

**2021**

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# **Annual Report**

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**CURTIN  
STUDENT  
GUILD**

# Our Mission.

Create a fun and vibrant community that maximises the student experience.

# Our Vision.

To be the leading independent student-run organisation in Australia, which is highly valued by all of the university community, especially our members.

# Our Values.

## Autonomy

*Student control of student affairs for the benefit of our members.*

## Integrity

*Our behaviour builds trust.*

## Diversity

*Valuing difference between people and standing for equity, equality and fairness.*

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# President's Report

Theodora Rohl  
53rd Guild President



**“We were thrilled that our events, outlets and club activities could once again contribute to a vibrant campus life.”**

What a year we had in 2021! We had a busy time adjusting to the new normal of COVID-19, with periodic lockdowns and restrictions. We were thrilled that our events, outlets and club activities could once again contribute to a vibrant campus life. Nevertheless, the ongoing impact of the pandemic took its toll on student wellbeing and engagement, not only at Curtin but nationally. The majority of our International students had to continue their studies online without any course fee relief, while domestic students welcomed the opportunity of being back on campus and the promise of a return to face-to-face learning.

There were a number of academic and wellbeing issues which the Guild's student representatives worked on. The proposed hybrid education model, Learning for Tomorrow, raised concerns that it would lead to less face-to-face teaching, online-only lectures across all units, fewer contact hours and decreased opportunities for student feedback. The Guild coordinated extensive consultation and student action to advocate for a return to face-to-face learning, which we successfully secured. We also advocated for more support, better communication and more flexibility for International students who continued their studies offshore.

Sections of the student community were disadvantaged by the loss of two tuition-free weeks per year, when changes to the academic calendar were introduced in semester one. There were faculty and course changes as a result of cost-saving measures, as well as voluntary and forced staff redundancies. This continues to be an issue the Guild is working strongly against.

On a national level, many students commencing university found themselves paying more for their degrees because of the Federal Government's Job-Ready Graduates package. Universities adopted The Model Code on Freedom of Speech and Academic Freedom and a Government initiative was launched to tie research funding to commercial priorities.

The Guild actively supported a number of national campaigns in 2021. One of these was the Raise the Rate for Good campaign to reduce poverty and inequity in Australia, by increasing the base rate of JobSeeker Payment to at least \$69 a day. The Change the Age campaign, spearheaded by the National Union of Students (NUS), called for the age of independence for access to Youth Allowance to be lowered from 22 to 18. The Guild led students on climate change rallies, Invasion Day protests and NUS Days of Action. The National Student Safety Survey collected data about experiences with sexual assault and sexual harassment. It followed on from the 2016 survey, which was part of the national Respect Now Always campaign to prevent sexual violence in university communities, and improve how universities respond to and support those who have been affected. The results of this survey will be coming out in 2022, and ensuring the feedback is implemented at Curtin is a key focus of the Guild.

The Guild Ball, Clubs Carnival and Pasar Malam were welcomed back in 2021, after being cancelled for 2020. Guild O-Days and Orientation activities attracted strong attendance, as well as our Upcycle Markets, Wellbeing Fair, Cat Café and Mental Health Week. We also coordinated an end of year Street Carnival, multiple faculty and equity events, and regular and one-off events at our Tav.

The undercover courtyard in the Guild precinct was revitalized with new furniture and games to provide a comfortable all-weather student space known as The Zone. Refurbishments to our outlets will continue into 2022.

In semester two, the Guild secured \$20,000 in clubs funding from Curtin, to coordinate additional events and encourage signups. This resulted in 37 events coordinated by clubs in the first five weeks of semester. The 2021 Club of the Year was the Curtin Filipino Students' Society, and the Best New Club was the Curtin Mechanical Society.

The Guild encouraged more students to become involved in the Guild through the Women's, Accessibility and Queer collectives. These collectives, as well as a First Nations collective, are continuing to grow. Additionally, Indigenous artist

Connie Clinch hand-painted a mural depicting the journey of each student, and how they could use the First Nations equity space to connect as one. The mural illustrates a meeting ground for students, with each coloured circle representing various gathering groups, while small black dots portray students travelling through their University experience.

The Guild's Excellence in Teaching Awards attracted 500 nominations from students acknowledging outstanding Curtin academics. The Guild has coordinated the awards for more than 20 years. They recognise teachers and supervisors who display excellence in classroom communication, always make an effort to engage and promote student participation and display passion and enthusiasm for their teaching area.

We will still face challenges in 2022, however the Guild will continue the fight for students' rights, education and campus experience.

*Theo Rohl.*  
Theodora Rohl  
53rd Guild President



NUS National Day of Action



Above: Pasar Malam Below: Street Carnival

# Managing Director's Report



David Luketina  
Managing Director



Angazi Cafe Vegan Burger



2021 Clubs Carnival

**"I'm proud to say that staff and office bearers rose to the challenge, operations continued and improvements were implemented."**

2021 threw everything at us while we were in pursuit of our one relentless goal - creating a fun and vibrant environment for members so that they can enjoy and succeed in their university experience.

Covid-19 resulted in scanning in, masks, online learning, working from home, restrictions on the number of people in cafes, virtual events and shortages of hospitality staff. The Guild Café Library operated amidst library renovations, The Tav had a rooftop fire and we trialled a pop-up coffee house at the southern end of the campus.

I'm proud to say that staff and office bearers rose to the challenge, operations continued and improvements were implemented.

We ensured that students were sustained whether it be our famous Angazi fries, donuts, great coffee, or lunch specials. Just to put this into perspective, we prepared more than 400,000 hot beverages and made more than 44,000 sandwiches. We also kept the community dry selling 258 umbrellas and our Asian drinks and snacks proved to be a total hit on campus.

Our membership discount was increased to 10% resulting in members receiving discounts of \$379,102 in 2021 and we ran exclusive Guild member promotions. This included celebrating important events like Burger Day where members could get a freshly prepared classic cheeseburger and fries for just \$7.50.

To maximise the campus experience, we delivered vibrant events, clubs, support and assistance.

We reviewed our event programming to ensure that our offerings remain relevant, on-trend, and of high quality. Our street food festival Pasar Malam made a triumphant return to campus, with more than 7,000 people attending. The end of semester 2 Street Carnival had 800 attendees, and the Guild Ball had a record attendance of 469. The inaugural Cat Café with kittens a plenty was a huge hit and helped students alleviate stress and encouraged student wellbeing.

Around 15,000 students were supported across 112 clubs with new club management software introduced to improve efficiency and governance and to provide a better user experience for students looking to join clubs.

In 2021 our Student Assist team conducted 2,828 student sessions covering academic/university, welfare and personal issues. The Loan laptop program saw a total of 42 laptops loaned to students and 974 students did our life skills courses. The Student Assist team engaged the university to improve the administration of the academic misconduct process.

Improvements to services included flattening the management structure, updating the Guild's website, a light refurbishment in The Tav, reopening the refurbished Vege Patch Café

(now renamed Mallokup and having a tempting new menu featuring native ingredients).

Lower food and beverage sales due to covid-19 related impacts were offset by JobKeeper income of \$426,030 resulting in a total comprehensive profit of \$123,715 at 31 December 2021 - this is after a non-cash cost of \$666,713 for depreciation and amortisation. The key components of the 2021 revenue were \$6,133,372 from trading activities and \$3,908,928 from grants and SSAF. The main costs were \$5,673,892 for staffing and \$2,432,527 for the cost of sales expenses.

Specific projects commenced in 2021 included design and fitout of a new bubble tea outlet and new air conditioning in G Mart. Refurbishment of Guild Cafe Library and Central will be underway ready for 2022.

We have had the privilege of supporting our members and the Curtin Community in 2021 and look forward to 2022 and beyond.

David Luketina  
Managing Director



**Executive** Pictured above (from left): Vice President education Bridge Truell; Chair Representation Board Dylan Botica; Guild President Jesse Naylor Zambrano; Vice President Activities Lachlan Lee; Secretary Fatma Sehic.

## Faculty Representatives



BUSINESS & LAW  
Dylan Botica



SCIENCE & ENGINEERING  
Jason Kim



HEALTH SCIENCE  
Theodora Rohl



HUMANITIES  
Madison Ainsworth

# 2021 Student Representatives



## Equity Departments



ACCESSIBILITY  
February



FIRST NATIONS  
Lulkbudia McLean / vacant



WOMEN  
Cassidy Pemberton



QUEER  
Dax Jagoe



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT COMMITTEE PRESIDENT  
Cristian Moreno /  
Sofia Gonzalez Torres

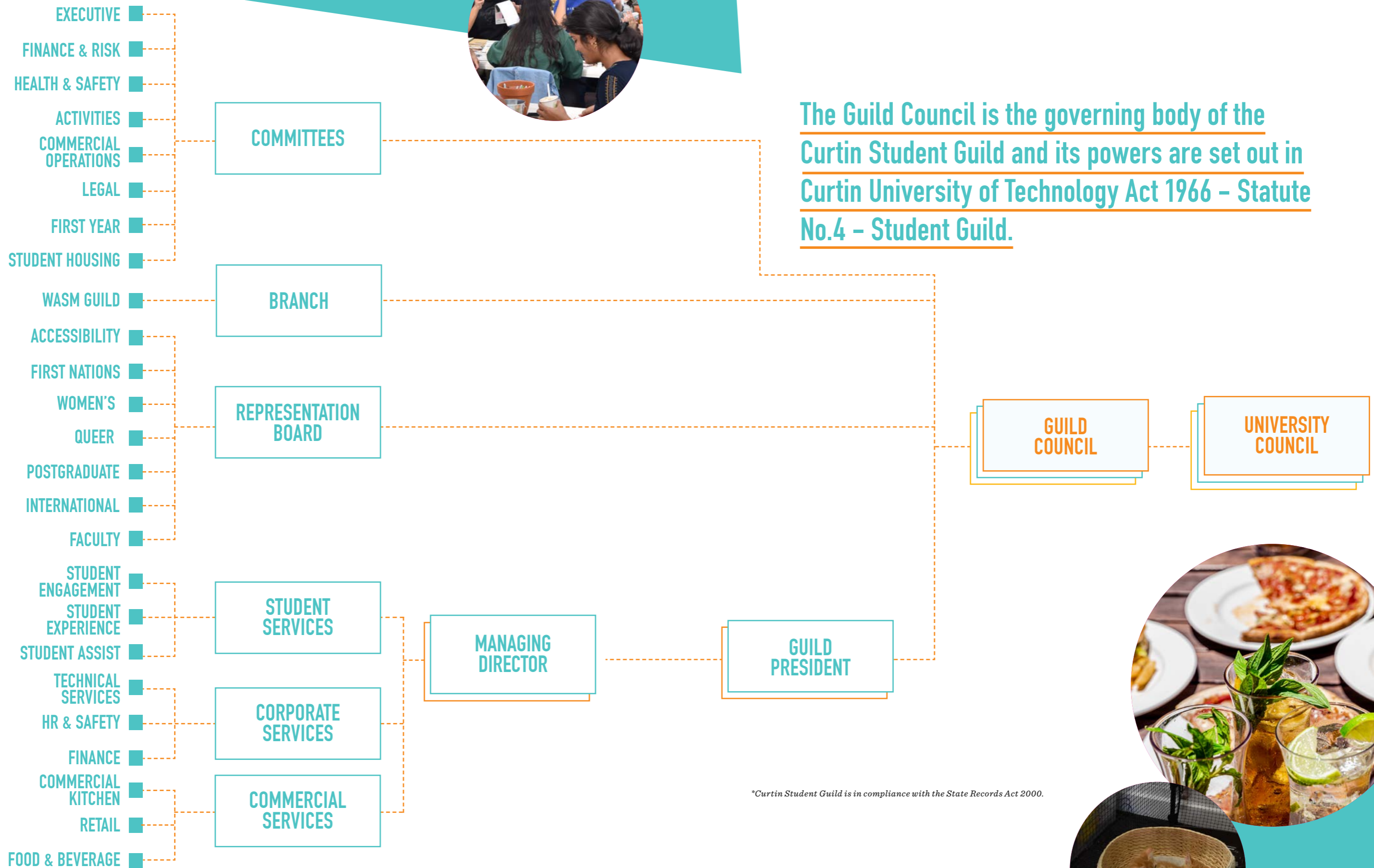


POSTGRADUATE STUDENT COMMITTEE PRESIDENT  
May Majimbi /  
Hameed Mohammad

For more information on Guild representatives go to <https://guild.curtin.edu.au/theguild/representatives/>



**The Guild Council is the governing body of the Curtin Student Guild and its powers are set out in Curtin University of Technology Act 1966 – Statute No.4 – Student Guild.**



*\*Curtin Student Guild is in compliance with the State Records Act 2000.*

# Education and Representation Activities

The Guild consulted with students about the impact of changes to the Academic Calendar, in which two tuition-free weeks were phased out from 2021. Many students felt that they had less time to complete assignments, there were increased stress and mental health impacts, less opportunity to plan or attend events on campus, and staff reported that they struggled to provide feedback to students prior to exams. The Guild hosted workshops and panel discussions and the university agreed to work with the Guild to introduce structural changes at a course level to compensate for the loss of the tuition-free weeks.

Changes to the Learning for Tomorrow (formally Blended Learning) teaching model were made because of Guild advocacy. The model proposed to phase out lectures, replacing them with short videos, and increased online learning. The Guild raised concerns about the quality of online content, diminished student experience and the investment required for staff training and technology for online learning to be successful. More than 80% of students who participated in a Guild survey said they did not want to pay the same course fees if there was too much online learning. Thanks to Guild's efforts, the strategy was simplified with a set of guiding principles in line with student feedback. Each faculty is now responsible for the implementation of the guiding principles, using students as partners in co-designing learning.

The Guild lobbied the University to address the issue of recycled online material and called for lectures to be more interactive and engaging. This resulted in Curtin introducing in-person Large Group Collaborative Sessions, that would include industry engagement, demonstrations, questions and activities.

We won a commitment from the university that students would have the full campus experience in Semester Two. While there were still some online lectures, only seven per cent of scheduled activities in Semester Two were online only. All smaller group sessions, including workshops in science and engineering, were guaranteed to be face-to-face. However, health sciences students continued to report that there was an over reliance on online learning that impacted their quality of education.

Travel restricted international (TRI) students experienced difficult study conditions. The Guild coordinated an Offshore International Students Speak Out and advocated for improved communication, more face-to-face options for onshore students and scheduling changes for live online content that was more compatible with the time zones of offshore students.

An information campaign about COVID-19 encouraged students to get vaccinated.

The Guild President sat on the Unions WA Wage Theft Consultation Group providing feedback on the development of a Wage Theft campaign by UnionsWA, particularly as it impacted young people.

Guild National Union of Students (NUS) delegates attended the virtual National Conference and we hosted the WA Hub of NUS Education Conference.

In the lead up to the State Election, the Guild encouraged students to enrol to vote.

Student representatives took part in the following national campaigns:

- School Strike for Climate in May and October
- Change the Age petition to allow access to Youth Allowance for students under the age of 22
- Raise the Rate for Good to increase Job Seeker payments
- National Union of Students Days of Action
- Invasion Day Rally.

We coordinated a campaign to give the student community more information about how to become involved and nominate as a candidate in the Guild's Annual Elections.

The Guild was a representative on Curtin's Respect Now Always Steering Committee (RNA SteerCo) and promoted the National Student Safety Survey, which collected information about student experiences of sexual harassment and sexual assault. It was part of the national Respect Now Always campaign. As well, the Guild worked with the survey's authors at RMIT to work through some concerns about potentially triggering questions.



Guild O-Day 2021  
Toga Party

We worked on reducing hurdle requirements where they were not required for course accreditation. We provided feedback on University's Academic & General Misconduct Rules and Academic Record Fraud Rules.

A proposal was put forward by the Guild to expand club and student spaces on campus by using space freed up in Building 201 because of the completion of the new School of Built Design in the Exchange precinct. A proposal is currently being formed.

The Guild President was a member of the Bentley Campus Activation Working Group, which developed opportunities to bring students back onto campus in Semester Two.

We secured a \$20,000 grant from Curtin to bolster club sign-ups and support clubs to coordinate campus events in the first month of semester. Improvements were made to the Room Bookings system and clubs were able to fundraise in Curtin venues.

We continued to draw attention to the long wait times to access Curtin Counselling and the need for the area to be better staffed and resourced.

When some International students were mistakenly overcharged tuition fees we worked with the university to resolve the matter and those affected were reimbursed.

We developed an information pack about how student could access Curtin Access Plans (CAP).

The cost of parking continued to be a barrier to students coming to campus and the Guild advocated that there should be no price rise in 2021 and we recommended that the university look at options to make parking more flexible and affordable. The university reversed its decision to implement a 5.26% increase instead opting for a 2% fee rise.

The trans-positive We All Need To Pee sticker campaign was implemented in bathrooms around campus. Unfortunately, the stickers were defaced on a frequent basis. They were scratched out, stripped from the wall, and written on. The campaign was paused at the end of 2021 because of concerns about ongoing damage to Curtin property. The Guild and the university agreed to assess alternatives, which would facilitate safe spaces and protect the rights of the transgender community.

Work continued on the implementation of the Student Partnership Agreement. Our objectives were to have as many students as possible involved, upskill and provide Guild support to participating students, have students remunerated for their time and ideas, protect student autonomy and the right to dissent. The Student Voice Australia (SVA) Steering Group met for the first time. Development commenced of a new governance structure for the Students as Partners program to ensure best practice for engaging student representatives throughout the University. The Guild took part in the second annual SVA Symposium. The event brought together leaders in student partnership from Australia, New Zealand and the UK to present case studies, panels, educational sessions, and share resources.

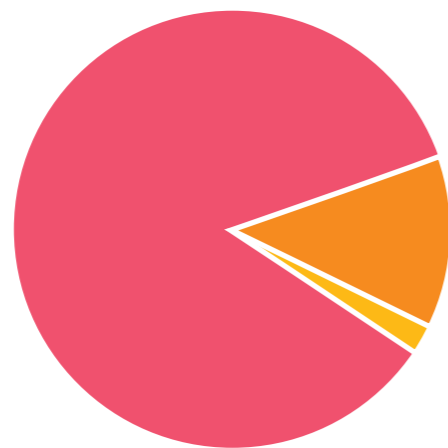


Pasar Malam 2021

# Student Experience

## Supporting our Students.

The Guild's independent support service Student Assist provided 2828 sessions to students in 2021 compared to 2714 sessions in 2020.



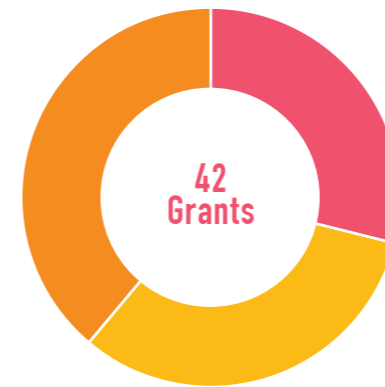
Student Assist Cases

Academic / University Related Issues (86.5%)

Financial Counselling (12.5%)

Personal Issues (1%)

## Grants and Programs.



- Childcare Assistance Grant (19%)
- Hardship Grant (55%)
- Emergency Aid (26%)



42 Laptop Program Loans



Life skills and vocational training:

(974) participants over (106) courses



3 PD\* Sessions for HDR Students

\*Professional development. Includes 2 sessions at Kalgoorlie WASM campus.

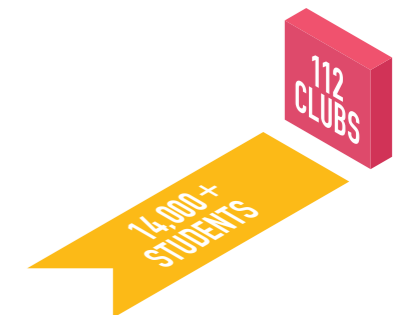
## Clubs, Events, and Activities.

Events & Activations



11 Major Events

54,460 Attendees



1st Club of the year: Curtin Filipino Students' Society

Major Guild events ranged from single day to week-long activities.

They included:

- Semester One and Two Guild Orientation Days and Orientation week activities
- The successful return of Pasar Malam, our multicultural community night market, after a forced hiatus in 2020 due to COVID-19
- A Cat Café in partnership with local cat rescue Perth Rescue Angels gave students a chance to relieve stress by interacting with gorgeous kittens.
- End of Semester Street Carnival
- Upcycle Markets

Best New Club: Curtin Mechanical Society

Most Improved Club: Women in Business

Best Club Event: Curtin Engineers Club for Beers on The Lawn & Curtin Filipino Students' Society for Tiannge.

People's Choice Award: Curtin Illustration Club





## Commercial Services

A project to update Guild cafes continued in 2021 with significant work carried out at The Vegie Patch. Relunched as Mallokup, which means place of shade in Noongar, the new menu featured native foods from around Australia grown at Curtin's Bentley campus in collaboration with Curtin Parks and Gardens. In doing this we acknowledged the ancient and continuing connections First Peoples have with these foods from their lands and waters. One of the signature items on the menu, Wattle Seed eclairs, created by the Guild's executive chef, soon proved a favourite with students and staff.



The Tav benefitted from a light refurbishment creating a more light and airy internal space. Unfortunately, COVID restrictions continued to impact Tavern events with density and capacity limits.

Convenience store G Mart provided a selection of essential items, speciality food and heat and eat meals for the student and staff community. Our second hand book service closed its doors at the end of 2021 after many decades largely due to a shift to digital texts and book sales through social platforms.

### Top sellers at a glance.



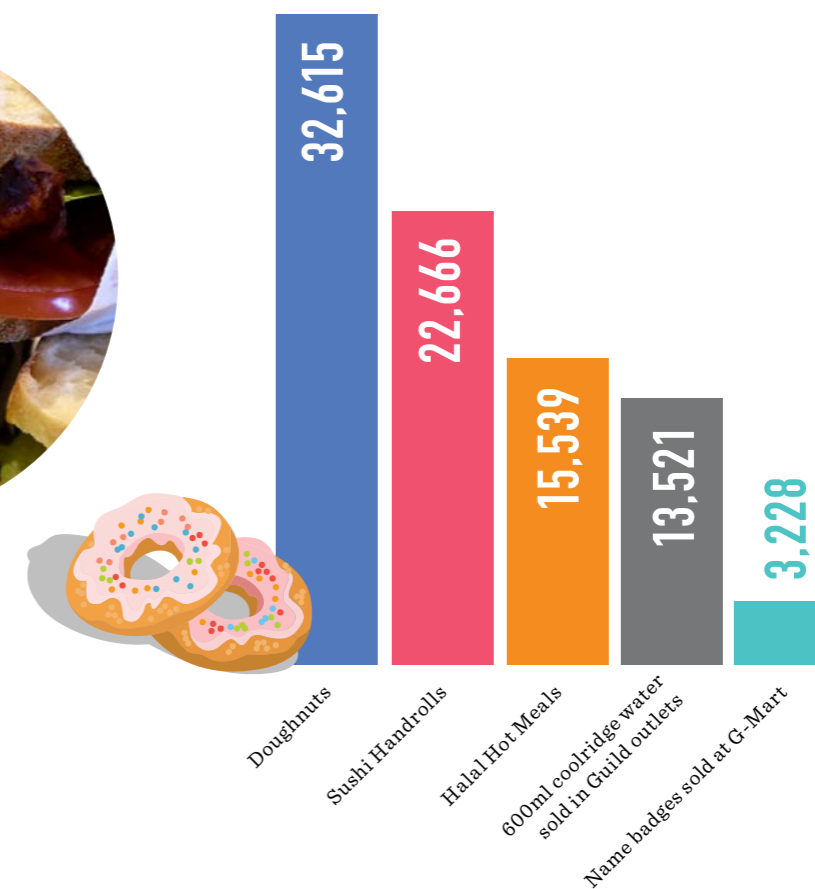
**COFFEE**  
534,158 espresso shots drawn!



**CINNAMON DONUTS**  
32,615



**SushiMe**  
22,666 hand rolls



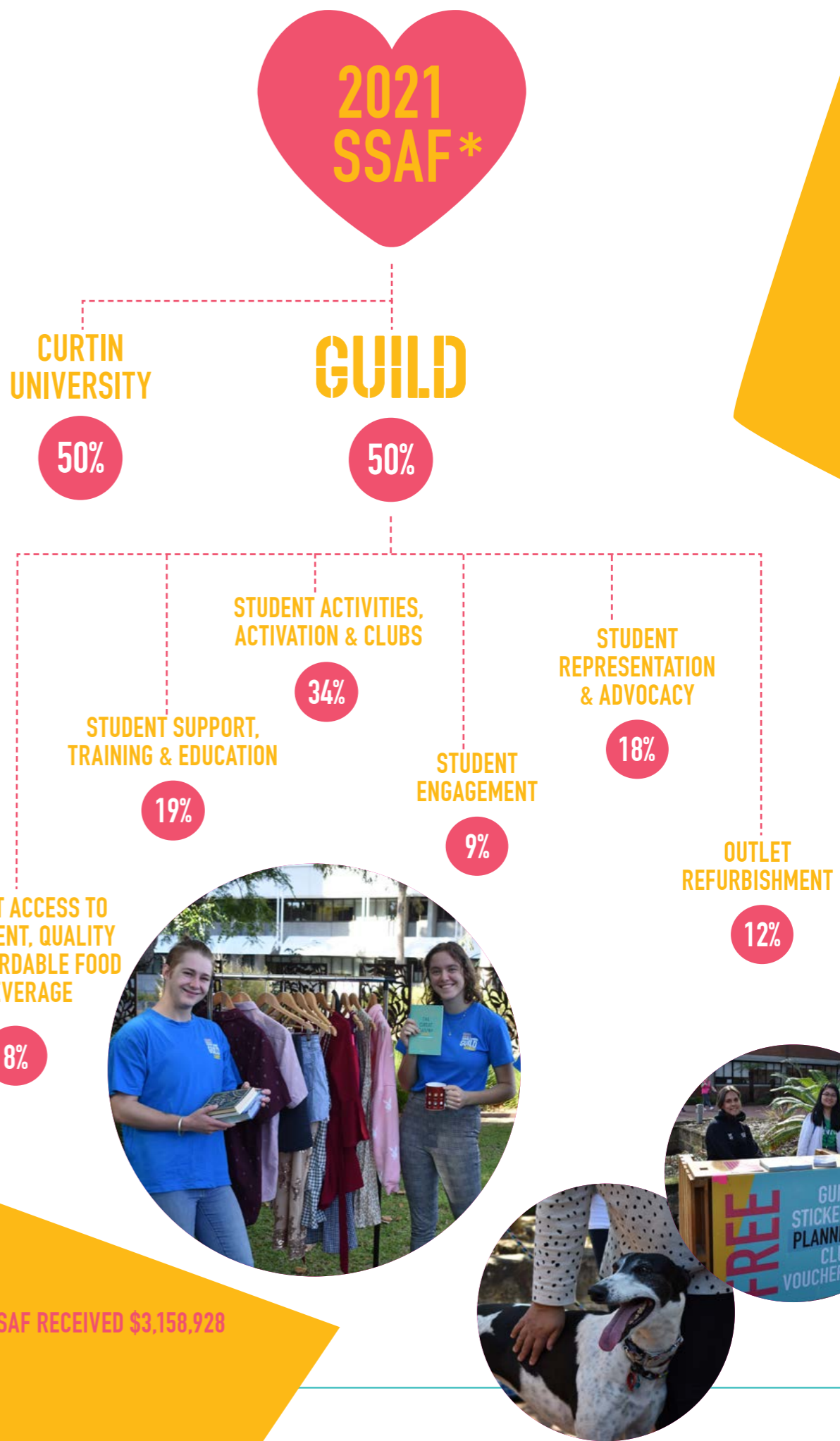


Zachariah PHOTOGRAPHY

<Images to come>

# Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) Expenditure in 2021

The Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) is used to provide a wide range of services and amenities to students and to support student-focussed initiatives such as sporting and recreational activities, employment and career advice, advocacy and support, financial issues and food services.



\*SSAF RECEIVED \$3,158,928





O-Day 2021

# Grant Expenditure in 2021

Curtin University provided a grant of \$750,000 to Curtin Student Guild with the expenditure as follows:

ACTIVITY OR SERVICE	PORTFOLIO	ALLOCATION*
Student Welfare	Student Assist	\$113,449
Student Societies	Student Experience	\$80,940
Student Publications	Student Engagement	\$197,657
Social Activities	Student Experience	\$126,598
Student Representation and Advocacy	Student Representation	\$111,356
SSAF Admin Costs **		\$120,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$750,000</b>

\*Includes support costs. \*\*Paid to Curtin University.

# Financial Reports

## Financial Performance.\*

	2021 (\$)	2020 (\$)
<b>Revenue</b>		
Sale of Goods	6,133,372	5,063,794
Rendering of Services	168,962	161,953
Rental Income	21,392	13,184
Finance Income	2,136	2,580
JobKeeper Income	426,030	2,467,170
Other Income	4,216,911	3,630,361
<b>10,968,803</b>	<b>11,339,042</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>		
Cost of Sales	(2,432,527)	(1,947,167)
Employee Benefits Expense	(5,673,892)	(5,314,935)
JobKeeper Top-up Payments	(52,837)	(785,605)
Depreciation	(666,713)	(740,948)
Interest Expense on Lease Liability	(31,970)	(20,978)
Occupancy Expenses	(517,716)	(654,356)
Administrative Expenses	(459,715)	(413,508)
Finance Costs	(54,612)	(43,981)
Other Expenses	(955,106)	(920,836)
<b>(10,845,088)</b>	<b>(10,842,314)</b>	
<b>Operating Profit from Operations</b>	<b>123,715</b>	<b>496,728</b>

\*The Guild's financial year is from 1 January to 31 December





## Cash Flow Summary.

	2021 (\$)	2020 (\$)
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Receipts from students/customers	7,156,076	6,342,866
Receipts from SSAF	3,158,928	2,597,737
Receipts from the ATO	678,600	2,211,600
Interest Paid	(31,970)	(20,978)
Payments to suppliers & employees	(10,216,489)	(10,007,729)
Interest received	2,136	2,580
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>747,281</b>	<b>1,126,076</b>
<b>Cash flows used in investing activities</b>	<b>(309,368)</b>	<b>3,725</b>
<b>Cash flows used in financing activities</b>	<b>(72,635)</b>	<b>(55,596)</b>
<b>Net increase in cash held</b>	<b>365,278</b>	<b>1,074,205</b>
Cash at beginning of financial year	3,805,518	2,731,313
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>	<b>4,170,796</b>	<b>3,805,518</b>



## Financial Position.

	2021 (\$)	2020 (\$)
Current Assets	4,656,306	4,331,270
Non-Current Assets	2,466,795	2,129,274
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>7,123,101</b>	<b>6,460,544</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>(2,594,771)</b>	<b>(2,055,929)</b>
<b>Net Available Assets</b>	<b>4,528,330</b>	<b>4,404,615</b>

## Profit from operations has been derived from the following:

	2021 (\$)	2020 (\$)
Administration	500,618	71,503
Representation Services	(269,551)	(76,130)
Student Services	161,520	361,469
Commercial	(268,872)	139,886
<b>Operating Profit from operations</b>	<b>123,715</b>	<b>496,728</b>

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**CURTIN  
STUDENT  
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