



# UWA STUDENT GUILD EDUCATION COUNCIL

## DECEMBER 2017 REPORTS

UWA Student Guild IM300, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley WA 6009  
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### 1. Reports

- 1.1. **Guild President**
- 1.2. **Education Council President** – *attached.*
- 1.3. **Education Council Vice-President** – *attached.*
- 1.4. **EAN Coordinator**
- 1.5. **PSA Representatives** – *attached.*
- 1.6. **ALVA Society**
- 1.7. **Arts Union**
- 1.8. **Blackstone Society** – *attached.*
- 1.9. **ECOMS**
- 1.10. **ESA**
- 1.11. **HSS**
- 1.12. **MSS**
- 1.13. **Science Union** – *attached.*
- 1.14. **SNAGS**
- 1.15. **UDSS**
- 1.16. **UEC** – *attached.*
- 1.17. **WAMSS** – *attached.*



UWA STUDENT GUILD  
The University of Western Australia  
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# EDUCATION COUNCIL PRESIDENT EDUCATION COUNCIL REPORT

16/12/2017

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## SUMMARY

The last two weeks have marked the start of my term as Education Council President. Since meeting with my committee, we have started to work on projects for this year, watch this space for a pop-up second hand book fair on Oak Lawn, a new class rep system, new resources and much more.

## MEETINGS ATTENDED

| Date                | Meeting                                  | Purpose   |
|---------------------|--|---|
| 28/11/2017          | State Wide Guild Induction               | Skill sharing with representatives from UWA, Curtin, Murdoch and ECU.   |
| 29/11/2017          | Meeting with DVCE                        | Monthly meeting.  |
| 1/12/2017           | Handover Meetings                        | Met with incoming Education Council Vice-President and EAN Coordinator to discuss direction for 2018.           |
| 1/12/2017           | Meeting with CEF Staff                   | Meeting to discuss change to the unit handbook and assessment policy.   |
| 1/12/2017           | Meeting with Education Council Committee | Regular meeting to discuss 2018 projects.   |
| 11/12/17 – 15/12/17 | NUS National Conference                  | Conference to set the 2018 policy of the National Union of Students with delegates from affiliate Universities. |

## PROJECT UPDATE

### Book Fair

This project is underway under the leadership of my Vice-President Lincoln Aspinall. If you have any ideas or questions, please direct them towards Lincoln.

### 104<sup>th</sup> Education Council FacSoc Handbook

This guide is being made up by Guild Design. A rough copy containing all of the information will be circulated to all members of Education Council before the first meeting.

### Class Representative System

The planning of the pilot class representative system has started. The pilot program will include approximately 25 units across all four faculties. A proposal for the system will be presented to the Education Council in the January Meeting. If you have any questions or suggestions, please let me know.

### WiFi Upgrades

I am sitting on the WiFi upgrades priority group this year. This working group aims to prioritize areas of the campus to upgrade. If anyone has feedback on the connectivity of areas on campus, please let me know. This will be discussed at the December meeting of Education Council.

### Semester Two Teaching Awards

Thank you to everyone who submitted Semester Two teaching award applications. These will be finalised this week and the recipients will be notified.

### New Materials and Guides

Over the summer the *Know Your Rights Guide* and the *TL,DR;* guides will be brought up to date to include the changes to the assessment policy. The Education Council Committee will also be collaborating with the Access Department to create some guides for students who have a disability or struggle with a mental

health issue. If there is any particular content that members would like to see in any of these guides please let me know.

## ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

- Expanded UWA Summer School with units across many disciplines

## DISCUSSION TOPICS

### 1. Higher Education Funding

Simon Birmingham, Minister for Education, has announced that he intends to cut approximately \$2 billion from the University Sector. This can be done without approval of the Federal Government because the proposed cut is through decreases to the funding of equity pathways and ancillary programs to universities. It is likely that these cuts will mean a decrease in the services provided by UWA, including equity programs such as Fairway and Aspire UWA and lead to reduced quality of Education due to the decrease in resources available to the University. I am eager to hear the position of each Faculty Society on this budget changes, and suggestions to how we, as an Education Council, can campaign for the retention of funding to the University sector.

Regards,  
Conrad Hogg  
*Education Council President*  
ed@guild.uwa.edu.au



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Education Council Vice-President  
**EDUCATION COUNCIL REPORT**  
20/12/2017

## SUMMARY

*Summary of key achievements and activities for the month.*

This month has been one of introduction and goal-setting for myself as vice-president, as well as the desired outcomes for the 2018 Education Council more broadly. Attending the bachelor of Arts restructure seminar was a great opportunity to give direct student input into administrative planning. Additionally, meeting with the director of the bachelor of Arts to follow up the seminar was equally as valuable in establishing a cooperative relationship and ensuring that the Education Council is privy to decision-making moving forward as the whole Arts faculty is reconfigured.

I am eager to maintain an honest and open channel of communication with all members of council, if you ever have any queries or tasks that you would like assistance with then don't hesitate to contact me.

## MEETINGS ATTENDED

*Meeting Types (Guild Committee, University Meeting, etc). List meetings attended and dates of meetings. Provide a brief description of the purpose of the meeting.*

| Date       | Meeting                              | Purpose                                   |
|------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1/12/2017  | Handover                             | Handover meeting with Conrad              |
| 1/12/2017  | Education Council Committee          | Introductory meeting                      |
| 4/12/2017  | Bachelor of Arts Restructure Seminar | Major restructure discussion              |
| 20/12/2017 | Director of the Bachelor of Arts     | Consultative meeting to follow-up seminar |
| 20/12/2017 | Education Council                    | Monthly Meeting                           |

## PROJECT UPDATE

### Book Fair

*Second-hand books out in the open*

In week 2 next semester the Guild will host a fair to provide second-hand books. I will be leading this initiative and have been working with Conrad to iron out the details. If you have any input that you'd like to add then let either myself or Conrad know.

Regards,  
Lincoln Aspinall  
*Education Council Vice-President*  
Ed-vp@guid.uwa.edu.au



# PSA Education Council Report

18/12/2017

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# PSA Education Council Report

18/12/2017

## SUMMARY

The first few weeks of the PSA Presidency have been characterised by planning for the year ahead. Internally we have worked to form Events and Awards subcommittees and transition from the 2017 committee. I have also worked closely with the Guild staff to discuss our strategies and how we can utilise each other to best effect in 2018.

## MEETINGS ATTENDED

| Date        | Meeting                               | Purpose   |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1/12/2017   | Guild Council                         |   |
| 5-8/12/2017 | CAPA ACM                              | Discuss state of CAPA and postgraduate issues               |
| 5/12/2017   | Meeting with University Finance       | Familiarise with the universities financial position        |
| 6/12/2017   | Academic Council                      |   |
| 8/12/2017   | Media Strategy Meeting                | Assess the PSA's media strategy and plan for the year ahead |
| 11/12/2017  | Meeting with Library Staff            | Discuss the idea of HDR Student Profiles                    |
| 11/12/2017  | Senate                                |   |
| 12/12/2017  | Board of the Graduate Research School |   |
| 13/12/2017  | Digital Focus Group                   | Redesign of the university website                          |
| 14/12/2017  | FABLE Meeting                         | Discuss Teaching Internship Program                         |
| 14/12/2017  | University Research Committee         |   |

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

- Successfully held the Annual Council Meeting of the Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations.
- Reorganising our newsletter *The Post* to include new content and developed a 2018 media strategy.
- Working with FABLE to develop Teaching Internship Program for HDR students.

## CURRENT GOALS FOR 2018

- Work to publish a Postgrad Survival Guide for UWA students.
- Expand successful events like Connect and reintroduce more inclusive events such as PSA Family Days.
- Develop Best Practice Guidelines for HDR Supervisors and level of accountability to them.
- Increase the visibility of support services for students at UWA.
- Collaborate more with Postgrad orientated Faculty Societies.

Regards,  
Peter Watson  
PSA President  
psa@guild.uwa.edu.au

DECEMBER 2017

## Monthly Education Update

### NEW EXECUTIVE TEAM & HANDOVER

Blackstone has officially completed our Executive handovers for 2018! Relevantly for Education Council, our 2018 Executive Team Includes:

- Jessica Zuiderwijk, Education Vice-President
- Joshua Sanchez-Lawson, President
- Max Riley, Education Representative

### FIRST-YEAR JD ORIENTATION / FOUNDATIONAL UNIT

The *'Foundations of Law and Lawyering Unit'* is a foundational unit for the JD which incorporates the law school orientation program. The unit received considerable negative feedback in 2017. The coordinators for 2018 are new, and working closely with Blackstone on improving this unit and the orientation process in 2018.

### LAW LIBRARY REFURBISHMENT

The Law Library Refurbishment project successfully completed the front half of the first floor of the Law Library. Currently, collection items from the upper floors are being transported to storage in anticipation of further refurbishments.

This is admittedly having an impact on our Jessup Moot Team, but they are being good sports about it!

### OPTION UNITS & INTENSIVES

Jess and Josh have received a number of queries regarding intensives and option units for the summer period and semester 1. The Law Faculty had been listing these across a combination of the UWA Course/Unit Outline, the online Handbook, the odd social media post, and a number of e-mails. Blackstone is grateful to have a strong relationship with the Faculty, and are working with them on improving the clarity of communications concerning option units. We are presently thankful to have a consolidated list of the unit names available in the online handbook.

### ALTERNATIVE FACULTY HANDBOOK

The Education Portfolio and Marketing/Publications Officers are currently working on developing the AFH for 2018.

## **Issues & Questions**

### **SEMESTER 2 EXAMINATION PERIOD**

Jess and Josh received a number of complaints regarding exams being held in venues with small desks. Given that law exams are open book, this posed an efficiency issue for many students. **Is there a history (of success or utility) in lobbying for specific venues?**

EDUCATION COUNCIL  
SCIENCE UNION REPORT – DECEMBER 2017

**1. Monthly Update**

We have been working with the faculty on the ConocoPhillip Science Experience program, which is a workshop based program running in January for year 9 and 10 students. We are working with the science schools to find volunteers, and organise the workshops.

Aside from this, we have been working on our Camp, which will be run in the first couple of weeks of first semester. This is still in the early stages of organisation, but is being headed by our capable Camp Directors, Millie Dacre and Peter Watson.

**2. Current Issues**

No current issues

**3. Questions**

No current questions



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## UNIVERSITY ENGINEERS' CLUB 2017

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Meeting 1 – December 20th 2017

Rowan Sobey – Vice President, Education

### Monthly Update

We have gotten all our committee positions settled and handovers completed. All of our subcommittees have had their meetings and started putting dates on calendars. I am looking forward to running our successful Exploring Engineering event on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March next year

### Current Issues

The proposed academic workload which is to be implemented university wide has had very negative from staff amongst the School of Physics. The lecturer for Phys2002 partially trialed the model and it had a big impact on his workload and delayed students getting their marks back, with a test and report comprising of 16% of the unit only returned *after* exams were finished. Some other concerns are coordinators being inadvertently forced to change assessments to reduce the number of mark able assessments and the impact this would have on student learning.

### Questions

None



## Report for Guild Education Council

20<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Lianne Leung – 2018 Secretary (proxy for Marissa Loh, 2018 VP Internal)  
Benjamin Palladino – 2018 Treasurer (proxy for Karen Bromley, 2018 Education Officer)

### Monthly Update

- Apologies from Karen and Marissa, who are currently travelling in St Lucia and Barcelona respectively. The wonderful Lianne and Benjamin are our proxies for this meeting, who are both members of the 2018 WAMSS Executive.
- Congratulations to our graduating students, the inaugural MD cohort, who have just officially become doctors! We are incredibly excited for them and wish WA's newest doctors all the very best for their careers as interns and beyond. Grad Week was a huge success, featuring Graduation Dinner (attended by various Faculty members), Pre-Intern Conference, and a celebratory breakfast.
- Board of Examiners has now been held for all cohorts, and students have officially been notified of their results as Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Students who are required to sit supplementary exams have been notified, and remediation will run over the next few weeks. The relevant year representatives have established secret Facebook groups for students to support each other and communicate in the lead up to these exams.
- Student representatives from WAMSS were invited to attend MD Forum, a day of planning, discussion and reflection run by the Faculty. Rhiannon Hicks (2017 President) and Samantha White (2017 VP Internal) also presented on the student perspective. With the first cohort of MD students graduating, current issues with the MD and evaluation results were discussed. Other topics included the ongoing development of the revised MD course, student wellbeing and welfare, clinical placements and assessments.
- Third years are off to their international electives over the next two months – an exciting endeavour! There have been some ongoing issues with communication and administrative aspects, but we are working with the Faculty to ensure these are resolved for next year.
- Planning for 2018 is well underway – Orientation Camp is scheduled for 3-4 February, and the EMP has been approved! Well done to Charlie Lefroy and Gavin Huangfu, our Orientation Representatives, for all of their hard work. We have begun work on revamping the WAMSS website to



make it more user-friendly, Allied Health has a venue locked in, planning for our Annual Medical Gala Dinner has begun...next year is going to be brilliant!

### **Meetings & Events Attended**

- 29<sup>th</sup> November: Official Opening of the J. Robin Warren Library
- 6<sup>th</sup> December: Meeting with Asha Stabback, FHMS Development Officer; Exec-Exec Handover
- 7<sup>th</sup> December: MD Forum, and Halfway Dinner
- 14<sup>th</sup> December: IMP2 Committee (3<sup>rd</sup> year)

### **Current and Ongoing Issues**

- The first year of the revised MD course begins in January 2018. The majority of the MD1 course has been finalised, with continuing work on assessment, timetabling and other details. Orientation, previously a 2-week introduction, will now be a one-day event on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January, and WAMSS will be presenting. We are in the process on confirming details of this, the Unimenter link-up; and importantly mechanisms for student representation and feedback.
- Following ongoing feedback about the quality and organisation of clinical placements, Samantha White put together a survey which has been distributed to all clinical students (MD2, MD3 and MD4). We will review the results of this and present these to the Faculty in a letter in early 2018.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and all the very best for 2018! Hope all of you enjoy a brilliant holiday and we look forward to working with you next year 😊