



## Student Guild of Curtin University Representation

Board - Meeting #4

Held at 5.30pm on Thursday the 17th of March 2022 In

Online

### 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; Jasmyne Tweed, Dylan Botica, Madison Ainsworth, Amber Hilston, February, Theodora Rohl, Cassidy Pemberton, Marcus Furnihough, Rachel Taylor, Adam Reader, Zoe Wing, Hameed Mohammad, Gabbi Marsh, Sophie Scott, Rey Nairn, Sofia González Torres, Shaniqua Cutinha
- 2.2. Others Present; Melissa Thong (Strategic Plan), Jo Ann Naidu, Maryanne Shaddick (Minute Secretary), Imari Morris
- 2.3. Apologies and Leave of Absence; Elizabeth Powell, Salwa Kilzi
- 2.4. Absent

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

A procedural motion called to discuss item 8.2 Strategic Plan 2030 Curtin’s Strategic Plan as the first item. Moved by Theodora Rohl. Seconded Rachel Taylor. Carried

Discussion of strategic plan. Melissa Thong said that the student experience was at the forefront of the discussions. Residential experience important – a place to live and learn. Making memories, creating positive memories. Moving away from complex framework of previous strategic plan to three key areas underpinned by Curtin values. Delivery of inspirational and life altering outcomes for students, staff and stakeholders. Open to feedback. How can we make a difference? Marcus Furnihough said there should be action on climate change. Curtin should be fully divested of fossil fuel interests and partnerships with fossil fuel companies. Theodora Rohl said that she would like to see a new approach to reconciliation and raising the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders. Tangible change that is actively helping First Nations people. Something more concrete than we had already. Dylan Botica said that it was important to recognise the Guild’s student leadership and clubs. Rey Nairn said they would want included a concrete and measureable goal for DAPE as a priority. A complaints standard. Surveys accessible via screen readers. Rey noted there was no way to get from one end of campus to the other in a wheelchair. Hameed Mohammad requested opportunities for postgraduate spaces and student spaces in general. There was a discussion about the proposed clubs hub. It was noted that parking was an issue. Adam Reader said continued investment in the humanities should form part of the strategic plan. Sophie González Torres said dedicated clubs spaces. More support for clubs in terms of grants and events. The plan should emphasise the importance of clubs as part of the student experience. As well the plan should emphasise that campus was an accessible place for queer students. It was noted there should be a process for updating names of trans students. Sofia González Torres said that Health Sciences students needed better technology. Common rooms for different groups of students was another suggestion. Build an environment of engagement and peer support. Shaniqua Cutinha said allegations against teaching staff needed to be taken more seriously and fully investigated. Melissa Thong said that any additional feedback could be sent to [strategicplanning@curtin.edu.au](mailto:strategicplanning@curtin.edu.au)

Motion that the Curtin Strategic Plan is noted.  
 Moved Theodora Rohl  
 Seconded Cassidy Pemberton  
 Carried

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 10/02/2022, as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

Moved: Zoe Wing  
 Seconded: Rey Nairn  
 Carried

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes. None

6. Items Not for Discussion

7. Reports

- 7.1. President – Submitted. As tabled. Nothing to add. Marcus Furnihough asked about Curtin’s Incident Management Team (CIMT) management of COVID-19. Theodora said the committee would be discussing it in the motion dealing COVID-19. Marcus expressed concern about the impact of student evaluations on teachers. He asked about an update on the unit pulse check. Theodora said that the Guild would be meeting with Jon Yorke and NETU. There was discussion about how students could provide feedback without negative impact to teachers. It was noted that a lot depended on how questions were framed. It was noted that the pulse check was a way to give feedback early on in the semester. Concern was noted about pulse check being anonymous and comments respectful. It was noted that the pulse check was a pilot and that it would not be perfect.
- 7.2. Vice President – Education – Submitted. As tabled. Madison Ainsworth noted a planned meeting with CAS.
- 7.3. Faculty of Business and Law Representative – Submitted. As tabled. No questions.
- 7.4. Faculty of Science and Engineering Representative – Submitted. As tabled. Rachel Taylor noted a meeting to discuss field trips taking place in tuition free trips. Earlier communication with students was required.
- 7.5. Faculty of Health Sciences Representative – Submitted. As tabled. No questions.
- 7.6. Faculty of Humanities Representative – Submitted. As tabled. No questions.
- 7.7. Student Assist – Submitted. As tabled. Hameed Mohammad asked for a report about a medical school issue. Jo-Ann Naidu said the matter was still under investigation.
- 7.8. International Students Committee President – Submitted. As tabled. No questions.

- 7.9. Postgraduate Students Committee President – Submitted. As tabled. Marcus Furnihough asked about the GradConnect program. Were there any plans to push it further and remove criteria that preferences Australian and New Zealanders? Hameed Mohammad said he would look at this. Hameed suggested writing a letter asking that our students be prioritised along with Australian citizens and New Zealanders.
- 7.10. Queer Officer – Submitted. As tabled. No questions
- 7.11. Women’s Officer – Submitted. No questions.
- 7.12. First Nations Officer – Vacant
- 7.13. Accessibility Officer – Submitted. As tabled. Rey Nairn said that they were receiving emails from unit coordinators asking what a CAP (Curtin Access Plan) was and how to implement it. Working with accessibility services on this. Theodora Rohl asked about mask exemptions and requested that she be kept informed of any issues linked to COVID.
- 7.14. Higher Education Developments – Submitted. No questions
- 7.15. Chair of the Representation Board - Verbal report. Assisting in Business and Law. Student ID app postponed to July until COVID settles down. Theodora Rohl asked if reports could be more succinct to 3 or 4 pages.

Motion: That the Representation Board notes the reports.

Moved: Amber Hilston

Seconded: Cassidy Pemberton

Carried

It was noted that observers do not vote.

## 8. Items for Discussion and Resolution

### 8.1. COVID-19 Update

Action: That the Representation board discuss the COVID-19 Update. Motion: That the Representation board notes the COVID-19 Update.

Theodora Rohl added that there were now COVID marshalls. It was noted that 10,000 people had been checked and only 10 did not show certificate. There was a drive thru COVID testing clinic. Marcus Furnihough asked about how having adequate ventilation was defined. Marcus asked if Curtin was to provide masks. Marcus asked if Curtin was going to roll out Hepa filters. Marcus asked whether communication needed to be better and have notified immediately about exposure sites. Theodora Rohl said Curtin was checking ventilation systems. Curtin was not leaning to providing masks. Theodora said the decision to move online was being made area by area. There would be no full campus lock down. Dylan Botica said that with regard to ventilation, Properties was taking the view that if a room had airconditioning and a window it would be fine. It was noted that there was a NETU petition to make the workplace safer for tutors and lecturers. Adam Reader asked what authority did COVID marshalls have to take action. Theodora Rohl said they could ask people to leave campus. Marcus Furnihough said the measures were not enough. The Guild had to do more. Marcus would like a statement from the Guild and a social media campaign. Theodora acknowledged the points raised

Moved: Theodora Rohl (President)

Seconded: Rey Nairn

Carried

### 8.2. AISA Affiliation

Action: That the Representation board discuss AISA Affiliation.

Sofia González Torres spoke to this item saying that AISA affiliation required an investment from the Guild and that Study Perth offered excellent services at no cost. Theodora Rohl asked Dylan Botica for his opinion. Dylan noted some problems with the current affiliation. Sofia said she did not think that we should affiliate at this time and suggested waiting to see how AISA went in the first year. Theodora said that if we wanted to a group or union to do well it was worth investing in their success. Hameed Mohammad advocated for a wait and see approach. Rachel Taylor asked if we could opt for a half year affiliation. Dylan Botica said that was not possible.

### 8.3. Support for Ukraine

Motion: That the Curtin Student Guild condemns the actions of the Russian Government – acknowledging the separation of a government and its citizens – regarding their attack on Ukraine and the war crimes committed thereof.

The Curtin Student Guild will show its support for the citizens of Ukraine by promoting donation links and other ways to provide support, and either support or host a rally that complies with COVID-19 safety measures.

Moved: Madison Ainsworth  
Seconded: Rey Nairn

Madison Ainsworth said her family came from Ukraine. It was important for the Guild to back this motion. Theodora Rohl said that the Vice Chancellor Harlene Hayne did not want to take a stance on this issue. Her perspective was that she did not want Russian students to feel that they did not belong here. Theodora said that she was approached by Russian students. It was noted that the Guild had set up the ability to receive donations at outlets. Marcus Furnihough said that he wanted to amend the motion. Marcus said that the student guilds must take a position against war.

Amended Motion: That the Curtin Student Guild condemn the actions of the Russian Government—acknowledging the separation of a government and its citizens—regarding their attack on Ukraine and the war crimes committed thereof.

The Guild also condemns Western powers for their cynical opportunism – leveraging the invasion to boost militarism, increase spending on war budgets and rehabilitate interventionism.

The Guild recognises the hypocrisy of Western Powers when they decry the plight of Ukrainian refugees, shed crocodile tears over invasion of sovereign nations and claim to care about Ukrainian democracy.

The Guild supports protests, defiance and acts of resistance undertaken by the Russian people against their own ruling class.

The Curtin Student Guild will show its support for the citizens of Ukraine by promoting donation links and other ways to provide support, and either support or host a rally that complies with COVID-19 safety measures.

Madison Ainsworth was amendable. Rey Nairn was amenable.

Carried

#### Minutes of Committees Reporting to the Representation Board

- 8.4. International Student Committee – Nil
- 8.5. Postgraduate Student Committee – Nil
- 8.6. Queer Collective - Nil
- 8.7. Womens Collective – Nil
- 8.8. First Nations Collective - Nil
- 8.9. Accessibility Collective - Nil
- 8.10. Student Housing Advisory Committee - Nil
- 8.11. First Year Committee – Nil

Motion: That the Representation Board notes the minutes of the committees and collectives en

bloc. Moved: Jasmyne Tweed (Chair of Representation Board)

This item was not voted on as there were no reports.

#### 9. General Business

Hameed Mohammad discussed Covid safe packs.

## 10. Next Meeting

The next ordinary meeting of the Representation Board is Thursday, the 21<sup>st</sup> of April at 5.30pm to be held at Council Chambers. Documents and motions are to be submitted no later than 4:30pm on Thursday the 14<sup>th</sup> of April 2022 to [chair.representation@guild.curtin.edu.au](mailto:chair.representation@guild.curtin.edu.au) and [secretary@guild.curtin.edu.au](mailto:secretary@guild.curtin.edu.au)

Meeting closed 7.05pm