



1.0 WELCOME AND OPENING

Megan says welcome to everyone to the Semester 2 Ordinary General Meeting. Megan says that she would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land, the Whadjuk-Nyoongar people and pay my respects to elders past, present and emerging.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Please find Minutes from Semester One 2018 OGM here:

<http://www.uwastudentguild.com/about/documents/>

MOTION PASSED.

3.0 PRESIDENT'S REPORT- MEGAN LEE

Please find Megan Lee's Report here: <http://www.uwastudentguild.com/about/documents/>

Megan says that her report is tabled and if anyone has any questions they can be asked during General Business, in order to keep the agenda efficient.

4.0 RECEIPT OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE GUILD COUNCIL 2017

Please find Annual Report here: <http://www.uwastudentguild.com/about/publications/>

Megan says that the receipt of the Annual report can be found on the Guild website and the link is in the agenda.

5.0 RECEIPT OF THE BALANCE SHEET

Please find Balance Sheet here on pages 50-51:

<http://www.uwastudentguild.com/about/publications/>

Megan says the receipt of the balance sheet can be found on the Guild website in the Annual Report.

6.0 MOTIONS ON NOTICE

6.1 The following UWA Student Guild regulation changes be accepted:

1. Change Regulation 3.1.2(b) The Treasurer to become 3.1.2(b) the General Secretary
2. Remove from the voting membership of council item 3.1.2(f) the student member of the UWA Sports Council.
3. Change Regulation 3.1.6 The Guild Executive comprises: (a) the President; (b) the Vice President; (c) the General Secretary; and (d) the Chair of Guild Council

Moved: Molly Goldacre; Seconded: Conrad Hogg.

Conrad is now moving the motion and Adhish is seconding the motion.



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Conrad says welcome to the OGM. Conrad said the motion directly impacts himself because otherwise his executive isn't going to be functional next year. Conrad says the Guild has gone through a process of changing the electoral regulations this year where the composition of the executive has been changed. Conrad says this resulted in an election for the position of General Secretary. Conrad adds that the Guild regulations therefore need to be updated to be in line with this and that part one of the motion is about merging the position of Secretary and Treasurer. Conrad says there have been changes in the way the Guild is staffed and changes in technology which means we no longer need to have the roles of Secretary and Treasurer as separate.

Conrad says the second part of the motion is about removing the Sports Council President from Guild Council. Conrad says that the Sports Council President has previously been part of the UWA Student Guild, however since the creation of UWA Sport and its incorporation into the university, the position is no longer a member of the Guild it isn't appropriate for them to be sitting on Guild Council.

Conrad says that the merging of the Secretary and the Treasurer means that there will only be three people on the executive, which will impact the functionality of the executive if there are only three people. Conrad says that through consultation we found that the Chair of the Guild Council is the best person to be on the new executive. Conrad says these changes have been endorsed by the Governance Committee and Guild Council. Conrad says that these changes have also been passed by the university Senate. Conrad says the final part of the approval process is that the regulations are passed at an Ordinary General Meeting.

Adhish says to vote for the motion.

Megan asks for any questions on the motion.

Taylor Home asks if this motion fails do we have to have another meeting?

Megan says that the change of the General Secretary has already been approved by the Senate when the electoral regulations were approved. Megan says that the position of General Secretary will remain, but changes to the voting membership of Guild Council needs to be approved at an OGM. Megan says that the Guild Executive will also remain at three and the first part of the motion has been passed in principle. Megan says this is largely a cosmetic change.

Chris Grant asks if the changes to the Sports Council President role can be clarified?



Megan says that currently Guild Council has two sports representatives. Megan explains that the Guild owned UWA Sports in the 70s and 80s, but decided to sell it to the university and that there is still the representative from UWA Sport on Guild Council. Megan says that this position still has a vote on Guild Council, a historical hangover from when the Guild owned UWA Sports. Megan says the Guild will still be retaining its' own Sports Representative position that sits on Guild Council and elected at the annual general election.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

- 6.2 *Preamble:* The Liberal Government has dedicated itself to making Australia one of the ten biggest arms exporters in the next decade. Defence Minister Christopher Pyne openly admits that Australia is engaging in “[the] biggest buildup of defence capability in our country’s history”. We’ve seen a further \$3.8 billion invested into the military just this year to advance this buildup. Alongside this development, there have been numerous attacks to education and welfare services. This year, the Liberal government, via an undemocratic loophole, managed to cut \$2.2 billion from education funding. It is quite clear what the Liberal Government prioritises.

On October 30th, Defence West and US-Asia Centre are holding the ‘Indo-Pacific Conference 2018’ which brings together leading politicians, arms corporations, and university management. A key discussion point of this conference is how to deepend relationships between the education sector and arms sector. This is only occurring due to the chronic underfunding of higher education in Australia. The government, military companies, and university management are seeking to exploit this set-up by funneling our education towards war-profiteering.

That the UWA Student Guild:

1. Condemns the Liberal Government’s militarist agenda which has seen military funding being given priority over education and welfare funding.
2. Calls on the UWA administration to terminate all links with the Defence Department and Thales.
3. Endorses the upcoming #BooksNotBombs protest against the Indo-Pacific Conference on October 30th.

Moved: Scott Harney; Seconded: Jade Mawby.

Scott says he wants to contextualize the motion and says that over the past thirty years we have seen a drastic change in the Australian higher education system which has resulted in Australia out of all OECD countries having the lowest public investment into higher education. Scott says that this means the university sector has become corporatized and that universities are now ran more like a business. Scott says low public investment means



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that corporations have more of a say in how universities are run as universities have to make up for lost revenue. Scott says that corporations can throw money at universities and have a hand in how they are structured which creates a whole new series of implications. Scott explains that the current political climate the world is in, one where there is actually a drive towards war, and an arms race going where the Australian Government wants to be the 10th largest exporter within the next decade. Scott says that our universities are increasingly looking to arms corporations for funding towards research. Scott says that the first part of this campaign is demanding that these links be terminated, because he believes they are morally bankrupt and then the second part is demanding that university education has to be free again. Scott says there needs to be more public investment into higher education so that students have more freedom to research into things that are useful for the betterment of society. Scott says that students should accept the current set up, and that the current Government was sabotaging higher education over the past five years. Scott explains that the Student Guild used to take stances on these kinds of things, such as during the 70s where Public Affairs Council President led the charge against the Vietnam War because it was relevant as students were being conscripted into war. Scott claims that a lot of people in this room run as progressive candidates in the Guild elections and if they were actually progressive they wouldn't be capitulating to the right of the student population. Scott says that progressive students in the room should be supporting this campaign.

Jade explains that UWA has very specific links with arms companies and the military. Jade says that as UWA is part of the Defence Science and Technology Group, UWA receives more money from the Defence Department to do research into drones. Jade says as part of the Defence Partnership Research Centre, UWA has a partnership with the arms company Thales, which it uses to research weapons related to the navy. Jade says that Thales is a very abhorrent company, as it sells weapons to Saudi Arabia and to Israel, and these are regimes which are committing genocide against the Yemeni and Israeli populations. Jade says that the people in this room that claim to be progressives or that support refugee rights, if they are not going to stand against the companies that create the refugees. Jade explains that the dual purpose argument is actually just (*expletive*) and no company is actually going to admit that it's sole purpose is to kill people and that every weapon in history has claimed to be dual purpose, doesn't mean it actually is. Anything from nuclear weapons to ancient (*inaudible*), they all claim to be dual purpose, that doesn't change the fact that they cause immense suffering and kill millions of people around the world.

Megan explains that the OGM has just lost quorum, so any decision made by this meeting, will be from now on unless we regain quorum will be a recommendation.



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Pheobe Burrage says he just wanted to reiterate what Jade was saying and that the Guild shouldn't buy the kind of arguments that the arms companies that do research here are trying to justify their research. Pheobe believes it is morally abhorrent to take any money from any corporation, including the military that profit off death and destruction. Pheobe wants to emphasize that the Student Guild of this university has a long stance of launching anti-War campaigns in the 60s and 70s when we actually took a stance against the university and the government for better human rights. Pheobe thinks it is a disgrace the Guild has turned their backs on this and claim to be progressive when they are not supporting this campaign. Jade also wants to note the point that dual purpose means nothing. If the transphobes that spoke here a little while ago wanted to fund dual purpose research, the Guild would not let them do that because that would be abhorrent and the military shouldn't be a special exception.

Megan asks for a speaker against the motion.

Josephine Liantono says that she would like to point out that military funding is quite important to university students and to the university itself and to engineering and medicine students. Josephine acknowledges that GPS was created because of military funding, as well as penicillin as well. Josephine notes that this funding is important for the funding for the faculty and a lot of student's thesis subjects won't be available for them without the funding.

Chris Grant says that he just wants to respond to some of the stuff around engineering and computer science students, because he is actually a computer science student. Chris actually don't think our sights should be set as low as all computer science students to keep doing research into weapons and bombs that can help go and kill people. Chris says he was looking into what he can do as a masters, and it actually disgusts him that so much of what is on offer at the moment is literally around imaging that is going to be used for drones that for example with Thales is going to help track refugees trying to get into Europe. Chris says that he thinks that as students at university, we should have the choice as to what our research is going towards, and it shouldn't be going towards killing people. Scott asks why should our research be used going towards drones that are going to kill refugees, instead of like you think of all the imaging and stuff is the kind of research that needs to go into finding a cure to cancer for example. That is what computer science projects, that is what money should be going for, it shouldn't be going towards projects that are going to build more weapons to kill people it's that simple. Chris doesn't think we should be setting our standards so low, as to just accept where the funds go. Scott says students should actually fight for better, we should say to the university and to the government, no this isn't good enough and universities should be about making the world a better place, it should be about broadening our horizons as humanity and not about (*expletive*) helping to kill people.



Megan warns students about swearing and being named.

Julian Bocking says it has been raised previously, there are big issues with the campaign in regards to EMS students, med students, pretty much anyone doing a hard science. Julian says about 99% of what the military does isn't involved in building weapon systems, there is no active weapons research at UWA. Julian says most drones are used to help people and that most military research isn't into weapons manufacturing. Julian says most research developments since World War 2 have been done by the military. Julian says that there wouldn't be computers and cancer medicine without military research. Julian explains that he is against the motion, as is UEC, as is the BPHIL Union, and most of the EMS clubs within UWA. Julian says that this really hurt our research potential within postgrad and would be detrimental to us.

Student #1 says that it is pretty despicable that people are up here defending the career prospects of engineering students, if they literally rely companies like Thales. Student #1 says Thales sees the state of the world, with the ramping up of militarization in the world, the refugee crisis all as a lovely opportunity to make stacks of cash. Student #1 says that Thales literally uses research which it now gets to have at UWA based on both public and private funding. It uses that technology to develop technologies to track refugees and politically lobbies the EU and other countries to militarise their borders. Student #1 says that destruction in the world and the refugee crisis is a massive opportunity to make money. Student #1 says that we need an education system that is about the betterment of humanity, and not about research for military. Student #1 says that herself and other students want serious federal government funding that shouldn't be for the benefit of those people with interests in human destruction and refugees being tortured. Student #1 says she thinks it is an absolute disgrace and that anyone that has any sense of solidarity with people who are oppressed towards refugees or people in war torn countries that you would actually support having companies like Thales benefit off students doing research that is linked with them. To use that research that is also based on the public investment from our government is now used to increase profits for Thales. Student #1 says that we should stand up for a tradition supporting that education should be about human betterment and not finding new ways to kill people, to track refugees, new ways to persecute them. Student #1 says it should be about solving the environment crisis, but that is not going to happen if companies like Thales are at the helm dictating what we learn and research. Student #1 explains that is why Left Action, the only principled activists in this room are being involved in fighting for better public funding for free education and against the position of corporate interest at UWA.

Student #2 says that Given that this is basically just clickbait, he thought he would do a quick google find domestic technologies developed through research by army and universities. Student #2 says that number one is GPS, and if people don't know what that



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is to come and talk to him about it, and that he will explain. Number two is microwaves, not as easy to explain, there are a few over there if you need some experience. Student #2 adds that jet engines and aviator sunglasses came from military research. Student #2 also says duct tape has also come from military research.

Scott says that it is pretty cynical that some people are saying they care about students and the opportunities of engineering and science students. Scott claims that the previous speaker is part of the Liberal Party. Scott explains the argument further by saying that the argument isn't that they are literally building bombs at UWA it is that they are doing research into that and that they contributing to the whole functioning of the military industrial complex. Instead the argument is that they are doing actual research that will help these companies perform more efficiently so that they in turn can manufacture drones and different weapons so that they can sell these weapons to Saudi Arabia. Scott says that the dual purpose argument is horrible, and that if millions of dollars have to be invested into military research to find something that is dual purpose to make society better is disgusting. Scott believes money invested into the military should actually be invested into something that is beneficial for society. Scott says the reason why students go to university is to try change society and make it better for everyone. Scott believes the money should actually be going into making education more accessible, improving public infrastructure in this country and tackling with the climate crisis that we are finding ourselves in.

MOTION ISN'T VOTED ON BECAUSE QUORUM WAS LOST.

7.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

There is no General Business.

8.0 CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held in Semester One of next year.