

President's Guild Council Report June

Prepared by: Jesse Naylor Zambrano

Covering Dates: 10/6/21 - 19/7/21

Submitted to: July Guild Council

Leave: 5/7-9/7 (5 days)

1. Meetings

1.1 University Meetings

Date	Meeting	Comments
16/6	Academic Board Executive	
17/6	Library Building Project and Arrangements for 2022	
22/6	Students as Partners Community of Practice	Meeting with other areas of the university that work with students as partners
23/6	VC and Guild President Monthly Meeting	Raised fixing room bookings system and tuition free weeks, sought updates on education issues including in-person learning in semester 2 and status of Learning for Tomorrow consultation
24/6	Filming Guild Clubs Video	Extra promotion for Guild clubs
24/6	Student Representation on Faculty Health Sciences Committees and Working Parties	Met Deputy PVC Health Sciences who wanted to know how to get students onto committees and improve retention. Referred to work with Kat and implement SaP guidelines for culture change and more student support.
24/6	Curtin Union Taskforce	Update and preparing for University Academic Board
25/6	University Academic Board	Asked what Curtin is doing to safely return international students, and for more information
19/7	Sem 2 Orientation Welcome Ceremony	Spoke at ceremony

1.2 Guild Meetings

Date	Meeting	Comments
16/6	Legal Committee	
17/6	Representation Board	
17/6	Guild Executive	
21/6	NUS Education Presidents Roundtable	Great to see other student union presidents from around the country and hear which issues are impacting all of us.
22/6	Holiday Content Planning	Meeting with Maryanne to plan the Guild Elections Information Campaign, First Nations Rep EOI communications, and other relevant posts over the holidays.
22/6	Exec and PMs Meeting	
24/6	Guild Council	
24/6	President and ISC President Meeting	
30/6	Semester 2 Campus Culture Strategy	Meeting with VPA to discuss rollout of O-Week and Semester 2 events
30/6	Club Grant Plans	Meeting with VPA, Student Experience and Clubs Support to discuss how we will coordinate the announcement and rollout of extra clubs grant
30/6	Ecosia Discussion	Meeting with Sci-Eng Rep Jason to discuss how to proceed with Ecosia motion actioning
1/7	Guild Executive	
1/7	Campus Activation Interview	Interview with Grok writer Thomas Blake about activating campus and the extra clubs grant
1/7	Legal Committee	
12/7-13/7	NUS Education Conference WA Hub	Organised for WA Edcon attendees to have a venue to tune in together. Facilitated WA State Breakout to plan for NUS Education National Week of Action in Week 3 of Semester

15/7	Guild Executive	
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1.3 Other Meetings

Date	Meeting	Comments
14/6	Pay Rights Advisory Group	

2. Items of Significance

2.1 Learning for Tomorrow Consultation

I met with the Vice Chancellor 23/6/21 and asked for an update on LFT. She said they had moved from a set of prescriptions to a set of principles. She indicated that further consultation would not be required. We subsequently received the next iteration and put it out to students in an [update](#). I have attached it to the end of this report.

The singular slide constitutes the entire document. It has been significantly shortened from 5 pages and 1800+ words to 1 slide and 131 words. I believe that the university responded to our campaign and the ensuing media attention by closing out the Learning For Tomorrow consultation as quickly and uncontroversially as possible.

They said “We provide students with flexibility, offering rich face-to-face learning opportunities, digitally enhanced interactive and engaging experiences, on-line learning when desired...” This appears to be a positive indication, and I don’t think further consultation is needed on this document.

On the [Staff Portal page](#) for LFT they said the next step is for each faculty to develop ‘Guidance Note’, to articulate how the principles will be implemented in their Faculty. I will be contacting faculties asking for reps and student consultation to be involved in the development of these guidance notes. In health sciences and humanities faculty presentations the terms ‘Blended learning’ and mention of moving lectures have come up, which I am preparing to investigate. This indicates that the fight against Blended Learning is not yet over, but may have moved to the faculty level.

2.2 Semester 2 Learning Mode

The timetable was released to students on 14/6. We confirmed that Lectures have been renamed to ‘Large Group Collaborative Sessions’ which are supposed to incorporate more engaging and interactive elements. Through my discussions with staff, it seems that for this semester these will

just look like normal lectures, perhaps with a Q+A session in it. The intent seems to be to upskill staff moving forwards to build up engaging activities in these sessions.

The university confirmed that we were going back to full in person learning in semester 2, and our successful campaign was reported on in [WA Today's article](#).

As students have been finalising their schedules, we have had reports of many students still having online lectures. Anecdotally, every student I've talked to has at least one. We are looking into this and will ask the university how this lines up with their previous statements. We will see how large of an issue this turns out to be, and what kind of action is required.

2.3 Bentley Campus Activation Working Group

Our advocacy on the BCAWG can be boiled down to:

- Increased support for clubs in Semester 2
- Improve the Room Bookings system and allow clubs to fundraise in Curtin venues
- More clubs spaces

We secured a \$20K grant from Curtin to bolster club sign ups and support clubs in running free on campus events in the first month of semester. Clubs can apply for the 'Launch Event' grant and claim up to \$400 from the grant pool. I worked with Lachy and the Clubs Support team to get an announcement and application form for the grant out to clubs by 2/7. So far on 19/7 we've had 3 applications, with more clubs corresponding with Clubs Support asking questions before applying. We will keep an eye on this and see if any further support is needed to get that money out to clubs.

Lachy and the Clubs Support team met with the Chief Operating Officer on 6/7/21 to discuss the room bookings proposals I put forward to the VC at our meeting on 23/6. The university said they are upgrading the room bookings system later in 2021 which will allow Club Executives to book rooms directly into the Resource Booker system. They have also agreed to make a space easily bookable for smaller meetings. Finally, they will meet with me in July to discuss the matter of clubs fundraising in Curtin venues after they update their policy. We will have another meeting at the end of Semester 2 to follow up on how these arrangements have affected clubs.

I have advocated in several spaces for clubs to be given more spaces on campus, but no actions have come of it so far.

2.4 Return Tuition Free Week

The form ended up with 656 responses at the time of writing. I extracted the key information and presented this to the VC on 23/6. I advocated for the summer study period to be shortened by 2 weeks, and for the two tuition free weeks to be reinstated. I argued that there was not appetite for a summer study period. Indeed, when I spoke to staff from all the faculties, they indicated that the university did not have the staff capacity to run a substantial summer school.

We [updated students](#) that the findings of the survey had been presented to the VC, and released another post [summarising the findings](#). I expect this campaign will continue into Semester 2.

2.5 First Nations Representative

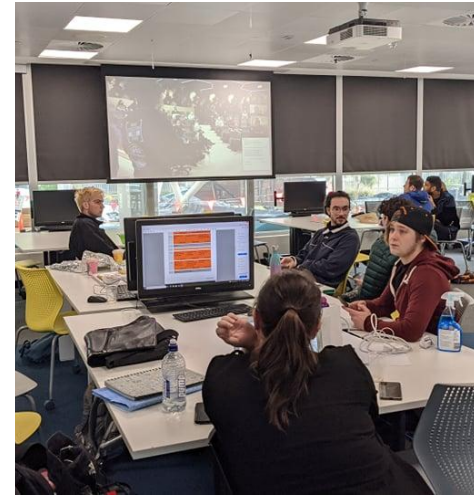
We received 14 total expressions of interest, who have all been provided with the same information about the role, the collective and the department. They have also been provided information about the opening of nominations, which should happen on 20/7. This is very promising, and I hope that by the end of the election on the 6th of August we should have filled the role.

We are encountering some roadblocks organising Cultural Capability Training with Curtin's services, as well as reaching out to external providers. We are continuing to work on this and will update reps once training is available.

2.6 NUS Education Conference

We hosted the WA Hub of NUS Education Conference. Usually, Curtin representatives fly over east to attend the conference in person. The conference was digital this year, but I decided to organise an in-person venue in WA because the conference tends to be an important space to meet, share skills and organise midyear for the remaining months. I think our national student union organising networks have suffered due to the travel limitations of Covid-19.

The attendance was small, but we had reps from Murdoch, UWA and Curtin attend. There is an NUS Education National Week of Action coming up in Week 3 of Semester, Week beginning 9/8. We, along with the other WA student unions, will participate. I facilitated the WA State Breakout, where we planned what the actions would look like in WA.



We have decided to encourage students to speak with their tutors during this week, to spark conversations about staff working conditions following the staff cuts of late 2020. We will also have a student speakout at the Chancellery. We will be building towards this over the first few weeks of Semester 2.

2.7 International Students Speak Out!

For a few months, international students stuck offshore have been speaking up through comments on Guild posts, messages, and a letter written to me on behalf of a group of students. They are asking for information about what Curtin is doing to advocate for the return of international students to WA. Many of these students have been stuck studying online offshore since 2020, and have received no word of when they might be able to return.

We have enquired what Curtin is doing, and it seems they are pushing for students to return, but the WA Government is maintaining strict borders. We issued [an update](#) to students. We also announced an online [speakout](#). I think these students have felt quite isolated and ignored, so I'm looking forward to giving them a platform and better understanding what they'd like to see from us.

2.8 Assorted Guild Work

- **Curtin Counselling:** It seems that our advocacy around Curtin Counselling has drawn attention to the need for that area to be better staffed and resourced. The university has said that the current wait times for triage were unacceptable, and they are looking to have additional people working in triage. They are currently hiring new members of staff to fill vacancies. They are hoping that changing to a Medicare funded model will generate revenue to expand the counselling services.
- **Guild Executive Support:** The new member of staff who will support the Exec has started on 19/7. Her name is Jess, and she'll be working at the hot desks near the Grok office. Please introduce yourself and make her feel welcome! Her main role will be to support the Exec with admin work, such as the admin aspects of running an election for a vacant position, helping draft statements, or action simple tasks.
- **Remuneration Tribunal:** We are slightly delayed in kicking off the remuneration tribunal process, which is supposed to be finalised before the opening of nominations for the Guild Elections. Reps should keep their eye out over the coming weeks for the opportunity to give feedback on their workload and pay, which will inform changes to next year's officers remuneration.
- **Grok:** I did an interview with Grok writer Thomas Blake about our efforts to bring campus back to life, and securing a \$20K grant for clubs.

3. Use of Delegated Powers

N/A

4. TLDR

Education campaigns from semester 1 are technically wrapped up, but we are continuing to monitor online lectures and blended learning closely. We have secured a few improvements for clubs and are rolling out 'Launch Event' grants. Tuition free advocacy is ongoing. We hosted the WA Hub of NUS Education Conference, and are organising an online speak out for offshore international students to articulate their experiences and demands.

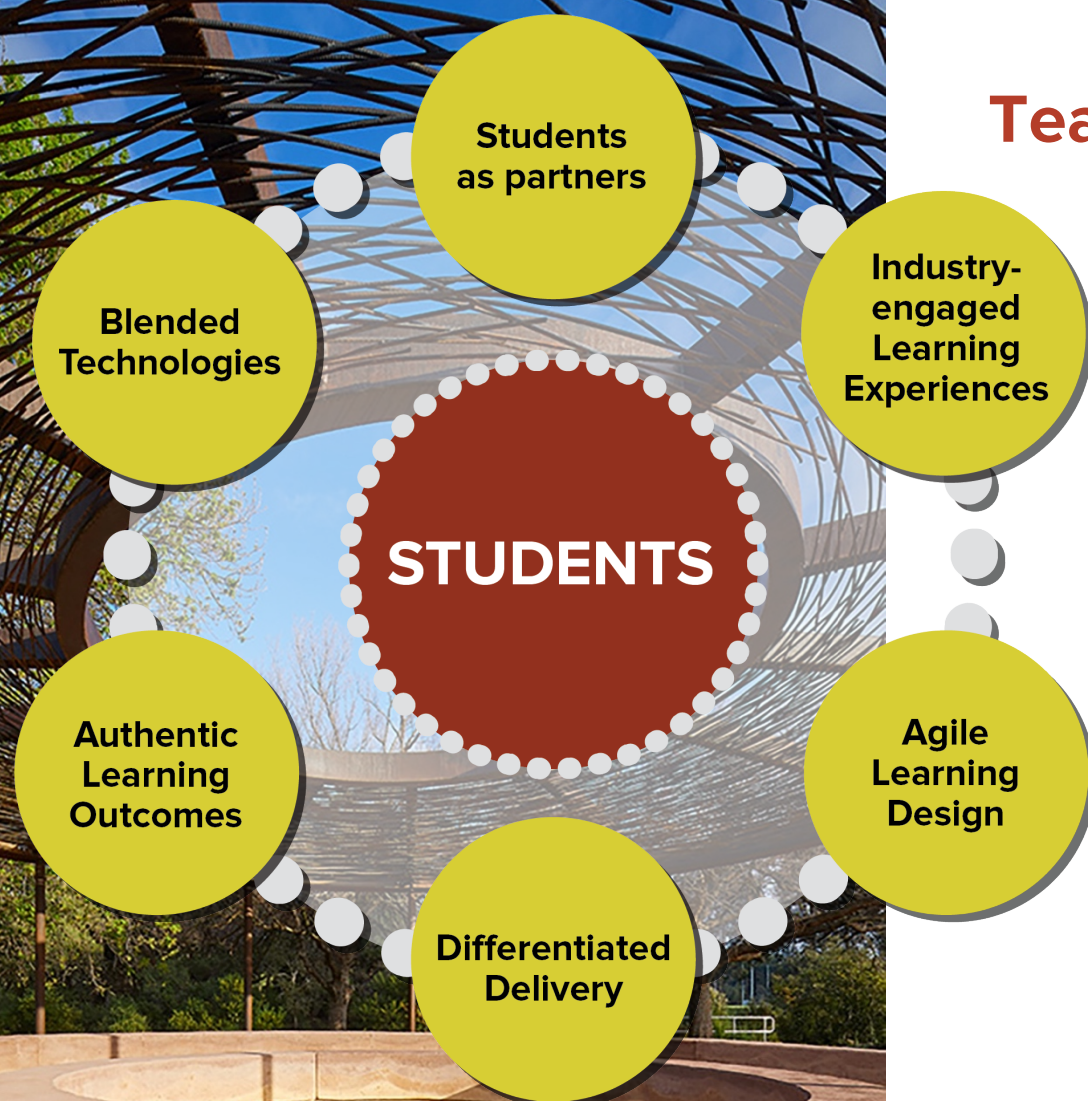
Thanks for reading!

Kind regards,

Jesse Naylor Zambrano
President
Curtin Student Guild



Teaching and Learning @ Curtin



Our values.

At Curtin University, our goal is for every student to have the best learning experience possible. One of our great strengths is the diversity of our students and we pride ourselves in maximising their learning opportunities aligned to their needs, regardless of their location or chosen mode of study.

At Curtin, we view teaching as core business. We value our amazing teachers and prioritise and support their ongoing professional development. In order to achieve the highest possible outcomes, students are active participants in all aspects of their learning.

Our teaching practices are innovative and engaging, and our content is cutting edge, digitally-rich and enhanced by industry experiences. We provide students with flexibility, offering rich face-to-face learning opportunities, digitally enhanced interactive and engaging experiences, on-line learning when desired and work-integrated learning opportunities.

Business & Law // July Report

University

Name	Date	Comments
Faculty Courses Committee	13.07.21	Promoted the inclusion of Draft Submission Portals across student degree journeys. The faculty will include as mandatory in first year and first in major units of courses. I communicated with the Guild AO on changes to Inherent Requirements.
UG Orientation	20.07.21	
FO Orientation	21.07.21	
PG Orientation	22.07.21	
Strategic Review Board	21.07.21	

Guild

Name	Date	Comments
*Higher Education	23.06.21	
*Executive Committee	24.06.21	
Parking Campaign Meeting	30.06.21	
Legal Committee	01.07.21	
*Executive Committee	01.07.21	
*Higher Education	07.07.21	
Legal Committee	08.07.21	
*Filming Election Engagement Video	15.07.21	
*Executive Committee	15.07.21	
Legal Committee	16.07.21	

External

Name	Date	Comments
NUS Education Conference	12.07.21	Co-presented a workshop on SSAF, VSU and 100% aspirations.

Student Disciplinary Panels

Date	Comments
18.06.21	Thanks to Shaniqua (ORB) for acting as proxy for this SDP.
21.06.21	-
25.06.21	-

01.07.21	-
08.07.21	Incomplete data ^{1,2}
16.07.21	Incomplete data ¹
Total cases	125 (a record) 7 - No AM ¹ 3 - Nil / ANN ¹ 31 - Academic Counselling ^{1,2} Avg Reduction: 21.4% ^{1,2}

Initiatives

Note on change to Business & Law Report.

To provide a fuller report to the Representation Board – I have amended my inclusion of meetings to include meetings relating to appointments directly from my position on the board. This includes Chair of Representation Board as indicated by an asterisk.

This recognises the difficulty of being accountable to members when relying solely on an optional verbal report. Substantive items completed in the role of Chair will continue to be orated.

Academic Misconduct

I communicated my reservation about penalties applied in the historic TEQSA cases reported to Curtin. I discussed these with the Director of Student Engagement and Guild President.

Faculty Rep Election Information

I provided information for the role I perform to encourage students to nominate for election. I also did so for the general positions of Ordinary Representation Board member and Guild Councillor.

NUS

I ran a workshop with the President on the aspirations towards receiving greater funding and autonomy through the provision of increased SSAF with reduced conditions.

Complaints

I submitted a written complaint to the integrity standards unit due to a specific unit within the School of Management having multiple complaints of significant departure from the Assessment and Student Progression Manual (ASPM).

I discussed with a few students' issues navigating the outcomes of poor results. This information was general in nature and directed further support to Student Assist and the FBL Academic Communication Development team dependant on substance of correspondence.

Clubs 'Sundowner'

Planning on continuing last year's successful club's sundowner or similar with relevant clubs to address potential SSAF specific funding. I'm leaving the higher level decisions to the consensus of clubs.

Meme

I didn't want a whole page of dead space.

the world if Fac reps actually completed only 7.5 hours per week[^]



(Description: text 'the world if fac reps actually completed only 7.5 hours per week', image depicting an idealised futuristic society with flying cars and an individual walking a dog around a moated building.)

TL;DR

This month the preparation for orientation is in full swing, student complaints from last semester have been addressed and there has been a notable increase in academic misconduct cases.

Science and Engineering Faculty Representative - Representation Board Report

For the Representation Board #6 to be held on Thursday, 22/07/2021.

Summary of Meetings

Meeting	Date	Type of Meeting	Comments
Faculty Representative Meeting	09/06/2021	Guild	This meeting was mainly led by the Humanities representative and the presence of grades associated to attendance in workshops.
UG/PG Science Suite	14/06/2021	University	Nothing to note.
CCR Steering Group BEng (Hons)	15/06/2021	University	We are still on going with the review.
LTCEC	16/06/2021	University	Nothing to note.
SDP	17/06/2021	University	Nothing to note.
Representation Board Meeting	17/06/2021	Guild	See minutes.
Student Meeting	17/06/2021	Other	Confidential
Student Meeting	18/06/2021	Other	Confidential
UG/ PG Science Suite	21/06/2021	University	Nothing to note.
UG/ PG Science Suite	28/06/2021	University	Nothing to note.
CCR Steering Group BEng (Hons)	29/06/2021	University	Nothing to note.
Ecosia Discussion with President	30/06/2021	Guild	We are making progress.
Engineering Board	01/07/2021	University	I was not able to attend and so Lachlan Lee (VP-A) attended in my place. There was nothing to note.
UG/ PG Science Suite	05/07/2021	University	Nothing to note.
Chemical Engineering Focus Group	06/07/2021	Guild x University	This is as part of the process that I am undertaking to review BEng(Hons).
SDP	07/07/2021	University	Nothing to note.
Learning and Teaching Council	07/07/2021	University	Nothing major to note.
SDP	09/07/2021	University	Nothing to note.
UG/ PG Science Suite	12/07/2021	University	Nothing to note
CCR Steering Group	13/07/2021	University	On-going project of renewal.
Staff Meeting	15/07/2021	University	To be confirmed after more details are confirmed.
Science Board	15/07/2021	University	Nothing to note. Just updates I am aware of from other committees.

Other Events

Semester break has started!

Final Notes

The past reporting period has been a bit of a turmoil. I took up some of my TOIL as soon as the semester concluded to go away. Whilst I was away, I still closely monitored all my emails and replied back promptly and was able to attend all but one meeting in which Lachlan Lee sat in for me. I

arrived back prior to examinations results being released and have since been working on several issues that have been raised.

I am actively working on two units that have had a significant number of students reach out and express concerns. Parallel to this work, I have been working on a couple of student specific issues and liaising with student assist where appropriate. These concerns have been going on for far longer than I would have liked purely due to the number of staff members that are on leave and constantly being bounced around the university until a staff member that isn't on leave is able to help.

TL; DR

- There have been a lot of meetings and updates. A lot of staff members are on leave which is making it difficult to action student concerns.

Thanks for reading my report and stay nifty!

Regards,



JASON KIM

HE/HIM [learn about pronouns](#)

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING REPRESENTATIVE

E SCI-ENG@GUILD.CURTIN.EDU.AU

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GUILD.CURTIN.EDU.AU

I acknowledge that Curtin University is on the lands of the Whadjuk people of the Noongar nation. This land is stolen land and was never ceded. I pay my respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

Faculty of Health Sciences Report
Lucy Rohl (she/her)
Representation Board – July



HEALTH SCIENCES

Health Sciences students, we've got you back!

Lucy Rohl | Faculty of Health Sciences Rep

Pronouns: She/Her

health@guild.curtin.edu.au

[Join our Facebook group](#)

Guild and University meetings

16th June	Dean of Learning & Teaching and Manager for Student Engagement fortnightly meeting
17th June	Faculty Courses Committee
23rd June	Student Consultative Committee
23rd June	Handover with Manager for Student Engagement
24th June	Meeting with Deputy PVC about student representation on Health Sciences working parties
25th June	Shortlisting for new Manager for Student Engagement
1st July	Dean of Learning & Teaching fortnightly meeting
14th July	Faculty Advisory Council

What am I up to?

Orientation Week

Orientation Week is coming up! I've been asked to speak at both the undergraduate and postgraduate welcomes for Health Sciences students. I've also been asked to give advice to new students at a new workshop, called Your First Semester in Health Sciences, and am looking forward to it!

Nursing

Despite assurances that all Nursing classes would be face to face in semester two, four units still have online classes. Whilst this is a significant improvement from semester one, this is still not what was promised, and is against students' best interests. I'm currently investigating and discussing this.

Queer Education in Health Sciences

I've kicked off discussions with the Psychology Course Coordinator about this, and at the time of writing am still waiting for a reply.

TL;DR

I have speeches planned for O-Week, some Nursing classes are remaining online despite assurances they wouldn't be, and I've reached out to the Psychology Course Coordinator about queer education in the Psychology degree.

Thanks for reading x

Lucy

Faculty of Humanities Report
Madison Ainsworth (she/her)
Representation Board
10/06/2021 to 15/07/2021



HUMANITIES

Humanities students, you're in safe hands!

Madison Ainsworth | Faculty of Humanities Rep

Pronouns: She/Her

humanities@guild.curtin.edu.au

Meetings

17/06/2021	Learning and Student Experience Committee
17/06/2021	Courses Committee
17/06/2021	SDP
18/06/2021	Meeting w/ Events Team (Terrarium planning)
24/06/2021	SDP
02/07/2021	Meeting w/ Accessibility Officer
08/07/2021	SDP
15/07/2021	Courses Committee
15/07/2021	SDP

Notes

A lot of my meetings were cancelled due to COVID and people being unwell.

A meeting is being planned with Nicole Slatter (HUM Dean of Teaching and Learning) regarding Graded Attendance and LARIS respectively.

Currently budgeting and preparing to co-host a DIY terrarium building event with the Accessibility

Officer (Clare Metcalf). This event will act as a welcome back in the early weeks of the semester (30th of July, 3rd of August and 6th of August).

TL;DR

Meetings were cancelled.

Meetings are being planned.

Co-Hosting an upcoming event.

Student Assist – Representation Board report – July 2021

Year to date case statistics for Student Assist is as follows:

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
Academic sessions	226	136	96	108	129	212
Financial Counselling sessions	20	27	26	8	35	26
LifeHacks	89	192	164	58	74	51

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

Emergency Relief

Student Assist provided emergency relief to 2 students during the month of June in the form of the Student Assist's Hardship Grant. Of these students, 1 was given \$270 to help towards accreditation fees, 1 was given \$50 food voucher.

TEQSA's Academic Misconduct cases

We have assisted "currently not enrolled at Curtin" students with their responses to the allegation. These students range from those who have graduated to those who did not complete the course at Curtin (AWOL). The penalty we have seen is an ANN (Annulled grade due to Academic Misconduct) and students are being informed of the following as part of the determination information:

"The determination of misconduct and the penalty of an ANN has implications for your award of XXX. The ANN means that you have now not met the requirements for that degree and your award will be rescinded should you not re-take and pass this unit within the next 2 study periods."

Terminated status

Results will be released on the 7th of July and with this comes Termination status. Student Assist has organised a series of info sessions in person and online to help students understand their options and draft an appeal. We have also expanded our support and provided appeal information to Curtin's Global campuses.

TL;DR

Business as usual for Student Assist. Only thing of interest is the academic misconduct determination outcomes for students – students get a year to re-do the units before having the award rescinded.

ISC president Report
Representation board July 2021
Submission date July 15th, 2021

COMMITTEE AND INTERNAL MEETINGS

- Global positioning committee meeting
- Learning and student experience meeting
- ISC restructuring and role descriptions
- Student Assist general support

Events

- Upcoming event: SwanRiver -- DerbarlYerrigan -- educational cruise on 15 August for onshore international students.
- Upcoming event: Pasar Malam
- Upcoming event: UWA, Murdoch University and Curtin University collaborative event

Future meeting

- May 12, 2021. To officially recognize the positions of the new ISC

Discussion and Backup

- International students' scholarships
- Counselling and mental health
- Last month as president of the international student committee

Cristian Moreno

ISC PRESIDENT
PRONOUNCE HE/HIM
ISC.PRESIDENT@GUILD.CURTIN.EDU.AU

Backup and executive meeting notes

1. Student Assist general support

- a. Financial support
 - Financial support for international students, studying in Perth and overseas, are open to people in need
- b. Legal support
 - collaboration with Fair Work for support on work-related issues
 - Social media posts with information on car insurance and minimum wage

2. Counselling and mental health

- Need to set up a support system especially with a shared struggle of being homesick and unable to return home without sacrificing on university education for an indefinite amount of time due to the pandemic and travel restrictions

3. UWA, Murdoch University and Curtin University collaborative event

- StudyPerth is likely to organise and fund the event
- Mainly marketing on our end (MaryannE's team) to promote the event to students

4. Last month as president of the international student committee

Student representatives and guild staff
I hope everything is going well for you.

I'm writing to let you know that I've resigned as President of the PSC, which I did with great difficulty. Working with and for overseas students with power and honesty has been a dream come true. However, it is time for me to take a step back and concentrate my efforts on completing my university degree.

I'd want to express my gratitude to the 2021 Guild personnel, particularly Johaan and Jesse, who have been striving to improve the foreign community's environment at Curtin University. Finally, I'd like to ask for your aid in fighting the unreasonable amount of money that international students pay at Curtin. I know that most people agree with me on this and are eager to help us attain a fair number.

Whishing the best for you guys and many thanks!!

Cristian Moreno

ISC PRESIDENT
PRONOUNCE HE/HIM
ISC.PRESIDENT@GUILD.CURTIN.EDU.AU

PSC PRESIDENT'S REPORT
SUBMISSION DATE: 19th July 2021
FOR MEETING DATE: 22nd July 2021



NAME:

David Jorritsma

POSITION:

PSC President (Commenced from the 28th May 2021)

SUMMARY:

GUILD MEETINGS:

10 June 2021: PSC Meeting 2/21 (Not Quorate)

24 June 2021: Curtin Union Taskforce

UNVIERSITY MEETINGS:

15th June 2021: Learning and Student Experience Committee

22nd June 2021: Meeting with Dean of Research (Science & Engineering)

25 June 2021: Academic Board

ONGOING PROJECTS:

University Committee Re-engagement

- After having issues with the VP-R being contactable to attend the Faculty of Health Sciences' Graduate Research Committee (FGRC), the PSC Health Science Rep (Ayomide O) attended in their place. The Faculty attempted to run an EOI and select their student representation, after consultation with myself and the Guild President, the Faculty accepted our PSC Health Science Rep as their member for the FGRC. However, another committee, the Faculty of Health Science Research Strategy Committee (FRSC), it was decided that due to the nature of the committee and the work that it considers, that is was appropriate to select someone from the EOIs that were sent out by the Faculty as we did not have enough representatives to commit to that committee. I selected a student based on their previous experience and time left in their course. I will be reaching out to that student to see if they would like to engage with the CSG and offer support in their committee assignment.
- I spoke with the Dean of Research of the Faculty of Science and Engineering and we discussed the current status of HDR representation. As we currently do not have a PSC SciEng Rep, it has been difficult representing the student voice in their FGRC meetings. We discussed ways to

engage with HDR students of the Faculty and will be pushing for nominations for the upcoming call for nomination for a casual vacancy.

- Committee engagement for the Faculty of Humanities is still ongoing.
- Our PSC BL Rep (Antoine) has been attending their FGRC and will be invited to other faculty engagement opportunities by the FBL Rep (Dylan B).

Postgraduate Student's Community Engagement

- Messaging has gone out to Postgrad students introducing myself and spruiking the Guild's services.
- More work in the social media space is needed to engage with postgrads.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Resignations:

- PSC Vice President Research (Natalie A) resigned from their position effective 9th July 2021.

Questions on Notice:

- In response to a question from a member of the Representation Board, on the 20th of May 2021 a meeting occurred between myself, the Postgraduate Representative from UWA, member of CAPA, and the Western Australia Minister for Education, Sue Ellery et al. for the purposes of discussing the current concerns of postgraduate students in WA. I attended in the capacity of PSC Vice President – Coursework, which is the role I held at the time. I was asked to attend by the PSC President at the time (May M) as she was unable to go and decided to send me in her place so that Curtin students were represented and fellow postgraduates from other institution were supported. We discussed issues facing international students who are being forced to study abroad rather than in Australia, the funding crisis affecting universities, and possible partnerships between the WA State Government and the Postgraduate Student Community. If you require any further information, please raise it in the meeting of the Representation Board.

Difficulty of PSC Meetings:

- Meetings of the PSC have been difficult due to the exam season and winter break. The July meeting has been cancelled and meeting will resume in August.

Concerns in the School of Education:

- A student has raised an issue in the placement/practical assessment of the Master of Teaching degree. The student has been directed to Student Assist for support in lodging a formal complaint.

Concerns in the Faculty of Science and Engineering:

- A HDR Candidate CC'ed me in an email who raised a concern that the Faculty of SciEng were only inviting staff members of research groups that have won awards and excluding the PhD candidates. These candidates were part of a research group who won the Research Team of the Year Award. The Faculty was able to come up with a solution for them to be present to receive the award but not attend the rest of the event inside, however, the students were invited to the after event as it was outside. The Faculty maintains the cause of the issue and exclusion

of the 'students' being invited to receive the award was due to COVID19 capacity limits for the venue. I am concerned that a solution was only put in place due to the issue being raised with the PVC, DoR, and the Guild. This is an example of the need to shift the cultural mentality of HDR candidacy from 'student' to colleague and will be something that I will raise in my meetings

TL;dr:

Committee Reengagement is slowly ongoing. Health Science attempted to find their own through an EOI process, we kept FGRC and selected the rep for FRSC.

Discussed engagement with DoR Sci Eng.

Small amount of messaging going out from Guild in regards to PSC.

The PSC VP-Research Resigned.

I was asked to attend a meeting with the WA Minister of Education in my capacity as PSC VP-Coursework.

July PSC Meeting cancelled, will attempt August meeting.

School of Education assessment complaint by student in Master of Teaching, appropriate services offered.

Faculty of SciEng excluded students to award ceremony to receive the Research Team of the Year Award because there was only enough places for staff.

QUEER OFFICER'S REPORT – JULY 2021 REPRESENTATION BOARD

The Queer Department as a whole has not been very active since last Reps Board, as students have been on holidays and thusly quite difficult to get hold of. I have some activities and projects planned over the next few weeks that I'm hoping to get more students for, but I wouldn't be surprised if I don't have much attendance at events that aren't online until next semester starts. However, I have kept busy during this downtime period.

Last weekend, I helped facilitate an "online picnic" event for students from Queer Departments at all universities across WA – this was initially intended to be in person, but we moved it online due to COVID-19 restrictions. This ended up being a very wise decision, as the rains would have surely ruined any chance of a nice day (and nearly ruined my computer when my roof started leaking!). Unfortunately, not very many of the other equity officers ended up attending for various reasons, but I hope this improves with our next (hopefully in-person) event.

I also attempted to arrange an action day at the QD to roll out the new batch of "We All Need To Pee" bathroom stickers, however only two people besides myself ended up turning up, which was not enough to put any meaningful number of stickers out. I believe this was due to the inclement weather, as well as the fact that we had to postpone the event a week due to the "circuit-breaker" lockdown that Perth underwent. I am intending to organise another action day soon, and I will also be advertising this to other Reps Board members, as I do not believe it's fair to place the entire physical and mental burden of rolling out and replacing these stickers solely on the Queer Department students.

I did manage to run a Jackbox games session for the QD during the lockdown week, which was a lot of fun and seemed highly appreciated by the QD members. Any other Equity Departments are free to reach out to me for access to the Jackbox (and other) games I have purchased for the QD, as these digital online tools can be of huge benefit to a community that's been forced to move online.

Finally, I have been invited to speak at an Out For Australia event on July 27th, called "Out For Allies", where I'll be speaking about the importance of having queer allies, especially in the workplace. The event will be livestreamed and recorded, and I invite anybody who is interested in watching to get in touch with me for the details.

Tl;dr – Students are on holidays so not much has happened, trying to run occasional events or projects and getting disrupted by sudden lockdowns and/or bad weather, more bathroom stickers going out soon, and I'll be talking about allies on July 27th!

WOMEN'S OFFICER Report

REPRESENTATION BOARD 2021 – 22/07/21

Submitted 15/07/21

GUILD MEETINGS

22/6	Women's Collective
23/6	Commercial Services Committee
25/6	Zoom meeting with Floretta, UWA Women's Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none">Talked about structure of collectives
30/6	Parking Campaign Meeting
6/7	Commercial Services Brainstorm <ul style="list-style-type: none">Brainstorming for Main Café refurbishment
9/7	NUS Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">Regarding an upcoming National Day of Action on September 10th, to demand better handling of sexual violence etc at universities and campuses
15/7	Informal planning meeting with Women's Collective <ul style="list-style-type: none">Planned out a draft outline for Women's Department Semester 2 events etc.

UNIVERSITY MEETINGS

17/6	Representation Board
29/6	Student Equity Working Group

PROJECTS

Respectful Relationships

- I have yet to hear from the Respect. Now. Always Steering Committee or other people involved in Respectful Relationships as to updating it.
- The next RNA SteerCo will be on Tuesday 20th July, after this report has been submitted.

Women's Equity Collective

- We had a second meeting, which was very productive, and led us to start planning for Semester 2.
- We approved the minutes of the previous meeting, which have been submitted to the Representation Board with this report for consideration.
- I have been in contact with UWA Women's Officer regarding collectives, regarding their structure etc.
- I also talked to reps at the QUT Guild, who gave me some framework documents, which I think will be helpful in developing the collectives further.

Facebook Group

- The Facebook group is still being maintained.
- As of 13/5, we have 128 members.

Forgotten Figures (*social media campaign*)

- Have continued posting Forgotten Figures profiles.
- Have started to wind down the campaign for the end of the semester, so we have the option to start a new program for Semester 2.

EVENTS

- Planning for Cat Café, a July community-catchup
 - Is on Sunday 18th July, and will be run by a member of the Women's Collective.
 - Jesse (Guild President) is also attending, so there is an Office Bearer there for insurance purposes

OVERALL COMMENTS

I have been out of the state since 28th June, visiting family in Queensland. During this time, I have been working online, both attending meetings and working on various things, which I described in the report.

I also had the opportunity to visit the QUT Guild and talk to representatives there. I've spent two days there, and talked about what was going on at each university, compared notes etc. It was very enjoyable to visit a guild on the other side of the country, and experience part of the campus culture.

The NUS meeting I had was also a standout, as organisation for an upcoming National Student Safety Survey is coming together. I agreed to start organising in WA, as I was the only representative from WA who attended that meeting, so I will be starting to plan that over the next couple weeks.

The communication with my collective has been very successful, and we have tons of great ideas for the semester ahead, and are preparing for O-Day.

I look forward to seeing what Semester 2 brings!

TL:DR

I was out of the state for most of the last month, but have continued to attend meetings online, coordinate events and started planning initiatives and other exciting things for Semester 2.

Cassidy Pemberton
Women's Officer 2021



Accessibility Department

July Report

Peer Disability Network update

- Event Plans
 - DIY Terrarium Workshops collaboration with Humanities Representative
 - Rad Sex and Consent Week collaboration with Queer Department
 - Early conversations about the intersection between the communities have yielded a couple options, such as a workshop on the intersection and disability and sexuality do and don't influence each other, or a workshop on Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) interpersonal and communication skills.
 - Mental Health Week Events
 - Lulkbudia and I discussed a collaboration for Mental Health Week promoting mental health resources to First Nations students. I would like to follow this up if we get a First Nations Officer before October, or pursue finding someone else to collaborate with, such as in CAS or Student Equity.
 - I am interested in seeing the Men's Mental Health Breakfast run again. I will be following up with some other Reps in the Guild to facilitate this on my behalf.
 - Monthly Meet and Greet
 - I plan to run two of these within the department space and one as a silver event with catering.
- Discord Server
 - I've created the server and I am seeking insight from Student Engagement before I launch it.
- Sign up form
 - I've made the form to collect contact details for students interested in the department.
 - I hope this will increase engagement by giving me someone to contact and giving them a sense of investment similar to when they join a club.
- CANDID Network at La Trobe
 - I sought advice from a successful PDN at La Trobe and got some advice. The stand out was that this network is student-led but all administration is done through the Access Department at the University. It is not associated with the Student Union, the students who lead it are separate volunteers. They also gave my advice on their meetings and content.
 - I am going to consider how to apply this model but I am determined for this network to be run through the Guild, not the University.

Curtin Access Plan support and escalation update

- I have discussed my thoughts on this in a meeting with Humira Mirza (Student Engagement - Humanities), Nicole Slatter (Dean of Teaching and Learning - Humanities) and Madison Ainsworth (Humanities Faculty Representative - Curtin Student Guild).
- It came up in this meeting because Humira raised it independently as a possible solution to issues with Curtin Access Plans. It was noted that for issues with Credit for Recognised Learning there is a clear escalation avenue, and it would make sense for CAPs to have something similar.
- I also discussed this in a check-in with AccessAbility Services. They were tentative but did not raise any inherent concerns with implementing a process like this.
- I discovered through Universal Design Working Group that the Integrity and Standards Unit process for reporting any accessibility problems at the Uni, including CAP non-compliance, has not been accessed since July 2017. I doubt this reflects a lack of issues since then. I think it's an indicator that the process is not appropriate to handle this problem.
- It seems that the place to approach this issue further is with Jon Yorke and Tara Felton. That will be my next step.

Accessibility of Prac Placements in the School of Education update

- I met with Humira Mirza (Student Engagement - Humanities), Nicole Slatter (Dean of Teaching and Learning - Humanities) and Madison Ainsworth (Humanities Faculty Representative - Curtin Student Guild) on the 2/7/21.
- We discussed the policy that was in place and how to determine where the problems were arising.
- It was noted that the centralised CAP distribution system may address many of these problems. A clear escalation process for issues with CAPs may address those that aren't solved by the distribution system.
- We planned to check in in a fortnight and organise a follow up meeting with Practical Coordinators within the Faculty of Humanities so that I can get a deeper understanding of how placements work, with the goal of ultimately discovering where the problems arise and where improvements can be made.

Centralised Curtin Access Plan distribution update

- I've not had any involvement in this project since last month
- The survey to students was undertaken and received over 200 responses
- AccessAbility reported that they were pleasantly surprised by how many students were satisfied with the current processes.

Collaboration with Grok update

I have one student connected with a writer. This project is still on process.

ACROD update (Parking Campaign)

I have signed on to the Guild's Parking Campaign to campaign for a high standard of accessibility of ACROD Parking in our proposal to Curtin.

AccessAbility Check-In

- I checked in with AccessAbility on the 6/7/21 to get their insight on all my projects.
 - Disability Peer Network
 - They raised concerns on isolation faced by students doing courses (including Curtin courses) through Open Universities Australia.
 - ACROD and parking
 - Came back to there being no legal requirement for ACROD parking to be free. I maintain that legal requirements do not meet the threshold of moral requirements.
 - Passed on a student concern about Courtesy Bays being inequitable.
 - These are used by students with short term medical conditions (eg. a broken leg) who don't have ACROD.
 - They do not use Cellopark or PAYG. It is a flat fee of \$6 a day, even if you are only parked for an hour.
 - They were unsure, but they thought to organise access to a courtesy bay a student would have to physically attend the parking office, which is an access concern.
 - CAP escalation processes
 - Commented that the Director of Student Engagement in a Faculty is usually the best person to handle these issues. Suggested it may be a case of formalising consultation with them rather than establishing a new process. I disagree with this because I would like to see student being represented on the board, panel or committee that consults on these issues.
 - Revealed that an appropriate person to discuss this with would be Tara Felton.

Curtin Counselling

- Attended a meeting with Bridge on the 30/6/21.
- We got some updates on the Counselling service and asked some questions to better understand how the service works. Maryanne took notes.
- Happy to take questions about this meeting.

National Education Conference - Accessible Activism

- EdCon occurred on 12-13 July 21.
- I attended in my capacity as an NUS Delegate and Accessibility Officer. I wrote a workshop on Accessible Activism that Lucy Rohl (Health Sciences Representative - Curtin Student Guild) presented with me.
 - The workshop discussed theory on Accessible Activism and some practical suggestions for make activism more accessible. It got positive feedback from attendees, excluding members of the faction Socialist Alternative who expressed that accessibility kills activism and disabled students who want to be involved in or consulted on activism are selfish.
 - Attendees requested the resources from the workshop be distributed for practical use, these have been submitted to a google folder that attendees can access at this link: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1usLgI6NDX_pbc09-HlZuXxB7KKzzXML?usp=sharing
 - Lucy and I have also been approached to present the workshop again for the Student Voice Network (<https://www.svn-au.com/>).



Tweet by Zoe Adam @xtrahot_latte
"SAIt leaving the accessibility activism workshop because people shut them down is so ironic but unsurprising. #edcon21"
[Squidward sets down his beach chair: "SAIt wanting to derail the wonderful accessibility activism workshop run by Curtin University students with detailed information on how to make protests and movements more accessible"
Squidward takes his chair and leaves: "When everyone shuts them down for their ableist talking points"]

TL;DR

I have made progress on developing a Disability Peer Network and pursuing improvements to how Curtin Access Plans are followed. My Grok collaboration is ongoing and I have continued work on ACROD parking by joining the parking campaign. I have had meetings with AccessAbility Services and Curtin Counselling which have been productive. I presented a workshop on Accessible Activism at the National Education Conference.

Metcalfe

Accessibility Officer: Clare Metcalf

Representation Board Report Higher Education July 2021

UWA Jobs Cuts. Campus Morning Mail

There are savings proposals in the School of Social Sciences, the library and marketing and student recruitment.

They are part of a plan to reduce the university's "structural deficit" from \$70m to \$40m.

The new round of reductions include:

School of Social Sciences: the proposal document focuses on suggested under-performance in research and enrolments. Management wants to reconfigure what is taught, and by who ("a combination of leading researchers and teaching-focused academics") with the staff to student ratio to double to 35.

Overall, 16 continuing academic positions go, with 12 continuing positions changing from teaching and research to teaching-focused. There will be seven new jobs.

Anthropology and Sociology would take an especially hard hit, losing eight positions of the existing nine and picking up no new ones.

"Flagships" for research will be Australian archaeology and human geography.

Brand, marketing and recruitment: The proposal makes the case for change, by stating what the opposition is doing; "competitors have become increasingly sophisticated using data-driven approaches, targeted activity, marketing automation and tighter task prioritisation to ensure focus on activity that drives performance."

Some 34 positions are proposed to go, (five now vacant) with 13 new ones created.

Library: The change proposal makes a case for not changing. "The university library has a strong reputation for excellence in the development and delivery of high quality and core services that are well utilised." So why change? In part, it is to, "better service the new college of schools organisational structure."

Eight jobs are set to go – and four new ones created.

TL:DR

- UWA restructuring School of Social Sciences, library, marketing and student recruitment
- 16 academic positions to go. 7 new jobs. 12 existing positions to change from teaching and research to teaching-focused
- 34 positions to go in Brand, Marketing and recruitment. 13 new positions created
- 8 library positions to go. 4 new positions created.

Degree factory': UWA students revolt over \$40 million restructure chasing 'profits over people WA Today. Aja Styles

UWA Guild estimates the proposed social sciences redundancies and reallocation of staff roles will result in the loss of 28 supervisors and mentors, which in turn will severely impact 43 to 65 per cent of PhD students enrolled in the school.

UWA Education Action Network coordinator Nicole McEwen said anthropology and sociology was the hardest hit because the university suggested it was not as financially sustainable as archaeology, which brings in funding from private companies in mining

"When you look at the role anthropology plays, not just in Indigenous affairs in WA, but in researching migration and refugee rights and researching racism, xenophobia, the Black Lives Matter movement, gender inequality, wealth inequality, all of that.

"None of that's really a priority, I think for big business, for the university and for the government."

TL:DR

- UWA Guild estimates that Social Sciences redundancies and reallocation of staff roles will result in the loss of 28 supervisors and mentors, which in turn will severely impact 43 to 65 per cent of PhD students enrolled in the school.

UWA proposed cuts “intellectual vandalism. Campus Morning Mail

For the university to act on its proposal to close its anthropology and sociology discipline group would be, “an act of intellectual vandalism,” warn Debra McDougall (Uni Melbourne), Suzi Hutchings (RMIT) and Lisa Wynn (Macquarie U) on behalf of the Australian Anthropological Society

“The proposed changes also diminish the overall national social science research capacity in Australia by sacking some of the most accomplished scholars in the country,” they add.

The university argues **UG enrolments** in the anthropology-sociology major were **down 70 per cent 2015-20** and that the discipline area **earns 6.5 per cent** of the School’s **external research funding** (Geography generates 45 per cent).

TL:DR

- Academics criticise UWA school of Social Sciences changes calling it intellectual vandalism

Universities sit silent as politics strangles activism: but for how long? WA Today

A once-in-a-decade stoush is brewing at the WA chapter of the National Tertiary Education Union, which represents academics, over the conservative Labor leanings that have potentially silenced statewide action.

NTEU branch vice president at Curtin University, Thor Kerr, says the union’s WA branch has failed to take direct action over universities being dismantled in a “perfect storm” of reduced government funding, dissolving foreign student income and rising campus costs.

Thor Kerr will challenge the seat of NTEU WA Secretary Catherine Moore.

In WA, four out of its five universities will cut a combined \$120 million in jobs by the middle of next year, with some undergoing some radical shake-ups.

WA labour historian and industrial relations academic Alexis Vassiley questioned the NTEU leadership response in negotiating a “jobs protection framework” that cut pay up to 15 per cent in return for more job security that didn’t eventuate.

“In the National Union of Students, you have Labor students in the key leadership positions that don’t want to rock the boat, particularly when Labor’s in government,” he said.

TL:DR

- NTEU branch vice president at Curtin University, Thor Kerr will challenge the seat of NTEU WA Secretary Catherine Moore.
- Criticism of performance of NETU, NUS

Fearful and lonely’: Murdoch Uni gags staff as students disillusioned over education quality. Aja Styles. WA today

Gag clauses in Murdoch University contracts and fears of litigation have silenced departing staff while damning surveys reveal the secrecy and disillusionment felt by staff and students.

In a recent poll, more than half of Murdoch University staff denied there was “honest and open communication” at the institute, with 62 per cent failing to agree it was a safe place psychologically to work.

Only 44 per cent believed they could succeed to their full potential, no matter who they were, with 22 per cent staying neutral, while only 24 per cent believed positive change would come about from the survey.

Of the 700 professional staff and 456 academics who took part in the staff survey in May, 190 were casually employed with very little afforded workplace protections.

Less than half of the 1100-odd staff agreed their workload was manageable, or the stress attached to that workload.

Only one third believed the university's processes enabled them to effectively meet student needs.

A guild survey of students found that "responses seemed to indicate that students were not enthusiastic about the changes to face-to-face learning, the price of units and their learning experience during COVID-19", the guild survey summarised.

Of the 684 students surveyed about their welfare, 73 per cent reported they were "struggling to focus on studies", with 59 per cent reporting their course "doesn't feel as valuable while studying online" and about 54 per cent were struggling to manage their course workload.

The vast majority of students surveyed over two weeks in May were in their second and third years, while about 18 per cent were in their first year and 13 per cent in their final years. Nearly all were domestic students, with only 114 international students participating.

About 72 per cent said they were feeling unmotivated and 68 per cent were feeling stressed.

Almost 80 per cent placed their studies as being of the greatest concern, even above finances and mental wellbeing.

And less than 16 per cent found online learning "engaging".

Among the most damning comments submitted by students included one by a PhD researcher who said the general atmosphere on campus was "fearful and lonely".

TL:DR

- Gag clauses in Murdoch employment contracts to prevent criticism
- Murdoch staff and Guild student surveys reveal dissatisfaction

Murdoch University is re-registered after pledging to improve. The Australian

After a year's delay the higher education regulator Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) has re-registered Murdoch University, but only after receiving a voluntary undertaking from the university that it will address risks to education quality.

TEQSA has only registered the university for a four-year period instead of the usual seven years.

Last December the university agreed, for the next two years, to give TEQSA "information about its students' English language proficiency and academic preparedness, management of education agents and student visa requirements at regular intervals.

TL:DR

- Murdoch re-registered by TEQSA for four years

NSW universities spent almost \$300 million sacking staff in 2020, audit finds

Universities in New South Wales spent a total of \$293.9 million on staff redundancies in 2020, an audit on ten public universities conducted by the NSW Auditor-General has revealed.

The audit shows that university spending on sacking staff surpassed the \$286.6 million revenue shortfall from international students in 2020. In all, 2,162 staff lost their jobs.

TL:DR

- NSW Auditor-General has revealed that university spending on sacking staff surpassed the \$286.6 million revenue shortfall from international students in 2020.
- In all, 2,162 staff lost their jobs.

University regulator tries to block Australian students from using alleged cheating website. The Guardian

TEQSA wants 51 internet service providers to block access to Assignmenthelp4you.com and has launched action in the federal court seeking to block Australian students from accessing the site.

Australian universities may allow pseudonyms to protect students including those critical of China. The Guardian

University leaders are considering major changes as research shows students have faced intimidation for criticising Beijing.

Australian universities may allow students to submit written assignments under pseudonyms and in hard copy amid growing concerns about foreign government-linked harassment over politically sensitive topics.

As well universities are considering a range of options to protect academic freedom, including making it a disciplinary offence if students record some classes or share them with outside groups.

Human Rights Watch Report

<https://www.hrw.org/report/2021/06/30/they-dont-understand-fear-we-have/how-chinas-long-reach-repression-undermines>

Universities Australia statement

<https://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/media-item/universities-australia-condemns-all-forms-of-coercion-on-campus-and-in-the-classroom/>

TL:DR

- Australian universities may allow students to submit written assignments under pseudonyms and make it a disciplinary offence if students record some classes or share them.

Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021

On 1 July 2021, the Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021 came into effect.

The revised framework incorporated the recommendations of the 2019 review of Provider Category Standards by Professor Peter Coaldrake, who is now chief commissioner of TEQSA.

The reforms include the new University College category, which recognises high-quality institutions and provides them with new opportunities to develop course offerings that meet the future needs of students, employers, industry and communities.

The Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) Act 2021 sets out defining criteria for the institutions regulated by TEQSA, including the level of research activity an institution must conduct if it is to be classified as a university.

There were only minor updates to Part A of the Threshold Standards, while Part B was completely rewritten.

<https://www.teqsa.gov.au/overview-changes>

<https://www.teqsa.gov.au/higher-education-standards-framework-2021>

<https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2021L00488>

TL:DR

On 1 July 2021, the *Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021* came into effect.

Harvard and MIT sell edX for \$US800m

US education-technology company 2U, which runs graduate programs for dozens of top universities, is buying web-based course provider eEdX, a non-profit founded by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, for \$US800 million.

eEdX was founded by Harvard and MIT in 2012, its aim to democratise elite education with free classes, taught by top professors, available to students globally. Over time, it added completion certificates, available for a fee, and course sequences that, when stacked together, could lead to credentials and ultimately a degree. It also began providing corporate training in subjects including entrepreneurship and cybersecurity.

edX has more than 160 university partners, with more than 2,000 courses in areas including machine learning, negotiations and computer programming.

It will operate as a public-benefit entity within 2U, which said it has committed to continuing free access for those who just want to audit classes and not earn credentials, as well as to providing stackable credentials and low-cost degrees.

TL:DR

edX sold for \$800m

What intergenerational Report means for education. Campus Morning Mail

The fifth [Intergenerational Report](#), was released on June 28.

The implication for universities is that there are likely to be fewer domestic students on campus, fewer academics and professional support staff, and the on-going competition for resources is likely to be fiercer than ever.

Total Australian Government spending on education and training is projected to increase in absolute terms, with real spending per person expected to increase from \$1,540 in 2021-22 to \$1,620 in 2060-61. If HELP loans and VSL are taken into account, then real spending per person is expected to increase from \$1,830 in 2021-22 to \$2,040 in 2060-61.

While increasing in absolute and real terms, spending on education and training is projected to decrease from 1.9 per cent of GDP in 2021-22 to 1.2 per cent in 2060-61. This decrease as a share of GDP largely reflects slowing population growth. The trend is similar to the 2015 Intergenerational Report which projected spending on education and training would decline to 1.0 per cent of GDP by 2054-55.

The proportion of the population in the principal age group for education (5 to 24 years old) has decreased from 27.5 per cent in 2001-02 to an estimated 24.6 per cent in 2021-22. It is expected that the proportion of the population in this age group will fall to 22.1 per cent by 2060-61.

Therefore the “boom” years for enrolments in Australian universities are over. This has been widely debated over the past two years. From 1989 to 2018 annual domestic student enrolment growth was 3.4 per cent.

Prior to the pandemic, there were [estimates](#) that the projected growth in domestic enrolments to 2030 would be 1.2 per cent per year, which is less than half than the annual average growth observed over the past three decades. However, the estimated annual growth is likely to be slightly less now.

Year 12 enrolments is projected to remain flat for some years.

The pandemic has forced everyone to adopt new ways of working and doing things, and hybrid ways are the new norm. These are likely to impact on the ability of universities to deliver education and training, undertake research, engage with industry and communities, and fulfill government policy objectives.

The number of academic and professional staff working in universities is unlikely to return to pre-pandemic levels. Student to academic staff ratios are likely to continue to worsen over the next few years. In turn this may mean that the levels of student engagement and satisfaction with the quality of education is likely to suffer.

<https://campusmorningmail.com.au/news/the-intergen-report-outlook-for-education/>

TL:DR

- Real spending per person expected to increase from \$1,540 in 2021-22 to \$1,620 in 2060-61.
- If HELP loans and VSL are taken into account, then real spending per person is expected to increase from \$1,830 in 2021-22 to \$2,040 in 2060-61.
- The proportion of the population in the principal age group for education (5 to 24 years old) is estimated to decrease from 24.6% in 2021/22 to 22.1 per cent by 2060-61.
- Hybrid ways of working are the new norm and will impact learning and research
- The number of academic and professional staff working in universities is unlikely to return to pre-pandemic levels.
- Student to academic staff ratios are likely to continue to worsen

Public apology from University of Adelaide

The University of Adelaide has issued a public apology to sexual assault victims while promising a raft of changes to improve the handling of reports of sexual assault and harassment, in response to an independent review, as hundreds of school students rallied in the city against sexual violence.

Data obtained by the ABC last year showed the university had received more than [50 reports of sexual assault and harassment](#) since the beginning of 2018 up until September 2020.

Uni of Newcastle

Former National Party leader Mark Vaile has withdrawn from taking the position of Chancellor at the University of Newcastle after opposition about his connections to the coal industry. Sixteen philanthropists blacklisted the University of Newcastle over its decision to appoint Mark Vaile as its new chancellor. Mr Vaile, who was deputy prime minister from 2005 to 2007, is chairman of major coal producer Whitehaven Coal. Education Minister Alan Tudge said this was an example of cancel culture.

Gov't extends FEE-HELP loan fee exemptions for a further six months

Around 30,000 Australian students will benefit from legislation passed through the Senate in June that extends FEE-HELP loan fee exemptions for a further six months.

Usually, using FEE-HELP to pay for undergraduate study at a non-university higher education provider incurs a 20 per cent loan fee.

The loan fees were waived during 2020 to lessen the impact of COVID-19 on students and providers. The passing of the legislation today means the waivers will continue until 31 December 2021.

The *Higher Education Support Amendment (Extending the Student Loan Fee Exemption) Bill 2021* is part of the Morrison Government's \$53.6 million support package for international education providers most affected by COVID-19 border closures.

Students who receive HECS-HELP assistance and attend public universities do not pay these loan fees.

. The package also includes:

- \$26.1 million for an extra 5000 short course places in 2021-22 at non-university higher education providers
- \$9.4 million for the Innovation Fund to help providers grow offshore and online delivery. Applications for grants are now open.
- \$17.7 million to further extend the pause on fees and charges from CRICOS (Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students), TEQSA (Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency), and ASQA (Australian Skills Quality Authority) until 31 December 2021.

The non-university higher education sector is calling for Government to abolish the fees.

TL;DR

- In June, the Federal Government extended the FEE-HELP loan fee exemptions for a further six months.
- The *Higher Education Support Amendment (Extending the Student Loan Fee Exemption) Bill 2021* is part of the Morrison Government's \$53.6 million support package for international education providers most affected by COVID-19 border closures

Australian Government Approves Quarantine Hub Plan For International Students

A proposed quarantine hub based at Parafield Airport allowing international students to return to South Australia has been approved by the federal government.

International students will be able to complete two weeks' quarantine upon arrival at the hub.

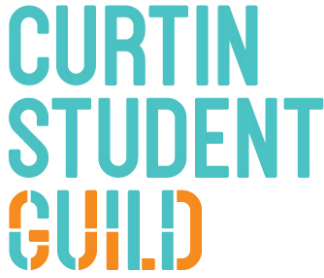
South Australia Health approved the plan for international students in May but progress depended on approval from the federal government.

The hub will host up to 160 international students while Australians returning from overseas will use medi-hotels in the CBD.

According to Universities Australia there are more than 10,000 higher education students studying with South Australian institutions who were outside the country.

TL:DR

- A proposed quarantine hub based at Parafield Airport allowing international students to return to South Australia has been approved by the federal government.



Student Guild of Curtin University

Representation Board – Meeting #7

To be held at 10AM on Thursday the 22nd of July 2021

In 100.301

Motion: Referendum on the National Union of Students (NUS)

Motion: That the Representation Board recommend to the Guild Council the holding of a referendum to run concurrently with the Annual Elections.

The proposition being: "That the Curtin Student Guild leave the National Union of Students for 2022".

That the Guild Council appoint agents for the 'Yes' and 'No' campaigns with preference given to members of the Representation Board.

Moved: Clare Metcalf

Seconded: Madison Ainsworth

Background:

The National Union of Students (NUS) has been subject to ridicule and controversy. This includes due to allegations of:

- Not being effective in organising relevant campaigns that are important for students;
- Having limited mechanisms for promoting accountability and integrity;
- Failing to support State campaigns;
- Deep-rooted factionalism; and
- A large amount of financial contribution needed by students.

The affiliation to NUS conversely may be considered necessary:

- To provide solidarity with other student unions;
- For the structures necessary to encourage debate and discussion on a national level;
- To provide student unions with a stronger collective voice; and
- Other related factors.

NUS Affiliation remains a difficult decision and this motion would recommend a referendum to take the decision to be made by the student body for 2022.

Referenda are binding on the Guild Council and cannot be reversed without further referenda. This motion limits that provision for a period of roughly one year.

Confidentiality:

Open



Student Guild of Curtin University

Women's Equity Collective

Meeting #1

To be held at 2.30pm on Tuesday 18th of May 2021

In The Bridge, Building 106F

MINUTES

Meeting opens at 2:36pm.

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; Cassidy Pemberton (chair), Salwa Kilzi, Elizabeth Powell, Lauren Doney, Sarah Ong
- 2.2. Others Present; Fatma Sehic
- 2.3. Apologies and Leave of Absence; Taif Khalid
- 2.4. Absent; Paige Busher

3. Disclosure of any potential or perceived Conflicts of Interest

Fatma briefly describes what a conflict of interest is.

4. Reports

4.1. Women's Officer's Verbal Report

Cassidy reports that the COVID-19 lockdown impacted events.

She is completing a review of the Respectful Relationships module with the university working group.

As of last week, the Facebook group has 125 members.

Cassidy says that she has been working on the Forgotten Figures social media campaign with Salwa's help.

She says that they will hopefully have a collaborative event with the Womens' departments at other WA universities.

The WD collaborated with Soroptimist International to host a speech competition, which Cassidy also participated in.

The WD co-hosted an event with the Humanities Faculty rep for the Wellbeing Fair. They gave out goodie bags to people at the event.

Cassidy spoke with Bree, the Student Engagement Officer, about how the two portfolios could work together better.

The new Vice Chancellor (VC) visited the Guild last week and seemed quite engaged and interested in what the reps had to share.

Fatma briefly describes how a motion works.

Motion: That the Women's Collective notes the report.

Moved: Cassidy Pemberton

Seconded: Lauren Doney

No dissent is expressed by the members present.

5. Significant Items

5.1. Women's Collective Constitution

Fatma mentions that the collective's constitution is under review and she welcomes any feedback for changes.

The committee notes that a change could be made to make it so that three members of the collective can request for a special meeting to be held.

Cassidy notes that Representation Board is on Thursday if the collective members are interested in attending.

Salwa asks if the membership can be changed to state "female identifying".

Sarah asks if all the collective members are required to give verbal reports. Cassidy says that the verbal report is only compulsory for herself as the Womens' Officer to make. Other members can be given the space to give verbal reports but it won't be compulsory.

Motion: That the Women's Collective notes they have read through the Women's Collective Constitution and understands it.

Moved: Cassidy Pemberton

Seconded: Elizabeth Powell

No dissent is expressed.

5.2. Discussion and nomination of Secretary role

Cassidy and Fatma briefly speak about the role of the secretary for the collective.

Salwa nominates herself for the position of secretary.

Salwa asks about who the secretary will receive training from. Fatma responds that she will be conducting the training.

5.3. Briefing on Women's Department/Guild processes

Cassidy explains the structure of the guild.

She mentions that there is the student representative side of the Guild and the professional staff side. The student reps include five Executives: the President, Secretary, Vice President Education, Vice President Activities and the Chair of Representation Board. There are also four Faculty Representatives, six Equity Officers, as well as Ordinary Representation Board members and Guild Councillors.

The student engagement team is part of the professional staff side of the Guild and help with things like making sure posts align with branding. There is also the student experience team which deals with events and clubs. She also mentions Student Assist.

Lauren asks where they can get their nomination fees back. Fatma says they can do this at reception.

Cassidy says she sees her role as having two sides: representation and community building.

5.4. The WO's ideas for the collective

Cassidy mentions that she would like to have a Social Media Manager.

She says she would like to be more active on social media and mentions the ideas of a weekly update and weekly affirmations.

She also wanted an Events Manager to help host catch ups with the Womens community every 6 weeks. She is currently planning a pottery painting party.

Sarah expresses interested in helping with social media.

Salwa asks about a Discord server. Cassidy mentions that the server is essentially created but has not published. Salwa expresses interest in leading this project.

Elizabeth expresses interest in being involved with event management.

6. Collaborative Brainstorming

The collective members brainstorm a variety of ideas:

- Womens' night at the Tav.
- Casino and pub crawls.
- Cookies and bake sale.

- Charity event (potentially the bake sale could be a charity event)
- Self-defence classes.
- Feminist book reviews.
- A womens' newspaper.
- Rabble babble – an organisation with LGBTQI+ literature stories and readings in drag.
- Google doc to submit about things they would like to talk about, similar to the Confessions at Curtin webpage.
- Weekly newsletter.
- Makeup and hair tutorials. Students currently studying at TAFE could be invited to present these tutorials.
- Teaching fathers to braid their daughters' hair.
- Merchandise sale (featuring womens empowerment designs)
- Uniform for collective members

The collectives also discuss raising more awareness about patriarchal stereotypes regarding sexual interactions.

The collective mentions the desire to have a variety of events and show off the broadness of femininity.

- 6.1. Advocacy
- 6.2. Social media
- 6.3. Events
- 6.4. General

7. General Business

Sarah expresses concerns about the impact of domestic violence on women and suggests that this is an issue the collective could tackle.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Women's Equity Collective is Tuesday 22nd June at 2.30pm.

Submit documents and motions to be included in the next meeting's agenda no later than three days before the meeting to women@guild.curtin.edu.au.

Meeting closed at 4:05PM.