

Welfare & Advocacy Committee Meeting #4 Agenda
23rd of August (Monday)



Present:

Max Tran (Welfare Officer and Chair of Welfare & Advocacy Committee)
Lisa Goldacre (
Bre Shanahan (Guild President)
Emma Mezger (Education Council President)
Jenny Ophel (Guild HR)
Tricia Wylde (HPU)
Daniel Roden (Guild OGC and Welfare Department OCM)
Tharani Sivakumaran (Welfare & Advocacy OCM)

Apologies:

Christopher-John Daudu (Guild Vice President)
Ridhima Vinay (Guild OGC and Welfare & Advocacy OCM)
Apoorva Kantik (Welfare & Advocacy OCM)
Patricia O'dea (Welfare Dept. Student Tenant Rep)

Absent:

Omar Ali Macintyre (Guild OGC and Welfare & Advocacy OCM)



Meeting open: 9.00 am

1. Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land wherever we are calling in from today, the First Nations', and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and extend them to any First Nations' people here with us on this call. We also acknowledge the First Nations' people's contributions to education and the development of wellbeing practices in both Indigenous and non-Indigenous culture and affirm that this land was stolen and sovereignty was never ceded. Always was, always will be, Aboriginal land.

2. Apologies

- a. Christopher-John Daudu (Guild Vice President)
- b. Ridhima Vinay (Guild OGC and Welfare & Advocacy OCM)
- c. Apoorva Kantak (Welfare & Advocacy OCM)
- d. Patricia O'dea (Welfare Dept. Student Tenant Rep)

3. Confirmation of previous minutes

- a. Will complete next meeting

4. For updates: Welcome to new committee members!

- a. A huge welcome to our new committee members Tharani and Apoorva; as well as our new Student Tenant Rep Patricia!
 - i. Committee members bar Tharani were unfortunately unable to attend

5. For discussion: The Living Room Project

- a. Context: We'll be meeting in the space for The Living Room, a new initiative to create a preventative and safe space for troubled students, and make them feel welcome and provide soft and informal mental health interventions
 - i. *Committee that was present went on a tour of the house and the proposed plans for the floor space.*
 - ii. Potential launch for Welfare Week, or Mental Health Week afterwards.
 - iii. Potential need for students to help contribute plants and smaller items towards The Living Room, **no big items e.g. lounges, chairs, desks, etc.** = plant drive/small furniture
 - iv. drive, advertise on social media
 - v. Potential for Friends of the Grounds, Furniture Re-use and Convocation (less likely) to get involved
 - 1. As well as our Enviro Officer Will Norrish



6. For update: Healthy Minds Module and Wellbeing Volunteers

- a. Daniel: Wellbeing Volunteers having a test run at Havana by EMAS, this Friday evening! Guild initiative to have student volunteers at
- b. events to provide judgement free help and create a safe and
- c. comfortable environment for attendees. Hoping to establish a positive culture for knowing who to call for help at events, as well as respecting their boundaries and capacities as students first and foremost. It's going really well, lots of student interest.
 - i. This program is open to a lot of review and internal feedback along the way, with a working group of staff and students, including staff from HPU, Student Assist, Guild Events, Guild Volunteering, and a student SOC rep; but everyone is welcome to become a part of WG.
 - 1. Lisa: Add Gina Evangelsta to this WG.
- d. Daniel: Healthy Minds Module, is a student-led initiative to utilise online content to engage students with the resources already existing on campus - connecting people going through challenges, to the people with the solutions.
- e. So far has been a challenge since everyone is on different pages, but HPU's video series was encouraging and gave scaffolding for how to set this up. The first module is "How to seek help" showing tours around the campus to these essential services.
 - i. Mindfulness film for Masters Students, Youtube "UWA Mindfulness for Postgraduate Students", could be a recyclable resource
- f. Lisa: How to keep this project sustainable, especially with frequent changes to OB terms; this is where staff can come in and assist to ensure the longevity and growth of it.

7. For discussion: upcoming Welfare events and initiatives, and progress

- a. Max: Planning to have a lot of intervention events and initiatives for the male community - low barrier posters in bathrooms + events to have open and safe spaces.
- b. Max: Arranging to hand over the FB groups and communities we built, which have had a lengthy hiatus, to relevant student clubs and organisations to handle posting and engagement.
- c. Max: A student has reached out to create a community for Chinese international students, to create a safe collective for them - will reach out to ISD to make this as open and big as possible!

8. For discussion: any other business?

- a. Bre: Meeting with a student who's reached out to provide/donate "Benefit Kits", and bring that into the Guild/Welfare fold - so will meet with Max and Lisa and the student to make this happen.
 - i. Lisa: Good opportunity to restart the discussion on Food Pantry and galvanise the commitment to keeping it stocked and a continued effort to

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make it as efficient as possible. Especially with COVID-19.
How can we help the Guild synthesise both Pantry and Welfare Packs, efficiently?

1. Bre: Moving the Student Guild Centre and Volunteer-
2. ring, so that might create more space for Food Pantry storage/accessibility. To clarify, Food Pantry access will remain where it always has, next to Student Assist.

Summary of action items:

1. Max Tran to coordinate “plant and small item donations” on to our social media, and into Guild Weekly
2. Daniel Roden to invite Gina Evangelista to the Wellbeing Volunteers WG.
3. Daniel Roden to liaise with Anita from CAPS, to incorporate a video walkthrough into HMM.
4. Action items from Item 7, for Max Tran
5. Bre Shanahan to coordinate meeting with Lisa and Max, and student around “Benefit Kits”

Meeting close: 9.40am

The next meeting date is TBD. Thank you for your patience; any concerns or questions, please email Max Tran at welfare@guild.uwa.edu.au.