintenance plan and the implementation of a safety induction for users of the facility.
- Student Assist | There is a lack of knowledge of Student Assist in Kalgoorlie. The Guild used to have a Student Assist Officer based in Kalgoorlie and the campus is keen to explore ways for us to promote our services and programs to Kalgoorlie students. An option that has been canvased includes re-establishing the Student Assist office on campus in the Guild building

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for officers to use when visiting campus but also as a private space that students can use to videoconference Student Assist. I'm eager to discuss how we can establish this but the campus is happy to assist with this if we decide to go down this path.

- Activities | The committee is eager to explore smaller events they can run in conjunction with their larger events and we will set up a meeting to discuss ideas.
- **Representation** | The committee is setting up feedback sessions for students to discuss courses with staff. We would be eager to get any information gathered during that process. We also need to make a conscious effort to better engage with Kalgoorlie on academic matters and seek their input and expertise. Ultimately, academic policy is set in Perth so we are still the primary forum for academic advocacy and effective representation
- **Governance** | The Guild Council will need to decide if it wishes to initiate a review of changes to the committee constitution. Of particular concern is regarding the representation of non-WASM students on the Guild (and whether the name should remain the 'WASM Guild' as opposed to 'Curtin Kalgoorlie Guild' to better encompass all members) and also building in more continuity into the branch where there currently isn't.
- **Student Clubs** | We need to have more conversations around the governance of student clubs in Kalgoorlie. The university has made it clear that all student clubs need to be Guild affiliated if they are to operate on campus but we need to work through how this will logistically work and be as easy and simple for clubs as possible.
- WASM Social Club | I had a good meeting with the President of the WASM Social Club, Trent. The Guild is committed to backing the Social Club's future as it's an important element of the student experience in Kalgoorlie. With that said, the club is not affiliated with the Guild and the university would like it to be that way if it is to renew our lease over that part of the Guild building in Kalgoorlie. I am eager to work on a way forward that protects the Social Club's identity and its existence.

There are many exciting years ahead for the Curtin Kalgoorlie campus and I'm excited to work alongside the committee to represent them and get the best deal possible for students out there. The increased offering of courses that expand beyond mining is exciting for the region and the campus has the potential to grow into a leading multidisciplinary regional tertiary institution that will make Kalgoorlie a better and stronger place. It's important that students are represented in this process and that students have access to all the support that they need to thrive. The Guild will work to do just that.

## **Guild Win: Period Product Dispenser Program**

We have secured 50/50 funding with the university for the provision of free period products to students on our campuses up to a maximum of \$15,000 for the year. We have also overcome the hurdles of the property approvals process at Curtin and have approval for all dispensers to be placed which they will be ahead of this meeting.

It's fantastic that this is now in place and it is a service that will be utilised by many Curtin students for hopefully many years to come.

## **Guild Win: Clubs Funding**

For several years, the university has approved a \$20,000 grant for the Guild to disseminate to student clubs for events. Unfortunately, the COO had indicated to the Guild that this funding will not be renewed for 2025.

After a concerted effort where I raised this concern at Academic Board and with the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic, I am pleased to say that the Vice Chancellor has agreed with the DVCA and

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COO that the funding will remain in place for 2025, which will be welcome news to many clubs and societies.

#### O-Day & Toga

A huge congratulations is in order for the events team, our VPA Jacquie and all the Guild staff who pulled off a really successful O-Day and Toga which has kicked off a great and, what looks to be a, very busy year in the events space. These events are so important to campus culture and it's great to see so many students engage with them.

#### **Café Drink Prices**

Following student feedback, we have lowered the prices of drinks in café's to be in line with student expectations. Moving forward, all drinks will be tied to the much-lower G Mart prices in all café's. This means a 40% decrease in the price of a large can of Red Bull at the Library Café. Further to this, all prices will be displayed next to all items in all café's soon and I'd like to thank the commercial team for working diligently to roll out these adjustments and changes as soon as possible.

Dylan Storer 56<sup>th</sup> Guild President



Submission to the Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee inquiry into the quality of governance at Australian higher education providers

March 2025

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## Acknowledgement of Country

The Curtin Student Guild pays respects to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members of our communities. It acknowledges the Wadjuk people of the Noongar Nation and the Wongutha people of the North Eastern Goldfields, the first peoples of the land where the Student Guild operates. This is stolen land that was never ceded.

#### **Alternative Formats**

This submission can be made available in alternative accessible formats upon request to <u>hello@guild.curtin.edu.au</u>

## Summary of recommendations

- 1. That universities be required to increase the number of academics seated as co-opted and appointed governing body members.
- 2. That academic governance experience should be a skill sought after in recruitment for co-opted and appointed governing body positions.
- 3. The implementation of a requirement that the majority of non-university governing body members have public sector experience.
- 4. That governing bodies reflect the diversity of the communities they serve, including in the representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and ensuring gender balance.
- 5. That Student Guilds or Unions be granted ex-officio undergraduate and postgraduate representation on university governing bodies to permanently embed a depth of student knowledge into decision making.
- 6. That the membership of current students to university governing bodies be increased so that it is at least equal to the representation of staff and graduates.
- 7. That the majority of the university governing bodies' total membership is comprised of the university community (staff, students and graduates).
- 8. That Vice Chancellor and Senior Executive salaries are transparently set independently through state-based Salaries and Allowances Tribunals or a Federal Remuneration Tribunal.
- 9. That universities be required to publicly report the number of executives earning above a reasonable threshold.
- 10. That universities be required to improve reporting on the usage of all forms of insecure employment.
- 11. That university governing bodies be focused on improving working conditions, dramatically reducing casualisation and ensuring that the university is adequately staffed with enough permanent full-time qualified academics and staff with relevant experience.
- 12. That Student Guilds or Unions be legislated in all Australian public universities.
- 13. That all Student Guilds or Unions receive a legislated minimum funding guarantee of at least 100% of the Student Services and Amenities Fee.
- 14. That all universities be required to demonstrate how they integrate the voices of their Student Guilds or Unions into all levels of university governance.

## End the corporatisation of university governing bodies

The governance responsibilities and the makeup of governing bodies at Australian universities have changed significantly over time in response to government policy and funding pressures. Traditionally, university governing bodies were predominantly academics; however, over the past 30 years, these bodies have been increasingly corporatised, focusing on business outcomes.

The Guild believes that the increasingly corporate bent of university governing bodies is at odds with the notion that public universities are public assets that benefit the community. It is also worrying that corporate experience in the largest companies and multinationals is an increasingly potent pathway into a position on a university governing body.

Of the current fifteen Curtin University Council members, only three are working academics: the Vice Chancellor (ex-officio), Chair of Academic Board (ex-officio) and the member elected by Academic Staff. Of the remaining positions are five more elected members (discussed later) and seven appointed or co-opted members.

Of the seven appointed or co-opted members, the vast majority come from for-profit industries such as the resources sector, and none possess experience as an academic (as per Curtin University public bios). If it is the mission of a university to be governed in a manner that protects its status as a public educational asset, the Guild argues that there ought to be more educators and academics in the ranks of its governing body.

Further to the points above, the governance of a university is not always or even necessarily primarily analogous to that of running a business. It serves common sense for a university governing body to have within it members who possess the depth of knowledge of academia, academic governance and the real-world implications of decisions made by that body on the university that being an academic would provide.

Further to this, an increase in the number of non-university members who possess public sector experience should be implemented as a way to urgently shift universities away from a corporate model and back into the realm of public institutions for the public good. Similar efforts ought to be implemented as to ensure governing bodies reflect the diverse communities they serve.

#### **Recommendation**

That universities be required to increase the number of academics seated as coopted and appointed governing body members.

#### **Recommendation**

That academic governance experience should be a skill sought after in recruitment for co-opted and appointed governing body positions.

#### **Recommendation**

The implementation of a requirement that the majority of non-university governing body members have public sector experience.

#### **Recommendation**

That governing bodies reflect the diversity of the communities they serve, including in the representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and ensuring gender balance.

## Enhance the representation of the university community on governing bodies

Of the elected positions on the Curtin University Council, two are for current staff (1x academic and 1x general), two are for graduates of Curtin, and two are for current students (1x undergraduate and 1x postgraduate).

Student Guilds in Western Australia are unique because we are legislated bodies within the relevant Acts that establish the state's public universities - moreover, a 50% minimum of the Student Services and Amenities Fee is legislated as funding for the Guilds. These facts have contributed to Guilds in Western Australia being highly professional public entities representing our members' common interests.

The Curtin University Act 1966 legislates that the Guild shall be the recognised means of communication between enrolled students and the Council; however, the Guild no longer possesses any ex-officio position on the Council and the Curtin University Council has pushed back against the idea of a reinstatement of ex-officio membership of the Guild President and Guild Postgraduate President on Council.

Given the short nature of student terms on council and the steep learning curve required to be across the depth of issues continued within a university, the Guild thinks it would be appropriate for the student positions on university governing bodies, such as the Curtin University Council, to be ex-officio office bearers (such as President and Postgraduate President) of their respective student unions or Guilds - such is the case at the University of Western Australia.

The Guild acknowledges that members of the University Council are required to uphold governance standards as part of their membership - and that it would remain the same if Guild office-bearers were ex-officio members of the University Council. However, we believe these matters can be managed appropriately and that the increased depth of student experience and knowledge from across the university as possessed by Guild office bearers, as the elected leaders of the student union, would enhance the decision making of the University Council and allow increased scrutiny of University activities - ensuring that students are at the forefront of decision making.

Further to the above points and recommendations, the Guild believes that a university is made up of staff and students, and it is students and staff who should have the most significant say in the management of the institution, for they are the people who have the most to gain or lose from poor decisions.

#### **Recommendation**

That Student Guilds or Unions be granted ex-officio undergraduate and postgraduate representation on university governing bodies to permanently embed a depth of student knowledge into decision making.

#### **Recommendation**

That the membership of current students to university governing bodies be increased so that it is at least equal to the representation of staff and graduates.

#### **Recommendation**

That the majority of the university governing bodies' total membership is comprised of the university community (staff, students and graduates).

## Executive remuneration in line with public expectations

The Curtin Student Guild, in our submission to the Australian Universities Accord (December 2022), recommended a cap on Vice Chancellor salaries and for greater transparency by aligning their remuneration with the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal, as is common practice for other senior public officers.

Public universities are funded by the public and should serve the public interest. The Guild opposes the corporatisation of higher education, as it fosters excessive executive compensation and undermines the fundamental principles of public governance and trust in our institutions.

It is essential that public officers in the education sector have their remuneration set through a fair, transparent, and independent process rather than being determined by universities themselves. The most appropriate bodies to set remuneration are those designated in the relevant jurisdictions of establishment or a Federal Remuneration Tribunal.

Australian Vice Chancellors are among the highest-paid in the world. According to the National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU), the average VC salary in 2023 was \$1,049,000, with many earning significantly more than senior public officers, including the Prime Minister.

Despite Australian universities being predominantly taxpayer-funded, there is little transparency or accountability regarding VC remuneration. Recent estimates suggest that VC salaries are at least ten times the income of an average lecturer. While some argue that VC salaries should be compared to CEOs in the private sector, universities do not operate in a genuinely competitive market, as the government largely controls student fees and research funding.

Additionally, the increase in VC remuneration has coincided with significant staff reductions and workforce casualisation. The Guild is particularly concerned about this trend, which undermines job security for academic staff and negatively impacts the quality of education for students.

The University Chancellors' Council (UCC) Australian Universities Vice-Chancellor and Senior Staff Remuneration Code only allows for voluntary disclosure of salaries, making it difficult to determine the total remuneration of Vice-Chancellors. By contrast, in the United Kingdom, universities are legally required to disclose VC salaries, pensions, and benefits to an independent higher education regulator, the Office for Students. No such requirement exists in Australia, creating a lack of transparency around executive compensation.

<u>Recommendation</u> That Vice Chancellor and Senior Executive salaries are transparently set independently through state-based Salaries and Allowances Tribunals or a Federal Remuneration Tribunal.

<u>Recommendation</u> That universities be required to publicly report the number of executives earning above a reasonable threshold.

## Student Guilds and Unions need to play a role in governance

Western Australia should serve as the foundation for a model of student unionism that can, and should, flourish in Australia more broadly. The Curtin Student Guild believes that every university should have a similar legislated student representation to that legislated in Western Australia and that funding guarantees should be established similarly to those in Western Australia.

Further, students should be responsible, through their student unions, for 100% of SSAF funds and that, through these methods, there will be an increased student engagement with the university that will lead to better outcomes.

Through legislated protections and funding guarantees, WA Student Guilds have become an essential part of the fabric of their institutions, leading to better outcomes for students. Where other universities have got to work to sideline their student representatives, cut their funding, limit their resources and refuse to listen to them, in WA, universities have less grounds to do so - leading to increased active engagement with the student body.

At Curtin, the Guild has several ex-officio members on the Academic Board, the Guild President meets regularly with the Vice Chancellor and members of the Senior Executive Team and the Guild Vice Presidents, Equity Representatives and Faculty Representatives and Postgraduate and International Student Committee Presidents meet with senior leaders and sit on various faculty, research, governance, operations and strategic committees throughout the university.

The depth of engagement is explained through the comprehensive and leading Student Partnership Agreement, which was renewed by the Guild President and Vice Chancellor last year.

The Guild and the University do not always agree - that is what makes the Guild so important.

It is in the best interests of the good governance of public universities that they have wellfunded and well-integrated student unions to represent the interests of students within the university, as it is important that staff have representation through their labour union.

#### Recommendation

That Student Guilds or Unions be legislated in all Australian public universities.

#### **Recommendation**

That all Student Guilds or Unions receive a legislated minimum funding guarantee of at least 100% of the Student Services and Amenities Fee.

#### **Recommendation**

That all universities be required to demonstrate how they integrate the voices of their Student Guilds or Unions into all levels of university governance.

## Staff work conditions are student learning conditions

Higher education is one of the most precarious industries for workers in Australia. The majority of workers in the sector are insecurely employed. This is a fundamental governance failure with profound consequences not only for staff but also for students. Staff working conditions are student learning conditions—universities cannot provide high-quality education if their workforce is overworked, underpaid, and unable to plan for job security.

NTEU modelling suggests that around 50% of all people working in the higher education sector have been employed using casual contracts and often perform ongoing work for extended periods. Additionally, the NTEU has found that higher education disproportionately contributes to the high number of fixed-term contracts in Australia and that it can have detrimental outcomes for staff who lack job security.

The Curtin Student Guild strongly believes that university governing bodies should focus on dramatically reducing casualisation, improving working conditions, and ensuring that universities are appropriately staffed with qualified academics with relevant experience.

<u>Recommendation</u> That universities be required to improve reporting on the usage of all forms of insecure employment.

#### **Recommendation**

That university governing bodies be focused on improving working conditions, dramatically reducing casualisation and ensuring that the university is adequately staffed with enough permanent full-time qualified academics and staff with relevant experience.



CURTIN<br/>STUDENT<br/>GUILDVice President – EducationFebruary/March - Representation Board Report (14/02/2024 –<br/>11/03/2025)<br/>Benjamin Burgess (He/Him)

## **University / External Meetings:**

Date	Meeting	Comments
14/02/25	Academic Board Induction	
21/02/25	Academic Board	
04/03/25	Courses Committee Meeting	
04/03/25	Students for Partners Catch Up	
10/03/25	Learning and Student Experience Committee	

## **Guild Meetings/Events (Or Guild-Related Meetings):**

Date	Meeting	Comments
19/02/25	O-Day	Stall dedicated to getting signatures for
15/02/25		Turn Down the Heat Campaign.
20/02/25	Guild Council	
25/02/25	Exec Meeting	
26/02/25	Sausage Sizzle @ Vickery House	More to happen in coming weeks.
28/02/25	VPE x SciEng Rep Meeting	N/A
03/03/25	VPE x Humanities Rep Meeting	F2F
03/03/25	VPE x FBL Rep Meeting	Online
11/03/25	Exec Meeting	

## **Further Notes:**

Торіс	Details	
	Events	
	Meeting with Reps has now been locked in for fortnightly with the	
Reps	exception of Health Sciences not having chosen a date and time	
	to work. Post Grad to be a report in when necessary system.	

LSEC	I raised concerns about the latest Equity Report, which highlights a serious gap in course retention rates for First Nations students. The numbers are pretty alarming—First Nations students are staying in their courses at a rate of just 58.18%, compared to the overall retention rate of 78.44%. ECU stands out as having the biggest gap, with a 7.74% difference (70.03% for First Nations students versus 77.77% overall). This issue isn't just about retention—it's also reflected in pass rates. First Nations students have a pass rate of only 62.97%, which is shockingly low compared to the overall student pass rate of 84.62%. No other university in WA shows such a drastic gap. The closest comparison is UWA, where the difference is much smaller (76% for First Nations students compared to 89.53% overall). These numbers suggest there's a deeper issue at play, and it's something that needs urgent attention.
	Further on LSEC another issue is the concerning yet not as egregious drops for Regional, Rural and Remote Students for both retention and passing rate.
	When queried about this issue the general consensus was this is bad, but we are unsure as to why, I have requested this to be followed up on and should have an answer after next LSEC meeting.
	I also queried the Deadnaming Report where the new LGBTQIA+ Working Group is as it is less than 20 days until the proposed window to create the working group closes, this will also be followed up on.
Post-Grad Rep	As of the most recent Guild Council. Mitchell Craig is now the acting Post Graduate President Representative.

All further notes from LSEC will be included in Guild Council Report as what I have put here is a matter for representation.

## Vice President – Sustainability & Welfare

March Representation Board Report (20/02/2025 – 06/03/2025) Razanne Al-Abdeli (she/her)

University	/ External	<b>Meetings:</b>
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Date	Meeting	Comments
20/02	Mental Health & Resilience in Students Reference Group	
28/02	Student Charter Discussion	

## **Guild Meetings (Or Guild-Related Meetings):**

Date	Meeting	Comments
20/01	Representation Board Meeting	
25/02	Executive Meeting	
27/02	Guild Council Board Meeting #2	
27/02	Meeting with students RE Multifaith	
27/02	concerns	

## Leave Taken:

None

## **Further Notes:**

Item	Notes
10c containers were collected by U Can Recycle WA and a total of around \$40 was deposited to the Guild	
Dietary options at lolly wall	At Guild Council, I presented a motion RE creating more dietary options in the lolly wall. The motion was approved and passed, and Vernon initiated the project. Tanya is doing a review and I will be coming in soon to help get the project underway
Multifaith concerns	Currently working closely with Janet from multifaith RE a number of projects. This has included doing student consultations RE services at university, and currently, seeing how the Guild can support students in Ramadan.
Circle 8 smart bins	There have been considerable developments of the smart bins, and we hope to have them rolled out by April 4. This has included the budget for them, the design, the app and the placement.

Sustainable Development Week Launch	This is Curtin's project, which the Guild has
	been helping with through Jacquie in 2024,
	which I am continuing now. We are currently
	preparing for a barefoot lunch stall on the 20 <sup>th</sup>
	of March.



## **Business and Law Officer**

## March Representation Board (13/02/2025 - 13/03/2025) Anniesey Nicole Alconaba (she/her)

#### **University/External Meetings and Events**

Date	Meeting	Comments
18/2/2025	FBL Postgrad Orientation	Presented as the guild representative and was able to introduce myself as the Business and Law Representative to incoming Postgrad Students. Able to converse and meet with
		FBL clubs and Student Engagement.
19/02/2025	Guild O-day: FBL Stall	Organised the FBL stall which was a large success as there was a line from opening at 11am until 1:30pm. Completely ran out of giveaway products but doubled the amount followers on Instagram (from 300 to 600).
		Opportunity to speak with many incoming FBL students.
20/02/2025	FBL Undergrad Orientation and Festival	Presented as the guild representative and was able to introduce myself as the Business and Law Representative to incoming Undergrad Students.
		Was also able to speak with students one-on-one during the festival aspect.
20/02/2025	February Representations Board Meeting #2	Attended the as the FBL representative and spoke about different motions. I seconded the UNILODGE: TURN DOWN THE HEAT! Motion.

21/02/2025	Law Orientation	Presented as the guild representative and was able to introduce myself as the Business and Law Representative to incoming Law Students.
26/02/2025	Introductory Meeting with Anna Bunn (Head of Learning and Teaching) and Leigh Smith (Director of Learning and Teaching)	Was able to introduce myself as the FBL representative and explain my campaigns. Also got more clarification on Fidgital (more detail in "Updates")
05/03/2025	FBL Clubs March Meeting	Got updates from all the FBL clubs and was able to update on O-week and O-day. Also learnt about a 20k grant for clubs from Shelley. I discussed the idea of FBL clubs posting their monthly events on the FBL Facebook page within the first week of the month, so that I can create an Instagram post every month about upcoming FBL Club events. This will also help increase traction in the Facebook group.

## Guild Meetings -> all guild meetings planned during second half of March after Report Submission Deadline

Date	Meeting	Comments

## Updates

## Social Media KPI:

I was able to work on this KPI as I have doubled the number of followers on the Instagram page from 300 followers to 600+. I have also regularly posted whether it be on stories or as a post. I have also tried boosting the Facebook group's traction by asking clubs to post upcoming events in the first week of the month, so that I can create a summarised list of events and opportunities for that upcoming month to post on the Instagram and Facebook.

## Survey:

I am finalising the questions that will be asked in the FBL survey, and it is to be sent out either on the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> of March. I will leave it open for 2-3 weeks before closing and finalising the data.

#### Fidgital Update:

I discussed 'Fidgital' with Anna Bunn (during 26<sup>th</sup> of Feb Meeting) and she explained it has been renamed 'Transformation'. Anna also said that she reduced the amount of pilot groups from Subra's initial plan. The FLX/FLT (they're currently trying to change the name) team are currently choosing the units to be piloted and are potentially starting the pilot classes in Semester 2 of 2025. Anna clarified that 'transformation' is not across the faculty, only in the units where it's "appropriate and best". They want it to be on a 'unit by unit' basis.

Anna said that the objective was 'Enhancing student experience and improving quality of teaching' and to give students incentive to engage with content.

## Science and Engineering Faculty Report

Cooper Henrickson (He/Him) Representation Board – 13<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Date	Meeting/Event	Comments
17/02/2025	SDP	11 case panel; Collusion, Al Content,
		False/Inaccurate Citations (AI)
18/02/2025	Postgraduate	Presented at the orientation outlining the Guild.
	Orientation	
19/02/2025	Guild O-Day	This was a whirlwind day, lots going on and not much time to think. A noticeable percentage of first year students were studying, or on a pathway to study Engineering, with many considering Mechanical Engineering. This is in line with what faculty staff are noticing, with students choosing degrees with clear career progression. Many students came by for free stickers, a lot followed the Instagram, and a few filled the survey I
		launched for a giveaway.
19/02/2025	Survey for Giveaway	I launched a survey as a task to enter a Lego giveaway, which asked students what they were studying, what year of their studies, and how they were feeling about the upcoming semester. It asked first year students why they chose their degree, and non-first year students if there were any issues with units they had undertaken previously, and what those issues were. I have closed the survey and contacted the giveaway winner as of Wed 26th, and will be reviewing the data soon.
19/02/2025	Undergraduate Science Orientation	Presented at the orientation outlining the Guild. Participated as a judge for bonus points, for the most unique crane design.
20/02/2025	Undergraduate Engineering Orientation	Presented at the orientation outlining the Guild. Could not stay as a judge as I needed to run a stall at Science and Engineering Expo.
20/02/2025	Science and Engineering Expo	This event was a lot slower pace than Guild O-Day, and allowed me time to have longer one on one conversations with first year students, which I feel

		allowed me to properly connect with students and
		provide them more meaningful insight into the Guild and university life.
		I was also approached by a staff member at Curtin
		Connect asking if they could provide my contact
		details to a member of the Foreign Risk Team at
		Curtin who wishes to reach out to the Guild.
		Discussed further in the report.
24/02/2025	Meeting with Dean	Intro meeting with Franca Jones. Discussed how I
	of Graduate	can best support. Issues brought up by Franca for
	Research	the past is that there is lots on offer for students,
		but there is low engagement, which causes
		students to miss out on learning useful skills, and
		they have a reduced sense of belonging.
		Franca asked if the Guild would come to some
		events to promote the support services available
		to post-graduate students, and if we had any
		ideas for low cost methods to support students.
25/02/2025	Faculty Student	Discussed further in report.
	Engagement	
	Orientation Debrief	
25/02/2025	Engineering Clubs	This was the first meeting with the engineering
	Meeting	clubs I have attended. Talking points were; club
		business cards, Fac. School of CivMech has grants
		available for school clubs, Engineering Olympics,
		Combined thesis and logbook presentation,
		MechElMech
25/02/2025	SDP	4 case panel; Collusion, contract cheating,
		unauthorised materials
27/02/2025	Science Board	Health and Safety; Silica dust is an issue and a
		control plan is being developed and implemented,
		Vehicle turning space for works near building 314
		(Superlab) meets rules for Disabilities
		Discrimination Act but isn't adequate for the foot
		traffic that occurs on class change for superlab.
		There was a query about communication on the
		management of trees, as there has been a loss of
		some trees on campus recently.
		There were 4 presentations discussed further in
		report;

		2. 3.	Sustainability Changes in Mining Management – a Changing World. Prof. Michele John English Language Development (ELD) Briefing. Assoc. Prof. Reva Ramiah Global Positioning. Dean of International Prof. Sambit Datta Science Course Positioning Review. Dr Alison Blyth
05/03/2025	Finance and Risk		

The following meetings and events will occur between the submission of this report and representation board. I will cover them in next month's report, or verbally if anything time sensitive is brought up:

- WASM Trip on currently
- Graduate Studies Committee on 10/03
- Health and Safety Committee on 10/03
- Courses Committee on 12/03
- Assessment Feedback Meeting w/ Reps and VP-E on 13/03

## **Orientation Debrief with Fac. SE:**

## **Pre-Orientation:**

Fac. SE calls students to discuss their study plan and ensure there are no issues that may present themselves further into their studies and to ensure a balanced workload throughout semesters.

As of meeting date, they had called about half of the newly enrolled students, which is behind schedule, due to an increase in the number of students, students not answering, and some staff being on leave.

The plan for future is to check students study plans beforehand, email those with no issues – provide contact info if they have questions, and call those that have issues. Students requiring a call will be texted a message pre-warning them that they will be receiving a call from X number relating to their enrolment.

Multidisciplinary science students in particular are the main focus with this initiative, and Fac. SE plans to speak with those students, asking what they took in high school, what they are aiming to get into, and create a plan using that information.

## Women in Engineering Morning Tea:

The Fac. SE team ran an informal and chill morning tea during O-week, to allow women undertaking an engineering degree to form friends and study/support groups early, as they may not have the opportunity in their classes due to engineering being a male dominated degree. This has had a very positive reception amongst those that participated.

## **Science Orientation:**

The Fac. SE team trialed the crane building icebreaker with the science students, they didn't take to it as enthusiastically as the engineering students historically do. Thinking of running a pub style quiz next semester with prizes. The day after orientation, students go to breakout sessions that are specific to their major, with course leads or staff within the major presenting and then answering questions. An admin table was set up at larger breakout sessions, which allowed students to ask questions about their enrolment, blackboard, or similar, which was seen as a success and will likely be implemented in all breakout sessions.

## **Engineering Orientation:**

Ran well, people start leaving during scoring as they get a bit restless. Need more staff to assist during the scoring, or have something else occurring during this time.

## **Postgraduate Orientation:**

There will be a mass check in of post-grad students in week 2 that missed the orientation, they will need to be directed to BB to get familiar with how the university works.

## **Census Date:**

There will be an announcement reminding students about the census date, asked if the Guild or I had any plans for a similar announcement. I let them know I would get back to them soon after I discussed this with the rest of the Guild, which I am yet to do as of 06/03.

## **Presidents Meeting and Student Hub:**

The Fac. SE would like to organize a president's meeting with all faculty related clubs, the Guild, and themselves. They would also like to preview the new Student Hubs at this meeting, as they wish to have some way for clubs to promote their events on the hubs, likely by filling in a form with event details and proof of approval. This will need to be discussed further with the VP-A and Club Support.

The hubs are a rebrand/refresh of the existing Blackboard organisations. They want them to act as a "digital one stop-shop cork board". It will provide students with all the resources they will need during their studies, including links to the Guild pages, Faculty Rep. bio, etc.

The SE is also trying to find better ways to communicate with students, as emails and OCCs

feel/are too official for some information.

## Foreign Risk Team:

I have received an email from the FR Team, who explained that the team is here to support students who may have been victims of foreign government harassment. They are currently working on communication to inform students how they can reach out, if they need support or to notify them of an incident. They also provided a link to the webpage on the Curtin website if we need more information:

https://www.curtin.edu.au/about/governance/foreign-interference/

They reached out asking if I would be interested in helping promote this to students. They are conscious of causing alarm and believe it best to just mention it at meetings and provide the teams' resources and contact information to students. I believe this is a good idea and will come up with a plan to do this without causing any alarm.

## **Science Board Presentations:**

## 1. Sustainability Changes in Mining Management – a Changing World. Prof. Michele John

WASM integrated sustainability principles into course, want to position Curtin as a leader in sustainable mining, "Sustainability Champions".

Industry does not have an understanding on how to meet sustainability goals, guidelines, and laws.

Worked to ensure consistency in language, increase the resources available. Discussed with course/unit coordinators on how to structure it.

Trying to spread this to other courses and schools.

SMART Mining education at WASM.

S – Stewardship

M – Mine Footprint

A – Accountability

- R Resource Efficiency
- T Technology

## 2. English Language Development (ELD) Briefing. Assoc. Prof. Reva Ramiah

Language and Communication are **Foundational** to Science Learning Outcomes. Traditional science communication focus on text based formal writing, real world is more diverse.

Need for deeper linguistic skills; Framing scientific arguments, Engaging with counter arguments, Precision in technical writing, Synthesising sources critically.

Need to embed these skills across the full course, in context of discipline.

## 3. Global Positioning. Dean of International Prof. Sambit Datta

## 4. Science Course Positioning Review. Dr Alison Blyth

There is a national discourse on what is a Bachelor of Science (Science) (BSc), and what it is for.

Curtin's model for Science contains three layers; Pathway, Standard, Advanced. Pathway is Multidisciplinary Science (BMSci), Standard is BSc, Advanced is BAdvSci (Hon).

Numbers for this years enrolments show BSc and BMSci is increasing, and BAdvSci is similar. BMSci in particular is increasing a lot in recent years, as the cohort is evolving and taking alternate pathways.

The government is pushing for STEM graduates, so there is an increase in the number of capable people who may be entering university without taking/passing core ATAR classes due to some circumstances, and as such an increase in students taking Foundational units.

There is currently a discussion around whether to change the name convention of the Bachelor of Science (Science).



## FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES REPORT - MARCH REPRESENTATION BOARD 2025

Meeting/Task	Date	Comments
Health Sciences Orientation Presentation Preparation meeting with Manager of Student Engagement, Shaye	9/01/25	Discussed health sciences undergrad and postgrad orientation sessions and my presentation for the Student Guild.
Meeting with all faculty reps for brainstorming event ideas	28/01/25	Discussed event ideas, specifically on the Inter faculty Week idea and sent out the discussion conclusion to VPA
Meeting with VPA	29/01/25	Discussed O-day preparations
Attended KPI Workshop	11/02/25	The President provided a brief overview of how to make KPIs and reports, explaining their significance and application too.
Faculty Courses Committee Meeting	11/02/25	My first proper meeting with the FCC, so I got to introduce myself and get an idea of how such meetings are run. Some changes in names for units for Bachelor of Nursing, discussed possibility of adding a new course called the Bachelor of Advanced Nursing.
Attended the School of Nursing Graduation as a Student Rep	14/02/25	Attended the School of Nursing Graduation as the Student Representative, where I had the opportunity to interact with faculty and staff and engage with some graduates.
Presented in Health Sciences Undergrad and Postgrad Orientations	17/02/25	Attended the Health Sciences Undergrad and Postgrad Orientations and presented about the Curtin Student Guild and my role in the Guild.
Attended the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Reps Board meeting	20/02/25	Attended the 2nd Reps Board meeting, where key discussions and updates were shared.
Short discussion with VPA about my Grill the Guild and Lifeblood Blood drive	20/02/25	Had a brief discussion with the VPA about my Grill the Guild and Lifeblood Blood Drive initiatives and potential date for it.
DIB Working Party	04/03/25	Attended the DIB Working Party meeting, where the Dean provided updates, and new members were welcomed. Discussions covered the student DIB



survey, proposed changes to bystander training, and upcoming CMS DIB events. Also discussed the possibility of having student representatives from each discipline join the working group.
discipline join the working group.

#### Rabab Ahsan 2025 Faculty of Health Sciences Representative

55<sup>th</sup> Guild Council – 06/03/25

## FACULTY OF HUMANITIES REPORT

## MARCH REPRESENTATION BOARD 13/03/25

(Submitted on the 6<sup>th</sup>)

## **GUILD MEETINGS:**

Date	Meeting	Notes
06/03/25	Meeting with VP-E	
13/03/25	Assessment feedback	
	meeting	

## **UNIVERSITY MEETINGS:**

Date	Meeting	Notes
18/02/25	Humanities Orientation	
20/02/25	Meeting with Carol Carter	Meeting to organise further
	from SoE	meetings
27/02/25	Humanities LSEC	
13/03/25	SoE meeting	
13/03/25	Courses Committee	

## **PROJECTS:**

#### Education:

I have briefly met the new DLT's and Assoc. Professor Carol Carter and have organised a regular meeting between us to discuss issues in the faculty & student concerns. As of today (6<sup>th</sup> March) I haven't yet had this meeting but intend to provide a verbal report to the Representation Board.

The Curtin Education Students Society has now been approved as a Guild club and gained a membership of over 50. The club has declared 3 principles, including one which outlines an intent to improve the student experience by collaborating with the Guild and the School of Education.

#### Assessment Feedback:

We are getting back on track in our campaign to ensure that feedback is timely and relevant. A meeting has been organized for the 13<sup>th</sup> with the Faculty Reps + VP-E to discuss next steps, and I will provide a verbal report on this during the Representation Board.

Tom Harrowing (He/Him)

Faculty of Humanities Representative

#### March 2025 Representation Board Report – Student Assist

#### February Overview

Academic sessions were mainly in relation to responding to Academic Misconduct allegations and providing guidance for Termination appeals.

Non-academic sessions were focused on students seeking financial relief and legal referrals. Student Assist provided emergency relief to 6 students through our hardship and childcare grants.

	December	January	February
Academic sessions	192	178	213
Non – academic sessions	18	25	8
Total	208	201	250

Total may not tally as case management system calculates sessions with both case areas as a single session.

10 Laptops were loaned out through our Loan laptop program. There were 49 participants in our Lifehack program.

#### Meetings/ Training

Date	Торіс	Comments
4 Feb 2025	External Review of the current approach to the consideration of reasonable adjustments and processing of Curtin Access Plans	Provided feedback on Student experiences.
4 Feb 2025	Meeting with Student Assist and GRS (Graduate Research School) to establish better communication between the departments.	The objective was for Student Assist to be given notice when changes/ updates to processes were being implemented that would impact a number of students. GRS agreed and meetings have been established every second month.
10 Feb 2025	Attended Curtin Staff Briefing: Assessment and Academic Integrity Update	
13 Feb 2025	Hosted WA Student Assist Networking	
13 Feb 2025	Attended HDR Supervisor Induction	
13 Feb 2025	Student Charter Working Group	
14 Feb 2025	Workplace Aware Workshop (Curtin focused)	This training was focused on upskilling team leaders/managers/HR/WHS/senior Curtin staff on evidence-based responses to suicide in the workplace.
17 Feb 2025	Presented at Orientation – CUSG Uni Survival Guide	Provided information about Student Assist Services
19 Feb 2025	Presented at Orientation - 7 Money Mistakes Students Make	
20 Feb 2025	Presentation at CAS Orientation - 7 Money Mistakes Students Make	Cancelled due to lack of registrations
26 Feb 2025	Attended Stalls Day in Kalgoorlie	
28 Feb 2025	HDR Supervision Policy and Procedures review	Submitted feedback to Graduate Research School

## ISC President Report Representation Board Meeting #3

Submission Date 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2025

## **COMMITTEE AND INTERNAL MEETINGS**

- Conducted a meeting with ISC Committee and discussed availability, giveaway offerings and how to drive engagement with students.
- Participated, Engaged with students and Volunteered during the café connect event, especially interacted and had conversations with new students giving them advice on how they can have smooth transitioning into uni life
- Meeting with VPA to get the updates on proposed events and also to discuss the events happening in the future.
- · Met with some new possible candidates to fill in the roles of Reps
- Discussed the proposal of PMEC's ISMAP with Kylah and Sarina (ex-ISC Pres) and did an analysis of how beneficial ISMAP sessions are.

## Events

- Ran the stall O-day Stall with ISC volunteers, interacted and introduced ISC to new students. Also gaveaway lots of freebies via spinning wheel activity.
- In talks with PMEC and Guild events team to finalise the International Students Migration Awareness Program (ISMAP) this semester to provide visa related knowledge to students.
- ISC worked closely with Café connect team to run the café connect event which was very informative session to International students.

Kind Regards, Huzaifa Nawaz



HUZAIFA NAWAZ (he/him)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS COMMITTEE PRESIDENT E : <u>ISC.PRESIDENT@GUILD.CURTIN.EDU.AU</u> T +61 8 9266 7623 <u>GUILD.CURTIN.EDU.AU</u>

Curtin Student Guild acknowledges the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation as the Traditional Custodians of this land on which Curtin University stands.



Representation Board #3 March 2025

## Postgraduate Students Committee (PSC) Report

## **Guild Meetings/Events**

Date	Meeting/ Event	Comments
11/02/2025	Meeting with Student Assist	Met with Andrew about HDR
		representation on faculty
		committees
19/02/2025	Guild O-Day	Great day, most of my committee
		helped with the stall
20/02/2025	Representation Board	See Minutes
28/02/2025	TOGA! TOGA! TOGA!	Very fun event.

## **University Meetings**

Date	Meeting/ Event	Comments
20/02/2025	HDR Orientation	Attended with Arifin and gave a
		presentation on the guild, PSC,
		student assist and tips for making
		the most of a research degree.
21/02/2025	Academic Board	Was pretty basic, not much came
		to this meeting.
05/02/2025	Interview Panel FBL DoR	Confidential

## **Projects/General**

- The PSC had a very successful O-Day with more than half of the current committee assisting with the stall.
- I have been sitting on a selection panel for FBL Dean of Research, this should be finishing soon.
- I have responded to several student enquiries.
- Elections are ongoing to fill the vacancies in my committee and I have met several students who are interested in nominating for roles.

- The HDR student progression Policy and Procedure have come up for review and
  I am working with Student Assist and the Associate Deputy Vice Chancellor
  Research to ensure that any changes are fair and equitable for students. These
  are major policies that have a significant affect to how students progress and the
  conditions under which they can be terminated.
- I am working on planning PSC events for the semester.
- I am working on establishing the priorities for the PSC for 2025 with my committee

## tl;dr

I just started a few weeks ago and am doing my best, major policy changes happening, on top of things for now. Mitchell Craig 2025 PSC President



56<sup>th</sup> Guild Council - RB/03

# **INDICATOR** DELIVERABLES **STATUS**

Attendance at 80% of required meetings		
Submission of monthly report to Representation Board that demonstrates satisfactory progress toward KPIs		
Run and/or provide considerable support for at minimum two (2) events per semester (either portfolio events and/or Guild events)		
Run and/or provide considerable support for at minimum one (1) campaign per semester (either portfolio campaign and/or Guild campaign)		
Completion of handover report for successor		
Complete mandatory training within 45 days of being provided the resources/information to undertake the training	I previously completed all training in my previous roles	Complete

## **KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

Ensuring that 80% of positions on my Committee are filled	
Hold at least 4 PSC Meetings	
Assisting postgraduate students when presented with issues if able or referring them to Student Assist as appropriate	
Engage with external student organisations for the benefit of Postgraduate students, including CAPA	
Engage with Curtin to improve information and processes for postgraduate students	
Engage with Curtin on any change to policy or framework affecting HDR Students	
Engage with Curtin on any change to policy or framework affecting postgraduate coursework students	



## **Queer Officer**

## February Representation Board (21/02/2025 – 13/03/2025) Morgan Mills (they/them)

## **University/External Meetings**

Date	Meeting	Comments
25/02/2025	Minus 18 x Curtin Guild	Discussed the possible opportunities for the guild to partner with Minus 18. A report containing options has been sent through
25/02/2025	Deadnaming	Met with Imari to discuss the history of deadnaming
27/02/2025	We All Need to Pee	Met with Sam Owen to discuss next steps in the we all need to pee campaign
04/03/2025	Monthly DVCA	Discussed current campaigns, Pride 2025, and Ally trainings
05/03/2025	People and Culture introductions	
06/03/2025	Curtin Brand Campaign	Met with Curtin branding to discuss the possibilities around including the Queer equity space in one of their videos
10/03/2025	Curtin x UWA Queer Guild	Discuss the possibilities around collaborating inter- university in 2025
12/03/2025`	Queer Collective	First Queer collective meeting of 2025 Used for introductions and setting a baseline for what is wanted and expected throughout the year.
12/03/2025	Guild hosting University Council	

#### **Guild Meetings**

Date	Meeting	Comments
28/02/2025	We All Need to Pee	Met with Bridget to discuss
		her involvement with the
		WANTP campaign

#### **Extended notes**

• 25/02/2025 Minus 18 x Curtin Guild

I met with Minus 18 to discuss the possibility of the Curtin Student Guild working in collaboration with the charity. During this meeting we discussed the possibility of the Guild hosting a fundraiser and/or donating to Minus 18. The funds raised from the event that would be held would be used to cover costs for a workshop available for LGBTQIA+ students. The workshop involves promoting queer empowerment amongst young people.

As of the submittal of this report an information booklet is being produced by Minus 18 and will be sent to the Guild Executive team for feedback.

• 27/02/2025 We All Need To Pee

The first meeting of 2025 with Samantha Owen from Gender Equity and Inclusion was set up to discuss the development of the WANTP campaign. During this meeting, Sam and I discussed the possible production of a business case working group. This working group will focus on information from last year's Queer Officer, Zavier's, toilet audit report and will include Safer Communities, the Women's Officer, and members of the Gender Equity and Inclusion Group.

#### Updates

#### We All Need To Pee

Locations for potential sign changes were identified. Unfortunately, only 3 potential options were found, most being within a central location. I had a meeting with Sam about Zavier's toilet audit report and potential next steps. A decision was made to further discuss the possibility of starting a business case working group that included the Women's Officer; Safer Communities; People and Culture; and the Gender Equity and Inclusion Group.

#### **Period Product dispensers**

All dispensers have been allocated and distributed to multiple locations around the Bentley Campus. A post about their locations will be made available soon.

## **Queer Collective**

Following O-Day, many people applied to be a part of the Queer Collective for 2025. After much deliberation, I am happy to announce that this year's collective will contain 10 members – Amy Van Niekerk, Kit Miller, Karls Gan, Raine Amiruddin, Kat Bolland, Astor Luk, Toby Collier, Matilda Gardiner, Jack Collis, and Tay Lord.



## **GUILD MEETINGS**

Date	Meeting	Notes
19/02	Oday	
20/02	Meeting with police	Police report
26/02	Maryanne meeting	Social media coverage of
		IWD market
	Period Product Placement	With Dylan
28/02	Meeting with Morgan	
	UnionsWA IWD rally	
04/03	Period Product Placement	With Morgan, Ebony
05/03	IWD market	
06/03	WC Interviews	

## **EXTENDED NOTES**

## 19/02/25

• Guild Oday was a major success within the Women's Department, with gaining over 300 followers on Instagram from that day alone. I gave out various giveaways—ranging from stickers, pamphlets, lollies and vitamins.

## 20/02/25

- In a recent post for Oday, someone commented that they wanted to shoot up Curtin University.
- Reported to Safer Communities and to the WA Police. The whole ordeal took me about 3 hours to report.
- Glad to know that the day after I got an update saying that the person who commented was found and arrested. Was let go as there was no real threat and that he was just joking, however reported that he is very remorseful.

## 26/02/25

- Proud to announce that additional Period Product Despensers have been rolled out to the Nursing Building and Hayman Theatre.
- Discussion of placement of a dispenser by Building 208

## 28/02/25

• Discussion of Samantha Owen's recommendation of me being part of a working group for the 'We All Need to Pee' campaign based off Zavier's toilet audit.

- The UnionsWA International Women's Day rally had a very disappointing turnout, with only people from Labor or Union Reps coming. This may be due to the lack of advertising that UnionsWA had on the rally, with only posting about it on Instagram the day before. It is also disappointing that other student unions such as the UWA Student Guild not having a presence especially when the UWA Guild president is a woman herself. Women within unions should stand in solidarity with each other to fight for women's rights.
- It was also disappointing that other leftist political groups on campus didn't show up to the IWD rally despite me personally asking members of such groups if they were coming to said rally.

## 04/03/25

• Additional Period Product Dispensers rolled out to 204.213 and near Building 208.

## 05/03/25

- The IWD market was a success with the Women's Department. Was able to give away many things cookies, vitamins
- Was able to broadcast the additional menstrual dispenser locations, with very positive feedback from students
- Also happy to see that other groups on campus (i.e. Socialist Alternative) took interest in the market, observing many even somewhat engaging with my stall

## UPDATES

I am very pleased to announce the following as part of my Women's Collective: Ava Edgeley, Chloë Maslen. Ebony Whitney, Freja Holmer, Indigo Collier, Lilly Dawn, Nikita Arun, Nini Siddiqua, Sri Mohan, Salwa Kilzi, Matilda Woodard, Tasmin Collins and Samalmi Dewamullag. I'm very excited to be working with each of them and to see what they all can bring to the Women's Department.

I'm also very excited about almost all our menstrual product dispensers being rolled out onto campus, with waiting for some supplies for the last one to be placed outside of the Guild bathrooms. I anticipate continuing the work of getting additional menstrual product dispensers on campus.

The Women's Officer of WASM, Emilie Ntolla, has expressed interest in having the Women's Departments have more of a collaborative relationship, with potentially doing an event together. We both don't know what that would quite look like yet, however I look forward to collaborating with Emilie.



## Accessibility officer

## March Representation Board Report Lorien Watts (they/he)

University and Committee Meetings		
Date	Meeting	Comments
25/2/2025	Research Project partnership	Met with Sylvanna Mirichlis, a researcher at Curtin who is applying for a research grant to study non-suicidal self-injury in autistic adults
25/2/2025	CSMP introduction	<ul> <li>Met with Dilta and Sandhya, the program coordinators for the Curtin Specialist Mentoring Program</li> <li>Discussed: <ul> <li>Running an information session about the Guild for the program mentees (12<sup>th</sup> March)</li> <li>A collaboration between CSMP and the Accessibility Department for Autism awareness/acceptance day (2<sup>nd</sup> April)</li> <li>Promotion by the AD for the CSMP Neurodiversity celebration week event (19<sup>th</sup> March)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
6/3/2025	Disability Pride Month event feasibility	<ul> <li>Disability Pride month is in July – teaching weeks 1-2 of semester 2</li> <li>Looking at running several separate events over a 1–2-week period rather than coordinating events due to time and budget constraints</li> <li>Possible ideas discussed: <ul> <li>Art showcase</li> <li>Creation of media profiles of students and staff with disability</li> <li>Pop-up stall in the library – disability pride merch?</li> <li>Staff training/lunch and learn</li> <li>Hidden Disability Sunflower Program launch</li> </ul> </li> <li>I am also looking into options of running a Guild event at that time with the events team</li> </ul>

<b>Guild Meetings</b>
ΝΙΛ

Events			
Date	Event	Comments	
5/3/2025	Women's Day Market	Congratulations to Bridget on running a successful event! For the event: Compiled some organisations and resources on health, mental health and disability for women Printed out some disability and women-affirming colouring-in sheets Earplugs continue to be popular at events	

Projects		
Project	Comments	
AUSLAN course	Investigating the feasibility of a discount for Guild members for an AUSLAN course	