Guild Council Minutes 112th Guild Council Wednesday 2nd, July 2025

Wednesday 2nd July 2025 Guild Council Room @ 6:00pm

1. WELCOME AND OPENING

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

1.2 Attendance

Nikhita Talluri (NT)

Charlie Backshall (CB)

Aidan Kirby-Smith (AKS)

Oliver Barret (OB)

Jay Williams (JW)

Ojaswi Shrestha (OSH)

Kassidy Anderson (KA)

Zered Robinsion (ZR)

Keertikka Ganesan (KG)

Kushagra Rathore (KR)

Finn Penter (FP)

Katrina Soares (KS)

Hannah Bygrave (HB)

Jude Kamalddin (JK)

Reihaneh Rezagholilou (RR)

Selina Al Ansari (SA)

Ethan Tan (ET)

Lachy Flavel (LF)

Joshua Peckover (JP)

Lucinda Bartlett (LB)

Olivia Stronach (OS)

Archit Menon (AM)

Ritika Menon (RM)

Julia Suffell (JS)

1.3 Apologies

Annika Leunig (AL)

Aimee Chan (AC)

Naveen Nimalan (NN)

Archana Ashok (AA)

Rama Sugiartha (RS)

Damien Zhang (DZ)

Ruby Membry (RMe)
Jeffery Tang (JT)
Tabarek Alhaffar (TA)

1.4 Proxies

ZR for AL

KR for AC

KG for AA

JP for RS

HB for NN

All proxies were accepted by council.

1.5 Absent

2. DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

3.1 May Council Minutes

Minutes were passed by council. Moved by JW seconded by OB.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5. BUSINESS COMPLETED VIA CIRCULAR

5.1 The 112th Guild Council approves the change of date for the June Guild Council to Wednesday 2nd July 2025 at 6:00pm.

Moved: Annika Leunig Seconded: Nikhita Talluri

5.2 The 112th Guild Council approves the 2024 SSAF Acquittal documents.

Moved: Annika Leunig Seconded: Nikhita Talluri

Motion to move to item 12 passes.

6. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

6.1 Managing Director

6.2 Finance Director

6.3 Commercial

6.4 Student Services

6.5 Venture Student Innovation Centre

TG mentions that they have finished all the acquittal documents with the university and believes it has gone well. The Risk and Audit committee meeting was held earlier this month and TG mentions it was insightful. The regulations are moving on well and there has been lots of consultation that has been quite effective. The alumni event will be held on the 19th of August. Functions and operations manager has been found and will start on the 21st of July and TG is looking forward to that. Tavern renovations should be finished by the end of the week of the meeting. Elections have also progressed well and the handbook will be distributed soon.

Finances are looking pretty strong with a profit of \$384,000. All departments are on track. One thing to note is the innovation centre is slightly over budget, but grants have been redistributed and nothing else is of concern.

Motion to move into camera was moved by NT and seconded by JW passed.

Procedural motion to move to item 12 passed.

7. QUESTIONS TIME - Directors' Reports

OB clarifies the date of the Tavern event and TG confirms the 19th of August.

All directors' reports were passed by the council.

8. STUDENT REPORTS

8.1 Guild President: Nikhita Talluri

as tabled

8.2 Guild Vice-President: Oliver Barrett

as tabled



8.3 Guild General Secretary: Annika Leunig

as tabled

8.4 Chair of Guild Council: Aidan Kirby-Smith

as tabled

8.5 Education Council President: Jay Williams

as tabled

8.6 Societies Council President: Ethan Tan

as tabled

8.7 Public Affairs Council President: Aimee Chan

as tabled

8.8 Women's Officer: Ruby Membry

as tabled

8.9 Wellbeing Officer: Jeffrey Tang

not submitted

8.10 Postgraduates Students' Association President:

Charlie Backshall

as read

CB wants to thank Kush for stepping in over the past 2 and a half weeks while she was on holiday.

8.11 International Students' Department President:

Archit Menon

as tabled

8.12 Residential Students' Department President

Libby Bailey

as tabled

8.13 Environment Officer: Julia Suffell

as tabled

8.14 Sports Officer: Damien Zhang

as tabled

8.15 Access Department: Lucinda Bartlett &

Tabarek Alhaffar

not submitted

8.16 Pride Officer: Aryaman Bhoosrheddy & Ashel Siby

as tabled

8.17 Ethnocultural Officers: Selina Al Ansari &

Reihaneh Rezagholilou

as tabled



8.18 Volunteering Chair: Casey Taylor not submitted

8.19 OGCs: as follows

Archana Ashok

as tabled

Finn Penter

as tabled

Jude Kamalddin

as tabled

Kassidy Anderson

as tabled

Katrina Soares

as tabled

Lachy Flavel

as tabled

Naveen Nimalan

as tabled

Ojaswi Shrestha

as tabled

Olivia Stronach

not submitted

OS is sick so will compound her report with next months.

Ritika Menon

Late WRC

Rama Sugiartha

as tabled

All student reports were accepted and passed by the Guild Council.

9. QUESTIONS TIME – Student Reports

OS was wondering when the Ed Con reports will be submitted. NT replies that they will be submitting next month.

10. BUSINESS FROM THE EXECUTIVE

11. MOTIONS ON NOTICE (OPERATIONS)

12. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE (OPERATIONS)

12.1 The 112th Guild Council approves the Life memberships of the guild for Phillip Kemp, Jacquie Baker, Hamish Johnston & Lynsyey Warbey.

Moved: Nikhita Talluri Seconded: Oliver Barret

Motion passed. Motion to move out of camera passes.

13. MOTIONS ON NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)

14. MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)

OS explains this motion was late as the NUS day of action was only decided recently prior to council.

Council accepts to hear the motion.

- 14.1 The 112th Guild Council:
- **14.1.1** Recognises that the genocide in Gaza has claimed at least 55,000 lives with an exact death toll difficult to determine.
- **14.1.2** Stands with Palestine and Palestinian students at UWA.
- **14.1.3** Supports the National Union of Students in their calls for Australian universities to cut ties with companies like L3Harris.
- **14.1.4** Supports the National Union of Students call for a National Day of Action for Palestine on 7th August 2025 and commits to consulting with and working with relevant UWA students with regards to the National Day of Action.

Moves: Olivia Stronach

Seconded: Selina Al Ansari

OS talks about how it is important to recognise that the situation in Palestine is still ongoing and that the Israeli government has now started to be aggressive with Iran. OS mentions how it is important as a guild council to support students who are



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impacted by this and how we should work with other student unions in the country to stand against genocide and do not support other universities that support genocide. SA echoes what OS mentioned above and adds that it is important to keep supporting Palestinian students and how this is supporting an NUS backed day of action.

QUESTIONS

NT asks what OS means of reposting and posting what content. OS clarifies what type of content would be published.

AKS questions whether this motion is similar to one we have passed previously and how although OS mentions Iran, there is no mention of Iran in the actual motion itself. OS clarifies that the main point of this motion is to support the new NUS Day of Action and believes it is important to support the new day of action and it's not enough for our council to just say we have previously supported other days of action in the past.

LF asks why points 14.1.2 and 14.1.3 were added as they are quite like other points in motions passed before. AKS also questions that in previous councils if it was decided that engineering students needed to be consulted on point 14.1.3 and if that was undertaken. LF asks if we can postpone this motion as it was without notice. NT rebuts that it would be important to support the day of action which occurs before the next council meeting, so it would be best to discuss this in this month's council.

OS replies that she believes that it is important for there to be context behind why the council is supporting this National Day of Action and that it would lack backing without it. OS asks for past motions to be sent to her so that she can see the repetition with past motions, if any. TG suggests that the lack of notice meant councillors did not have time to look through past motions. AKS is concerned about the lack of consultation with engineering students. OS rebuts that she believes this is ridiculous reason to not pass the motion as this motion although mentioning a company engineering students may work for, does not discourage any relations students may have with the company. OS explains this motion simply states the guild stance, similar to the Northwest shelf motion passed in the last council which also did not consult with engineering students. OS also explains she herself is an engineering student and believes the motion is recognising the company's actions are wrong but does not tell students to not take jobs with the company. JW points out that the Northwest shelf motion condemned the labour government whereas this



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motion asks UWA to cut ties with the L3Harris which would affect students research and funding, and he believes there is a difference. LF adds that he thinks this motion should not be without notice.

HB adds that she is a engineering student and from all their own conversations, believe most engineering students are in agreement that they do not want to contribute to weapons research, especially during genocide. LF disagrees with this statement.

DEBATE

LB speaks for the motion. LB believes it is important for the council to support the day of action now and that planning does take time, especially to get students involved. LB talks about how the death toll is unbelievable and how there are many people who have been disabled due to this conflict, and this has been one of the largest disabling events that has happened in recent times. LB thinks it is important to take a stance and while she understands people may have differing opinions on UWA cutting ties with L3Harris, she believes supporting companies where people are being disabled by the research, they are conducting is wrong and the council should take a stance on it.

JS speaks for the motion. JS talks about her own experience watching media from Gaza and how horrific it is. JS believes that as a guild we should be advocating for students and cutting ties with these companies.

FP talks about how unbelievable what is coming out of Gaza in terms of footage and statistics that show how horrific the situation is. FP talks about how 300,000 people are missing and most of them are presumed dead, it is an unbelievable genocide and FP believes there is no argument against that. FP believes it is a moral argument whether we support a motion like this as a political student union whose job is to represent students. FP also talks about how majority of the polls have shown that university-level young individuals support Palestine and the ending of this genocide. Polls have also shown that students want nothing to do with weapons research and testing. FP talks about how universities are a place where students come to make the world a better place and there is no conceivable universe where a weapons company should play a role in a university – they should not fund it, no connections to research and university students should not have their work being sent to these

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companies. FP also adds this is the same to fossil fuel giants and other companies that are damaging.

OS also adds that we should not assume engineering students want to be complicit to genocide either and that the continuation of UWA's relationship with a weapons company is potentially linking students work to weapons company which a lot of students want. FP also adds he believes the engineering students argument is weak as the people who would be against cutting ties is a small voice compared to the large majority who support cutting ties with weapons companies. AKS also adds that he thinks it would be very scary knowing your research could be used to advance weapons technology.

Motion passed by council.

15. GENERAL BUSINESS

NT highlights the work Ashleigh is doing for the survey about racism. Ashleigh will be checking progress on it and letting us know when it comes out sometime in semester 2. RR also mentions that they will be forming a group with ECU, Curtin and Murdoch to publish recommendations on the survey and they will distribute it to the HRC. They have raised a few concerns with the scope of the survey and they would like to see them addressed before it gets published. AKS suggests roping Ashleigh into this working group.

OSH wants to add about what AM mentioned a few councils ago about the Visa student price and that as of yesterday it has gone up to \$2,000 for first time applicants and \$2,700 for returning applicants and that does not include medical or insurance. OSH asks for the petition to be signed and distributed and if it is possible for Nikki to work on a statement or open letter to the ministry.

AKS mentions that he has been having some really good meeting with the departments about regulations and that they are well and truly underway.

OS ask about how the committee minutes were usually put in the guild council folder last year but she hasn't really noticed that this year and if she was wondering if there was a reason why. AKS replies that it is administrative issues with formatting or them



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not being sent properly to Chloe and AKS has been following up with it recently – AKS mentions that they will be coming soon.

16. CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for **6pm Wednesday July 30th 2025**. 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.