

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; Imari Morris left 5.45pm , Jacque Bicanic, Jasmyne Tweed, Veronika Gobba, Thane Roberts, Xavier Wileman, Filiz Keles (online), Sarina Pun (online), Hannah Northey, Nini Siddiqua (online) 5.36pm.

2.2. Others Present; Maryanne Shaddick (minute secretary), Mitch Craig (Secretary), Razanne Al-Abdeli, Ella Marchionda, Elizabeth Playford, Emily Cassam, Zoe Stevens, Rob Vusak, Hamide Kocer

2.3. Apologies and Leave of Absence; Chloe Maslen, Bustanul Arifin

2.4. Absent;

3. Disclosure of any potential or perceived Conflicts of Interest

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

4.1. Previous Meeting Minutes:

Motion: That the Representation Board approves the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 18/07/2024, as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved: Hannah Northey

Seconded: Thane Roberts

Carried

5. Public Question Time

Ella Marchionda asked about free speech on campus and the campus access policy. Ella noted examples at other universities including QT and Swinburne. Ella asked that the Guild was doing to defend students' right to free speech. Jasmyne Tweed said that she had met with the Vice Chancellor and that she and Razanne Al-Abdeli, president of the Curtin Palestinian Society, met with university officials. It was noted that the university would not discipline people for using the phrase “from the river to the sea”. It was noted that the use of Curtin University in materials required permission of the university.

6. Reports

1. President – Submitted. As tabled. Jasmyne Tweed reinforced that students could use the phrase “from the river to the sea”. Jasmyne noted the first meeting of the MOU working group. A question was asked about sanctions for people who could not meet their rental obligations in on campus accommodation. Jasmyne said that Student Assist was working on this. Jasmyne noted that the VC was supportive of change and agreed that the current policy was not good. A plan was being developed to deal with academic sanctions. There was discussion about a motion raised at Edcon regarding Fatima Payman.
2. Vice President – Education – Submitted. As tabled. Rob Vusak asked about the the Disclosure, Divestment and Ethical Investment MOU working group. Veronika Gobba said sponsoring the military conference should not have happened and she updated the Board about the working group’s future aims.
3. Vice President – Sustainability & Welfare – Submitted . As tabled. Jacquie Bicanic noted that she was working on a flyer for reporting options for reporting sexual assault on campus. There was a question about why the portfolio was not addressing the climate crisis. There was a query about a recycling hub initiative.
4. Faculty of Business and Law Representative – Submitted. As tabled.
5. Faculty of Science and Engineering Representative – Submitted. As tabled.
6. Faculty of Health Sciences Representative – Submitted. As tabled.
7. Faculty of Humanities Representative – Submitted. Questions on notice.
8. Student Assist – Submitted. No Questions
9. International Students Committee President – Submitted. As tabled. Sarina Pun noted that the migration session was successful as was the Curtin Connect session.
10. Postgraduate Students Committee President – Submitted. No questions
11. Queer Officer – Submitted. As tabled. Xavier Wileman updated the Board on the “We All Need to Pee” campaign. The audit of bathrooms was ongoing.
12. Women’s Officer – Submitted. No questions
13. Accessibility Officer – Submitted. as tabled.
14. Higher Education Developments – Submitted.

15.

Motion: That the Representation Board notes the reports.

Moved: Thane Roberts

Seconded: Jacquie Bicanic

Carried

7. Items for Discussion and Resolution

7.1. NUS Open Letter on Student Led Organisations Definition

Motion: That the Representation Board **endorse** the open letter proposed by the National Union of Students to the Federal Education Minister calling for the definition of student led organisation to recognise and centralise the following elements: majority student governance, democratically elected representatives and independence and autonomy from university management.

Moved: Jasmyne Tweed (President)

Seconded: Jacquie Bicanic

Carried

Jasmyne Tweed provided a background to Government's proposed legislation ensuring a minimum of 40% SSAF be directed to student-led organisations. Jasmyne noted that it was important to ensure that elected students received SSAF. The legislation would not impact the 50% SSAF paid to student guilds in WA.

7.2. Protest Uni Council for Palestine

Motion: That the Representation Board **endorse** and promote the upcoming demonstration targeting the University Council on 21 August.

Moved: Jacquie Bicanic

Seconded: Thane Roberts

Carried

It was noted that Rob Vusak submitted the motion.

Rob Vusak noted the objective of divestment from Israeli companies and all military ties. Rob requested Guild social media and other communication support. There was discussion about promotion to support this protest.

7.3. Pro-Palestine Free Speech

Motion: That the Representation Board:

- a) **support** students' right to poster and leaflet on Campus as part of their right to free speech;
- b) **note** that the slogan "from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free" has long been used to call for justice and equality for all, no matter religion, ethnicity, or cultural background, and an end to apartheid, in the areas of historic Palestine"; and
- c) **sign** an email to the Vice Chancellor condemning the repression of free speech on campus.

Moved: Zavier Wileman

Seconded: Jacquie Bicanic

Carried

Zavier Wileman read a statement in which they outlined relief that Curtin changed its mind on the issue. He said that bylaws were inconsistently addressed and activism was being suppressed.

Harlene Hayne's statement was read out.

There was a discussion about posters and leaflets.

8. General Business

9. Meeting Evaluation. Hannah Northey.

10. Next Meeting

The next ordinary meeting of the Representation Board is Thursday, the 12th of September at 1730 to be held at Council Chambers. Documents and motions are to be submitted no later than 4:30pm on Thursday the 5th of September to secretary@guild.curtin.edu.au and educationvp@guild.curtin.edu.au

Meeting closed 6.35pm.