

President's Report
Theodora Rohl (she/her)
1st Dec 2021 – 3rd Feb 2022



Theodora Rohl

Pronouns: She/Her

Theodora is your 53rd Guild President and she's dedicated to making campus a better place for everyone!

president@guild.curtin.edu.au



University meetings

3 Dec	Meeting with Fiona Notley (COO) and Melinda Simpson (Health & Safety)	Was presented with the draft Curtin COVID Risk Assessment, and given an opportunity to provide feedback
7 Dec	Monthly meeting with Harlene Hayne (Vice-Chancellor)	Introduced ourselves, went over my priorities for 2022 which I presented at Academic Board
8 Dec	Introductory meeting with Andrew Crane (Chancellor)	Introduced ourselves, went over my priorities for 2022 which I presented at Academic Board, and advocated for the Guild President and ISC President to sit on University Council, not two students who are elected separately
9 Dec	Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Working Group	Spoke about Curtin's RAP and offered areas for consideration
10 Dec	Meeting with Madison (VPE) and Jennifer Howell (Associate DVC, Learning & Teaching)	Discussed Maddie's new working group, Student Voice on Learning and Teaching
	Introductory meeting with Seth Kunin (DVC Global)	Introduced ourselves, discussed his portfolio and areas of interests. From this meeting I set up monthly meetings with him, myself and Sofia (ISC President)
	Introductory meeting with Valerie Raubenheimer (VP – Corporate Relations)	Introduced ourselves, discussed her portfolio and areas of interests
16 Dec	Introductory meeting with Jon Yorke (Academic Registrar)	Introduced ourselves, discussed his portfolio and areas of interests
6 Jan	Robertson Library Project briefing	Was shown
10 Jan	Introductory meeting with Tara Felton (Manager of Student	Introduced ourselves, discussed her portfolio and areas of interests. Set up quarterly meetings

	Discipline and Compliance)	
	Meeting with Harlene Hayne (Vice-Chancellor)	Advocated for the University taking a stance against the Australia Day national holiday. More information under Items of Significance
11 Jan	Introductory meeting with Jeremy Kilburn (Provost)	Introduced ourselves, discussed his portfolio and areas of interests
	COVID-19 Vaccination Policy meeting	Meeting with myself, Maryanne, Curtin's COO and Director of Health and Safety, to provide feedback on draft policy and procedures. More information under Items of Significance
13 Jan	Introductory meeting with Curtin Volunteers!	Introduced ourselves, talked about our plans for this year and how we can work together to activate the campus
	Meeting with Centre for Aboriginal Studies (CAS)	Discussed working together on a Survival Day statement and improving the First Nations Officer position so it suits Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students' needs
	Introductory meeting with National Tertiary Educators Union (NTEU)	Introduced ourselves and discussed our goals and where they overlap. Set up monthly meetings

Guild meetings

1 Dec	Representation Board	Elected the Chair and positions on subcommittees
	Guild Council	Elected the Chair and positions on subcommittees
	Informal executive meeting	An informal meeting for us to chat
2 Dec	Interviews for a new Graphic Designer	Interviewed two candidates, couldn't decide on who to hire at this stage
6 Dec	Weekly meeting with David (Managing Director)	
7 Dec	Exec Strategy Session	Workshopped our strategy for 2022 with Andrew from Student Assist
	Review of Curtin's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)	Went over Curtin's RAP with Madison (VPE) to give feedback from a student perspective
8 Dec	Chat with Karen Rennie (from Finance)	Learnt how to approve forms and payments
	CAPA Affiliation	Hameed and I discussed our affiliation to the Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations (CAPA), and decided that we'd affiliate this year and reassess at the end of 2022
9 Dec	Expectations Setting Workshop (for exec)	Discussed as an exec how we'd manage working together
10 Dec	Orientation Emails to Students	Discussed the Guild's first few emails we send to New to Curtin Students, with Breanna and Maryanne (Student Engagement)
16 Dec	Portfolio Managers x Exec - Student Experience	Exec met with Student Experience to discuss what they do and how we interact

	Executive Committee	Our first Executive Committee of our terms! Minutes sent to Guild Council
	Rosella Street	Met with Mick Fritschy from Rosella Street , a company who implements circular economies in communities and universities, and has sustainable endeavours, to see if they'd be a good fit for the Guild
	Session with Rachel (Sci-Eng Fac Rep)	Met with Rachel, Maddie and Jo-Ann (Student Assist) to discuss how to balance Guild and work commitments
17 Dec	Portfolio Managers x Exec - Student Assist	Exec met with Jo-Ann from Student Assist to discuss what they do and how we interact
21 Dec	Portfolio Managers x Exec - Finance	Exec met with Karen from Finance to discuss what they do and how we interact
	Weekly meeting with David (Managing Director)	
	Legal Committee	We're looking to do a full review of the current governance process of the Guild, and changing our regulations accordingly
23 Dec	Election Policy Working Group	The exec has set up a working group to assign, action and keep track of the election policies we ran on in the elections.
4 Jan	Weekly meeting with David (Managing Director)	
5 Jan	Higher Education meeting	
6 Jan	MFiles Workshop	Sally (Finance) gave the exec a much-needed MFiles tutorial
10 Jan	Weekly meeting with David (Managing Director)	
	Weekly meeting with Maryanne (Manager - Student Engagement)	
11 Jan	Activities Committee	Reviewed past events, and discussed how opening the borders might affect future events
	We All Need to Pee Campaign meeting with Cassidy (Queer Officer)	We decided that we'll meet with Properties and determine next steps from there, and in the meantime to explore ways of advocating for trans rights and safety on campus.
12 Jan	Club Funding Grant Discussion	Chat with February, Shelley and Bec about the grant and how it'll be implemented
	Higher education meeting	
	Reps Event Brainstorm	A session to brainstorm events, provide feedback and get briefed on O-Day by February
	Survival Day planning	Talked through our actions for getting the Survival Day rally and signpainting up and running
13 Jan	Executive committee	Minutes sent to Guild Council

Other meetings/activities

10 Dec	Guild Staff Awards	Presented awards to staff members. Ate my weight in arancini
16 Dec	Photoshoots!	One at the Tav and one near the Sculpture Garden. Huge shoutout to Ben (Student Engagement) for putting up with our shenanigans

Leave

13 Dec - 15 Dec	Attended the National Conference (NatCon) of the National Union of Students' (NUS), as I'd been elected as a delegate
25 Dec - 3 Jan	Guild shutdown period

Items of Significance

Introductory Meetings

To get my bearings, I've been having many introductory meetings with members of Curtin staff, Guild professional staff, and organisations such as Curtin Volunteers! and the NTEU. This has allowed me to identify where to go to for what student issue, ways of collaborating, and how this university ticks. I have set up monthly meetings with a few of these people, in order to be proactive about working together and solving student issues, rather than only communicating with them as a reaction to a problem.

Survival Day

I've been working on communicating the Guild's stance on Survival Day (26th January), organising plans for operating the Guild as per a normal business day, and promoting the upcoming [Perth Invasion Day 2022](#) Rally at Forrest Chase, 12PM on 26th January.

I have continued the Guild tradition of inviting office-based staff to volunteer to work on the Australia Day public holiday, in return for being able to take leave on another day. Reception will be open, and Student Assist services will be available. Access to building 106F will be as per a normal - for all intents and purposes, the 26th January will be a regular day at the Guild. I am also in the process of organising a signpainting session (that will start at 10:30AM on the day), and a bus to and from the rally.

As part of this endeavour, I met with Harlene Hayne (the Vice-Chancellor) and, after a quick history lesson, recommended to her that we put out a joint statement in opposition to the Australia Day public holiday, and to reinforce our support for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. She said that whilst she didn't want to do a joint statement, she would promote the Guild's opposition to the public holiday in her VC Note to Staff, and

invite staff to attend the rally. She mentioned that she might be interested in doing a joint statement next year. I am a tad disappointed with this outcome, and am thinking of ways to continue to push the University in this fashion.

I encourage reps not to limit their activism regarding Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rights to only Survival Day – they don't get to clock off, so as true supporters of them, neither do we. As a reflection of this, I am working with CAS (Centre for Aboriginal Studies) on improving the position of First Nations Officer, so that it suits the needs of the community it is representing, and I am committing to being proactive in my support and advocacy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and staff.

Curtin's COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

A draft COVID-19 Vaccination Policy and Procedure has been released for feedback and review. This policy would make full vaccination mandatory for the Curtin community. I have collected feedback on the draft policy and procedure from different areas of the Guild, and communicated that back to Fiona Notley (COO), who is leading the process. I will keep everyone updated as much as I am able.

Clubs Grant 2022

Last semester, our previous Guild President Jesse managed to secure a \$20,000 grant from the University to go towards club events. This year, with tremendous support from February and the Student Experience team, we managed to secure the grant again! This grant will go towards club events held throughout the semester, which will promote a consistent and vibrant events calendar and reduce the overlap of events a bit. This grant will also have flow-on effects for student satisfaction with the Guild, and encourage them to be more invested in what we do.

Assorted Guild Work

- Rosella Street, an online, community-driven and environmentally-conscious marketplace, reached out to me to ask if we'd be interested in using their platform. After meeting with them alongside the Student Experience team, we decided that we could use their services as a replacement for the second-hand bookstore. This will be actioned for Semester 2.

Assorted Projects

- Many student residents at Twin Dolphin Hall have sent complaints through the Guild about their parking situation. When signing their lease, they were told that parking would be subject to availability. However, they were not aware that, for hundreds of student residents, only 40 parking spots would be available. This is something I'm figuring out in the interim, and overall will be part of the parking campaign I run this year.



TOP SECRET

TL;DR!

- Lots of introductory meetings going on!
- Survival Day planning is up and running, and I'll circulate an event invite soon! I am also working with CAS on improving the position of First Nations Officer and the cultural safety of the Guild as a whole
- Vaccines may become mandatory for the Curtin community. I am providing feedback on this policy and will update everyone as this progresses
- The Guild received a \$20,000 grant from the university to go towards club events to activate the campus. Everyone say "thank you February!"
- Despite hundreds of students living at Twin Dolphin Hall, only 50 parking spots are available. Currently figuring this out

**Thanks for reading x
Teddy**

Vice President—Education Report

Report Duration: 01/12/2021- 12/01/2021

Madison Ainsworth

Leave: 13th-15th of December

Guild Meetings

Date	Meeting	Notes
01/12/2021	Guild Exec	
02/12/2021	O-Week/Fire-up	Meeting with February Was the beginnings of planning these events
07/12/2021	Strategy Session	Meeting with Exec to plan the year
08/12/2021	VPE/ISC Meetup	Meeting with Sophia as an initial fortnightly meeting
09/12/2021	Womens/VPE Meetup	Meeting with Salwa as an initial fortnightly meeting
09/12/2021	Expectations Workshop	
10/12/2021	Strategy Planning	Met with Jo-Ann and David to discuss management strategy and workload
16/12/2021	PM/Exec Meeting	
16/12/2021	Exec Committee	
16/12/2021	Support Meeting	Met with Rachel, Theodora and Jo-Ann to discuss any support that might be needed throughout the year, and as an initial catch up for how their term is going so far
17/12/2021	Introductory Session	I ran an intro session with reps to give a brief rundown about their role, support available to them, and expectations related to their roles
17/12/2021	PM/Exec Meeting	
20/12/2021	Catch up Introductory Session	Held a supplementary intro session with Shaniqua
21/12/2021	PM/Exec Meeting	
22/12/2021	Queer/VPE Meetup	Meeting with Cassidy as an initial fortnightly meeting
23/12/2021	PM/Exec Meeting	
23/12/2021	Year's Plan	Met with exec to discuss the goals the 2022 Guild has
05/01/2022	Higher Ed	Met with exec, Maryanne, and Jo-Ann
05/12/2021	HR Discussion	Met with HR
06/02/2021	Womens/VPE Meetup	Fortnightly meeting to discuss any issues that may have arisen within Salwa's portfolio
10/01/2022	Support Meeting	Met with Shaniqua, Dylan and Jo-Ann to discuss any support that might be needed throughout the year, and as an initial catch up for how their term is going so far
12/01/2022	Higher Ed	Met with exec, Maryanne, and Jo-Ann
12/01/2022	Rep Event Brainstorm	Fac reps and equity reps came together to brainstorm ideas for events and ways to improve student engagement throughout 2022
12/01/2022	Survival Day Chat	Met with Theodora to discuss and outline the day of the rally and how the guild would participate
13/01/2022	Exec Committee	

University Meetings

Date	Meeting	Notes
10/12/2021	Students Voice on Learning and Teaching	Meeting with Jennifer Howell and Theodora Rohl Initial meeting to finalise working group formation: this group is designed to keep a record of student issues that have come up along with the cause—specifically targeted at tuition free due to the university claiming that this year could not be used as an example of only having one tuition free week "failing" because of COVID's impact Side note-if anyone is interested in joining this working group please fill in this form (https://forms.gle/RtcRpov9GZWcZhUU7)
06/01/2022	Robertson Library Project Briefing	Went through slides of what the library will look like
13/01/2022	Survival Day Discussion	Met with CAS to discuss the statement that the Guild will put out regarding Survival Day, as well as a discussion on starting the process to make the Guild space more friendly and accessible
13/01/2022	NTEU Introductory Meeting	Introductory meeting with NTEU to outline goals for 2022

NUS Meetings

Date	Meeting	Notes
07/01/2022	Introductory meeting with Luc Velez	Met with Education Officer, Luc Velez, regarding any support the Guild might need from the NUS thus far, any campaigns we are planning on holding, and heard about the campaigns and key points Luc is planning on focusing on throughout the year

Other Projects/Events

16/12/2021

Tav Photoshoot

16/12/2021

Happy Holidays Photoshoot

06/01/2022

Mfiles Workshop

06/01/2022

New Years Resolution Filming

Business & Law – January 2022 Report

University

Name	Date	Comments
Faculty Courses Committee	9 November 2021	FBL Rep for 2021 invited me. Could only attend online but was introduced to the PVC and other important staff members in the faculty.
Strategic Review Board	2 December 2021	Unable to attend.

Guild

Name	Date	Comments
Guild Induction	30 November 2021	
Social Media Onboarding Session	20 December 2021	The photo Ben took of me was horrible :/
Legal Committee	21 December 2021	
Rep Events Brainstorm	12 December 2021	

Student Disciplinary Panels

Date	Comments
3 December 2021	
10 December 2021	
14 December 2021	
16 December 2021	

TL;DR

There is a Student Disciplinary Panel (SDP) scheduled for Friday 14 January which I will not be able to attend – thanks to Dylan for being my proxy.

This month preparation for Orientation has kicked off. I have not received any enquiries from students, but assume that will change once people begin preparing for the start of Semester 1.

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING – REPRESENTATION BOARD REPORT # 1

For the Representation Board held on Thursday the 20th of January 2022, A.D.

SUMMARY OF MEETINGS

Meeting	Date	Type of Meeting	Comments
Handover Meeting	05/12/21	Guild	Discussed Handover Report. Added to a number of pre-existing group chats.
Engineering Board	09/12/21	University	Final meeting of the year. Mostly just updates on items actioned throughout this year.
Social Sessions	17/12/21	Guild	Went over Social Media expectations and responsibilities.
EECMS Club Formation Meeting	17/12/21	Guild x University	Expectations for the club. Assigning tasks to help club start-up running.
Coffee Catch-Up – Student Engagement Coordinatro	12/01/22	University	Meeting with Student Engagement Coordinator about her role. Following-up Action Items from the Sci-Eng Student Consultative Committee (SCC) last year.
Accessibility in Labs	12/01/22	Guild	Meeting with Health Sciences Rep and Accessibility Officer about how to make (Chemistry) Labs more accessible for wheelchair users.
Reps Event Brainstorm	12/01/22	Guild	Meeting to discuss ideas for Guild events this year.

FINAL NOTES

This report was submitted 12th of January after 9pm, 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.

- Faculty Reps Meet-up
- Coffee Catch-Up – Director of Student Engagement

The start to my term has been somewhat 'easy' with a limited number of urgent tasks needing my attention. This has left me with not much to do apart from respond to emails. I am hopeful that as students return to University I will be able to fulfil more aspects of my role.

Faculty of Health Sciences Report
Amber Hilston (she/her)
Representation Board – January 2022

Guild and University meetings, progress and planning

01/12	1 st Representation Board Meeting	Appointed outstanding committee team members for 2022.
	Meeting with Theo (Guild President) – Clarifying Handover Document	I suggested the idea of presenting infographics on social media to inform students about which faculty umbrella they fall under and who to contact as part of initial posting before Semester 1.
06/12	Meeting with Hameed (PSC) & Sofia (ISC) – Signatory Letter (Roger Cook Campaign)	Brainstorming collaboratively to support graduate programs for international students studying nursing. A signatory letter was proposed to address Roger Cook about availability of graduate programs for international students.
	Meeting with Maryanne (Manager of Student Engagement), Hamed & Sofia	Sought advice from Maryanne on how to best proceed with the letter. Maryanne advised for Hameed to gather further knowledge about how many positions were available and contacting university alumni for co-signatory permissions.
10/12	Meeting with Ben (Socials Team)	Ben prepared an induction for me to learn/access social media platforms and understand responsibilities. Discussed the idea of designing infographics for students to recognise which key events/information are available to them. Also agreed this would help more students follow/connect with the Facebook group. Ben made note of it and mentioned we could pursue this. I scheduled posts and introduced myself to the Facebook group.
17/12	Introductory meeting with Madison (Vice President of Education) – Representation Board	Discussed what is required of Guild Representatives, who to feedback to and best course of action for student concerns. Regular meetings were suggested and availabilities were confirmed.
21/12	Met with Jo-Ann (Student Assist	A student reached out via email about

	Manager)	sudden changes to the enrolment date for 3 rd year students (changed from 6 th of Dec to 31 st of Jan). Jo-Ann advised to seek further response from other students before addressing coordinator of Nursing personally. I contacted the student affected encouraging more responses directed to my email.
22/12	Meeting with Adrian (Dean of Education)	This meeting had been cancelled with apologies by both parties. The regular fortnightly meeting was also cancelled for two weeks prior as Adrian was busy. Regular meetings to commence 12 th of January 2022 due to the holiday period.
	Contacted Rey (Accessibility Officer)	I reached out to Rey as we have had many conversations about the inaccessibility of laboratories on campus for wheelchair-using students. I am yet to confirm their availability to discuss moving forward with this issue.
	Christmas & New Year Holiday Period	Observed holiday break.
10/01	Organised Meeting with Rey (Accessibility Officer) and Rachel (Representative of Science & Engineering)	Set date and time moving forward with proposal for making labs more accessible for students. Rachel was invited to assess the scope of the issue to include science and engineering students.
	Arranged to meet with Maryanne (Manager of Student Engagement)	Preparing O-Week material (Flyers etc).
	Preparing a summary for meeting with Adrian	Discussing progress and plans in Health Science Faculty. I gathered this information from Guild staff who are students through in-person meetups. Sofia mentioned that nursing students' labs and prac times are clashing.
	Following-up Student concerns prior to and after the holiday period.	Responding to emails that were addressed over the weekend for nursing students.
12/01	Meeting with Rey (Accessibility Officer) and Rachel (Representative of Science and Engineering)	Discussed issues around accessible lab spaces and ideas for permanent solutions. Many ideas raised were feasible, including table top fumehoods. Rey will reach out to Max Massey regarding an official meeting.
	Faculty Representative Event Brainstorm meeting with February (Vice President of Activities)	Discussions around potential events for O-Day and semester one was discussed. I suggested both a forum meet-up for Health

		Science students, as well as a fundraiser for a health issue toward the end of the semester.
	Meeting with Adrian (Dean of Education)	Adrian did not show or advise that he would not be in the office. Meeting did not proceed.
	Meeting with Maryanne (Manager of Student Engagement)	Discussed with Maryanne O-Day flyer content and finalising ideas. We discussed buttons for the health sciences faculty students to wear to build sense of community.

TLDR: This far in my term, I have been meeting relevant staff and becoming acquainted with Guild team members. I have received student queries and responded to them. I have been active on the Facebook group with posts leading up to Semester 1. I have attempted to meet with Adrian on multiple occasions as per compulsory meeting requirements. However, he has repeatedly been unavailable. I have been supporting the PSC and ISC in their endeavour for the letter to Roger Cook for graduate nursing programs. Steady progress is being made towards accessible lab solutions between myself Rey and Rachel. I have begun planning merchandise for O-Day with Maryanne.

Humanities Reps Board Report 1/12/21 - 13/01/21

University

Name	Date	Comments
Guild Council	1/12/21	
Representation Board	1/12/21	
Social Media Session	8/12/21	Meeting with Ben in regards to running social media group
Meeting with Student engagement and club support	14/12/21	Meeting about university engaging with clubs more
Representative Introductory Meeting With VPE	17/12/21	
Representative events brain storm	12/1/22	
Humanities Course Committee Meeting	12/1/22	

Summary:

Fairly quiet first month, attended a few meetings and orientating myself with the position. Feeling a lot more comfortable in the position now and excited for the next month

Student Assist – Representation Board report – January 2022

Case statistics for Student Assist is as follows:

	Oct	Nov	Dec
Academic sessions	188	307	240
Financial Counselling sessions	17	7	19
LifeHacks	14	56	17

Academic sessions in the month of December were mainly focused on appeals.

Emergency Relief

Student Assist provided emergency relief to students during the month of December in the form of Student Assist's Grants and vouchers.

Complaint against Curtin International

On 5 Jan 2022 Student Assist submitted a complaint through Curtin's formal complaints department (Integrity Standards Unit) against Curtin International. Details summarised below:

- Curtin provides students with Confirmation of Enrolment (COE) dates that does not cover the essential times after the exam period. For 2021, the COE end date was indicated as 12 Dec 2021. Exam results were released 1 Dec 2021.
- This is detrimental to international students as COE is used for Student VISA application and Department of Home Affairs will only allow Student Visas for the duration of the COE.
- Curtin's current process significantly disadvantages international students by denying them the time for further assessments, to apply for the various appeals and not considering Curtin's the limited service period.
- Curtin's current arrangement forces international students, needing to participate in any of Curtin processes after exam week, to apply for new COEs and pay for a VISA extension.
- Student Assist has requested an additional 2-3 months to be added from the date the results will be released.

TL;DR

Student Assist submitted an official complaint to Curtin in relation to the end date of international students' Confirmation of Enrolment (COE).



*Ngaala kaaditj Wadjuck Nyungar moort, kura wer yeye,
keyen kaadak nidja boodja.*

*Postgraduate Student Committee acknowledges the
Wadjuk people of the Noongar nation as the Traditional
Custodians of this land on which Curtin University stands.
We pay our respects to their elder's past, present and
emerging.*

PSC President Report

SUBMISSION DATE: 13/01/2022

FOR MEETING DATE: 20/01/2022

NAME: Hameed Mohammad

POSITION

PSC President, Chair of PSC Committee.

GUILD MEETINGS

Date	Meeting	Comments
03/01/22	PSC recruitment	PSC appointed Business and Law Representative & PSC Councillor
04/01/22	PSC Health Science Rep Meeting, Student Engagement, Digital team meeting	Resignation of PSC Health Science Rep Student Engagement meeting regarding orientation. PSC marketing.
05/01/22	(a) Nursing Students Forum (b) Guild Team	Student input in the letter to Health Minister Letter Writing Campaign
07/01/22	ISC President	Pre-discussion regarding letter writing campaign, addressing student issues, change of nursing student's uniform.
09/01/22	PSC Team Chats	PSC board discussion, postgrad Humanities changes.
12/01/22	Student Welfare & PSC Secretary	Student welfare case, PSC secretary training.
13/01/22	Curtin Mentoring	PSC Mentorship Program
17/01/22	PSC Board Meeting	Liaising with CAPA, discussion with Student Assist and Student Engagement to make postgrad experience better.

UNIVERSITY MEETINGS

Date	Meeting	Comments
07/01/2022	Professor Archie Clements	Co-signatory Request
07/01/2022	HOD School of Nursing	Phill Della – letter writing campaign, addressing student issues, change of nursing student's uniform.

Meeting with Dr Phill Della

PSC & ISC strongly request DOH to extend Gradconnect program for onshore international nursing students.

When WA opens its borders from 5 February, we will face a challenge in managing the COVID-19 pandemic. WA hospitals already have staff shortages, and we are recruiting nurses from overseas.

Expanding the GradConnect program and opening it to international nursing students who have qualified in WA provides an opportunity to alleviate the existing nursing shortage and assist in meeting the demand for additional nursing staff when an Omicron outbreak hits WA.

International nursing students are eligible to work in WA as they have gained clinical experience in WA private and public healthcare settings. They have the advantage of AHPRA registration and they are eligible for an Australian work visa for three years.



Postgraduate Student Committee 2022 Membership Category & Name of Member

PSC is pleased to have committee members from various cultures and diverse backgrounds who are expertise in their fields. PSC acknowledges every committee member's contribution to bring positive changes.

(1) PSC President & Chair of PSC Board: Hameed Mohammad.
(2) Vice President – Research: Jessica Frigger
(3) Vice President – Education: Jesse Hogan
(3) Secretary: Doris Edwin-Asomugha
(5) Humanities Representative: Siana Wardell
(6) Science and Engineering Representative: Md Shakir
(7) Business and Law Representative: Avin Sharma
(8) Health Sciences Representative: Position to be confirmed
(9) PSC Councillor: Mitra Elmi
(10) PSC Councillor: Carlos Vilamayor
(11) PSC Councillor: Hana Tambunan
(12) PSC Councillor: Gail Yawen Liang
(13) PSC Councillor: Alphy Chacko

PSC – Improving Student Achievement

PSC is dedicated to supporting postgrads in their studies and improving student achievements 🏆



PSC Thesis Fest Workshop (7th December 2021)

In association with Curtin library, PSC organised Thesis Fest for HDR & PhD students.

Outcomes of the workshop include:

- Learn a range of practical tools and techniques to immediately increase your confidence and competence around networking
- Learn how to make a positive first impression within 10 seconds
- Uncover some of the key characteristics that lead to strong, supportive relationships and expanding professional networks
- Learn practical ways of staying in touch and maintaining your professional network both online and offline
- Engage in “speed networking” in a fun and relaxed environment – meet at least 5 new contacts
- Remove common fears or mental blocks around networking
- Develop a personal action plan to expand and strengthen your network over the next 6 months



UPCOMING PROJECTS

- Start of Semester Party: date to be confirmed.
- Postgrad & HDR Students Forum: date to be confirmed.
- Research & Referencing Masterclass: date to be confirmed.



Yaankga – thank you in Noongar 😊

Thank you for reading!!



QUEER OFFICER'S Report

REPRESENTATION BOARD 2022 – 20/01/22

Submitted 13/01/22

MEETINGS

22/12	QO Catch-up with VP-E
11/1	Activities Committee
11/1	'We Need To Pee' Campaign Catch-Up with President
12/1	Reps Event Brainstorm
13/1	Meeting with Dax, previous QO

PROJECTS

(what I've been up to)

Discord Server

I spent a considerable amount of time upgrading the Discord server by changing the bot that was used to help run the server smoothly. I spent an afternoon changing it over to one that is easier for me as an admin to use, and easier for the people in the server to interact with.

The bot itself does things like lets the user assign themselves pronoun roles, lets me and the other mods see when messages have been edited or deleted and can also can auto-delete messages with certain words that I tell it to, such as slurs.

I also updated the Safer Spaces agreement specific for the Queer Department server with the help of the moderators to best fit the space, as the previous ones didn't have anything specific for online spaces.

EVENTS

On 26th of December, I held a small Discord games night for those who may have been lonely over the holidays. There was a turn-out of about 5 people, and we played some Jackbox, and Gartic Phone, which is an online game. Those who came all said they enjoyed it, and a couple said they'd love to do it again.

Discord games nights are something I'm hoping to do on a regular basis, I just need to find a way to work it around my casual job, as the shifts for it are at night.

OVERALL COMMENTS

It's been a good start to my term. It's been great to interact with the community on the Discord and get to better know one of the platforms I'll primarily talk to them on. It's also been great to start getting to know the new team of representatives I'm working with this year.

I've also started drafting my KPIs, as I've been having plenty of ideas about what I want to do within the Queer Department over the upcoming year.

One thing I'm planning to do over the next couple of weeks or so will be to get a couple of surveys into the community, both on Discord and on the socials to see what they want to see from me and the department this year so I take what they say into consideration before I finalise my KPIs.

I'm excited to see what I'll be getting up to over the year ahead.

TL;DR

Over the past month and a half since I've started my term, I've updated aspects of the Discord server and interacted the community there and started planning for the year ahead through drafting my KPIs and thinking about events etc.

Cassidy Pemberton

Queer Officer 2022



**Women's Officer Report - Representation Board
20/01/2022**

Type	Date	Name	Comments
University Meetings	30/11/21	Induction Day	
	01/12/21	Representation Board	
Guild Meetings	09/12/21	Women/VPE meet ups	
	09/12/21	Social Session	Went through the use of social media
	06/01/22	Women/VPE meet ups	
Student Meetings	15/12/21	Discord Call	Student sought for support services

Projects

Project Name	Updates	Comments
Discord Server	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 33 Members Low engagement 	When the collectives start up, I believe they would be helpful to up the engagement
Facebook Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1249 Follows Low engagement 	Though the most follows, they rarely interact with posts, I will need to edit the way I post to make it more engaging.
Instagram Page	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 558 Followers Medium engagement 	Steadily growing, content being posted is feminism, good vibes and general behind the scenes posts.
Equity Space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slight use. 	The equity space has had many products come in which was advertised on social media, most products are gone at this point. Shows that students are taking initiative to come in and take what is needed. Due for a redecoration.
Respectful Relationships		From 2021, needs to be followed up on progress.

Events

Event	Date/Time	Location	Activity	Attendance	Comments
N/A					

To be planned

- Guild-O-Day Stall
- Joint University's Women's Event.
- An online event (during orientation week)

TL; DR

Meet with different people to begin basic understand of guild process. Social media is going steady, improvement to be made. No current events.

Salwa Kilzi

Women's Officer 2022

Submitted 06/01/2022



Accessibility Department

January Report 2022

Rey Nairn

Initial Meetings

- I met with Universal Design Working Group (UDWG) in December 2021 to discuss various accessibility issues at Curtin.
 - iLecture Captioning: Chair of UDWG to write letter to VC stressing importance of immediate implementation of captioning. I have been asked to mobilise students if that letter is ignored.
 - Abilities Collective @ Curtin: Basically staff version of the Accessibility Collective, consists of Advocacy and Social bodies meeting monthly.
 - Terms of Reference for UDWG: Reframing accessibility measures from “nice to have” to “basic stuff that should’ve always been here.”
 - Inherent Requirements Project: Goal is to update all Inherent Course Requirements and publish in new format. Some are already live – concerning due to lack of official review process. Concerns: Only currently available as PDF, no standardised format, subjective language, questionable legal defensibility, and not confirmed/discussed with schools. Independent review process importance was stressed prior but seems to have been ignored.
 - DAIP Review: On track to begin in 2022 with student and staff consultation to begin in January.
- Had brief (unofficial) discussion with Kai Schweizer about their progress on the Respectful Relationships module – I offered Accessibility Dept/possibility of wider Guild support should he need more voices to get changes implemented.
- Mentioned accessible bathroom availability/suitability during Activities meeting – Jess Bourne is connecting me with folks who may know what’s going on there so we can get some improvement.
- Met with Amber (Health Sci) and Rachel (Sci-Eng) to discuss Science Lab Accessibility. Discussed ‘Plan of Attack’ for Chemistry Labs, and potential demands/alternative arrangements for disabled students.
 - I am working on a Google Form for students to use to express interest in consulting on accessibility measures in labs. This will be ready to be distributed before semester 1. Will be shared via AD, HS, and SE Facebook groups, as well as AD (+ possibly other equity) Instagram pages/stories/socials.
 - Once that form goes out I will email Prof Max Massi to organise meeting with myself, Amber, and Rachel. If other reps would like to be involved as part of their portfolio, please send me an email and I will CC you in. If you’d like to be involved in the consulting process either send an email or sign up when the form is released.

Meetings to be Planned

- Meeting between Myself, Theo, and Erica Schurmann.
- Meeting with Jackie from AccessAbility Services.
- Alana Kelly, organiser of Staff Abilities Collective @Curtin.

Initiatives

Awareness/Acceptance Campaign(s)

- I'm planning a social media campaign to raise awareness/acceptance for a range of different conditions/neurodivergencies/disabilities etc.
- Will be utilising International Days/Weeks/Months of Disability Awareness to educate and promote acceptance and accommodations for rare, underdiagnosed, and "invisible" disabilities.
- Will also be explaining the different models of Disability at some stage (likely Semester 1).
- Will attempt to highlight intersectionality as it relates to disability/healthcare (eg; during Pride Month, International Women's Day, National CTG Day/NAIDOC Week, etc.)
- Might throw in a hot take about Identity First vs. Person First Language

Discord Server

- Hoping to go live by Jan 31st, announcement pending.

Socials

- Have been posting RE: Surveys, EOI for Working Groups. Reposted WD content to stories.
- Feel free to send me stuff you want shared on Accessibility socials.

O-Day

- Hoping to make up small-ish "Survival Guide" for new students with disabilities incorporating things like:
 - Best routes to get from South end to North end and back
 - How to read confusing signage on campus
 - Guild Rep contact details + socials
 - Library guide (ie; where the buildings are, which building has what)
 - When to ask for Guild help/What the Guild can help with
 - Actually Accessible™ bathrooms
 - Best food on campus (Obviously Guild Cafes)

TL;DR

I've met with Universal Design Working Group and been updated on the in-progress issues. Planning to plan meetings with University Staff to discuss issues/get to know them and their roles. Social media campaign and Discord server announcement in progress. Science Lab plan of attack beginning with Chemistry Dept by end of January. O-Day planning going smoothly.

Higher Education report 15 November 2021 – 12 January 2022

Australian Research Council (ARC) Reforms

<https://ministers.dese.gov.au/robert/new-direction-australian-research-council-help-secure-australias-recovery>

ARC will align its programs with the Government's research commercialisation agenda. For future rounds, the ARC will recommend 70 per cent of its applied research grants fall under the six National Manufacturing Priorities

- The National Manufacturing Priorities are:
- Resources Technology & Critical Minerals Processing
- Food & Beverage
- Medical Products
- Recycling & Clean Energy
- Defence
- Space

Australian Research Council (ARC) funding applications. The Conversation

<https://theconversation.com/ministerial-interference-is-an-attack-on-academic-freedom-and-australias-literary-culture-174329>

- ARC funding is highly competitive. The success rate for applications is 19%.
- Acting Education Minister Stuart Robert vetoed 6 applications because they did not demonstrate value for taxpayers' money nor contribute to the national interest
- The Australian University Heads of English, the peak body for the study and research of literature in Australia, has released a [statement](#) calling on the minister to "reinstate the defunded projects.
- The rejected projects were in the humanities, and four of the six were in literary studies. The applications that were vetoed offered a snapshot of how literature has long been part of everyday life, examining topics such as Elizabethan theatre, popular narratives, science fiction and fantasy.

Academics condemn government's 'shortsighted' decision to veto research grants. The Guardian

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2022/jan/11/academics-condemn-governments-short-sighted-decision-to-veto-research-grants>

A [petition](#) with nearly 1,500 signatories, including those of high-profile authors JM Coetzee, Michelle de Kretser, Alexis Wright and Amanda Lohrey, has called for Robert "to reinstate the defunded projects and commit to legislating the complete independence of the ARC from government interference and censorship".

"That two-thirds of the six censored grants should be in literary studies demonstrates a dismissive attitude to the value of the imagination and creativity," it said.

In a separate [open letter](#), published on Tuesday, eminent academics have called for the ARC to be “allowed to return to its core mission of funding fundamental curiosity-driven research without political interference”.

The letter, addressed to Robert and Sue Thomas, the outgoing chief executive of the Australian [Research Council](#), has been signed by more than 60 current and past Australian laureate fellows.

Laureate fellowships are awarded by the ARC to the most respected professors in their fields, with only 17 granted yearly. Among the letter’s signatories is Prof Brian Schmidt, the Nobel prize-winning astrophysicist and Australian National University vice-chancellor.

Curtin research boosted by more than \$3.7 million in ARC funding

<https://news.curtin.edu.au/media-releases/curtin-research-boosted-by-more-than-3-7-million-in-arc-funding/>

Curtin University research projects have been awarded more than \$3.7 million in the latest Discovery Project (DP) and Linkage Project funding rounds from the Australian Research Council (ARC).

The ten successful Curtin DP research teams will delve into a range of diverse topics including unlocking Earth’s fossil archives, exploring clean energy production, the social and justice impacts of drug use and whether money really motivates work performance, Curtin’s successful Linkage Project will look to improve building safety by the early detection of structural conditions.

General Info

<https://www.arc.gov.au/grants/discovery-program/discovery-projects>

<https://www.arc.gov.au/grants>

ALP Higher Education Policy. The Australian

<https://alp.org.au/policies/future-made-in-australia-skills-plan>

Universities and TAFE could each get a share of more than \$1.2 billion in funding if Labor wins the next election. The sector says it needs more.

Labor has promised to make TAFE free and fund up to 20,000 additional university places if it wins the election.

- The policy would prioritise First Nations students and those living in remote areas, in a bid to plug the nation’s skills shortage.
- NTEU national president Alison Barnes said the policy did not go far enough to match the devastation felt by the sector.
- Labor’s higher education policy for the 2022 election has nothing like the largesse of 2019, when it promised to step up university funding by \$10bn over 10 years.
- Australian National University higher education analyst Andrew Norton estimates Labour’s promise of 20,000 places is about a 3 per cent boost. It would cost less than \$500m. To put this in context, the [federal budget](#) forecasts tuition subsidies of just over \$7 billion a year.
- Under the Coalition’s [Job-Ready Graduates](#) policy, which began in 2021, the link between funding and student places is not straightforward, which explains Labor’s “up to” caveat.

- In earlier funding systems, the idea of a student place was central. A student place was the equivalent of one year's study for a full-time student. Each university had a minimum number of places it had to deliver for its funding. New places were often allocated in specific numbers by discipline or course.
- Under the current system, universities are funded without setting minimum numbers of student places. Universities decide how to distribute that money between student places, which under Job-ready Graduates have a wide range of dollar values.
- In 2021, law, business and most arts student places have an annual public subsidy of \$1,100. An extra \$1 million in public funding would finance 909 of those places. But nursing, engineering and science have a public subsidy of \$16,250, so \$1 million would cover only 62 places.
- The Job-ready Graduates framework creates a tension between maximising opportunities to study, which is done most effectively in courses with low subsidies, and promoting courses with in-demand skills, which consume more of each university's available funding.

New report urges expansion of work experience for uni students

The federal government has called for university students to be offered more work experience opportunities in the wake of a new report which calls for cadetships with employers to be included in degrees.

The government-commissioned report – University-industry collaboration in teaching and learning – also calls for more short courses to be offered by universities to “to align what higher education provides with the changing needs of industry”.

Universities Australia has welcomed recommendations aimed at building on partnerships between industry and the higher education sector, following today's release of the University-Industry Collaboration in Teaching and Learning Review.

Australian Strategy for International Education 2021-2030

<https://ministers.dese.gov.au/tudge/new-way-forward-international-education>

<https://www.dese.gov.au/australian-strategy-international-education-2021-2030>

A new federal government backed strategy to revive the international education industry calls on universities to pull back on the Chinese market and also make efforts to shift students into courses that will ease Australian skill shortages if they choose to stay here after they graduate.

A key element of the 10 year strategy is to use international students to fill skill shortages, linking to another government initiative to offer many international students a longer stay in Australia, with work rights, once they complete their qualification.

From now on, graduates of masters degrees by coursework will be able stay in work for three years, instead of two.

As well as calling for more diversification of students' countries of origin and their areas of study, the strategy urges universities and other education providers to offer more online courses to students in their home countries, push for more overseas research students to boost critical fields such artificial intelligence and quantum computing, and ensure that international students feel a sense of “belonging” in Australia.

The strategy comes as Australian Bureau of Statistics data shows the dollar value of international education – Australia's fourth largest export in 2019 – has dropped by more than half as a result of the pandemic. In the September quarter this year, education exports fell to \$5.1bn, down from \$10.3bn in the September quarter of 2019.

The strategy states that while Australia will continue “to cultivate strong relationships” with China and India – its two top student source countries – the government would work with the education sector to

“diversify the student cohort”. Ironically, during the pandemic the proportion of students from China increased because Chinese students were more likely to remain studying online than students in other countries. Chinese students made up 27 per cent of international students in 2019, but this rose to 29 per cent in 2021 (up to August).

Mr Tudge also said Australia had an “enormous opportunity” for massive growth in international education by offering more high-quality offshore courses, using digital distribution, and taking advantage of increasing demand for short courses.

The creation of a “diversification index” for universities is a key feature of a new 10-year strategy for international education, as federal data shows Australia has a higher concentration of Chinese students than the US, UK or Canada.

The Strategy identifies four priority areas for the next decade in the Australian international education sector:

- Diversification
- Alignment with Australia’s workforce and skills needs
- Students at the centre
- Growth and global competitiveness.

New education chief Fiona Nash charged with bridging rural gap

Former Nationals deputy leader Fiona Nash has been appointed the nation’s first Regional Education Commissioner and will work with governments and education and rural groups to secure better results for country Australians.

Regionalisation Minister Bridget McKenzie said Ms Nash would be charged with championing the educational needs of rural students after a 2019 review led by former Victorian premier Denis Napthine.

Ms Nash, who has been appointed initially to serve a three-year term, was the strategic adviser for regional engagement and government relations at Charles Sturt University since 2018 and a director of the NSW Skills Board in 2021.

Gen Z hit hardest mentally by pandemic, survey finds

New York: The ages between 13 and 24 can be particularly fraught, and the coronavirus pandemic is taking an extra toll on this age group, a new survey has found.

While the world’s attention has been focused on the physical ravages of COVID-19, the depth of the [mental health challenges are slower to emerge](#). And none may be as deeply affected as the generation coming of age — or trying to — during one of the most tumultuous times in recent human history.

New research is starting to assess the psychological toll, the latest being a poll taken jointly by MTV Entertainment Group and The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research and released on Monday in the US.

While about a third of respondents ages 13 to 56 said the pandemic was a major source of stress, nearly half of those ages 13 to 24 said it had had a profound impact on their mental health and their lives in general.

Among Americans in Gen Z — born between 1997 and 2012 — 46 per cent said the pandemic has made it harder to pursue their education or career goals, compared with 36 per cent of millennials and 31 per cent in Generation X. Dating and romance showed a similar gap, with 40 per cent of Gen Z respondents describing the particular dampening effect of the pandemic on their attempts to find love.

Gen Zers also found it more difficult to maintain solid friendships, with 45 per cent of them feeling that way compared with 39 per cent of Americans in Gen X, who range in age from 41 to 56.

They were people like 16-year-old Ivy Enyenihi, who was hunkered down attempting remote learning last year, with little in-person interaction, and college student Tanner Boggs, 21, who told the AP his academics as well as mental and physical health took hits as he spent last school year in his apartment bedroom, his motivation to learn ebbing.

The findings correlate to what's being seen on the ground in health and education arenas, the AP said. Months of remote schooling and limited social interaction have taken their toll among teens and young adults, and they are reporting higher rates of depression and anxiety. That's on top of the academic setbacks suffered during online schooling.

Andrew Deeks appointed vice-chancellor of Murdoch University

Murdoch University has chosen Andrew Deeks, the president of University College Dublin, as its next vice-chancellor.

Professor Deeks, a former head of the engineering school at the University of Western Australia, said he was thrilled to be returning to the state.

Professor Deeks has led University College Dublin since 2014 – he was the first Australian to head an Irish university – and previously served as pro vice-chancellor (science) at Durham University.

A civil engineer who was educated at the University of Western Australia, his main research focus is in computational dynamics.

Professor Deeks will start his term as Murdoch vice-chancellor in April next year. Until then former Deakin University vice-chancellor Jane den Hollander will continue as interim vice-chancellor.

Secrecy and obfuscation: the covert jobs cull happening inside universities. Crikey

<https://www.crikey.com.au/2021/10/29/universities-job-losses-2021/>

- [Between 20,000 and 40,000 job losses in the sector](#)
- There are no consistent standards by which they have to report their employment figures.
- More than 70% of teaching staff at universities are casuals
- The National Tertiary Education Union (NTEU) estimates about 100,000 were hired as casuals at the beginning of 2020.
- The Australia Institute (public policy think tank based in Canberra), which relies on ABS figures, claims most of the 40,000 jobs lost this year have been permanent, full-time positions, and all at public institutions.
- The NTEU reports that at least 2129 courses being axed across the sector and another 510 programs cancelled.

Huge salaries, but then crying poor. Are universities their own worst enemies? Crikey

<https://www.crikey.com.au/2021/10/28/universities-huge-salaries-then-cry-poor/>

- Between 1997 and 2017, middle management roles grew 122%, and senior management 110%. Regular professional staff grew at just 37%. Support staff declined
- VC salaries increased
- Corporatisation of unis – makeup of councils, financial entities universities asked to do a lot more, no longer just educational institutions, but large, semi-corporate, state-owned entities
- The net asset holdings of Australia's public universities is about \$61 billion.

How the pandemic reshaped universities — and delivered on a Coalition dream

<https://www.crikey.com.au/2021/10/28/university-covid-19-funding-cuts/>

- Job-ready Graduates Package



Student Guild of Curtin University

Representation Board – Meeting #2

To be held at 5:30pm on Thursday the 20th of January 2022

In 100.301

Motion: Survival Day Rally Support

Motion: That the Curtin Student Guild support the Indigenous Community of Australia and the Survival Day Rally on the 26th of January

Moved: Theodora Rohl

Seconded: Write seconder name here.

Background:

On 26th January 1788, the British flag was raised on Australian soil for the first time, as Arthur Phillip took formal possession of the colony of New South Wales. Thus began the forced dispossession of Indigenous land and the genocide of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This date has only been celebrated as "Australia Day" since 1994 – the first Australia Day was 30th July 1915, to celebrate Australia's evolving national identity in the wake of World War I. There has been pushback on Australia Day being on 26th January for a long time, and support for the Changing the Date campaign is gaining momentum.

This year the Curtin Student Guild is continuing our action that has been taken since 2016 by inviting office-based staff to continue working on the 26th and not observing the holiday, as well as holding a signpainting session from which students will be bussed to the rally (Facebook link: <https://bit.ly/3noSxMB>) .

This land was stolen and sovereignty was never ceded. The legacy of colonialism continues to echo in every aspect of our lives- from the structure of our government, to the justice system, right down to what we eat and how we measure the seasons.

It is our duty as those who live on this land to support and seek justice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, not only on the Australia Day public holiday, but for every day we set foot on Australian soil. This land always was, and always will be, Aboriginal land.

Confidentiality:

Open