



## Student Guild of Curtin University

### Representation Board - Meeting #3

Thursday the 9th of February

2023 In Medical Building 410. 525

Meeting opened 5.30pm

## Minutes

### 1. Acknowledgement of the Traditional Owners

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

### 2. Attendance

2.1. Members Present; Hannah Northey, Dylan Botica, Veronika Gobba, Ryan Kirby, Hiba Alsoeady, Jude Soussan, Rey Nairn (online), Mitchell Craig, James Cabrera, Athina Hilman, Danica Scott, Aleena Shaji, Bhaarith Kathiravan

2.2. Others Present; Erin Russell, Maryanne Shaddick (minute secretary), Andrew Cameron (Student Assist), Jasmyne Tweed, Salwa Kilzi, Adam Reader

2.3. Apologies and Leave of Absence; Imari Morris

2.4. Absent; Veer Singh

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

### 4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

4.1. Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion: That the Representation Board approves the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 19/01/2023, as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved: Hiba Alsoeady

Seconded: Veronika Gobba

Carried

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes. There was a discussion about the issue of vaping on campus. Dylan Botica said that it was not the same as any other medical exemption as it would impact others. There was a ban on smoking and vaping on campus however with a prescription a student could ask for a medical adjustment. Rey Nairn said that they were not talking about nicotine replacement and cited the example of medicinal cannabis. Dylan Botica said he was happy to look into it and the specific issues. At the same time students potentially could have access to safe areas off campus or at the perimeter of campus.

### 6. Items Not for Discussion. None

### 7. Reports

7.1. President – Leave/ Verbal report. Dylan Botica noted that he was on leave for the majority of time since the last meeting. He had attended a President summit organized by the NUS. Dylan reported on an open letter sent to the Minister for Education from WA Guild

presidents about the international accommodation crisis. Dylan noted the work done by Student Assist on this issue. Dylan said he had met with Fiona Notley. He recommended that the university should advise students not to come to Australia if they did not have accommodation. Dylan noted that the Guild had supported the NETU no campaign with regard to the Curtin staff EBA ballot. Emails had been sent to students about student disciplinary panels requiring students to take part. The Academic Registrar and Dylan Botica worked together on an AI description for teaching staff. Misuse of AI could be in breach of Curtin rules. Dylan said he would like to see more variety of vending machines. There were no questions

- 7.2. Vice President – Education – Submitted. As tabled. No questions.
  - 7.2.1. Key Performance Indicators
- 7.3. Faculty of Business and Law Representative - Submitted. As tabled. No tabled. Rey Nairn asked about synchronised assessments and the lack of accessibility for oral assessments. Ryan Kirby said he had raised this and would meet with the faculty to discuss the issue again. Dylan Botica said it was important that the Guild adhered to consistent messages around AI.
  - 7.3.1. Key Performance Indicators
- 7.4. Faculty of Science and Engineering Representative – Vacant
- 7.5. Faculty of Health Sciences Representative – Submitted. As tabled. There was discussion about the blood/bone marrow donation campaign.
  - 7.5.1. Key Performance Indicators
- 7.6. Faculty of Humanities Representative – Submitted. As tabled. No questions. Rey Nairn expressed interest in assisting with allergen safety and information.
  - 7.6.1. Key Performance Indicators
- 7.7. Student Assist – Submitted. Accommodation update. Andrew Cameron reported that there was a significant increase in cases about accommodation issues. Accommodation for students was at capacity. Student Assist was referring students to Curtin’s Accommodation Coaches.
- 7.8. International Students Committee President – Verbal report. ISC election coming up. No questions.
- 7.9. Postgraduate Students Committee President – Submitted. . Attended student experience committee, research and ethics committee. No questions. Discussion about stipend increase.

- 7.9.1. Key Performance Indicators
- 7.10. Queer Officer – Submitted. No questions
  - 7.10.1. Key Performance Indicators
- 7.11. Women's Officer – Submitted. Aleena Shaji noted that she had organised donations of products and she was making posters about reporting sexual assault.
  - 7.11.1. Key Performance Indicators
- 7.12. First Nations Officer – Vacant
- 7.13. Accessibility Officer – Submitted. Rey Nairn reported changes to an NUS campaign against a return to wholly face to face teaching for onshore students. The launch date of the campaign would be March 10. The target of campaign had changed. The requirement came from the Federal Government (in reference to international students) and was to be enforced by TEQSA. Mitch Craig asked about the new Disability Access and Inclusion Plan. Rey Nairn said that they had input on it.
- 7.14. Higher Education Developments – Submitted. No questions.
- 7.15 Chair of the Representation Board\* - Verbal report. Hannah Northey reported that she had attended a number of meetings. No questions
  - 7.15.1 Key Performance Indicators

Motion: That the Representation Board notes the reports.

Moved: Dylan Botica  
 Seconded: Mitchell Craig  
 Carried

Motion: That the Representation Board approves the submitted KPIs Moved:

Ryan Kirby  
 Seconded: Veronika Gobba  
 Carried

## 8. Items for Discussion and Resolution

### 1. Solidarity with Palestine

Motion: That the Curtin Student Guild:

- Stands in solidarity with Palestine against the escalating persecution imposed by the state of Israel. This solidarity is to be expressed by social media statements condemning the recent escalation of violence against Palestinians and reaffirming the Guild's position in support of a free Palestine from the river to the sea.
- Calls on Curtin University to end partnerships with bodies and corporations that directly contribute to the oppression of Palestinians in occupied territories, including the Australia-Israel Chamber of Commerce and Lockheed Martin.

Moved: Danica Scott (Ordinary Representation Board member)  
 Seconded: Jude Soussan  
 Carried

Danica Scott spoke to this motion. Recommended that the Guild stand in support of Palestine.

Dylan Botica spoke about the [IHRA definition of anti-Semitism](#) and issues with regard to academic freedom. He said that the Guild did not conflate the two issues. Rey Nairn read the definition and advocated that the definition should not be included in the motion. Dylan Botica said anti semetism was abhorrent and remembering the Holocaust was essential and raised issues of academic freedom.

### 2. Support the Uluru Statement from the heart and a Voice to Parliament

Motion: That the Representation Board endorse the Uluru Statement from the Heart and recommends the Curtin Student Guild run a campaign in full support of a Voice to Parliament.

Moved: Dylan Botica (President)  
 Seconded: Veronika Gobba (Vice President- Education)  
 Carried

Dylan Botica said that the Indigenous Voice to Parliament was agreed to by First Nations people and had overwhelming support from First Nations people. The Guild had sought discussion with Whadjuk elders. Dylan said that it was important that the campaign did not end with the referendum. The campaign should include the elements of treaty and truth telling. We should lobby for a treaty. Veronika said this is a once in a generation opportunity. Danica Scott said the Voice to Parliament had potential to do nothing. It would just be an advisory body. It would not have a veto power. Danica said that they were not recommending a campaign against The Voice to Parliament. Danica recommended that the Guild should campaign to shut down Banksia Hill and shut down the fossil fuel industry. Dylan invited Danica to abstain in the vote. There was a discussion about the merits of the Voice to Parliament and about specific areas of injustice of First Nations people.

### 3. Solidarity with NTEU on EBA

Motion: That the Representation Board endorse the campaign for a "NO" vote in Curtin's "New Employee Agreement" in solidarity with the National Tertiary Education Union and supports all industrial action of Curtin staff in seeking improved pay and conditions.

Moved: Dylan Botica (President)

Seconded: Veronika Gobba (Vice President- Education)

Carried

Dylan Botica spoke to the motion. He provided background information about the log of claims and the non-union ballot. Danica Scott said a yes vote would devastate the union. There was a discussion about the university pay offer.

### 4. IWD and NDA Organising

Item: Representation Board discuss organising for International Women's Day Protest and the National Day of Action on Climate Change.

Danica Scott said there was a meeting organized with Curtin and UWA. There was discussion about how to get students involved including options such as a student email, Tiktok, Instagram posts, flyers, digital displays, slides and announcements in lectures. Dylan Botica proposed a meeting in the next week. Veronika noted that the two events were in close proximity There was a discussion about Curtin's ties to fossil fuels.

### 9. General Business. None

### 10. Next Meeting

The next ordinary meeting of the Representation Board is Thursday, the 16<sup>th</sup> of March at 5:30pm to be held at Council Chambers. Documents and motions are to be submitted no later than 5:00pm on Thursday the 9 March to [chair.representation@guild.curtin.edu.au](mailto:chair.representation@guild.curtin.edu.au) [secretary@guild.curtin.edu.au](mailto:secretary@guild.curtin.edu.au)

Meeting closed 6.29pm.