



## 1. WELCOME AND OPENING

### 1.1. Attendance

Emma Mezger, Priyanka Sharma, Adam Elyousef, William Norrish, Joseph Chan, Eleanor White, Lucinda Thai-Le Tran, April Htun, Amitabh Jeganathan, Thomas Cotter, James Haley, Avery Wright, Sapphire Carter, Abdul Rahman Abdul Rahim, Viknash VM, Nicole McEwen, Elise Anthony, James Oakey, Marcus Lim, Lachlan McDonald, Luca Formaggio

### 1.2. Apologies

Jerry Mathias

### 1.3. Proxies

Nicole McEwen for Esa Chrulew  
Luca Formaggio for Jacob Cerin  
James Oakey for Franklin Lou  
Vaishnavi RN for Floretta Susilo  
Lucinda Thai-Le Tran for Chloe Kam  
Sapphire Carter for Omar Macintyre  
Priyanka Sharma for Jameson Thompson  
Avery Wright for Armand Ruba

### 1.4. Observers

Charles Fedor  
Meena Landage  
Aidan Mansfield  
Catherine Cheesman

### 1.5. Absent

Constantinos Toufexis  
Vaishnavi RN  
Prakhar Bhandari  
Lily Hayward  
Alkasim Ghanim  
Ridhima Vinay

## 2. DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

## 3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

None to confirm, deferred to next council.

## 4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

## 5. BUSINESS COMPLETED VIA CIRCULAR

## 6. DIRECTORS REPORTS

### 6.1. Managing Director

TG says elections have finished and congratulates those who got elected. We are travelling well all things considered despite operational restrictions due to COVID and appreciates the work put in largely by staff – noting some student departments have not been able to comply with restrictions. He criticizes the actions and storylines perpetuated by student politics citing recent Pelican Magazine articles covering falsehoods around the Guild's financial position and its impact on staff. Student Representatives on council are part of a board, making



decisions on behalf of the student body, and they need to be acting accordingly, not pandering to and promoting false ideas. The actions of students reflect poorly on the Guild and its reputation.

## 6.2. Finance

TG says that we are currently in a deficit of \$2218, miles away from what has been pushed during the Guild Elections. Speaking on behalf of Mutya, he highlights key areas to be wary of - legal costs associated with the SOCPAC and PSA regulations, grants are getting close to the allocated budget, RSD is \$17,000 over budget due to mismanagement from the department committee.

## 6.3. Commercial – as tabled

## 6.4. Student Services – as tabled

AE moves a procedural to go in-camera.

### **Procedural motion passes**

AE moves out of camera

## 7. QUESTION TIME – Directors Reports

### 8. STUDENT REPORTS

- 8.1. President – as read. EM thanks the RSD for making a public apology regarding rumours they perpetuated about the Guild's financial position and asks VR be held accountable, noting her absence at this meeting despite being entrusted with the Women's Department vote.
- 8.2. Vice President – not submitted.
- 8.3. General Secretary – as read. WN notes that he will be putting in an ongoing attendance record in upcoming reports, which was supposed to of been done throughout the year but was not done by the previous General Secretary. He says that he will be following up on people for missing reports, noting that there are some students that have been missing reports for a number of councils now.
- 8.4. Guild Chair – as tabled.
- 8.5. Education Council President – as tabled.
- 8.6. Societies Council President – as tabled.
- 8.7. Public Affairs Council President – not submitted.
- 8.8. WASAC Chair – not submitted.
- 8.9. Women's Officer – not submitted.
- 8.10. Welfare Officer – as tabled.
- 8.11. Postgraduate Students' Association President – as tabled.
- 8.12. International Students' Department President – as tabled.
- 8.13. Residential Students' Department President – as tabled.
- 8.14. Environment Officer – as tabled.
- 8.15. Sports Officer – as tabled.
- 8.16. Access Department – as tabled.
- 8.17. Pride Officers – as tabled.
- 8.18. Ethnocultural Department Officers – not submitted.
- 8.19. Volunteering Chair – as tabled.
- 8.20. OGC reports – as tabled.
- 8.21. MASA President – as tabled.

AE moves to accept the student reports, except Vice President, PAC, WASAC, Women's, RSD (due to late submission) and Ethnocultural.

### **Motion passes**



## **9. QUESTION TIME – Student Reports**

### **10. ELECTIONS**

AE moves a procedural to appoint Tony as RO for 10.1 – 10.5

**Procedural motion passes.**

#### **10.1. Corporate Services Committee Chair**

One (1) Members of Guild Council

EM nominates WN

WN duly elected as Chair of Corporate Services

#### **10.2. Catering and Tavern Committee Chair**

One (1) Members of Guild Council

EM nominates WN

WN duly elected as Chair of Catering and Tavern

#### **10.3. Governance Committee**

One (1) Members of Guild Council

One (1) Ordinary Guild Members

EM nominates WN

WN duly elected to Governance Committee

AE nominates Haeden Miles, Priyanka Fernando, Joella Zeidan and Freyja Dyson as per the vacancy applications circulated in the agenda pack.

WN moves a procedural motion for a 5-minute break

**Procedural motion passes**

PF duly elected to Governance Committee

#### **10.4. Strategic Resources Committee**

One (1) Members of Guild Council

EM nominates EA

EA duly elected to Strategic Resources Committee

#### **10.5. Equity & Diversity Committee**

One (1) Member of Guild Council.

EM nominates EA

EA duly elected to Equity & Diversity Committee

### **11. BUSINESS FROM THE EXECUTIVE**

### **12. MOTIONS ON NOTICE (OPERATIONS)**

12.1. The 108 Guild Council approves the Societies Council and Public Affairs Council rules as recommended by the Governance Committee.



Moved: Adam Elyousef  
Seconded: Eleanor White

AE passes the chair to VV

AE speaks to the motion saying that relevant student representatives have been working on them a lot, with assistance from Jackson McDonald lawyers.

EW says that these rules have been long in the making, expanding from 3 pages to 27 pages, bringing the Guild to compliance. It is essential this passes so we can continue to effectively manage clubs, stating that it has been reviewed by a number of people, including clubs themselves.

**Motion passes – Abstention: Nicole McEwen**

VV passes chair back to AE

### 13. MOTIONS ON NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)

#### 13.1. The 108 Guild Council

- 13.1.1 Recognises the importance of ASR technology in enhancing the student learning experience and that any notion to remove such service is discriminatory to those with access barriers.
- 13.1.2 Condemns any initiative that seeks to discontinue the service such as that proposed by the Law School.
- 13.1.3 Encourages the Education Council and Access Department to work alongside the Education Enhancement Unit to produce policy that highlights the need for providing accessible and inclusive teaching approaches.

Moved: William Norrish  
Seconded: April Htun

WN speaks to the motion noting the widespread implementation of ASR this semester and its effectiveness as a student learning tool, not just for students with access or language barriers, but also the general student population as a secondary study tool. Feedback from the trial period and since its introduction have been overwhelmingly positive. He further condemns proposals seeking to remove or opt-out of the service. Using the Law Schools opt-out system as an example, WN notes that students within that school have withdrawn from units or have had to resort to using speech-to-text apps that are by far less effective than ASR. He says that this has further implications to other schools which could follow suit. As student representatives, we should be actively fighting against notions that discriminate against ESL students and those with access barriers.

AH echoes points made by WN adding that the Law School has the potential to set the example by opting out stating that it is ableist and discriminatory. ASR is an additional learning feature that provides students with an alternative way to access content that they are paying for. If the university turned their backs on this initiative, it would be a waste of money and resources.

NM asks what the reasoning is for the Law School to opt out of the service?

AH responds saying that two main arguments have been presented. The first being that one of the main skills law students need to have, is the ability to receive and understand information orally, they argue that students using ASR would not be able to attain that skill. The second point is directed at the 80% accuracy of the transcripts – they don't believe it is sufficient. She says that the reasoning provided doesn't make

sense to then have such a negative reaction to the service.  
JC asks whether ASR is sufficient supplement for hard of hearing students or do they require additional support?

WN responds saying that prior to the service, the university would have someone transcribe the lectures, which – whilst being significantly more accurate – was a very expensive and lengthy process. ASR is a much faster and efficient service that allows students to access content with adequate timing. The ASR service is really all they have to aid in accessing content.

NM asks whether the lectures are still being recorded?

AH says that it is a service that lecturers and unit coordinators are actively turning off on recorded lectures. She adds that it doesn't interfere with their teaching, nor does it require any extra effort on staff.

JC asks whether anyone has seen the proposal made by the Law School?

AH responds saying that Blackstone has had a meeting with staff from the law school, where the reasoning was outlined. With that being said, we have not yet been given access to that outline.

EM speaks for the motion saying that we brought up the service in Education Council where every faculty society president indicated their support. She reiterates the reasoning outlined by the Law School noting that the accuracy rate compares well to other similar services. She says that, in her opinion, the move to opt-out of the service is a means of protecting unit coordinators and lecturers in case they say anything wrong. If we lose this fight, after advocating for this for years, sets a precedent for us in terms of our impact on making educational change.

JC speaks for the motion sympathizing with students who have issues accessing information as a result of unit coordinators opting out of the service. He raises concerns that we may have jumped the gun with the motion, without having seen the proposal from the Law School. Whilst he thinks the outcome would be the same whether we waited to see their proposal or not, he says it is important we hear them out.

EM says that JC should know that there is an article coming to Academic Board directly opposing ASR technology. We are not jumping the gun here, instead we are actively engaging with the reasoning provided thus-far and mounting a response.

JC responds saying that if we can't understand their position fully, then we shouldn't be condemning the Law School.

EM responds saying that we are condemning the initiative to remove the service, not the Law School themselves.

LC speaks for the motion saying that there is no alternative that has been provided to aid students in accessing lecture content, removing the services means removing students' equal opportunity to accessing education. It is a supplementary student tool that all students benefit from.

SC responds to JC saying that she understands the perspective of needing to hear out reasoning from the Law School. However, she adds that if the only reasoning provided is saying that students need to have oral-listening skills in order to succeed then you are saying that hard of hearing or deaf students don't have a place in practicing law.

VV speaks for the motion saying he agrees with what the motion states. He asks whether all schools had the option to opt-out or was this only offered to the Law School.



WN responds to VV saying that ASR had a widespread implementation at the start of the semester and Law School was the only school to actively opt out of the service.

JC says that students with special needs need to be catered for in any degree that they study – including law. He is sure that the Law School has implemented or will implement a separate system to ensure these students can continue their studies.

WN responds to JC saying that students in UniAccess have not been able to access content in Law, with no support or alternative provided by the Law School from what he understands. This has led to students dropping out of units or reducing their study capacities.

LM proposes an amendment to 13.1.2 to add “without a sufficient alternative”. WN says that this is no friendly, LM retracts the amendment.

**Motion Passes – Abstention: JC, LF**

#### **14. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE (OPERATIONS)**

- 14.1. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council approves the Welfare Department rules, as recommended by the Governance Committee.

Moved: Adam Elyousef  
Seconded: Amitabh Jeganathan

- 14.2. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council approves the Pride Department rules, as recommended by the Governance Committee.

Moved: Adam Elyousef  
Seconded: Avery Wright

- 14.3. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council approves the Alumni Engagement Committee rules, as recommended by the Governance Committee

Moved: Adam Elyousef  
Seconded: Emma Mezger

- 14.4. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council approves the Sports Department rules, as recommended by the Governance Committee

Moved: Adam Elyousef  
Seconded: Thomas Cotter

- 14.5. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council approves the Ethnocultural Department rules, as recommended by the Governance Committee

Moved: Adam Elyousef  
Seconded: Jerry Mathias

- 14.6. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council approves the Residential Students Department rules, as recommended by the Governance Committee

Moved: Adam Elyousef  
Seconded: Vaishnavi RN



- 14.7. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council approves the Mature Age Students Association rules, as recommended by the Governance Committee

Moved: Adam Elyousef  
Seconded: Viknash VM

AE moves a procedural motion to hear and vote on motions 14.1 – 14.7 en bloc

**Procedural motion passes**

AE says the reason these motions were late was due to the Governance Committee convening after motions were due.

**Motions 14.1 – 14.7 pass unanimously**

- 14.8. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council approves the National Union of Students affiliation expenditure of \$16,200 dollars, as recommended by Governance Committee

Moved: Emma Mezger  
Seconded: William Norrish

EM says the reason this motion was late was due to the Governance Committee convening after motion were due.

EM says this recommendation comes after Office Bearers reviewed their respective NUS representative against a set of KPIs – with two giving an ‘A’ grade score, and two giving a ‘D’ grade.

NM speaks against the motion saying that we shouldn’t be measuring a union against KPIs.

EM responds saying that KPIs are the only method we have of holding NUS Office Bearers to account.

NM says that if the purpose of this is to hold national office bearers to account, then we should be evaluating our own Office Bearers especially considering the lack of student representative support during the education campaigns around the cuts.

EM responds saying that in her role as Guild President, she is actively representing the student voice in all the meetings and committees she sits on each month. She says that she couldn’t attend protests because they conflicted with important meeting like Academic board.

NM responds saying that she should be rescheduling meetings to attend protests and show support, she should be writing statements and she should be ensuring that the Guild is proactive in action against the cuts. It is hypocritical to measure NUS to a set of KPIs and cut their funding, then turn around and provide no significant support collectively for education campaigns.

EM says she signs off on all the protests that is run through the Education Action Network, even though she can’t be physically there, she is actively in support of action.



NM says that it does matter whether you are physically there or not, you are the student representative for our council and you haven't attended a single campaign meeting or protest.

EM responds saying that she has had several meetings with NM and AH about the protests, she organised the sticker for the coffee cups and tried to get everything sorted whenever she was asked to. She tells NM to stop perpetuating false narratives and wasting people's time.

### **Motion passes – Abstention: NM**

- 14.9. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council appoints the International Student Department President and the Education Council President as ex-officio Members of Academic board

Moved: Viknash VM  
Seconded: Abdul Rahman

VV says that he was working on this motion with Bre Shanahan before her resignation. The purpose of this motion is to reduce the number of committee elections we have to run each year. ISD and Education Council Presidents have always been elected to Academic board and it makes sense to make them ex-officio members to ensure they continue to be part of this board.

EM speaks for the motion saying that generally every appointee to Academic board would include Education Council and ISD due to the nature of the departments. She raises concern about council dictating and binding future councils' representation choices but says that, in this case, it is relevant.

### **Motion passes unanimously**

## **15. MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)**

- 15.1. The 108 Guild Council

15.1.1. Endorses the School Strike for Climate National Day of Action on October 15th, 2021, as recommended by the NUS National Executive

15.1.2. Supports Strikes demands for:

1. 100% Renewables by 2030
2. Just transitions for workers and industry
3. Sustainable pathways for university students
4. Resourcing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led solutions that guarantee land rights.

15.1.3. Calls on UWA to cut all ties with fossil fuel corporations

Moved: Emma Mezger  
Seconded: James Hayley

EM says the reason this is late is because she received the NUS endorsement from their executive via email the day this motion was submitted – which was late.

EM has discussed with AJ and NM prior to council about combining 15.1. and 15.2. due to being substantially similar, amending 15.1. to include 15.2.1 into 15.1.3. and removing 15.2. from the agenda.

NM says that is friendly, striking 15.2. from the agenda.





JH says the Schools Strike for Climate is the single biggest forum of young people in Australia making it paramount that the Guild attends. We have a short time to act on climate change and make a difference, but young people are a big stakeholder in these discussions. JH says that despite himself and Esa, he saw no other representative at the previous strike which is concerning. He says he needs support because he has been building a climate community at UWA by himself.

NM says that the need for student activism from the Guild has shown, particularly around the climate issue; being something everyone cares deeply about, and change can only happen through activism.

WN speaks for the motion saying he is in support of the demands. He responds to JH, saying that as last year's Environment he went to every single environment related protest and demonstration that happened both online and in person. This year, whilst he may not have attended one protest, he continues to be in contact with external organisations fighting for climate justice. He emphasizes points raised about galvanizing students around this issue. It is imperative that as student representatives we respond to and act on issues not just pertaining to our respective departments. He is glad that we are returning back to focusing on climate activism as it is something that has been missing this year.

LF proposes an amendment to 15.3. to read "Calls on UWA to cut all ties with fossil fuel companies that are directly related to fossil fuels research"

EM says that the amendment is not friendly, amendment lapses.

NM says that it is a myth that increasing research into renewables decreases research and use of fossil fuels. We need to be fighting for adequate federal funding that stops corporate influence in research.

VV proposes an amendment to 15.3. to include "and actively seek out partnerships with alternative sustainable companies at minimal to no impact on the employment prospects of students".

JH says that the motion as it is already covering the proposed amendment in 15.1.2., amendment is withdrawn.

#### **Motion passes – Abstention: LF**

#### 15.2. The 108 Guild Council:

15.2.1. Calls on UWA to cut all ties with fossil fuel corporations

15.2.2. Supports the climate strike called by School Strike 4 Climate (SS4C) on October 15<sup>th</sup>

15.2.3. Will co-host the SS4C event on Facebook and share it on Guild platforms

15.2.4. Representatives who support this motion will help with online promotion of the event and will attend

Moved: Esa Chrulew

Seconded: Amitabh Jeganathan

#### **Removed from agenda – combined with 15.1.**

#### 15.3. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council:

15.3.1. Condemns the recently announced AUKUS coalition as part of the Australian government's attempts to drum up tensions with China and advance its own



imperialist interests through this new Cold War

15.3.2. Takes a public stand against war and militaristic provocations of war

15.3.3. Opposes the government's purchase of nuclear-powered submarines, the maintenance and use of which risks workers lives and opens Australia up to the possibility of establishing a nuclear power industry

Moved: Esa Chrulew

Seconded: Amitabh Jeganathan

**NM withdraws motion 15.3.**

15.4. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council:

15.4.1. Condemns the recent protests led by COVID deniers and far-right groups against mandatory vaccinations and lockdowns, and their attack on the headquarters of the Victorian CFMEU

15.4.2. Declares its support for necessary public health responses including lockdowns, border closures, as well as COVID-safe workplaces and classrooms with adequate PPE, ventilation, and sick leave for staff, and will campaign publicly for students and staff to get vaccinated

15.4.3. Endorses the Campaign Against Racism and Fascism and the Health Before Profits campaign, which are organising against the growing far right movement and campaigning for a better public health response from the Australian government

Moved: Esa Chrulew

Seconded: Amitabh Jeganathan

NM says the reason this was late is due to how recent these developments happened and the protest against action from COVID deniers was only called the day before council.

NM moves to wave her speaking rights the Catherine Cheesman.

CC says that everyone on the Guild should be aware of the situations occurring in Melbourne and should vote for this motion to condemn actions that are antivax and antiunion. Given the student interest in recent campaigns around education cuts, it is clear the Guild needs to be taking these kinds of issues seriously. We need to be showing solidarity with essential workers and health care workers.

AJ says that notions that suggest opening borders without everyone being fully vaccinated is deplorable. We shouldn't be comprising on our stance of being pro-lockdown and pro-vaccine.

EM says she is in support but asks what the exact demands of the campaign are?

CC says that the campaign is set up initially in response to the NSW Government to say we are pro-lockdown and any other measure to keep us safe. It has now evolved given recent events to be in support of health care unions and their pro-vaccine stance and respond to far-right movements that seek to challenge that.

CC amends the motion to add "15.4.4. Endorses upcoming pro-vaxx, pro-union protest on Friday at 10:30am"

**Motion passes unanimously**

15.5. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council:



15.5.1. Endorses the protest against the UWA senate called by the UWA Education Action Network for the 18th of October

15.5.2. Will promote the event by:

15.5.2.1. Co-hosting the Facebook event

15.5.2.2. Promoting the protest and referendum results on Guild social media and through emails to students

Moved: Esa Chrlew

Seconded: Amitabh Jeganathan

NM says the reason this motion was late was due to the protest only recently being called.

NM says that after a successful result in the referendum, we owe it to students to continue fighting and actually represent the student voice. If we were more active earlier, the campaign would be bigger – instead we have dragged our feet. More people voted for the referendum than for president, it shows that students care more about defending our education than who sits on this council.

AJ says we are at a critical point in this campaign where we owe it to students to do something about this and be more active in campaigning and representing the student voice at every opportunity.

EM asks whether an EMP has been submitted?

NM says no, but it will be done.

### **Motion passes unanimously**

15.6. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council directs the Publications Committee to convene and investigate a review process for digital content from student publications.

Moved: Joseph Chan

Seconded: Viknash VM

JC says that considering the events of this council, it is imperative that we look into reviewing the processes immediately to ensure our student publications are sharing false or harmful material.

VV reiterates what JC said but adds that the purpose is not to restrict freedom of press but to ensure there is a vetting of content that is flagged as potentially spreading false narratives.

EM speaks for the motion saying it is extremely necessary and well-timed. As members of a board, if you continue to perpetuate lies about the board you sit on, it directly goes against your duties as a board member and constitutes misconduct.

NM speaks against this motion saying that she is wary of moving extending processes without doing due diligence to understand all sides of the story – particularly as this is in response to a particular article.

TG says that whilst he appreciates what the aim of this motion is, he will be taking this matter to the university.

NM says she disagrees that university should be involved, giving them more power to control our processes.



### **Motion passes unanimously**

- 15.7. The 108<sup>th</sup> Guild Council:  
15.7.1. Commits to engaging with Guild staff and work diligently with them  
15.7.2. Commends the work they have put into 2021

Moved: Amitabh Jeganathan  
Seconded: Elise Anthony

AJ says that bases the discussions we've had tonight, it is important we show our support to the staff and continue to maintain positive working relationships with them.

EM speaks for the motion but says that it essentially a small band aid to the problems we have caused. This does not make any reparations for what has already occurred.

TC speaks for the motion saying that he believes that whilst this motion is significantly late, it is imperative that we engage with and support staff.

### **Motion passes unanimously**

## **16. GENERAL BUSINESS**

Reminder to send in your Annual Reports as soon as possible if you have not already, they are now **late**.

## **17. CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING**

Meeting closed at 8:40pm

Next meeting will be held October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021, at 6:00 PM. Please contact the Guild General Secretary([secretary@guild.uwa.edu.au](mailto:secretary@guild.uwa.edu.au)) with any **apologies or proxies 24hours prior to council**. If unable to attend, please advise which dates you are available to reschedule if a quorum cannot be met