



## Student Guild of Curtin University

### Representation Board - Meeting #2

Thursday, 20 January 2022

#### Minutes

##### 1. Acknowledgement of the Traditional Owners

*"The Curtin Student Guild would like to pay our respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members of our community by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land on which the Bentley Campus is located, the Wadjuk people of the Nyungar Nation; and on our Kalgoorlie Campus, the Wongutha people of the North-Eastern Goldfields. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this university, city and this region."*

##### 2. Attendance

- 2.1. Members Present; Jasmyne Tweed, Theodora Rohl, Madison Ainsworth, Rachel Taylor (online) Amber Hilston, Adam Reader, Hammed Mohammad, Cassidy Pemberton, Salwa Kilzi (online), Rey Nairn, Marcus Furnihough (online), Elizabeth Powell, Sophie Scott, Gabbi Marsh, Zoe Wing
- 2.2. Others Present; February, Dylan Botica, Andrew Cameron, Maryanne Shaddick (minute secretary), Freya North-Hickey, Erin Russell
- 2.3. Absent; Shaniqua Cutinha

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

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

- 4.1. Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion: That the Representation Board approves the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 18/11/2021, as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Amended: Requested by Madison to include the minutes of 1/12/21

Moved: Cassidy Pemberton

Seconded: Madison Ainsworth

Carried

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

##### 6. Items Not for Discussion

##### 7. Reports

- 4.1. President – Submitted. Theodora Rohl updated the committee on the Curtin Critical Incident Team – COVID-19 Response team's work on a transition plan after the borders reopen and in the event of community transmission. Theodora noted that she was assisting with FAQs for students. Theodora said that Curtin's approach to checking staff and student vaccination status had yet to be worked through. Marcus Furnihough asked about the checking of vaccination status, PPE and the languages that the communications would be in. There was

discussion about the best ways to check vaccination status. Theodora said that she would like to see more thorough measures put in place for vaccine checks. There was mention of CO2 monitors. Hameed Mohammad asked about the recruitment of a First Nations Officer. The committee was told that the President and Vice President Education had met with the Centre for Aboriginal Affairs (CAS) had asked for assistance in defining the role. CAS raised several things that the Guild had not considered. CAS suggested that the representative have an office at the CAS building. CAS said that they did not like term First Nations and preferred Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander. Dylan Botica spoke about the governance review that would consult with a range of elders during the process, hopefully making the position more accessible. Rachel Taylor asked if clubs had been informed about the \$20k club grant. February said at this time no communication gone to clubs.

4.2. Vice President – Education – Submitted. Nothing to add. No questions.

4.3. Faculty of Business and Law Representative – Submitted. No questions

4.4. Faculty of Science and Engineering Representative – Submitted. Rachel Taylor added that she had a recent meeting with Manager Student Assist Jo-Ann Naidu, Guild President Theodora Rohl and Vice President Education Madison Ainsworth. Theodora Rohl offered some advice for new officers including planning out projects for the year.

4.5. Faculty of Health Sciences Representative – Submitted. Amber Hilston noted that she had not been able to meet with the Dean of Education Health Science despite requesting meetings a number of times.

4.6. Faculty of Humanities Representative – Submitted. Nothing to add. No questions

4.7. Student Assist – Submitted. Andrew Cameron had nothing to add. Hameed asked about the availability of emergency relief if COVID impacted students. Andrew said that there was an emergency relief budget and there was access to emergency food from FoodBank.

4.8. International Students Committee President –Not Submitted. Not present.

4.9. Postgraduate Students Committee President – Submitted

4.10. Queer Officer – Submitted. Nothing to add. No questions

4.11. Women's Officer – Submitted. Nothing to add. Hameed congratulated Salwa Kilzi on her work to date.

4.12. First Nations Officer – Vacant

4.13. Accessibility Officer – Submitted. Nothing to add.

4.14. Higher Education Developments – Submitted. There was discussion about COVID impact on uni finances and changes to education as a result of COVID

4.15. Chair of the Representation Board\* - Verbal report. Jasmyne Tweed reported that she was getting acquainted with the Guild and governance requirements.

4.16 NUS National Conference attendees verbal report. Dylan Botica noted the continued importance of being part of a collective to deal with higher education issues. Higher education was experiencing attacks and Guild was unable to fight national issues on its own. He said that the NUS faced challenges. Factionalism was rife and selection of officers was based on factionalism and not always on merit. However, there were no other bodies that could represent students. Important to stand in solidarity with other unions around the country.

Madison Ainsworth noted that two policies on rural and regional policies were passed. The State Branch Vice President was elected. Freya North-Hickey said that the conference was supposed to be integral to strategy however it was being degraded in debate and strategy. A lot of plans for action were tabled. Passing policy and avoiding conversations was not going to achieve anything. Cassidy Pemberton noted that the NUS president did not have a report and that the NUS annual report was supposed to be on website. Cassidy noted that while the policy was important we did not know what the NUS was doing over the next year. Cassidy expressed her concern that the Women's Officer did not fulfil her duties. Marcus Furnihough spoke about holding the NUS to account. Noted UWA student campaign against course cuts.

Motion: That the Representation Board notes the reports.

Moved: Gabby Marsh

Seconded: Madison Ainsworth

Carried

## 8. Items for Discussion and Resolution

### 8.1. Survival Day Rally Support

Motion: That the Curtin Student Guild support the Indigenous Community of Australia and the Survival Day Rally on the 26 January

Moved: Theodora Rohl

Seconded: Hameed Mohammad

Carried

Theodora spoke on the motion. She outlined sign painting activity and free bus to and from rally. Hameed asked for more information about the sign painting. Marcus spoke in support of the rally.

### 8.2 Motion: Guild support for Bindi Maps Implementation of Curtin Campuses

Moved: Rey Nairn

Seconded: Adam Reader

Carried

Rey Nairn said that wayfinding signs were not accessible. Bindi Maps would overcome accessibility issues. Rachel Taylor asked what did our support mean? Rey said we would be expressing our support for this to go into the Access and Inclusion Plan 2022. Rey said that it would go to the next universal design working group.

### 8.3 Motion: Rally to Delay the Reopening

Move Marcus Furnihough

Second Zoe Wing

Carried.

Marcus Furnihough spoke to the motion. Covid control measures did not mean anything with regard to the Omicron variant. Marcus noted that deaths were climbing in the eastern states where the situation was very serious. Health care and supply chains were impacted. Marcus expressed concern that the WA health care system would not cope. He expressed concern about the impact of the omicron variant on younger people. He said that as representatives of young people at university we had to take this seriously. Rachel Taylor asked if we endorsed this motion how much more time would we get. Was the date changed to avoid the flu season? If borders opened later could the spread of Covid be worse? What was the date that the petition endorsed? Marcus said that the date would be determined by the readiness of health services. For example the distribution of effective PPE, ie P2 masks and the availability of other equipment. Everyone needed to be vaccinated. Hammed about Australian Medical Association (AMA) and Australian Nursing Federation (ANF) advice and spoke about the plight of international students who could not enter WA. Marcus said that the argument about international fees was not a good enough reason to open the borders. Theodora Rohl asked Marcus how the rally would

check whether people participating were fully vaccinated. Marcus was not aware of how that would be checked. Erin Russell, the organiser of the event, was asked how vaccine checks will be enforced. Erin said it was impossible to enforce vaccines checks. Madison Ainsworth asked if there would be online access to the rally. Erin said that was possible. Rey Nairn said that all of our metro hospitals and Peel had declared code yellows. They did not have enough beds. This situation had been going on for two years. Ray said that a code brown was the entire health system.

#### 9. General Business.

Theodora requested input from the Representation Board about the Curtin COVID FAQs. Hameed asked about on campus access, Student Assist support, childcare. Gabbi Marsh noted disciplines that had pracs and tutorials. Hammed said that the Government had confirmed that nursing pracs would go ahead. Hameed asked if uni would increase counselling services. Theodora invited people to email her with suggestions for FAQs. Hameed said that the PSC was looking for committee members. Dylan Botica said that an email to officers was being sent regarding the NUS referendum. Campaign agents were needed and if anyone wanted to be involved please send an email. Theodora asked if the Guild could take a side in the referendum. Dylan said that he would take the question on notice. Dylan reminded members that KPIs were due. Dylan also spoke about the nomination process for PSC and ISC committees. Dylan would be the returning officer. He noted that the Representation Board would be reviewing NUS KPIs.

#### 10. Next Meeting

The next ordinary meeting of the Representation Board is Thursday, the 10<sup>th</sup> of February at 5.30pm to be held at Council Chambers. Documents and motions are to be submitted no later than 4:30pm on 5pm the 3rd of February to [chair.representation@guild.curtin.edu.au](mailto:chair.representation@guild.curtin.edu.au) and [secretary@guild.curtin.edu.au](mailto:secretary@guild.curtin.edu.au)

Meeting closed at 6.43pm.