



UWA STUDENT GUILD

The University of Western Australia
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103rd Education Council

Guild President Report

15 December 2015

INTRODUCTION

I started the formal rolling handover process around 14 October 2015, shadowing Lizzy in her activities and coming along to meetings with her. I've been by myself for a couple of weeks now and it has been a very busy start!

This report covers meetings and activities that have occurred in my capacity as President-Elect during October and November, in my official capacity from 1 December 2015 until 15 December 2015.

MEETINGS | Guild

- **Admin & Support**
 - Meeting with Chloe Keller about support.

- **Student Services**
 - Pelican Editor Interviews (November). Congratulations to Kate Prendergast and Hayden Dalziel.
 - McCusker Centre Meeting, with new Director, to discuss the Centre's projects and opportunities for students, and the timeline for projects commencing (November).
 - Orientation Discussions with Chloe Jackson and Events Team (November, December).
 - Camp Approval – WAMSS, successful pending training requirements being completed (December).
 - PROSH Director and Editor Interviews (December). Congratulations to Matthew Clark-Massera and Emilie Fitzgerald (Directors) and Rachel Twiss (Editor).
 - Relay Chair Interviews (December). Congratulations to Emilie Fitzgerald.
 - Initial Meeting with Associate Director (Student Services), Chloe Jackson to discuss current, ongoing and future projects in this department, and how student reps can support the staff. (December)
 - Website meetings with Sushi Digital (December).
 - Christmas Party preparation with the Events Team (December).

- **Commercial**
 - Interview of Associate Director (Commercial) (November).
 - Tavern capital projects meeting with Hames Sharley architects (December).
 - Initial Meeting with Finance Director, Mutya Maragiot-Joseph to discuss current, ongoing and future projects in this department, and how student reps can support the staff. (December)

- **Catering & Tavern**
 - Meeting with potential supplier (December).

- **Student Portfolios**
 - Informal discussions with incoming portfolio holders about their plans and strategy for their portfolios' success (November).
 - 102nd & 103rd Guild Council Handover / Induction weekend (November).
 - MASA Sundowner (November).
 - PSA Women in Research breakfast (November).
 - Education Council Meetings (October, November, December).
 - Guild Council Meetings (October, November, December, December Budget Meeting).
 - Lizzy's Farewell Afternoon tea (November).
 - Strategic Resources Committee. We have been primarily focused on developing the 2016 Budget. Budget conversations began in October with Tom Burke and I.
 - Catering & Tavern Committee Meeting (December).
 - Tenancy Committee Meeting & Busy Bee (December).
 - Informal introduction to VACE Chair, and discussion with Volunteering Team about plans for 2016.
 - Informal Student Services Committee meeting to develop a plan for 2016.
 - Guild Executive meeting (will be weekly).
 - Handovers for Welfare Officer & Guild Secretary (with Jesse Martino).
 - Meeting with 2016 Pelican Editors.

MEETINGS | University

- **University-wide**
 - University Senate Meeting (October, December).
 - Meeting with University Executive (Lizzy O'Shea, Lucy Moyle, Tony Goodman and I), presenting specifically on our plans for Student Life (Orientation) and Catering in 2016. (November)
 - Meeting with UWA Marketing & Communications Team about what we do (November).
 - Interview in UWA Forward (Patrick Conway) (November).
 - Meeting with Dawn Freshwater, Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor.
 - Planning & Resources Committee Meeting.
 - Meeting with Michael Chaney, UWA Chancellor, and Warren Kerr, Warden of UWA Convocation.
 - Initial meeting with David Stacey, UWA Media and PR Manager, and full Media training from David Stacey and David Harrison, Director (Government and Corporate Communications).
- **Education**
 - SSAF Funding discussions with Alec Cameron, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education), Chris Massey (Director, Student Life) and Lisa Cluett (Associate Director, Student Comms and Engagement, Student Services) – these discussions began in October and were approved by the Senate at the December meeting. I will provide an in camera update of these negotiations.
 - Initial Meeting with Alec Cameron.
 - Academic Board Meeting (November).
 - Monthly Library Meeting with Jill Benn and her team (November).
 - Academic Council Meeting (December).
 - SPEU Steering Group Meeting (December). This meeting discussed the progress of the implementation of the new Class Allocation System.
 - Reid Café Design Meeting with Jill Benn, the architects, Tony Goodman and Guild Catering Team.
 - Lunch with the Board of Graduate Research School & Scholarships Committee.
 - Student Consultative Committee planning meeting for 2016.
- **Student Life**
 - Initial Meeting with Chris Massey (Director, Student Life) (December).
 - SSAF Capital allocation discussions, with Chris Massey, Lisa Cluett and Rowan Maclean (Director, Campus Management). I will provide an in camera update of these negotiations (December).
 - Prospect Orientation Steering Group (December). I attended this meeting as Chloe Jackson's proxy.
- **Student Groups**
 - Meetings with the incoming College Presidents to discuss how we can work together in 2016.
 - Meetings with Emma Boogaardt and incoming FacSoc Presidents and Ed VP's to discuss how we can work together in 2016.
- **Convocation**
 - Convocation Meetings (November, December). Verbal report provided at both meetings.
 - Lunch with Warren Kerr, Warden of Convocation, and Tony Goodman about how the Guild and Convocation can work together in 2016.
- **Cultural Precinct**
 - Meeting with the Director of the Cultural Precinct and his team about how we can work together in 2016.

MEETINGS | External

- Meeting with the founder of My Guru, Chris Breidhal, and discussions about the program with the Faculty Societies (October).
- On 8 December 2015 I attended the funeral for Emily Kelly, a student who lived at St Catherine's College, was a Maths and Physics student in the B-Phil program, and was the 2015 President of the UWA Mathematics Union. Lizzy O'Shea, the Student Assist team and I provided support to Emily's friends and will continue to be available for support moving forward. I would like to recognise Emily's contributions to the Guild and student life by placing a plaque in the new Club Collaborative Zone when it opens in January.

PROJECTS / ACTIVITIES

- **UWA White Student Union**
 - A UWA White Student Union Facebook page has been created, seemingly by people who are not current or former UWA students. I have received advice that this is following a trend in the USA of similar groups starting in American Universities. Similar pages have also started at other Australian universities, and the trend has been identified as a hoax on snopes.com. I do not have major concerns about an uprising of white supremacy at the University, and a group like this would not be affiliated to the Societies Council. However, it has caused concern and I am assisting the creation of the Ethnocultural Department, and am working with on campus groups to respond and show the Guild's support for all students of all backgrounds.

- **Pig Head Incident**
 - A terrible incident occurred early December where a former student left a pig head in the traditional Turkish toilet next to the Winthrop Hall Muslim prayer room. It was found by a Muslim PhD student who posted about it online. As soon as I saw it, I notified UWA Security and the Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor, who were already aware of the incident, had responded and Police had attended the scene. The Police have now identified the person responsible. The Vice Chancellor has met with the Muslim Students Association, and I am in contact with them and will meet with them shortly.
 - Further information has been circulated to members of Guild Council, including links to public statements.

- **UWA Staff Cuts**
 - At the Staff Forum on 9 December 2015, the Vice Chancellor announced cuts to 300 staff positions – 200 non-academic staff and 100 academic staff (50 of which would be renewed with new staff members). This confirms an assertion made in Paul Johnson's paper "Securing Success" that UWA has 350 staff more (proportionately) to our G08 peers, and that the University needed to curb expenditure. However, this was done without consultation with the National Tertiary Education Union and has come as a shock to staff. Emma Boogaardt, Peter Derbyshire and I have supported the NTEU in media statements, promoting the protest that occurred at the VC's Christmas Party, and attending the protest.
 - Further information has been circulated to members of Guild Council, including links to media statements.

- **Guild Diary**
 - The Guild Diary has gone to print. Thank you to all those who contributed to the final design and provided content.