

110th Guild Council Minutes 110th Guild Council Wednesday October 25th, 2023 Guild Council Room @ 6pm

1. WELCOME AND OPENING

1.1 Attendance

- 1.10 Akshata Jois (AJ)
- 1.11 Ashley Lui (AL)
- 1.12 Bradley Carter (BC)
- 1.13 Charlotte Kennedy (CK)
- 1.14 Claudia Bruce (CÉ)
- 1.15 Cooper Mason (CM)
- 1.16 Erin Williams (EW)
- 1.17 Geemal Jayawickrama (GJ)
- 1.18 Indi Creed (IC)
- 1.19 Jaimee Bardsley (JB)
- 1.20 Joseph Pietrzak (JP)
- 1.21 Juan Lakonawa (JL)
- 1.22 Liam Tubby (LT)
- 1.23 Luke Alderslade (LA)
- 1.24 Meghana Maganti(MM)
- 1.25 Risňave Neog (RN)
- 1.26 Robert Whitehurst (RW)
- 1.27 Rutvi T (RT)
- 1.28 Taleah Ugle (TU)
- 1.29 Tony Goodman (TG)
- 1.30 Viknash VM (VVM)
- 1.31 Will Partridge (WP)

1.2 Apologies

1.3 Proxies

IC for Holly Mellor MM for John Ngyuen Parham Bahrami (PB) for Alex VG Jude Kamalddin (JK) for Chido M Amira Allahham (AA) for Aishya AR Ahmed Akqaisi (AQ) for Melanie De Alwis Jude Shapiro (JS) for Sean C

1.4 Absent 1.5 Observers

Olivia Stronach Jay Williams Tobias Langy Jit Singh Holly Carter-Turner Alevine Magila (AM)



2. DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES 3.1 September Council Minutes

Minutes approved.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

N/A

5. BUSINESS COMPLETED VIA CIRCULAR

N/A

6. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

6.1 Managing Director

TG mentions:

- He will take all reports as read.
- The Audit and Risk Committee met- they were pleased with the progress of the Guild thus far this year.
- Guild department elections happening currently.
- He will run through the Catering Review in camera.
- Transitions of the Council has started.
- The budgeting for 2024 has started.
- The Masterplan project will be going ahead if the motion presented passes today.

TG runs the Council through the Finances.

Motion to move into camera.

Motion passes.

- 6.2 Finance Director
- 6.3 Commercial
- 6.4 Student Services
- 6.5 Venture Student Innovation Centre

Motion to move out of camera passes.

Motion to approve the reports passes.

7. QUESTIONS TIME – Directors' Reports

8 STUDENT REPORTS

8.1 President- As tabled (AT) 8.2 Vice President AT



- 8.3 General Secretary- 8.4 Guild Chair AT
 8.5 Education Council President
 8.6 Societies Council President AT
 8.7 Public Affairs Council President AT
 8.8 Women's Officer AT
 8.9 Wellbeing Officer
 8.10 Postgraduates Students' Association President AT
 8.11 International Students' Department President AT
 8.12 Residential Students' Department President AT
 8.13 Environment Officer AT
 8.14 Sports Officer AT
 8.15 Access Department As Read (AR)
 8.16 Pride Officers
 8.17 Ethnocultural Officers
- 8.18 Volunteering Chair AT

8.19 OGCs- LA, JP, CM, AL, & SC (AT)

8. QUESTIONS TIME – Student Reports

i) LA asks GJ to give an update on the new Parking situation mentioned in his report.

GJ moves a motion to move into camera.

Motions passes.

Motion to move out of camera passes.

ii) CM asks GJ for an update about the Reid library renovations.

GJ mentions the closure of Reid will lead to a significant number of seats lost. However the library as made sure there are replacement seats in Ezone and Barry J particularly and open the Law and Medicine Libraries 24 x7 for all students.

- iii) LA asks WP why the SOC budget is under by \$7k. WP replies saying the main reason for that is because at the beginning of the year there were a lot of clubs that were disaffiliated hence all the funds of those clubs were collected by the SOC.
- *iv)* LA asks BC about the Hilton discount code. BC said its still an ongoing discussions, but this discount is mainly should be targeted at the Associate Membership holders.
- v) LA asks Ethno, Pride and Access officers why their reports have not been submitted even though the officers said the reports will be submitted.

The relevant members reply saying that it is due to personal reasons, and it will be taken care of next council.

Motion to accept the reports passes.

10. BUSINESS FROM THE EXECUTIVE



11. ELECTIONS

12. MOTIONS ON NOTICE (OPERATIONS)

12.1 The 110th Guild Council appoints Jack Cross and Abbey Wheeler as the Pelican Co-Editors for 2024.

Moved by: Indi Creed Seconded by: Geemal Jayawickrama

Motion passes.

12.2 The 110th Guild Council congratulates the 2023 Relay 4 Life committee and Guild Volunteering for raising \$59000 for the Cancer Council.

Moved by: Geemal Jayawickrama Seconded by: Bradley Carter

GJ congratulates Rob, Juan and the rest of the Relay team and the Guild Volunteering team for their support for the cause.

Motion passes.

12.3 The 110th Guild Council approves the business case for \$1.9m for the implementation of the initial phase of the Guild Masterplans.

Moved by: Geemal Jayawickrama Seconded by: Viknash VM

GJ mentions:

that a lot of hard work has been put into this project to get here by the management and the Executive. The 110th council should be proud to be a part of this motion since it is a significant step forward for the UWA Student Guild and its students. The 1.9m is budgeted to cover the cost of the initial phase of the Masterplans, which is the Tavern front and the Guild Precinct.

VVM shares similar consensus.

Motion passes unanimously.

12.4 The 110th Guild Council, pursuant to section 23(1) of the Guild Regulations regarding absence without prior approval, declares the position of General Secretary currently held by Lara Dale vacant.

Moved by: Geemal Jayawickrama Seconded by: Rob Whitehurst

GJ mentions it is the Guild Council's responsibility to respect the Guild Regulations in place and act accordingly. GJ thanks LD for her contribution to the Guild.

The motion passes.



12.5 The 110th Guild Council approves the appointment of Jay Williams as the Acting General Secretary until the end of its term.

Moved by: Geemal Jayawickrama Seconded by: Rob Whitehurst

GJ mentions the contributions Jay has done to the Guild throughout the year in different capacities and he'd be a good fit to take on the role as the Acting General Secretary for the rest of the year.

13.0 MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE (OPERATIONS)

N/A

14.0 MOTIONS ON NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)

14.1 The 110th Guild Council;

- 14.1.1 Acknowledges the conflict in the Middle east is impacting the wellbeing of students on campus at UWA;
- 14.1.2 Condemns all violence against civilians in the ongoing Israel-Hamas War;
- 14.1.3 Affirms support for those oppressed in the ongoing conflict Israel-Hamas War;
- 14.1.4 Acknowledges that UWA is a multicultural institution with students from different backgrounds, and the importance of making all students safe when on campus grounds;
- 14.1.5 Encourages students impacted by the conflict overseas to seek support from Student Assist .

Moved by: Akshata Jois Seconded by: Geemal Jayawickrama

AJ withdraws as the mover of the motion. GJ steps up to be the Mover of the motion. BC seconds it.

Amendment proposed by GJ.

- 1. Acknowledges that the conflict in the Middle East is impacting the wellbeing of students on campus at UWA;
- 2. Condemns all violence against civilians in the ongoing conflict in the Middle East;
- 3. Condemns war crimes committed during the ongoing conflict in the Middle East;
- 4. Condemns expressions of anti-semitism associated with the Israel-Hamas War, and condemns those holding the Jewish community responsible for the violent acts of the Israeli government;
- 5. Condemns anti-Arab and anti-Muslim sentiments associated with the Israel-Hamas War, and condemns those holding the Palestinian community responsible for acts of violence committed by Hamas;
- 6. Acknowledges that UWA is a multicultural institution with students from different backgrounds, and reaffirms the importance of ensuring that UWA is a safe environment for all students
- 7. Re-affirms support for those oppressed in the ongoing Israel-Hamas War;
- 8. Encourages students impacted by the conflict overseas to seek support from Student Assist



 The UWA Student Guild encourages students to educate themselves on the historical and contemporary context of the situation in Palestine.
 Directs the UWA Student Guild to support all student communities affected by the situation, by working with the relevant cultural societies at UWA.

Amendment is friendly.

- GJ reiterates the violence happening in the Middle East is disappointing and beyond imaginable. and has significant impact on the mental health of the students here at UWA.
- As a Guild we are here to represent every student on campus regardless of their race, nationality and gender and it is the Guild's responsibility to create a safe environment for everyone and support the students in need.

Questions for the motion.

- PB mentions that the motion doesn't take a pro-Palestine stance, does that mean the Guild no longer has that stance. GJ replies saying, no the Guild still holds that stance.
- VVM asks how the Guild has supported the students. GJ replies saying the Guild has been in contact with the relevant exec members of both the clubs and the offered them support wherever they can. Further, the Guild has been working closely with the University to offer support for the students as well.
- LA gives AM speaking rights.
- AM asks GJ. "Which students do you represent? Do you represent the students who are opposed to the ethnic cleansing in Palestine right now, or do you represent students who dismiss it? Or both"?

GJ replies with no answer.

Chair names AM for being disrespectful to members of council.

Speakers for and against the motion

- CM speaks for the motion. He mentions that this motion is pro students, and the Council should not take any stance on the matter.
- AQ and AA speaks against the motion and share their personal experiences as individuals with Palestinian heritage.
 - AQ named by the Chair, for being disrespectful to members of Council.
- JK and PB speaks against the motion. They mention that the motion does not address the crisis and the motion does not represent the Guild's Pro-Palestine stance.

The council discuss about potential amendments and the new motion reads as follow:

14.1.1. Acknowledges that the ongoing situation in the Middle East is impacting the wellbeing of students on campus at UWA;



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- 14.1.2. Condemns all violence against civilians in the ongoing situation t in the Middle East;
- 14.1.3. Condemns war crimes committed during the ongoing situation in the Middle East;
- 14.1.4. Condemns expressions of anti-semitism associated with the Humanitarian Crisis in Palestine, and condemns those holding the Jewish community responsible for the violent acts of the Israeli government;
- 14.1.5. Condemns anti-Arab and anti-Muslim sentiments associated with the Humanitarian Crisis in Palestine, and condemns those holding the Palestinian community responsible for acts of violence committed by Hamas;
- 14.1.6. Acknowledges that UWA is a multicultural institution with students from different backgrounds, and reaffirms the importance of ensuring that UWA is a safe environment for all students
- 14.1.7. Re-affirms support for those oppressed in the ongoing Humanitarian Crisis in Palestine;
- 14.1.8. Encourages students impacted by the ongoing situation overseas to seek support from Student Assist
- 14.1.9. The UWA Student Guild encourages students to educate themselves on the historical and contemporary context of the situation in Palestine.
- 14.1.10 Directs the UWA Student Guild to support all student communities affected by the situation, by working with the relevant cultural societies at UWA.
- 14.1.11. Stands with the Palestinian people in Gaza as they face carpet bombing, the illegal use of white phosphorus, as verified by Human Rights Watch, and the displacement from their homes.
- 14.1.12. Calls on officials in all levels of government to condemn the Israeli Government's collective punishment of Palestinians.
- 14.1.13. Calls on officials in all levels of government to call for a ceasefire and end to the blockade and occupation of the Gaza Strip and Occupied Palestinian Territories.
- 14.1.14. Re-affirms the stance taken in motion 9.1, 109th Guild Council 25th May meeting
- 14.1.15. Recognises that Israel's indiscriminate attacks on residential areas, hospitals, journalists, schools, and religious sites is ethnic cleansing and a violation of International Humanitarian Law, which has massacred over 4,500 Palestinians including 2,000 children and 1,500 women along with 14,000 severely injured, as well as the recent
- attacks on the West Bank which have killed 90 Palestinians in the last two weeks, as reported by the ABC as of 23rd October 2023.

Amendment is friendly.

The following amendment was proposed:

Directs the UWA Student Guild to post a statement on their social media channels, standing in solidarity with the Palestinian people and their continued struggle for freedom.

Amendment is unfriendly.

GJ mentions the Guild cannot make public statements on the matter just yet. He will consider the potential avenues and do the needful.

Amendment fails.



CM expresses disappointed in the amendments made, especially using of the term "ethnic cleansing" and mentions that this motion does not represent all students on campus.

CB thanks members who shared the personal experiences and appreciates their contributions to the council.

Motion passes.

14.2 The 110th Guild Council:

14.2.1 Acknowledges that hikes in costs of the UWA Residential Colleges over the last 2 years have made it unaffordable for students, both domestic and international, to live on-campus;

14.2.2Acknowledges that, in tandem with increases in costs in 2023, the Guild has received complaints regarding decreased quality of services at the UWA Residential Colleges, spanning both living standards, meals, and safety;

14.2.3 Affirms that on-campus student housing should be an accessible and affordable alternative to renting during the housing crisis;

14.2.4 Opposes hikes in rent at the UWA Residential Colleges for 2024, with some increasing by as much as 20%;

14.2.5 Commits to raising a public petition opposing rent hikes, and distributing said petition to the UWA Residential College Administrations after a period deemed appropriate by the Residential Students' Department;

14.2.6 Directs students affected by College rent increases to the UWA Accommodation concierge and Student Assist for aid during this time.

Moved by Indi Creed Seconded by Claudia Bruce

IC speaks for the motion.

Motion passes.

15.0 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)

- 15.1 The 110th Guild Council:
 - 15.1.1 Acknowledges the events that occurred at Curtin University last week and stands in solidarity with the victim's family and all those who were affected.
 - 15.1.2 Affirms the importance and priority of Students' mental health.
 - 15.1.3 Recognises that poor mental health remains a very prevalent issue within our communities and is a continuing issue that many students face.

15.1.4 Directs the continuation of promoting student services, such as the Living Room and Student Assist, within their weekly emails, and encourages further promotion of Wellness and Mental Health resources during this stressful time.

Moved by Luke Alderslade Seconded by Alex VG



LA reiterate the importance of mental health, especially in a university environment and calls upon all student representatives to continuously advocate for and educate fellow student on the issue.

Similar consensus shared among the council members.

Motion passes.

15.2 The 110th Guild Council:

15.2.1 Recognises that the current UWA Nedlands Campus Masterplan has earmarked the Nedlands Campus as a potential future student house, as of its October 2023 update.

15.2.2 Encourages the University to prioritise consultation and communication with the three schools on the site (Design, Education, and Population Health) as well as the students associated with those schools. 15.3.3 Directs the Education Council and Faculty Societies to be a part of these conversations as it holds a great potential to affect the quality of the Education students may receive.

Moved by Luke Alderslade Seconded by Alex VG

LA mentions that according to a recent report by UWA, the Nedlands campus car park has been identified by UWA as a potential land for a new accommodation building. He adds that while it is a good idea, the Guild should work closely with the relevant FACSOCs and the University moving forward on the matter, to make sure the experience of the students on the Nedlands campus is not negatively affected by this project.

The council shares similar consensus. The motion passes.

15.3 The 110th Guild Council:

15.3.1 Recognises that Israel's indiscriminate attacks on residential areas, hospitals, journalists, schools, and religious sites is ethnic cleansing and a violation of International Humanitarian Law, which has massacred over 4,500-Palestinians including 2,000 children and 1,500 women along with 14,000severely injured and 6,000 missing under rubble in Gaza, as well as the recentattacks on the West Bank which have killed 90 Palestinians in the last two weeks, as reported by the ABC.

15.3.2 Recognises that all attacks on civilians (regardless of ethnicity) are heinous.

15.3.3 Stands with the Palestinian people in Gaza as they face carpet bombing, the illegal use of white phosphorus, as verified by Human Rights Watch, and the displacement from their homes.



15.3.4 Calls on officials in all levels of government to condemn Israel's treatment of Palestinians as "savages" and "human animals", via collective punishment on innocent civilians

15.3.5 Calls on officials in all levels of government to call for a ceasefire and endto the blockade and occupation of the Gaza Strip and Occupied Palestinian Territories.

15.3.6 Supports the 'Stand with Palestine' protest, which took place on 21/10/23and the upcoming protest on 28/10/23 at 12pm, at the Supreme Court Gardens,organised by Friends of Palestine WA, and extends solidarity to protesterssupporting Palestinians worldwide.

15.3.7 Affirms the Guild's position from 2021 that criticism of the Israel apartheidregime is not anti-semitism and affirms that anti-zionism is not anti-semitism.

15.3.8 Condemns Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, and racism directed towards any student on and off campus in any form.

15.3.9 The UWA Student Guild encourages students to educate themselves on the historical and contemporary context of the situation in Palestine.

15.3.10 Directs the UWA Student Guild to support the Palestinian community on campus, by working with the Palestinian Cultural Society of UWA.

15.3.11 Directs the UWA Student Guild to post a statement on their social media channels, standing in solidarity with the Palestinian people and their continued struggle for freedom.

Moved: Melani De Alwis Seconded: Alex Villa Gomez

Motion withdrawn.

15.4.1 The UWA Student Guild;

15.4.1. Expresses our disappointment at the outcome of the Voice to Parliament Referendum

15.4.2. Acknowledges that the outcome of this referendum has impacted the wellbeing of First Nations peoples

15.4.3. Extends support to all First Nations students affected by the referendum outcome and encourages them to seek support from Student Assist

15.4.4. Recognises the self-determination of Australia's First Nations people

15.4.5. Commits to uplifting indigenous voices and the rights of First Nations peoples moving forward.

Moved by Akshata Jois Seconded by Taleah Ugle

AJ speaks for the motion.



Motion passes.

15.4 The 110th Guild Council commends Akshata Jois and Taleah Ugle for their work as Co-Chairs of the Guild referendum working group

Moved by Claudia Bruce Seconded by Geemal Jayawickrama

CB and GJ applauds AJ's and TU's efforts on leading the Guild during this campaign.

Motion passes.

16.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

16.1 NUS

GJ updates the council about the upcoming NUS National Conference.

17. CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled 29th of November 2023. Please contact the Guild General Secretary (secretary@guild.uwa.edu.au) with apologies or proxies. If unable to attend, please advise which dates you are available to reschedule if a quorum cannot be met.