

## Minutes

Meeting opened 5.37pm

### 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

Members Present; Dylan Storer, Razanne Al-Abdeli, Morgan Mills, Bridget Clifton, Cooper Henrickson, Nicole Alconaba, Lorien Watts (online), Ben Burgess, Rabab Ahsan, Tom Harrowing, Huzaifa Nawa, Mitch Craig,

2.1. Others Present; Noor Fellah, Ella Marchionda, Hamide Kocer, Rob Vusak, Zoe Stevens, Jack Washington, Jo-Ann Naidu, Maryanne Shaddick

2.2. Apologies and Leave of Absence; none

2.3. Absent;

### 3. Disclosure of any potential or perceived Conflicts of Interest

Dylan Storer noted a conflict of interest with item 9.2

### 4. Minutes of the Previous

4.1. Previous Meeting Minutes

**Motion:** That the Representation Board approves the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 20/02/2025, as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved: Mitch Craig

Seconded: Bridget Clifton

Carried

Cooper Henrickson noted that there was a mistake in the spelling of his name.

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

### 6. Items Not for Discussion 7. Public Question Time 8. Reports. None

8.1. President – Submitted. Dylan reported on his visit to Kalgoorlie with Cooper Henrickson. Also, Dylan reported on the review and draft of Student Charter, the

progress of the new student kitchen, \$20,000 club grant, roll out of the period product machines. Dylan noted that the Guild made a submission to the Federal Government senate enquiry on university governance. Dylan talked about the effectiveness of representation activities at Kalgoorlie.

- 8.2. Vice President – Education – Submitted Late. Ben Burgess noted a meeting with Lorien Watts and Nicole Alconaba about the new Invigilation system.
- 8.3. Vice President – Sustainability & Welfare – Submitted Late. Razanne Al-Abdeli noted that she was in the process of finalizing the smart bins to introduce the 10c refund to students. The Recycling Hub had arrived and required some artwork. Razanne was working with the Commercial Manager to introduce a 30% vegan and halal option to the lolly wall. Razanne spoke about arrangements made for students who were not required to fast for Ramadan. Razanne commented on UWA's ban on student announcements which she expressed was an attack on academic freedom.
- 8.4. Faculty of Business & Law Representative– Submitted – As tabled. Nicole Alconaba reported that a new working committee was being formed to support students deemed to be at academic risk.
- 8.5. Faculty of Science & Engineering Representative – Submitted. Copper Henrickson answered some questions about his visit to Kalgoorlie.

- 8.6. Faculty of Health Sciences Representative – Submitted. No questions.
- 8.7. Faculty of Humanities Representative – Submitted. Tom Harrowing reported on a meeting with the School of Education and mentioned that ongoing issues were being addressed.
- 8.8. Student Assist – Submitted Late. As tabled. No questions.
- 8.9. International Students Committee President – Submitted. As tabled. Huzaifa Nawa reported on events including the Student Migration Awareness Program and PSC/ISC Sundowner.
- 8.10. Postgraduate Students Committee President – Submitted. Mitch Craig reported that in addition to the progression policies and procedures, feedback was being given on examination procedures and admission and enrolment procedures. He added a number of meetings were scheduled with the university.
- 8.10.1. KPIs - Submitted
- 8.11. Queer Officer – Submitted. As tabled. Morgan Mills discussed Minus 18 document which had partnership options with the Guild.
- 8.12. Women's Officer – Submitted. Bridget Clifton said she was very happy that the period products project had come to fruition.
- 8.13. Accessibility Officer – Submitted. As tabled. Lorian Watts reported on a meeting with the Curtin mentoring program group.
- 8.14. Higher Education Developments – Submitted Late. No questions.

**Motion:** That the Representation Board notes the reports.

Moved: Dylan Storer

Seconded: Cooper Henrickson

Carried

**Motion:** That the Representation Board approves the submitted KPIs for Postgraduate Students Committee President.

Moved: Morgan Mills

Seconded: Nicole Alconaba

Carried

## **9. Items for Discussion and Resolution**

- 9.1. A National Voice for International Students

**Motion:** That the Representation Board:

**Endorse** the campaign by the Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations and other Student Unions across the country to start a new body to represent international students at a national level.

Moved: Huzaifa Nawaz (President, International Students Committee)

Seconded: Mitchell Craig (President, Postgraduate Students Committee)

Carried

Huzaifa Nawaz said international students needed a representation body at a national level. Mitch Craig echoed this sentiment.

## 9.2. 2025 Federal Election Campaign Endorsements

**Motion:** That the Representation Board:

**Endorses** the National Union of Students 'My Future, Our Voice' campaign and the ACTU/Unions WA 'Don't Risk Dutton' campaign in the lead up to the 2025 Australian Federal Election.

Moved: Dylan Storer (President)

Seconded: Morgan Mills (Queer Officer)

Carried

Dylan Storer said that the NUS campaign called for many things that the Guild supported. Dylan reinforced that the Curtin Student Guild supported free education for students. Dylan said there were dangers for students with the prospect of a Dutton Government. There was general discussion about the motion.

### 9.3. Solidarity with the UWA Student Guild

**Motion:** That the Representation Board:

**condemns** the University of Western Australia's new restrictions on student announcements on campus and resolves to oppose the efforts of universities across the country to restrict the free speech of students and staff.

Moved: Dylan Storer (President)

Seconded: Mitchell Craig (President, Postgraduate Students Committee)

Carried

Dylan Storer said universities across the country led by the Group of 8 were rushing policies. He said the Guild needed to stand in solidarity with UWA. Mitch Craig echoed this sentiment and said the Guild should oppose restrictions on free speech. There was general discussion about the merit of supporting UWA students' right to freedom of speech. Dylan Storer said he would write to the UWA Guild and offer support.

### 9.4. Defending Academic Freedom

**Motion:** That the Representation Board:

**denounces** Universities Australia's adoption of a working definition of Antisemitism that threatens to restrict freedom of speech in universities regarding criticism of Israel and Zionism and reaffirms that the Curtin Student Guild will oppose any policy that restricts these rights at Curtin and in the Australian tertiary education sector as a whole.

Moved: Dylan Storer (President)

Seconded: Razanne Al-Abdeli (Vice President of Sustainability & Welfare)

Carried

Dylan Storer updated the Representation Board about the work done on this issue. The week of the UA announcement, the Executive team sought clarification from Curtin about its plans to adopt the definition. Dylan Storer met with the Vice Chancellor. The Vice Chancellor and DVCA confirmed that criticism of Israel and Zionism was not viewed as anti-Semitic, and Curtin would not discipline students who expressed criticism of Israel and Zionism. Dylan Storer said that he said that it was important that this was on record. The Guild published a statement which contained the VC's commitments. The Curtin Guild was one of two student unions to make a statement on this issue. The NUS had not made a statement. Razanne Al-Abdeli said that she was happy with the VC's commitment – it provided comfort. Referenced an article by Kenneth S Stern. There was a general discussion about the issue. There was a query about Curtin's commitment as a recent communication from Curtin did not rule out disciplinary action for criticism of Israel or Zionism.

### 9.5. Stop Killing Women Rally

**Motion:** That the Representation Board:

**Endorses** the stop killing women rally

Moved: Bridget Clifton (Women's Officer) Seconded:

Morgan Mills (Queer Officer)

Carried

Bridget Clifton spoke to the motion outlining the number of women killed since 1 January 2024. Bridget said it was important that the Guild had a presence at the rally.

**10. General Business** None

**11. Meeting Evaluation**

**This was carried out by** Rabab Ahsan

**12. Next Meeting**

The next ordinary meeting of the Representation Board will be held on the 10th April in the University Council Chambers.

Meeting closed 6.40pm