

109th Guild Council September 28th, 2022 Guild Council Minutes

1. WELCOME AND OPENING

1.1 Attendance

Narendra Gammanpila (NG) Charlotte Kennedy (CK) Amitabh Jeganathan (AJ) Rashdina Ramil (RR) Daniel Roden (DR) Iknur Virik (IV) Chloe Bryant (CB) Catherine Cheeseman (CC) David Hallam (DH) Geemal Jayawickrama (GJ) Lara Dale (LD) Anushka Mukherjee (AM) Ethan Nicholas (EN) Amira Nunn (AN) Dana Fung (DF) Melani De Alwis (MDA) Samanthan Cramptom (SC) Seren Moulds (SM) Paris Javid (PJ) Jak Beard (JB) Robert Whithurst (RW) Max Beard (MB) Saphire Carter (SC) Tony Goodman Mutya Joseph

1.2 Apologies

Jasmine Hensley Max Beard Kushagra Rathore Adam Elyousef

1.3 Proxies

Akshata Jois (AJ) (proxy for Prisha Goel) Max Vickery (MV) (proxy for Nicole Smith)

1.4 Observers

Holly Mellor Kaelin Abrahams Will Partridge Bradley Carter Anthony Sims (GOD DID) Justin Cerna (Pelican) Bec Perse (BP) Enora Richard Sofie Gilmartin



Joeseph Pietraz

1.5 Absent

2. DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

AJ moves a procedural motion to move to 15.2. This passed

None

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

3.1 Council Minutes

RR moved a motion to approve the council minutes. This passed.

- 3.2 Approval of Committee minutes
 - Election Culture Committee
 - Equity and Diversity
 - Governance
 - Volunteering

RR moved a motion to approve the committee minutes. This passed.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

None

5. BUSINESS COMPLETED VIA CIRCULAR

None

6. DIRECTORS REPORTS

6.1 Managing Director

TG mentions that 2023 budget planning is underway. TG congratulates everyone through the election period. TG reminds everyone regarding the code of conduct, and the mandatory Guild Transition training for the new council. Department meetings will be happening soon too, and enterprise bargaining group is going well and is still underway.

6.2 Finance Director

MJ mentions that the finances for August are going better than expected, reporting much smaller losses across the board than initially anticipated. Most of the student budgets are within budget, except the ISS but they are still below the year budget. The department budgets are slightly over due to the approved increase in pay.

RR moves a procedural motion to move in camera. This passed.

RR moves a procedural motion to move out of camera. This passed.



6.3 Commercial6.4 Student Services

TG lists all other director reports as read.

7. QUESTION TIME – Directors Reports

DH asks what businesses will be considered for relocation. TG replies that this will answered in-camera.

8. STUDENT REPORTS

- 8.1 President (AT = as tabled)
- 8.2 Vice President (AT)
- 8.3 General Secretary (AT)
- 8.4 Guild Chair (AT)
- 8.5 Education Council President (AR = As read, didn't get kicked off academic board)
- 8.6 Societies Council President (AT)
- 8.7 Public Affairs Council President (NS)
- 8.8 WASAC Chair (NS)
- 8.9 Women's Officer (AT)
- 8.10 Welfare Officer (AT)
- 8.11 Postgraduates Students' Association President (NS)
- 8.12 International Students' Department President (AT)
- 8.13 Residential Students' Department President (AT)
- 8.14 Environment Officer (NS)
- 8.15 Sports Officer (NS)
- 8.16 Access Department (AT)
- 8.17 Pride Officers (NS)
- 8.18 Ethnocultural Department Officers (AT)
- 8.19 Volunteering Chair (NS)
- 8.20 OGC (2/13)
- 8.21 MASA President (NS)

9. **QUESTION TIME – Student Reports**

CK asks MDA, DF for an update regarding the medical waste bins project?

- RESPONSE: MDA mentions that they are still in the process of making it come into fruition. They will bring it up in the next access and DIGG meeting. They will make it a priority to sort out.
- SC asks DH whether they are kicked off academic board?
 - RESPONSE: DH replies to no.
- NG asks ethnocultural committee could use multicultural students for their translator program?
 - RESPONSE: AN mentions that they looked into this already, but they received fundings for this so they can pay their translators.

RR conducts a vote to accept the student reports. This passed.

10. BUSINESS FROM THE EXECUTIVE

RR moves a procedural motion to move the chair to DR. This passed.



10.1 The 109th Council accepts the resignation Julia Aguinot from the position of Ordinary Guild Councillor effective immediately and recognises the work she has done regarding YLC.

Moved: Narendra Gammanpila (NG) Seconded: Amitabh Jeganathan (AJ)

Speaking for motion 10.1:

- NG highlights Julia's immense contribution to the YLC program this year and commends her, alongside the YLC committee. NG thanks Julia for her service to the Guild thus far.
- AJ highlights the sentiments expressed by NG.
- Debate time for motion 10.1:
 - FOR: AN commends Julia alongside the whole YLC committee, for making YLC what it was this year.

DR conducts a vote on motion 10.1. This passed.

10.2 The 109th Council appoints Rutvi Timbadia to the position of Ordinary Guild Councillor.

Moved: Narendra Gammanpila (NG) Seconded: Amitabh Jeganathan (AJ)

Speaking for motion 10.2:

• AJ mentions that Rutvi is the incoming ISD president and that she is the best candidate for the role, and will help in her transition to the role.

Question time for motion 10.2:

- DF asks if Rutvi will be stepping up for YLC chair?
 - RESPONSE: AJ mentions that they will reconduct elections for that role.

DR conducts a vote on motion 10.2. This passed.

11. ELECTIONS

11.1 Elections for YLC chair

Nominations:

• RR nominated AM. Seconded by AJ. AM won unopposed as YLC chair.

12. MOTIONS ON NOTICE (OPERATIONS)

None



13. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE (OPERATIONS)

13.1 The 109th council approves the recommendations provided in the UWA Guild Asset liability management plan.

Moved: Amitabh Jeganathan (AJ) Seconded: Narendra Gammanpila (NG)

Speaking for motion 13.1:

- AJ waives speaking rights to MJ. This passed.
- MJ speaks on the motion, highlighting the increased liability as of recent times, partly due to increased wages and reduced turn over by employees. MJ mentions that the Guild tends to try keep as little liability as possible. MJ also mentions that they will be giving the employees the option to monetise their leave as opposed to taking the leave.
- TG reiterates the similar sentiments brought on by MJ, highlighting that the number being discussed is a "top end figure" and more than likely, the real number will be lower. TG mentions that 27 staff are available for this and will be offered this following this motion.

Question time for motion 13.1:

- SC asks why this is considered a "liability"?
 - RESPONSE: MJ mentions that this is a financial liability. MJ mentions that the Guild is also a very small, lean organization and thus this will help prevent less large gaps in personnel in any particular departments. TG mentions that this will help stagger the leave of staff.

RR conducts a vote on motion 13.1. This passed.

13.2 The 109th Guild Council approves the budget transfer of \$638 from the MASA department to the Access department, for the AUSLAN classes.

Moved: Melani De Alvis (MDA) Seconded: Samanthan Cramptom (SC)

Speaking for motion 13.2:

• MDA mentions that there is 2 additional students, and hence the additional funds will help support this.

Debate time for motion 13.2:

FOR: DF wants to thank SC and the MASA department for this generous contribution.

DR conducts a vote on motion 13.2 This passed unanimously.

14. MOTIONS ON NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)

None



15. MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)

15.1 The 109th council:

15.1.1 Recognises and acknowledges the efforts of the International Student Department's Offshore Student working group spearheaded by Anushka Mukherjee during the period of 2021-2022 to:

15.1.1a Advocate and fight for the safe return of international students back on to campus

15.1.1b Build a community within the UWA offshore students

15.1.1c Disseminate information regarding studies and travel to UWA offshore students

15.1.1d Host online events to engage UWA offshore students with UWA campus culture

15.1.2 Recognises that there are still students studying offshore and will continue advocating and attending to their needs through the International Student Department's ongoing sub departments after the dissolution of the Offshore working group and all related social media accounts

Moved: Geemal Jayawickrama (GJ) Seconded: Rashdina Ramli (RR)

Speaking for motion 15.1:

- GJ highlights the efforts by AM to help involve and connect with offshore students, through regular online events and building online communities to help offshore students feel a part of the university culture. GJ mentions there is no need for this group to exist still which is a testament to AM's hard work.
- RR reflects on her hardships being an offshore student, and commends AM on her hard work in making the off shore working group a reality. Ultimately allowing offshore students to feel apart of campus.

Debate time for motion 15.1:

- FOR: AM thanks everyone for their commendations. AM mentions that through online activities, events and online discord chats, she managed to engage students and make them feel welcomed.
- AGAINST: NM mentions that the efforts to bring international students back to campus was contradictory to the efforts to prevent the spread of COVID at the time and condemns these actions.
 - RESPONSE: AM highlights that international students only arrived when it was deemed safe to come back to campus, and that they deserved to be back on campus given their high fees.
 - GJ adds that any international student that arrived went through quarantine.

DR conducts a vote on motion 15.1 This passed.



15.2 The 109 Guild Council

15.2.1 Gladly accepts the results of the referendum which gives a strong mandate for the university to divest from fossil fuel corporations, with over 83% of voters in favour of divestment

15.2.2. Demands that UWA immediately divest from all fossil fuel companies, which is one initial step towards preserving our environment that many universities have already committed to

15.2.3 Urges that climate justice cannot be achieved without UWA also cutting ties with fossil fuel corporations by removing their representatives from positions of influence on boards, shutting down destructive research projects like the centre for subsea tiebacks, and ending all greenwashing projects - and providing workers and students with suitable alternatives should this impact them.

15.2.4 Invites VC Amit Chakma to formally respond to the referendum results by letter or by attending the UWA Climate Change Community of Practice event on Oct 4th, 5pm at Economics & Commerce Conference Room UWA 15.2.5 Endorses the upcoming speak out for climate justice on Oct 12, 1pm at Reid Lawn, which calls on UWA to immediately divest and cut ties with fossil fuel companies

15.2.6 Encourages the current Guild president, future Guild President and future environmental officer to attend the panel discussion next week and directs the Guild president to send a message out to the senate regarding this.

Moved: Nicole McEwen (NM) Seconded: Iknur Virik (IV)

Speaking for motion 15.2:

- NM moves a procedural to move speaking rights to BP. This passed.
- BP highlights the social impact that divestment will have and encourages the recognition of the referendum result acknowledged by council, and an ongoing commitment by council to make this happen.
 BP highlights the panel discussion that will be occurring soon and encourages attendance of everyone on council.
- BP amends the motion to include: "15.2.6 Encourages the current Guild president, future Guild President and future environmental officer to attend the panel discussion next week and directs the Guild president to send a message out to the senate regarding this. This was friendly.
- IV highlights the need for confirmation from senate and action on the referendum.

Question time for motion 15.2:

- DR asks what the event is called?
 - RESPONSE: BP mentions it's in the motion.

Debate time for motion 15.2:

- FOR: NM is glad the referendum passed, and the actions taken by the Fossil Free initiative. NM highlights the impact that the referendum can have, and the potential to create real change within the university sphere following this result.
- FOR: DH mentions that it is important that all student representatives attend the meeting, as this sends an important message. DH mentions that UWA is lacking behind other state universities. DH also mentions



that students should be the one by pushing this through to the university.

- SC suggests an amendment: "Encourages the university to invest in companies that are helping the environment".
 - BP mentions that this is a separate issue as the university is receiving money from the university.
 - NM mentions that she is hesitant about the amendment as this takes away from the crux of the motion.
 - IV reiterates the sentiment expressed by NM and BP.
 - SC recalls her amendment and it is agreed, that this can be discussed at the event instead.
- IV amends 15.2.2 to replace "Recognises" 'with "Urges". This was friendly.

RR conducts a vote on motion 15.2. This passed unanimously.

15.3 The 109th Guild Council

15.3.1. Extends solidarity to Iranian people protesting for women's rights and an end to Khameni's regime, following the morality police's murder of Kurdish woman Mahsa Amini

15.3.2. Recognises that misogyny and police violence towards the oppressed is a systemic issue worldwide, and that both burqa bans as seen in France and hijab enforcement as seen in Iran are tools of social control of women's lives that should be condemned and opposed

15.3.3.Commits to holding a solidarity event and fundraiser on Oct 5th 1pm-3pm at Shenton House, and will send all funds raised to militant worker's unions involved in resisting the regime through strikes and protests, such as the Haft Tappeh Sugarcane worker union.

15.3.4. Endorses future protests for Iranian Liberation in Perth, organised by the Kurdish community and others, and encourages students to attend 15.3.5 Encourages the Ethnocultural Department to run an event in solidarity and to assist in raising funds.

Moved: Nicole McEwen (NM) Seconded: Geemal Jayawickrama (GJ)

Speaking for motion 15.3:

- NM highlights the unstable situation in Iran right now and the need for council to acknowledge them and stand in solidarity with those affected, especially the women involved. NM mentions that this is important to all Iranian students we have on campus.
- GJ reflects the same sentiment as expressed by NM and highlights the upcoming solidarity event on Oct 5th to raise much needed funds.

Question time for motion 15.3:

- AN asks who is in charge of running the event?
 - RESPONSE: GJ mentions that ISD will be and it is already being organised.



Debate time for motion 15.3:

- FOR: AN proposes the following amendment: "Encourages the Ethnocultural Department to run an event in solidarity and to assist in raising funds". This was friendly. AN mentions that there are still many acts of micro-aggression and acts of racism present on campus, and encourages all students affected seek the necessary help.
- FOR: XX mentions how in recent times, there has been vicious attacks against women's rights (e.g. anti-abortion legislation). XX highlights how it is important to back this cause and fight against attacks against women's rights.
- FOR: RR believes that this motion is great and recognises how the actions in Iran are taking the autonomy away from women.
- FOR: CK mentions that there are still people on campus that are being affected by this situation, alongside the steps that the government is taking to actively supress the rest of the world finding out about this.
- FOR: NM clarifies that the event will be helping to create a safe space for people to discuss their thoughts and feelings regarding this situation. NM reflects on her time at the recent protest and the need to fight against the Khameni's regime. NM suggests women cutting their hair in a hope to raise funds and awareness.
 - RESPONSE: SC asks whether the hair being cut can be donated. NM and SC clarify that the hair being cut isn't long enough
 - PJ urges the council and wider public to not engage with the hair cutting, as this is for Iranian women and rather would prefer if people would amplify the voices of Iranian women instead.

RR conducts a vote on motion 15.3. This passed unanimously.

15.4 The 109th Guild Council:

15.4.1. Condemns the sexist objectives of the upcoming 'pro-life' conference being held in Perth which aims to push an anti-choice agenda in WA

15.4.2. Stands with protestors who will show that these harmful views will not go unopposed, including the views of Liberal Nic Goiran (MLC)

15.4.3. Endorses the rally at Good Shepherd Catholic Church at 1:30pm on Saturday the 29th of October and encourages all students to support by attending 15.4.4. Will email students a video message and information about attending the protest, and promote the demonstration through posters (digital and physical) and leaflets.

Moved: Chloe Bryant (CB) Seconded: Nicole McEwen (NM)

Speaking for motion 15.4:

- CB speaks on the motion, highlighting the need to oppose the pro-life conference and the need to not give them a platform as the fight against this isn't over.
- NM urges everyone to attend and show their solidarity. NM highlights that this is a gathering of political figures who are looking to push a pro-life agenda into government, hence the need to actively oppose it.



RR conducts a vote on motion 15.4. This passed unanimously.

15.5 The 109th Guild Council:

15.5.1 Commends the work of council, including the education council and other representatives on academic board, for pushing back the proposal to remove student representation from academic board

15.5.2 Acknowledges the resounding positive feedback from both staff and students in response to the student email sent out that outlined the ways guild council is prepared to fight for student and staff rights and commits to further opposition to the University removing student representatives from all levels of governance as a way to streamline restructure processes that are not in student and staff.

15.5.3 Acknowledges the role staff-student solidarity has in the fight against management and commits to building relationships with the NTEU and rank and file unionists

15.5.4 Directs the student council in its remaining months to continue this fight through methods including leafleting, collective action and mobilising students, and directs council to engage the NTEU in how to best support their fight in EBA negotiations, acknowledging that this fight will not end with the 109 and will continue with the 110

Moved: Amitabh Jeganathan (AJ) Seconded: Robert Whitehurst (RW)

Speaking for motion 15.5:

- AJ highlights that this shows the council is taking an active stance against the university, and very much resonates with the student body, who want the council to be oppositional. AJ highlights that many staff members also wanted this for the student body, and without the many staff members that backed the cause, they wouldn't be able to have achieved what they did.
- RW wanted to thank GJ, MB and AJ for their hard work and recognises the positive response from the student body.

Debate time for motion 15.5:

- FOR: CJ mentions that many students often ask what has changed with council and education council as a whole, especially with the rumours going around during election time. CJ points to this as the change.
- FOR: DH highlights that he thinks its silly to commend specific people over this. DH mentions that it is a unique opportunity to sit on academic board, as other universities do not have this. DH mentions his apprehension for next year.
- AGAINST: NM highlights that she had to push for the initial email to go out, and had to push to cancel the senate dinner alongside numerous other things whereas the motion recognises just the efforts of those people that spoke at the meeting. NM acknowledges the broader actions taken that led to this outcome. NM proposes an amendment to the motion, that ultimately passed.
- FOR: SC agrees with the sentiment with NM but mentions that this motion also addresses the rumours that was going around regarding academic board.
- AJ puts forward an amendment to the motion. Amendment was friendly.
 Debate on the amendment:



• FOR: NM agrees with the sentiment expressed in the amendment, highlighting how the fight is not over yet.

RR conducts a vote on motion 15.5 (amended). This passed unanimously.

15.6 The 109th Guild council congratulates Gemmal Jayawickrama on the election result naming him as the 110th Guild President, acknowledging his significance as an international guild president as the first time in 109 years.

Moved: Amitabh Jeganathan (AJ) Seconded: Anushka Mukherjee (AM)

Speaking on motion 15.6:

- AJ commends GJ on his election result and mentions how he is looking forward to everything he will accomplish on the coming years.
- AM reiterates the same sentiment as AJ, specifically mentioning his work a ISD president.

RR conducts a vote on motion 15.6. This passed.

16 GENERAL BUSINESS

17 CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held Wednesday 26th October 2022 at 6:00 PM. Please contact the Guild General Secretary (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.