

Vice President—Education Report

Report Duration: 11/08/2022- 08/09/2022

Madison Ainsworth

Guild Meetings

Date	Meeting	Notes
15/08/2022	Disability Awareness Workshop	
22/08/2022	Chat with Nika	

University Meetings

Date	Meeting	Notes
25/08/2022	Fieldwork Discussion	Met with Julie and Simon from LITEC to discuss placements/fieldwork

Executive Summary

Currently in caretaker mode due to my leaving this position (my last day will be the 16th of September)

FACULTY OF BUSINESS & LAW – September REPRESENTATION BOARD REPORT

Jasmyne Tweed

1. Meeting Summary

DATE	Meeting	Summary
22.08.22	Centralised SDP	
	Parking Meeting	A meeting with a student concerned with Parking at Curtin and the ways it is impacting students.
24.08.22	Club Presidents Meeting	A great discussion with some of the faculty clubs
25.08.22	Meeting with student	Concerns with study load and transitions from uni ready into their degree.
26.08.22	Centralised SDP	
01.09.22	Faculty Meeting	Concerns over ECOM1000
01.09.22	Graduation: Law & Accounting, economics and finance	
02.09.22	Centralised SDP	
08.09.22	DTS high level roadmap	
09.09.22	Guild Ball	Amazing night, great job Feb!

2. Law School

2.1 Big changes are coming in law school. What I can report now is that there are issues with room in the Perth school as the building can only hold 108 students and the school is worried that we will reach an overload.

3. FBL Quiz Night round 2

3.1. The faculty are planning another quiz night but this time they are collaborating with the clubs. They would still like the Guild to be involved.

3.2. The clubs are struggling to find the next gen of exec and committee members.

4. ECOM1000

4.1 Analytics for decision-making continues to be problematic for students. Have plans to work with the faculty to address and further concerns with the new version of the module.

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING – REPRESENTATION BOARD REPORT #9

For the Representation Board held on Thursday the 15th of September 2022, A.D.

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Meeting	Date	Type of Meeting	Comments
Disability Awareness Workshop	15/08/22	Guild	Very relaxed and informative workshop. Learnt a lot about having inclusive events, etc.
Faculty Advisory Council	18/08/22	University	Strong focus on Work Integrated Learning (WIL) and pathways to get students, in particular girls, into STEMM. Discussed ways to make WIL engaging for students and building it into science degrees as well as engineering.
SAE Guild Rep x Dean Learning and Teaching	25/08/22	University	Mostly just a catch-up on everything going on. Talked about ways to make evaluate more beneficial from a student perspective. Possibility for students to see the impact of their feedback.
EOI Learning Media Grants (LMG) Submission Review	25/08/22	University	Faculty's LMG submissions were reviewed and discussion was had around which should be funded, priority levels, etc. One of the submission was taken to be a staff development thing, not a student experience thing.

ROUTINE MEETINGS

Student Discipline Panels. Nothing of particular note in these meetings. Some panels were done without staff present, due to scheduling conflicts.

FINAL NOTES

This report was submitted 8th of September and the following meetings are scheduled to occur between submission and Reps Board meeting. If you have any questions about the following please ask me, otherwise I will include them in my report next month.

- Student Consultative Committee Round 2

The last few weeks have been very quiet, due to the tuition free week leading to a number of meetings being either postponed or cancelled. My portfolio has been very quiet for the entirety of my term. I'm not sure if there's a level of overall student distance from the Guild that needs to be addressed. [Can we discuss the number of student emails received across different faculties?]

HUMANTIES – REPRESENTATION BOARD REPORT

Veronika Gobba

COVERAGE

19/08/22 – 08/09/22

Meeting Summary

Date	Meeting	Comments
22/08/22	Organised chat with 1 st year SOE student who was having problems with their unit.	Most issues were just misunderstandings, and everything was resolved within this meeting.
23/08/22	Launch of the Institute for Energy Transition	
24/08/22	Meeting with Accessibility Officer to discuss accessibility complaints from students within SOE.	
25/08/22	Humanities LSEC meeting	I relayed the issues which the Accessibility Officer had brought to me, and it seems there will be an investigation and solutions undertaken soon.
25/08/22	Parking Campaign – Car flyer-ing	
04/09/22	Media, Creative Arts & Social Inquiry/ Education/ Aboriginal Studies Graduation Ceremony	

Fun Stuff:

- I have inquired with Guild if it would be possible to hold a Guild merch-design competition and I am excited to report that plans for this initiative have already been undertaken by the Gmart team. I think this would be a great way to engage students, especially talented Humanities students (best faculty ever) and make the Guild merch more appealing.
- The PSC president and I are collaborating on a Humanities SOE initiative led by the Humanities PSC representative to get Curtin to introduce practical professional development sessions, similar to the ones offered at Murdoch University.

- The VP – Activities and I are scheduled to do a promotional video for the Upcycle markets similar to the video for the Humanities stall donut giveaway and are planning for it to be even more successful than the last.
- I uploaded a google form into the Guild Humanities Facebook group which introduced myself to everyone and gave students an opportunity to give me any feedback, suggestions or complaints within the faculty. I gave the option for anything to be anonymous or there was a questionnaire box for leaving personal details for a follow-up. I was really hoping this form would get more engagement, but the Humanities Facebook group is not very lively, and I only received one response which was anonymous:

“More information about club events going on. More opportunities to meet other people in other majors. Student common room for humanities students plss.”

In terms of addressing this person’s first point of feedback; I did reach out to all Humanities clubs when I stepped into this role, encouraging them to use the Humanities Facebook group to share their club events but now I am planning to just share them to the group myself (with the club’s permission).

Not-So Fun Stuff:

- I was reached out by a reputable humanities club with concerns about finding people to fill committee roles for their next AGM. I sent them back some information, tips and ideas but it’s worth noting that many clubs across Guild, from what I’ve heard in many conversations recently, are also facing this struggle.

10 Student Assist – Representation Board report – September 2022

Case statistics for Student Assist is as follows:

	Jun	Jul	Aug
Academic sessions	283	307	270
Financial Counselling sessions	32	35	51
LifeHacks	41	124	103

Academic sessions in the month of August were mainly focused on Academic Misconduct, Assessment appeals and Termination appeals.

Welfare MARGOT

Student Assist provided emergency relief to 8 students in the form of Student Assist's Grants and Foodbank.

Out of these 8 students:

- 3 were international students (2 postgraduates and 1 undergraduates)
- 5 were domestic students (1 postgraduates and 4 undergraduates)

16 Loan Laptops were loaned out.

TL;DR

Nothing significant to report.



ISC president Report Representation board September 2022

Report Duration: 22/8/2022 – 08/09/2022

Guild and University Meetings

Date	Meeting	Comments
23/8	Student Consultation	Confidential
25/8	HUM LSEC Monthly Meeting	Attended the HUM LSEC monthly meeting with Humanities Representative Veronika
26/8	Academic Board	Raised concern about delays in Student Visas.
30/8	a) Faculty Global Positioning Committee, SAE b) Migration Digital Posters	International Projects partnerships, Developing Marine Science Centre at Curtin Mauritius. Placing the Migration Digital Posters around the Campus with PSC President Hameed.
2/9	Migration Information Session	ISC and Curtin Student Guild organized a Migration Session event for International Students.

Events:

- **Migration Workshop**

ISC and Curtin Student Guild collaborated with the Pathway Migration and Education Consultation to organize a free workshop for International Students regarding their graduate visas and roadway to PR.

Updates: The Migration workshop was successful and around 35 students attend the workshop.



Migration workshop, September 2022.

International student Committee members

- ISC appointed Bhaarith as the Science and Engineering Representative.
- ISC is currently recruiting members for Councillor positions

Upcoming Events

- Donut giveaway on 27 September.
- Pasar Malam community event to be held in November



QUEER OFFICER'S Report

REPRESENTATION BOARD 2022 – 15/09/22

Submitted 08/09/22

MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES

15/8	Disability Awareness Workshop
17/8	QO Catch-Up with President
18/8	Representation Board
23/8	Safe Sex Packing Workshop for Rad Sex & Consent Week
25/8	Meeting w/ Tracy McKernan concerning presentation for Radiation Therapy students <ul style="list-style-type: none">In October, I will be giving a presentation about how to work with queer patients
31/8	Meeting with Ben (Student Engagement), regarding QD website pages <ul style="list-style-type: none">They need to be revitalised and fleshed outI've talked with the QC regarding this, and we'll be working on it together
31/8	QO Catch-Up with President
3/9	Allied Health/Population Health Graduation Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none">I attended as the Guild Representative

PROJECTS

(what I've been up to)

We All Need To Pee Campaign

I've nearly finished re-designing the poster, and just need to start the process of organising a poster run, by printing the posters, informing Safer Communities, and setting a specific date.

Deadnaming in Curtin systems

I've circulated the survey online for students to submit to, and so far, I've got 12 responses. I'll be leaving it open for the next couple weeks, and promoting it again on the socials a few times so I can get as many responses as possible. I will then start compiling them into a report to send to the university, and generally circulate so people can be made aware of the severity of the issue.

I also made a small poster to put up in the Equity Space, and potentially other areas on campus, with a QR code to the survey so that those who view it can fill in the survey easily.

IDAHOBIT Zine

I'm planning on getting a trial of InDesign to put together the zine, as everything has been edited for it.

EVENTS

I'm currently planning a queer quiz night, to be held on the 16th September on campus.

Everything has been booked on the events team side, and I'm now working with the Queer Collective to write the quiz questions.

I put out the registration form on the 6/9, and have 9 people registered so far. I will be promoting it further over the next week.

OTHER

Queer Collective

We have the next meeting of the Collective planned for the 13th of September. I'm still in frequent contact with them, and consult them on most of the projects I'm working on for the QD.

Discord server

I've nearly finished the moderating guide for the server, and will be putting it out on the server sometime over the next week.

Poster about safety

Upon the recommendation of Dylan, (the President), I made a small poster to put in the equity space, which specifies where students can go if someone or something makes them uncomfortable while on campus. It includes the details of Safer Communities and Student Assist.

TL; DR

It's been a productive month within the Queer Department.

I've been slowly but steadily working on campaigns, and further planning social events and moderating the Discord server. I've also been working on things to improve QD services, mainly the information available on the QD website.

I won't be present at this Reps Board, as I've been invited to an event called LGBTQIA+ Inclusion Seminar, organised by HEAPPS (Higher Education Australia Pride Practitioners), to sit on a panel and discuss queer issues. If anyone's curious and wants to look at it/share with any mutuals, here's the event registration:

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/lgbtqiqa-inclusion-seminar-registration-404385998407>

Lastly, something for the Representation Board to be aware of, in October, from the 11th to the 16th, I won't be working and will be on holiday in Singapore with a couple of friends. I will be able to answer emails but won't be actively working on anything.

Cassidy Pemberton (she/they)

Queer Officer 2022



Women's Officer Report - Representation Board

15/09/2022

Type	Date	Name	Comments
University Meetings			
Guild Meetings	15/08/22	Disability workshop	
	16/08/22	Respectful Relationship review	
	18/08/22	Reps Board	
Student Meetings		Student Concerns	Continued.

Projects

Project Name	Updates	Comments
Discord Server	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 39 Members • No engagement 	-1
Facebook Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1304 Follows • Mid engagement 	+30
Instagram Page	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 738 Followers • High engagement 	Collective posts have been posted
Equity Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of use. 	Pads to be bought soon.
Respectful Relationships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Completed • New version is out 	- I have requested a couple things to be changed in the new version but overall it's a massive improvement from last year.

Events

Event	Date/Time	Location	Activity	Attendance	Comments
Campaign UpCycle Market Donations go to Zonta House	Sep 27-29 10-3pm	B106D	Campaign to raise awareness of domestic Assault Online surrounding the event.		
Womens Brunch	30th Sep 10-12	The retreat	Food provided and will talk with collective about a possible activity.		

TL; DR

Collective is going smoothly, we have two events approaching with an online campaign in spreading awareness of domestic assault. Overall, everything is going quiet and steady.

Salwa Kilzi

Women's Officer 2022

Submitted 8/09/2022

Accessibility Department

Representation Board Report – 18th August 2022 – 8th September 2022



University Meetings

Date	Meeting	Notes
22/08	UDWG Draft DAIP presentation	See Below
23/08	Student Disability Procedure meeting	See below
29/08	Hiring Panel Shortlist Meeting	Shortlisted candidates to contact for interview
05/09	Hiring Panel Interviews	See below

Guild Meetings

Date	Meeting	Notes
15/08	Guild Disability Workshop	Via Evolve
19/08	AC meeting 3	Quorum not reached, cancelled
24/08	AD x Humanities meeting	Notes below
28/08	AC meeting 3	Quorum not reached, cancelled

Other Items/Additional Information

UDWG Draft DAIP Presentation

This meeting mainly revolved around the format of the DAIP as well as its contents.

- The draft presented at this meeting wasn't super accessible (a deeply ironic fact), but they claim that it will be improved and that alternative formats will be made available upon request. I believe accessible formats should not have to be requested so I raised this and the UDWG is thinking about it.
- The plan aims to "Treat accessibility at Curtin like OHS." I think that's a great idea provided that disability access is given a higher importance than OHS, particularly where making accommodations for access may be interpreted as unsafe procedures (e.g. wheelchair access to laboratories), and both OHS and Accessibility are ongoing collaborative processes between all affected.
- The Context section emphasises disability legislation and regulatory frameworks without mentioning the actual human beings who are affected by a lack of access. I raised this and was told that my feedback will be taken into consideration.
- There was some confusion within the working group around accountability for implementing each item in the DAIP so that will be reviewed and re-worded going forward.

Next UDWG meeting is on the 19th so it shouldn't be too long until publication now.

Students with Disability Procedures (SWDP) Meeting

This was a brief conversation with Erica Schurmann regarding the review of the SWDP. I

emphasised that the policies and procedures must outline the expected requirements as the bare

[Document title]

minimum. This includes things like; having all learning materials posted to blackboard with accessible formats available, CAP management processes being consistent between units and not managed via the extensions portal, minimum standards for presentation slide accessibility, etc. The reason for this is that many complaints I've received about unit coordinators and teaching materials have been difficult to resolve due to the ambiguity of the current policies and procedures (basically, they say nothing and do even less).

Reviewing these policies and procedures will also enable the Guild to push for a more equitable de-medicalised CAP system. We discussed creating a dual pathway system for obtaining a CAP, the two pathways being;

- 1) The current method of developing the student CAP using evidence from their treating medical professional to impute functional impacts of a disability.
- 2) Using other evidence (e.g. an in-house assessment process of some description) to impute functional impacts of a suspected disability.

Basically pathway 1 would be the 'fast-track' approach for students who have a recent diagnosis/supportive health professionals/the resources to see health professionals in a timely manner, and pathway 2 would be for students who aren't able to get documentation for whatever reason (e.g. medical racism/sexism/queerphobia, extreme wait times, unsupportive medical staff, etc.). This initiative is supported by ADCET and is not currently in-place at any other Australian University, giving Curtin an additional incentive to implement the change ASAP.

AccessAbility Services Manager Hiring Panel

After Jackie Weinman's retirement at the end of July, I was asked to sit on the recruitment panel for her replacement. This was an incredible opportunity for student interests to be included in the decision-making process for choosing the person who will guide the AAS team into the next few years. Three individuals were selected to be interviewed out of eleven applicants. Those three were asked the same set of questions regarding their previous experience within the disability and/or higher education sector(s), their experience working with vulnerable groups, and their approach to developing access plans with hypothetical students. The panel seemed to agree quite consistently across the different candidates and the favourite was selected pending referee reports.

Unfortunately, the candidate needs to give 4 weeks' notice to their current employer so we will have a bit of a wait before the AAS team is able to catch up on their appointments.

Accessibility x Humanities Rep Meeting

I met with the Guild Humanities rep to discuss some student concerns that have come up during my term, all involving the School of Education. It seems that ableism is rampant within that school, which we should find deeply concerning given the current national shortage of primary and secondary teaching graduates, the low retention rates of those graduates, and the general shitty treatment of teachers in this country. There have been particular issues with ableism towards students on placement by both Curtin administrative/placement staff and workplace practical supervisors. I firmly believe that the solution is to develop a clear code of conduct for both internal staff and external supervisors that stresses zero-tolerance of any discriminatory behaviour (y'know, like the students need to comply with on placement). The university must also follow through on investigating every single issue that is raised by a student regarding any discriminatory or harassing behaviour on

[Document title]

placement, and cut ties with repeat offenders.

Veronika and I plan to meet with some staff within the SoE to discuss these issues.

Accessibility Collective Meetings

The AC has been difficult to gather this semester, with two of our original 7 members having become ineligible to sit on the collective since the last meeting. As we are all students with disabilities it can be very difficult to find a time where we are all both available and able to attend and participate in a meeting. I have discussed this with Dylan and decided to send out requests for comment to the collective members via email and arrange meetings where group discussion may be necessary.

Other Stuff Happening at the Moment

- The Biannual NUS Disability and Accessibility Conference is happening on the 12th to 14th of September via Google Meets. For the second time it is being held online in the interests of covid safety, accessibility, and cost. This is an autonomous conference, meaning that the conference is only open to students who;
 - Identify as having a disability, access condition, or mental or chronic illness; or,
 - Are carers for any of the above.

It is for students to come together, organise, share skills through workshops and hear from speakers and panellists based on issue on their campus and beyond.

To register for conference, please fill out this form:

<https://forms.gle/UfoLQ8eNWSkPDkE99>

Don't forget to press going on the event!

<https://fb.me/e/1DYMjNr17>

Events

None planned at present

TL;DR – A new manager for AAS is in the process of being hired, the DAIP is on the way, the school of Education kinda sucks, policy and procedure changes are in the works with the university, and the NUS Accessibility conference is really soon (at time of writing)!

Glossary:

- **AAS:** AccessAbility Services – the university body that organises and coordinates CAPs
- **ADCET:** Australian Disability Clearinghouse on Education and Training. ADCET’s mission is to contribute to the improvement of the educational experiences and to the successful outcomes for students with disability in post-secondary education.
- **CAP:** Curtin Access Plan. A personalised document entitling students to reasonable adjustments to their studies enabling equitable access to education for those with specific access requirements.
- **CCs:** Closed Captions
- **CSG:** Curtin Social Group – A social group run during common free time on Wednesdays for Autistic and ADHD students who are involved in the CSMP.
- **CSMP:** Curtin Specialist Mentoring Program. This program allows Autistic students to engage in a weekly social group, as well as access to an Honours or Postgraduate Psychology student as a mentor. The mentor is there to help their Autistic mentee to navigate University and develop skills in self-advocacy, confidence, and other areas.
- **DAIP:** Disability Access and Inclusion Plan. The University plan regarding disability, equity, and accessibility improvements to the Uni. This is sent to the Department of Communities as a legal requirement as an educational institution that receives public funding. It is renewed every 3 years, but the 2020 review was delayed due to COVID.
- **DVC-A:** Deputy Vice Chancellor – Academic.
- **ISU:** Integrity and Standards Unit – the body concerned with Academic Integrity at Curtin.
- **LITEC:** Learning Innovation and Teaching Excellence Centre. The University body that oversees teaching and provides ongoing education for teaching staff. Is also involved in digital modules for students (eg; respectful relationships, Curtin challenge)
- **NSSS:** National Student Safety Survey. An annual survey conducted by the Social Research Centre in collaboration with Universities Australia. Aims to discover SASH rates at universities across the country.
- **NUS:** National Union of Students
- **RNA SteerCo:** Respect Now Always Steering Committee. The University committee tasked with reducing the incidence of sexual assault and sexual harassment at Curtin (including via digital means).
- **SASH:** Sexual assault and sexual harassment.
- **SARN:** Student Accessibility Representative Network. Currently involves Accessibility reps from Curtin, UWA, Murdoch, and ECU.
- **SCT:** Safer Communities Team. Curtin’s security and support team.
- **SoE:** School of Education
- **TOIL:** Time Off In Lieu. Overtime hours logged earlier in the year that are being progressively used as-required.
- **UDWG:** Universal Design Working Group. The University committee tasked with improving disability access across Curtin.
- **VP-E:** Vice President – Education

Higher Education Report Representation Board August 2022

Government payment increases – Abstudy

<https://ministers.dss.gov.au/media-releases/8996>

https://www.dss.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/08_2022/rates_list_20_september_2022_-_upload_1.pdf

180,000 extra TAFE places. The Australian

The Albanese government is being urged to extend a \$1bn investment in 180,000 free TAFE places to private training providers, after national cabinet approved the package to help alleviate the skills crisis.

The 180,000 places will be available in 2023, comprising 120,000 existing TAFE places to be made free and 60,000 new ones. Of the new places, 45,000 are completely new and formed part of Labor's fee-free TAFE election commitment to provide 465,000 fee-free places.

Another 15,000 are aged-care places announced in the Morrison government's March budget through its JobTrainer fund.

The free courses on offer won't be decided until later in September but will target industries with skills shortages and support women, young Australians and First Nations people.

Labor and Higher Ed. The Australian

Clare has also quietly stepped back from Alan Tudge's plan to force universities to adopt a standard template for intellectual property agreements. Clare announced 12 standardised IP agreements for universities to use. But, while universities are encouraged to use them, they are voluntary, not compulsory.

The Minister hasn't moved to end the "national interest test" for ARC grants which was introduced by former Coalition education minister Dan Tehan. But Clare has asked for it to be better defined and to be made simpler. Neither has he made any move to end the ministerial power to cancel grants which are approved by the ARC.

Challenges

Clare faces a challenge in dealing with the blow back from Covid. The hasty shift to online education during the pandemic left the tertiary education in a limbo situation that is neither traditional face-to-face teaching, nor online teaching. With some effort, it could evolve into a very good hybrid system of learning. Online learning would replace lectures, and each student would receive individual attention in small group seminars, tutorials and lab sessions that are also designed to build soft skills such as communication and teamwork.

Yet another item on his plate is the future of the Coalition's Job Ready Graduates higher education funding scheme. It is clear that Clare will need to find solutions to all these issues without any significant increase in funding.

A big item on the list is to rebuild the international student business post-Covid. Clare and Home Affairs Minister Clare O'Neil have already said the time which international students can stay and work after graduation will be extended, provided they have qualifications in skill shortage areas.

Uni of Sydney and India. The Australian

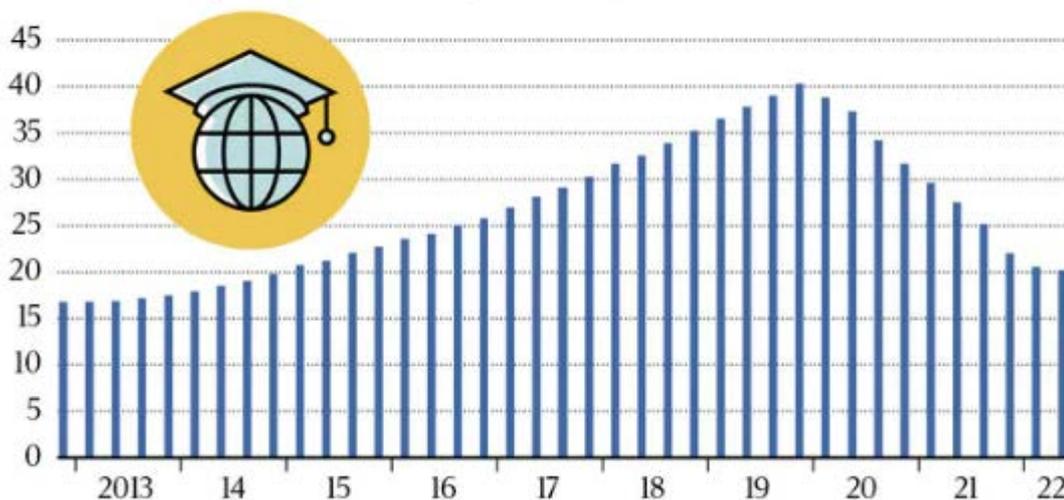
The University of Sydney will partner with India's O.P. Jindal Global University to offer joint business degrees to students who will split their study time between Australia and India.

Last month the University of Wollongong announced it would establish a teaching base in the Indian city of Ahmedabad which will offer degrees in finance, business and STEM subjects from next year.

Hopes grow for recovery in education export revenue

All up from here?

Education exports, \$bn, rolling 12 month total



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Hopes are growing for a recovery in education exports after new official figures revealed that the plunge in foreign student revenue caused by Covid-19 and closed borders is flattening out.

New export data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics on Tuesday show that education exports were worth \$20.2bn in the 12 months to June, less than half the \$40.3bn of export income in calendar year 2019, before the pandemic hit.

But the rate of decline has slowed dramatically and, if the trend continues, the fall in education export revenue will soon bottom out and return to a growth path.

Analysis of WA unis. Campus Morning Mail

Western Australian universities have continued the 2021 strong financial recovery trend established by eastern state universities. A detailed analysis of the financial performances of Curtin, Edith Cowan, UWA and Murdoch [universities reported elsewhere](#) has established that three of the four increased their 2021 total income by more than 10 per cent from 2020.

Incomes were also more than for 2019, even though overseas student fee revenues were lower. All four universities reported a surplus of net revenue (income-expenditure) for 2021. Collectively, the universities had net assets of \$5.8 bn an increase of \$0.53bn (9 per cent) from 2020.

The 2021 turnaround was aided by government assistance increasing by \$147m, including \$80m in special research funding. Reported investment income gains of \$199m would have been even larger if all universities had accounted for the substantial windfall funding from the winding up of Education Australia Limited (EAL) as 2021 income.

Lower overseas student enrolments resulted in all WA universities having reduced student fees and charges income in both 2020 and 2021. Collectively, universities received \$159m (24 per cent) less fee income over this two-year period compared with the 2019 result. The percentage fee reduction is similar to the results for universities in other states. The net outcome was that a collective reduction of \$184m (6.2 per cent) in total income from 2019 to 2020 was transformed to an increase of \$332m (12

per cent) from 2020 to 2021. Total income receipts for 2021 were also \$149m (5 per cent) more than for the pre-pandemic 2019 year.

Collectively, the WA universities increased their total expenditures for 2020 by a modest \$27m (1 per cent) and then reduced them again by a similar amount for 2021. Hence, the 2021 outlays were comparable to 2019. The WA expenditure changes were less than for eastern state universities as were the expenditure outlays on employee benefits. The results indicate that WA universities experienced less staff rationalisation than many other Australian universities. Overall, the collective WA surplus of \$410m for 2021 (13 per cent of 2021 income) was near eight times the 2020 surplus and twice the 2019 surplus, underlining the strength of the sectors 2021 financial recovery.

A comparison of net 2021 revenue (income-expenditure) with some other mainland universities is shown in the table. Only three of 29 Australian universities profiled reported a cashflow deficit for 2021. As noted [elsewhere](#), the NSW universities numbers are inflated more than some other universities by the EAL-IDP (Education Australia Limited (formerly IDP Education Australia Ltd) About Education Australia Limited) revenue gains. Nevertheless, the data supports the conclusion that most universities have gained considerable financial strength in 2021 on a journey to full recovery from the pandemic.

2021 Net Revenue (Surplus or Deficit) as a Percentage of 2021 Total Income

Western Australia		Queensland		Victoria		New South Wales	
Curtin	11.4%	Queensland	14.0%	Melbourne	18.5%	Macquarie	5.2%
Edith Cowan	14.8%	Southern Queensland	18.7%	Monash	13.1%	Southern Cross	3.9%
UWA	17.3%	James Cook	4.6%	La Trobe	-2.6%	Sydney	29.7%
Murdoch	3.7%	Sunshine Coast	13.4%	Federation	10.2%	UNSW	12.2%
		Central Qld	-5.4%	Deakin	6.2%	Wollongong	-0.4%
		Griffith	11.8%	Swinburne	5.4%	Western Sydney	14.9%
		QUT	11.9%	Victoria	0.3%	UTS	9.1%
				RMIT	7.9%	Newcastle	19.3%
						New England	22.3%
						Charles Sturt	22.1%
All WA	13.2%	All Qld	11.5%	All Vic	11.0%	All NSW	16.8%

Some interesting findings for Curtin, Edith Cowan, UWA and Murdoch U are:

* Curtin U received \$66m less income in 2020 compared with 2019, but recovered strongly in 2021, with a total income that was \$93m (10.3 per cent) more than for 2020 and \$27m more than for 2019. The reduction in student fee income over two years was \$47m (23 per

cent) less than the 2019 result. Significant growth in investment income, including accounting for some of the EAL dividend, contributed to the total income outcome. The 2021 net asset position was \$1.54bn, some \$114m more than in 2020.

* Edith Cowan U also managed an impressive turnaround in its 2021 financials with total income \$53m (11 per cent) more than for 2020. A state capital grant of \$40.5m represented the main contribution to the income growth. Student fee income was reduced by \$20m (14 per cent) over two years compared with the 2019 result. Edith Cowan did not account for its EAL windfall in its comprehensive income statement. It did however report an increase in net assets of \$155m, including the EAL benefits, from 2020 to 2021, such that 2021 net assets were \$1.13bn.

* UWA reported the strongest 2021 financial recovery of the four WA universities. Total 2021 income grew by \$187m (18.9 per cent) even though it did not report the EAL revenue as comprehensive income. Unlike other WA universities it did not experience any further reduction in student fee income in 2021 compared with 2020; nevertheless, the two-year reduction was still \$49m (25 per cent). The 2021 total income was \$88m (8 per cent) more than the 2019 total income. Net 2021 assets increased by \$203m to \$2.24 bn.

* Murdoch University also experienced a significant reduction in overseas student fee income in 2020 and 2021, so over the two years the \$43m reduction was equal to 34 per cent of the 2019 fee income, more for any other WA university. It was the only WA university not to increase its total income from 2020 to 2021 as other income components did not compensate for the fee reduction. The 2021 total income figure was \$16m less than the 2019 result. The university did however increase its 2021 net assets by \$61m to \$924m.

Overall, WA universities have performed as well financially in 2021 as their east coast counterparts. The special research funding and some Education Australia contributions have been important one-off income sources. These revenue streams will not be available for 2022; however, some significant improvements in onshore overseas student fee incomes are expected.

***Professor Emeritus Frank Larkins, Honorary Professorial Fellow, University of Melbourne
Melbourne Centre for the Study of Higher Education and School of Chemistry***

NOTE: EAL-IDP Revenue Gains

(38 unis Thirty-eight Australian universities stand to raise nearly \$70 million each following a proposal for a restructure within IDP Education that would give each institution direct control over its stake in the company. Under the proposal, the universities, which own 40 per cent of a holding company called Education Australia, would see 25 per cent distributed to each university with the remaining 15 per cent stake sold via a block trade valued at nearly \$1 billion by December 11. Restrictions placed around the sale of shares by the 38 universities include that they would not be able to dispose of any IDP shares until May 2022, and in the following six months would be only able to dispose of up to 50 per cent of their stakes. After the anniversary of the first year, they would be free to sell 100 per cent of their direct shareholding.)

VC's remuneration. Campus Morning Mail

<https://campusmorningmail.com.au/news/accounting-for-vice-chancellors-salaries/>

Source: 2019-2021 Annual and Financial Reports

Note 1: salary bands were disclosed in annual reports, the high end of the pay has been used for the table

Note 2: the majority of universities disclosed vice chancellor salary under the section "Remuneration of Executive Officers/Key Management Personnel". Unless the report stated otherwise, it was assumed that VCs were not entitled to additional remuneration due to also being a council member.

Note 3: * represent years in which the VC may have not served for the full calendar year. Those highlighted affects year-to-year remuneration comparisons, assumption that the year's highest remunerated officer was the VC.

Note 4: CND means cannot determine

Institution	State	2019 Gross salary AUD	2020 Gross salary AUD	2021 Gross salary AUD	
Australian Catholic University	Multiple	1,359,999	1,349,999	1,089,999*	
Australian National University	ACT	649,396	559,973	609,676	
Central Queensland University	QLD	779,998*	779,999	884,999	
Charles Darwin University	NT	564,999	1,184,999	629,990*	
Charles Sturt University	NSW	889,998	568,656	800,000*	
Curtin University	WA	990,000	580,000	650,000*	
Deakin University	VIC	829,999*	949,999	859,999	
Edith Cowan University	WA	890,000	910,000	890,000	
Federation University Australia	VIC	889,999	559,999*	839,999	
Flinders University	SA	1,179,999	1,229,999	1,229,999	
Griffith University	QLD	864,999*	879,999	1,029,999	
James Cook University	QLD	989,999	959,999	899,999	
La Trobe University	VIC	980,000	889,999	889,999	
Macquarie University	NSW	1,089,000	1,059,999	1,059,999	
Monash University	VIC	1,289,999	1,319,999	1,129,999	
Murdoch University	WA	1,000,000	1,010,000	CND*	
Queensland University of Technology	QLD	1,189,999	1,209,999	1,079,999	

RMIT University	VIC	999,999	1,099,999	CND*	
Southern Cross University	NSW	779,999	569,999*	749,999	
Swinburne University of Technology	VIC	1,009,999	777,000*	709,999	
The University of Adelaide	SA	1,104,999	939,999	CND*	
The University of Melbourne	VIC	1,499,999	1,514,999	1,469,999	
The University of New England	NSW	639,999*	699,999	679,999	
The University of Newcastle	NSW	859,999	869,999	869,999	
The University of Notre Dame Australia	WA	619,999	659,999*	CND	
The University of Queensland	QLD	1,214,999	974,999*	1,214,999	
The University of Sydney	NSW	1,620,778	1,530,857	1,169,999*	
The University of Western Australia	WA	959,999	979,000*	923,000	
University of Canberra	ACT	979,999	539,999*	949,999	
University of Divinity	VIC	269,999	229,999	309,998	
University of New South Wales	NSW	1,329,999	1,449,999	1,515,000	
University of South Australia	SA	1,269,998	1,202,000	1,219,000	
University of Southern Queensland	QLD	689,999	719,999	719,999	
University of Tasmania	TAS	1,079,998	1,079,998	989,999	

University of Technology Sydney	NSW	1,099,999	1,099,999	1,079,999*	
University of the Sunshine Coast	QLD	849,999	579,999*	929,999	
University of Wollongong	NSW	1,209,998	1,269,998	799,998*	
Victoria University	VIC	719,999*	849,999	819,999	
Western Sydney University	NSW	1,009,999	969,999	988,380	

Clinical placement costs cap nursing student numbers. Campus Morning Mail

Nursing schools were not all impressed when Victoria announced new scholarships (CMM September 2). This is why

Nursing schools were not all impressed when Victoria announced new scholarships (CMM September 2). This is why

Public and private hospital providers have increasingly introduced fee-paying for undergraduate nursing placements over the last 10 years, initially restricted to private providers but more recently and more widely introduced by state public hospital systems, to cover clinical supervision costs.

The problem is Commonwealth activity-based funding for hospitals through Health Agreements with states is meant to include funding for clinical teaching, training and research in hospitals. And that public funding is meant to cover clinical teaching across all health disciplines – medicine, nursing, allied health. Except that, many hospital placement providers are using ABF income to cover the costs of fee-free clinical training for medical students. This means there's no public funding left over to cover the supervision costs of nursing and allied health students, which means hospitals have to pass the costs on to universities.

Under the Rudd and Gillard governments, which set up Health Workforce Australia, there was a dedicated Commonwealth funding programme specifically for clinical training for nursing and allied health disciplines, the HWA Clinical Training Funding Programme. It was paid to directly to universities, calculated on their EFTSL enrolments, to use as they determined to fund or subsidise the costs of clinical training.

The Abbott government abolished the HWA, and along with it the CTF, in 2015. Since then, universities have had to cover the entire cost of clinical training for nursing and allied health students, in an environment of increasing fee-setting by providers.

More recently, as a result of the Jobs Ready Graduate (JRG) Package introduced by the Morrison Government, nursing and midwifery and allied health courses saw a reduction in the student contribution to fees without a requisite and commensurate increase in government funding for the CSG portion.

In real terms, this has meant a \$1700 reduction per nursing student per year. For a nursing school with 2000 students, that's almost \$3.5m lost.

For universities offering nursing courses, many of them have to artificially limit their nursing intake, dependent on the availability and affordability of clinical training places. Many universities are, or were (before the pandemic nursing workforce crisis), oversubscribed in nursing applications. There's plenty of demand from qualified, quality prospective students – there just isn't enough money in nursing and allied health undergraduate education to pay for the clinical placements.

So putting more funding into additional places isn't going to do much, if there's not an accompanying investment in public and private hospitals to cover the costs of clinical training.

[Danielle Brown is Project Coordinator in Edith Cowan U's School of Medical and Health Sciences](#)

Universities struggle to fill nursing courses despite healthcare worker shortage

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-08-15/nursing-students-university-healthcare-worker-shortage/101334878>

Tom Ristoski, director of industry partnerships at Perth's Notre Dame University, said nursing degree places had been much slower to fill recently.

He said places for the university's upcoming mid-year intake were close to being filled but enrolments had been slow.

"It is taking longer to fill courses and I think we're getting fairly close but normally by now they would be completely full and oversubscribed," Mr Ristoski told [ABC Radio Perth's](#) Nadia Mitsopoulos.

"There are other universities that I've spoken to that are saying that it has been harder to fill [courses]. More of them are now filling them but it has been much more challenging than it's been in the past."

He said the decline in demand may be due to the pandemic and the well-publicised pressures on the healthcare sector over the past two years.

"I think the concern for potential students is probably around COVID, the COVID impacts and the challenges that they've seen in the industry," he said.

Tom Ristoski says the impact COVID has had on the sector may have deterred some potential students from studying nursing. *(Rawpixel: Chanikarn Thongsupa)*

Mr Ristoski said the university was trying to adapt training to make it easier for students to complete a nursing degree.

Space to play or pause, M to mute, left and right arrows to seek, up and down arrows for volume.

"We've got programs in place where students who are in year two [of their course] can work in a setting and get paid for that as assistants in nursing, whilst they learn on-the-job skills," he said

"We've got accelerated programs now for people who have allied skills, and we can quickly get them into nursing. They may not need to do the full degree."

Indigenous university enrolments double, but barriers still exist

<https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/indigenous-university-enrolments-double-but-barriers-still-exist-20220810-p5b8ud.html>

Aboriginal enrolments to university have doubled in the past decade, but financial challenges result in many Indigenous students abandoning their studies after their first year.

Between 2010 and 2020, Indigenous student enrolments have essentially doubled from 7605 to 15,290 in bachelor degrees, from 1285 to 3330 in postgraduate studies and 423 to 751 in postgraduate research.

In the same period, Indigenous enrolment has also increased as a percentage of all enrolments from 0.92 per cent to 1.41 per cent, according to the Department of Education, Skills and Employment.

The dropout rate is higher for Indigenous students but is declining. In 2010, Indigenous students had an attrition rate of 25.46 in their bachelor degrees compared with 13.72 for non-Indigenous students.

In 2019, it dropped to 19.45 compared with 15.52 for non-Indigenous students.

Federal Education Minister Jason Clare said fewer than 10 per cent of First Nations Australians aged between 25 and 34 had a university degree.

In the past 10 years, [almost 100 Indigenous scholars have received either the Perkins or Roberta Sykes scholarships](#) to study at the most elite universities in the world.

Disabled ‘not happy’ on campus

Student union disability advocates are calling for reform of discrimination legislation over concerns university classes and buildings are not flexible enough to cater to students with varying needs.

Advocates from various Australian universities have called for reform of the Disability Discrimination Act to address what they believe is “systemic neglect”, and the Australian Law Students Association is in the process of preparing a report.

The Australian Human Rights Commission’s register of disability discrimination action plans reveals five universities have not updated their plans in more than 10 years.

Australia’s plan for short courses in international education gets a boost

Last November Morrison government education minister Alan Tudge announced \$8m in funding for industry bodies to develop microcredential courses to offer to international students in their home countries.

The Albanese government is going ahead with the plan and is expected to announce the first round of grants soon.

India is expected to be a strong market for the new microcredentials, which will be focused on skills in demand from employers.

The six-month qualifications will give international students skills they can immediately use, and also could be a pathway to entering a diploma or degree course in Australia.

They will be offered by Australian education providers – including universities, TAFEs and independent providers – in partnership with an industry body. They must have recognition or accreditation from industry, and can be offered face-to-face or online.

Because they are short courses and can be studied in a student’s home country, they will be cheaper than studying overseas and potentially open up a major new market for Australian education from families who can’t afford to send a child to another country.

“With industry endorsement, it is anticipated that many of these microcredentials will provide pathways into meaningful jobs,” International Education Association of Australia chief executive Phil Honeywood said.