



## 1.0 WELCOME AND OPENING

Lucas welcomed all councillors, directors and observers and proxies and acknowledged that UWA is situated on Nyoongar land and the Nyoongar people remain the spiritual and cultural custodians of their land and that they continue to practice their beliefs, languages, values and knowledge.

### 1.1 Attendance

Lucas Tan, Luke Rodman, Maddie Mulholland, Julian Rapattoni, Cameron Payne, Dumi Mashinini, Georgina Carr, Joshua Bamford, Lizzy O'Shea, Judith Carr, Cameron Barnes, Tom Henderson, Laura Smith, Sophie Liley, Kelly Fitzsimons, Daniel Stone, Gemma Bothe, Matthew Mckenzie.

### 1.2 Apologies

Rajdeep Singh (Ordinary Guild Councillor), Annie Lei (Vice-President), Rida Ahmed (Ordinary Guild Councillor), Rob Purdew (Treasurer), Valentina Barron (Public Affairs Council President), Cameron Fitzgerald (Welfare Officer), Felix Lim (ISS Officer), Simon Thuijs (RSD President).

### 1.3 Proxies

Tom Beyer for Rajdeep Singh, Bec Doyle for Annie Lei, Keahn Sardinha for Rida Ahmed, Harrison Sweeney for Rob Purdew, Honny Garepo for Valentina Barron, Ben Tomasi for Cameron Fitzgerald.

Maddie moved to accept the attendance, apologies and proxies. Unanimously carried.

## 2.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

### 2.1 Amended Guild Council Meeting 1 December 2012

### 2.2 Guild Council Meeting 18 December 2012

Maddie said that the only change to the Minutes of December 1<sup>st</sup> was adding who voted which way.

Lucas moved that minutes of both meetings be accepted. Unanimously carried.

## 3.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil.

## **4.0 DIRECTORS' REPORTS**

Lucas suggested that because of the substantial number of reports that there be two separate question times - after Directors' Reports and after Councillor Reports.

### **4.1 Managing Director's Report**

Wayne said his report referred to the One-Stop-Shop project, scheduled to commence this year, focused on our operations, the Masterplan, and included an F&P section.

Wayne spoke on the Masterplan - he said he wanted to alter the terminology of Stage 1 of that project being approved which is called "Stage 1 of the Masterplan" to "Refurbishment of the south wing and the student centre". The reason why is because we are talking about doing a revised masterplan, so to avoid confusion with terminology for projects. That refers to the south wing and refers to the student centre. We are well into the design and consultation process so that is the very first part of that phase in consultation with staff and student reps. It takes a lot of time, a lot of back and forth, a lot of architects involved in the area. The first part tends to reinforce where in the concept of the feasibility study we have decided to put basically the walls. There are alterations emerging out of that consultation but those alterations emerging so far don't affect the ultimate objectives of the project. Everyone will get to see the proposed alteration.

Regarding the Dentistry Kiosk it is very encouraging. UWA are saying we are on schedule for May and they are asking where to send the bills which is a good sign that something is going to happen and we'll start seeing the construction soon.

Regarding the Masterplan revision – we went to the Facility Development Committee of the University and in that process it was highlighted that it would be ideal if we sat back and revised our initial Masterplan of 2009 and all the signals are that this would be of great benefit to the Guild if we fast track and jump into a revised Masterplan. We have got it in the budget and because of that we issued expressions of interest from three masterplanning firms. We will present that to Finance and Planning in February and ideally that will move quickly.

He said he thinks it would be wise if we wait to see whether there are any major outcomes emerging from the catering review before we potentially press ahead with the revised Masterplan. The revised Masterplan is seen as a significant strategic tool for us at the moment. The Vice Chancellor has endorsed that the Guild Village Precinct

needs to be upgraded to a higher standard and is recommending that we leap on that and do everything possible to attract funding. He said he doesn't expect that we will be able to justify attracting funding without a revision. Council should expect that there wasn't enough provision put in the budget for this revision, but Wayne hopes that we can recognise that this is an important investment to get the ammunition ready to try to attract the big money to substantially upgrade this precinct.

He said that the process of the masterplanning from a strategic point of view is all interconnected and to some extent runs concurrently with a lot of other big strategic issues at hand now – the Guild relationship improvement through negotiation, the Service Level Agreement which is new and in place, and also the next point down is discussing the options for raising funds. The other key one is the Catering Review and what effect that is going to have on the way services and operations work. So all those things bundled together are basically a package.

The next item – Fundraising feasibility – this has just given a little bit of background from where we left off from that fundraising feasibility and you can probably gather that we consider it is time for it to re-emerge and get put on the table as we are looking at options to raise substantial money for the Masterplan and potentially for other student orientated programs. There is a lot more information, a lot of Council wouldn't be aware of that fundraising feasibility. At this point we have taken it to the University and put it in front of them. We are taking it to the Registrar's Office in a week or so's time and we are really starting to put it front of them. One of the options is that we don't start our own fundraising foundation as that feasibility proposes, but we get included in the substantial UWA fundraising plan where they plan to raise \$250 million.

Re: catering, Wayne said the mobile catering decision on the pizza provider was made at F & P. The business case was considered there. That business case really compared two providers and fundamentally we did a trial of one provider and the feedback as far as client satisfaction was really great. The difficulty with the ongoing proposal that they provided we forward for the future is that it has a lot of conditions on us; cost, lack of real mobility. When that was compared to another provider who was able to give us a lot more advantages, in the back end of logistics, we chose the more mobile option and interesting enough the new proposal which takes this pizza provider out of the ref courtyard actually creates an extra rental of space by putting it out in the Guild Village where it is intended to be located between the newsagency and Student Services.

Effectively we are seconding a bit of university ground to put a provider there and earn income so from that point of view it is quite an attractive move to use someone else's property to earn income and provide a service without utilising our fixed building facilities and the obligations and costs that come with that.

The other thing in the catering is the Catering Report which is the one that is done by the GM of the National organisation TAG and then there is a catering review which is the review that was approved at the last Council meeting and an internal generated review.

#### **4.2 Finance Director's Report**

Wayne said that the November reports have been circulated and if there are no questions he will not comment on that. Looking at the interim unaudited results for 2012 he provided a summary -- For the SSAF, unfortunately the university forecast that they provided us throughout the year up until the third quarter was poor and it looks like it is going to come in about \$200,000.00 short at least. So the end result of net SSAF that we expect to be received for 2012 is after the payment of Form 50 contributions from the UWA Student Services program, just over \$2 million so we are \$300,000.00 behind on that one.

Catering has been flat although fairly close to budget. We know we had a difficult trading result for the tavern this year and that has left us with an operating income of negative \$400,000.00 or thereabout.

On the expenses we went over budget slightly. This year is a good year on the investment markets so there is a good result there. To put that in context there is a \$670,000.00 result. About three years ago we had a \$1.1 million loss so to some extent some of these results are simply recouping prior GFC losses.

Going into the interim results for January and this is something that comes up every year, we can expect January to be quite favourable. A lot of that is to do with the year end, staff provision, wage provisions, swinging back. January tends to look favourable but the trends will emerge more in the February/March period to get a handle on how our operating budgets are going. January can be a little misleading.

#### **4.3 Catering Director's Report**

Ken presented his report as circulated. The November performance, from preliminary counts available are that catering has provided in excess of \$350,000-\$4000,000 of profits to guild, and extended

\$500,000 in discounts, which adds up to almost \$1m. They are on track to do changes in 2013.

#### **4.4 Director Student and Corporate Services Report**

Shirley said the main thing she has been working on over the last few weeks is the Guild's record keeping plan because the State Records Office requires us to have one. They gave us a deadline as the end of this month. She has worked on a plan, policies, procedures and other associated documentation and she sent a draft document through earlier this week – she will hopefully get feedback so she can make changes.

Cameron moved a procedural motion that Council then consider Motion 7.1. Unanimously carried. The normal order was resumed thereafter.

### **5.0 REPORTS**

#### **5.1 Guild President**

Barnes presented his report as tabled but said he had more to add. It has been a very busy few months at the start of his term. Last week he attended the National Union of Students President Summit. He circulated a report this afternoon. He said he felt the summit was a very worthwhile investment of his time. It was very useful talking to Chris Evans, the Minister for Tertiary Education - Barnes said he raised a number of issues with him including Commonwealth funding for post-graduate courses particularly for the new Masters programs. Also the issue of SSAF fees was raised and some of the issues we have with implementation. NUS will be doing up another implementation of SSAF report for next year and Barnes is keen for us to be actively involved in the report for 2013. He said Chris Evans was asked a lot of questions on SSAF, some of which he took on notice and will get back to us. One of the things he did say was that whilst he supports the legislation, he is concerned about the way universities have gone about implementing SSAF particularly in terms of the lack of consultation with students in how much to charge, how fees are distributed and how the distribution is used by Student Services, Sports Associations, etc. That is a big issue and they will be doing a mid-year review into the ways that universities have used SSAF money and we should be very actively involved in making submissions to that mid-year review.

We have had a number of issues of our own in terms of the fee being raised against the recommendation of both the outgoing and incoming

Guild Presidents, in terms of us receiving a lower distribution of SSAF than we have traditionally and in terms of us being given very little say in how SSAF funds are used by other service providers on campus.

Barnes said he has been pushing hard for all the NUS office bearers to come to WA to engage with WA and they have all made a commitment to come. They have also expressed interest in meeting up with all our counterparts – Environment, Women's, Welfare, Indigenous, etc. He said he has contact details and he needs to sit down with all those people and organise this.

He said he is excited to say that the NUS President will be coming for our Orientation Day on 22 February and will be staying in Western Australia for approximately a week. He said he is keen to organise a couple of meetings or sessions where she can talk to Guild Council and potentially to FacSocs as well. He proposed a date of Saturday 23 February to organize a Guild Council lunch with the NUS President. He said he will put a doodle poll out on the Guild Council Facebook page and make the date either Saturday 23 February or Sunday 24 February to meet up with the NUS President.

Barnes said there has been a bit of confusion from clubs as to the fine details of what events they can promote on O-Day. We have worked through the Activities Office in trying to give clubs as much information as possible however we are starting to find a bit of a grey area. He has arranged a meeting on Monday with Student Services to clarify that grey area on exactly what clubs can and can't promote. Can they promote for example a calendar of events which includes licensed events on O-Day. He feels that they should but he needs to clarify with Student Services first.

He said he had a very productive meeting with the Vice Chancellor yesterday. The Vice Chancellor is keen to meet with Barnes regularly and also gave a lot of tips on how we can improve our share of SSAF funding when we go back to the table to negotiate our 2 year agreement in June/July of this year. Also some of his tips were to improve our governance - particularly review our strategic plan, review our operational priorities plan, try to align ourselves so that we are seen as a partner of the university which is worth investing in. He said the Vice Chancellor was very much on board with some of our plans for example service learning, which he sees as being a very valuable role the Guild can play that perhaps Student Services or the University can't, and that is the strategy that we need to be pushing with the University - that there is a niche role for the Guild to fill, and that they can't just contract out to Student Services.

He said that a point of concern was that the Vice Chancellor has a

significantly different view of the Guild from the previous Vice Chancellor. He is an economist and has an economist's mind. He doesn't care who provides the service, all he cares about is that the service is of high quality and is being provided efficiently and at good cost. This means that on the one hand if Student Services gets its act together they can start poaching funding and services off us, but it also means that if we get our act together and really push for expansion this year, we can gain a lot of ground and get a lot more money to do a lot more things for students. He said he has talked to the staff about it and they are very keen to make sure we are in an ideal position over the next six months to go to the negotiation table.

## **5.2 Vice President**

Report as tabled.

## **5.3 Treasurer**

Report as tabled.

## **5.4 Secretary**

Maddie said that previously secretaries have compiled a list of important Guild dates such as sustainability week, women's events, SOC meetings, PAC meetings, etc. so can everyone please get those dates to her as soon as they have been set so she can compile a list of these dates which can be circulated to students and staff.

She also asked if all the office bearers and department leaders to come to her on a regular basis and update her on the projects they are working on and let her know where you are at so she can keep a tab on everything. Perhaps a short email once a week would be great.

## **5.5 Societies Council President**

Laura said her report was as tabled. Since the report they have approved three orientation grants and should be getting the funding this week. She said she has received one more which will be considered this week. She urged everyone who is part of a club to get on top of this and take the opportunity of orientation grants as she would like to see more applications coming through. She said she is looking forward to going with Barnes to a meeting on Monday to clarify some O-Day orientation questions that she has been hearing from clubs.

## **5.6 Education Council President**

Tom said his report was as tabled. He went to the President's Summit in his capacity as national executive for NUS and this was very productive, especially the relationships built up other Presidents from the Universities of Melbourne, NSW and La Trobe where he has just received information about how they went about getting universal lecture capture on their campuses. We have La Trobe's old Vice-Chancellor so having that information will be helpful in getting some traction.

## **5.7 Public Affairs Council President**

Report as tabled. Valentina sent her apologies for not attending the meeting, forward any queries to her.

## **5.8 Environment Department**

Daniel said his report was as tabled. He said they did get a solar panels report. Also there is a recycling station mentioned in his report which is now in his office and we are going to upgrade to that to make it more secure.

## **5.9 Women's Department**

Sophie said her report was as tabled. She had a few meetings with some of the girls from the Feminist Action Network and also the Women's Department is going to run a campaign for the Federal election to try to change that fact that sanitary items are still being charged GST.

## **5.10 Queer Department**

No report submitted.

## **5.11 International Student Services**

Report as tabled. Felix is away and has asked that if there are any questions about his report could you please email him.

## **5.12 Postgraduate Students' Association**

Gemma said she has talked to Office of Industry and Innovation and we are putting on a professional development seminar with them. They will organise it for us and we will advertise it. They are also going to give us \$500.00 for postscript.



### **5.13 Welfare Department**

Report as tabled.

### **5.14 Sports Representative**

Kelly said her report was as tabled. She said the month ahead they are having their inter-fac sport meeting which is tomorrow. It is the first time that all the reps will be in the room at the same time talking about sport and planning for the year to come. She welcomed any feedback or questions on her report.

### **5.15 RSD**

Report as tabled.

### **5.16 ATSID**

No report submitted.

### **5.17 NUS National Conference**

Maddie said we have three reports for the NUS National Conference. One that Lizzy has compiled on behalf of Barnes, Tom, Rob and Lizzy. There is one submitted from Ben and one from Ollie.

For accountability, it is very detailed. Lizzy said the report has every motion that was carried except she doesn't have Queer, Enviro or Welfare as they weren't in the minutes. She pointed out Barnes's amendment with Enviro which was not in the report.

Barnes said regarding policy that it is all about directing office bearers in what we want them to do for the year. He said he inserted an amendment into one of the environment policies which was moved to say that the NUS Environment Officer would work with campus-based Environment Officers around the country to help them find low-cost or free sources of energy audits and solar panels.

Lizzy said there was also a key amendment with SSAF which is in the report. The other key areas which are included are any motions moved by UWA students. She said that Bec Doyle came over to run for National Women's Officer and there are a few policies that we included in there that she moved, all of which were passed, aside from the policy we couldn't move from the floor. She also asked that everyone read the description of how our votes worked and the implications of Ollie and Ben not coming.

Barnes said that they rolled Tom, Rob's and Barnes's comments into Lizzy's report. He said they were very dissatisfied that we didn't get the Women's Officer position. He said they have been very dissatisfied with NUS's performance over particularly the last year but also the last several years and he sat down and had a private conversation with the newly elected National President. He said he was very blunt and he told her that if NUS didn't improve there was potential for the entire Western Australian delegation to walk from NUS unless we saw serious improvement. She gave him a lot of commitments to step up and he was quite reassured by the conversation he had with her. To date she has followed through on those commitments and he will be continuing to keep her accountable on that level as well as keeping all of the NUS national officer bearers accountable.

He said it was also very good to see that we did get three UWA students onto the NUS National Executive who are Tom, Anita Creasey and Gemma Whiting. Tom and Gemma are also on the budget review committee which is a very important committee for the financial accountability of NUS. He said he had some concerns about us not managing to get the Women's Officer position and this is something that he has raised with the National President. He said if we don't see significant improvement from NUS this year he would be very surprised and he would encourage everyone to come to the lunch with the NUS President with a lot of hard questions as she will be expecting them.

## **6.0 QUESTION TIME**

Matthew recommended that Barnes meet with Peter Curdis rather than John Stubbs to discuss the orientation review.

Cameron said he had a meeting with Peter next week and had also arranged a meeting with Judy Steen as she is the senior most person on Copit, and Copit was the committee that was churning through a lot of that advice - so he wants to clarify the advice she has been seeing through Copit before he goes to Peter Curtis.

Cameron Barnes moved that all the office bearer reports be accepted. Carried unanimously.

## **7.0 MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

**7.1 That Guild Council accepts the Business Case submitted as approved by the Finance and Planning Committee, and approves the expenditure of \$115,000 for the Partial Redevelopment of the Refectory as outlined.**

**Moved: Cameron Barnes**  
**Seconded: Robert Purdew**

Barnes spoke to the motion and said that the full Business Case with all costings and design plans are attached. This is something that is a significant part of our vision for catering. It is all about specialisation and diversification and about trying to offer exciting new options for students, in particular fresh sushi and bubble tea. It is quite a detailed business case and there are a number of key components - one of them is the new fit-out for the coffee stop. Effectively at the moment that is not in a situation where it can continue for the long term, so we are refitting out that coffee stop and also investing significantly in the new sushi master facilities.

Also as part of that capital investment we are making an investment in a Subway-style sandwich and salad bar as well as a gourmet made-to-order burger bar. This is something that has gone through the Finance & Planning Committee and has been looked into in great detail by both the Catering Committee and the Finance and Planning Committee who are all extremely happy with it. Barnes congratulated Ken and his team on their excellent work.

Motion put. **Motion 7.1 carried.**

**For:** Cameron Barnes; Lucas Tan; Lizzy O'Shea; Bec Doyle for Annie Lei; Josh Bamford; Dumi Mashinini; Keahn Sardinha for Rida Ahmed; Georgina Carr; Honny Garepo for Valentina Barron; Laura Smith; Tom Beyer for Rajdeep Singh; Luke Rodman; Tom Henderson; Judith Carr; Harrison Sweeney for Rob Purdew; Maddie Mulholland.

**Against:** None.

**Abstaining:** Sophie Liley; Cameron Payne; Julian Rapattoni.

Ken thanked Council and said he would try to deliver by the start of semester.

## **7.2 That the attached document entitled "The Guild 100" be endorsed.**

**Moved: Cameron Barnes**  
**Seconded: Maddie Mulholland**

Barnes said this has been circulated for the last month. He said he will be moving an amendment to insert mature aged students. He said he wanted to add another two sections. He has circulated the amendment that he has made which is to add 96 and 97; "to run a program of events and initiative for mature aged students and parents",

and “to improve our representation of students from ethnic cultural and religious minorities through more food options and regular communications about issues”.

He said he has also consolidated four of the points in Tavern Committee down to two points so that consolidation still leaves it at 100 points.

He said about the 100 goals for the 100<sup>th</sup> Guild council, this document serves a dual purpose. On the one hand it serves as a very simple, efficient way to explain to students what exactly the Guild is doing for them. It is a frequent question we get and is something that Cameron has given to the Memberships Office to have a look at putting a marketing angle on so students can actually see a very comprehensive but succinct explanation of what we are doing.

He said its second purpose is to serve as a governance document. One of the biggest issues he has found is that people will constantly be coming up with new ideas and seeing new things that we need to be doing and sometimes it helps to just sit down, write a list, put it into action, make sure everyone is responsible for getting at least one thing checked off, and making sure that we are actually making progress in ticking these points off. In six months when we sit down with the Vice Chancellor, he wants to be able to go to him and say that at least half of these are done and the other half are well on their way to being satisfied. Barnes said he has given the document to the Vice Chancellor who is very impressed it with – he didn’t have anything to add and said it addressed all of his concerns.

Barnes moved an amendment to add Items 96 and 97 and to consolidate the four points in Tav Committee into two points. Seconded by Maddie Mulholland.

Lucas said he needs to make a ruling that the amendment doesn’t make the original document substantially different which it doesn’t. He acknowledges that.

All in favour of amendment being accepted.

Maddie said this is a very important document for us to be able to plan out our year and to make sure that we are achieving great things this year and it is very important to give to the Vice Chancellor of the University so that they know what direction we are heading in as well.

Julian said the only point he was concerned about was point No. 81 that Barnes attend meetings of WAMSS and UDSS. He said he feels it is inappropriate. You can ask for minutes but he doesn’t feel it

appropriate that Barnes attend the meetings.

Barne said the reason that is in there is that he actually received a request from WAMSS to attend their committee meeting. He clarified that it was just to attend one meeting, not all meetings. He said he will unilaterally amend it to say “a meeting” instead of “meetings”. He said the feedback he got from WAMSS was that they felt very separated from the Guild and it would be useful for him to attend a meeting, for them to have a bit of a Q & A and ask him questions about everything from SSAF expenditure through to political issues. He said he is very happy to do the same for any faculty society that wants him to. He said he likes the idea of the Guild President and Guild Council making themselves available to answer tough questions, to get feedback and to present the idea of an accessible Guild.

Motion put. **Motion 7.2 carried unanimously.**

**7.3 That Guild Council endorse the creation of an informal mental health working party which will seek to include a representative of each campus based initiative. The President, or their delegate, will chair the working party.**

***Moved: Cameron Barnes***

***Seconded: Cameron Fitzgerald***

Barnes said one of the first things raised at NUS Presidents’ Summit was that at a lot of campuses they have a collaborative group on mental health issues which effectively unites different initiatives on campus. What they do is have one rep from each mental health group or initiative on campus working together so they have got a really cohesive strategy to tackle issues from everything from the education side of things through to our Health Promotions Unit, through to student societies, through to our student union. He said this would be very informal, it would be focusing almost solely on collaborative efforts, cross-promotion, etc.

At this stage what they are looking at doing is having a representative of the Health Promotions Unit, a representative of Students Passionate About Mental Health, and a representative from any faculty society or student club that runs a mental health initiative as well as obviously including Cameron Barnes, Cameron Fitzgerald and Tom Henderson. If there are any other office bearers who are particularly keen to be involved they are open to that. It is a flexible informal working group but that is the basic plan that they have. He said he just wanted to take it to Council to get their endorsement so they have the support of Council behind them.

Gemma asked whether this party will consult with Student Services?

Barnes said that Judy Steen is really keen to see this formed and to get involved.

Luke asked whether it would be a contactable working party?

Barnes said they will sit down and draft an initial proposed list, send out invites, try to get a fixed group of people, then send out an email, get a bit of consultation from this group, then we can lock it in and proceed from there. We can always make changes but it shouldn't be too dynamic in terms of people not consistently going to the meetings.

Dumi asked who will chair the meetings?

Barnes said either himself or his delegate. The main reason for that is that we don't know at this stage how active it will be and whether it will work better for Cameron Barnes or Cameron Fitzgerald to chair it. We've given it a bit of flexibility in the wording of the motion.

Matthew suggested they get in touch with Naomi Elfordas she did something similar last year. There were some people in the university she had involved.

Barnes thanked Matthew for this suggestion.

The motion was put. **Motion 7.3 carried unanimously.**

**7.4 That Guild Council accept the attached recommendation for renewing the contract of the Managing Director.**

***Moved: Cameron Barnes***

***Seconded: Laura Smith***

Lucas said the notice requirements of 7 days notice weren't fulfilled for Motion 7.4. He said in his power of chair he can waive those notice requirements under Section 29 but to do so he needs to make a determination that it relates to urgent business and it could not otherwise have been avoided. Motion 7.4 relates to the contract renewal of the Managing Director and it his understanding that this needs to be completed by January and that during the negotiation process it was unavoidable that the motion was presented late. He said he therefore determined that this is urgent business.

He asked all in favour of the notice requirements being waived to raise their hands. Carried.

**For:** Lucas Tan; Luke Rodman; Maddie Mulholland; Julian Rapattoni; Dumi Mashinini; Georgina Carr; Joshua Bamford; Lizzy O'Shea; Judith Carr; Cameron Barnes; Tom Henderson; Laura Smith; Sophie Liley; Tom Beyer for Rajdeep Singh; Bec Doyle for Annie Lei; Keahn Sardinha for Rida Ahmed; Harrison Sweeney for Rob Purdew; Honny Garepo for Valentina Barron.

**Against:** Cameron Payne.

Barnes moved a procedural motion that Motion 7.4 be proceeded with in camera. Carried unanimously. Moved in to camera.

**Motion passed.**

## **8.0 GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **8.1 Review of Election Regulations**

Ben said part of the Service Level Agreement is that we undertake a review of the election regulations and the way in which not only Guild elections but also senate elections and NUS elections are run. He said he has been asked to co-ordinate it. At the moment we have a preliminary draft of which everyone should have a copy. This draft is open for comment from interested parties. The West Australian Electoral Commission will be looking at it and the university and we are going to send a copy to NUS as well.

He and Barnes are meeting with the University Secretary on Friday to discuss any issues they have because in their understanding these regulations are made under Statute 20 which means they require Senate approval before they can be used. The time he is looking at is to have the regulations ready to go by the March meeting of this Council which gives us about 15 days after the State election in March and we might get some feedback from the Electoral Commission. He said it is fairly optimistic but he thinks it is doable. If it passes at the meeting then take it to the Senate for the April meeting. The worst case scenario would be if we can't get feedback from the Electoral Commission in time for the March meeting then we would leave it until the April meeting of this Council and then take it to the Senate in June. He said he thinks we should get an indication from the university this Friday and through discussions with them as to whether they would be happy considering it at the April or June meeting of Senate. He said he will keep Council updated on that.

The process that we're going through is that they have done a redraft of some of the changes that need to be made based on feedback mostly from concerns the Electoral Commission had last year with the way things were run but also from concerns that students had about the way in which the distribution of electoral materials and the way in which electronic communications are used to get election material out there.

He said the big changes that have been made are to Regulation 632 which concerns the process by which material is approved and costings etc. He said firstly his thinking is that in order to effectively regulate the use of electronic media we need a smaller line between printed election material and electronic election material. The process and the requirements for printed election material are largely unchanged. There was an error in 632 6(f) – printed material needs to be submitted for approval, it goes to Uniprint it comes back on coloured paper, it is then distributed. It should have included libraries, catering outlets and off-campus. One big issue is that he understands that Uniprint is reasonably expensive for these services and it might be better to go to someone like Officeworks. He hasn't managed to come up with a solution of how that is to happen so it is something to think about - is there a way to allow candidates to get the material approved and get it printed off site? If so that would be fantastic.

The other big change that a lot of people said they would like to see is an absolute spending cap in addition to the per candidate spending cap to prevent the inflation of paper candidates that we've seen over the past few years. One proposal was an absolute spending cap of about \$2,000.00 which is roughly what both parties spent this year. Barnes suggested a lower cap may not be a bad idea. He said with the advent of electronic communications we might see the total spending come down by itself so the cap might not be necessary. Because the costing in 632 4(a) is tied to CPI it is the value of \$30 in 1990 which last year was \$44.90, and in this year he expect it to be somewhere around \$46, so the total spent is tied to the number of candidates. Suggested number of candidates is 45 being the office bearer candidates plus 30 council members but this is something which is open to discussion.

He said regarding electronic communications what he has opted to do is instead of drafting an entire section for electronic communications and having a whole new set of regulations over that he has created a carve out so he has carved electronic communications out of the approval process for printed material. He said it means we have a couple of definitions to the regs such as printed election material versus electronic election material. 632.2 is the big section about electronic media and the lack of approval process for that. The material of the kind referred in Regulation 632.4 which is electronic communications shall be deemed to be approved election material in all circumstances provided it refers only



to the election platform candidate and makes no mention of any other candidate or group. The election platform is defined in the definition section so it refers to what that group has promised to do and the policy, broadsheet election material; but the important thing is that it ensures that it is about positive campaigning and about simply trying to build your own brand and your own group rather than tear down others which creates more of a positive election environment.

He said also to carve out in 632.6 which is that approved election material which is material which has received the stamp from the election committee as well as all electronic communications referred to in 632.4(j) can be explained in any manner whatsoever subject to the exception that printed material can't be distributed out of university grounds.

In relation to the approval process, he said that last year we had a few issues where we needed secondary submissions of material and changes being made to material after the fact. Technically the regulations don't allow for that kind of exercise of discretion by the election committee. "Regulation 632.2(n)(8) - the election committee may in its absolute discretion alter the procedures in any manner it sees fit if it forms an opinion that the fair conduct of the election will be best served by doing so". This means where one group comes to us and their resubmission material isn't up to scratch, the election committee can say they have another 12 or 18 hours to fix that and then they can approve distribution.

Ben encouraged councillors to make comments and provide feedback during the consultation process.

Maddie said with regard to printing off campus perhaps if we had some sort of system where you say you can either do it at Uniprint or Officeworks but you have to present your docket, to prevent people using free printing services? Ben said this creates a lot of extra work for the staff. Whether that is a huge issue or not is to be seen. The process involves handing in your material, and the election committee delivers a certain number stamped.

Dumi asked about the section on electronic material. Ben said that approved election material may include electronic communications. The material has to go through a certain process but what he has done is exempted electronic material from that process.

Dumi said he doesn't have a problem with someone using their own Facebook page or a group page, unless that group serve a purpose other than a dedicated space to the candidate.

Luke asked about the cost of political material - he said it was a problem last year with independents that they were quite limited in their

expenditure and could there be a minimum threshold so they could just get a little bit extra to allow them to compete?

Ben said that with electronic communications, smaller groups are able to reach more students at no cost. Given that how-to-votes aren't included in the spending cap he thinks that problem should be solved by electronic communications.

Barnes said one of the changes that was being talked about was an absolute maximum threshold of being about \$2,000.00 and having an absolute minimum threshold of say \$200.00.

This is what Luke suggested. Ben said this is a good idea – do people agree with the \$200 amount?

Laura asked how much it generally costs?

Barnes said the problem was that it is a balancing act where if you make the lower threshold too high – say a single person gets \$300.00 to spend – then you encourage a lot of feeder tickets and joke tickets etc to try to sweep preferences into a ticket which is not what we want but by the same token if you have an independent running or a small group like the international students you do want them to be able to compete.

Sophie asked could it be limited so it is so much per person regardless of the size of the ticket or is that totally unfair?

Ben said that the idea is that when someone is running by themselves they get more than \$45. That is the status quo.

Barnes agreed with Luke and said his suggestion would be to say you start with \$100.00. At the moment we have a \$45.00 per person spending cap and that starts at \$0. One of the things we could do is start at \$100.00 so if you have one candidate you get \$145.00, 2 candidates \$190.00, 3 candidates \$235.00 and so forth. Maybe by starting at \$100.00 instead of starting at 0 it may be enough to bump up to make it a bit easier for smaller groups.

Ben said it is about coverage, as an independent you want to cover enough lecture theatres to get your name out there.

Beyer said a lot of the small parties and independents because they are so small they actually have a lot less coverage online.

Matthew said a concern that he has is something he has seen in the past where some people put up some flyers that weren't approved. (I.e. 5 Things about STAR) People don't get punished for that sort of thing

where they really should. Is there a way that can be dealt with so if the regulations are not adhered to, there is some sort of punishment?

Ben said he has tried to add a few different powers to the RO and in particular the tribunal and the big problem with that is that there is probably a misconduct offence in the regulations as they stand but it is identifying that we would be able to punish that person.

Matthew said what is the point of having the whole process in place if you can't do anything about it.

Ben said what it is more about is regulating the conduct of the candidates.

Matthew said that if you do the right thing you have to be approved by the election committee whereas people who do the wrong thing are actually the ones that benefit.

Ben said it is about the major groups and generally getting the message out there that there is approved stuff that is a legitimate part of the election process but then there is also stuff that is not part of that process. He said he wanted to stress that he thinks the approval process is an essential characteristic of the Guild election process because he thinks the idea is to elevate it a bit above street brawls. He thinks recently it hasn't and that is because of the regulations not allowing candidates the freedom to do a lot of things they felt they could and the way we are going here is that candidates are being given a lot more freedom and a lot more reward for having a positive message.

Barnes said he has personally been involved in a situation where there have been fake flyers making allegations about him or a ticket he is running with. He said at the end of the day there is nothing you can really do to make sure it doesn't happen but from his experience it has been because there isn't a stamp and if it is not approved election material you can very quickly get rid of it. You can take matters into your own hands and get rid of it if it is not approved and then report it to the Election Commission.

Ben said that what we are trying to do now is reward candidates for doing the right thing by giving them a lot more freedom.

Julian brought up the actual definition of election material. The definition is quite broad whereas last year we could only post a link to the broad sheet whereas this one talks about posters, videos, audio, etc. Is that going to change?

Ben said there should have been an addition to that paragraph referring to online materials.

Josh asked how you would go about enforcing the spending cap with online material, given people can purchase advertising on Facebook?

Ben said it would be difficult to identify who had sponsored the post.

Sophie said it would be fairer to ban it. Payne said someone else could sponsor your post – how would we regulate that?

Ben said there is a spending cap for a reason and if people are going to use their spending cap in that way it is probably fair that we find a solution that allows that if we can.

Lizzy said she didn't foresee issues with people posting too much on Facebook as it is self-deprecating.

Payne said he thought it would be a good idea for election groups to get a group t-shirt they could wear. This is currently prohibited as t-shirts and clothing is unauthorised in relation to any event. He said he would like that to be changed so it is approved so long as it is within the 50 meter area.

Ben said the reason it is not allowed at the moment is because of expenditure. The only expenditure allowed on election material has been through Uni Print. It is hard to keep track of it – you could get separate receipts and only present one.

Payne and Matthew said that it wouldn't matter how many shirts a party had, as long as only a certain number of them were wearing them within the booth areas. Payne asked whether council as a whole would be supportive of the idea?

Laura asked how the practical issue would be dealt with of keeping those shirts outside of the booth area?

Barnes made a procedural motion that people raise their issues on an individual basis with Ben. He said also that this is something the Statutes Committee could deal with.

Ben said regarding the election regulations there are also changes to 6.10, 6.12, 6.14 and 6.41 plus a number of other small changes. 6.10 is about the election committee and he has just changed the wording. The structure of the election is remaining the same but the appointment process is changing quite significantly and this is something that was talked about a lot last year and received support from everyone. Instead of Guild Council appointing the student election committee members they will now be appointed by the returning officer.

Also in the casual vacancy section (6.10) previously the returning officer was required to restore previous political range of representation. He said he didn't agree with this as the election committee is supposed to be a body so this should be included in the representation and if it is not being selected by Guild Council and it is being selected by the returning officer, that issue of election vacancies shouldn't exist.

There was also something about remuneration – Ben needs to talk to Finance or Wayne about that. It is currently not in line with 6.10.

Regarding 6.12 previously group agents only had to be 18 and there were no other requirements but he has added a requirement that they make yearly eligibility requirements in accordance with Table D of Schedule 1 of the Regulations which eligibility for Guild Council election. Also in 6.12 the appointment of a group agent may be revoked by – initially it read “any of the candidates in the group” – he suggested it should be “a minimum number of candidates” or if the return officer decides the agent has consistently failed to discharge their obligations to that group. He said in his opinion one candidate shouldn't be able to revoke the group agency status for an entire group.

He said he had added 6.14 1(h) to try to match up the powers of the returning officer with the responsibilities of the returning officer. One of the responsibilities of the returning officer is to issue fair conduct in the administration of the election and he has added a power that the returning officer may take any action they deem necessary or appropriate to ensure fair conduct of the election.

Ben said he would like suggestions about this section - 6.41 is the misconduct section and that was the offences of misconduct under these regulations. There was previously no offence for failing to obey a lawful order of discretion of the RO which meant that any determination issued by the RO didn't have an equivalent misconduct offence that could then go to the tribunal if a person failed to obey it. If people thought there were other offences which should be listed as misconduct and be able to be brought to the Tribunal then they could make suggestions.

He said regarding the senate elections there were a number of discretions that were related in the Guild President that the WAC has indicated are inappropriate to reside in the Guild President so he has moved those discretions to the RO. That is subject to senate approval.

He said in Schedule 1A the Women's Affairs Officer is a woman who is an enrolled student of UWA. The original qualification for that was that a woman who is an enrolled student of UWA, who is a member of the Guild.

The issue he had here is that you may have a joke candidate who says he “identifies as a woman”.

Matthew said they would have to be enrolled as a woman.

Bec said that having female-identifying candidates would be more inclusive of transgender women.

Laura said to go by the enrolment record.

Laura said the group agent section was very appropriate as that person was a role model to the group.

Ben said this was created with joke tickets in mind where the group agent is often obstructionist.

Sophie said that further to that, she would suggest the group agents gets 3 warnings.

Lucas proposed a procedural motion to end discussion for Section 8.1. Carried.

Maddie said she would like to get some feedback on whether everyone would prefer if she attaches all the reports at the end of the agenda or attach them as documents as she did this time. The reason she did it separately is because of all the formatting and it is difficult to put it all together because I don't know how to.

Lucas asked if she could attach it in a zip file. Maddie said she will look into some of the possibilities and we can have a discussion on the Facebook page.

Regarding reports Maddie said we have all but two reports submitted which is really good. For those who have included financial information she has sent the reports to the Managing Accountant for feedback and he will get back to her. We also have reporting templates as per the Administration Review from 2011 and she will circulate those as soon as they have been updated to be 100<sup>th</sup> Guild Council. Please put your current reports into that reporting format and send it to Maddie for publishing. That format needs to be used from now on.

She said on 8 February we have a strategic planning day which goes from 10.00am to 4.00pm. All of the student reps are required to be there so please be there.

Barnes said in terms of the consultation period before Council he thinks it is very important that people are giving him feedback and coming in and

meeting with him. If anyone has any questions he will set aside time to sit down and meet with them. There are still a couple of councillors that he hasn't had a chance to sit down with. He said it is important that individually each councillor is getting everything they can out of their experience.

## **9.0 CLOSE / NEXT MEETING**

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2013 at 6pm. Please contact the Guild Secretary ([secretary@guild.uwa.edu.au](mailto:secretary@guild.uwa.edu.au)) with any apologies or proxies.

If unable to attend, please advise which dates you are available to reschedule if a quorum cannot be met.