



1. WELCOME AND OPENING

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

1.2 Attendance

Oliver Barrett (OB)
Yasaswi Shrestha (YS)
Reana Bose (RB)
Jay Williams (JW)
Eva Coulter (EC)
Ojaswi Shrestha (OS)
Emma Meunier (EM)
Ruby Wood-Hill (RW)
Emily Bunschoten (EB)
Troy Wood (TW)
Hana Giltrap (HG)
Henry Walker (HW)
Jennifer Woo (JW)
Daniel Tyers (DT)
Blake Mercer (BM)
Rama Sugiarta (RS)
Thomas Pearce (TP)
Shayan Hirani (SH)
Julia Suffell (JS)
Zen Hately (ZH)
Xavier Anthony (XA)
Zered Robinson (ZR)
Abby rai (AR) (Online)
Rojin Didari (Observer)
Ella Machiarda (Observer)
Ayush Kalanypur (Observer)
Yousef Mohammed (Observer)

1.3 Apologies

Insiah Riaz (IR)
Jonothan Tay (JT)
Tara Mishra (TM)
Hukam Kohli (HK)
AJ Church (AC)



1.4 Proxies

TW for IR

SH for TM

ZH for HK

ZR for AC

BM for LB

JW for JT

1.5 Absent

YS passes Chair to EC.

2. DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

3.1 February 25th 2026 Council Minutes

Passed.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5. BUSINESS COMPLETED VIA CIRCULAR

5.1 The 113th Guild Council accepts the resignation of Ava Ebbutt from the position of Womens Officer

Moved: Oliver Barrett

Seconded: Insiah Riaz

Passed via circular.

12.2 The 113th Guild Council, on the recommendation of the Governance Committee, appoints Hana Giltrap to the position of Womens Officer for the remainder of the 113th Guild Council term

Moved: Oliver Barrett

Seconded: Insiah Riaz

Passed via circular.



6. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

6.1 Managing Director

as tabled

6.2 Finance Director

MM states that for the month of February, we landed on an income close to 269k income. MM explains that the income this month is way higher than what was budgeted and this is primarily due to the income that was received from Venture. There is also timing differences where things have been budgeted for last month, but the income is received this month. MM notes that a lot of expenditure is budgeted at the beginning of the year but says that most Guild departments are below or on budget. MM highlights the ISD, which has higher expenditure this month due to a timing difference in budget and expenditure. For staff departments, MM notes that the events side is above budget which is again another timing difference due to the festival which was budgeted in March but the expenditure was made in February. MM also adds that the GSC merchandise sales is lower than anticipated.

Motion to move into camera passes. Procedural to move to 12.1 passes.

6.3 Commercial

as tabled

6.4 Student Services

as tabled

6.5 Venture Student Innovation Centre

as tabled

7. QUESTIONS TIME – Directors' Reports

RS asks JS regarding commercial activities for this month. RS discusses the breakfast options which are not priced very competitively. RS asks how the department reacted to the students reactions to this decision. RS mentions that he knows marketing took down the post and that people were not happy with it being called value when it was not worth it for them. RS also asks how long the reputational risk for this may last and what may be done.

JS responds saying they have kept it on without advertising it as a value deal. JS notes that all material for promotion has been removed. JS says it was a bit of an oversight.



BM asks about marketing and the socials and notes that there was a post on the Instagram reposting the Kate Chaney Instagram. BM is curious around policies and political action being taken by the Guild and showing favouritism to one side towards the others.

OB responds that there was a survey attached to that and the idea was to get more people to sign and answer the survey. OB clarifies that it was not paid or sponsored but more students advocating for the job ready graduate program is a good outcome.

BM says it may be preferable to tag the link to the survey separately rather than reposting it.

OB notes that it would be a good idea to raise this with the marketing team.

RS adds that the post did not make any reference to a petition. RS notes that it looks like Kate Chaney endorsement and adds that she has rejected goals from the NUS and HSU.

No more questions.

Directors reports pass.

8. STUDENT REPORTS

8.1 Guild President: Oliver Barrett

as read

OB gives a Shoutout to the PROSH team and states how amazing it was to see people swarming the streets of Perth. OB notes that over 41 000 dollars was raised which was a massive increase from last year. He says that this year's PROSH was handled very well along the way and says well done to Hannah, Xavier, Cate, Jai and the rest of the committee. OB acknowledges the massive amount of work that went into it and notes that he really enjoyed his read.



- 8.2 Guild Vice-President:** Reana Bose
as tabled
- 8.3 Guild General Secretary:** Insiah Riaz
as tabled
- 8.4 Chair of Guild Council:** Yasaswi Shrestha
as tabled
- 8.5 Education Council President:** Emily Bunschoten
as tabled
- 8.6 Societies Council President:** Jonothan Tay
as tabled
- 8.7 Public Affairs Council President:** Tara Mishra
as tabled
- 8.8 Women’s Officer:** Hana Giltrap
not submitted
- 8.9 Wellbeing Officer:** Jennifer Woo
as tabled
- 8.10 Postgraduates Students’ Association President:** Jay Williams
as tabled
- 8.11 International Students’ Department President:** Ojaswi Shrestha
as read
- OS gives a massive shoutout to OB and JW for yesterdays session and thanks them for speaking on behalf of OS and ISD.
- 8.12 Residential Students’ Department President:** Troy Wood
as read
- TW thanks MM and TG for getting the briefing done. He notes it took a lot of time and energy but thanks the staff who helped.
- 8.13 Environment Officer:** Zered Robinson
as tabled
- 8.14 Sports Officer:** Zen Hately
as tabled
- 8.15 Access Department:** Blake Mercer
as tabled
- 8.16 Pride Officers:** Hayley Paku
as tabled
- 8.17 Ethnocultural Officers:** Emma Meunier
as read



EM thanks those who helped with harmony week last week, specifically JW with Wellbeing and OS from ISD, as well as her VP, Ayush. She highlights that there is a stall led by ethno and African students this year as they are trying to launch a new African students union and states that this was a big win and a great foundation for this goal.

8.18 Volunteering Chair: Julia Suffell

as read

JS congratulates the PROSH team and reiterates that they did a great job and that they should be very proud.

8.19 OGCs as follows

Xavier Anthony

as read

XA thanks the Guild staff who were a huge help throughout the whole process of PROSH.

Hukam Kohli

as tabled

Henry Walker

as tabled

Tom Pearce

as read

TP notes that thousands of people are being bombed and there has been a huge expansion of Israeli imperialism. TP thinks it is very horrific and notes that the political situation across the world is worsening and becoming more severe and the cost of human life is only escalating. TP explains that even Penny Wong has opposed these actions as being unlawful under international law. TP thinks it is important that the Guild broadens their horizon to what is happening at university to the more severe and horrific situations in the world. TP also adds that 2 pro-Palestine students were arrested in Queensland. He explains that they were arrested for referring to the phrase 'from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free'. TP explains that this phrase has been used for a long time for the Palestine liberation movement to call for democracy and equality in the Middle East. TP notes that this phrase is also banned at UWA and that students should not be facing that kind of discipline for showing support and advocating for Palestine.



Rama Sugiarta

as read

RS states that people are saying it is very hard to understand which Guild regulations are current and official. RS notes that as a result people feel that definitions need more specificity for example what constitutes as department consultation in particular. RS asks if it is 2 people selected from the department or is it the whole department. RS states that these are the things the Guild should be on top of and that everyone should feel clear on. RS notes that when people join a new committee, they should be explained the way that the department works and what to expect and the way they will be consulted with. RS reiterates the importance and need for transparency around this.

Louis bird

as tabled

Daniel Tyers

as tabled

Abby Rai

as tabled

Ruby Wood-Hill

as read

Ruby mentions that the first divestment roundtable will be taking place on Tuesday and invites everyone to come along.

Eva Coulter

as tabled

AJ church

as tabled

9. QUESTION TIME – Student Reports

No questions

Student reports passed.

10. BUSINESS FROM THE EXECUTIVE

10.1 The 113th Guild Council approves the following policies



- a) Unpaid Placement Grant Policy
- b) Equal Opportunity Policy
- c) Leave and Absence Policy
- d) Mobile Phone Usage Reimbursement Policy
- e) Sexual Harassment Policy
- f) Work from Home Policy
- g) Media Usage and Content Licensing Policy

Moved: Oliver Barrett

Seconded: Reana Bose

OB says there are a lot of policies coming through, some of them which are operational policies that are essentially business as usual but codifying it into a way that makes it clear and gives clarity around rules for various things. OB talks about the unpaid placement grant policy. He explains that this policy details an expansion on grants. OB notes that currently the Guild offers emergency loans up to 200 dollars no questions asked and grants up to 400 dollars which are means tested. OB mentions that they are expanding to unpaid placement grants up to 300 dollars which is subject to availability of the budget as there is a limited number. OB says this will be a great move and supports advocacy at a national stage for the expansion of the commonwealth prac payment scheme as well as supporting students on campus today.

DT notes that for the media usage and content licensing policy does not say who prepared it or the effective date, as some of the other policies have this information while the one on media does not.

OB thanks DT for bringing that up and responds saying this can be updated.

There are no more questions for the motion.

JS speaks for the motion and notes that she feels the unpaid placement policy is fantastic. She discusses a friend who is studying medicine and has to do prac placements and works 40 hours a week while not being paid. JS thinks it is a great initiative.

No more speakers for or against the motion.

This motion passes.

11. MOTIONS ON NOTICE (OPERATIONS)

11.1 The 113th Guild Council approves the 2026 Election timetable.



Moved: Yasaswi Shrestha

Seconded: Oliver Barrett

YS can't believe it is almost election time again and notes that the draft election timetable has been uploaded onto teams. YS is happy to take any questions.

OB has nothing to add,

DT mentions that in the Election Culture meeting they talked about potentially changing the break period and asks if that would still be possible to change once this draft timetable passes.

YS responds saying that once they pass whatever is in the Election Culture Committee then this could also get passed. OB says that if there is a recommendation from ECC to the Guild Council to change this then the draft timetable could be subject to change.

No further questions for the motion.

No speakers for or against this motion.

This motion passes.

11.2 The 113th Guild Council requests the Managing Director write to the WAEC in order to conduct the 2026 Annual General Elections for the UWA Student Guild and National Union of Students (NUS).

Moved: Oliver Barrett

Seconded: Yasaswi Shrestha

OB notes that we need to write to the WAEC to do the elections.

YS has nothing to add.

No questions for this motion.

No speakers for or against the motion.

This motion passes.



EC passes the Chair back to YS.

11.3 The 113th Guild Council approves the 2025 Guild Audited Financial Statements.

Moved: Oliver Barrett

Seconded: Insiah Riaz

OB states that the Guild has financial statements that need to be audited and checked every year. OB encourages that everyone has a thorough read through of these and he thinks there was nothing particularly alarming raised and notes that it passed quite well.

IR has nothing to add.

RS states he has no problem passing the guild financial audited statements and his question is not directly linked to that, however he asks about how much Guild executives are paid. He asks if it is very common for a large size organisation and similar sort of student union for an executive to get paid around 300 000 dollars.

MM responds saying that most people in the organisation or the directors are actually paid lower. MM says this was brought up and discussed in the previous years audit committee and it is actually lower than market, especially right now with high inflation.

No more questions for this motion.

No speakers for or against this motion.

This motion passes.

11.4 The 113th Guild Council accepts the proposed increase to the financial approval limits.

Moved: Oliver Barrett

Seconded: Insiah Riaz



OB notes that the financial approval limits in relation to managers, directors and Strategic Resources Committee have not been changed in a long time, and this means that over time as inflation and CPI happens, the purchasing power decreases. As such, he says this is a move that will bring us back in line with CPI and where it should be. OB states that they are looking to review this every 3-5 years, so that we don't run into this problem where it hasn't been done for a very long time again.

IR has nothing to add.

RS asks which committee this recommendation is from.

OB responds saying it is from the Strategic Resources Committee.

There are no more questions for this motion.

No speakers for or against this motion.

This motion passes.

12. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE (OPERATIONS)

12.1 The 113th Guild Council on recommendation from the Strategic Resources Committee, approves the increase to the expenditure ceiling of the RSD ball to \$104,000.

Moved: Oliver Barrett

Seconded: Insiah Riaz

This motion passes.

Procedural to move back to 6.3 and to move out of camera passes.

13. MOTIONS ON NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)

13.1 The 113th Guild Council:

13.1.1 Recognises that Reproductive health leave enables workers to take paid time off to manage reproductive health conditions including menstruation, menopause, endometriosis, fertility treatment and hormone therapy.



- 13.1.2** Acknowledge that unpaid time taken off work for reproductive health contributes to reduced earnings, widens the gender wage gap, and diminishes economic participation.
- 13.1.3** Affirms that workplaces should be spaces of equality where the health of workers is supported.
- 13.1.4** Endorses the Australian Unions "It's for Every Body" campaign and its call for the inclusion for 10 days of paid Reproductive Health Leave in the National Employment Standards; and
- 13.1.5** Commits to distributing the campaign petition to students via primary Guild social media channels and via email: <https://www.megaphone.org.au/petitions/make-reproductive-health-leave-a-national-employment-standard>;

Moved: Ruby Woodhill

Seconded: Abby Rai

RW explains that this motion is about fairness, dignity and recognising the reality of human bodies. She notes that everybody at some stage in their life may need time to rest due to symptoms and issues arising from their reproductive health, such as menstruation, endo, menopause, prostate treatment and more. RW talks about how when people take unpaid time off it does not just affect them in short term, but is also contributes to the gender pay gap, limits economic participation, and reinforces stigma around reproductive health. RW thinks that paid reproductive health leave being included in the National Employment Standards is a practical evidence based step towards more equitable and inclusive workplaces which the guild should support.

AR has nothing to add.

No questions for this motion.

No speakers for or against the motion.

This motion passes.

13.2 The 113th Guild Council:

- 13.2.1** Affirms the principle that higher education is a public good that should be free and universally accessible, funded by progressive public revenue rather than student debt.



- 13.2.2** Reaffirms its support for the repeal of the Jobs Ready Graduate scheme and the abolition of HECS-HELP debt.
- 13.2.3** Directs the Guild President and Education Council President to advocate to the Federal Government for a pathway to free higher education; and
- 13.2.4** Affirms that advocacy for free education includes international students in principle, recognising the inequitable treatment of international students under the current funding model.

Moved: Rama Sugiarta

Seconded: Daniel Tyers

RS notes that everyone is probably already aware that their fees are very expensive and 20% off on a one time basis is not that fantastic. RS notes that if you finish exactly when they announce that 20% off you got it, but not everyone else got it. RS states it was a one-time debt reduce and explains that peoples debts have increased a lot with inflation so it is really important to recognise that these are not real strides for cheaper and more accessible education and that the jobs ready graduate scheme as part of higher education act has been of a long time detriment to accessible education. RS says the Guild should be campaigning for free education in principle even if not achieving that in the next year

DT has nothing to add.

No questions for the motion.

TP speaks for the motion and notes that the HECS debt should be abolished and that students should not be in debt if they want an education. TP discusses that the right to an education should not depend on being able to afford it. TP believes we will need more than advocacy in this country to fight for this. TP thinks that in order to direct the Guild to advocate for free education to the Federal Government and be able to achieve it, it would need to be through mass student activism and campaigns which are organised by the NUS and facilitated by Guilds in every state. TP notes that the corporatisation of universities needs to be opposed and thinks there has been an attitude for Guilds to be soft on the university and to have a consolatory approach, which TP believes is not the right approach.

OB responds saying that it is important that at UWA every student has the right to express their collective opinion and displeasure with the Vice Chancellor.



TP responds again saying that what OB said would mean that students have the right to protest and say certain phrases in this university and TP does not feel it is true that students actually have that right here at UWA.

BM states that he knows this is all in principle but asks for the Guild to consider whether free university education is necessarily something that should be pursued imminently. BM says there are a lot of arguments that it is a progressive policy, but BM argues that the point of free education is to see people from lower wealth going to university, who have had fewer opportunities and may have to go through more to get here and questions whether making university free for everyone would help that. BM says it is a great idea in principle but is not sure about free education in terms of equality and opportunity for people from different classes.

No more speakers for or against this motion.

This motion passes.

13.3 The 113th Guild Council:

- 13.3.1** Notes with concern that UWA's Geology and Geography qualifications have no path to professional accreditation, and that Pathology undergraduate qualifications are not accredited.
- 13.3.2** Recognises that professional accreditation is critical to students post-graduation employment prospects and the value of their degree.
- 13.3.3** Directs the Guild President and Education Council President to formally advocate to the relevant Board of Studies and the Academic Board for the accreditation of Geology and Geography qualifications and the accreditation of Pathology undergraduate qualifications; and
- 13.3.4** Commits to providing support to student groups campaigning for these accreditation outcomes.

Moved: Rama Sugiarta

Seconded: Daniel Tyers

RS says that for a while now geology and geography qualifications have lost their professional accreditation, funding to departments, funding to higher education and there was a move to doing undergrad and then doing masters. RS says that



students realise too late that they are not professionally accredited and don't understand accreditation fully. RS wants to see UWA work towards recrediting these qualifications and ensuring that pathology students are able to have their qualifications in a simple and inexpensive manner.

DT has nothing to add.

OB asks where the information of these qualifications losing or being at risk of losing their accreditations has come from.

RS says it came from a geography student.

No questions for this motion.

JW speaks to provide some background information regarding the motion from experience as the Education Council President last year, where he reached out to Daniella. JW notes that she said that no geology or geography degree was ever accredited except for the Masters of Urban and Regional Planning which was rescinded at UWA. JW adds that in regards to clinical pathology it is similar to how UWA does law and medicine, where there is no specific undergraduate clinical pathway and you have to get that from the Masters.

OB adds that Daniella said it has been decided that they will not look to accredit the pathology undergraduate. OB reiterates JW's point about how this decision was made similarly to the way UWA only offers medicine in a post graduate sense.

No more speakers for or against the motion.

This motion passes.

13.4 The 113th Guild Council:

- 13.4.1** Recognises the value of the introduction of Commonwealth Prac Payments for teaching, social work, nursing, and midwifery students.
- 13.4.2** Joins the Health Student Alliance and the National Union of Students in calling for the expansion of Commonwealth Prac Payments to all Allied Health placements in the upcoming federal budget.
- 13.4.3** Joins the National Union of Students in their national campaign to end unpaid compulsory placements.



- 13.4.4** Joins the Australian medical Student Association and the National Union for Students in calling for the expansion of Commonwealth Prac Payments to Medical and Dentistry students in the 3rd year of their course and beyond
- 13.4.5** Share via social media and commit to sharing the campaign petitions
- a) AMSA: https://www.change.org/p/end-placement-poverty-for-medical-students-include-them-in-paid-placement-reform?utm_medium=custom_url&utm_source=share_petition&ruited_by_id=db8da450-0baf-11ef-9d74-1d9f39c1d9fd
 - b) HSU: <https://hsu.net.au/extend-paid-placements/#petition>

Moved: Rama Sugiarta

Seconded: Daniel Tyers

RS talks about the introduction of commonwealth prac payments over the past few years to a limited number of students who do teaching, social work, nursing, and midwifery but explains that these payments are means tested. RS states that all students undertaking compulsory placements should be receiving payment for it when they are mimicking or doing work of any kind. RS would like to see an expansion of this to allied health students for example people who are taking pathology, physiotherapy, and pharmacy who should also receive payment. RS mentions how medicine students and dental students also have to do compulsory placements and the hours these students complete are often above 1000 a year, and it is not viable for students to not be paid. RS discusses circumstances where people have dropped out or transferred because they are unable to pay and support themselves. RS concludes by affirming that the Guild should be in support with these students.

DT has nothing to add

No questions for motion.

TP speaks for the motion but notes that payments from these pracs are not enough to live off or to take meaningful time off work to focus on studies and comfortably pay rent anyways. TP notes that it does not alleviate the crisis of poverty that students are experiencing and is unsure of the grounds that this national campaign has. TP states that the Guild should put more pressure on the Government and university to make these degrees cheaper and organise



campaigns that force these concessions out of these bodies instead of trying to work nicely with them.

No more speakers for or against the motion.

This motions passes.

13.5 The 113th Guild Council:

- 13.5.1** Affirms that any proposal to merge the University of Western Australia with another institution would have profound consequences for student culture, academic diversity, and staff employment.
- 13.5.2** Opposes any merger proposal advanced without extensive and genuine consultation with the student body that the Guild council deems sufficient.
- 13.5.3** Directs the Guild President to formally communicate this position to the University Senate, Vice Chancellor, Minister for Education, and Minister for Tertiary Education.
- 13.5.4** Calls on the Western Australian government to include Student Guilds in its stakeholder consideration, and as members of its committees relating to tertiary governance; and
- 13.5.5** Commits to campaigning publicly against merger proposals that do not meet the threshold of meaningful student consultation.

Moved: Rama Sugiarta

Seconded: Abby Rai

RS notes that there has been whispers of potential mergers of Western Australian public universities but that nothing has been confirmed officially. RS believes that the Guild council should be prepared with a stance on this for the senate meeting where it is discussed. RS believes that a merger would change the way everything at the university operates including the way courses are structured, student culture, academic diversity, the type of academic research that's done and impacts on staff members. RS explains that these things vary at all universities and students currently have a choice to make about them so there are reasons why you may want to go to one university and not others. RS would like to see more consultation with student bodies that matter and see more real and seriously considered consultation by those in power. RS notes that the Guild should take an active position and be clear in our position against these mergers.



AR has nothing to add.

No questions for the motion.

OB speaks against this motion. OB notes that there are of course significant consequences as RS mentioned and OB thinks those are certainly important to take into account but also thinks we need to remember that there is no proposal actually out yet. OB notes that it may be very premature of us to take a position on it now when there is no proposal out. OB explains that 'binding consultation' is an impossibility to get into and would mean that the Government would basically allow the student body to veto anything which concerns them. OB believes it is significantly too early to take a position or stance on this matter yet. OB says that if a proposal comes out, it would be at that point that it would be considered in its entirety and that would allow the Guild to take the most measured and informed view.

RB agrees with OB.

TP speaks for the motion. TP argues that although there is no official proposal yet, there have been multiple discussions between the Government, chancellors, vice-chancellors and the Guilds. TP believes that it is clearly a political issue that the Guilds should respond to and discuss. TP notes that if there is a merger with the 2 largest universities in WA it would represent massive cuts to quality of courses, units and for the staff. TP agrees with RS that this university and Guild should oppose a merger and what it represents for students but more importantly for courses and staff layoffs. TP believes that no amount of consultation would make this decision acceptable.

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BM speaks for the motion and says that no part of the motion requires a specific proposal and the motion remains true regardless of what the specific proposal is. BM agrees that any proposal should have consultation with student bodies and is something that the guild should be supporting. BM thinks that without the word 'binding', this is a reasonable motion.

JW notes that this motion may create some trouble for OB and himself if they were to have to talk on this. JW is concerned with the wording of the motion and asks about what it would mean for Guild council to deem the consultation sufficient; would it be by unanimous consent or majority? JW says the wording of



this motion may be a bit too vague, and this could later cause arguments about what is agreed upon in having sufficient consultation.

OB adds that if and when there is a proposal on the table and at that point if there is still not enough consultation then a stance could be taken against it. However as JW said, it would tie OB and JW's hands behind their back and limit them from engaging properly on any matter like this.

TP moves a procedural motion to invite EM (Observer) to speak.

This fails.

RS responds to OB's point saying that there is a clear example of what can go wrong when universities merge and students are not prepared for it or are not able to react with sufficient notice, as what happened in Adelaide University. RS goes on to discuss some other issues that have been recognised at Adelaide and explains how the Government rushed through it. RS does not think that this motion is premature, he believes it is about preparedness and knowing what position will be taken as well understanding the feelings of the student body and knowing that some students will be opposed.

TP notes that the merger of a university is for the profitability and competitiveness of Australian university and WA. TP states it is about looking at universities as a project of profit making and wanting more. TP brings up some review articles that praise the merger, but TP reiterates his view that the merger should not happen as it would be an attack on staff and students.

No more speakers for or against.

This motion does not pass.

13.6 The 113th Guild Council:

13.6.1 Opposes the active recruitment of UWA students by military and defence industry organisations on campus, including through career fairs, information stalls, and sponsored events.

13.6.2 Directs the Guild President to advocate to the University to review and restrict the use of campus spaces for military recruitment activities.



13.6.3 Affirms the student right to pursue careers of their choosing while asserting that the Guild, as a representative body, will not facilitate or promote military recruitment.

13.6.4 The UWA Guild opposes the Defense and Security Institute, as it promotes and facilitates the militarisation of our campuses, and encourages stronger imperialist ties between Australia and the US.

Moved: Rama Sugiatha

Seconded: Abby Rai

RS does not think that the Guild should be supporting the active recruitment of UWA students to the frontline or background of these operations. RS says currently we see people surveilling the middle east and providing information for targeting and the logistics to US forces and Israeli forces in the Middle East and across the world. RS states the Guild can't be against war if it still allows the mechanisms of war to perpetuate themselves on campus. RS notes that the Guild should take a position showing that the guild does not want to see military recruitment on this campus. RS recognises that students can choose what they want to do and they have free will but the Guild should not be supporting their advancement to recruitment when unnecessary.

AR has nothing to add.

No questions for the motion.

TP notes that the security institute is one of the key ways that UWA is tied to the military industry and one of the key ways militarisation takes root on this campus. TP thinks more broadly that the picture of what Australian involvement in US imperialism looks like today is becoming more clear. TP talks about how the Australian Labor party was the first government to publicly support the US bombardment of Iran and have supported Trump in his project to devastate Iran. TP notes that UWA's tie to imperialism is a problem and that it means that the militarisation of our campuses means that university degrees aren't places of learning.

BM speaks against this motion. He recognises that the students of UWA are mature adults who should be able to make decisions on their own regarding their futures and careers. BM also thinks that the ADF provides a legitimate and



respectable career path for many Australians. BM believes that the Guild should affirm students rights to pursue careers of this kind.

EC speaks against this motion. EC believes that 13.6.3 is contradictory as it claims to affirm students rights to careers of their choosing, but the rest of the motion seeks to hide those exact careers from view. EC notes that the Guild can not support students right to choose while simultaneously blocking access to information, networking and advocating opportunities. EC agrees with BM in the sense that the Guild should not need to curate which job advertisements are seen. EC adds that this motion disproportionately affects engineers. EC mentions that it would affect a significant amount of scholarships and funding. EC is not saying it is right or wrong but taking these opportunities and choices away from people is something she does not support. EC says that having sponsored events does not necessarily mean students will engage with them, but it just allows them to make a more informed decision about their options.

TP does not that think that the position of the Guild should be defending the right of students to join the army and disagrees about it being a respectable career. TP discusses circumstances in Iran and how it relates to this issue and the funnelling and advertising of students to be pushed into these careers. TP also adds that students have their research tied to the project of Australian imperialism and believes that it is disgraceful that this Guild in the midst of war is not taking a stock standard approach towards militarisation and the recruitment of military at UWA. TP states that students should have the right to degrees that are not surfacing imperialism against their wishes.

No more speakers for or against this motion.

This motion does not pass.

13.7 The 113th Guild Council:

13.7.1 Strongly condemns and opposes the Federal Government's sudden increase to the Temporary Graduate Visa (Subclass 485) application fee from \$2,300 to \$4,600.

13.7.2 Calls on the Federal Government to reverse this decision, which not only impacts recently graduated international students but also sets a concerning precedent that signals to current and prospective international students that they are not welcome to Australia.



13.7.3 Calls on the Federal government to recognise the value of international graduates and their significant contributions to Australia's economy, workforce and multicultural society; and

13.7.4 Encourages the Guild President, alongside the International Students' Department, to send a letter to the Federal Minister for Education, Federal minister for Home Affairs and the Assistant Minister for International Education and immigration condemning this increase and advocating for its reversal.

Moved: Ojaswi Shrestha

Seconded: Emma Meunier

OS notes that as many may already been aware there was an increase to the Temporary graduate Visa subclass 485 application fee from \$2300 to \$4600. OS notes that this increase places a huge unfair burden on international students and graduates, as many of them are already navigating financial pressures due to limited working hours and uncertain pathways. Some graduates are trying to transition into the workforce and contribute but this increased fee does the opposite and creates barriers, while signalling to current and future international students that they are not valued despite the contributions they make to economic workforce and multicultural diversity.

EM adds that this motion is not saying it should never increase at all, but explains that the doubling of fees was an unfair overnight change that students were not prepared or able to react to with enough time and support.

No questions for this motion.

OB speaks for this motion and echoes the words he spoke previously at the City of Perth council. He talks about the racism at university report that conveyed that a vast majority and number of different groups of students are facing significant racism on the UWA campus. OB talks about how racism is something that is not simply interpersonal interactions or one off interactions but an institutional thing which is embodied by the policies that govern us. OB thinks that looking at this increase of fee and the change occurring with absolutely no regard for international students who can only work 48 hours a fortnight (in subclass 500) and have no ability react to an overnight change like this is absolutely ridiculous. OB notes that it is a huge double standard that would never apply to domestic students and concludes by saying this change is reprehensible.



TP adds that the doubling of this visa fee is very horrific and it is outrageous that international students are forced into these extremely unstable and precarious degrees where anything could happen at any moment. TP says that this, on top of the limited hours they can work makes it extremely difficult to be an international student at this institute. TP disputes 13.7.3 which says to 'recognise the value of international graduates and their contributions to Australian economy' as he believes that we should not respect international students just because they contribute to society and economy but rather recognise that international students have the right to a degree and education whether or not it profits the Australian economy. TP notes that if the Guild wants to oppose structural racism, then the guild needs to also oppose that immigrants aren't just 'useful tools' for the country but that they are humans and students who deserve fundamental right to education and housing.

RS is in support of the motion. RS notes that it is good in its body and proposes a friendly amendment to 13.7.4.

BM asks what the difference between subclass 500 and 485 is. OS responds the difference is this one is a graduate visa. OS explains that international students get the subclass visa 500 for their studies and then after they graduate they have to get subclass 485.

JW clarifies that OB was mentioning that on the current subclass 500 visa, it only allows international students to work 48 hours a fortnight and hence it would make those students unable to respond to such a significant price change in such a short time.

No more speakers for or against the motion.

This motion passes.

13.8 The 113th Guild Council:

13.8.1 Condemns the illegal military escalation led by the United States, in coordination with Israel towards the Iranian people

13.8.2 Denounces these extensive US-Israeli strikes which have resulted in severe humanitarian consequences, killing 187 young primary school girls,



over 2000 casualties in total and displacement of more than 4 million people across the affected region;

- 13.8.3** Recognises that this crisis has extended to multiple countries in the Middle East, impacting critical shipping routes such as the Strait of Hormuz and intensifying global economic disruption, contributing to ongoing instability and risk of further destabilising the region;
- 13.8.4** Affirms the importance of upholding national sovereignty, and the protection of human rights;
- 13.8.5** Further recognises that allied governments, including the Australian Government, have provided political, logistical, and/or military support to United States operations;
- 13.8.6** Calls on the Australian Government to take a stand with Iranian Australian to express nationwide sympathy for those whose families are currently under subjugation and oppression in Iran, and instead advocate for a return to diplomatic negotiations;
- 13.8.7** Condemns the Islamic Republic Regime which has illegally abused human rights by capturing and kidnapping innocent and peaceful protestors across the country, threatening their families, torturing them into forced confessions and carrying out mass sham trials without providing adequate defence lawyers for all accused persons, resulting in mass public executions of over 90 000 people, most notably, a 17 year old pro wrestler and an 18 year old girl, just in the last 5 days;
- 13.8.8** Encourages students to engage in critical discussion, education and activism around ongoing conflict and issues of imperialism and international justice as well as stand in solidarity with the people of Iran who have been impacted by war and displacement; and
- 13.8.9** Encourages impacted students to seek support through Guild and UWA wellbeing services.

Moved: Oliver Barrett

Seconded: Insiah Riaz

OB notes how horrible it is to see the deaths of a significant number of civilians and to see the escalation of militarisation within the Middle East and equally acknowledges that this motion does not confirm that Iran is currently in a democracy or any resemblance of that prior, but rather that the militarisation and bombing is at significant damage to human and civilian lives and that is something we should condemn and denounce. OB says it is important to stand



with the Iranian students on campus and support them or anyone affected with family who they can not contact.

IR has nothing to add.

RS asks about the word activism in 13.8.8 means for the Guild and what that looks like.

OB responds that activism, as TP often discusses is about being involved in strikes and rallies and not just passive support. OB says it is also about letting people know about your stance on an issue.

There are no more questions for this motion.

TP proposes an amendment endorsing the upcoming Friends of Palestine rally which stands against US bombardment. TP says the motion references activism but does not explain how or why. TP says the Guild should be endorsing the protests which are happening and organised by students.

YS names EM (Observer) for the second time and reiterates they do not have speaking rights unless the procedural motion for that passes. YS gives them another warning and says if this happens one more time they will be asked to leave.

OB asks TP to provide any links about the rally itself before deciding if it is friendly or not.

TP adds it is also a protest to commemorate the Palestinians lives who were murdered and injured and that it does represent the ongoing legacy and theft from Palestinians and relates to the expansion of Israeli forces.

BM says that to him the words 'subjugation and oppression' in regards to 13.8.6 read as though they are about the regime and wants to clarify if is talking about the US or the regime.

OB and JW clarify that it is regarding the regime.

JW asks TP if promoting the rally to to students would just be through the Instagram stories.



TP responds saying yes through the Instagram stories and circulating it around any other Guild channels.

BM speaks against the amendment. BM says he has looked at the Friends of Palestine Instagram and while he understands the grounds behind this amendment and that a motion like this should be an act rather than just saying we oppose it or encouraging students to do a particular thing, he explains what the Friends of Palestine rally post says and conveys about Israel and the US and BM says the Guild should be very cautious as the stated goals of the rally and the goals of the motion are not 100% aligned and thinks it would not be useful to combine and endorse them.

RS speaks for the amendment as proposed. RS explains that from a definition of activism that was provided by OB, the Guild should support and endorse these protests from one of the most active and contemporary anti-war movements in WA. RS thinks this is not very controversial item and believes that the calls the motion are making are broadly represented by the specific demands of the protest.

TP agrees with RS and says the Guild should provide a link and generally promote actual activism. TP says that it is a low bar of activism to circulate events happening around campus and it should be a bare minimum from the Guild.

OB says that as BM said, there are certainly concerns around the entirety of the protest and whether it would be something the Guild is comfortable endorsing. OB also speaks to the spirit of the motion itself where it says to encourage students to engage in critical discussion, education and activism is one part, but the other part that OB sees as very important is standing in solidarity to support Iranian students and help them feel as safe as they can on the campus. OB says that given the very conflicting views from Iranian students themselves, OB worries that endorsing and promoting this amendment may lead to significant outrage and less comfort for those students. As such, OB says the amendment is not friendly.

Ella (observer) is named for the third time by the chair YS and is asked to leave.

TP moves a procedural motion to invite Rojin Didari (Observer) to speak.



TP explains that he wants to do this because RD is an Iranian student with family in Iran who have been victimised by both the Iranian regime and also the US bombardments so she may be better placed to speak on the motion.

The procedural motion passes.

RD wants to touch on a few things, the first being the Australian alliance with the United States. RD thinks it is extremely important to condemn this alliance and recognise that America is by no means a peaceful ally of Australia that we can close our relationship with in hopes of getting more technology and nuclear power. RD says that if anything, looking at the history of the US, it is clear that it has a history of invasion and colonisation, especially in the Middle East. RD goes on to discuss things that happened in Iraq, Libya and Afghanistan. RD notes that the argument of Australia's relationship with the US being a good one is completely flawed and based on the US's imperial savagery across the world over different continents. RD reiterates that no one supports the Iranian regime and it is extremely obvious. RD adds that there is no feminist case to be made about the bombing of a girls school in Iran, as there is no defence of the US bombing them. RD concludes by saying the Guilds stance should be clear and firm that there is no support for US imperialism and Australia ties with them.

BM says that he does support the American alliance and is quite open about it, but clarifies that his point was not that the American alliance should not be considered great or that we should not be opposing it but rather that this motion is not about the American alliance and is about the specific conflict in Iran. BM reiterates that in general principle he would be against supporting a rally that isn't aligned with the motion regardless of whether it is 'good' or 'bad', as he does not see it relevant to this motion.

EC speaks against this motion. EC believes that this is such a divisive issue as recognised in the January council and there are so many different sides on this. EC feels that if we do make a statement on this we are at risk of potentially upsetting people. EC says she isn't saying one side is right or wrong but she does not believe enough consultation was done with Iranian students and that it could upset either side and sees this as a problem.

TP moves a procedural motion to invite Rojin to speak again.



BM asks what additional information we would be getting by doing this.

TP responds saying that there has been arguments made that there needs to be consultation with right wing, pro trump, pro-israel students. TP says this makes it seem as though consultation with certain Iranian students is privileged over others with different beliefs and it is a bit of a stretch to just talk about the regime and not the US alliance.

EC clarifies that she meant consultation should occur not just with Iranian students that support the bombing, but Iranian students on all sides. EC thinks that consultation on either side of views was not enough to get a holistic picture of what is occurring and what Iranian students feel on this. EC thinks that if the Guild puts this statement out that has not been properly considered, researched or consulted by the right people then the Guild may be at risk of misrepresenting the situation.

The vote on the procedural motion to invite Rojin to speak fails.

The motion passes.

14. MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)

15. GENERAL BUSINESS

OB makes a note that the election regulations will be coming to the April council and wants to make everyone aware ahead of time. Additionally, OB has investigated into some education for Guild councillors particularly as they go about motions on representation. Currently OB has looked into anti-semitism and islamophobia training and if there is any other training anyone would like to suggest or add please let OB know. Otherwise, he will schedule and organise a time for people to attend this training around issues that are relevant today.

JW mentions to keep an eye out for some communication from IR regarding council bonding.

BM mentions that another opportunity for bonding is through Guild social sport. If anyone would like to get involved and play some netball, all are welcome!



RS raises again a discussion about what activism means to this Guild and notes that the Guild is not visible enough on social issues. RS wants to ensure that advocacy is not happening behind closed doors and that the Guild is demonstrating an awareness on issues like higher education and other issues that need attention and action.

JS says that there is a roundtable on Tuesday from 6-7 and everyone should come along.

TP thinks it is shameful that the Guild that campaigns in elections as a pro-Palestine left wing don't actually do anything to show support or take any action.

OB feels that what happened to the suggested amendment to 13.8 was a bit misrepresented and clarifies that he did not support it being added on to the iran motion but equally there was no motion put to council supporting it in its own right and that it may be placed elsewhere, just not in combination with the above Iran motion.

TP responds saying that he understands OB;s point of it being a substantively different point when it is on its own, but he still believes it didn't feel right to reject in combination with the motion as it is still somewhat relevant and TP still thinks the Guild would not fully support the Friends of Palestine protest anyways.

BM clarifies that he said it wasn't relevant to the motion not that the Guild should ignore protests completely through the Guild's position as a whole.

RB agrees with what RS said and thinks it is very important that we raise more awareness on actual issues rather than expecting students to do their own research. Rb notes that people come here for an education and should have relevant resources they have access to which helps them know what is happening in the world rather than the Guild saying you should, or have to support this.

ZH mentions that the welfare break should be a welfare break for everyone and it is expected that opinions are not shared during that time so people can have moment to themselves before re-entering discussions. ZH suggests that if observers have something they want to be brought up they can politely bring it to a councillor who can raise it in the appropriate time rather than during the welfare break, to ensure everyone is mentally prepared to continue discussion again.

RS reiterates that professional conduct should be maintained during Guild Council meetings.



XA recognises that everyone in the room is from a diverse range of clubs and FACSOC's and wanted to ask everyone for feedback about PROSH and opens the floor to any opinions of what went well or what could be improved. XA adds that he would be curious to hear about Guild councillor attendance at PROSH as it is the longest tradition and one of the biggest event the Guild runs so wants to hear what anyone has to say.

TW thanks the College for their involvement and believes there was the highest college attendance recorded so far, and thanks XA for helping organise Sober marshalls for colleges and being so understanding with the colleges.

RS attended PROSH with Amnesty International and thought that the decisions made about proshession were good and made it more accessible even though it may have been smaller than previous years. RS thinks students sometimes get upset with the location they get given but it is difficult to communicate that and avoid that.

DT says PROSH went really well and suggests that the only thing he felt could be improved was the bus trips back to university.

XA says they reached out to transperth about it and usually the buses handle it well but with the increase in numbers there was a bit more trouble.

RB mentions that she went with Desi and that all the students had a great time. RB thanks XA and Hannah again as it was such a well done and run event and everyone had positive feedback. RB also would love to know any feedback on the event so it can be discussed in the next marketing and publications meeting.

ZR gives a huge thank you and shoutout to XA and Hannah again especially after having a record breaking year for attendance and also raising a huge amount of money.

HW adds that XA did a great job.

XA says all the official photography from PROSH will hopefully be out soon.

16. CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for **6pm Wednesday April 29th 2026**. Please contact the Guild General Secretary (secretary@guild.uwa.edu.au) with apologies or proxies. If



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Guild Council Minutes
113th Guild Council
Wednesday 25th March 2026
Guild Council Room @ 6:00pm

unable to attend, please advise which dates you are available to reschedule if a quorum cannot be met.