

Guild Council Meeting Minutes December 1, 2015

1.0 WELCOME AND OPENING

Maddie Mulholland formally opened the meeting by recognizing that the Guild Council was meeting on Nyoongar land, that Guild Council paid its respects to elders past and present and acknowledged that the Nyoongar people continue to practice their traditions, beliefs, values and customs.

1.1 Attendance

Maddie Mulholland (Guild President), Tom Burke (Treasurer), Jack Looby (SOC President), Emma Boogaerdt (Education Council President), Megan Lee (Public Affairs Council President), Dennis Venning (Environment Officer), Peter Derbyshire (PSA President), Laura Mwiragua (Women's Affairs Officer), Emily Law (Welfare Officer), Reece Gherardi (Queer Officer), Charlie Viska (Vice President), Michael Kabondo (Secretary), Jesse Martino (OGC), Nick Brown (OGC), Ben Martin (OGC), Stephanie Munro (OGC), Chad Bensky (OGC), Shyaam Patel (RSD President), Lucy Moyle (OGC) and Brad Forbes (OGC).

1.2 Apologies

None.

1.3 Proxies

Dennis Venning (for Jacky Chiang), Sean Matjeraie (for Kenneth Foo), Samuel Shenton (for Julian Coleman), Emily Law (for Jess Porter-Langson), Jonathan Hieer (for Tyson McEwan) and George Uy (for Joanne Lim).

1.4 Observers

None.

1.5 Absent

Cass Greenwell (UWA Sports Council President and Lizzy O'Shea (Immediate Past President).

2.0 ELECTIONS

2.1 Chair

Lucy Moyle was nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position. Maddie declared Lucy elected.

Maddie handed the Chair over to Lucy.

2.2 Vice President

Charlie Viska was nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position. Lucy declared Charlie elected.

2.3 Secretary

Michael Kabondo was nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position. Lucy declared Michael elected.

2.4 Strategic Resources Committee (Two positions to fill – one of whom must be a woman)

Julian Coleman and Emma Boogaerdt were nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position. Lucy declared Julian Coleman & Emma Boogaerdt elected.

2.5 Catering & Tavern Committee (Three positions to fill – one of whom must be a woman)

Tom Burke was nominated as the member of Guild Executive on the committee by Maddie Mulholland.

Dennis Venning, Chad Bensky and Jess Porter-Langson were nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position.

Lucy declared Dennis Venning, Chad Bensky and Jess Porter-Langson elected.

Tom Burke was nominated for the Chair of Catering by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position. Lucy declared Tom elected.

Student Services Committee (Two positions to fill – on of whom must be a woman) 2.6

Michael Kabondo was nominated as the member of Guild Executive on the committee by Maddie Mulholland.

Megan Lee & Jacky Chiang were nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position. Lucy declared Megan Lee & Jacky Chiang elected.

Michael Kabondo was nominated for the Chair of Student Services Committee by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position.

Lucy declared Michael elected.

2.7 Corporate Services Committee (Three positons to fill – one of whom must be a woman)

Charlie Viska was nominated as the member of Guild Executive on the committee by Maddie Mulholland.

Ben Martin, Joanne Lim and Brad Forbes were nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position.

Ben Martin, Joanne Lim and Brad Forbes elected.

Charlie Viska was nominated for the Chair of Corporate Services Committee by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position.

Lucy declared Charlie elected.

2.7 Governance Committee (Three positions to fill – one of whom must be a woman)

Emma Boogaerdt, Chad Bensky and Jack Looby were nominated by Maddie Mulholland. Ben Martin nominated himself. Lucy declared Emma as the sole female nominee elected.

Maddie Mulholland moved a procedural motion to conduct voting at the end of the meeting. Motion was passed unanimously.

Ben moved a procedural motion that he, Jack and Chad be given 1 minute to speak prior to voting, in order to outline why they wished to be elected on the Governance Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Lucy moved a motion that Chloe Jackson and Chloe Keller be accepted as the returning officers for the election at the end of the meeting. Motion was passed unanimously.

Immediately prior to voting, the nominees spoke:

Chad said he believes in order for an organisation to function and really get its agenda across it needs institutions that are well planned, accountable and examined annually. He is very passionate about governance. In his role on Arts Union he's been very involved in re-writing that constitution and writing this year's electoral regulations. Fundamentally even if an organisation's policies are correct, they need for them to have legitimacy to reach the body, you need an organisation to be seen as accountable and properly structured. He's really excited and would like to be part of working on the Policy Book this year.

Jack stated two things made him suitable for the role. Firstly, he has experience with both Guild and SOC regulations. Secondly, in his role as SOC secretary, it has given him an insight of how to go about policies and what is involved in making changes. If elected, he is excited to see the Policy Book become a real thing and something that is useful to the entirety as well as to help clubs and departments understand what is mandated.

Ben said his nomination was based on the precedence of having both major sides of politics on the committee. He says it is important to have both sides working together on regulations, such as Election Regulations.

Lucy allowed questions from the floor.

Dennis asked Jack how many club reports did he read last year?

Jack said he did a count three months ago, and it was about 63 and since then more. Some of them are very easy and some are corporate, really just a broad spectrum of reports.

Emma stated that with the regulations having to pass through Guild Council already and being on the previous Chair of the Governance committee, how annoying it can get to have members who are not committed or doing the work. She then asked Ben to outline, why he specifically want the role?

Ben said, it is important to have bipartisanship on the committee and he is more than happy to put in the work required. The role itself with regulations and the overarching body of the Guild, it is important to have two sides of the story. He does get concerned when three councillors who are of the same ticket get elected to the committee, which hasn't been done before.

Laura asked Ben what relevant experience he had to bring to the committee?

Ben said he wrote the politics club constitution and also works with the Liberal Party often. He works well with regulations, and over the course of Guild elections he worked closely with Liam and the Guild and electoral regulations.

Voting was conducted by secret ballot.

Lucy declared Chad and Jack elected.

2.8 Welfare & Advocacy Committee (Three positions to fill – one of whom must be a woman)

Steph Munro, Reece Gherardi and Charlie Viska were nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position.

Ben noted that the Agenda specified there were only two positions. Maddie confirmed that the regulations were for three, and that she had made a mistake on the Agenda.

Lucy declared Steph, Reece and Charlie elected.

2.9 Equity & Diversity Committee (one position to fill)

Joanne Lim was nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position. Lucy declared Joanne Lim elected.

Laura Mwiragua was nominated for the Chair of Equity & Diversity Committee by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position.

Lucy declared Laura elected.

2.10 Volunteering & Community Engagement Committee (Two positions to fill – one of whom must be a woman)

Torey Rickerby & Emily Law were nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position. Lucy declared Torey and Emily elected.

Denisse Fierro was nominated for the Chair of Volunteering by Maddie Mulholland. Brad Forbes nominated Luke Andrews. Steph Munro nominated Jodie Koh.

Guild Council considered allowing a one minute speech per candidate, however it was decided that as the candidates were not present that would not be appropriate.

Voting conducted by secret ballot.

Lucy declared Denisse elected.

2.11 Discipline Committee (Three positions to fill – one whom must be female)

Jesse Martino, Steph Munro and Kenneth Foo were nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position.

Lucy declared Jesse, Steph and Kenneth elected.

2.12 Academic Board (Two positons to fill)

Charlie Viska and Jacky Chiang were nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position. Lucy declared Charlie and Jacky elected.

2.13 Personnel Board (One position to fill)

Jesse Martino was nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position. Lucy declared Jesse elected.

2.14 Enterprise Bargaining Agreement Committee (Two positions to fill – one of whom must be a woman)

Lucy Moyle and Jesse Martino were nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position. Lucy handed the Chair to Maddie.

Maddie declared Lucy and Jesse elected.

2.15 Joint Consultative Committee (two positions to fill, as per the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement)

Lucy Moyle and Jesse Martino were nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position. Lucy handed the Chair to Maddie.

Maddie declared Lucy and Jesse elected.

2.16 Tenancy Committee Chair (one position to fill)

Jesse Martino was nominated by Maddie Mulholland. There were no other nominations for the position.

3.0 MOTIONS ON NOTICE

3.1 That Guild Council appoints the Kate Prendergast and Hayden Dalziel as the Editors of Pelican Magazine 2016. Moved: Maddie Mulholland; Seconded: Megan Lee.

The motion was put. Motion3.1 passed unanimously.

Maddie said that she had circulated a motion she intended to move from the floor, however the motion had been passed at the last meeting of the 102nd Guild Council and did not need to be passed again. She revoked her motion.

- 3.2 That the UWA Student Guild:
 - (a) is opposed to the start-up scholarship being moved to a loan rather than a grant;
 - (b) recognizes that this is an attack on ordinary students' living standards and access to education;
 - (c) supports campaigns against the attacks, particularly those organised by the National Union of Students (NUS);
 - (d) will through all means necessary (e.g. all-student emails) inform students about these attacks, as well as organise an ongoing campaign against both Liberal and (potential) Labour governments around this specific attack.

Moved: Nick Brown; Seconded: Emma Boogaerdt

Nick said the information came out today or yesterday. Due to the nature of this the motion, it could not be on the agenda and it was appropriate for the motion to be brought up in the meeting.

Lucy judged the motion as one that because of its nature could not be placed on the agenda and moved a procedural motion that the motion be considered. Motion carried.

Nick said that the Liberal and Labor governments have both supported attacks to the student startup scholarships. A large amount of students in Australia live in poverty. The grant is useful for food, accommodation and books, this becomes a major attack when it is changed into a loan, causing students to have to pay for it (whether currently or later in life). It pushes ordinary students to possibly make the decision not to go to university - it's the added debt added to student's life that discourages students from pursuing studies at university. As the Guild we should stand up against the attacks for the students who we represent.

Emma said this type of scholarship is important. It gives students the ability to buy textbooks, feed themselves and pay rent. It is important to acknowledge that going to university is expensive, not just in the fees you pay but also in that you are giving up the opportunity to work and earn yourself a living. So this scholarship given out to students from low SES backgrounds in enabling them to access tertiary education. It's really shameful that both major parties have come out and are willing to cut them and shut the door on students that cannot afford Uni.

Dennis asked if the interest was added with HECS debt?

Nick said ves.

Dennis asked if it was like a bank loan?

Emma said no, you can't force people to take out loans.

Ben asked if Nick or Emma condemn the removal of the 10% discount on upfront fee payments?

Emma said she's undecided. She has not yet done much reading on the issue.

Ben asked, for either Emma or Nick to explain, why if students still had access to the funds it ensures that they don't have access to education and text books?

Nick responded by saying that similarly to deregulation, it is the same argument about the added debt and less of an incentive for people to study at university. This becomes like a wage cut. He believes the government should put more money into the education.

Chad asked if you support the HECS system as opposed to the free education system, what's the difference?

Emma said she had personal opinions on education costs.

Maddie responded by explaining that that kind of debt can be a deterrent to accessing education. If it's being put on HECS it would add over the three year course an extra \$6000 to the HECS, and for many people, especially those from a low SE background that could deter people from attending university altogether.

Lucy moved a procedural motion that the council moves into debate. Motion carried.

Jack said it is important to recognize that this is a step in the wrong direction and as a Guild of Undergraduates it's not in the best interest to be moving into that type of system. So, it is important that we are passing these type of motions. He does however have some reservations with the some of the wording in the motion, but if you look outside of the wording this is just saying that, these are the outcomes of the education system and these are the best for the people we are representing.

Tom started off by explaining what the scholarship is and what the changes mean for it. He wouldn't call it a "scholarship". He said what happens now is if you get Centrelink and you're a student, you get money at the beginning of each semester. Essentially what is happening is this money is being added to your HECS debt. He is not sure whether it is a good thing or not yet.

Ben said he's concerned about part (d) of the motion. He doesn't think it's wise to throw all of the Guild's resources to this campaign. He also said this scholarship is not treated as a scholarship but just like extra Centrelink money. He sees no issue of it transitioning into a HECS type situation and that's why he won't be supporting the motion.

Peter said this also targets postgraduate coursework students who also may receive these funds, and at a time when the University is trying to increase the number of postgraduate masters degrees, anything that discourages students from pursuing these studies is against the best interest of the university itself. A lot of postgraduate students teach as well, and only get money in concentrated moments. During these moments HECS is taken out which also affects living standards of postgraduate students throughout the year.

Charlie said he supports the motion because as a Guild he believes we have the duty to ensure we are fighting any barriers to education for any students. He thinks there is no reason in particular to why this scholarship specifically should be targeted.

Dennis said as a Council we are here to "foster all that helps in the advancement of learning and involvement of life". The cuts go against this statement, and as a Board it is our duty to do this.

Nick said he agreed with mostly what people said for the motion and wanted to emphasize that this is an attack to peoples living standards. \$1000 makes a difference especially with many students in Australia living below the poverty line. Like Dennis said, we have a duty to respond to the cuts against our education and living standards as students.

The motion was put. Motion 3.2 passed.

For: Lucy Moyle, Maddie Mulholland, Charlie Viska, Jack Looby, George Uy, Peter Derbyshire, Emily Law, Nick Brown, Jesse Martino, Michael Kabondo, Dennis Venning (for Jacky Chiang), George Uy (for Joanne Lim), Megan Lee, Emma Boogaerdt, Laura Mwiragua.

Against: Ben Martin, Stephanie Munro, Brad Forbes, Tom Burke, Chad Bensky.

Abstention: Sean Matjeraie (for Kenneth Foo), Samuel Shenton (for Julian Coleman).

4.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Maddie said that Chloe Keller and Chloe Jackson had taken down the names of the elected committee members to organize mailing lists. Maddie said she hopes all committees will meet before Christmas.

Regarding email issues, Maddie asked members of Council to speak to Kelvin Lee, at ithelp-guild@uwa.edu.au for IT related questions, and kelvin.lee@guild.uwa.edu.au for other questions.

Maddie reminded Departments and Sub-Councils to complete their Finance Forms and pick up their keys if they are eligible to have keys.

Maddie asked members of Guild Council to confirm their contact details on the Guild Website were correctly listed and to contact her if there were issues

Maddie asked which Office Bearers had not received handovers and noted those who hadn't.

Maddie thanked members of the Council for attending the Induction Retreat and said the materials would be uploaded shortly.

Maddie mentioned a UWA engagement event, 10 Dec 2015, that Council had been invited to attend. She said she would circulate more information.

Maddie confirmed that Reports would not be required until the January meeting. Lucy said that OGCs will get space in the Agenda to report on projects.

5.0 CLOSE / NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held Wednesday 16th December at 6.00pm. This is the Budget Meeting. Please contact the Guild Secretary

nmediately prior to net.	a.edu.au) with an the meeting. If ur	able to attend	, please advise	which dates y	ou are available	e to reschedule,	if a quorum canr