Vice President – Education

Report #10 Bridge Truell

Meeting date: 21/10/21 Date submitted: 15/10/21 29/9/21

1. University Meetings

| Date | Meeting | Comments |
|----------|--|---|
| 5/10/21 | Courses Committee | During this meeting we received updates on the progress of the Comprehensive Course Review (CCR) and internship opportunities for Humanities students. |
| 12/10/21 | Learning and Student Experience Committee (LSEC) | During this meeting we received updates on academic misconduct figures so far this year, self-certification for assessment extensions, assessment quality evaluations, student retention initiatives, and an update from Curtin Credentials. |
| 14/10/21 | Student Services & Amenities Fee Expenditure Advisory Committee (SSAFEAC) | During this meeting we reviewed a newly proposed template for SSAFEAC reports and proposals, received progress reports from the Library, the Guild and the University on their respective SSAF projects, and approved the schedule for 2022 events. |

2. Guild Meetings

| Date | Meeting | Comments |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| 29/9/21; 13/10/21 | Higher Education Meeting | |
| 30/9/21 | Guild Council | |
| 7/10/21 | Guild Executive Committee Meeting | |

3. Other Meetings/Activities

| Date | Meeting | Comments |
|---------|---|---|
| 1/10/21 | Medical Director Interview Panel | After the announcement of Dr Fiona Coombes' retirement from the position of Medical Director at the Curtin University Health Service, I was approached to sit on the selection panel for her replacement. The recruitment process is still underway so I'm currently unable to provide too much detail, but every effort is being made to ensure we secure an appropriate candidate. |
| 4/10/21 | Curtin Student Leaders Virtual Summit | This Summit was the first collaborative online event put together by the Curtin International Student Leaders Working Group which brought together students from all of Curtin's global campuses to discuss topics of leadership, experiences of International Students, barriers to student engagement and how reps on each campus are tackling them, learning through a global pandemic, and different student organisational structures across the global campuses. It was a really fantastic opportunity to connect with students at our global campuses and I was lucky enough to be able to facilitate the student discussion portion of the Summit. |
| 6/10/21 | Brainstorming & Planning Meeting for Learning For Tomorrow | Jesse and I met with the Faculty Reps to discuss the current progress of the Learning For Tomorrow Strategy within their faculties and work out whether there are still any areas we're wishing to address before the end of the year. Class scheduling for next year is well underway and during this meeting we also |

| | | discussed the possibility of involving Fac Reps in the process of timetabling in future. |
|---------|---|---|
| 7/10/21 | Student Voice Australia (SVA) Student Network Meeting | |

4. Other Projects/Developments:

- The Excellence in Teaching Awards have been finalised and we're looking forward to celebrating our winners at the Awards Ceremony on October 29th.

- The Unit Outline Review is currently underway, with our Faculty Representatives hard at work compiling information from a random sample of Unit Outlines within their faculty to ensure they're appropriate and policy compliant.

5. Travel: N/A

6. Leave: N/A

Science and Engineering Faculty Representative - Representation Board Report

For the Representation Board #9 to be held on Thursday, 21/10/2021.

| Meeting | Date | Type of Meeting | Comments |
|--|------------|---------------------|---|
| SDP | 22/09/2021 | Faculty | Nothing to note. |
| Senior Management Unit Concerns Meeting | 22/09/2021 | Student Concerns | A unit concern that could not be resolved at the unit level and required a direct meeting with senior management. The feedback was well received by senior management and changes have been taken. |
| Curriculum Course Review Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) | 23/09/2021 | Faculty | We have reached our document deadlines. Dean of Engineering and Dean of Learning and Teaching are compiling a full report to lead the changes suggested at all levels. |
| Engineering Board | 23/09/2021 | Faculty | Nothing to note. |
| Progression of Bachelor of Science 2023 | 23/09/2021 | Faculty | It was acknowledged that miscommunication had occurred between the members of the UG/PG Science Suite meeting regarding the proposed number of optional units permitted in the first year of studies. It was then required to have all members to meet in person and clarify the changes we are suggesting. |
| Chair of Electrical Engineering Computing and Mathematical Sciences Industry Advisory Board (IAB) Meeting | 24/09/2021 | Industry | The chair of this board wanted to have a meeting to discuss the alignment of industry from the IAB perspective and current Curtin Students. |
| Student Meeting | 28/09/2021 | Guild | A student meeting to discuss options regarding course switching and what courses are suitable to their interests. |
| UG/ PG Science Suite | 28/09/2021 | Faculty | Clarification has occurred from the meeting on the 23 rd of September and members were working on progressions moving forward under the same presumptions. |
| Students as Partners Community of Practices (SAPCOP) | 28/09/2021 | University | I noted that the SAPCOP community had a lot of emphasis on employing students and recruiting students for volunteering efforts. In my eyes, although beneficial, is not the essence of students as partners and what we expect out of having the university truly act as students as partners. |
| Representation Board | 28/09/2021 | Guild | Refer to previous minutes. |
| SDP | 29/09/2021 | Faculty | Nothing to note. |

Summary of Meetings

| 01/10/2021 | Faculty | Interviews for a vacant lecturer |
|------------|--|---|
| | | position in the school of EECMS. First |
| | | set of candidates were interviewed |
| | | online. |
| 01/10/2021 | Guild x Faculty | Part 2 of the SCC meetings that had |
| | | occurred whereby this meeting was |
| | | specific to travel restricted students. |
| | | The feedback revolved around isolation |
| | | and feeling disconnected from the |
| | | university lifestyle. |
| 06/10/2021 | Guild x Faculty | Just touching base and discussing |
| | 2 | various things, e.g.: SCC, club |
| | | meetings, etc. |
| 06/10/2021 | Guild x Faculty | An introductory meeting that I |
| | 2 | organised to understand the scope and |
| | | exposure that science clubs have. Goals |
| | | are to establish a strong communication |
| | | between these clubs, guild, academics |
| | | and work integrated learning. |
| 06/10/2021 | Faculty | Nothing to note. |
| | • | |
| 06/10/2021 | Guild | Actions following Jesse's meeting with |
| | | the VC. |
| 06/10/2021 | Faculty | Second round of interviews for the |
| | • | vacant lecturer position. |
| 07/10/2021 | Guild | A club had questions about logbooks. |
| | | |
| 08/10/2021 | Guild | A meeting between faculty |
| | | representatives to discuss the meetings |
| | | that we sit on and our stance on |
| | | industry involvement. |
| 12/10/2021 | Faculty | Progression is going well. |
| 13/10/2021 | Guild | Follow up meeting with the club |
| | | regarding logbooks. |
| 13/09/2021 | Faculty | Course/ unit approvals. Nothing |
| | - | |
| | | majorly significant. |
| |)6/10/2021)6/10/2021)6/10/2021)6/10/2021)7/10/2021)8/10/2021)8/10/2021]2/10/2021]3/10/2021 | 01/10/2021 Guild x Faculty 06/10/2021 Guild x Faculty 06/10/2021 Guild x Faculty 06/10/2021 Guild x Faculty 06/10/2021 Faculty 06/10/2021 Faculty 06/10/2021 Guild 06/10/2021 Guild 06/10/2021 Guild 06/10/2021 Guild 06/10/2021 Guild 06/10/2021 Guild 08/10/2021 Guild 08/10/2021 Guild 10/2021 Guild |

Other Events

• None

Other Things

- Learning for Tomorrow Strategy
 - We are working on the final rounds of recommendations for the Learning for Tomorrow strategy in our faculty and are nearing our actionable deadlines post confirmation of this strategy. It is looking promising.
- Final Compilation of Student CCR Reports
 - I have finished compiling the student feedback reports for the CCR BEng(Hons).
 - It was noted that no student feedback could be found for Environmental Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Metallurgical Engineering and that I ran out of time to seek feedback from students at our offshore campuses.

- CME Unit Help
 - A student was struggling with a particular unit and needed greater peer support. I tried finding assistance for the student but was unsuccessful.
- CME Unit Further Assessment
 - A student is trying to get a further assessment but is having issues contacting faculty. I am helping in the process.
- Club Dissolution
 - $\circ~$ A club has dissolved and had queries on what to do with their assets.
- Sci-Eng Rep Donut Giveaway as part of Mental Health Week
 - I have been planning my Sci-Eng Donut giveaway event as part of mental health week. More information will be given in my report at the next representation board.
- EECMS Incompliant Unit Outline
 - Flagged a unit with an abnormally large number of assessments with no exemptions.
- Logbooks Engineering Requirements
 - A student has queried the logbook requirements needed for graduation.
- Post-Graduation Representation
 - I have been asking around to find a post graduate student to sit on a few vacant committees in our faculty.
- EECMS Unit Feedback
 - I am helping the faculty gather student responses for a unit flagged as requiring attention.
- Hand over report
 - I am slowly working on my handover report as I transition out of this role.
- Vending Machines Issues
 - A student has flagged that the vending machines are not working properly, and I have flagged this issue with the relevant persons.

KPI Reflection

- 1. When attending various board/panel/committee meetings, be punctual, ensure I read the agenda and ask questions.
 - Is going well only had to miss 5 meetings the entire year due to other commitments.
- 2. Submit punctual, accurate, and comprehensive reports for committees when submissions are due.
 - Getting better as I come to the end of my term. A lot of things to follow through on before I can satisfactorily pass on this position.
- 3. Work on increasing communications with club representatives to make myself aware of academic club related issues.
 - Relationship with clubs is going well. Just introduced a channel of communication between science clubs which models the pre-existing channel amongst Engineering clubs.
- 4. Communicate with academic staff to abolish handwritten coding exams.
 - Abolish handwritten achieved and so no longer applicable.
- 5. Communicate with academic staff to create a universal 11:59 PM submission time.
 - Have had one conversation about it but have not made much progress on it.
- 6. Works on systems to have Ecosia set as the default search engine on all computers at university.
 - Ongoing actions are being taken.
- 7. Work on systems to have closed captions included in all online learning material (e.g.: iLectures) regardless of if students are on a CAP or not.

- Incompletable done everything that I can. As the university transitions away from Echo360 they will be using Blackboard Collaborate more which they say will have the functionality to add closed captions.
- 8. Liaise with faculty staff to streamline the process to get logbook approval for networking events run by students/ clubs.
 - Very close! The faculty has just piloted this streamlined process and we will see how well received it is in the near future.
- 9. Bridge the sci-eng gap through a science and engineering event.
 - I've forfeited completion of this KPI. It's been a massive workload issue juggling everything else and hosting this event. I have hosted one Donut Giveaway event as part of Mental Health Week and have been interacting through different demographics within the faculty in other avenues.

Final Notes

The past reporting period has been extremely strenuous. A lot of things have been happening in my space and which workload allocation is a continuing issue. I am making slow progress on most of my KPIs and my relationships with different stakeholders relevant to my positions is also well. In particular, my relationship and rapport with faculty is going extremely well. I genuinely feel that the faculty are constantly working with me to help enhance the student experience.

Summary - Key Points

- There have been a lot of meetings about various things within my faculty.
- There have been a lot of emails.
- KPIs are on track.
- My relationship with the faculty is well.
- There have been workload issues.
- Trying to tie up loose ends as I transition out of this role.

Thanks for reading my report and stay nifty!

Regards,



JASON KIM HE/HIM <u>learn about pronouns</u> SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING REPRESENTATIVE E <u>SCI-ENG@GUILD.CURTIN.EDU.AU</u> T +61 8 9266 3392 GUILD.CURTIN.EDU.AU

I acknowledge the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation on whose traditional lands I work, study and live. I pay my respects to their elders past, present, emerging and pay my respects to all First Nation peoples who walk this land. I acknowledge that this land is, was and always be Noongar nation.

Faculty of Health Sciences Report Lucy Rohl (she/her) Representation Board – October



HEALTH SCIENCES

Health Sciences students, we've got you back!

Lucy Rohl | Faculty of Health Sciences Rep Pronouns: She/Her health@guild.curtin.edu.au Join our Facebook group

Guild and University meetings

| 22/9 | Student Discipline Panel information session | Networked with and gave support to students interested in SDPs |
|-------|--|--|
| | Meeting with Dean of Learning and Teaching | Discussed the idea of an internship unit (GoPractice, similar to GoGlobal), which can be 25 or 100 credits. This lets students get credit for internships |
| 29/9 | PSC Sundowner | Networked with students |
| 6/10 | Brainstorming & Planning Meeting for Learning For Tomorrow | Meeting with Pres, VPE and Fac Reps. Shared information on what LFT is looking like in our respective faculties |
| | Meeting with Manager of Student Engagement | Discussed upgrading and expanding the activities New to Curtin mentors do, getting the Guild involved with scheduling classes, discussion on interprofessional workshop |
| 7/10 | Meeting with Nursing Head of School | Discussed 'no swap' policy for placements |
| 8/10 | Fac Rep Meeting | Discussed committees we sit on and our stance on industry engagement in the classroom, more on this later |
| 12/10 | Meeting with Bridge and Dylan about Roger Cook campaign | Dylan advised us of how we get in contact with the Nurses Union, and what we might be able to get from them. |
| 14/10 | Faculty Courses Committee | Two courses were deactivated, but these were online courses that had never actually been taught and no students had enrolled. |

The big stuff!

Roger Cook campaign

Roger hasn't replied to the email, although through our mutual contacts I've been informed that he is aware of this issue. Whilst we await a response, we are involving Maryanne and Jess in researching the situation so we are as informed as we can be. We are thinking of involving the Nurses Union.

Excellence in Teaching Awards

I sifted through a total of over 275 nominations for the Excellence in Teaching Awards, and came out with a winner for Teaching, for Research and an Honourable Mention.

Unit Outline Release Date

I have *finally* heard back about unit outlines being released earlier. Julie Brunner, the Policy Compliance Officer of the Course Quality Assurance Manual, advised me that the UC can publish their unit outline anytime from 6 months before the study period commences up until 1 week before the commencement date. A system is set up to send out automatically generated reminder emails to UCs 1 week before the publication deadline and another reminder email on the due date (1 week before the Study Period commences). Julie let me know that they will place a request to DTS (Digital & Technology Solutions) to change the timing of emails and communicate through Deans of Learning and Teaching of the need to publish Unit Outlines as soon as the information is available, and not only at the last date of one week prior.

Fac Rep Perspectives on Industry Engagement

Our conversation is summarised below:

- We considered that the university will be pushing for industry speakers and partnerships, as that's mentioned in Learning for Tomorrow
- We don't want content to be biased or work against our values
 - E.g. we don't want oil and gas companies to promote their agenda to students
- We agreed that industry should be involved in the following ways
 - Industry shouldn't directly determine the content that is be delivered
 - Speaking with staff about what <u>they</u> would like out of graduates is fine, but they shouldn't directly make those decisions
 - Industry shouldn't be delivering course content

- They have value as speakers because they can talk about working in industry and their experience. Thus, they should stick to that, not course content
- There should be a cap on guest speakers
 - Although this can change from unit to unit, as some units benefit from guest speakers and some do not
- Industry engagement must be a <u>component</u> of unit delivery it shouldn't replace unit content or entire sections of teaching
- A good example of appropriate industry engagement:
 - Guest speaker would speak for a segment of a workshop (maybe half an hour), then do hands-on work related to both industry and content

The little stuff!

Student issues

- \rightarrow Gave information to a student with questions about Excellence in Teaching Awards.
- → Drew a map for a student who wanted to know which student accommodation is closest to Speech Pathology classes. Definitely the most interesting thing I've done in this role so far!
- \rightarrow Student had difficulties getting an assessment extension due to prac complications.
- → A unit offered a 2-day extension for students but not for those with CAPs. I spoke to the UC about this and they gave the extension to CAP students.
- \rightarrow Student wanted assistance on promoting their study to get more participants.

Teaching issues

- → Some classes in the School of Population Health are being cut from 4 hours to 3 hours, and staff are worried about how they will account for the lost contact hours. Still following up on this.
- → Students in clinical placements in Nursing are no longer able to swap placements with each other, due to new requirements. I spoke to the Head of School about the lack of communication surrounding this.

Guild shenanigans

→ Sent emails out to clubs, students and other reps to fill vacant positions on working parties and committees in the faculty. Not as many people are responding as I'd like, and I am investigating other ways of spreading the word about these opportunities.

TL;DR

I'm seeking assistance from Maryanne, Jess and the Nurses Union in the Roger Cook campaign. I've selected winners for the Excellence in Teaching Awards. Unit Outlines may be starting to be released earlier. Fac Reps have come together to discuss our perspectives on industry engagement. Over the past month, I've assisted with several student, teaching and Guild issues.

Thanks for reading x Lucy

Humanities 21/09/2021-14/10/2021

University

| Name | Date | Comments |
|---|------------|----------|
| Gender, Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity Committee (GEDIC) | 22/09/2021 | |
| Student Disciplinary Panel (SDP) | 30/09/2021 | |
| Courses Committee | 14/09/2021 | |

Guild

| Name | Date | Comments | |
|---|------------|--|--|
| Learning for Tomorrow Faculty Reps Meeting | 06/10/2021 | Made a list of goals to achieve by next meeting. | |
| Faculty Reps Meeting | 08/10/2021 | Made a list of all meetings attended by each faculty representative, and went over what we thought about industry involvement in units. | |

Campaign

| Name | Date | Comments |
|---------------------------------------|------------|---|
| Meeting with Guild's across Australia | 28/09/2021 | UWA attended, was very helpful, gave better insight about how their campaigns are planned and what is happening on their campus. |
| Meeting with Guild's across Australia | 11/10/2021 | UWA and Deakin attended, as well as Chris Hall (NUS Education Officer). Established that Curtin would be holding a rally and due to circumstances for the other campuses the support provided will be UWA sharing our information and encouraging people to come, and the Deakin representative will be getting back to me after bringing information on my campaign back to their Guild's core team. |

We Are Important Campaign

Status-

Event has been made public on facebook, has been shared in the Humanities Group and has been sent to the student emails of humanities students. Updates and reminders will continue to be posted leading up to the rally.

Asking for speakers for the event.

Finished the outline for the Open Letter I will be sending to the Minister for Education, Alan Tudge, and Curtin University Management. The estimated date for this being completed is 10/11/2021—this is to give more people time to fill out the survey after the rally (<u>https://bit.ly/3BoHfw8</u> currently this survey has 55 responses)

What's Next-

The rally! At the time of writing this report (14/10/2021) the rally countdown has reached single digits and by the time we are meeting (21/10/2021) I will have more to share because the rally will have been completed.

The letter! Currently I have all the background information I need and am waiting until after the rally to collect the responses my survey has received to include that information as well.

TL;DR

Had very few meetings this reporting period, have been focusing more heavily on my campaign. The rally is coming up (will have been done by Reps Board), and has the support of the UWA Guild. The survey that is collecting information on how humanities students feel about their treatment at University and what they plan on doing after they graduate currently has 55 responses.

Student Assist – Representation Board report – September 2021

| | Jul | Aug | Sept |
|----------------------|-----|-----|------|
| Academic sessions | 373 | 273 | 167 |
| Financial | 49 | 41 | 56 |
| Counselling sessions | | | |
| LifeHacks | 105 | 84 | 23 |

Case statistics for Student Assist is as follows:

Academic sessions in the month of September were mainly focused on complaints.

Emergency Relief

Student Assist provided emergency relief to 11 students during the month of September in the form of Student Assist's Hardship Grants, Foodbank and vouchers.

Guild's Academic Misconduct Complaint - Outcome

Student Assist filed an official complaint on behalf of the Guild to Curtin in April 2021 around the Faculties' administering of Academic Misconduct. Please refer to Student Assist's April report for details of the complaint.

An outcome was provided to us on the 29th of September 2021 and our allegations were substantiated. Significant details extracted below:

____START EXTRACT____

The allegations made concerning Faculty administration of the Academic Misconduct process at Curtin University were substantiated, in particular in relation to the long delays in the closure of academic misconduct cases from the time of lodgement. It is agreed that the number of outstanding cases, especially cases which arose in 2020 and remained outstanding on 9 July 2021, as well as the long delays in case closure after lodgement, are far from optimal and need to be addressed.

There are two main recommendations resulting from my investigation which have been improved by the Provost:

1. All outstanding cases, with priority given to those originating in 2020, should be closed as soon as possible. Accountability should be held with the Faculty Pro Vice-Chancellors and the Heads of School. It is recommended that:

a. a current list of outstanding cases obtained from the Academic Registrar Office, be provided to each Pro Vice-Chancellor from the Provost, with the imperative that case closure is followed up through their respective Heads of School and be given priority; and

b. the number of outstanding cases be monitored by the Academic Registrar Office on a regular basis thereafter (every 2 or 3 months), with the information provided to the Pro Vice-Chancellors for further follow-up where required.

2. Curtin University should adopt the new proposed approach to the handling of student academic misconduct cases as soon as possible, including the introduction of a fast-track pathway and the centralisation of case review and initial determination processes. It is acknowledged that

such an approach will require additional resourcing of the central student discipline team, but the benefits of such an approach will be substantial and should have a significant impact on academic staff workload and procedural fairness for students.

In terms of the three actions you requested in your complaint:

• A comprehensive review of the way the faculties administer the academic misconduct process to ensure faculty best practice is followed by all faculties.

This has already been carried out, resulting in the proposed new approach for the student academic misconduct process. This approach has been endorsed by Academic Board and is supported by the Vice Chancellor and all Faculty Pro Vice-Chancellors.

• Prompt clearing of all outstanding allegations.

This is covered by Recommendation 1.

• Establishing an external department (i.e. external to the faculties) with the authority to oversee and correct any errors.

This would no longer be necessary because of the centralisation of the process within the Academic Registrar Office, covered by Recommendation 2.

I acknowledge that this complaint has taken much longer than anticipated, but central to the outcome was the endorsement of the new approach to the handling of student academic misconduct cases by Academic Board and by the Faculty Pro Vice-Chancellors, which only occurred recently.

____END EXTRACT_____

TL;DR

Academic Misconduct win for the Guild.

Guild and University Meetings

| Date | Meeting | Comments |
|-------|--|--|
| 24/09 | Academic Board | |
| 28/09 | Representation Board | |
| 30/09 | Jesse Zambrano – The Guild President | Introduction to the ISC president role. |
| 06/09 | Fatma Sehic – The Guild Secretary | ISC team support |
| 06/09 | ISC team | Induction to ISC policies Planification for the end of the semester. |
| 14/09 | ISC new members | Introduction to ISC |
| 14/09 | Bec Barendrecht Manager – Student Experience | Pasar Malan event. |

Events

- Upcoming event: Donut Giveaway, November 2021.
- Upcoming event: Pasar Malan, November 2021.

Recruiting new ISC members

I have been recruiting new members since half of the members have resigned or graduated this year. We have successfully recruited two more members, and I am waiting for another student interested in joining our committee.

The nursing graduate program for international students Campaign

Lucy, Hameed, Bridget, and I are working on opening more nursing graduate programs for domestic and international students. International students do not meet the criteria to apply for nursing graduate programs. Considering the nursing shortage that healthcare providers face, we decided to act and contact the health minister. I am collecting letters from international students who are skilled nurses graduating from Curtin University waiting for graduate programs.

Travel Restricted International students' engagement

I am in the process of meeting with Curtin international to improve and engage travel restricted international students with cultural activities.

Initiative

I am planning a campaign to promote mental health specifically for international students. The campaign aims to support students during the exam period. This campaign will take place online through social media. In addition, ISC will promote mental health tips by post and videos. I am in the process of approving this campaign with the guild and ISC team.

In addition to this, I am planning to give away a small mental health box to international students during the dunut giveaway event. The package will contain simple objects to help students relax, including lavender facemasks, candles, bath salts, etc. I am in the process of getting access to funding for mental health packages.

Overall Comments

It has been challenging to act in the role of the president at this time of the year. However, I have been supported by Jesse, Fatma and the guild representatives. I appreciate your support.

Thank you and kind regards,



SOFIA GONZALEZ TORRES (She/Her) <u>learn about pronouns</u> PRESIDENT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS COMMITTEE E isc.president@guild.curtin.edu.au M 0431289207 GUILD.CURTIN.EDU.AU



ISC president Report Representation board October 2021 Submission date October 14th, 2021

2021 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- Attend minimum 80% to the guild and committee meetings.
- Fill 90% of the positions on International Student Committee.
- Induction and training to ISC team to carry out their roles within the guild policies and procedures.
- Work with the ISC team to enhance support and engagement activities for international students.
- Promote ISC Facebook Page and Instagram with weekly updates.
- Continue to hold and organise Pasar Malam.
- Continue to hold and organise ISC donut giveaway.
- Campaign for opening nursing graduate programs for international students.



PSC President Report

SUBMISSION DATE: 15/10/2021

FOR MEETING DATE: 22/10/2021

NAME:

Hameed Mohammad

POSITION

PSC President

GUILD MEETINGS

1st October: SPE Curtin President Meeting/ PSC women in Engineering

4th October: PSC Vice President – research, councillors, and reps position meeting with students.

UNIVERSITY MEETINGS

27th September: Academic staff meeting and PSC Cultural Lunch invitation to staff.

30th September: PSC vacant positions discussion with students.

6th October: Postgraduate students exams clash with the clinical placement meeting with the HOS 7th October: The Rain Study content for Research students

11th October: Nursing Advisory Board

PROJECTS

28th September: Postgraduate Cultural Lunch
29th September: PSC Sundowner
4th October: The Rain Study content for Research students
7-12th October: PSC Vacant Positions Appointments
14th October: PSC working as a partner with Advisory Board

With great excitement, Postgraduate Student Committee (PSC) organised a **Postgraduate Cultural Lunch** – bringing cultural food from around the world; students made a display of 18 different dishes to celebrate their culture and heritage. Curtin life Australia team and Academic Board member Health Sciences Professor Jaya Dantas (Deputy Chair) joined the cultural lunch. Curtin's staff members, Guild's President Jesse, and Chair of Representatives Dylan also joined us during the event.

PSC Sundowner: Postgraduate Student Committee (PSC) organised this event for postgraduate students to meet other postgrad students and research students as well as connect with the PSC team to discuss any issues. Please see attached photos at the end of the page.

The Rain Study content for Research students: Opportunities for Research Students and Postgrad Researchers

The Raine Study is Australia's longest-running public health study and one of the most extensive multigenerational cohort studies of pregnancy, childhood, adolescence and adulthood worldwide. Established in Perth in 1989, the Raine Study was the first of its kind to track participants from before they were born, to determine the role that early life events from the womb onwards would have on later life.

A total of 2,900 pregnant women were recruited by the Raine Study between 1989 and 1991 (Gen1), and 2,868 live births were entered into the cohort (Gen2). These children, their parents, grandparents (Gen0) and now their own children (Gen3) form a unique multi-generational life-course study, which has been helping researchers and policy makers better understand the causes of human health and well-being for more than 30 years.

PSC is keen to build relationships with research students and early-career researchers through The Raine Study. PSC also aiming to hold events for students and researchers throughout the year to help them gain a deeper understanding of how they might work with the Raine Study and will be running workshops with experienced researchers to help students start learning how to develop a research proposal using Raine Study data.

PSC Team New Appointments

PSC appointed roles in line with key performance indicators 2021. PSC new team will be officially introduced on PSC social media.

| Mitra Morsi | PSC Vice-President Research |
|-------------------------|--|
| Doris Onyinye | PSC Secreatry |
| Avinash Kumar | PSC Faculty of Business & Law Representative |
| Jesse Hogan | PSC Councillor |
| Carlos Tabora Vilamayor | PSC Councillor |

PSC working as a partner with Advisory Board

PSC strongly support students with lived experiences. PSC is working with equity fellow (National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education) Associate Professor Tim Pitman in this project. As part of the National Careers Institute-funded project (2021-2023) entitled 'Career Development Learning Hub for Students with a Disability, PSC seeking a postgraduate student with a lived experience of a disability to participate in the expert working party for this project and also, provide input into the outputs of the project. Great opportunity to act as a student advisory on a project concerning persons with disabilities. It is essential that the student's voice is represented on the advisory board.

OTHER

Nursing students' letter-writing campaign Postgraduate Students Survey Open online forums for postgraduate students

Thank you for reading!!



PSC Sundowner





PSC President Report

SUBMISSION DATE: 28/9/2021

FOR MEETING DATE: 28/9/2021

NAME:

Hameed Mohammad

POSITION

PSC President

GUILD MEETINGS

6th September: Meeting with Health Sciences Rep & VC Education re Letter-writing Campaign
6th September: Student Assist Meeting
7th September: Student Survey Meeting with Business & Law Rep
13th September: PSC Sundowner Meeting
28th September: Representation Board

UNIVERSITY MEETINGS

1st September: GEM Nursing Students Meeting/ Course Coordinator
14th September: Learning & Student Experience Committee
15th September: Students Leaders Forum
24th September: Academic Board

PROJECTS

27th September: Email to the Health Minister Roger Cook regarding graduate programs for health sciences students in liaison with Health Sciences Rep and Vice President of Education 29th September: PSC Sundowner

The Postgraduate Student Committee (PSC) in association with Health Sciences student representative and Vice President of Education to address graduate program issues. An email was sent to the Health Minister, Hon Roger Cook and also requested for in-person meeting. The PSC led this collaboration, and I oversaw initial correspondence, relevant research, drafting and letter-writing campaign is initiated. Lucy Rohl (Health Sciences Representative) played an integral role in this campaign.

<u>OTHER</u>

Postgraduate Students Survey

WOMEN'S OFFICER Report REPRESENTATION BOARD 2021 – 19/08/21

Submitted 12/08/21

GUILD MEETINGS

| 6/10 | Women's Collective | |
|------|---|--|
| | Safer Communities meeting | |
| 7/10 | Salwa from the WC and I met with Sean Daley from SC to ask questions about Safer Communities | |
| 7/10 | • From the information I received, I compiled a document containing it all as an extensive report about SC, which I've circulated amongst the reps and have submitted to this Reps Board. | |

UNIVERSITY MEETINGS

12/9 Representation Board

PROJECTS

Women's Equity Collective

- The Equity Collective met again.
- Minutes were approved at this meeting, which have been submitted for this Representation Board.

The National Student Safety Survey

- The NSSS closed on the 3rd of October.
- According to statistics I received from the RNA SteerCo, 11.4% of selected Curtin students completed the survey, which is just below the national average of 11.6%.

Discord Server

- The Discord server is still being maintained.
- There is currently 31 members.
- There's a games night planned for the evening of the 16th.

Facebook Group

- The Facebook group is still being used, mainly to share information and create polls for event options
- It currently has 143 members.

Women's Department Equity Space

• Students in the equity space have started drawing on the whiteboard and expressing their creativity, which has been really nice to see.

OVERALL COMMENTS

As it has only been a short time since last Representation Board, I don't have much to report on this Reps Board.

The most significant thing I did was the meeting with Sean Daley from Safer Communities. I had a long list of questions that I wrote and some that I had collected from the community, and got them all answered, and it's awesome to be more informed about SC.

I also have some ideas for the last month or so of my term before I handover to my successor, that I will be working on after my final assessments.

TLDR

Not much to report on since last Representation Board. The community is still being maintained and I've brought together information regarding Safer Communities.

Cassidy Pemberton Women's Officer 2021

SAFER COMMUNITIES INFORMATION

Based on research from Curtin websites and an interview with Sean Daly, the SC portfolio manager

AIM

- Before SC, there was a security team, which was scrapped in favour of SC 8 years ago.
- Safer Communities focus on welfare/care/safety as well as security.
- Over the past two years, they've refined their hiring process and helping students, as they know what skillset to look for etc.
- They aim to get their officers to a certain level of skill to work well with students, as most people they help are young/vulnerable/at-risk.

SERVICES THEY PROVIDE

- 24/7 assistance to students with whatever they need
 - Includes basic mechanical assistance such as jumpstarting cars
 - \circ $\,$ Can provide escorts around campus and to cars
- Transport around campus
 - Free CABS service
 - It goes around Bentley/Waterford area and runs every 30 minutes
 - Campus Courtesy Bus Service
 - On-campus between 6 pm and 2 am
 - A free hail and ride service
 - Wheelchair-accessible bus
 - For those with mobility issues
 - At least 20 minutes notice is requested to ensure SC staff will be available at the desired time
- Planning events on campus
- First response
- Emergency accommodation
 - For students who don't have stable living circumstances, such as those who have problems in relationships/family
 - SC also ensures that the students have medical care, are connected to counselling, and help them through a whole range of support
- Safety presentations to international students to inform them about SC
 - \circ This also gives them a chance to talk with them and support them
- Overall response and support for students or staff who have been abused, sexually assaulted, harassed etc.
 - Includes helping with legal documentation, welfare issues, talking with police
- Gather statistics and make a report on incidents both on and off-campus
 - Statistics show a decrease in incidents on campus (this may be due to COVID)

THEIR CAPABILITIES

STAFF

- They have roughly 24 staff overall
 - Six who work in the control room
 - Two from 7 am to 4 pm
 - One from 4 pm to 7 am
 - 18 who are on the ground and spread out throughout the campus
 - However, this can vary throughout the year.
- All staff that interact with students have training in;
 - o Security
 - First Aid
 - Suicide intervention
 - Sexual assault prevention (through SARC)
 - Ally training
 - Helping neurodivergent people

CAMERAS

- There are 2,212 cameras from around the Bentley campus, as well as the Kalgoorlie and Perth sites.
- These all connect to the SC Control Room, which is Building 115, which is a short walk from the Curtin Medical Building near Angazi.
 - 130 of these cameras are equipped with smart technology, so if they detect something abnormal in their vision, they'll appear on the monitors for the staff in the room.
 - Furthermore, some cameras can track people walking to their cars at night to watch them get there safely and show activity between vehicles.

OTHER DUTIES

- Patrolling the campus, especially at night.
- Washing off/painting over any graffiti that is seen/reported
 - To identify those who commit vandalism, you need CCTV footage or witnesses to successfully report them to student/staff discipline.
- Assisting students who submit assessment deferral requests because of sexual violence
 - \circ $\;$ Those who approve requests informs SC, who checks up on the student

THE SAFEZONE APP

- A mobile app connected to Safer Communities that allows you to communicate with them directly,
- You can give SC alerts for;
 - Emergency
 - o First aid
 - Help/direct call
- You can also manually check in to the app.

- $\circ~$ Location and ID will be shared with SC/responders if you don't check back in when you need to.
- It is an external service that other campuses can also use.
- However, Curtin was the first customer, and Curtin has used it for over ten years.
 - Furthermore, Sean Daley has been involved in the development and use of the app since it was first used at Curtin.
- 8,000 Curtin staff and students use it.
- The uses and ways of connecting to the app are also expanding.
 - i.e. if a student is on another campus for a different university that uses SafeZone, they can connect to the safety team there.
 - Also, SC just supplied Tanya (Tav manager) with bracelets connected to SafeZone. If the bracelet is pressed for 10 seconds, SC will be contacted.



Mental Health Week

- Mental Health Week ran from the 11th-15th October.
- There was a range of events including Cat Cafe, Mens Mental Health Breakfast, Sci-Eng Donut Giveaway, CSLS Quiz Night and Pancakes and Pups.
- Mens Mental Health Breakfast
 - Between 15-20 people attended over the course of the event, majority men.
 - There was no speaker this year, and attendees took the opportunity to talk about mental health and have free breakfast.

Upcoming Events

- October Meet and Greet
 - This Meet and Greet will be lightly catered and in Clubs HQ. It's been promoted via the Guild socials, Accessibility socials, and via email to students who signed up to hear about the department.
 - This is the last scheduled event for the year.
- ADHD Study Group
 - This event has been booked for The Zone on Wednesday the 27th October from 9am-3pm.
 - The goal is to create a low-sensory, low-distraction space and utilise the concept of body doubling to help students with ADHD (or any student who finds it helpful) to study for their exams.
 - $\circ \ \ I'm \ \ delivering \ this \ \ event \ in \ \ collaboration \ \ with \ two \ students, \ whose \ idea \ \ it \ was.$

Presentation

- On Friday Oct 15th I am presenting at a workshop to 3rd Year Radiology students.
- The purpose of the presentation is to provide some information on how to work with patients with disabilities in a clinical setting.

TL;DR

I've been planning and delivering of Mental Health Week events, October Meet and Greet and an ADHD Study Group Event. I'm also delivering a presentation to Radiology students.

Mereoff

Accessibility Officer: Clare Metcalf

Higher Education Report October 2021 Representation Board Meeting

A class action is fighting to win wages for PhD candidates in unis

PhD candidates in Australian universities spend most of their time performing research work rather than being engaged in learning and should be paid at least the minimum wage, argues a class action claim lodged in the Federal Court.

The claim, from University of Sydney PhD graduate and lawyer Tristan Burt, argues that PhD candidates who receive a stipend through the federal government's research training program are employees, not students, because a condition of their stipend is that two-thirds of their time is spent on research work under the direction of their supervisor.

The case potentially has major consequences because PhD candidates who are funded through the research training program perform a significant amount of university research while working on their degrees.

The federal government spends \$1.1bn a year on stipends delivered through the program to higher degree research students, more than it gives to the Australian Research Council for funding specific university research projects.

Each university is given a fixed amount of money to pay stipends under the program, and most universities offer the minimum level stipend of about \$29,000 a year, which allows them to subsidise more students.

Detailed data is not available but it is estimated that at least 3500 PhD candidates and masters students are awarded research stipends each year for the duration of their degree. If universities were forced to pay the minimum wage of just over \$40,000 a year, either fewer would receive stipends or the cost to the federal government would increase.

Dr Burt's class action claim, which is against the commonwealth, argues that PhD candidates who receive research training program stipends are employees under the Fair Work Act, and should either receive the minimum wage or payment determined by a relevant enterprise bargaining agreement.

It also argues they should be paid superannuation and any unused holidays when their stipend ends.

It refers to the internationally accepted OECD guidelines for research – in the <u>Frascati Manual</u> – that distinguish between the education and training component of a higher degree, and the research component that entails "performing and writing up independent studies".

The Australian universities that had huge losses in 2020

Universities have spent hundreds of millions of dollars sacking academics and support staff, as they lobby to open Australia's borders to lucrative foreign students.

Fresh financial data analysed by the federal Education Department reveals that 15 publicly funded universities made massive operating losses during 2020.

The biggest loser was RMIT University in Melbourne, which suffered a \$78.8 million net operating deficit due to a student drought, as the ban on foreign students combined with the world's longest lockdown for domestic students.

The university sacked 600 staff last year after revenue plunged 10 per cent below its budget target, with income from foreign students' tuition fees falling by \$76 million.

With 130,000 fee-paying students stranded overseas, universities are pushing the federal and state governments to let lucrative international students back to study on campus, following a NSW experiment to fly in 500 students before Christmas.

The University of Wollongong lost \$53 million, despite deferring staff, pay rises until 2022, introducing an early retirement scheme and borrowing \$350 million.

Its annual report warns "the downturn in student fees will scar the budget position for several years".

Macquarie University in Sydney recorded a \$52.7 million operating loss, after spending \$36.5 million on redundancy payments to more than 300 staff.

La Trobe University in Melbourne was \$51.4 million in the red, after revenue fell 9 per cent due to foreign student lockouts.

It saved \$2.4 million in salaries after senior executives took a 20 per cent pay cut, and other staff had salaries slashed by 10 per cent.

However, it spent \$45 million on payouts to 335 staff who took voluntary redundancies.

The University of Technology, Sydney, suffered an operating deficit of \$43 million after spending \$51 million on redundancy payments to more than 350 staff, and losing \$38 million in fee revenue from foreign students.

Swinburne University of Technology in Melbourne lost \$35.7 million last year, on the back of \$30.5 million in redundancy payouts to sacked staff.

Central Queensland University was \$33.1 million in the red, after spending \$37 million making nearly 300 staff redundant – shedding nearly 10 per cent of its workforce.

Professor Sarah Todd, Pro Vice Chancellor (International) of Griffith University expects high interest from international students in 2022.

The University of New England recorded a \$19 million operating deficit, after spending \$20.6 million on redundancy payments to 161 staffers.

The only two "sandstone universities" to go into deficit were the University of NSW – which blamed the foreign student shortfall for its \$24.1 million loss – and the Australian National University, which was \$17.7 million in the red.

Murdoch University recorded an \$11 million deficit, with both Griffith University and the University of Notre Dame recording a \$5 million deficit.

International students have been out of Australian universities since the start of the pandemic.

The government data shows that Southern Cross University was \$2.8 million in the red and Curtin University ran a \$1 million deficit in 2020.

Universities Australia has revealed a 43 per cent plunge in commencements among international students this year, compared to pre-pandemic levels in 2019.

Chief executive Catriona Jackson said 130,000 foreign students are stranded offshore – nearly half of all international students enrolled in Australian universities.

Monash University was the top performer financially, with a \$267 million surplus last year.

A representative said 21,000 international students were enrolled at Monash this year, with 60 per cent studying offshore.

At the University of Queensland, which made an \$83 million surplus, 21,004 international students were enrolled this year, compared to 20,321 before the pandemic.

Two thirds of students are studying offshore.

"We hope that our international students can return to Australia as soon as possible, but also understand that economic considerations and students' interests have to be balanced with the current demands on the quarantine system," a spokeswoman said.

At the Queensland University of Technology, which made a \$25 million surplus, international students make up 17 per cent of enrolments.



Graduate Outcomes Survey

The 2021 Graduate Outcomes Survey reveals the graduate full-time employment rate stands at 68.9 per cent overall for those who completed undergraduate courses last year. However, employment conditions for graduates were rapidly improving over the period of the survey.

The survey, which is released annually, asks all graduates questions about their employment within four months of the completion of their degree.

The key measure – the full-time employment rate – is the proportion of people who have completed an undergraduate degree and have a full-time job, measured against those who are available for full-time work.

The fields with the highest full-time graduate salaries in 2021 were dentistry at \$100,000, medicine at \$76,000, social work at \$72,600, teacher education at \$72,000, and engineering at \$70,000. The areas with the lowest full-time graduate salaries were pharmacy at \$50,000, creative arts at \$53,000, tourism, hospitality, personal services, sport and recreation at \$54,900, and communications at \$56,200.

The 2021 Graduate Outcomes Survey received responses from 127,827 graduates

https://www.gilt.edu.au/surveys/graduate-outcomes-survey-(gos)

Universities and the federal government need a buffer body

Universities and governments need a new "buffer" body to facilitate long-term planning and funding and to protect higher education from the vagaries of changing political pressures.

Margaret Gardner, who is Monash University vice-chancellor and chairperson of the Group of Eight research-intensive universities, has called for the return of an intermediary body similar to the Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission that was swept away in the Dawkins restructuring of the 1980s.

"The notion of a body that provides expert advice to the minister and puts the minister, if you like, at arm's length from a number of operational matters is quite common across higher education systems ... for very good reason," Professor Gardner said in proposing the new governance model.

The Commonwealth Tertiary Education Commission was abolished when former Labor education minister John Dawkins restructured higher education in the late '80s, triggering a slew of mergers and amalgamations of institutes of technology and colleges of advanced education.

Every Australian university has adopted Morrison government's free speech code

Every university in the country has now adopted a robust framework to protect freedom of speech among academics, ending a two-year Morrison government push to introduce a model code for the higher education sector.

As of this month, all 41 universities in Australia have either fully implemented the model code for academic free speech – designed by former chief justice Robert French in 2019 – or created pro-free speech policies that completely align with the code.

The model free speech code does not cover university student organisations but Mr Tudge revealed last July he was considering cutting off funding to student groups that try to stop the airing of views they oppose on campus.

That move came after the Australian National University student union was revealed to have blocked the Australian Defence Force from setting up a stall at a student market day.

Universities have been embroiled in numerous free speech controversies in recent years, from protests against writer Bettina Arndt's uni speaking tour on campus rape, to accusations higher education executives suppressed criticism of China on campus.

Peter Ridd to 'continue the war' after High Court appeal loss over sacking

Peter Ridd says he has "lost the battle but will continue the war" after the High Court found James Cook University was justified in sacking the physicist despite the fact he was entitled to make the criticisms of climate research that led to his dismissal.

But Education Minister Alan Tudge said the outcome — bringing to an end a five-year legal battle — was concerning and he had requested "further advice about the implications" of the matter.

"There are few things more important for the advancement of truth and knowledge than having open, robust debate at our universities," Mr Tudge said.

"We need a culture in our universities of accepting and welcoming open robust debate, even if some feel offended in the process ... I am concerned that, in some places, there is a culture of closing down perceived 'unwelcome thoughts' rather than debating them," he said.

The unanimous decision on Wednesday upheld the former science professor's "intellectual freedom" to question the quality of research on the Great Barrier Reef in terms that were deemed by JCU to have breached its code of conduct for academic staff.

But in dismissing his appeal, the High Court judges found Dr Ridd's firing was justified on 18 grounds that did not impinge on his prerogative to break with the scientific consensus on climate change, attack fellow academics and take issue with the impact of warming on the reef.

The High Court found that the intellectual freedom Dr Ridd had sought under the workplace enterprise agreement covering his employment was not a general freedom of speech, and he was bound by the university's code of conduct.

The decision ends a saga that began when Dr Ridd, 60, then head of physics at JCU's home campus in Townsville, attacked the work on climate-related coral loss of leading reef scientists and the trustworthiness of research centres such as the Australian Institute of Marine Science.

He was sacked in 2018 after being censured for breaching JCU code of conduct requirements that he air criticism of colleagues or the university in a collegial and respectful manner, but then won \$1.2m in damages against the university in the Federal Circuit Court.

This was in turn overturned on appeal by the Full Court of the Federal Court – a decision Dr Ridd challenged in High Court.

In a complex decision, the panel headed by Chief Justice Susan Kiefel found that neither the position of the primary trial judge nor the Full Court could be entirely accepted.

With both sides conducting the case on an "all-or-nothing basis", Dr Ridd had failed to prove that none of the university's actions against him was justified.

Telcos ordered to remove university cheats site

A list of 51 telecommunications companies including Telstra, Optus and Primus have beem ordered to disable the Assignmenthelp4you.com website.

They have 15 business days to take reasonable steps to comply with the order, after the court determined the India-based website facilitated a contravention of the 2011 TEQSA Act.

When the application was lodged in July it was the first time the regulator had exercised its power to apply for an injunction under amended laws passed last year.

International Education: The Road Back. Minister for Education Alan Tudge speech

https://ministers.dese.gov.au/tudge/international-education-road-back

Main points:

- Calling for greater diversity of students coming into the country. This is particularly important for our public institutions who have broader mandates (and less so for private institutions who may target specific niches).
- Lack of diversity is a financial risk perspective. If any one market declines suddenly, then it puts financial risk onto that institution, and subsequently onto the taxpayer. Second, from a student's perspective, particularly for Australian students but also for international students, it diminishes their experience.
- Calling for a stronger alignment in international enrolment with Australian skills needs, given that so many international students do stay on and become longer term residents.
- The National Skills Commission has identified our greater skills needs in emerging fields that will drive our growth in the future. These include data and digital specialists, the health profession and engineers especially those in energy. However, currently almost half of international enrolments at universities are concentrated in commerce.
- There is an opportunity for further growth of our international student market by expanding our high quality education offerings to offshore markets. This could be in different delivery models at different price points.
- The market is enormous and compared to nations like the United Kingdom, we are well behind.
- The global online e-learning market, for example, is forecast to grow from \$130 billion to more than \$470 billion by later this decade. This growth is driven by students around the world who are unable to afford a premium in-country experience and looking for more affordable options, but also more flexible ones.

Guidelines for microcredentials

Universities Australia today released new guidance to improve the portability of microcredentials, paving the way for Australians to flexibly learn new skills over the course of their lives and careers.

Developed by the Universities Australia Working Group on Microcredentials, the <u>Guidance for</u> <u>the Portability of Australian Microcredentials</u> will help universities and other educational institutions develop short-duration qualifications that are easily recognised and built upon between institutions.

The guidance has been developed by a group chaired by Professor Keitha Dunstan of Bond University.

The guidance is available for viewing on the Universities Australia website..

Fair Work Ombudsman Strongly Reprimands Universities

The Commonwealth Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO) on Friday slammed universities over massive underpayment scandals and their dealings with casual workers. Ombudsman Sandra Parker highlighted "instances of massive systematic underpayment of salaries of employees, especially casual academics and professional staff salaries" and described the webinar as "potential breaches arising from … among them. Policies relating to marking and student mentoring are most likely to be in violation of the relevant enterprise agreement and which have no worker input or mentorship."

https://honisoit.com/2021/10/after-usyds-denial-fair-work-ombudsman-issues-strong-rebuke-touniversities/

Deakin restructure update

VC lain Martin briefed staff yesterday on the **second major set of changes** in around 12 months announcing 200, mainly professional staff roles, going. Some teaching and research positions would be abolished across faculties with some teaching-only roles created. In **2020** around 300 positions were abolished.

UNSW makes vax mandatory

As of this week staff who are on campus must be double vaccinated (or have a medical exemption)

Pelican UWA election coverage https://pelicanmagazine.com.au/

Grok Election <u>https://grokonline.com.au/2021/10/06/2021-guild-election-results-are-out/</u> Guild ball <u>https://grokonline.com.au/2021/10/05/guild-ball-2021-deep-space/</u>


Representation Board – Meeting #10

To be held at 6PM on Thursday the 21st of October 2021

In 100.301

Motion: Students as Partners Review

That the Representation Board recommend a review of the 'Student Partnership Agreement' and the Student Guild's role in the 'Students as Partners' Initiative be undertaken prior to December 1st 2021 to critically analyse its impact on the Student Guild's relationship with the University and for related purposes.

Moved: Jesse Naylor Zambrano (President) Seconded: Bridge Truell (Vice President – Education)

Background:

The *Student Partnership Agreement* was signed between the Curtin Student Guild and Curtin University on the 3rd of December 2020 and started the Curtin University Students as Partners Initiative (SaP).

The agreement marks a relationship between our organisations that acknowledges where there may be shared goals.

The document as recommended by Representation Board (with amendments) and given assent by Guild Council **(GC #43-2020)** in 2020 is attached.

Students as Partners gives a unique opportunity for students to be involved at all levels of University decision making and may inspire greater consultation with students. It can also be used to engage students in the University decision making process, and include our Global campuses in items of strategic significance.

Conversely, various concerns have been raised about the potential weaknesses or areas for improvement in pursuing partnerships between student unions and Universities.

Considerations in this review are the noted increase in workload for Guild Representatives, particularly the Vice President – Education and other officers with education portfolios and inclusion of officers in committees, boards and panels.

Documents:

• Student Partnership Agreement (Memorandum of Understanding) 2021

Confidentiality:

CURTIN STUDENT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT IS BETWEEN THE CURTIN STUDENT GUILD AND CURTIN UNIVERSITY



THE PARTNERSHIP ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Curtin University and the Curtin Student Guild pay our respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members of our community and acknowledge 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 region.

Curtin University and the Curtin Student Guild commit to adopting First Nations' knowledge and practice throughout the student partnership agreement, in accordance with the University's Elevate Reconciliation Plan and the values of our First Nations staff, students and community.

If you require the Curtin Guild / Curtin University Partnership Agreement in an alternative format please contact us on +61 8 9266 2932 or e-mail educationvp@guild.curtin.edu.au.

THE PARTNERSHIP

The Curtin Partnership focuses on three common goals:

- To promote a receptive and accessible institutional culture which encourages and values the student's voice.
- To actively encourage students to engage in and contribute to the inclusive education and research experience and the advancement of knowledge and extracurricular activities.
- To foster strong, supported and effective student leaders.

This Agreement (The Partnership) provides the core principles to:

- Create and promote a culture of staff and student partnership which is supported by all members of the Curtin community.
- Support staff and students to work together at all levels of decision making and governance for the enhancement of quality learning and teaching, the student experience and outcomes for students.
- Encourage students' participation in governance, as co-designers of their learning and student experience and in project co-creation.
- Position students to take on roles of leadership.

This Agreement identifies six pillars to:

- Create a culture that is consistent across the university, fostering an environment of working directly with students to ensure that their concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and respected.
- Outline the principles for partnering with students in each aspect of problem-solving, from identification through to a solution and that encourages outcomes that are student informed and led.

The Partnership will be reviewed every three (3) years:

- The review may include the alignment and proposed engagement with Student Voice Australia (SVA); National and International Students as Partners models that are relevant to Curtin; and identification of good practice, gaps, opportunities and expectations of the partnership agreement.
- To ensure the alignment with Curtin University's Strategic Plan, the Partnership's supporting Operation Plan is a three (3) year plan that will be reviewed annually.
- The Partnership shall be reported on through the Curtin Learning and Student Experience Committee (LSEC). LSEC will develop the terms of reference and The Partnership will be analysed annually by an independent body.

The Curtin Student Partnership Agreement is an agreement between the Curtin Student Guild (See Curtin Student Guild Statute 4) and Curtin University (See Curtin University Action).

COMMITMENT

The Curtin Student Guild and Curtin University Perth are committing to:

INCLUSIVITY

- Being empathetic and provide special support to staff and students, being open to their unique needs.
- Showing respect for the views, opinions and beliefs of others.
- Ensuring underrepresented student groups are sought out and engaged.
- Adopting First Nations' practices and growing our authentic collaboration with first nations people.

SHARED UNDERSTANDING

- Creating an engaging, supportive, and rewarding university experience where everyone is able to share their voice, be heard and generating positive change.
- Prioritizing handover and sustainability of projects and partnership.
- Developing strong staff leaders so that they can meaningfully engage with students in partnership and understand the value of co-opting them in decisionmaking processes.

RECOGNITION

- Celebrating achievement and excellence in the pursuit of shared goals.
- Upholding the values of both the Guild and the University.
- Recognising formal and informal engagement.
- Celebrating and promoting the community's diversity.
- Developing and recognising strong student leaders from the Guild and the wider student community.

SHARED VALUES

- Building authentic partnerships between staff and students, where both parties understand the importance of partnership, co-creation and recognising power imbalances.
- Upholding the values of both the Student Guild (Australia) and the University.
- Working honestly and transparently, with genuine effort to fulfil our commitments.

CONSULTATION

- Embedding the student voice into all planning processes in research, teaching, learning, facility design and developmental opportunities.
- Collaborating in research, teaching, learning, facility design and developmental opportunities.
- Seeking and providing effective and relevant feedback.
- Acknowledging the differences in lifecycle and knowledge.

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE

- Ensuring that training and support is provided to all parties, to understand the principles, governance, procedures, life-cycle and expectations of each other and the spaces they engage in.
- Developing, comparing and sharing good practice models across our faculties and global campuses.
- Benchmarking to international and national leaders to grow our Students As Partners Model.

THE PARTNERSHIP ONE CURTIN

Over the years, Curtin's physical expansion has mirrored the institution's forward looking nature and responsiveness to the changing needs of Curtin students, partners and the broader communities we serve.

We acknowledge and respect the differences in culture and law between our Australian and Global Campuses and the range of ways that working with students as partners within a global network can be achieved. Our commitment to students as partners will ensure that we can develop a shared understanding of partnership and develop common goals at each of our campuses to achieve the excellence in partnership that meet the strategic objectives of each local environment.



5

THE PARTNERSHIP ACCOUNTABILITY

Underpinning the Agreement is a Governance structure and an Operational Plan.

The Operational Plan includes measuring the partnership agreement and partnership projects. It may include a review of existing Students as Partners initiatives at Curtin (mapped, and benchmarked for good practice); a mid-year review date for the progress of projects and the establishment of new projects that enhance student partnership.

The Operational Plan works to ensure the Partnership Agreement:

- Improves learning and teaching practices,
- Informs university decisions, increases student engagement,
- Enhances the student experience, and
- Evaluates student satisfaction.

There are many existing practices that this partnership seeks to formalise, all in which are joint responsibilities of the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic representing the University Staff and the Guild President, representing all students. These include but are not limited to;

- Including the Curtin Student Partnership Agreement in induction packs.
- Implementing policy and procedure that ensures consistent evaluation of the authentic involvement of students engaging with and contributing to the inclusive education and research experience and the advancement of knowledge and extracurricular activities throughout the institution.
- Ensuring regular communication channels are maintained between the Guild President and Curtin's Vice Chancellor (monthly, or as agreed by the parties) and that a member of the Senior Executive teams of the University and the Guild are assigned as liaison officers.
- Working in partnership to ensure awareness and adoption of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) throughout the curriculum and through cocurricula activities.

Curtin University recognises the Curtin Student Guild as the peak student representative body for Curtin Perth students.

- It is the responsibility of Curtin staff members to meaningfully engage with students in partnership by co-opting them into spaces where decisions will be made that affect their education and university experience.
- It is the responsibility of Curtin students and the elected Guild Representatives to uptake these opportunities and to provide meaningful contributions to ensure that the best outcomes can be met for students and the University.

6



THIS AGREEMENT IS BETWEEN THE CURTIN STUDENT GUILD AND CURTIN UNIVERSITY

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The Curtin Student Guild and Curtin University agree that:

- This framework shall become effective upon signature by the authorised officials from Curtin and the Guild and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any of the partners by mutual consent.
- This Agreement (and associated framework) is at-will and may be modified by mutual consent of authorised officials from Curtin University and the Curtin Student Guild.
- All parties will make every effort to support and promote this agreement to their members and staff.

The undersigned agrees to the terms and conditions set out in The Partnership Agreement and is authorised by their respective organisation to make this agreement.

| STUDENT | Curtin University |
|---------|-------------------|
| | NAME: |
| SIGNED: | SIGNED: |
| NAME: | NAME: |
| SIGNED: | SIGNED: |

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Representation Board – Meeting #10

To be held at 6pm on Thursday the 21st of August 2021

In 100.301

Motion: Guild's Stance on Mandatory Vaccines

Action: That the Representation Board discuss the Curtin Student Guild's stance on mandatory COVID-19 vaccines

Put forward by: Lucy Rohl

Background:

At the September Representation Board, it was agreed that the Guild strongly recommends people to get vaccinated against COVID-19, however it was not decided if the Guild supported mandatory vaccines or not. The NTEU has called for mandatory vaccinations (excluding medical or other legally recognised exemptions), and calls for a national plan for universities, rather than it being up to each individual university to decide.

As was in the Higher Education report last Reps Board, La Trobe university has made vaccinations mandatory for staff and students. Curtin's Vice-Chancellor has said that vaccination will not be mandatory, however Curtin Nursing students must be vaccinated to go on clinical placements. Flinders University staff with both COVID-19 jabs will get two extra leave days. Charles Sturt University announced from next year it will be mandatory for all health students to be fully vaccinated.

Confidentiality:



Representation Board – Meeting #10

To be held at 6pm on Thursday the 21st of August 2021

In 100.301

Motion: Oppose Curtin's links to the military

Motion:

- The Curtin Student Guild opposes Curtin University's links to the Australian Defence Force, including through receiving government grants from the Australian Defence Force.
- The Guild opposes Curtin University's links to arms manufacturers including Lockheed Martin, which sells weapons to the United States, Israel and other war criminals.
- The Guild recognises that in the corporatisation and militarisation of universities has taken place in the context of declining government funding to universities and supports a dramatic increase to university funding from the Federal government with no connection to the Australian Defence Force. Education should be for public good and education, not for arms manufacturers and the military.
- The Guild opposes Australian and US aggression towards China, opposes the AUKUS deal and opposes war with China.
- The Guild opposes university involvement in the ramping up of hostilities with China, such as Group of Eight Chief Executive Vicki Thomson's statement that Australia's universities "are well placed to play a major role in the development of Australia's nuclear-powered submarine capability".
- The Guild will make a public statement outlining this position with includes information on Curtin University's links to the Australian Defence Force.
- The Guild will support anti-war campaigns and encourage students to participate.

Moved: Christopher MacFarlane Seconded:

Background:

 Curtin University involved in extensive military research with are detailed in the recent 'Western Australian Defence Research Universities Capability Statement'. Priority areas include but are far from limited to: 'Surveillance and Reconnaissance', 'Trusted Autonomous Systems', and 'Enhanced Human Performance'. Specific research institutes of Curtin University have been named as key contributors such as The 'Curtin Institute of Radio Astronomy' and the 'Curtin Corrosion Centre'. Infrastructure often found in Curtin University promotional material is also being advertised to the military by academics such as: the HIVE VR centre, and the Murchinson Radio Observatory. The 'Desert Fireball Network' which is a citizen science program run from Curtin, searching for asteroids in the outback, is in partnership with American arms company Lockheed Martin who fund it to research high resolution satellite tracking under a progressive guise.

- These links are particularly concerning in the context of increasing tensions with China, aggressive escalation from the Australian government such as in the announcement of the AUKUS deal which involves Australia acquiring a fleet of nuclear-powered attack submarines
- Students are generally unaware of the level of involvement from the Australian Defence Force and arms manufacturers at Curtin University including students studying in areas more directly linked to the military.

Confidentiality:



Representation Board – Meeting #10

To be held at 6pm on Thursday the 21st of August 2021

In 100.301

Motion: Boycott Brando's Pizzeria

Motion: The Representation Board once again affirms its commitment to strong public health measures (including lockdowns and border controls) as a means to combat the pandemic.

The Representation Board recognises that challenges to these measures and their validity threatens public health as a whole, and the health of vulnerable communities in particular.

As such the Representation Board recommends Curtin Students boycott Brando's Pizzeria for its public opposition to these health measures.

Moved: Christopher MacFarlane Seconded:

Background:

On October 5, the West Australian published an article detailing Victoria Park pizza shop, Brando's Pizzeria, advocating against the strong public health measures that have kept the majority of people in Australia safe throughout the pandemic.

This included the addition of a new menu item, the "Freedom Pizza", that found inspiration based on "each person's free will and thought to choose and live how they please in the pursuit of happiness in this great nation of Australia. Pizza = Freedom.

Brando's promised to continue to deliver this item until " ALL AUSTRALIANS ARE FINALLY FREE TO LIVE WITHOUT THE FEAR AND TYRANNY OF LOCK DOWN"

Brando's draws on the language present in the far right demonstrations that swept Melbourne in late September. It also continues a worrying trend of small business owners advocating against public health measures in the interest of their own businesses survival, i.e. putting their profits ahead of public health.

https://thewest.com.au/news/victoria-park-pizzeria-brandos-under-fire-for-spruikingits-lockdown-views-with-freedom-pizza-c-4144282

Confidentiality:



Student Guild of Curtin University WOMEN'S EQUITY COLLECTIVE Meeting #4 To be held at 3.00pm on Friday 27th of August 2021

In The Bridge, Building 106F

MINUTES

Meeting Open at 03:10PM

- 2. 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"
- 10. Attendance:
 - 1. Members Present; Cassidy Pemberton, Lauren Doney, Salwa Kilzi,
 - Taif Khalid, Sarah Ong
 - 2. Others Present;
 - 3. Apologies and Leave of Absence: Elizabeth Powell,
 - 4. Absent: Paige Busher
- 11. Disclosure of any potential or perceived Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts were mentioned.

- 12. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
 - 1. Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion: That the Women's Collective approves the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 20/07/2021, as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved: Cassidy Pemberton Seconded: Lauren Doney

13. Reports

- 1. Women's Verbal Report
 - Women's Officer speaks about what have been done from the last meeting
 - 30 people on discord server, which has been successful.
 - Respectful Relationships, women's officer had a meeting with them, the process looks like it will be moved

- The equity space has been updated, to be more inviting.
- Meet with Respect now and always Committee, which looks at safety on campus.
- Zoom call with Women's officers from other states, talked about differences in universities.
- National student safety surveys, poster has been made and awareness will be spread.
- NUS national action, has been put on hold as COVID-19
- The last event ran, Cat café, was successful
- Guild o day, Taif organised.
- Community has been more engaged in the past month
- Opens the floor to more questions
- Taif brings up the movie night, which had about 15 participants. Was successful.
- Submitted a report to ask for a free self-defence class in September, hopefully during tuition free week.
- Sarah wanted to do a Charity event for the domestic violence, NUS women's,
- Bake sale,
- Brings the floor to questions

Motion: That the Women's Collective notes the report.

Moved: Salwa Seconded: Taif

- 14. Significant Items for Discussion
 - 1. Raise awareness for domestic violence
 - Sarah brings up personal connections with domestic violence, and has a passion towards domestic violence awareness
 - Raining awareness, a fund-raising events UN women's organisation in Australia.
 - Social media campaign
 - On campus, fundraising event.
 - o Fundraising event, where your memories a fact, to receive a prize
 - Raffle, or event where you win a prize.
 - Sign a petition possibly
 - Wear a colour, or dress-up for so people can get something.
 - Shows support for domestic violence.
 - 2. The camp end of semester retreat
 - Salwa mentions that possibly making a day retreat with the queer department,
 - Cassidy mentions that the retreat should just be the WD, as it will be more comfortable for each group.
 - Camp will run after exams, hopefully the cost will be lowered substantially.
 - Notes the retreat from last year and what was held last year brings the floor to what can be done for this semester
 - o Board games night
 - Haunted trails
 - Areas for people who want "time out"
 - Having an activity that involves, Indigenous people.
 - Stick to 2 nights
 - Reflection/mediation
 - Making it so more people can attend

- Group craft
- Shows a photo of previous camp area
- Any questions about the retreat.
- Keeping the schedule, a bit loose so people can go have fun.
- Paige asked for a leave of absence.
- Mentions that elections will hopefully be held this year for women's collective.
- Planning more events, this year.
- 15. Collaborative Brainstorming
 - 1. Potential Plans for Semester 2
 - Another movie night mentioned by Lauren.
- 16. General Business
 - 1. Taking note of previous activities
 - Campaigning on other pages, spreading an awareness of an event more.
 - The movie night, maybe moving it to a different location as there was people talking in other parts of the venue.
 - · Cassidy asks if there is anything else that anyone wants to add
- 17. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Women's Equity Collective is Wednesday 6th October at 11am. Submit documents and motions to be included in the next meeting's agenda no later than three days before the meeting to <u>women@guild.curtin.edu.au</u>. Meeting Closes at 03:54PM