Guild Council Minutes

112th Guild Council Wednesday 30th July 2025 Guild Council Room @ 6:00pm

1. WELCOME AND OPENING

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

1.2 Attendance

Nikhita Talluri (NT)

Annika Leunig (AL)

Oliver Barret (OB)

Aidan Kirby-Smith (AKS)

Charlotte Backshall (CB)

Jay Williams (JW)

Ojaswi Shrestha (OSH)

Archit Menon (AM)

Rama Sugiartha (RS)

Ashleigh Petkovic (AP)

Julia Suffell (JS)

Naveen Nimalan (NN)

Katrina Soares (KS)

Selina Al Ansari (SA)

Reihaneh Rezagholilou (RR)

Jude Kamalddin (JK)

Aimee Chan (AC)

Jeffrey Tang (JT)

Kassidy Anderson (KA)

Ruby Membry (RMe)

Ethan Tan (ET)

Olivia Stronach (OS)

Lucinda Bartlett (LB)

Finn Penter (FP)

Archana Ashok (AA)

Jack Cross (JC)

Juvincia Riadi (JR)

Danica Scott (Observer)

Eleka Marshall (Observer)

Ella Muhey (Observer)

Helen Trien (Observer)

Jack Fairey (Observer)

1.3 Apologies

Damien Zhang (DZ)

Ritika Menon (RM)

Libby Bailey (LB)

Tabarek Alhaffar (TA)

1.4 Proxies

JC for LB

JR for RM

1.5 Absent

2. DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

- 3.1 June Council Minutes
- 3.2 Catering and Tavern Committee April Minutes
- 3.3 Election and Culture Committee March Minutes
- 3.4 Election and Culture Committee May Minutes
- 3.5 Governance Committee January Minutes
- 3.6 Governance Committee March Minutes
- 3.7 Governance Committee May Minutes
- 3.8 Student Services Committee March Minutes
- 3.9 Student Services Committee April Minutes
- 3.10 Tenancy Committee March Minutes

All minutes were passed by council.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5. BUSINESS COMPLETED VIA CIRCULAR

6. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

6.1 Managing Director

TG talks about how it has been a busy month with a lot of events such as O day 2.

TG talks about the university review and how consultation will be starting soon and



there will be discussions around that. TG discusses how they are moving through guild regulations rapidly however there is still a lot of consultation to go but it is moving very well. Advertisement for the senior marketing manager has just started as well they might be looking for a student service manager. The lift in Cameron Hall has been secured. TG also talks about how elections have kicked off and Mary is in the office now.

TG discusses his meetings with the university about conduct during the elections and how they will be more focused on conduct and behaviour this year during the elections. Each candidate who is applying for elections will get a letter form the DVC outlining their expectations of behaviour as well as discussing group meetings that will be mandatory. Not attending will result in consequences such as booth bans. TG stresses that behaviour will be a key priority this election. Misconduct tribunal will also be another focus, Mary does not want to see frivolous complaints and instead will ban people making 'silly' complaints. Any material that is going out for the elections will have to be reviewed by the university too. Other things to note is that there will likely be major penalties if flyers aren't picked up at the end of every day and NT has been working hard to ensure that lecture bashing can still occur for these elections.

6.2 Finance Director

MMJ talks about how for the month of June we landed up at a loss of \$9200 which is slightly better than budgeted (-\$10,000). YTD numbers are looking very good and are tracking at \$375,000 income. The high expenditure of \$68,000 instead of \$24,000 for guild council is due to legal fees but they were included in the budget at the start of the year, so the YTD numbers are still tracking well.

OB moves a motion to go into camera. Motion passes.

CB moves a motion to move out of camera. Motion passes.

- 6.3 Commercial
- **6.4 Student Services**
- 6.5 Venture Student Innovation Centre

TG informs the council that unfortunately, the day prior – a guild staff member Lauren Mocke passed away. Lauren had been fighting cancer for the last 2 years

and condolences go out to Lauren's family and the guild staff. Lauren had been with the guild for about 6 years and so our thoughts and prayers go to her and her family at this tough time. TG has spoken with SRC who will try and support the family during this tough time.

7. QUESTIONS TIME - Directors' Reports

FP asked who's in consultation with the university review. TG replies to just NT at the moment and its very early stages.

NN asks about what would be allowed to be distributed for elections and any specifics TG might know. TG replies not too sure, and it would probably go to ISU first and then comes back to TG.

All director's reports were accepted by guild 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 read

ET thanks everyone for coming down to O day and special thank you to guild marketing and guild events for doing the heavy lifting for O day 2.

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

as tabled

8.10 Postgraduates Students' Association President:

Charlie Backshall

as tabled

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

submitted late

8.16 Pride Officer: Aryaman Bhoosrheddy & Ashel Siby

not submitted

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 read

FP explains how 4 people have starved to death today in Gaza. FP talks about how this is a very deliberate campaign that the IDF and the Israeli state has imposed on Gaza. As of dawn today, 12 Palestinians have been killed while trying to receive aid by Israeli soldiers. FP explains that he is trying to paint the dire situation that is happening in Gaza right now. FP also talks about the stance the Australian Labour has had to the situation which FP feels is despicable. He talks about how Anthony Albanese has said that he is "waiting for the right moment to recognise Palestinian statehood". FP mentions how a medical



journal has published that hundreds and thousands dying from malnutrition in Gaza and if that's not what the 'right moment' is then he doesn't know when is. FP thinks our council needs to be putting pressure on the Australian Labour government to act.

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

as tabled

Ritika Menon

as read

If anyone knows any sponsors for the multicultural project, please let RM know.

Rama Sugiartha

as tabled

8.20 Ed Con Reports

as tabled

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

9. QUESTIONS TIME - Student Reports

RS asks RMe about free product period dispensers. Congratulates her work and asks if there is a plan to expand the dispensers to non-binary or all gender bathrooms? RMe replies that the 5 dispensers that they have secured are just the starting point to see how they go but she will need more funding before discussing expansion plans.

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OS asks if there is an alternate way they can access the free products in the library without them being in the bathroom. RMe replies that there are still the pink boxes in the library.

AL gives a general warning about submitting late and not submitting student reports to council AL gives a warning to the Access department that they have submitted their student report late without reasonable cause or not submitted at all more than 3 times and if they don't submit on time again next month, they will be taken to guild misconduct. LB replies asking shouldn't all the people who haven't submitted 3 times be taken to guild misconduct, not just access. AL replies that only access has failed to submit on time 3 times or without reasonable cause.

10. BUSINESS FROM THE EXECUTIVE

10.1 The 112th Guild council accepts the resignation of Tabarek Alhaffar from the Access department.

10.2 Delegates the governance committee to make a recommendation for a replacement.

Moved: Annika Leunig

Seconded: Aidan Kirby-Smith

LB questions if 10.2 is how the process is meant to run. AKS discusses how that's how it has been run in the past. LB argues that and LB mentions how she hasn't heard about this resignation. AKS talks about how this is how it works in all other departments, and this is how it's always been. LB disputes that. AL also mentions that they only received the resignation today. JW also mentions that this is how it was done last year too in guild council. TG also explains the process he believes is correct.

It was agreed 10.2 will be striked and the motion will be passed as follows while council discusses how to best appoint a replacement,

10.1 The 112th Guild council accepts the resignation of Tabarek Alhaffar from the Access department.

Moved: Annika Leunig

Seconded: Aidan Kirby-Smith

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AL thanks TA for the hard work they have done for the department and that the council will miss TA.

RS thanks TA for her time on council and for her time on the access committee last year as well. OS talks about that TA was a fantastic committee member last year and wishes her best in her future endeavours. AC also thanks TA for all her work this year and wishes her luck for the future.

Motion as above passes.

11. MOTIONS ON NOTICE (OPERATIONS)

11.1 The 112th Guild Council accepts the 2025 mid-year budget review

Moved: Annika Leunig Seconded: Nikhita Talluri

AL apologises for the budget being a month late as she was on holiday, waiting for replies and then had a family member pass away. AL highlights changes in the budget with an increase of \$7000 to PSA due to ball and some of the invoices from last year had to be paid this year. SOC increased by \$6000 and with discussions with finance that was the limit that could be increased. Ed council was raised \$3000 for more grants, the women's department has increased by \$2250 to rent out the under croft for the survivor exhibition. Environment, Wellbeing and Ethnocultural departments have also had small increases.

RMe thanks AL for the budget increase as the survivor exhibition is very important and those were the only days they could hire it. JW also shoutouts AL for her hard work on the midyear budget review. NT thanks AL for her hard work and puts the 'clap emoji' on the team's chat. JS also thanks AL.

Motion passed.

12. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE (OPERATIONS)

13. MOTIONS ON NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)

13.1 The 112th Guild Council:



- **13.1.1** Acknowledges that UWA staff have used Al tools when delivering courses, and that any guidelines governing its appropriate use by staff are not publicly available.
- **13.1.2** Acknowledges that students expect UWA staff to be held to comparable standards as students in the ethical and responsible use of Al tools.
- **13.1.3** Affirms that the use of Al tools in the marking of academic assessments must be transparent, appropriate, and aligned with the nature and requirements of the assessment.
- **13.1.4** Urges UWA to develop and implement a clear, comprehensive policy governing the use of AI tools by staff.

Moved: Lachlan Flavel

Seconded: Katrina Soares

LF talks about a comical email from a professor that went out to a class that had the chatgpt generated line of "Okay here's what you asked:" and believes this raised the question of what level of Al can professors and staff use, and he would like it done by next year.

KS says she believes it is a good time to talk about AI with staff and believes they need to be transparent with their use so some guidelines would be good to be put into place.

QUESTIONS

NN asks if the university has actually had any conversations about AI at the moment possibly with ed council or if they've made a decision on how AI should be used in university. JW replies that everyone is mixed in their opinions of AI and that no one has really agreed or clear university standards on AI at the moment. JW thinks the university doesn't really know where they stand yet. NN also wonders if there's anything the university can do on AI use. CB also mentions that this isn't a discussion they want to rush as AI evolves very quickly. NN clarifies is staff usage of AI is being brought up by the university. JW says there is less focus on staff use as their main priority is the value of a UWA degree, the strength of it and ensuring students aren't just using AI to get a degree but there are some points about the hypocrisy of staff using AI that get brought up.



LF clarifies about the email he mentioned before that it was an email sent to a whole class that was very clearly Al generated. FP asks why it matters. OS adds that as students are paying for their degree, some might find it disheartening to see Al being used by staff.

DEBATE

AGAINST: FP is against this motion as he believes the restrictions on AI use for staff is a problem more to do with workloads than it is with AI. FP talks about how the reason that the professors are using technology for marking or emails is as they have limited time to do everything the university expects them to do. FP believes reducing their workload would solve the problem or hiring more people if the university wants more humans to do the work. FP believes that this puts the position of the guild to have the belief that there should be more restrictions on staff rather than their staff's wellbeing. KS replies that the motion was not intended to restrict staff but rather add a guideline for how they use AI.

FOR: OS supports the motion as she believes there should be clear guidelines on AI use and transparency with AI use.

FOR: JC supports the motion as they believe it is important that course materials are not Al generated and that students are getting a good quality education. JC thinks it's odd to characterise this motion as restricting staff rather than having good guidelines to ensure the education is still high quality. FP replies that class sizes were smaller back in the day and he believes lecturers do not have time to do all the work they are expected to do. FP mentions that our focus on quality of education should be elsewhere as the cutting of the anthropology degree was far more impactful on his education than a reply from a chatbot. FP believes there are far more pressing things to tackle if we're talking about quality of education.

JS talks about how a lot of classes she does not get proper feedback as her lecturers don't have time. However, JS is worried about point that mentions "prior to 2026" as she doesn't believe this timeline should be rushed. *Amendment is friendly, motion as written above.*

FOR: JW thinks this motion comes down to fairness. He believes the university should not ban the use of AI if the professors are allowed to use it too. JW thinks there needs to be a consistent application and clear use of AI. JW also notes to



KS and LF to talk to JW, NT or CB about these issues if they want updates as these three council members sit on all the academic boards and can hopefully pass on any useful information.

FOR: LB speaks for the motion. LB talks about how majority of UAEs for exams are managed by email which already poses a big security risk as it is quite easy to send an email to the wrong person or forget to click Bcc and LB keeps getting more and more complaints of students getting their personal information leaked inadvertently. LB talks about how there is no AI chatbot that LB knows of that can fulfill UWA's privacy guidelines. There is no way to make sure these chatbots can be secure with people's personal information.

FOR: NN talks about how he can see from both sides, but he talks about the extremes where some professors might generate content from Al which has biases in it and that has long term effects for all of us. NN believes guidelines for Al should be a bare minimum.

FOR: AC compliments the motion for how concise and well it is written. AC talks about how AI will be very prominent in our future and believes this needs to be a conversation to ensure the students get the best education they have.

Motion passed.

14. MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)

FP explains that the motion was late as it is a developing situation and the decision to put forward the motion happened due to the global response that only happened yesterday such as Ariana Grande, Obama and many others have condemned and called out the starvation happening in Gaza.

Council accepts to hear the motion.

14.1 The 112th Guild Council:

- **14.1.1** Condemns the state of Israel for causing and forcing the mass starvation of the Palestinian population in the Gaza strip with its blockade and IDF attacks
- **14.1.2** Condemns the Albanese federal Labor government for disciplining Mehreen Faruqi for holding up a sign opposing the starvation of Palestinians



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14.1.3 Demands that the Albanese federal Labor government place sanctions on Israel, implement a two-way arms embargo, and expel the Israeli ambassador.

14.1.4 Endorses the protest called by Friends of Palestine WA for Saturday the 2nd of August and encourages students to attend

14.1.5 Endorses and encourages students to attend the Students for Palestine protest on the 7th of August.

Moved by: Finn Penter

Seconded by: Jude Kamalddin

FP discusses how the situation in Gaza is beyond anything any of us have ever imagined. FP talks about how the people of Gaza only have two options as of right now; starvation or being shot by bullets. FP explains that the UN has estimated there are 100,000 Palestinians right now, women and children, that are facing severe malnutrition. 1/3 of the current population has been estimated to not have eaten in several days. FP also talks about the images that have been posted on media with children in horrible states with their bones exposed. FP further talks about how the guild needs to be a part of the pressure that the world is starting to apply and thay's why it is such a strongly worded motion. FP also adds that the ambassador point that it is not an uncommon thing to expel ambassadors and diplomats. FP also talks about how these key demands are the best thing the government can do for their part in stopping genocide. Polls are also showing that 74% of people have an unfavourable perspective of Israeli's crimes and there have been a group of high-level public figures that have written open letters calling for sanctions on their own country and FP believes that really shows what level of horrors we're at. FP stresses the importance of the motion.

JK thanks FP for outlining the motion well. JK mentions it is difficult for her to sit in this meeting and say something at the moment.

DEBATE

FOR: RR speaks for the motion. RR talks about how the only reason that we are here today at the table and not there is luck and that it is really important for the guild to take a stance, and that the situation is only getting worse and worse. RR stresses for everyone to keep doing what they can and show up to the protests or speak out where they can.

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FP thinks it is appalling the guild council have more to say about AI than starving children and our government's complicity. FP asks the councillors to speak up.

FOR: RS speaks up and says that anyone who has been to a guild council this year would know that the 112th guild council is pro-Palestinian and they have been doing the work on the ground too. RS talks about how himself and SA have been at the protests and thanks FP for organizing protests but RS does not think it's productive to the conversation to accuse the guild of not saying anything about this situation. RS talks about how there is an actual limit to how much the guild can put out, how the guild has come under heavy criticism this year for putting things out, RS's own NUS account has gotten backlash and so it is unrealistic to say that the guild needs to be posting about it every single day.

AKS adds that this is a very sensitive issue for many people in the room and asks the observers to respect the council and not talk.

FOR: JS speaks for the motion and how horrible the situation is there and how the council needs to recognise how lucky and privileged we are.

Motion passes.

15. GENERAL BUSINESS

AKS mentions the merger of universities and talks how discussions will come up soon. AKS also mentions how SRC approved a \$2000 donation to go to Lauren Mocke's family.

16. CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for **6pm Wednesday August 27th 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.