



## Student Guild of Curtin University

### Representation Board - Meeting #9

held at 6pm on Tuesday the 28 September 2021

In 100.301

#### MINUTES

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

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

##### 2. Attendance

- 2.1. Members Present; Dylan Botica; Jesse Naylor Zambrano; Lucy Rohl; Madison Ainsworth; Michael Farrell (online); Sofia Gonzalez Torres; Hameed Mohammed; Jason Kim (6.06pm) Bridge Truell (6.09pm) Cassidy Pemberton; Clare Metcalf; Chris MacFarlane; Isabel Mountain; Cherry Chen; Shaniqua Cutinha (6.11pm) ; Dax Jagoe (6.16pm)
- 2.2. Others Present; Maryanne Shaddick (minute secretary)
- 2.3. Apologies and Leave of Absence;
- 2.4. Absent; Ali Rose Bolton

The resignation of First Nation Officer Iona McGuire was noted.

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

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

###### 4.1. Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion: That the Representation Board approves the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 19/08/2021, as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved: Lucy Rohl

Seconded: Madison Ainsworth

Carried with the correction that Shaniqua Cutinha's name be added to the list of attendees.

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

##### 6. Items Not for Discussion. None

##### 7. Reports

1. President – Submitted. Jesse Naylor Zambrano spoke about the International Students speak out. Jesse noted that Curtin was communicating to international students. Curtin was looking at coordinating an engagement group to support

students and there would be more directed support from Curtin Connect. It was noted that Curtin was negotiating a new enterprise bargaining agreement with staff. Lucy Rohl said that there was an expectation by Curtin that international students would return in February 2022. Jesse spoke about VC response to the Guild's Tuition Free campaign. There was information provided about a student who had their CRL (credit for recognized learning) revoked by Curtin. There was discussion about structural change needed to engage First Nations students within the Guild and about organising cultural sensitivity training as part of student representative handovers. Hameed Mohammed said postgraduate offshore students had not heard from Curtin. The new ISC President would follow up with Curtin. There was discussion about the Learning for Tomorrow implementation, which had been moved to faculty level. There was discussion that the Guild would develop a best practice guide and talk to deans of faculties and heads of school. There was discussion about the Guild's approach to the university to change the default search engine to Ecosia.

1.1. Briefing Note – \$20,000 Club Funding.

2. Vice President – Education – Not Submitted. Bridge Truell updated the committee about work on the unit outline review, Excellence in Teaching Awards and Learning for Tomorrow at the faculty level.
3. Faculty of Business and Law Representative – Submitted. Dylan Botica noted that he published a unit outline survey that received 23 responses gathered and identified 30 units requiring attention. The feedback was incorporated into the feedback sent out with Student Consultative Committee report. There were broader issues with assessment design particularly in Accounting and Law. Law had problems with the delivery of exams. Dylan was following up with Law School Director of Learning and Teaching. Jason asked about Dylan's involvement with actions arising from the student consultative meetings. Dylan said he would attend or if he had not he would find out and follow up about issues from the summary report sent out after meetings. Dylan said he picked up significant issues with units and the way the faculty was resourcing units. There was discussion about the feasibility of using Board Effect at the Guild. It was something for Executive members to review. There could be time saving potential and efficiencies for uploading reports. There was concern about the cost if the Guild could not use the Curtin licence and the potential for Curtin to have oversight of confidential reports. Board Effect did not appear to have accessibility features.
4. Faculty of Science and Engineering Representative – Submitted. Jason Kim said that one of his KPIs, number 9 bridging the cultural gap would not be finished due to time constraints. It was noted that 25 people were recruited and there were 15 active SEC participants. There were meetings twice a semester with the addition of online travel restricted participants. Jason reported on the Student Hub meeting in which some club representatives attended. It was noted that Engineering students felt unhappy about how they were treated by other club members. With regard to staff cuts, Jason noted that there were 22 areas of concern within the faculty and that he was working with student experience officer. Jason would like to create a public platform to raise concerns. Chris Macfarlane asked how many people had lost jobs. This information was not known. It was noted that Evaluate data found student satisfaction concerns in Science and Engineering.
5. Faculty of Health Sciences Representative – Submitted. Lucy Rohl discussed opportunities to get some students on faculty working parties and committees. Lucy spoke about the proposal from the Manager of Student Engagement for Health Sciences, Kelly Nowak, to implement a Faculty Common Free Time. It was noted that a letter had been sent to the Health Minister in relation to the issue of shortage of nurses in WA hospitals. Jesse raised the issue of the number of meetings faculty representatives attend and whether they were sitting on the correct committees.
6. Faculty of Humanities Representative – Submitted. Madison Ainsworth spoke about the We Are Important campaign. There was discussion about the impact of

blended learning on Humanities. There was discussion about whether there would be further cuts to staff in the faculty.

Student Assist – Submitted. There was a query about whether the laptop loan scheme was still running

7. International Students Committee President. New president Sophia Gonzalez was welcomed to the Representation Board.
8. Postgraduate Students Committee President. Hameed Mohammed noted that he was working on his KPIs. Hameed was working with Bridge Truell and Lucy Rohl with regard to more graduate programs for health science students. There was discussion about KPIs and it was noted that there was no one on the PSC committee. Hameed said he was lacking support and that the committee roles needed to be filled. Hameed asked if representatives would promote the PSC on their social media pages. Jason suggested creating messaging about how to join the PSC.
  - 8.1. KPIs
9. Queer Officer – Submitted. As tabled. It was noted that there was going to be a Queer Department roll out of bathroom stickers and all volunteers were welcome. Dax Jagoe noted an expression of interest for Pride had been submitted.
10. Women’s Officer – Submitted. Cassidy Pemberton spoke about the National Student Safety Survey saying that concerns had been raised about some confronting questions. It was noted that there was a 9.7% response rate at Curtin. The Respectful Relationships module was to be updated. A recent movie night attracted 15 people. Cassidy noted that they were helping a student with a harassment complaint.
11. First Nations Officer – Vacant. Cassidy Pemberton noted that it was concerning that no-one was staying in the role. Jesse said that structural changes were needed at the Guild to accommodate a First Nations Officer. CAS recommended co-officers. There needed to be consultation with First Nation students. The artist who painted the First Nations mural provided feedback that words like “officer” and “department” were alienating for First Nation people. Dylan asked about how many First Nation people are employed by the Guild. There was discussion about how many First Nation students were enrolled. Hameed asked about cultural safety and inclusivity. Jesse spoke about feedback from Lulkbudia Mclean, a former First Nation officer. Lulkbudia said it was difficult being the only First Nation student at the Guild. The pay for equity officers was not enough to support themselves in. There was a lack of structure at the Guild, no desk or set times she had to be there. As well, Lulkbudia felt it was not appropriate for her to speak on behalf of all First Nations people.
12. Accessibility Officer – Submitted. Clare Metcalf said that they had been approached in relation to an event idea, a thesis boot camp aimed at those with ADHD, which would be the idea of body doubling to help people focus. It would be a catered event. Jesse Naylor Zambrano asked about what manually activating a CAP is about. New database system where CAPS will be automatically sent to tutors and UCs unless students decide to choose who to send the CAPS out to. No CAP PDFs by email. Student will receive a copy via PDF but this is not the official document. Dylan Botica asked about the goals of the Abilities Collective at Curtin. Clare sent support, representation and positive change without people having to talk about disabilities, connections, creating a community some of the goals.
13. Higher Education Developments – Submitted. Lucy Rohl raised the issue of whether Guild had a stance on vaccination. Dylan Botica suggested this be moved to General Business
14. Chair of the Representation Board. No questions.

15. Motion: That the Representation Board notes the reports.

Moved: Cassidy Pemberton

Seconded: Lucy Rohl

Carried

## 8. Items for Discussion and Resolution

### 8.1. We Are Important Campaign

That the Representation Board endorses the Humanities Campaign “We Are Important” as it:

- Reaches out to students to gain their perspective on their treatment as a Humanities student
- Co-Hosts a National Day of Action with the National Union of Students (NUS)
- Collaborates with other Student Unions across Australia
- Publishes an Open Letter addressed to University management and the Federal Education Minister Alan Tudge

With the goal of bettering the quality of education provided to Humanities students with three demands:

- Increase funding for humanities courses and staff!!
- End the cuts to our courses and units!
- Give our courses the recognition they deserve!

Moved: Madison Ainsworth

Seconded: Bridge Truell

Carried

Madison spoke to this motion. It was important that faculty representatives were entering the national space and engaging with larger movements.

Michael Farrell left at 7.15pm. Back 7.19pm

Cassidy Pemberton noted that it was difficult to work with the NUS and asked with whom Madison was coordinating. Madison Ainsworth said that Chris Hall was the NUS contact. Chris MacFarlane said that the campaign should be wider than humanities. If it was only humanities, it should be a local campaign. Chris MacFarlane said it was best to focus on what was happening on campus. Madison said the individual campus campaigns were running as well. Shaniqua said that the original goals of the campaign might be overlooked if it was too broad. Hameed Mohammed said that the PSC was happy to be part of the campaign. Madison said that the campaign was focused on Curtin. There was discussion about the demands of the campaign. Dylan spoke about running the campaign through the Representation Board and unlocking representation Board funding.

## 9. Meetings of Committees

### 9.1. Women’s Collective – Meeting held on 20/07/2021

Motion: That the Representation Board notes the minutes of the meeting

Moved: Cassidy Pemberton

Seconded: Lucy Rohl

Carried

## 10. General Business

Position on mandatory vaccination for students. Chris MacFarlane felt that it was important that people took a stand and discussed the protests in Melbourne. Guild should push students to be vaccinated. There was a discussion about whether to bring a motion to this meeting or deal with it by circular motion or at the next meeting. It was noted by Maryanne Shaddick that the Guild had already communicated information to students about being vaccinated.

Motion to suspend standing orders. Carried you absolute majority.

Motion: That the Representation Board recognises the importance of strong health measures including lockdowns in combating the pandemic.

In the wake of the recent far right and anti-vax demonstrations in Melbourne, the Representation Board recognises that every student and staff member has a right to a campus safe from the pandemic and strongly encourages all students and staff, who are able, to get vaccinated.

The representation board also strongly condemns the attacks made by far right and anti vax demonstrators on the Victorian CFMEU offices, and calls on other unions to push their members to get vaccinated.

Action: The Guild will make posts on its social media accounts and around the Guild precinct encouraging students to get vaccinated. These posts/posters should make use of the Campaign against Racism and Fascism's slogan "Pro Vax, Pro Union, Anti Fascist".

Moved: Chris MacFarlane

Seconded: Bridge Truell

Discussion about standing in solidarity with unions and hijacking of issue by right wings.

Motion amended to add the word vaccinations

*That the Representation Board recognises the importance of strong health measures including lockdowns and vaccinations in combating the pandemic*

This was amendable to Chris

Hameed said the communication should be an education campaign.

Maryanne Shaddick said that the communication should be information based, simple and straight forward.

Madison and Lucy said that the information should be information based.

Shaniqua said not all students like political messages. They would engage more with an information campaign.

Sophia said should not push information to students in a political way. Need to educate them.

Hameed said rules for international student vaccination were not fair. Jesse said this was Gov't policy.

Cassidy said the Guild could have an information campaign and make a statement.

Lucy proposed an amendment that "posters may take inspiration from Pro Vax etc"

*Action: The Guild will make posts on its social media accounts and around the Guild precinct encouraging students to get vaccinated. These posts/posters should take inspiration from the Campaign against Racism and Fascism's slogan "Pro Vax, Pro Union, Anti Fascist".*

This was amendable to Chris

Carried . One abstention Jason Kim

Jesse said the draft determination of remuneration had been published for consultation. Email feedback to Jesse.

Jesse said she was looking for student participation at the Staff Student Tuition Free event. Needed a co-lead on the campaign.

#### Next Meeting

The next ordinary meeting of the Representation Board is Thursday, 21 October at 6pm to be held at Council Chambers. Documents and motions are to be submitted no later than 4:30pm on Thursday the 14 October to [secretary@guild.curtin.edu.au](mailto:secretary@guild.curtin.edu.au)

Meeting closed at 8.05pm.