Student Guild of Curtin University

Representation Board – Meeting #06

To be held at 5 30 PM on Thursday 16th of July 2026

In Council Chambers 410.208

AGENDA

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;
   2.2. Others Present;
   2.3. Apologies and Leave of Absence; Bonnie
   2.4. Absent;

   The Chair opened the meeting at 5.32pm, acknowledging the traditional owners of the land on which the Bentley and Kalgoorlie campuses are located. Members present included Dylan, Hadiya, Morgan, Ebony, Connie, Zobia, Tom, Sara, and Mia. Online attendees included Tahsin, Bonnie, and Astor. Standing invites and observers were also noted as present.

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

4. **Minutes of the Previous**

5. **Reports**

   5.1. Previous Meeting Minutes

   Motion: That the Representation Board approves the minutes of the previous meeting, held on the 14/05/2026, as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

   Moved:
   Seconded:

   A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 14 May 2026 as a true and accurate record was moved and seconded. Mover and seconder names were not clearly recorded in the transcript. The motion was carried.

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes.

7. Public Question Time

8. Reports

8.1. President – Submitted

Dylan presented his report and highlighted the following matters:

Running on Empty Campaign

Dylan advised that the Running on Empty campaign had gathered 2,600 signatures, resulting in the securing of free parking during both exam periods each semester, saving students and staff up to $68 per semester in yellow parking fees. He also noted that additional bus services have been introduced between Canning Bridge and Curtin as a result of the campaign's advocacy on public transport.

Guild Housing Report

Dylan advised that the Housing Report had been released on Tuesday morning and had received coverage in The West Australian, ABC Perth, ABC Goldfields, ABC Southwest, and on the front page of the Kalgoorlie Miner. He thanked Morgan for significant work on the report's content and Kalgoorlie statistics, and Ebony for her contributions to the campaign, including barbecues and student surveys conducted the previous year. Dylan advised that the Guild had also been invited to participate in a targeted consultation on reforms to WA's Residential Tenancy Act, with the aim of incorporating student accommodation affiliated with universities under the RTA. He noted that laws are being drafted and the Guild will continue to engage in that process. Dylan also advised that he had met with the Vice Chancellor that day, that Curtin has acknowledged the Guild's concerns, and that commitments are expected to be announced publicly once confirmed in writing.

Federal Higher Education Regulatory Changes

Dylan advised of recent changes to federal higher education regulations. Positive changes include improved standards for student input into university governance and decision making, and requirements for extensive consultation with students and staff before major changes are proposed. He noted that Curtin already largely meets these standards but will work with the university to ensure full compliance and strengthen student representation.

Dylan also raised a more concerning element of the changes, being that universities are now required to adopt definitions of anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, and racism against Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples by the start of the following year. He expressed concern about potentially problematic definitions of anti-Semitism that conflate criticism of Israel or Zionism with hatred toward Jewish people, noting that the Guild firmly opposes racism in all forms but must ensure that criticism of countries and their actions is not stifled. Dylan noted that the university intends to take its time in drafting its definition and that the Guild will advocate for an appropriate standard to be adopted.

Equity Spaces

Dylan advised that the new equity spaces are currently under construction, with completion expected within approximately one month.

University Merger

Dylan noted that discussion of the merger would be moved to general business for an in-camera session.

Discussion

A member added that it is equally important for universities to adopt an anti-Palestinian racism definition to protect student advocacy in that space, referencing models adopted at UTS and UQ.

A member queried whether the Guild has access to any preliminary definition being considered by the university. Dylan confirmed that no consultation process has commenced as yet, as the regulations were only recently put in place, and undertook to share information as it becomes available.

8.2. Vice President – Education – Submitted

Hadiya presented her report, noting it could largely be taken as read. A member raised concern that the merger campaign's social media activity has been insufficient, noting that students at orientation events had mistaken the campaign for an April Fool's joke due to a lack of recent posts, with the last post having been on 21 May. Hadiya acknowledged the feedback and undertook to address the social media content plan.

8.3. Vice President – Sustainability & Welfare – Submitted

Morgan presented their report, noting it could be taken as read, and highlighted that the Guild's decorative pots had been painted the previous day.

8.4. Faculty of Science & Engineering Representative – Submitted

8.4.1. KPIs – Submitted

Connie noted that two months of reports were being presented as the previous meeting had not been held. Key updates included ongoing discussions about revamping Building 204, which has significant issues including lead paint in an outdoor study area that students have been advised not to use. Connie advised that she had met with the Dean of Engineering to discuss making the space more open and accessible, particularly for first year students. Connie also noted that she had completed her WiSTEM training, attended the one-year anniversary of the WiSTEM Room, which has come under new management by Stella Carabin who has significant plans for the space, and that she had worked with Mia on a review of accessibility toilets across campus, with a number of reports submitted following that inspection.

There were no further questions.

8.5. Faculty of Health Sciences Representative – Submitted

8.5.1. KPIs – Submitted

Zobia advised that her draft report had been accidentally submitted and asked members to refer to the circulated updated version. She highlighted the following matters. The Allied Health Professionals Australia paid placement petition had reached 50,000 signatures nationally and was recently presented. The pop-up flu vaccine clinic had been highly successful, with over 170 students vaccinated with minimal promotion. The lab coat hire system is progressing well, with budgeting, placement locations, a pilot system, and a timeline now being finalised, with completion expected within two to three weeks. Zobia also advised that work with First Nations Officer Bonnie on improving the Indigenous Health Practice unit is progressing, with a newly appointed unit coordinator having already implemented some changes, though the Guild intends to meet with her to ensure student feedback is incorporated. Zobia noted that a significant number of the unit's tutors are not themselves Aboriginal or First Nations, which had been identified as a concern. Finally, Zobia advised that she attended the NUS conference and that a reel regarding campus lift closures had been filmed with Mia and uploaded, with members encouraged to share it.

Dylan commended the flu vaccination clinic and encouraged all members to ensure they have been vaccinated. He confirmed that the vaccine clinic will return the following two Thursdays from 10am to 1pm near Concept Café, free of charge.

There were no further questions.

8.6. Faculty of Business & Law Representative – Submitted

8.6.1. KPIs – Submitted

Ebony presented her report and highlighted the following matters:

Regarding exam format changes in the law school, Ebony advised that the law school is moving toward handwritten in-person examinations, which she and the Law Society consider inconsistent with industry expectations for graduates. A Dean's forum had been held, and it has been agreed that Ebony, the Curtin Student Law Society, and the Dean of Law will jointly draft a letter with recommendations to the university regarding assessment approaches in the law school and more broadly. Ebony also noted she will engage with the Legal Practice Board to inform the Guild's position.

Regarding safety concerns at the Murray Street campus, Ebony advised that two students had been assaulted when leaving campus from class. She raised concern that initial responses from the faculty suggested responsibility lay with the students for not reporting the incidents, despite one student having confirmed that she had reported the incident. Ebony noted that a related incident may be presented as a success story at an upcoming university health and safety committee meeting and asked representatives attending such meetings to correct the narrative if this occurs, emphasising that student safety incidents should be addressed immediately upon being reported.

Regarding the RTA submission, Ebony advised that the first set of questions covering definitions, legislative thresholds, exemptions, student accommodation, and Disability Royal Commission recommendations had been submitted. Remaining topics to be addressed in a mid-August submission include occupancy agreements, minimum standards, property condition reports, security bonds, termination of agreements, and dispute resolution. Ebony invited members to provide any further recommendations for inclusion in the submission and encouraged members to familiarise themselves with the Housing Report ahead of O-Day.

A member noted that the Housing Report has been well received, including by university staff at orientation events, and suggested providing printed copies to interested faculty staff.

8.7. Faculty of Humanities Representative – Submitted

8.7.1. KPIs – Submitted

Tom presented his report, noting it could largely be taken as read. He advised that following a meeting with Jeff Brooks, Head of the School of Education, it is expected that the placement crisis will be significantly worse this semester than last, with students likely to face increased communication difficulties, delays, and lack of placements. Tom advised his intention to prepare proactively, maintain an open channel with the Education Student Society, and use the O-Day period to communicate with students. He noted that advocacy with the Department of Education for a centralised placement system has not gained traction, with the relevant ministers consistently pushing back on the proposal.

There were no further questions.

8.8. Student Assist – Submitted

8.9. International Students Committee President – Submitted

8.9.1. KPIs – Submitted

Tahsin presented his report, highlighting the following matters. He is currently focused on O-Day planning from the ISC perspective, including coordinating volunteers for the ISC stall. He is working with Morgan on an accommodation booklet for orientation week. Tahsin advised that the upcoming Café Connect event will feature cultural clubs briefly introducing themselves to new students. He also noted that he had attended the engineering pre-orientation session for international students with Connie. Finally, Tahsin advised that he is working with First Nations Officer Bonnie on a cultural awareness session for international students to be held later in the semester.

There were no further questions.

8.10. Postgraduate Students Committee President – Submitted

8.10.1. KPIs – Submitted

Morgan presented their report and highlighted the following matters. Following a prolonged back-and-forth with the Dean of Research in Health Sciences, a policy preventing children from being present in the Health Sciences HDR Hub has been reversed. Morgan advised that an upcoming HDR student event in two weeks' time will bring students together with a panel of Deans of Research, library representatives, and Student Assist, noting that 55 students have already registered and RSVP capacity has been reached.

There were no further questions.

8.11. Queer Officer – Submitted

8.11.1. KPIs – Submitted

Astor presented their report, noting it could largely be taken as read, and highlighted the following matters. They had attended an NUS meeting with Queer Officers from other universities, at which a forthcoming campaign against app-based violence on dating apps was discussed. The NUS is also pushing for Div Con to be held annually rather than biennially. Astor also noted that approval had been given by Tahni to purchase books from Gaze Award while travelling in London, to be added to the Guild's collection once the new room is completed.

There were no further questions.

8.12. Women’s Officer – Submitted

8.12.1. KPIs – Submitted

Sara presented her report, noting it could largely be taken as read. She advised that her event, the Women's Fair, is confirmed for 5 August and will be a collaboration with Women in Business, with the partner organisation managing vendors and the Guild handling other aspects including staging. A member noted that the Faculty of Health Sciences also has a major event scheduled for 5 August in the Guild Club Hub, and Sara undertook to liaise with Tahni to resolve the scheduling.

There were no further questions.

8.13. Accessibility Officer – Submitted

8.13.1. KPIs – Submitted

Mia opened her report by noting Disability Pride Month and providing a content warning regarding discussions of neglect, abuse, violence, and death. She presented the following matters.

Mia outlined the current state of disability rights in Australia, noting that 47% of working-age people with disabilities are not in the workforce, often due to employer unwillingness to provide

accommodations under legislation she described as inadequate. She noted that companies are currently legally permitted to pay disabled people below minimum wage, and that prior to the NDIS, institutionalisation was associated with widespread abuse and neglect. Mia advised that more than half of people with disabilities have experienced physical or sexual violence, and that approximately 79,000 unnecessary hospitalisations and 550 potentially preventable deaths occur annually.

Mia advised that proposed federal legislation to reform the NDIS has drawn widespread condemnation, including from the Australian Human Rights Commission, State and Territory Disability Ministers, and the government's own NDIS Reform Advisory Committee. She noted that the government has agreed to some amendments but that these do not remove any substantive provisions of the bill. Mia noted that national protests have been announced for 1 August in Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane, with a Perth protest anticipated, and encouraged members to attend and follow the Protect the NDIS organisation for updates. She noted that the Senate inquiry into the bill closes on 14 August, and indicated her intention to contact Liberal ministers regarding the bill, as the Greens have firmly stated they will not support it.

Members requested that Mia share protest details and information on ways to get involved as they become available. Mia confirmed she would do so.

8.14. Higher Education Developments – NA

8.15. Ethnocultural Officer – Not Submitted

8.15.1. KPIs – Not Submitted

8.16. First Nations Officer – Submitted

8.16.1. KPIs – Submitted

Motion: That the Representation Board notes the reports.

Moved: Connie
Seconded: Mia

Moved by Connie, Seconded by Mia

The motion was carried.

Motion: That the Representation Board notes the KPIs.

Moved:
Seconded:

Moved by Morgan, Seconded by Ebony

The motion was carried.

9. Items for Discussion and Resolution

9.1. Support the National Day of Protest Against Pauline Hanson

Motion: That the Representation Board **supports** the National Day of Action against Pauline Hanson.

Moved: Hadiya Naeemi
Seconded:

Moved by Hadiya, Seconded by Sara

The mover advised that the proposal arose from the NUS Education Conference, where Socialist Alternative put forward a proposal for a coordinated nationwide day of protest action against Pauline Hanson, noting that while individual state protests have been held, no simultaneous national action has yet occurred. The mover argued that such an action would challenge uncritical media coverage of One Nation's polling performance and allow students across the country to collectively express opposition to Hanson's bigotry, Islamophobia, and racism. The mover asked that the Guild concretely support the efforts through social media promotion, poster printing, and modest financial contributions.

The motion was carried.

10. General Business

The meeting moved in camera to discuss the university merger.

11. Meeting Evaluation

Sara presented the meeting evaluation as her first time doing so, and noted the following. Key matters of significance discussed included the relationship between Curtin University and student representation, proposed changes with student wellbeing in mind, the distinction between anti-Semitism and anti-Zionism, the asbestos concerns in Building 204, issues with certain unit tutors, and the lift closures. Sara noted that the provision of supporting links in some reports was a strength, as was the constructive feedback and suggestions for more proactive approaches to campaigns such as the merger. Sara assessed the meeting as well run with no significant areas for improvement.

12. Next Meeting

Notice of the next ordinary meeting of the Representation Board will held on the 13th of August at 5:30PM in Council Chambers 410.208

The Chair noted that the next ordinary meeting of the Representation Board will be held on 13 August at 5.30pm in Council Chambers. The meeting was closed at 6.43pm.