# Guild Council Meeting Minutes March 25, 2015

#### 1.0 WELCOME AND OPENING

Emma welcomed all Councillors, directors and proxies and acknowledged that UWA is situated on Nyoongar land. She paid her respects to Nyoongar elders past and present, and acknowledged the Nyoongar people remain the spiritual and cultural custodians of their land and that they continue to practice their beliefs, languages, values and knowledge.

#### 1.1 Attendance

Lizzy O'Shea (Guild President), Jesse Martino (Secretary), Thomas Beyer (Ed Council President), Charles Viska (PAC President), Nevin Jayawardena (SOC President), Emma Boogaerdt (Women's Officer & Chair), Sean Matjeraie (ISS), Ruby Blakeway (Queer Officer), Ellen Cohen (Queer Officer), Maddie Mulholland (Senate Representative), Olivia Jo (OGC), Emma Norton (OGC), Dave Thomson (OGC), Jesse Martino (OGC), Kieran Natawala (OGC), Cameron Payne (OGC), Cale Black (OGC), Alex Hamilton (OGC), Aiden Depiazzi (OGC).

# 1.2 Apologies

Lara Bromfield (Sports Representative).

# 1.3 Proxies

Jack Looby (for Ashleigh Kotula), Ben Manifold (for Lucy Moyle), Brad Forbes (for Rida Malik), David Cann (Carlo Guaia), Maddie Mulholland (for Vikraman Selvaraja), Rebecca Didcoe (for Liam Staltari), Thomas Coltrona (for Jessica Cockerill).

#### 1.4 Observers

None.

# 2.0 DECLARATIONS OF POTENTIAL OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

# 3.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

# 3.1 Guild Council Meeting 25th February 2015

Approved via circular.

#### 4.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### 5.0 DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Emma moved a procedural motion to elect Tony as returning officer for the committee member elections. Motion carried.

Lizzy moved a procedural motion that we distribute the ballots now so that councilors can read over the names. Motion carried.

## 5.1 Managing Director's Report

The MD first passed comment on the status of Subway and Boost. He said that the leases have been sent to both parties, and have come back and have gone through the university. Subway has received university approval.

The Guild should have the leases from both parties very soon, thus securing them to come onto campus. We will hopefully see the construction start over the mid year break. We have proposed two businesses cases. Firstly, for Nedlands café which needs a compliance upgrade as part of the catering strategy. He stated that he would discuss the Hackett business case later on. He also had a meeting with KPMG for external auditing purposes, and they will be coming to the Guild in quarter three to do auditing checks. He also added that he had asked for a standard item for committee meetings to be the health and safety of staff.

#### 5.2 Finance Report

Report as tabled. Mutya said that the savings of the Guild have been promising. The Guild have true savings of approximately \$50 000. However, we should see additional expense coming in at the end of March and beginning of April.

#### 5.3 Catering Director's Report

Report as tabled. Ken said that there appears to be a soft pattern in sales, lower than in previous years. However, sales have been higher than budgeted in the last two months, and operational expenses have been carrying a variance of \$35 000 however that is due to timing.

The Tavern has been carrying additional expense in the form of manager's sick leave. In March, there has been a soft pattern of selling, which underscores the trading result for the month.

# 5.4 Director of Student Services' Report

Chloe said that there has been a very busy start to the year in terms of events - orientation, club carnival, and Returners' week have all had good turnouts. We have received a favourable email from liquor enforcement highlighting our positive changes to minimize harm to students. She also said that the Guild has a new Events Officer that will be starting at the end of the month.

Chloe added that the Guild now have 65 associate members, which is the highest it has ever been. Associate members receive discounts from guild catering outlets.

## 5.5 Director of Corporate Services' Report

Mutya said that the Guild is undergoing a processes evaluation. That is, the Guild is reviewing its reviewing internal controls and financial processes. In addition, the Guild is utilizing two new team members, a VSO and a junior accountant.

Further, the Guild is updating its processes with regard to corporate banking for clubs. Additional training and discussions with club banking will be happening in two weeks from now. The Guild has signed up five clubs to trial this procedure. Finally, Mutya said that there have been lots of ongoing

projects that are near completion, and the evaluation of the current financial system will be the next project for corporate services.

Emma moved a motion to accept all Directors' Reports. Motion carried.

Emma moved a procedural motion to suspend standing orders for a three-minute recess to allow councillors to fill out their ballots and hand them to the returning officer. Motion carried.

Emma moved a procedural motion to move to item 8.1 and 8.3 first as they directly relate to the Director's. Motion carried.

#### 6.0 REPORTS

#### 6.1 Guild President

Report as tabled. Ernst & Young completed a functional review of the university last year. The university wanted student leadership to know, and thus this is the reason for the update. EY highlighted nine areas where the university could improve how they function, become more efficient and increase their revenue. Firstly, they said improving IT enablement would allow the other improvements to flow on, such as stripping back websites and utilising one portal that all students can access. Secondly, student services currently sits within a number of areas, however this could be streamlined. Lizzy flagged the concern that this could lead to a loss of specialisation.

Lizzy also flagged that she received a positive email regarding guild events on campus that she attached to her report.

#### 6.2 Vice-President

Report as tabled.

# 6.3 Secretary

Report as tabled. Jesse added that the Guild has updated how they administer emergency loans through Student Assist, and asked councillors to refer to his report, which outlines the structure of the new system.

## 6.4 Treasurer

Report as tabled.

#### 6.5 Education Council President

Report as tabled. The National Day of Action (NDA) was very successful, managed to fill two buses.

## 6.6 Public Affairs Council President

Report as tabled. Charlie flagged that Poems on Oak was a success.

# 6.7 Societies Council President

Report as tabled.

# 6.8 Women's Department

Report as tabled.

# 6.9 Welfare Department

Report as tabled.

## 6.10 Environment Department

Report as tabled.

#### 6.11 International Student Services

Report as tabled. Sean added that their first event sold out in 12 minutes.

#### 6.12 Queer Department

Report as tabled.

## 6.13 Guild Sports Representative

No report submitted.

# 6.14 Postgraduate Students' Association

Report as tabled.

#### 6.15 Residential Students' Department

No report submitted.

#### **6.16 WASAC**

No report submitted. Torey highlighted that WASAC sits under the school of Indigenous Studies. They are hosting two big events - Marnda Week and the National Indigenous Tertiary Student Games. If anyone would like to help out, send him an email.

# 6.17 UWA Sports Council

No report submitted.

#### 7.0 QUESTION TIME

Dave asked whether the women's breakfast had a good turn out of all types of people, or just left-wing minded people due to comments made on Facebook prior to the event?

Emma said the breakfast had a really good turn out, sold more tickets than expected and had to expand capacity as a consequence. People from all political backgrounds/none came to the breakfast.. There were lots of men there including a man from the liberal party. She said there was no reason for people to not come to her events due to something they read on social media. The Chief scientist of WA, a corporate lawyer and domestic violence campaigner were the speakers, and they were not politically aligned. It was a very successful event.

Emma said that the emergency loans system sounds like it is now going to be harder to receive an emergency loan.

Jesse said that casual staff in the student centre are unable to cross-reference student information with student data as they don't have access to the information. The process will become more flexible and faster for students to receive an emergency loan.

Emma asked whether there would be a delay.

Jesse said will not take any longer for students to receive the emergency loan, the casual staff will refer students to student assist immediately, there will be no delay.

Emma said would we oppose staff sackings and support the position of the NTEU if the audit from EY suggested this and the university supported it?

Lizzy said that we would support the decisions of the NTEU. If the university is moving staff around and people are being consulted that's fine. We will oppose large displacements of staff that are providing core education to students.

Emma said to Torey that there have been lots of protests regarding the destruction of Aboriginal communities by the Liberal government; do you have any plans to do anything about this on campus this year?

Torey said that everyone has a strong stance on this issue, but he is not going to use it to anyone's political advantage but as an educational tool. WASAC are going to have a panel discussion during Marnda week discussing this topic.

Aiden asked would Lizzy oppose reductions on staff numbers if the university's strategic advisors said that these staff are not contributing or adding any value to the university?

Lizzy said she would not take a stance against anything without consulting guild council. Lizzy said that she would like to be informed. She is concerned about staff being cut if it is poorly managed, and don't want them to be replaced by contractors externally, or if they are cut for no reason. However, she will support NTEU actions.

Aiden asked Lizzy whether she is interested in having the student fees maximised for the value of return we receive as students? If we can pay someone to do the same thing for cheaper, isn't that better for students?

Lizzy said if the university wanted to put all courses online because it was cheaper, I would oppose that – it's the same thing. That is, it is cheaper and more efficient but not better for students.

Aiden said the university has hired a strategy and an operations consultant to tell the university what it could be doing better. One of those is how it allocates its staff. The Guild can't take a no-staff cuts position to this, as our responsibility is to represent the interests of students?

# 8.0 MOTIONS ON NOTICE

**8.1** That Council endorses the 2014 Audited Accounts of the UWA Student Guild. *Moved: Lizzy O'Shea; Seconded: Ashleigh Kotula.* 

Lizzy stated that the accounts have been circulated and that they are looking strong.

Mutya stated that in 2014, the Guild reported a positive income of approximately \$144 000. The sale of goods was \$600 000 higher than in previous years, and thus profit is also higher. However, finance income has decreased significantly year to year. This is due to the fact that last year the timing of investments was towards the end of the year.

This year has shown a positive cash flow from operating activities, which is very beneficial. Although, the Guild is showing negative cash flow altogether in 2014 due to investments the Guild made through its capital expenditure.

Tony has stated that the set of accounts are positive and the Guild have their accounts in good shape. He says that the next step is to submit the audit to the risk and audit committee, then it is required to be passed at Senate.

The motion was put. Motion 8.1 passed unanimously.

**8.2** That Council approves the Business Case for Hackett Café.

Moved: Lizzy O'Shea; Seconded: Ashleigh Kotula.

Lizzy said that the case has come through the Strategic Resources Committee. The café requires a compliance upgrade and refurbishment. The refurbishment will looks at compliance with the kitchen and servicing area, new furniture, new paint on walls, and a review on what we offer regarding food. A relaunch of the Guild brand will also be a very positive thing.

Tony said that we have to do a Hackett compliance upgrade as it is in a prime real estate location, meaning the Guild should be maximizing this as a key flagship for the catering division. The staff in semester 2 will have a new uniform and there will be a variety of changes to products, packaging and the brand.

Ruby said that students use Hackett as a study zone, has this been taken into account with the renovations?

Lizzy said that we want more people to hang out there and sit down, and eating whilst people study is a reason why some people go there. In addition, she is not concerned about too many people going there, as this will make catering more sustainable. She also had a meeting with the Vice-Chancellor to talk about this issue.

Charlie asked if the catering and tavern committee will be looking at the actual menu of Hackett?

Ken said that the menu changes will follow the renovations and will push for better cutlery, coffee and food.

Dave asked whether there was a plan to improve the quality of the floor, as it is unsafe and a hazard to students.

Ken said yes, there is a plan to improve the floor, however it won't be re-laid.

Emma asked why renovate the tables when the food is poor and needs to be improved?

Lizzy said that the Guild is improving food. She said that they are looking at a range of food. For example, Nedlands exclusively sells only specific types of food. Lizzy also said that the Guild has done a burst of surveys in the outlets with tablets that were outlet specific. The satisfaction quality of coffee was pretty good, however we will get a report on this and will act accordingly if we find specific issues with Hackett. Its over 60% for satisfaction overall.

Tony said that there is a perception that Guild food is poor. The outlets must cater for 20,000 students and hold a large amount of expectation and quality whilst also providing discounts to students. We need to satisfy lots of people from a diverse background.

Aiden stated that Hackett hall is quite expensive for external events. Given area we're in a competitive area, there are a lot of competing venues; does the Guild need to have a look at this in terms of price?

Tony said that from an external organization view, the price of the good seem quite high. Chloe is working on a team, which looks at how we book our guild precinct venues. She is engaging in discussions about how the guild catering business can fill the niche gap in the market as well as expand to external events and make more money out of it – how we can provide better opportunities and maximize space.

Lizzy said that the purpose of making money from catering is to use it to improve services to students, fund departments and collective, rather than exploiting students.

Dave asked what the capacity is for holding events and will this renovation impact this number?

Ken said no. Lizzy said that all the furniture will be able to be moved. This furniture can be moved to Nedlands café, which is a positive.

Tom asked whether there are any sustainability initiatives included in the business plan?

Tony said that there will be recycling in all of the outlets. Someone will be coming in to do a sustainability audit after the Easter break for Hackett, and will be providing feedback to the Guild.

Emma asked whether there is going to be a review into the condition of staff in the cafes?

Tony said that the health and safety of staff is a key priority. The guild has two difference risk and health requirements that must be upheld. Health and safety will be included in the human resources strategy this year.

Emma moved a procedural motion to move this motion to a vote. Motion carried.

The motion was put. **Motion 8.2 passed unanimously.** 

**8.3** That Council approves the Business Case for Nedlands Café for compliance requirements for the City of Nedlands.

Moved: Lizzy O'Shea; Seconded: Ashleigh Kotula.

Lizzy said that the Guild needs to do a compliance upgrade for Nedlands café. It has been a long time coming and we need to meet their deadlines to do this. She said we are looking to improve the outlet itself, a bit run down regarding quality, and has been neglected. We have been receiving outlet specific feedback about food that we can implement immediately, which is very positive.

Tony said that the upgrade to Nedlands in the coming months will be make the front façade look better. The Guild will address the issue regarding food. Also, Jessica will look to put some environmentally friendly plants out the front for sustainability reasons.

Cale said that he can attest that Nedlands café is in dyer need of a compliance upgrade, and is thus in strong support of this motion. He took survey results last wee and listened to students as the faculty society President at ALVA. He thinks this will be a positive result for student engagement on campus.

The motion was put. Motion 8.3 passed unanimously.

**8.4** That the UWA Student Guild condemns the Criminal Code Amendment (Prevention of Lawful Activity) Bill 2015, which is currently before State Parliament.

Moved: Thomas Beyer; Seconded: Lizzy O'Shea.

Emma moved a procedural motion to limit speaking time to two minutes. Motion carried.

Tom said that this bill changes to protest laws in Australia. It was originally brought in to deal with thumb clamps, however it is poorly written and very broad in its terms. For example, in the bill, you can go to ail for 12 month and receive a \$12 000 fine without aggravating circumstances if you interrupt any lawful activity through your protest. If we were to condemn this bill, we would join a variety of groups who also oppose it, such as the Law Society of Western Australia.

Lizzy said that she is seeking council to approve the condemnation of this bill. It is important that people have their rights to be able to peacefully protest. In addition, anyone wanting to protest would be deterred by this bill. Lost of students at the university are involved in student activism on and off campus, and as a student union and representative body we should use our voice to oppose it.

Emma asked if councillors had any questions of clarification.

Aiden said why should council oppose the whole bill instead of the sections Tom doesn't like?

Tom said that the bill is part in parcel.

Aiden went over what you need to be doing in order to e liable to be arrested under this bill. Firstly, you need to be using physical force, or the creation of a physical barrier, or a risk of injury to a person or damaged property. He asked why is Tom interested in supporting this to prevent lawful activity from going ahead? He said that none of the examples Tom provided were relevant to what is being covered in the bill. Peaceful protest is already protected under this bill.

Rebecca said that she had a conversation with the Police minister and he said that this bill is covering the more specific things involved in protests. For example, preventing people using thumb locks that require a specialised technician to come out and remove them.

Alex said that she has talked to a number of interest group involved and a number of members of Parliament and they are not in support of this bill. The bill completely reverses the onus of proof onto the accused. If people are protesting violently they are already covered under the law. This bill is attempting to impede on people's rights to protest peacefully. As we are an organisation that needs to right to protest, we should be condemning this bill, as we are a student union.

Lizzy said that the document is very broad in its terms. She would encourage the government to write a more specific bill.

Tom said that the bill reverses the onus of proof on the accused. Such that you can drive past a gate with a chain and this can prevent lawful activity. The onus of proof is on the driver to prove that e wasn't going to use the chain to attach himself onto a coal mine.

Emma said that this bill would be used against Indigenous communities who have been attacked violently by the police numerous times in the last two weeks. They brought this bill because they are worried about the outbreak of protests that have occurred in the last few weeks. People should see this as a serious attack on the right to assemble, democratic rights and freedom of speech.

Jack said that any attempt by any government to restrict rights needs to be justified very strongly. He said that he hasn't seen any argument that a problem needs to be addressed with this legislation. We need no further laws restricting our ability to protest.

Aiden said that the Solicitor General's submission to cabinet, which was published on Monday, rules out any idea that the onus of proof was being reversed in this bill. He also said that police now have the power to arrest someone on the suspicion that they are about to commit unlawful activity – this already exists. Unless you can provide some sort of reason in a court, you are liable of having committed a crime. he provided an example of where it is already evident in the criminal justice system.

The motion was put. Motion 8.4 passed.

# **8.5** That Council:

- Condemns anti-Semitic behaviour directed at Jewish students in Australia;
- Recognises the right of all Jewish students to equal treatment by universities and their staff;
- Join the Australasian Union of Jewish Students (AUJS) in calling on the University of Sydney to dismiss Associate Professor Jake Lynch for his notorious anti-Semitic behaviour prior to and during the disruption of a lecture given by Richard Kemp CBE on 11 March 2015.

Moved: Aiden Depiazzi; Seconded: Liam Staltari.

Emma moved a procedural motion to limit debate to 2 minutes per speaker. Motion carried.

Aiden provided some context to the motion. He said that the Australasian Union of Jewish Students

(AUJS) have launched a campaign to call on the university of Sydney to dismiss associate professor Jake Lynch. This was because he was photographed waiving money in the face of a Jewish student after a lecture he delivered. He noted that there has been an increase in anti-Semitism on campus. In addition, Jake Lynch refused to sign a recommendation for a scholarship for a Jewish student on the basis that he is an Israeli. Aiden then circulated a letter from Natasha who is involved in the Australasian Union of Jewish Students (AUJS) and she has asked council to endorse their campaign. That is, calling on University of Sydney to dismiss the professor and provide support for the right of Jewish students to be treated equitably and fairly on campus.

Aiden tabled a document that is included as attachment 8.5.2 at the end of this document.

Tom asked whether there was an ongoing investigation into the incident by the University of Sydney?

Aiden said that if there was, when a body investigates its staff they do not publish this information, so there is no way of knowing.

Dave asked whether it is possible to vote separately on these dot points?

Emma said that any member of council could move an amendment. One can move to separate or group motions together, it is up to members of council to decide.

Lizzy O'Shea moved a procedural motion to split motion 8.5 into motions 8.5.1. and 8.5.2. **Procedural motion carried.** 

Lizzy said that she feels much more comfortable splitting the motions. The first two motions are a stance that the Guild already holds. The second is condemning a particular action. Some people might disagree with the second part, however the majority of people condemn racism on campus.

Aiden said that that ORJIS, as the representative body of Jewish students would be disappointed if we don't take a stance on this issue, as it is very important to them at this time.

Alex said that Aiden is putting people in a position that they mist vote in a particular way. Sydney University is undertaking an investigation, so why would one comment on something without finding out the resolution to the investigation.

Emma tabled a document that is included as attachment 8.5.1 at the end of this document.

Lizzy O'Shea moved a procedural motion to split motion 8.5 into motions 8.5.1. and 8.5.2. **Procedural motion carried.** 

#### 8.5.1 That Council:

- Condemns anti-Semitic behaviour directed at Jewish students in Australia;
- Recognises the right of all Jewish students to equal treatment by universities and their staff;
   Moved: Aiden Depiazzi; Seconded: Liam Staltari.

Tom said that Guild policy already completely endorses anything that this motion might suggest.

Emma said that it was very manipulative to put these motions together.

The motion was put. Motion 8.5.1 was passed unanimously.

## 8.5.2 That Council:

 Join the Australasian Union of Jewish Students (AUJS) in calling on the University of Sydney to dismiss Associate Professor Jake Lynch for his notorious anti-Semitic behaviour prior to and during the disruption of a lecture given by Richard Kemp CBE on 11 March 2015.
 Moved: Aiden Depiazzi; Seconded: Liam Staltari. Aiden said that not wanting to comment on something because one wants to wait for the results of an investigation is an excuse to not take a particular stance on something. There is documentation of the behaviour of the Professor on camera, so he urges council to take a stance on this issue and sign the petition, as it is an issue that Jewish students are facing.

Tom said that we would like to presume someone as innocent. There is an ongoing investigation at the University of Sydney, we should not be pre-empting the investigation and taking a stance on the issue. This incident does not affect students at UWA when we have already condemned anti-Semitic behaviour.

Emma said that student representatives who were there at Sydney University said that Professor Lynch said that he was merely expressing a totally legitimate political viewpoint that is against the state of Israel and their treatment of the Palestinian people, not against the treatment of Jewish students.

Lizzy said that it is not within the scope of council to condemn something whereby there is still an investigation into it. In an ongoing staff misconduct case, if there has been misconduct, he will be appropriately sanctioned through that process already.

Rebecca said that there is a video that shows Jake Lynch's involvement in the misconduct, dhows that he is actively involved in this process.

Emma moved a procedural motion to have one more speaker for the motion and one more speaker against. Motion carried.

Cameron said that Tom alleged that during the 2013 guild election, he supported racist articles. Didn't suggest this, suggested that there was proper protocols and methods in place to prevent these articles from being published. He didn't realise they were offensive until after he had read Prosh, but accept they were unacceptable and offensive.

Lizzy said that the processes for reviewing Prosh were not there in 2013. Now we have all of the charities, WASAC and other people to review Prosh

The motion was put. Motion 8.5 failed.

**8.6** That Council approves the Queer Department Rules, as attached, for inclusion in the Guild Statute Book, effective immediately.

Moved: Ruby Blakeway; Seconded: Emma Boogaerdt.

Ruby said that the Queer Department rules were lost, so the department wrote up new rules and governance has passed them. They were also passed by the queer collective unanimously at their general meeting.

Emma said the rules were drafted during Owen's term, but were passed through Governance during Emma's term.

The motion was put. Motion 8.7 passed unanimously.

**8.7** That Council approves the changes to the Public Affair Council affiliation rules. *Moved: Charlie Viska; Seconded: Nevin Jayawardena.* 

Charlie said that the rules were approved at the last PAC meeting. There are three reasons for these rules. Firstly, there is no definition of what a PAC club is, and this is important to provide. The rules provide a guideline for clubs looking to affiliate, as some clubs were unsure. The rules are also a step in raising the profile of PAC and providing a PAC identity. He also added that all the current clubs fit under this category.

The motion was put. Motion 8.7 passed unanimously.

# 9.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Lizzy said that Prosh is coming up, and she encourages all councillors to be Marshalls. Maddie added that Marshalls are responsible, sober, follow the code of conduct and keep everyone safe. Maddie will allocate you to a faculty society or another student group. Maddie also commented about the fact that the Guild does not support racism, which is stipulated in the Guild Policy Book.

# 10.0 CLOSE / NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 6.00pm. Please contact the Guild Secretary (secretary@guild.uwa.edu.au) with apologies or proxies. All office bearers will be available from 5.30pm. If unable to attend, please advise which dates you are available to reschedule if a quorum cannot be met.