



# UWA STUDENT GUILD EDUCATION COUNCIL

## MEETING MINUTES | 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2017 6PM

UWA Student Guild | M300, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley WA 6009  
ed@guild.uwa.edu.au | (08) 6488 2294 | guild.uwa.edu.au

### 1. Welcome and Opening

#### 1.1. Attendance:

##### Faculty Societies:

Emma Boogaardt (Blackstone ED VP), Milan Vaswani (ECOMS President), Elizabeth Powley (ECOMS ED VP), Zoe Fitzgerald (HSS ED VP), Ivan Roncevich (Science Union President), Alex O'Neil (UEC President), Dana Crier (UEC ED VP), Samantha White (WAMSS VPI).

##### Committee:

Lina El Rakhawy (ED President), Leanne Jiang (ED Secretary), Michael McKenzie (ED OCM), Laney Kunum (ED OCM).

##### Standing Invitees:

Owen Myles (PSA President), Adehlia Ebert (BPhil President).

##### Proxies:

Megan Lee for Nevin Jayawardena (Guild President), Scott Honey for Emma Norton (Arts Union President), Caleb Holmes for Phoebe Burrage (Arts Union ED VP), Thomas Coltrona for Simon Ogden (Blackstone President), Sally Tan for Peter Watson (Science Union ED VP), Catherine Tweedie for Nic Camer-Pesci (MSS ED VP), Marissa Loh for Shannon Marantelli (WAMSS ED VP).

##### Apologies:

Conrad Hogg (ED VP), Christopher Rumenos (SNAGS President), Cassie Howell (SNAGS ED VP).

##### Absent:

George Thubron (ED Treasurer), Wilfred Cheung (ALVA President), Lesley-Claire Howard (ALVA ED VP), Callum Nevill (ESA President), Deni Campbell (HSS President), Julia Nicholls (MSS President), Anjuli Kaney (UDSS ED VP), Natasha Koelmeyer (UDSS ED VP).

### 2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

#### 2.1. April Minutes (Amended)

- Confirmed.

#### 2.2. May Minutes

- Confirmed.

#### 2.3. June Minutes

- Confirmed.

### 3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

- Nil.

### 4. Reports

#### 4.1. Guild President

- As tabled.

#### **4.2. Education Council President**

- As tabled.

#### **4.3. Education Council Vice-President**

- Nil.

#### **4.4. EAN Coordinator**

- Nil.

#### **4.5. PSA Representatives**

- As tabled.

#### **4.6. Orientation Director's Report**

- Please forward all questions to Maddie Mulholland.

#### **4.7. ALVA Society**

- As tabled.

#### **4.8. Arts Union**

- Scott Honey has said that the Arts Union have been involved in the education conference recently.

#### **4.9. Blackstone Society**

- A research staff member was asking to see if Blackstone wanted to do a mentoring with staff and students. Emma Boogaardt would like to know if any other FacSocs have this in place, so that there isn't any double up on programs etc.
- Megan Lee has mentioned the four new systems under, 'collegiate', 'mentoring', 'research', etc. Which may cause some overlap in this system.
- Samantha White has answered that in WAMSS they have a mentoring system pairing first and second year students to older students or doctors, consultants etc. in the workforce – which has worked out very well in the past.
- Blackstone had one question: 'Does any FacSoc do online voting?'
  - Samantha has answered that WAMSS use Survey Monkey to do online voting.
  - Marissa Loh has said that every student has a personalised link, so students cannot vote more than once.
  - Emma B has asked what the percentage of students would vote, as this is their main concern that students will become less engaged.
  - Marissa has said that for WAMSS it is not feasible for students to vote on campus, as all students are spread out, from different campuses to different hospitals.
  - Samantha has recommended an online voting 'booth' on campus.
  - Scott has asked if it is a concern about 'pressure voting'.

- Emma B has said she does not think this would be an issue within Blackstone.

#### **4.10. ECOMS**

##### **4.10.1. Question: 'What is the UWA Early Pursuit Program and What is the Background Details to it?'**

- Catherine Tweedie has replied that UWA is holding a 'fast track' program, where students are offered a guaranteed position to study a certain undergraduate degree at UWA whilst they are still in high school and haven't finished their final exams.

#### **4.11. ESA**

- Nil.

#### **4.12. HSS**

- As tabled.

#### **4.13. MSS**

- As tabled.

#### **4.14. Science Union**

- As tabled.

#### **4.15. SNAGS**

- As tabled.

#### **4.16. UDSS**

- Nil.

#### **4.17. UEC**

- As tabled.

#### **4.18. WAMSS**

- As tabled.

### **5. Motions**

- Nil.

### **6. General Business**

#### **6.1. Benchmarking**

- Emma B if it is possible to get faculty specific data on benchmarking.
  - Megan Lee has said that the University does have all the data, it is possible to ask Hannah Matthews to request this information from the University. Although it is not 100% sure if the University has faculty specific data.
- Scott H has said that the 'war on young people' was an interesting point at the education conference, such as job security, large business, placements etc. Scott has said that the Arts Union believes the best way to combat this is to be more involved with the National Day of Action, on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August.

- Megan has said that posters are in the process of being printed at the moment, and that the NDA meeting has talked about this event being more accessible for students, and that will be great to get an AUSLAN interpreter as well.
- Lina El Rakhawy has requested all questions be taken to Megan or herself directly.
- Marissa has said at the Australian Medical Students Association conference, that in Sydney students have the choice to have 'mental day off', so if a student has a medical certificate, they are excused from classes/tutorials, without any questions asked.
- Owen Myles has said that at the KAPPA meeting, there is a list of universities that have access to certain student organisation help, programs etc.
  - Owen has said it is possible for one university to keep in contact with another university to be able to immerse themselves into a certain program that may or may not be at a university.
- Lina has said they will be releasing a 'package' of information shortly.

## **6.2. Funding**

- Deadline for Semester two funding: all base funding information must be sent to the council by Friday the 28<sup>th</sup> of July.
- By Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup> of July, the semester one reports must be sent through.
- By Monday the 31<sup>st</sup> of July, all SPG applications must be sent through.

## **6.3. Assessment Update**

- Lina and Grady have come to the conclusion that no assessments will be allowed in the examination study break period.
- This will be a blanket rule for all faculties, majors, and units.

## **6.4. Future Themes**

- Next month's theme will be 'representation' – where there will be postgraduate, international etc. breakout and discussions.
- Please bring along any appropriate executive members from each FacSoc to August's meeting.
- There has also been a topic of committee management to be discussed in the future.
- Ivan Roncevich has requested that in the first meeting for the new committee, it would be great if Tony, Kasey and possibly a Finance guild worker can be present to talk through the workings of the Guild.

## **6.5. Exam Schedule Survey Update**

- There were 1200 responses, general feedback.
- 30% were satisfied or extremely with the current structure.

- 80% were satisfied or extremely with the old structure (some overlap).
- More students have said they have had more back to back examinations than they previously have had.
- More students have agreed that they prefer to have their examinations to be spread amongst the two weeks, rather than have core units in 3 days, for example.
  - Some students have complained about, for example, 3 core exams within one week, and one exam on the last day of the examination period.
- With this data, Megan has said that with this general trend, they will be taking it up to the University to change the examination structure.

## **6.6. UWA Academic Calendar Changes**

- Unfortunately, the academic calendar change did not pass, although most staff agree with students in keeping the structure at 13 weeks, rather than 12 weeks.
- There is a plan to send a document to the university executive to fix certain issues so students are not stressed, nor staff with the change.
- This document will detail why it won't work, how it will impact staff and students, and what needs to be fixed prior to implementation, so it is suitable and equitable when a semester commences.
- This will be given to the academic board to be reviewed.
- It is being planned to be implemented in semester two of 2018.
- Owen has said that this later implementation has become a 'good thing', as now we have extra time to implement some changes to make it as good as possible.
- Scott H has wondered why there isn't more of a public pressure on this issue.
  - Megan has said she agrees, and wonders if Scott has any ideas.
  - Scott has wondered if this has been published in Guild Weekly and what other measures has been taken.
  - Lina has said in this instance, she does not think a 'protest' is the best idea, but putting it onto a more public platform should be a good idea, so students know that we are doing this.
  - Lina has said that students did put pressure on the university executive on the academic board.
  - Lina has asked if other students have ideas, for it to be sent through.
  - Scott has asked for it to be tied into the campus demands for the NDA
  - Michael McKenzie thinks this will be paramount for students to jump on board as soon as possible. Michael would like to get students' opinions on this, as well as opening up a Guild video.

- Michael has requested a motion to be moved, Lina has answered in saying a motion has been moved previously, so will not need to be moved at this meeting.
- Caleb Holmes has requested a petition be moved for the NTU.
- Ivan has said that this shouldn't be a 'one-day action', and it should be raised as a 'culture' within students to keep it an ongoing pressure, that students, faculties and staff are against this.
- Lina has said it is possible to ask Nevin Jayawardena for it to be published in the Guild Weekly, and to start a petition tonight over the EAN. Which will then be published in the next Guild Weekly.
  - o Thomas Coltrona, has asked if it can be done through a separate email.
  - o Megan Lee has said that this is only possible on a case by case basis, approved by the university.
- Caleb has said that FacSocs themselves can send this link/petition can be circulated through their networks as they see fit.
- Adehlia has said that through the email, that it should be focused on 'why' it shouldn't be changed from 13 to 12 weeks.
- Emma B has said that there was an issue with results being released in a 48 hour period, as one student would receive it on a Friday, and another student will be released on Sunday, for example.
  - Lina has said this will be added onto the next SCC meeting.
  - Emma B has said that the wrong results have been sent out to students as well, in one of their units.
    - o Thomas has said that there were 10 different students across 4 units had this issue.
- Leanne Jiang has brought up an issue with lecture slides being released the week before examination periods, as well as results from honours students being released over a two week period.
  - Lina has recommended to email deans of schools to make lecture slides released late, unexaminable or to be released earlier.
  - Owen has said that specific schools has different rules on when feedback and marks should be given out, and the best place would be flagging it to the head of school or dean faculty on marks.

## 7. Close/Next Meeting

The next meeting of Education Council will occur on Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of August, in the Guild Council Meeting Room.

Proxies and Apologies must be sent to Leanne Jiang (ed-secretary@guild.uwa.edu.au) [21510239@student.uwa.edu.au] 48 hours prior to the meeting. Motions and Motion Attachments must be received by the Education council secretary by COB on the Monday the 21<sup>st</sup> of August, which is to be circulated by COB on Tuesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August.

All report must be submitted to the Education Council Secretary by COB the Friday prior to the Education Council Meeting, to be circulated by COB the following day, on Saturday.