

Introduction

It has been a pleasure to serve as the 106th President of the UWA Student Guild. Our core focus in 2019 has been to improve the experience of every student at the University, by providing effective representation, support services, amenities, great spaces, and fulfilling opportunities to get involved in campus life.

I am extremely proud of the efforts of my team, the 106th Guild Council and all other students who have worked hard to improve the experience of those around them. They are all strong advocates for their fellow students and have had an impact on the campus around them by putting on great events, and initiatives. We have been guided this year by the four pillars of the Guild's 2018-2021 Strategic Plan: Better Spaces on Campus,



2019 has also been a year of continued and significant institutional change. The Guild has worked closely in Partnership with the University to continue to improve the student experience at the university, with everything from designing new postgraduate spaces in libraries, to the creation of the new 'UWA App' for students, to the implementation of the new Assessment Policy. It is increasingly clear that providing a first-class student experience in 2019 requires investment into both the physical and digital infrastructure that underpin students' experiences at the University.

I am pleased to share what the Guild has been doing with you. I will leave you with my favourite quotation on learning. I believe that it highlights the need for the Guild to involve all of its members, especially in a place of learning.

Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn.
– Benjamin Franklin

All the best

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Conrad Hogg'.

Conrad Hogg
106th Guild President
UWA Student Guild

The 106th Guild Council

President: Conrad Hogg
Vice President: Joseph Chan
General Secretary: Adhish Kastha
Chair of Guild Council: Patricia Paguio
Education Council President:
Lincoln Aspinall
Societies Council President:
Hinako Shiraishi
Public Affairs Council President:
Nitin Narula
*Postgraduate Students' Association
President:* Alexander Tan
Welfare Officer: Vin Kalim
*International Students' Department
President:* Khairunnisa Shahrin

Women's Affairs Officer: Brehany Shanahan
Environment Officer: Clarice Antero
Sports Representative: Daniel Kuzich
Pride Officers:
Martha McKinley & Saskia Mason
*Residential Students' Department
President:* Luke Thomas
WA Student Aboriginal Association Chair:
Brienne Yarran
Access Officers:
Lauren Espinoza & Mike Anderson
*Ethnocultural Convenor & Ordinary Guild
Councilor:* Saleem Al Odeh
Immediate Past President: Megan Lee

Ordinary Guild Councilors:

Ben Perry	Callum Lindsay	Scott Harney
Bradán Sonnendecker	Neve Staltari	Shahid Khan
Fang Ke (until August)	Olivia Bartlett	Viknash VM (from August)
Jade Wu	Raaghav Raj	



2019 Strategic Achievements

In 2017 the Guild endorsed its Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021. This plan has allowed us to remain focused on key objects of our organization, despite rolling leadership within the Guild. The plan sets about to achieve the vision of ensuring that each and every UWA Student has the best possible student experience throughout their degree, and to be the leading student-run organization internationally. We intend to do this by improving student support at UWA, increasing engagement within the student body, continuing to represent the student voice, and providing better spaces on campus. Some of the key achievements thus far are summarized below.

Improving Student Support

- Reformed the business model for Student Assist, the Guild’s independent support and advocacy service, so it could better serve students.
- Introduced “Wellbeing Volunteers” a group of students volunteering their time as ambassadors for student wellbeing and helping students to find the support they need.
- Investigating how the Guild can assist students to find affordable accommodation.
- Successfully lobbied for emergency funds to be available through the University.
- Initiated a Review into equity for low-SES students, and how the Guild can improve its performance, both to ensure its activities and services are accessible, and to support more low-SES students to take up student leadership positions.

Increasing Engagement

- Increasing the amount of dynamic video content in Guild social media communications.
- Review of communications and transparency of Guild processes to students through the Communications and Transparency Working Group.
- Reformation of the Guild Weekly Newsletter to be more engaging.
- Weekly updates on social media by video to all UWA Students from the President.
- More contact with and support for the Albany Students’ Association, including presence of Guild Office Bearers on the Albany Campus.
- Refreshed the Guild brand.
- New Guild Website launched.
- Video series ‘What is the Guild Anyway?’ to communicate the message of what the Guild is, and what it does.

Representing the Student Voice

- Expanded the class representative system that was developed by the Guild’s education portfolio in 2018.

- Started ethnocultural collective to represent and support students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds at UWA. This collective was instrumental in supporting students following the terrorist attacks in Christchurch, NZ earlier this year.
- Reviewed election culture and accepted the Review's recommendations, improving the culture of the elections.
- Continued work with the university to reform assessment processes to make them fairer for students.
- More support for discipline specific clubs to better represent students in those disciplines.
- Submissions to the University on Equity & Participation, 12 Week Semesters, Late Penalties, College Row Cultural Review.
- Assessing the introduction of an equity and participation portfolio within the Guild.
- Enabled UWA students to partake in climate activism.

Better Spaces on Campus

- Opened five new outlets in the Refectory: Utopia Bubble Tea, The Cutting Board, Campus Kebabs, Toshine Japanese, and Chinese Canton.
- Signed a heads-of-lease with IGA to bring the supermarket onto campus.
- Upgrade of the Guild Village Courtyard
- New multipurpose spaces for clubs and societies.
- Development and upgrade of retail space in Guild Village.
- New staging and lighting for the Tavern.



New Refectory Space. May 2018.

Other Key Projects

Student Leader Summit

The Guild hosted the first ever *Student Leader Summit* in Western Australia, aiming to help student leaders at Western Australian Universities to develop. The conference-style event was attended by almost 250 students and was held at the University Club. Attendees had the opportunity to learn from pre-eminent leaders in the Western Australian Community through keynote and panel discussion, as well as learn practical skills from their peers through workshops. The event was a great success for the Guild, and well received by attendees, and we hope to continue it in the future.



Student Leader Summit. August 2019.

Election Culture Working Group

The Guild convened a working group to assess the culture of its elections at the start of this year. This group consulted widely with the student cohort and formulated a set of recommendations. These recommendations have been accepted by council, and the relevant changes to the Guild Election Regulations have been accepted by the University Senate. With the elections about to start at the time of writing, we are hoping that these changes will improve the culture of the Guild's elections, and students will be more engaged.

Indigenous Strategy

In 2018 the Guild started the process of creating a strategy for engagement with Indigenous peoples. This strategy has been completed this year and is in the first phase of its implementation. The primary objective of this strategy is for the Guild to better support and represent Indigenous students studying at UWA, a cohort of students who face many barriers to educational attainment. We are excited for the new opportunities that this creates for the Guild, and to engage more closely and respectfully with First Nations Australians.



Marda Cup. May 2015.

Freedom of Expression

Earlier this year the Vice-Chancellor convened a working group on the Freedom of Expression at UWA. I was the student member of this working group and cherished the opportunity to engage with so many members of the university community about this important issue. This was a gold standard of consultation, and the recommendations of the group have since been adopted by the Senate.

New Website

The Guild launched its new website at www.uwastudentguild.com. The new format represents a significant capital investment and makes it easier for students to find the information they need, and learn about what is going on at UWA. There is also a new CRM for event management and

clubs & societies, to enabled streamlined processes for the management of clubs and events in a secure way. We hope this will help to enable student leaders at UWA to continue fostering an exciting and inclusive campus culture.

Digital Upgrades at UWA

The University is currently going through a process of digital transformation, much of which has focused on the digital experience of students at the university. It has been a great privilege to be involved the development of these facilities, and I am confident that the UWA App, and the Reskin of studentConnect, which have launched, are already making a substantial impact on the student experience. This area is still one of ongoing work and is important for the continued improvement of the digital experience to meet growing expectations and remain up to date.

Engagement with the Albany Campus

This year has seen the Guild take a more active focus on engagement of the Albany Centre, through the Albany Students' Association, the Guild's satellite department. The Student Association has been supported by the executive to increase the engagement of students on campus and add value to their experience through discounts in Albany, events, starting a new club, and volunteering opportunities. Guild office bearers have also visited the campus several times this year to run activities for Albany Students, learn about the campus, and consult students on UWA's regional strategy.



Environment Officer & Albany Students' Association President at the Environment Department
M.Y.O. Succulent – Albany Event. August 2015.



The 106th Guild Council about to embark on the Guild Retreat to plan for 2019. November 2018.

Thank you for your continued support of the UWA Student Guild. We look forward to keep adding value to your university experience in 2020.