

# UWA Student Guild Budget Report 2016

Tom Burke, 2016 Guild Treasurer

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# What is the Budget?

The Guild Budget is a summary of projected revenues and planned expenditures of the organisation. The Guild creates a budget before the start of each calendar year. The Budget is debated, amended and finally approved by Guild Council at a special meeting in December.

It is my pleasure as Guild Treasurer to present the 2016 Budget of the UWA Student Guild. This budget has been developed in consultation with the Managing Director of the Guild, the director of each department (Corporate Services, Student Services and Catering), the Guild President (Student Councils) and the Strategic Resources Committee.

This year there are major impacts on the Guild's income. Three prominent examples are the recent introduction of Subway and Boost, which will affect revenues in the Ref; the redevelopment of Reid Cafe, the closure of which will lead to loss of income; and a reduction in SSAF revenue due to a smaller-than-usual student cohort. Consequently, SRC have closely reviewed and mitigated superfluous expenditure, and considered ways of increasing revenue.

Things tend to cost money, so the Budget is determinative of the services the Guild offers, the funding it provides to clubs and facsocs, and the capital works and initiatives it carries out throughout the year. The Budget is also affected by the prices the Guild charges, particularly in its food and drink outlets, so part of the budget-making process involves determining price levels for the year.

# Summary of the 2016 Budget

Summary Item	2016 Budget	2015 Actual Figure (Predicted in Dec)	2015 Budget
Student Councils and Departments	(676,542)	(649,058.11)	(733,668.00)
Catering	581,284.67	269,928.36	389,996.00
Student Services	(1,136,198.01)	(1,005,978.45)	(1,078,686.00)
Corporate Services	954,620.28	2,129,538.68	1,270,720.00
Total	(276,835.06)	744,430.48	(151,638.00)

The budgeted deficit in 2015 was \$151,638.00. The actual figure in 2015 is forecast to be a surplus of \$744,430.48, but this was largely due to an unbudgeted one-off insurance payout of approximately \$850,000.

In a year of full student enrolments, the contributions from the SSAF would bring the Guild to break-even. Given this is not the case, we have accepted a deficit that allows us to continue to provide our high level of service, despite lower SSAF income.

# **Student Councils and Departments**

These are bodies run by students, for the benefit of students. Their activities include student representation, provision of services, funding and oversight of clubs and facsocs, and running events and initiatives. The Student Council budget did not change significantly in 2016. Each of these budgets have been developed based on the initiatives planned by the department and council in 2016, rather than previous expenditure or budget.

#### Albany Committee - \$3,000

The Albany Students' Association is the representative body for UWA students studying at the Albany campus. Its activities include social events and free yoga. The 2015 Budget was \$4,000, with \$1,778.18 expenditure. The Committee have plans for expanded events in 2016.

#### Education Council - \$4,600

The Education Council comprises the Education Committee and representatives from the FacSocs. Its role is to give students a voice on educational issues. The Education Council also administers grants to FacSocs, but these are contained in the Guild Council budget. The 2015 Budget was \$6,170, with \$5,679.96 expenditure. Activities have been consolidated for 2016.

#### Environment Department - \$4,940

The Environment Department advocates environmental preservation and sustainability within the Guild, and across the wider University. Its activities include lobbying, organising Envirofest, and running a number of projects including KeepCup Stalls and the Urban Orchard. The Budget for 2015 was \$5,000, with \$5,471.98 expenditure. The 2016 budget has been set in consideration of an external grant being received.

#### Guild Council - \$328,470

Student Council expenditure that does not fall into any department is included in the Guild Council budget. The 2015 Budget was \$407,796, with \$343,373.33 expenditure. This 2016 budget includes \$61,320 for Faculty Society Grants, an increase from \$61,000 in 2015.

This budget covers:

- ✓ Education Council Grants;
- ✓ Bad Debt (Club/FacSoc Overdrafts, Student Assist Loans);
- ✓ Cleaning & Utilities;
- ✓ Conferences (primarily NUS);
- ✓ Elections & Referenda;
- ✓ Insurance;
- ✓ Purchase of Minor Assets (eg. Honour Boards);
- ✓ Special Projects;
- ✓ Affiliation Expenses (NUS, CISA, CAPA, etc);
- ✓ Senate Dinner;
- ✓ Amenities;
- ✓ Training & Development;
- ✓ Depreciation; and
- ✓ Some other smaller costs.

#### International Students' Service - \$14,298

The ISS is the representative body for international students at UWA. Its activities include advocacy, and organising events for international students including Rottnest trips, sports outings, and Mini Spring Feast. ISS also publishes Lighthouse Magazine, and attends CISA conference. The 2015 Budget was \$15,000 with \$10,965.45 expenditure.

#### Mature Age Students' Association - \$2,225

The aim of MASA is to bring together mature age students from around the university. MASA organises social events such as Tavern lunches, coffee at Hackett, and drinks at the University Club. The 2015 Budget was \$2,500 with \$2,331.01 expenditure. The 2016 Budget will be sufficient to meet planned activities.

#### Pelican - \$28,428

Pelican is a free student newspaper published with the support of the UWA Guild. It is the second-oldest student newspaper in Australia, and its subjects range from campus news to politics to popular culture. The 2015 Budget was \$33,017 with \$35,394.86 expenditure in 2015. The 2016 budget reflects the removal of in-house cross-charging. The conference line item has been increased.

#### Post-Graduate Students' Association - \$81,800

PSA is the representative body for postgraduate students at UWA. Its activities include advocacy, providing core services to postgraduate students, providing grants, and running events including sundowners and writing sessions. The budget includes the honorarium extended to the PSA president. The 2015 Budget was \$72,986, with \$69,272.16 expenditure. The 2016 Budget is due to an increase in the awards and grants, publications budget, planned welfare and international student initiatives, decrease in conference costs and reconsideration of the PSA President's honorarium to top of a part-time APA to minimum wage (instead of a full-time APA).

#### Presidential Office - \$62,111

The expenditure of the Presidential Office includes the President's salary and other costs associated with her office, and her Special Projects budget. The 2015 Budget was \$34,955, with \$48,682.91 expenditure. The 2016 Budget reflects that \$26,000 worth of external grants are not anticipated, there is a small legislated increase to minimum wage payment to the President and we have introduced budgets for the Access Collective (\$1,000) and Ethnocultural Collective (\$1,000).

#### Public Affairs Council - \$16,550

The Public Affairs Council promotes community involvement and awareness at UWA. It collaborates with cultural and political clubs on campus, runs events and theme weeks, and provides grants and awards to affiliated clubs. The 2015 Budget was \$15,700 with \$13,814.53. The 2016 Budget allows for significant expansion of activities and grants.

#### Queer Department - \$3,450

The Queer department provides services and representation for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex, and queer students at UWA. It runs social events and theme weeks, attends conferences, and manages the Queer Department room as a safe space. The 2015 Budget was \$6,100, with \$4,952.85 expenditure. The 2016 Budget is decreased due to the Queer Collaborations Conference being held in Perth in 2016.

#### Residential Students' Department - \$7,675

The Residential Students' Department is the peak body for students living on campus in residential colleges. It runs social events, sporting events and debating, and acts as an advocate for those students. The 2015 Budget was \$7,000, with \$152.50 expenditure (where there was significant budgeting confusion). The 2016 Budget is reflective of the activities the RSD carries out.

#### Societies Council - \$100,350

The Societies Council is the peak body for all student-run affiliated clubs and societies at UWA. It provides grants, administrative services and training for societies, and runs events such as club carnivals and the PROSH Olympics. The 2015 Budget was \$104,560, with \$97,140 expenditure. The 2016 Budget is reflective of \$5,000 tenancy maintenance budget moving to the Guild's maintenance budget line in Corporate Services, and increases to expand the Club Carnival budget and grants fund.

#### Sports Department - \$3,000

The Sports Department is a new department of the UWA Guild. It will coordinate sporting events within the University. This budget has been introduced in 2016.

#### WASAC Committee - \$5,000

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students' Department works together with the Western Australian Student Aboriginal Corporation and the School of Indigenous Studies to develop the relationship between indigenous students, the rest of the student body, and the wider community. Its most prominent activity is hosting MARNDA Week. The 2015 Budget was \$6,000 with \$667.60 expenditure, due to receiving funding from the President's discretionary fund.

#### Welfare Department - \$3,300

The Welfare Department provides services to students to support their physical, mental and financial wellbeing. It runs free yoga and pilates, free breakfasts, and De-stress Days. The 2015 Budget was \$5,682, with \$4,684.08 expenditure. The 2016 Budget reflects the Pilates/Yoga budgets moving to Guild Events.

#### Women's Department - \$7,345

The Women's Department is dedicated to achieving gender equality at UWA and in the wider community. It also provides support for women at UWA. It runs events, publishes the Damsel magazine, attends NOWSA conference, and manages the Women's Room as a safe space. The 2015 Budget was \$6,600, with \$4,696.71 expenditure. The 2016 budget allows for expansion of activities.

Total	
2015 Budget:	\$733,668.00
2015 Expenditure:	\$649,058.11
2016 Budget:	\$676,542.00

## Catering

The Catering division of the Guild comprises the cafes, the Ref, the Tavern, food trucks, vending machines and functions. Catering runs as a business, with the simultaneous aims of providing value and service to students, and making a moderate profit to contribute to the Guild's other activities.

#### Price Adjustments and New Menus

The attitude taken towards Catering at UWA has changed in recent years. In the past, Catering sought to offer the same experience in every outlet, and the objective was to offer substantive meals at the lowest possible price points. This lead to a situation where food and drink at UWA remained cheap, but its quality gradually declined to the point where satisfaction was very low. The new approach is to offer a variety of different food and drink experiences at a number of different price points. As a result, some prices have only increased to match inflation, but others have increased by greater percentages in correspondence with increases in quality. Coffee and sushi are two prominent examples.

#### Reid Library Café Temporary Closure

The café in Reid library will be closed for renovation during first semester. Reid Café typically runs at a moderate profit, so this temporary closure will have a negative impact on Catering's bottom line. This will be partly alleviated by the creation of a pop-up café near the Reid Library steps.

#### Changes to The Ref

In 2015, the Guild finally brought Subway and Boost into the Ref. This was a huge win for students, resulting in more choice and reliable quality, as well as creating external competition for Guild-run food and drink outlets. These outlets pay rental income to the Guild; however, the increased competition meant that the Ref was forecast to make a substantial loss in 2016. As a result, significant changes have been made to the Guild-run outlets in the Ref. This should alleviate the losses to an acceptable level, at least in the short run.

#### The Tavern

The Tavern is undergoing big changes in 2016. Its new manager will be spearheading both structural changes such as the courtyard and interior renovations, as well as a new menu and new events and opportunities. The Tav's bottom line is expected to improve significantly over last year.

#### Functions

The Guild runs a Functions business that primarily caters UWA graduation ceremonies and on-campus events. This is a non-core service but is a profitable addition to the Guild's bottom line. This business will be undergoing staffing and promotional changes throughout 2016 so we foresee lower income.

## **Student Services**

The Student Services division encompasses the Guild's outward-facing staff-run services other than Catering. These include Creative and Design, Events, Marketing and Membership, Student assist, Volunteering.

## **Corporate Services**

The Corporate Services division comprises the Guild's inward-facing services. It also somewhat obscurely contains revenue sources such as investment income and the Guild's SSAF allocation. Corporate Services includes Administration, IT, Finance, Investments, Property Services, and the Guild's second hand bookshop.

# **Capital Works Budget**

The following amounts have been proposed to be paid out of the Guild's investment pool. Capital investments are important in order to keep our assets functional and profitable. These amounts will be earmarked from that investment pool, but do not necessarily have to be spent.

Capital Funds	2016 Budget
New Point of Sale System	\$150,000
Internal Tavern Refurbishment (Note: extra \$250,000 from SSAF Capex)	\$50,000
Tavern Electrical Circuit Board	\$50,000
Tavern Disability Access Toilet	\$40,000
Tavern Courtyard Fence Renovation	\$50,000
Guild Village Café Refurbishment	\$100,000
Dentistry Kiosk Refurbishment	\$80,000
Catering Equipment Upgrades	\$30,000
Bookshop Refurbishment	\$25,000
Central Wing, 2nd Floor Maintenance	\$50,000
Cameron Hall Maintenance	\$50,000
Guild Village Precinct Maintenance	\$40,000
Storage & BBQ Storage Construction	\$30,000
Total	\$745,000

# Conclusion

I would like to thank all members of Guild Council and Guild staff for their input on the 2016 Budget.

Guild Members who have any questions about the budget are welcome to direct them to me at treasurer@guild.uwa.edu.au.

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