



# Guild President 2023 September Report

Dylan Botica

## President's Representation Board Report

**Covering Dates:** 15/08/2023 – 14/09/2023

**Submitted to:** September Representation Board

**Leave:** Nil

### University / External Meetings

Date	Meeting	Comments
15/08/2023	Leadership Matters – Premier Roger Cook	
16/08/2023	COO - Parking Meeting	Parking updates are below
17/08/2023	Academic Board Executive	
18/08/2023	Hilton Hotel Tour	15% Discount secured for Guild members and improved rates for clubs.
21/08/2023	NUS Small and Regional Officer	
22/08/2023	SSAFEAC	
23/08/2023	Global Leaders Summit Meeting	GLS has been cancelled for 2023
24/08/2023	A/DVC-G Meeting	
24/08/2023	Library Staff Catch-Up	
25/08/2023	GROK Meeting	To discuss pre-election matters
25/08/2023	Academic Board	
29/08/2023	Academic Freedom and Foreign Interference	
29/08/2023	Sexual Harm Primary Prevention for Students	
4/09/2023	2023 VC's Excellence Awards - Nomination Review	

4/09/2023	Misconduct Rules Discussion	
7/09/2023	2023 VC Excellence Awards Committee meeting	
7/09/2023	BDE – Palestine Meeting	
14/09/2023	DVC-A Meeting	

### 1. Guild Meetings

Date	Meeting	Comments
15/08/2023	Deadnaming Project Catch Up	
16/08/2023	Queer Officer Catch Up	
17/08/2023	Higher Education	
17/08/2023	Representation Board	
21/08/2023	Legal Committee	On by-law amendments necessary for Regulation amendments.
22/08/2023	Operations Committee	
23/08/2023	Executive Committee	
23/08/2023	Academic Board Briefing	
24/08/2023	Guild Council	
25/08/2023	Club Project Update	
25/08/2023	Executive x MD	Item arising from Guild Council
28/08/2023	President x MD	
28/08/2023	President x Student Engagement	
29/08/2023	Student Engagement Brainstorming	
31/08/2023	Dissolved Club Bank Account Discussion	
4/09/2023	President x MD	
4/09/2023	President x Student Engagement	

7/09/2023	Student Assist Catch Up	
7/09/2023	Staff Awards	
8/09/2023	Guild Ball	
11/09/2023	Executive Committee	
13/09/2023	Finance and Risk Committee	
14/09/2023	Branding Meeting	With all Student Engagement team members
14/09/2023	Higher Education	

## 2. Items of Significance

### 2.1. SSAF Survey

Based on the Government requirement for consultation of SSAF projects myself and the Academic Registrar launched a SSAF survey that has garnered over 800 responses, signaling strong engagement from our students. The majority of respondents express a positive sentiment toward SSAF. Jon is finalizing a letter to the Department, and I have expressed interest in commencing the Academic Calendar review process. We will keep the board updated as developments occur.

### 2.2 Student Housing

I've made significant progress in addressing the concerns raised by students not covered by the Residential Tenancy Act. The Minister for Education, Dr. Tony Buti MLA has corresponded with the Vice Chancellor asking for an investigation and response. We are currently reviewing the response provided by the University and have identified several factual discrepancies that we plan to address in our follow-up communication. Chantal from Make Renting Fair WA (which the Guild is a member of) suggested that we include specific examples of third-party providers' actions that contradict the information provided, and she recommended involving Minister Ellery in this conversation, given her responsibility for RTA reforms. To further strengthen our position, Chantal also proposed the possibility of collaborating with other university guilds to jointly address the issue and emphasize our collective request for student accommodation inclusion in RTA reforms. We will keep you updated as we progress in our advocacy efforts.

In light of the substantial increase in student housing rent, Student Assist and I are committed to addressing this issue on behalf of our students. To initiate a resolution, we will first conduct a thorough analysis of the rent hike, including its impact on students. We've had a response from the University to understand the rationale behind the increase. We will focus on negotiating fair and transparent rent adjustments, while also seeking additional financial support options for affected students including returning the subsidy for specific equity / rural / regional groups.

### 2.3 Academic Calender

Senior university sources have indicated a strong likelihood of the return of tuition-free weeks, with the review process seemingly a mere formality. Over the past month, we have made significant progress in our efforts to address this matter. The University has initiated the review of the academic calendar, and we have successfully focused its scope on the specific changes from the previous calendar, particularly the removal of tuition-free weeks. This strategic approach limits the University's ability to reintroduce trimesters without due consideration. I have also recommended the inclusion of Guild representatives on the review panel, a suggestion that is currently under active consideration. We will continue to monitor this situation closely and provide further updates as the review progresses.

#### 2.4 Parking

We have made significant progress, with Curtin University planning to introduce ongoing 'Food for Fines' and volunteering initiatives in response to our advocacy efforts and the support of nearly 8,000 students and staff who signed our petition. While these initiatives are promising, it's important to note that the University's fundamental stance on parking remains unchanged, with them believing that the current system is fit for purpose. We will continue to push for improvements and keep you updated on our progress.

#### 4 Travel

Nil

## Vice President – Education

Representation Board Report – 11/08/2023 – 8/09/2023

Veronika Gobba – She/Her

Date	Meetings	Comments
11/8/23	Office Bearer Sem 2 check-in (2 <sup>nd</sup> session)	
14/8/23	Voice to parliament explainer + Q&A with Dr Britta Biedermann for lecture	
	VPE x FBL rep Check-in	
	Respect at Curtin Specialist Advisory Committee	Reviewing Curtin's naming and definition of SA/SH in policy
16/8/23	Sustainability stall with DIY coffee scrub give-away	
17/8/23	VPE x Health Sci rep Check-in	
	Higher ed	
	Representation Board	
21/8/23	VPE x PSC President Check-in	
22/8/23	Curtin Interview Panel for Manager, Student Misconduct	
23/8/23	VPE x QO Meeting	
	Exec Committee	
	SAP Check-in	
25/8/23	Academic Board	
	Clubs Project Meeting	
	Executive Committee	
28/8/23	VPE x FBL Check-in	
29/8/23	Student Assist & AO Check-in	
30/8/23	Student Voice Australia Student Network Session, Accords Interim Report session	Besides the chair, I was the only other student attending and then a few university staff members from around Australia joined as well. Disappointing to see that SVA has very little understanding of the Accords and had

		not made any submissions and are not planning to make any submissions that push issues that students care about.
31/8/23	Enrolment drive Mt Lawley ECU	
	Enrolment drive Curtin Bentley	
1/9/23	Enrolment drive Joondalup ECU	
4/9/23	VPE x PSC President Check-in	
	Enrolment drive Joondalup	
5/9/23	University Courses committee	
6/9/23	VPE x QO Check-in	
	Enrolment drive Curtin	
7/9/23	Student assist & ISC President Check-in	
	VPE x Health Sci Rep Check-in	

### **Unit Outline Review**

288 out of the sampled 481 units have been preliminarily assessed by a team of the fac reps + two members of the PSC.

### **Australian Universities Accords**

The Curtin Student Guild has submitted a response to the interim report.

Please note I will be on leave from 11/9/23 – 21/9/23.

## **BUSINESS & LAW - Representative Board Report #9**

For the Representation Board held on Thursday the 14th of September

### Summary Of Meetings

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Type of Meeting</b>	<b>Comments</b>
SDP Meeting	11/8/2023	Committee	Consider cases of academic misconduct pertinent to FBL. - 9 cases
FBL SCC	14/8/2023	Faculty Committee	Faculty courses committee training for the student reps, a design studio framework seeking to invigorate innovation and collaboration in reference to some topics pertinent to the faculty and student experience.
VPE X FBL Catch up	14/8/2023	Guild	Check in with the VPE, topics covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assessment framework redesign to make the transition to university easier for first years</li> <li>- Academic misconduct prevention, potential for mandatory draft turnitin portals.</li> </ul>
FBL Student Engagement Team x Guild Rep catch up	17/8/2023	Faculty	Discussion as to the logistics of the Angazi Fryday and the upcoming cultural immersion execution to Northam. Critical feedback for the SCC training.
SDP Meeting	18/8/2023	Committee	Consider cases of academic misconduct pertinent to FBL. - 11 cases
Meeting x Leigh	18/8/2023	Faculty	A catch up with Leigh smith,

Smith			Director learning and teaching - Law School. We discussed the Law Schools process for academic misconduct findings and the importance of ensuring the sanctity of the discipline.
Angazi Fryday collective discussion	21/8/2023	Guild x Faculty	A collection of myself, Athina, Tanya and Hannah Wilkinson. Some may say the Avengers... We nussed out the logistics of getting the Angazi Fryday event off the ground and produced a framework both parties were happy with.
Meeting x Felix Chan + Dr Kim Nguyen + KT	23/8/2023	Faculty	A collective meeting which largely consisted of catch ups. Inquiring about the school resulted in light being shed on the schools progress in their strategic plan. I raised a student concern that had been passed onto me from Student Assist.
SDP Representatives Meeting and catch up	24/8/2023	Committee x Rep check in	Open discussion about consistency, changing perspectives and tackling case loads for SDP. Results were to push for greater regulatory frameworks and consistency at a school or faculty level when tackling cases on subjects such as AI
SDP Meeting	25/8/2023	Committee	Consider cases of academic misconduct pertinent to FBL. - 13 cases
VPA X FBL Catch up	28/8/2023	Guild	Finalizing details for the headache that has been the Angazi Fryday...
VPE X FBL Catch up	28/8/2023	Guild	Discussion of management and marketing moving to flipped units
FBL SCC	30/8/2023	Faculty Committee	Pilot discussion on Generative Intelligence and the regulation of AI.
FBL SAP Redesign: Economics	30/8/2023	SAP x Faculty	Continuation of the work undertaken by the Excellence in assessment research team to



			redesign assessment rubrics in a way that will boost utility and engagement on behalf of students transitioning to uni life from year 12 or international, this undertaking saw us redesign for the economics discipline.
SAP Project Christina Do meeting	30/8/2023	SAP x Faculty	Meeting to sort out travel to the national roundtable for Students as Partners. Including flights and accommodation.
SDP Meeting	31/8/2023	Committee	Consider cases of academic misconduct pertinent to FBL. - 10 cases
FBL Student Engagement Team x Guild Rep catch up	31/8/2023	Faculty	Discussion of the key takeaways from the session on Gen AI, marketing for the Angazi Fryday.
FBL SCC	4/8/2023	Faculty Committee	Discussion of the First year student experience, and how to improve student engagement and club registration. (one person said to bring back the commerce club...)
Catch up director teaching & learning M&M	4/8/2023	Faculty	Discussion on flipped units within Management and Marketing.
SDP Meeting	6/8/2023	Committee	Consider cases of academic misconduct pertinent to FBL. - 14 cases
Meeting x Narrelle Morris	6/8/2023	Faculty	This discussion pertained to efforts to make operations more sustainable within the school

---

## Final Notes:

- I have meetings planned with the Heads of School for next month and therefore updates shall be provided on a school basis.
- The next month will likely see me increasingly pressure the faculty to do more on the grounds of sustainability. This will include meetings with the directors of teaching and learning on the basis of inclusion of SDGs and ESGs in tuition beyond tokenistic iteration in common core units.

- I have begun work on a student reflective perspective into a paper produced on behalf of an independent research group that I have been involved with in the faculty and will present on this paper in Melbourne at the end of the month.
  - The SCC re-design got underway and has been launched and concluded for this semester. Some really insightful policies produced as a result.
  - New staff within the faculty have been warm and receptive to meeting me, offering student inclusion where possible and enabling a Guild student perspective at the table.
-

Science and Engineering faculty Report

Zhongzheng (Max) Zhang (He/Him)

Representation Board – September 2023

Date	Event type	Event to note	Comments
11/08/2023	Meeting	OB fire up meeting	Discussed goals and projects for Sem 2, as well as feedback for Guild exec as fac rep.
14/08/2023	Meeting	Faculty Executive Meeting	Discussed student experience program and how it affects the faculty, and planned future actions.
15/08/2023	Meeting	SDP Meeting	
21/08/2023	Meeting	SDP Meeting	
23/08/2023	Meeting	Faculty Research and Development Meeting	
24/08/2023	Meeting	SDP Catch up	Discussed approach to GenAI and various other topics about the SDP process, as well as the backlog of cases and slow progress due to the number of cases.
25/08/2023	Meeting	SDP Meeting	
28/08/2023	Meeting	Faculty Executive Meeting	<p>Discussed foreign interference and influence on campus and in research, as well as certain problem groups of students who report to their home country's embassies about other student activities.</p> <p>Dean Learning and Teaching discussed approval of new courses starting 2024, establishment of UN SDGs working group, teaching quality and delivery, and impact of Gen AI on course/unit/assessment design.</p> <p>Director Student Engagement discussed national and state recognition of SciEng outreach activities and the faculty's university leading retention statistics of 87%, as well as the diversity challenge in the faculty, especially regarding activities that only appeal to certain groups of students.</p>
05/09/2023	Meeting	SDP Meeting	
06/09/2023	Meeting	Learning and Teaching Council Meeting	Discussed heavy usage of library, around 8000 visits per day, development of basic Gen AI guide on UniSkills page, discussed adding IEEE referencing guide on library page, which is used by at least 70 units and does not currently have support/materials on the library website.
07/09/2023	Meeting	Faculty Graduate Studies Committee	

## HUMANITIES FACULTY REPORT – SEPTEMBER

JUDE SOUSSAN

DATE	WHAT	NOTES
18/09/2023	Student Disciplinary Panel	
21/09/2023	Humanities Watercolours event	Great turnout with mostly international students!
22/09/2023	Meeting with Humira and Athina	Spoke about the watercolours event and some misconduct cases.
24/09/2023	SDP reps meeting	To discuss how to deal with generative AI cases more cohesively and fairly.
24/09/2023	HUM LSEC	My first time attending! I presented a guild report that was received positively.
25/09/2023	Interview with Dhanya from Grok on Love week/Watercolours event	
06/09/2023	Ongoing work on unit outline reviews	
06/09/2023	Catch up with student senior partner	Discussed issues with misconduct cases

## September 2023 Representation Board Report – Student Assist

Case statistics for Student Assist is as follows:

	June	July	August
Academic sessions	289	337	301
Financial Counselling sessions	21	41	34
LifeHacks	75	99	138

Academic sessions in the month of August were mainly in relation to complaints and academic misconducts.

### **Welfare**

Student Assist provided emergency relief to 1 domestic student through our Hardship Grant.

12 Loan Laptops were loaned out in August.



PSC President's Report

SUBMISSION DATE: 11/09/2023

FOR MEETING DATE: 14/09/2023

NAME: Mitch Craig

POSITION: PSC President

### **GUILD MEETINGS/EVENTS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Comments</b>
10/09/2023	Journey Through Academia	Event aimed at research candidate, approx. 40 people attended, 3 panellists, was very well received by attendees
17/08/2023	Higher Ed	Higher education updates
17/08/2023	Reps Board	See Minutes
21/08/2023	Catchup w/Veronika	Update on current postgrad issues
23/08/2023	exec	
24/08/2023	Guild Council	Attended as an observer
25/08/2023	Academic Board pre-meeting	Met w/Veronika, Dylan & Bhaarath to go through AB agenda pack
25/08/2023	Exec x MD	
30/08/2023	Equity Festival & ISC/PSC BBQ	I was BBQ captain, the BBQ was efficient, well received, and tasty.

### **UNIVERSITY MEETINGS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Comments</b>
25/08/2023	Academic Board	Discussed student experience, how the university is performing in specific initiatives, made recommendations for improvements
01/09/2023	3 Minute Thesis – Curtin Final	I was the Master of Ceremonies for the 3MT Final. It was an excellent showcase with some fantastic presentation by PhD candidates
04/09/2023	Science & Engineering Graduation	

### **PROJECTS/General**

- Has been quiet in terms of university meetings
- Delivered some fantastic events for postgrads
- I had a lot of positive feedback from those that attended the “Journey Through Academia” panel event

- I have continued to work on my projects including:
  - Software for HDRs
  - Improvement to the Milestone processes
  - Better resources and information for postgrads around their requirements and the processes
  - Improved Travel procedures for students
  - Improved supervisor training
  - Additional free training for HDRs

### **KPIs**

- Making excellent progress on my projects/campaigns
- Delivered 2 events for postgrads
- Have responded to emails promptly
- I have attended all required meetings

### **tl;dr**

Not too many meetings but very productive on my projects. Delivered some fantastic events!

**QUEER OFFICER'S Report**  
**Representation Board Meeting 10/2023 – 14.09.23**  
**07.09.2023**



**GUILD MEETINGS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Weekly	VPE x QO Check-in	Check in's and updates on what I'm up to and where everything is at
11.08	Fire-up Meeting	
15.08	Deadnaming Project Page Meeting	Planning to create a page on the Guild Projects webpage to keep students up to date on what is happening regarding this project
16.08	QO Deadnaming Check-In with President	Update for the president on where the deadnaming and we all need to pee projects are after the meeting with the DVCA
16.08	QO x VPA	Planning for Curtin Pride parade and for the Guild's upcoming Equity festival
23.08	Executive Committee	Sat in to talk about the changes made to the Guilds Gender Affirmation Policy
27.08	Meeting with Womens Officer	Drafting Item for GEIAG Agenda
01.09	Queer Collective Meeting	Catch up and discussion on current projects (deadnaming and we all need to pee) and planning/discussing upcoming Curtin Pride Event

**UNIVERSITY MEETINGS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Notes</b>
15.08	Curriculum Queering Community of Practice #2	UWA Medical Student presenting on Case-based learning for LGBTQIA+SB health education and inclusive care
16.08	Catch up with Sheldon Smith	Catch up on how the projects are going and organising ourselves to prepare for the meeting with the DVC-A
16.08	Monthly Meeting with DVCA, Sheldon Smith and QO	Updating Paul (DVC-A) on the QD's projects (specifically deadnaming and we all need to pee) as well as the Curtin Pride Parade.
29.08	Sexual Harm Primary Prevention for Students	The first of a few meetings. Everyone was bringing forward the issues



		currently faced on campus and some potential fixes and ways forward.
01.09	Meeting with Women's Officer, Robyn Westgate and Sheldon Smith	Discussion around the MATE Bystander training and potential ways of bringing it to students
01.09	Meeting with Bri McKenzie (Professional Learning Designer)	Discussions on how to provide teaching staff with training/awareness on issues surrounding deadnaming and misgendering of students
07.09	Gender Equity and Inclusion Advisory Group	First proper meeting for this group. Main take away was the agenda item around bathrooms on campus (coming out of we all need to pee project). Was good to hear how others might be able to contribute to potential future fixes.

## **OTHER MEETINGS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Notes</b>
23.08	Wear it Purple Dinner Event Briefing	Met with St Catherines Associate Dean to discuss the upcoming Dinner event and what to expect
24.08	Interview w/ Journalism Student	Talking about Wear it Purple Day and it's importance
29.08	St Catherine's Wear It Purple Day Dinner Event	A very fancy dinner where I got the opportunity to speak to the students there about the importance of self-expression and individuality (this year's themes).
05.09	Graduation Ceremony – Student Rep	

## **PROJECTS**

**Deadnaming:** The business analysts are currently settling into their role and getting ready to begin working towards identifying long-term solutions for all of Curtin's systems. In the meantime, we now have a dedicated project page on the Guild website for the deadnaming project so that students can keep up to date on the current focus of the working group and what has already been resolved. This will allow us to keep students informed and up to date on what is happening regarding this project. There are still a few issues with Microsoft display names not updating for students who have updated their preferred name, however I have set up a form for students to provide me with their Student ID's so that I can direct DTS to fixing it on a case-by-case basis.

We All Need to Pee: There has not been another meeting since the last month, however, there has still been some progress made. I was able to discuss the campaign and its issues up with the DVC-A and we now have confirmation that we will be meeting with him and other members of senior leadership towards the end of the semester to properly present these issues and the potential solutions to those with the ability to implement the required changes. Also, in collaboration with the Women's Officer, we brought this campaign and the related issues with bathrooms on campus held by the Women's department to the Gender Equity and Inclusion Advisory Group to both bring the group into the loop on what the issues are and to also see if any of the members have the ability to assist on these issues.

## **OTHER**

Equity Festival: Unfortunately, I was not able to attend due to my health, however from the sounds of it was very well received and a fun day for everyone.

Curtin Ally Micro-Trainings: Sheldon and I have worked together to create a training booklet to go along with three sessions of Ally training focusing on deadnaming and misgendering for Curtin Connect. These cover inclusive language, pronouns (including neo-pronouns), misgendering and deadnaming and give guides and outlines on how to not only be more inclusive but also how to correct themselves when mistakes are made. This came out of the deadnaming project and will hopefully expand and be given to other student facing areas of Curtin and people will be credited as Ally Level 1 upon completion of all three sessions.

***IMARI MORRIS (He/They)***  
***QUEER OFFICER***

## Women's Officer Report - Representation Board

14/09/2023

Date	Meeting	Comments
22/08/2023	Pad Run with QO	
24/08/2023	Love week	Went amazing!
25/08/2023	Love week	
25/08/2023	HEAPPS Event	Got to talk to some amazing people within the university and other universities.
29/08/2023	Sexual Harm and Primary Prevention for Students	Good discussion; next meeting to be on 20 <sup>th</sup> September.
30/08/2023	Equity Festival	Amazing turnout!
31/08/2023	MATE Bystander Training at Respect at Curtin	Further Information Below.
01/09/2023	Meeting with Sheldon and Robyn	Further Information Below.
7/09/2023	Gender Equity and Inclusion Advisory Group	Talked about Bathroom issues on campus.

### Equity Festival

For the Equity Festival, I facilitated decorating and potting plants. It was really popular, and we ended up finishing the pots and succulents not long into the event. I also learned how to pot plants in the process! It was a shame we ran out so quickly as there was much interest in taking part, but nevertheless, it means that people enjoyed it. As many people loved it and thought it was a really cute thing to do, I think this will be well received in future years as well (with more pots and succulents!) if reps want to continue doing it. A big thank you to Athina, the VPA, for making this happen and for all the effort she put into this.

### MATE Bystander Training

I sat in for the VPE at the Respect at Curtin Committee, where we were presented with a condensed version of the MATE Bystander Training. I found it very comprehensive and helpful, and later, I reached out to Sheldon and Robyn, who were running the training. We had a chat and how to bring it to both students, reps and teaching staff. I intend on working with them to bring more support to students who have been victims of Family and Domestic violence, as well as helping to make sure that Guild staff not only have the appropriate training to help students but to also keep themselves safe in the process.

### Pads

With the help of the Queer Officer, we updated the stock of pads for the equity rooms and are monitoring them for the rest of the semester and how quickly they are used up.

### **Gender Equity and Inclusion Advisory Group**

We had the first official GEI Advisory Group Meeting, where the Queer Officer and I talked about the issues with bathrooms on campus, and the group took it on board and will be communicating with relevant parties in their own fields on what is to be done before the next meeting.

**TLDR;**

**Equity Festival, MATE Bystander Training, Pads, Gender Equity and Inclusion Advisory Group.**

*Aleena Shaji*

*Women's Officer 2023*

Submitted 11/09/2023.

# Accessibility Department

## Representation Board Report: September 2023



### University/External Meetings

Date	Meeting	Notes
15/08	Student Advocacy Meeting	Notes below
16/08	DIBC 3	Had to leave early due to class
21/08	AC@C	
23/08	Meeting RE: Radiation Therapy Equity Classes	Notes below
04/09	Lab Access Discussion with Linda	Notes Below

### Guild/Student Meetings

Date	Meeting	Notes
16/08	VPE Check-in	Cancelled
29/08	Student Assist 3-month check in	
30/08	VPE Check-in	Cancelled
30/08	Equity Fest	

### Additional Information

#### Student Advocacy Meeting

A student contacted me regarding their UC refusing to implement reasonable adjustments for labs and tutorials on the grounds of alleged OHS risks, inherent requirements, and graduate competency standards. The student had previously had the same inherent requirements implemented in the labs for the same unit with no issues in a prior study period. No evidence was provided by the UC to substantiate the refusal (i.e. no risk assessments were provided), and the inherent requirements were not publicly available. We accessed the graduate competency standards from the accrediting body and found nothing that would be incompatible with the proposed adjustments. The student, myself, and the student's advocate met with the deputy head of school and placement coordinator for the course. The result of this meeting was to move the student to a smaller class where their adjustments would be implemented.

This issue is consistent with other reports from students who have had issues with staff citing Inherent Requirements of the course when denying reasonable accommodations, despite no such inherent requirements existing that would be applicable to the specific circumstances. I have notified AAS about this issue and will engage in further advocacy as required.

#### Meeting RE: Radiation Therapy Equity Classes

I was approached by a tutor in the CMS regarding running a session for Medical Radiation Science students. The first session will focus on Accessibility and Disability in practice, and is planned for

[Document title]

September 21<sup>st</sup>. The second session will take place on October 12<sup>th</sup> and will centre around Queer Inclusivity in practice (I offered to run this second session as Imari was unavailable). I'm really looking forward to this.

### Lab Access Discussion with Linda Adnyana

This meeting was set up for me to provide information regarding my experience as a wheelchair user in Chemistry Labs between 2021 and present, as well as for me to be updated on the university's progress and plans to manage lab access going forward. Reportedly PFD has now built a process to initiate changes to lab access, and the university will engage an external lab advisor to review any changes. Lab access will be a key focus of the Universal Design Subcommittee for at least the next 12 months. I was asked for the Accessibility Department to be a key point of contact for students to report lab access issues (including refusal of reasonable adjustments by UCs due to alleged inherent requirements) – I refused this for the following reasons:

- Few students engage with the AD at the time of the incident, and we are limited in our reach. This is particularly relevant when the main chemistry building is as far away from the Guild Precinct as possible, reducing student contact with the Guild.
- It should not be the responsibility of the AD to receive complaints about the university's failure to meet its legal and ethical obligations. My role is in advocating for students, not in collecting feedback on behalf of the university.
- The AD being a key point of contact relies on students coming forward with complaints after the fact (i.e. after the ableism has already happened), and hinges on the student having the knowledge, bravery, and capacity to both recognise that the university has done something wrong, and where to go to report it. It also relies on the position of AO being filled on an ongoing basis, and that the student in the role of AO has the capacity to perform ongoing reporting to the university about an issue that may or may not be within their area of expertise or interest.
- The proposed reporting through the AD is a reactive system that, by its nature, cannot capture the required information in a timely enough manner to ensure lab access for a given student in a given study period.

Instead, I advocated for mandatory training of all staff around what an Inherent Requirement actually is (e.g. it is not an inherent requirement to stand in a lab just because you don't currently have chairs in there) and the obligations of the university to provide reasonable adjustments. The university must also ensure that Inherent Requirements are published publicly for all degrees, and ensure that students are aware of their rights and where to report breaches of legal obligations.

### Other Stuff Happening

- ADHD Senate Inquiry submissions have been published and give consistent and comprehensive feedback on the shortfalls of ADHD diagnosis, treatment, and care in Australia. I am hopeful that these submissions will be used appropriately to improve the lives and experiences of people with ADHD.
- The Accessibility Audit of all general teaching spaces has been completed and the resulting report is due to be tabled at the next meeting of the Universal Design Subcommittee.
- The Universal Design Working Group is being disbanded and replaced by the Universal Design Subcommittee. I am not sure how this changes anything, but the first meeting is due to happen towards the end of November.

## Ongoing Projects

- ~~Students/Staff with Disability Procedures Review~~
  - ~~CAP De-Medicalisation~~
- ACROD Parking Review
- ~~Accessibility Audit~~
- Chemistry Laboratory Accessibility
  - ~~B316 Consultation~~
  - ~~B314 Consultation~~
  - ~~B500 Consultation~~
  - ~~B204 Consultation~~
- CSMP/CSG Stability
- DIBC
- ~~NUS HyFlex Campaign~~
- ~~ADHD Senate Inquiry Submissions~~

## Events

**AD x QD PowerPoint Party – 22/09/2023 @ 5-8pm in The Tav**

**Equity Festival – 30/08/2023**

**TL;DR** – Main focusses this month have been on advocacy regarding Lab Access and publication of inherent requirements. The PowerPoint party has now got a final date. I'm going to teach a couple of classes.

## **Glossary:**

- **AAS:** AccessAbility Services – the university body that organises and coordinates CAPs
- **AC@C:** Accessibility Collective @ Curtin. This is the University body for staff with disabilities to find social and advocacy support.
- **CAP:** Curtin Access Plan. A personalised document entitling students to reasonable adjustments to their studies enabling equitable access to education for those with specific access requirements.
- **CMS:** Curtin Medical School
- **CMS DIB:** Curtin Medical School Diversity Inclusion and Belonging Working Party.
- **CoP:** Community of Practice
- **COMPAS-S:** Checking On Mental health and Providing Alternatives to Suicide - for Students
- **CSG:** Curtin Social Group – A social group run during common free time on Wednesdays for Autistic and ADHD students who are involved in the CSMP.
- **CSMP:** Curtin Specialist Mentoring Program. This program allows Autistic students to engage in a weekly social group (CSG), as well as access to an Honours or Postgraduate Psychology student as a mentor. The mentor is there to help their Autistic mentee to navigate University and develop skills in self-advocacy, confidence, and other areas.
- **DIBC:** Diversity Inclusion and Belonging Committee
- **DVCA:** Deputy Vice Chancellor – Academic.
- **DTS:** Curtin University Digital and Technology Solutions.
- **GPG:** Gender Pay Gap

[Document title]

- **GTL:** Geoff Tucker Lab – B300.204
- **LAWG:** Laboratory Accessibility Working Group
- **NUS:** National Union of Students
- **PFD:** Properties, Facilities, and Development
- **UAT:** Universal Access Toilet
- **UDWG:** Universal Design Working Group. The University committee tasked with improving disability access across Curtin.
- **VP-E:** Vice President – Education



## Higher Education Representation Board September 2023

### **Australian Research Council grants return \$3 for every \$1 spent**

Money invested by the Australian Research Council in university research returns over \$3 for every dollar spent, according to a new study.

Economic consultants ACIL Allen found that each dollar the federal government spends on the ARC's competitive grants program leads to a \$3.32 GDP boost compared to using it for general government expenditure.

The study, which was commissioned by the ARC, examined the impact of the \$17.6 billion (in 2022 dollars) in competitive grants which the council awarded to university researchers in the 20 year period from 2002 to 2021.

The report, titled Impact Assessment of ARC-funded Research, also said that an average of 6571 full-time equivalent jobs will be created each year up to 2046 as a result of the ARC grants. The peak employment impact will come in 2029 when about 15,000 full-time equivalent jobs are expected to be created.

It also said that 216 start-up companies were formed using ARC-funded research projects.

[media release](#)

[publication](#)

### **Action to end rorts in international education**

26 August 2023

The Albanese Government is today announcing a package of measures to support integrity in the international education system and to support genuine international students.

International education is our fourth largest export industry and maintaining the quality and integrity of this sector is critical for the Australian economy and our relationships in our region.

The Government has closed a loophole which allows education providers to shift international students who have been in Australia for less than six months from genuine study to an arrangement designed to facilitate access to work in Australia.

There has been a sharp uptake in the use of the concurrent function in 2023 – in the first half of 2023, 17,000 concurrent enrolments were created, compared to approximately 10,500 for the same period in 2019 and 2022 combined.

Recent investigations have identified this misuse of 'concurrent enrolment' as an integrity issue for the international sector. This change takes effect immediately.

The Government will also increase the amount of savings international students will need in order to get a student visa. This requirement has not been indexed since 2019 and needs to increase to reflect higher living expenses. From October 1 2023, international students will need to show evidence of \$24,505 in savings, which is a 17% increase on current levels. This increase accounts for indexation since 2019.

The Government will also consider using its powers under Section 97 of the Education Services for Overseas Students Act (ESOS Act) to issue suspension certificates to high-risk education providers. A suspension certificate means providers would not be able to recruit international students.

This would be the first time an Australian Government has used this power.

### **Australian Government response to: Trusting Australia's Ability: Review of the Australian Research Council Act 2001**

On 20 April 2023, the panel's final report – *Trusting Australia's Ability: Review of the Australian Research Council Act 2001* – was publicly released, and included ten recommendations which aim to:

- provide greater clarity of the contemporary role and purpose of the ARC through its enabling legislation
- advance support for Indigenous Australian academics through better consultation and additional fellowships
- strengthen governance by establishing an ARC Board
- reduce legislative burden and increase accounting flexibility through the ARC Endowment Account
- reform the evaluation of research excellence and impact.

The Government has agreed or agreed in principle to all the panel's recommendations.

<https://www.education.gov.au/higher-education-reviews-and-consultations/resources/australian-government-response-trusting-australias-ability-review-australian-research-council-act>

### **University costs escalate while government funding remains static. The Australian**

Universities Australia has told the federal government's [higher education review](#) that university running costs escalated by 35 per cent over a decade while government funding went up by only 2 per cent.

In its latest submission to the Universities Accord review UA called on the government "to adequately fund the shared ambitions of the government and the sector".

"Universities are critical to the nation's future, and can't do more with less," the university peak body said in its submission on the [Accord's interim report](#)

UA also called for at least an extra \$750m a year in funding for universities to pay for more of the indirect costs of research, such as research infrastructure and support services.

The group said this was the minimum amount necessary to maintain Australia's research capability and would mean universities would receive 50c for every dollar of direct government research funding, up from 20c at the moment.

In its submission the Group of Eight universities called on the government to fund the full economic cost of research within a decade and recommended a detailed bench-marking exercise to determine the economic cost of doing research, including differences in cost by discipline and differences in cost at each university which took into account quality and impact of the research product.

UA, which represents 39 universities with widely differing interests – and thus often cannot resolve its position on key issues – did not offer a view on the [controversial levy on international student fees](#) which was put forward as an idea to consider in the Accord interim report.

However the Go8 universities, which dominate the international student market and gain the most in international student fees, condemned the proposed levy as an "envy tax".

"This redistributive tax would create countless unintended consequences, damage our higher education sector and international reputation," said Go8 chief executive Vicki Thomson.

The levy was originally proposed by University of Technology Sydney vice-chancellor Andrew Parfitt and University of Newcastle vice-chancellor Alex Zelinsky, both from the Australian Technology Network subgroup of Universities.

In its submission on the Accord the ATN did not specifically endorse the international student levy but said it would require "a long-term, stable and matched Commonwealth funding commitment" otherwise the money raised will be unlikely to achieve equity and sustainability goals".

However another university subgroup, the Innovative Research Universities, opposed the levy in its submission. However the IRU did said it supported "a mechanism for redistribution of public funding to areas of greatest need and impact".

"Accord agreements should be used in this way and take into account other (non-government) sources of university revenue when prioritising the allocation of public funds," the IRU submission said.

The seven member IRU is clearly saying that universities with high levels of international student income – such as the University of Sydney which earned \$1.4bn in international student fees in 2022 – should have these earnings taken into account when government higher funding is distributed.

In its submission the ATN called on the government to put a “high priority” on supporting the learning needs of under-represented students such as those with a disability, who are indigenous, who are first in family at university or from a regional or remote area.

Education Minister Jason Clare has already made clear his commitment to raise the level of higher education attainment by making make university available to tens of thousands of students from under-represented groups

However the ATN warned that such support was expensive, pointing to a recent study which found the average annual cost of an undergraduate full-time student from a low socio-economic group was \$109,430, compared with an average annual cost of \$17,360 for medium and high SES students. The ATN said it supported a block payment to universities to meet the needs of such students instead of a formula approach based on numbers of students.

It said that university funding should recognise the institutions which “are doing the hard work to improve participation and attainment of under-represented groups.”

In its submission UA did not take a view on a key issue emerging in the Accord review – establishing a Tertiary Education Commission to oversee universities. However, UA said that if it was recommended it should be a medium-term – rather than a short- term – action because it would be complex to establish and do well.

### **In the past 30 years universities became top-heavy with senior staff. The Australian**

Australian universities are top-heavy with senior staff compared with how they were three decades ago, and junior staff university staff have paid the price.

A new study of the higher education workforce has found that professors made up one in seven academic staff in 1989 but the ratio had shifted to one in four by 2020.

The study, [Three Decades of Change in Australia's University Workforce](#), found that the ranks of professional staff also became top-heavy across the 30-year period, in part driven by technological change that removed the need for many low-level staff in less-skilled roles, and also because of increased use of external

“At the same time, there was an increase in the proportion of the most [senior leadership roles](#) within universities, with the number of senior executives per staff member more than doubling,” says the study by Gwilym Croucher of the Melbourne Centre for the Study of Higher Education.

It also found a significant reduction in the proportion of tenured academic roles. In 1989 about nine in 10 positions at the C, D and E levels (middle to senior roles) were tenured, but this proportion is now down to about seven in 10.

Across the 30-year period tenured positions at B level went from six in 10 to five in 10, while tenured positions at the most junior A level remained at one in 10.

The study found on a full-time equivalent basis the proportion of academics employed on a [casual basis](#) went from one in 10 to two in 10, with the vast majority in casual teaching-focused roles and most of those roles occupied by women.

It also found that in 2020 women were under-represented in senior academic positions (level D and E) despite the fact they made up more than half the academic workforce and about 60 per cent of the total university workforce.

## Consultation for new uni hubs

<https://ministers.education.gov.au/clare/next-step-bringing-university-outer-suburbs>

In response to the Universities Accord Interim Report, the Government will establish up to 20 additional Regional University Study Hubs, and up to 14 new Suburban University Study Hubs.

This builds on the 34 existing Regional University Study Hubs located across the country.

To support the delivery of the new Suburban University Study Hubs, a consultation paper has been released today seeking feedback on the design of the new Hubs.

The Suburban University Study Hubs will be established in outer suburban areas without a significant physical university campus and where the percentage of the population with university qualifications is low.

The Hubs will provide spaces to support students, including those from low socio-economic backgrounds, First Nations students and people with disability.

The consultation paper seeks feedback from communities, students, state and territory governments, potential hub hosts including educational institutions and local governments, and other stakeholders.

The consultation paper and information on how to provide feedback is available [here](#). Submissions will be open until 2 October 2023.

There will be further consultation and engagement leading to a competitive application process to establish Suburban University Study Hubs in areas with an identified need for additional higher education support.

Applications for the new Suburban University Study Hubs are expected to open early next year and applications for the additional Regional University Study Hubs are expected to open later this year.

## Higher Education Support Amendment (Response to the Australian Universities Accord Interim Report) Bill 2023

[https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Bills\\_Legislation/Bills\\_Search\\_Results/Result?bid=r7060](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Bills_Legislation/Bills_Search_Results/Result?bid=r7060)

- 3rd reading House of Representatives
- Second reading Senate

Amends the *Higher Education Support Act 2003* to: expand eligibility for places in demand driven higher education courses to First Nations students; and remove the current requirement that students must pass 50 per cent of the units they study to remain eligible for a Commonwealth supported place and FEE-HELP assistance and instead require higher education providers to support students to successfully complete the units of study in which they are enrolled.

### **Kick elite out of Sydney University colleges' to beat student housing crisis. The Australian**

The body representing Sydney University students is pushing to shut down the campus's "unsafe and elite" \$500-a-week residential colleges and replace them with \$110 a week accommodation to deal with a "really dire" student housing crisis.

The Student Representative Council – made up of 41 members – is supporting a campaign to "Abolish the Colleges", which can cost up to \$30,000 a year, and replace them with "co-operative housing".

The current "STUCCO" housing model for Sydney University students located in nearby Newtown costs just over \$100 a week.

"The Usyd Residential Colleges exclude those who come from lower-income backgrounds, gatekeeping access to the advantages and opportunities provided in the elite echelons of the colleges (and) recreating generations of networks for conservatives and the rich," the SRC wrote in a motion that passed in August.

SRC president Lia Perkins said the current structure of colleges and the institutions was "unsafe" as a result of sexual violence and "elitist and should be abolished".

"We would like student-owned and publicly run housing for students on campus, in the sites the colleges are on, but not run by the same institutions they are now owned and run by," she said.

"Students are living in small pods and youth hostels ... because they can't afford anywhere else to stay. All of the uni-owned accommodation is full. Private accommodation is full. It's a really high time of crisis for students. (That's) why this has particular pertinence at the moment."

Ms Perkins said a transformation into co-op housing would be "pretty straight forward" but since many of the colleges were established under an act of state parliament, they could only be abolished that way.

The Greens have backed the students' calls, saying "so much sexual violence on campus stems from (colleges)" and they could instead "create genuinely affordable and safe housing for students".

St Andrew's College principal Rob Leach, previously deputy principal at the University of Melbourne's Ormond College, said it was "not true" that colleges were elite or unsafe.

He pointed to the fact that one-quarter of the 380 students at St Andrew's were on means-tested support, including several on full scholarships. For those then receiving extra pastoral and educational support from the college, it was "cheaper" and "much more than some students would be getting" in a share house.

"The university and government need to come to this and increase student housing, improve the quality of it, and try to provide more pastoral care and educational support ... It's a government issue," he said.

He also rebuffed suggestions colleges were dangerous places for women: "(Compared to) ABS figures for sexual assault in Australia for 18-24 year-olds, it's about twice as safe."

The 2017 Broderick review found 6 per cent of women across the university's colleges were sexually assaulted.

"We're absolutely committed to prevention and creating a culture where everyone is safe, but it's not true we're dangerous and it's not true we do nothing," Mr Leach said. "But any numbers of sexual assaults is 100 per cent too many," he added.

## Vice President – Education

Representation Board 14/10/2023 – 9/11/2023

Veronika Gobba – She/Her

### Meetings

Date	Meetings	Comments
16/10/23	VPE x PSC Check-in	
18/10/23	VPE x QO Check-in	
	Students as Partners Catch-up	
19/10/23	Guild Executive + DMD Catch-up	
	Higher Education	
	Representation Board	
23/10/23	Fieldwork Governance Group	
	Students as Partners Catch-up	
25/10/23	Equity Breakfast	
	Humanities SDP	
	Stress Less Brinner	
26/10/23	VPE x QO Check-in	
	Executive Committee	
	Higher Ed	
	Student Engagement ETA	
	Guild Council	
27/10/23	VPE x HUM Rep Check-in	
	Academic Board	
	Guild Excellence in Teaching	
31/10/23	Operations Committee	
1/1/23	Curtin Blue Sky (Future Learning Environment) Blue Sky	Attended on behalf of Guild President
	Students as Partners Catch-up	
2/11/23	AI Taskforce Meeting	Curtin is looking into alternatives to Blackboard to mitigate AI misconduct, investigating different platforms.
	Students as Partners Catch-up	
	Higher Ed	
3/11/23	VPE x QO Check-in	

	<b>ACTING AS PRESIDENT</b> ↓	
6/11/23	VPE x FBL Catch-up	
	Learning and Student Experience Committee	2024 Curtin Student Partnership Agreement noted. A Recommendation to Academic Board that there should be second tuition free weeks in the academic calendar also passed.
7/11/23	Panel Interviews for Health Sciences Director of ISOLT	
8/11/23	Global Positioning Committee	
9/11/23	Radio interview with Youth Jam	Concerning the recently launched Rental relief <a href="#">plan</a> which will not cover student accommodation residents.
	Higher Ed	

## PROJECTS

### Bring Back the Second Tuition-Free Week

The results of the Tuition-Free week survey was of substantive response and strong indication from both staff and students that there is a need and desire to return the second tuition-free weeks. A report of this was sent to LSEC and a recommendation has been passed to Academic Board to add the second tuition-free weeks back into the academic calendar. The positioning of these weeks in the semester, as well as what year the weeks will be reinstated are still up for negotiation.

### Guild Excellence in Teaching Awards

There were more than 460 award nominations this year. The awards went to:

Faculty of Humanities:

- Teaching Award: Dr Jeremy Wu
- Teaching Commendation: Dr Alexey Muraviev
- Research Supervisor Award: Dr Christina Lee

Faculty of Health Sciences:

- Teaching Award: Adrian Paxman
- Teaching Commendation Dr Leanne Chalmers
- Research Supervisor Award: Dr Helen Slater

Faculty of Business and Law:

- Teaching Award: Dr Andrew Brennan
- Teaching Commendation: Dr Wahseem Soobratty
- Research Supervisor Award: Dr Mingming Cheng

Faculty of Science and Engineering:

- Teaching Award: Dr Johan Vandamme
- Teaching Commendation: Dr Manora Caldera
- Research Supervisor Award: Dr Stephen Poropat

**Some things to come from now until end of term**

- Will negotiate our SSAFEAC proposal
- Guild reps to participate in a Youth Strategy Consultation with the Office of Youth
- Curtin Student Partnership Agreement 2024 to be signed by Guild President and Vice Chancellor



## **BUSINESS & LAW - Representative Board Report #12**

For the Representation Board held on Thursday the 16th of November

### **Summary Of Meetings**

<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Type of Meeting</b>	<b>Comments</b>
SaP National Roundtable	26/9/23 - 30/9/23	External	The national Students as Partners roundtable in Melbourne explored projects of co-design. Myself and Tina Do presented on the work undertaken in reference to assessment rubric design on the grounds of accessibility, ease of use, utility of the resource itself and limiting the experiential challenges students face particularly in relation to the transition from high school to university in regards to assessment expectations. We were well received and the model design has been rolled out across the faculty as a base template for common core units.
Meeting x Hos M&M	19/10/23	Faculty	Regular catch up with both Julia Richardson and Peter Dell: we discussed tuition standards, the plan for M&M for '24 and the assurance of meeting regulation under the ASPM, specifically regarding the timely delivery of feedback and marks for assessments.
SDP Panel	20/10/23	Committee	Consider cases of academic misconduct pertinent to FBL. - 13 cases
Pasar Malam	20/10/23	Guild	The Guild's largest event on the events calendar, I helped where possible, although a pretty good

			turnout of faithful volunteers meant that I wasn't needed much... A great time for all! Well done to both the current VPA and VPA for '24.
Stress Less x VPA : Guild Kart Food Drop	23/10/23	Guild	A rewarding part of my remit has been seeing the appreciation of students to receiving a little boost from the Guild during this stressful period. Thankful for the opportunity to help the VPA make student's days a little brighter by handing out free food during study week.
Meeting x Narrelle Morris	23/10/23	Faculty	Discussion pertaining to the requirement of draft work as a means for justifying assessment extensions -supporting doc clause in the ASPM. Long story short: drafts cannot be requested to support an assessment extension.
Meeting x Tina Do	25/10/23	Faculty	Discussion of the promotion of a legal framework or guiding document for Students as Partners projects at Curtin University - a fledgeling idea. + Where to take the assessment redesign proposal from here...
Meeting x Micheal Baird	25/10/23	Faculty	Discussion of future SCC topics, bread for breakfast and the plan for M&M '24
Stress Les x VPA: Brinner	25/10/23	Guild	Helping out with brinner and getting the opportunity to appeal to the masses in the library on the provision of a free sweet dinner. A pretty cool thing and a well received event.
SDP Panel	26/10/23	Committee	Consider cases of academic misconduct pertinent to FBL. - 19 cases
Guild Filming	26/10/23	Guild	Filming for the Curtin Guild Gelateria , not sure how Ben keeps making good content from the footage we provide...

Catch Up x FBL SE Team	26/10/23	Faculty	GNOMES...
Catch up x Nurul Sanny Yap	26/10/23	Central University	Presentation on the work of the Gender, Equity and Inclusion Committee on mitigating micro-stresses and promoting assurance.
SDP Panel	2/11/23	Committee	Consider cases of academic misconduct pertinent to FBL. - 24 cases
Meeting x Hos AFE	2/11/23	Faculty	Discussion of spruiking the schools honors programs and how to ensure analytical rigor in the age of Gen AI. Implications on students' learning outcomes.
Meeting x Leigh Smith		Faculty	Discussion relating to the collegiality of the law school to ensure that requesting draft work is not consistent with the parameters of granting an assessment extension.
Meeting x PVC	8/11/23	Faculty	The first of my handover meetings, the discussion with the PVC and Hannah pertained to the innovation hub, mental health support for students, the higher education provider amendment and the Faculty's sustainability strategy... about as useful as the inflatable dartboard.

---

## Final Notes:

- Presenting the work done with the faculty in Melbourne was definitely a highlight. Consultation with the Accessibility officer on how to improve the design from an accessibility standpoint as well as the provision of meaningful feedback is an area of work still to be done
- I have meetings planned with key figures in the Faculty as part of Handover swiftly approaching...
- Still plenty of cases are going to panel for SDP.
- Clarification has been shared by the Academic Registrar on the documents that can be requested as supporting evidence for the provision of assessment extensions

- The SCC re-design got underway and has been launched and concluded for this semester. Some really insightful policies produced as a result.
-

Science and Engineering faculty Report

Zhongzheng (Max) Zhang (He/Him)

Representation Board – November 2023

Date	Event type	Event to note	Comments
16/10/2023	SDP	SDP Meeting	Seeing same trends of academic misconduct from certain demographics as mentioned in my previous report.
20/10/2023	Guild Event	Pasar Malam	
23/10/2023	Faculty Meeting	Faculty Executive Team	Note from faculty staff: University Accords provides VET sector opportunities to compete with Curtin, UWA has lowered intake standards to grab market share, ECU city campus is attractive to prospective students.  Overall enrolments are still up, but this may warrant a change in marketing strategy.
23/10/2023 – 27/20/2023	Guild Events	Stress Less Week	Felt good to get out there and provide stressed and studying students with some freebies. All events were very successful.
27/10/2023	Guild Event	Excellence in Teaching Awards	Honoured to have presented these awards. The faculty prides itself on teaching quality despite our large cohort of students and worsening staff-to-student ratio.
01/11/2023	Faculty Meeting	Learning and Teaching Council	Presented my end-of-year report and setup handover with some prominent members of staff.
02/11/2023	Faculty Meeting	Graduate Studies Committee	Introduced incoming rep and had them sit in the meeting.
02/11/2023	Guild Event	Brinner	Fantastic and wildly successful. The use of the library PA system was an interesting but fruitful decision.
06/11/2023	Faculty Meeting	Faculty Executive Team Acknowledgement of Country Training	Some interesting things discussed. Will attach notes below.

## Acknowledgement of Country Training Notes:

Ran by Jayde Conway

Kaya – hello, welcome, getting attention, acknowledgment, invite, accepting invite

Kaya – means soul in Hindi

Welcome to Country started as a ceremony with a smoking, conversation and singling/dancing. To establish mutual understanding.

Not a performance, a gift. Use “deliver” not “perform” when introducing an elder.

Not every speaker who follows the acknowledgement has to speak on the acknowledge/respond to it.

As long as it is visible somewhere.

Every acknowledgment should be personalised, not the robotic repetition on it.

Think about the language used and say it out loud to revise it.

Place names are publicly accessible, Kaya has been gifted to us, but only in this area.

Acknowledge country before people, yesterday today and tomorrow.

What you believe/think Country is, how do I connect to Country.

At some point there needs to be recognition of elders and knowledge holders.

Acknowledge First Nations people in the room/present at the speaking.

Connect the Acknowledgement of Country to the event.

Can also acknowledge first nation of your home Country, birth Country. Impact of colonisation to First Nations people across the world and the empathy.

Is a living document.

Believe in what you're saying.

## *HUMANITIES FACULTY REPORT – November*

*JUDE SOUSSAN*

<b>DATE</b>	<b>WHAT</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
13/10/2023	Student Disciplinary Panel	
17/10/2023	Meeting with Humira and Athina	Spoke about issues revolving AI.
20/10/2023	Helped MC during Pasar Malam	
26/10/2023	Student Disciplinary Panel	
27/10/2023	Teachers Awards	
31/10/2023	LSEC Meeting	
09/11/2023	Health & Safety Meeting	

## November 2023 Representation Board Report – Student Assist

Case statistics for Student Assist is as follows:

	August	September	October
Academic sessions	306	178	268
Non – Academic sessions	57	42	27
Total	363	220	295

Academic sessions in the month of October were mainly in relation to Academic Misconducts.

	August	September	October
Lifehacks	138	101	100
Loan laptop	13	6	4

### Welfare

No welfare assistance was required for October.





PSC President's Report

SUBMISSION DATE: 03/11/2023

FOR MEETING DATE: 16/11/2023

NAME: Mitch Craig

POSITION: PSC President

### **GUILD MEETINGS/EVENTS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Comments</b>
18/10/2023	PSC x Student Assist	Met with Andrew, took my successor, Arifin.
19/10/2023	Representation Board	See Minutes
20/10/2023	Exec	
20/10/2023	Pasar Malam	Attended, was an amazing night
24/10/2023	Legal Committee	Legal Matters
26/10/2023	Exec	
27/10/2023	AB pre-meeting	Met to discuss Academic Board agenda
27/10/2023	Guild Excellence in Teaching Awards	Attended, spoke with award winners and students

### **UNIVERSITY MEETINGS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Comments</b>
16/10/2023	Meeting w/ DVCR	Productive meeting, discussed milestone procedures, mechanisms for HDRs to give feedback. Took my successor, Arifin.
27/10/2023	Academic Board	Spoke about student misconduct, equity student retention
03/11/2023	Research Committee	Good discussion on HDR feedback mechanisms, importance of thesis chairs

### **PROJECTS/General**

- Has been quiet in terms of university meetings
- I have continued to work on my projects including:
  - Software for HDRs
  - Improvement to the Milestone processes
  - Better resources and information for postgrads around their requirements and the processes
  - Improved Travel procedures for students
  - Improved supervisor training
  - Additional free training for HDRs
- On Leave 6<sup>th</sup> November to 24<sup>th</sup> November, Illness 30<sup>th</sup> October to 2<sup>nd</sup> November

### **KPIs**

- See KPI Review

### **tl;dr**

We are done for the year, it has been wonderful working with you all and I wish you all the best for 2024!

**QUEER OFFICER'S Report**  
**Representation Board Meeting 12/2023 – 16.11.23**  
**09.11.2023**



**GUILD MEETINGS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Weekly	Check-in with VP-E	
13.10	QO Check in with President	Follow up from the meeting from the DVC-A, updating Dylan on the deadnaming and we all need to pee projects
13.10	Chat with Grok about Pride	

**UNIVERSITY MEETINGS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Notes</b>
13.10	Monthly Meeting w/ DVC-A and Sheldon Smith	Updating Paul on where the deadnaming and we all need to pee projects are at. Sheldon also updated Paul on where the Curtin Ally team is at and his plans for next year.
13.10	Interim Process for students updating details	Discussion with DTS and Connect staff on the backend process for when students update their details and how to ensure that students aren't deadnamed until the systems are fixed.
13.10	Curtin Stadium Catch Up DIB and Guild	In response to a students concerns around the lack of inclusive language in social sports at the stadium Sheldon and I met with Ben in the Stadium to discuss how we can help support them in creating a more inclusive environment. Majority of the discussion was more aimed at how the Curtin Ally team can help, including providing the new micro-trainings similar to what was trialed with Curtin Connect earlier this year.
18.10	Meeting with Curtin Health Services - Deadnaming	Met with the Practice Manager Nandita Nadkar and Senior GP Dr Richard Gibson to talk about how their system works with regard to using preferred names and updating legal names. Along with this we spoke about Ally training within the

		clinic and potential for new training for the clinics staff.
18.10	Gender Equity Discussion - Bathrooms	Good catch up with Jessie Parrish from the Gender Equity and Inclusion Advisory Group about the current state of bathrooms on campus and about a potential actions going forward
20.10	Meeting with Debbie Teh	Discussing deadnaming regarding CAPs and Accessibility and Counselling as a whole as well as what can be done if students are being deadnamed
26.10	Call with BA Steve	Checking in now that he is back and planning on when to meet with both of the BA's to have a in-depth chat about where they are and what their plans are
26.10	Introducing Sheldon to incoming QO	
01.11	Meeting with Deadnaming BA's	Chance to sit down with both Steve and Sharmilee to see where they are at with the their analysis of Curtin's systems and to also share some other areas that I am aware have issues.
01.11	GRN meeting (Sexual violence and harassment on AU campuses)	Meeting with Elizabeth Baca from the Gender Research Network (GRN) and Aleena (Women's Officer) to discuss her report on sexual violence and harassment on Australian university campuses and how to action her findings and address this issue across Curtin.
08.11	Call with BA - Steve	Check in with the BA's and discussing what I can do to help them.

## **PROJECTS**

Deadnaming: The next deadnaming meeting isn't until after this representation board, where we will figure out where we are and try and map out our next steps. Meanwhile, a plan has been made for any student who updates their name between now and when the fixes are made as identified by the Business Analysis' to ensure that people are checking that the changes are going through correctly. Along with this, I have also been reaching out to other areas of the university including the Curtin Medical Centre and Accessibility and Counselling to ask them about their own processes for when students update their names and to find out if their staff have Ally Training as mentioned online.

**IMARI MORRIS (They/She/He)**  
**QUEER OFFICER**

## Women's Officer Report - Representation Board

16/11/2023

Date	Meeting/Event	Comments
18/10/2023	Gender Equity Decision; Bathrooms	
24/10/2023	Stress Less Week Women's Event	Went amazing!
25/10/2023	Brinner	
31/10/2023	Food Handouts @ Library	
1/11/2023	Meeting about current projects to combat Sexual Harassment with QO and Elizabeth Baca.	Very Comprehensive.
2/11/2023	Last Brinner!	So many people came due to the announcement, it was fascinating. Amazing turnout.
3/11/2023	Food Handouts @ Library	
10/11/2023	Gender Equity and Inclusion Advisory Group Meeting #2	Went with the upcoming Women's Officer to introduce her to group members and also allow her to get a feel of how the group works.

### Gender Equity - Bathrooms

The QO and I had a meeting with Jessie Parish regarding bathrooms. We are looking for ways to see how this issue affects both staff and students, and hopefully, with the audit, we will be able to have a clearer view of this.

### Women's Department Event – Stressless week

During Stress Less Week, we hosted Slumberland, where people were able to put on face masks and relax to take a break from their studies. It went down well; the henna was quite popular, and the food and infused water station went well as well. Quite a few people came down to the 'beauty station', but when they realised they had to put it on then and there, they were a bit discouraged, but nevertheless we got a good amount of people. The temporary tattoos were quite popular as well.

### Campaign

I have been taking part in the #IDerserveSafety campaign as part of End Rape on Campus (EROC) and during my event on Stress less week, I was able to engage with quite a few students

and get them to take part in the campaign by holding up the slogans. I talked to them about who EROC was and what they could do to keep updated and support their cause. It went really well, and I was able to raise more awareness of the issues currently affecting ours and other universities across Australia.

### **Sexual Harassment Projects**

Along with the QO, I was fortunate enough to talk to Elizabeth Baca, who is a part of the Gender Research Network, and I was able to gain some insight into what the university is currently doing and also provide some information about the current and main issues that would need to be taken care of. As I'm ending my term, there won't be much I can do; however, we've set it up so that communication with the next Women's Officer will be smooth, should there be a plausible solution out of this.

### **Gender Equity and Inclusion Advisory Group Meeting #2**

As my last meeting as a member it was very good, and I was fortunate enough to hear the experiences of various people. We were able to map out some strategies and have an action plan to talk to different people about the areas that concerned them. It was very comprehensive, and I was able to get a lot out of the meeting.

### **TLDR;**

**Gender Equity – Bathrooms, Women's Department Event, Campaign, Sexual Harassment Projects, Gender Equity and Inclusion Advisory Group Meeting.**

*Aleena Shaji*

*Women's Officer 2023*

Submitted 13/11/2023.

# Accessibility Officer

Representation Board Report: November 2023



## University/External Meetings

Date	Meeting	Notes
16/10	AC@C	
26/10	DIBC 4	Notes below
06/11	AC@C	Cancelled

## Guild/Student Meetings

Date	Meeting	Notes
25/10	VPE Check-in	Cancelled
31/10	Student advocacy	
08/11	VPE Check-in	Cancelled – Discussed with VPE online

## Additional Information

### DIBC 4

A few key points from the meeting:

- LAWG is being disbanded and re-established as a community of practice, despite it being the first (and only) body to actually proactively make the chemistry labs at Curtin more accessible. See my previous report for evidence of this.
- Universal Design Sub-Committee (UDSC) constitution is essentially finalised in advance of the first meeting in early December. This is to replace the Universal Design Working Group (UDWG) with the aim of being more centred around lived experience, having more authority in the space, and formalising reporting lines and membership. The student members are as follows:
  - Guild Accessibility Officer (*ex officio*)
  - 1 additional student appointed via expression of interest
  - Up to 7 additional members “appointed with regard to their lived experience and role within the university” – per the Chair of the UDSC, this may include students.
- A representative staff member from Curtin Malaysia spoke to the DIBC about the diversity and inclusivity of the Miri/Sarawak campus, particularly focussing on ethnic and racial diversity amongst the student population. While the high number of indigenous and ethnically diverse staff and students is commendable, the diversity of gender amongst staff is not ideal. Additionally, when asked about how Curtin Miri is supporting LGBTQIA+ students, the speaker claimed that the issue was not relevant to their campus as the state of Sarawak is less concerned about LGBTQIA+ people than the federal government of Malaysia.
- Still no Dean of Indigenous Engagement

## ACCESSIBILITY OFFICER REPORT

Student Advocacy

Advocated on behalf of a student whose exams were booked for a building without an accessible bathroom, where the nearest UAT was located about 5 minutes away. The student was advised to use their rest time if they needed the bathroom, which is not what rest time is for. The students remaining exams were re-booked into another venue that had an accessible bathroom. I will follow up on how this error happened with the exam team and AAS.

Other Stuff Happening

- The Accessibility Audit of all general teaching spaces has been completed and the resulting report is due to be tabled at the next meeting of the Universal Design Subcommittee.
- The Universal Design Working Group is being disbanded and replaced by the Universal Design Subcommittee. I am not sure how this changes anything, but the first meeting is due to happen towards the start of December.
- LAWG is being disbanded for some reason.
- Senate ADHD inquiry report has been released. Some good stuff made it in, and some was missed. Now fingers crossed changes happen.

Ongoing Projects

- ~~Students/Staff with Disability Procedures Review~~
  - ~~CAP De-Medicalisation~~
- ACROD Parking Review
- ~~Accessibility Audit~~
- Chemistry Laboratory Accessibility
  - ~~B316 Consultation~~
  - ~~B314 Consultation~~
  - ~~B500 Consultation~~
  - ~~B204 Consultation~~
- CSMP/CSG Stability
- DIBC
- ~~NUS HyFlex Campaign~~
- ~~ADHD Senate Inquiry Submissions~~

Events

- **None**

**TL;DR** – Main focusses this month have been on DIBC, DRC, and ADHD senate inquiry. Lots of time taken up by exams. Looking forward to handing over and taking a nap.

**Glossary:**

- **AAS:** AccessAbility Services – the university body that organises and coordinates CAPs
- **AC@C:** Accessibility Collective @ Curtin. This is the University body for staff with disabilities to find social and advocacy support.
- **CAP:** Curtin Access Plan. A personalised document entitling students to reasonable adjustments



## ACCESSIBILITY OFFICER REPORT

to their studies enabling equitable access to education for those with specific access requirements.

- **CMS:** Curtin Medical School
- **CMS DIB:** Curtin Medical School Diversity Inclusion and Belonging Working Party.
- **CoP:** Community of Practice
- **COMPAS-S:** Checking On Mental health and Providing Alternatives to Suicide - for Students
- **CRT:** Clinical RadioTherapy
- **CSG:** Curtin Social Group – A social group run during common free time on Wednesdays for Autistic and ADHD students who are involved in the CSMP.
- **CSMP:** Curtin Specialist Mentoring Program. This program allows Autistic students to engage in a weekly social group (CSG), as well as access to an Honours or Postgraduate Psychology student as a mentor. The mentor is there to help their Autistic mentee to navigate University and develop skills in self-advocacy, confidence, and other areas.
- **DIBC:** Diversity Inclusion and Belonging Committee
- **DRC:** Disability Royal Commission
- **DTS:** Curtin University Digital and Technology Solutions.
- **DVCA:** Deputy Vice Chancellor – Academic.
- **GPG:** Gender Pay Gap
- **GTL:** Geoff Tucker Lab – B300.204
- **LAWG:** Laboratory Accessibility Working Group
- **NUS:** National Union of Students
- **PFD:** Properties, Facilities, and Development
- **UAT:** Universal Access Toilet
- **UDWG:** Universal Design Working Group. The University committee tasked with improving disability access across Curtin.
- **VP-E:** Vice President – Education

## Higher Education Report Representation Board November 2023

### [Commonwealth Teaching Scholarships](#)

Students commencing teaching degrees in 2024 can now register for scholarships worth up to \$40,000 which are designed to encourage more people to become teachers.

The Albanese Government is delivering on its election promise to deliver the \$160 million Commonwealth Teaching Scholarships Program.

In designing the scholarships, the Government consulted with school principals and teachers, who spoke about the scholarships they received and how they often included a requirement to teach for a period of time.

Based on this feedback, the scholarships will include a 'commitment to teach' requirement, which means recipients must be willing to commit to teach for four years (undergraduate) and two years (postgraduate) in government-run schools or early learning settings.

The 5,000 scholarships will be available for new teaching students studying from 2024 and will be targeted at high-achieving school leavers, mid-career professionals, First Nations peoples, people with disability, people from whom English is an additional language or dialect and individuals from rural, regional and remote locations or from low socio-economic backgrounds.

Scholarships of \$40,000 each will be available for undergraduate teaching students over four years and \$20,000 for postgraduate students over two years.

To encourage more teachers to live and work in remote Australia, students completing their final year professional experience placements in these communities may receive an additional top-up payment of \$2,000.

This also builds on the Government's program to cut HECS-HELP debt for teachers in very remote areas.

Prospective teaching students can check their eligibility and register their interest at [education.gov.au/teaching-scholarships](https://education.gov.au/teaching-scholarships). Applications close on 14 January 2024.

### **Release of Australia-India Education Strategy**

Minister Clare also released the [A Partnership for the Future – Australia's Education Strategy for India](#).

This strategy sets out a range of different steps Australia will take to deepen our relationship with India, including through closer education and research partnerships, supporting student mobility and growing Australia-India alumni networks.

In March, it was announced that Deakin University and the University of Wollongong would establish campuses in India's Gujarat International Finance-Tec (GIFT) City.

Today Ministers welcomed the imminent opening of the two campuses. Deakin University will open applications for students this week and both universities are expected to accept students from mid-2024.

Both universities are the first foreign universities to set up campuses in India, representing a significant milestone in the Australia-India relationship.

In addition, six [Innovative Research Universities](#) have signalled their intent to collectively establish a consortium campus in India, and Western Sydney University has also signalled its intent to establish an Indian campus.

This week four new partnerships between Australian universities and their Indian counterparts were signed:

- Deakin University and the National Skills Development Council
- Deakin University and IIT Gandhinagar
- Monash University and IIT Hyderabad
- Monash University and International Centre of Excellence in Mining

Ministers also discussed the following:

- The launch of the Maitri Scholars Program to give talented young Indian researchers greater opportunities to study in Australia.
- The intention of Australian and Indian universities to develop a roadmap for research collaboration.
- The finalisation of regulations by the University Grants Commission on Academic Collaboration between Indian and Foreign Higher Educational Institutions to offer Twinning, Joint Degree and Dual Degree Programs. The first of these is underway between RMIT and BITS Pilani.
- Opportunities for cooperation under the International Skills Training (IST) program, including through cybersecurity and aged care.
- The progress of the Developing Critical Skills in India project, which is trialling a model of transnational skills development.
- The extension of funding for the Australian India Institute until 2026 to further strengthen the education and research relationship.
- Both governments shared commitment to implement the Mechanism for the Mutual Recognition of Qualifications to expand institutional partnerships and educational mobility.
- Agreement to share VET sector approaches to workforce development for the clean energy sector.

The next meeting of the Australia India Education and Skills Council will be held in Australia in 2024.

The Australia India Education and Skills Council communique can be found on [the Department's website](#).

### **[Inaugural Maitri Scholars Program](#)**

Applications are open for the inaugural [Maitri Scholars Program](#), to support India's best and brightest students to complete post-graduate STEM degrees at Australian universities.

The program will deepen scientific and research collaboration between Australia and India, in emerging sectors of advanced manufacturing, critical technology, critical minerals, and clean energy solutions.

The Maitri Scholars Program will provide scholarships to around 45 students over the next four years in these fields, with an Australian Government investment of \$11.2 million to support the program.

Scholarships will be administered by the Centre for Australia-India Relations, and be open to all Australian universities, who can nominate PhD and masters' students.

### **[Only 1.5% of students swapped fields due to Job Ready fee changes according to study](#)**

Research by the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic & Social Research [University Fees, subsidies and field of study](#) shows the impact of the Job-ready Graduates scheme on preferences when applying for degrees and final enrolments (what they ended up studying). The study found it was modest at best.

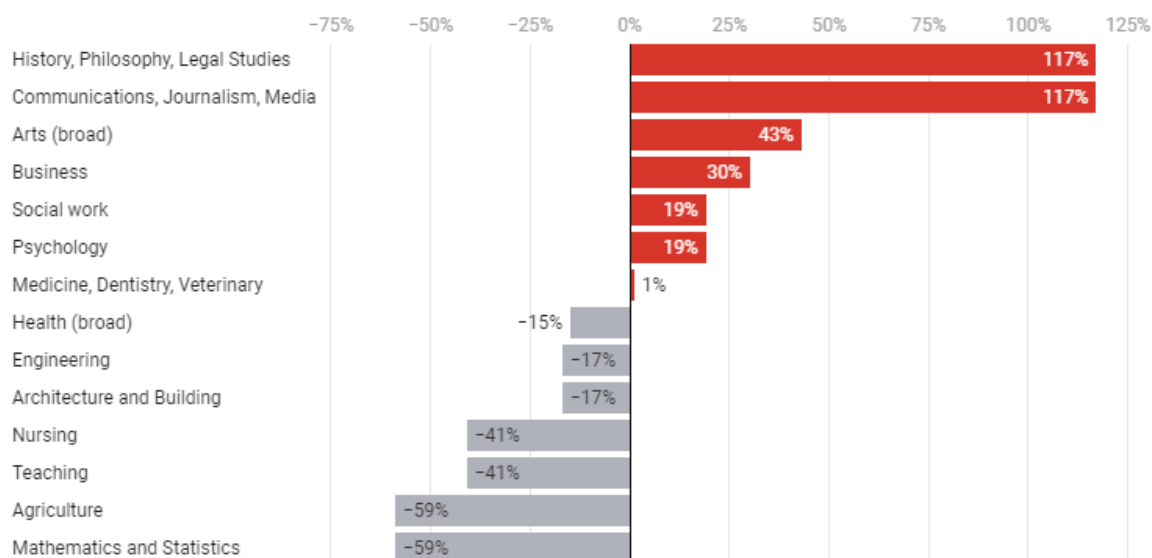
Using data from the Universities Admissions Centre, which handles applications for degrees in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.

The study looked at more than 725,000 undergraduates applying between 2014 and 2022. Seven years of data before the Job-ready Graduates scheme was introduced, and two years afterwards.

Using various statistical models, the study analysed whether students increased their preferences for fields that became cheaper and reduced preferences for fields that became more expensive.

## Select changes in university fees under the Job-ready Graduates scheme

Comparing student fees in 2020 to 2021, when the scheme started



Source: Australian Department of Education and Training · [Get the data](#) · Created with [Datawrapper](#)

Overall the Job-ready Graduates scheme only had a minor impact on course choices.

Just 1.52% of university applicants in the study chose fields they would have not chosen had it not been for the scheme, moving from humanities, arts, law and business to STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) and teaching.

Maths and statistics had the largest drop of student fees (59%) of any field. But only one out of every 2,000 students responded by changing their preference to maths.

Communications, journalism and media studies had the largest increase in fees (117%). But only one out of every 350 students chose not to preference these fields in response.

### Navitas sells digital platform Studylink for \$60m

StudyLink's Connect manages and tracks enrolments and admissions, and is widely used by education institutions and TAFE colleges.

Privately-owned Navitas works with universities, industry partners and governments, handling nearly 60,000 students a year in pre-university and pathway programs to postgraduate and degree programs, English language and vocational training, across a global network of colleges and campuses.

## WA's most popular university courses

At the biggest institution, Curtin University, the three disciplines which had the biggest enrolment growth over the year were engineering, commerce and science.

Degrees with the largest number of applications were engineering, medicine and commerce.

But Curtin revealed the degrees with the top completion rates were very different, with oral health therapy, physiotherapy and speech pathology topping the list.

At Murdoch University, there has been a high demand for the business and commerce, IT, community development and engineering courses, especially from international students.

The state's only university in the Group of Eight, the University of Western Australia, revealed courses experiencing strong growth included undergraduate degrees in engineering, psychology, and the arts.

Students were choosing post graduate study in health, information technology and education

### WA's Top University Courses

According to the state's Tertiary Institutions Service Centre, the top five courses based purely on applications were:

- Commerce
- Medicine
- Engineering
- Nursing
- Education

## Western Sydney University to open campus in Indonesia

Australian universities will operate the only two independent foreign campuses in Indonesia from next year when Western Sydney University opens its doors to local and foreign undergraduate students in the country's second largest city, Surabaya.

The move is a breakthrough for Australia's university sector which views the Indonesian student market as a significant growth area but has previously struggled to gain entrance to Southeast Asia's most important economy.

Federal Education Minister Jason Clare, in Surabaya for the 'soft opening' of the WSU campus on Thursday after leading a delegation of university executives to India to explore similar opportunities, said the foreign campuses were an opportunity for Australia and Indonesia to forge closer bonds.

"International education is not a one-way street," Mr Clare said. "Not everyone can afford to come to Australia to study. But Australian universities can come to you."

Both India and Indonesia are important markets for Australia's education sector given their massive youth populations and corresponding need to build skills capacity.

[Monash University was the first](#) to open an independently-owned foreign campus in Indonesia in 2021 under a deal secured as part of the Indonesia Australia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (IA\_CEPA), a sprawling free trade deal ratified that year.

The [University of Central Queensland also operates a joint-venture campus](#) in Jakarta, but WSU is only the second university to secure a license to operate a stand-alone institution.

WSU Vice Chancellor Barney Glover said the campus would take its first few hundred undergraduate students in September 2024, but aimed to be teaching up to 3000 Indonesian and foreign students in coming years.