



2022/23 GUILD COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians whose ancestral lands on which this meeting is held. We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of Aboriginal peoples to country and pay respects to the cultural authority of Aboriginal peoples.

Details

- Date** The 28th April 2023, Friday
- Time** 1000 AWST
- Location** Board Room or Online via Teams

If any member of this meeting would like to submit an addition, modification, or strike an item from the agenda, please contact Christopher Nonis, Guild General Secretary.

Attendees

Role	Member	Pronouns	Apology
Guild President	Heidee Austic	She/Her	
General Secretary	Christopher Nonis	He/Him	
Education Vice-President	Kevin Kurian	He/Him	/
MUPSA President	Adelakun Odunyemi	He/Him	
MUPSA Vice President	Mojib Temuri	He/ Him	/
MSA (Mandurah) President	Chloe Pech	She/Her	/
MISA President	Jennifer Sashmitha	She/Her	/
Women's Rep	Elaine Dessie	She/Her	
Queer Rep	Luke Morgan	They/Them	
Sustainability Rep	Elizabeth Tan	She/Her	
Disability Rep	Kieran Leeson	He/ Him	
External Rep	Jaztine Kate	She/Her	/
Council Member	Ariff Julainie	He/Him	/
Council Member	Sami Rashid	He/Him	/
Council Member	Jesse Bellotti	He/Him	
Council Member	Sariah Eivers	She/Her	
Council Member	Daisy Bond	She/Her	/
Council Member	Jamilla Day	She/Her	/

Agenda	
1	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country
2	Items for Discussion and Decision

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of the Country

The meeting commenced at 10:15 a.m. The Guild acknowledges the welcome and acknowledgement of the country.

“We acknowledge and respect the traditional custodians upon whose ancestral lands this meeting is held. We acknowledge the deep feelings of attachment and relationship of Aboriginal peoples to the country and pay respects to the cultural authority of Aboriginal people”

2. Items for Discussion

Heidee Austic:

Thank you so much for attending this meeting, and I won't keep you guys too long. I would like to welcome Kieran Leeson, the new Guild Disability representative for this year. Thank you for coming on board, and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask us. Also, we may replace our MISA representative, Jennifer, who has expressed that she may withdraw from her role. So, this is more aimed at the OGCs if any of them would like to take up the MISA role. Please let me know, and I will message you individually. If not, then we have to go through the kind of process of putting out there to say who would be interested and then going through that process. So, if any of the OGCs are reading the minutes and I have not messaged you yet, feel free to message me.

Regarding the Guild emails, I know that in the last meeting, we spoke about the e-mail accessibility, and some of you gave me your personal emails, which I gave to the projects department. Does everyone have access to that e-mail now?

Elaine Dessie:

I do have access, but an authentication blocker prevents me from using the email. I think I spoke to Kaku in the Project's Team, and he said the numbers under Sarah's one.

Heidee Austic:

Thank you for that. I will get on to Sarah, for that matter. She is temporarily back a couple of days a week, and I apologise for that. I do not know why setting up emails has been difficult this year, but what can you do? I will also get one email set up for you, Kieran.

Next, I would like to talk about the Guild Bookshop. We are going to be doing a lab coat scheme. So, previously if students went to the science department and needed to borrow a lab coat, they would borrow it from the lab demonstrators, and then at the end of the class, they give it back. At the moment, due to the university budget cuts and low staff, they don't have the capacity to take the lab coats back anymore at the end of the lessons. So, students who borrow lab coats will have to take them home and get them dry-cleaned. Then, they would bring back the cleaned lab coats and bring it back to the Guild Bookshop. So if anyone gets any questions regarding this, just let anyone know to bring it to the Guild Bookshop. We're also looking at stocking lab coats and safety goggles for semester 2 because the Murdoch Bookshop no longer does. We've had many students that don't have lab coats, so the science department reached out to us; the Murdoch Forensic Society (MFS) club themselves are implementing a common room in semester 2, which will be in one of the old MyAdvice buildings. They want to do a lab coat scheme where people can donate their old lab coats. We will do what we can to support them in that capacity. But at the moment, they are, I think, trying to set up the actual common room.

Also, Murdoch University is implementing a CXO, which is Chief Experience Officer. We never had one before at this university, but they want to bring one, as part of the new structure to have someone that can oversee all of the student's experience. I have been part of the interview panel for that. So hopefully, the candidate ends up getting selected. The candidates that came through definitely are capable of the role. Hopefully, that will benefit Murdoch University.

I'm not sure if you were around last year or have met Mariel. She was the old assistant accountant and the payroll officer. She left earlier in the year, and we have hired a new Accounts and Payroll Officer. Her name is Daryl Lim. I can bring her through after the meeting for you guys to say hello. If you need anything from that department, she is probably your first point of contact in the financial department. She is lovely and getting into things now. We had a good few candidates interview for that role, but Evan, Vanessa and I thought that she was probably the best fit for the Guild.

I had several club meetings over the past few weeks, particularly with the Cheer and Dance Club and the Medieval Society. They had some trouble with their committees and some of their members. So, I have been kind of smoothing those through. Everything seems to be good now. I also attended a meeting about modern slavery. Murdoch University, there is this new legislation for all kinds of corporations about modern slavery, and we have to monitor and be able to support students who being "modern slaves". Many people do not know the definition of it. This commonly happens with international students, but sometimes they come here and work for an employer. The employer will take their identification and pay low wages, not let them leave. Or some places were not at Murdoch or UWA, but they found that some students were studying when someone was paying for their degree in exchange for marriage. This type of scenario is also considered a kind of modern slavery. Currently, the university is just looking to bring in some compliance modules and maybe workshops or training courses on modern slavery, mainly the Student Assist we have here. The Access and Equity team may be contacted and told that they would be the first place of contact if any student does believe that they are in the form of what is slavery. Then, once this is implemented over the next few months, they will develop some training protocols. We have come up with mandatory compliance modules which are put into staff and student portals. If we had done the staff compliance modules or students' ones, people would click through to answer the questions as that would be a commonsense question. This is also our concern about handling brochures, which, again, not everyone is going to read a brochure. This is still in the early days, and I will keep you guys updated on what we do with that, but if anyone has any ideas on anything, let me know, and I will let the board know.

I also had some meetings about Boola Katijin, the lovely new building. If any of you heard, there have been many complaints to us regarding the power points in the building. Apparently, a lot of the power points are not actually working, and they are not actually on. So, there are no power points anywhere. So, I have been bringing that topic up at the meetings with the tech team; and they are currently working on it. I will follow up with them and see how they go,

but I haven't gone into the new buildings to try and use the power points. But hopefully, they'll get that fixed soon; and if anyone has any complaints or praises for the new building again, just let me know, and I can take that to the team of people who is in charged.

Also, another relevant topic, Marie, the University Social Media Officer, she contacted me and the Project's Team about future collaboration with Murdoch Guild and Murdoch University for event promotion. If anyone has any events, they want to promote, you can let me know or I can give you the email of the Social Media Officer. She's happy to post stuff, meet with people about events, or even come down to events and take photos if it's during normal university hours, which is great.

The Tavern has added a new food menu which is the Quesadillas.

Jesse:

Could we have hot sauce on the tavern menu?

Heidee Austic:

We can get hot sauce. I will talk to Simon about the hot sauce. I'm sure all people love hot sauce. Moving on, many clubs have come and spoken to us regarding their grant approval. The reason that is taking so long originally is that there are three members on the panel for club grant approval: me, someone from the Project's Team and Jamie Ball from Murdoch Active. The first lot of grants took a while to complete because the third member of the panel at Murdoch Active was super busy, and then he became unwell, so he was delayed in that. And now, Sarah only comes in a couple of days a week, and usually, online, they are quite delayed. I'm trying to see what I can do best to speed up the process. On top of that, sometimes she does not get time to actually look through them because they do take a while to look through because they have to compare the club events with SAF funding guidelines to see whether it matches. Therefore, this is part of the club grant process, we are trying our very best for this matter.

Next, we will host the Winter Festival in Semester 2, probably in the first week of August. The Project Team has asked if anyone has any ideas for the Winter Festival. Please let them know. It is going to be cold. Therefore we may have our activities under a tent, we don't want the activities to be too big. They are going to take much room as well. Also, we are thinking about combining orientation day and Guild Festival Day, which is to be held on the same day. Other

universities do this method; it is just a big, massive day. Murdoch has not done that for a few years. What are your thoughts?

Elaine Dessie:

I also think, from a club's perspective, a lot of the clubs find it overwhelming to have the two days splits because some clubs are still doing recruiting and stuff like that. So I think it's better to have it on one big day, it will be less stressful for clubs.

Heidee Austic:

That is a good point. Thank you. I didn't even think of that to have but a point out too. That is very handy. I will probably ask the Council for their opinion by email or messenger. Then we will go from there. If everyone wants the one-day event, we can approach the University and see what they say about that. Also, Sarah Boomer just sent me a brief email about collaboration regarding Sexual Awareness Wellbeing Week. If everyone is happy about this, I can ask her to come to our next meeting in May or June, so we can chat to discuss any ideas for the event. Regarding the bystander training, we need 12 people in the room physically to do it, and it takes 3 hours. I hope it can be done before Semester 2. I was thinking about collaborating with the Guild staff and the Guild Council so that we can have the numbers. We obviously have Darell, who is a new staff; we are also looking to hire someone for Student Assist Team and Volunteer Coordinator. At the moment, we are putting out the advertisement. So, once they have all come in, then we will have that big training, and the newly elected staff can also be included in the training.

I'm also trying to think of a few things we can implement to benefit students. So, I have gone around a few different clubs and people to ask people's opinions. What do you want to see on campus? What is difficult on campus? I always get is parking, but that idea is like a brick wall. The best we have done is like freeze the parking cost so that it does not increase. Carpark 7 was the best, and it has more green zones. One that came to my head that we did a few years ago was to have a public speaking workshop. I thought it would be a good idea because a lot of students would need these skills for their future jobs. So, that was kind of the idea I was thinking about. Did anyone of you guys have any ideas or thoughts?

Elaine Dessie:

I think the Women's team is currently running a public speaking or public speech competition

already.

Heidee Austic:

Regarding this public speaking workshop idea, It is for everyone, not just for women. But yes, I see that one, and I think it is a cool idea.

Elaine Dessie:

And also, going back to your topic of Sexual Awareness Topic, I'm just giving out an idea. I think one of my workplaces, that we did was a defense class. This would be great for females or anyone who loves to learn self-defense.

Heidee Austic:

That is awesome. Thank you, and that is really cool. I would actually love to do a class like that. If anyone thinks of any workshop and stuff like that, that would be great.

Sariah Eivers:

IT workshops?

Heidee Austic:

Well yeah, an IT workshop is a cool idea too. We have many mature-age students that might not be familiar with Word or like Microsoft.

Elaine Dessie:

I think if the Guild is going to be running workshops, make it like a package deal—for example, an IT and Sexual Awareness workshop. I also know that a lot of students struggle with financial literacy and not the MSP 100 version, where they get lectures to teach financial literacy. But like an actual financial advisor. Students, especially international students, in regards to tax or SAF funding works, even for domestic students, with their HECS loans and stuff like that. A lot of government federal bills have been passed this coming quarter; in regards to that, students need to be aware of the changes happening to our loans and stuff like that. I think financial literacy is something that you could do and maybe make a package deal with

students. They can have a choice to choose what courses they want to attend or be part of.

Heidee Austic:

Yeah, I think that is great, we can do different workshops. Students can go to all or pick and choose. That would be really good. I will write up all these suggestions and will send it to everyone. Alright, the last thing I would like to say is that Murdoch Guild has never really done anything political, this matter is not really political anyways. But, I'm not sure if you guys heard about the referendum about having the Indigenous Voice in Parliament (Yes Campaign). Kevin has been speaking to Kulbardi about this matter but is not here to explain it. They had some changes with their staff, and everyone is stressed out with the Indigenous Nationals games. Kevin will give a better update on this matter. But coming back to the topic, I was thinking, just in support of the First Nations people and tying in with the Murdoch Strategy, we should do a post on our social media from the Guild. I hope everyone is happy about this suggestion. NUS and some other Guild have posted their stance on how they think about this topic. I wanted to post it because I think that it is a very important topic, and the values ties with the university. Does anyone have any question or have any comments about anything I said?

Adelakun Odunyemi:

There was no nomination for the position of Vice President for MUPSA- Research. Yes there is role for Coursework but not work Research.

Heidee Austic:

I guess we will investigate that. Obviously, it is open or vacant, and if no one wants the role, do you have anyone in mind that wants the role?

Adelakun Odunyemi:

No, but I think some people would take up the role.

Heidee Austic:

Awesome, I will have a look into this matter. I also apologise for not picking up on this matter earlier. All good, I will pass it on to Chris to deliver his report.

Christopher Nonis:

Thank you. I will just give a short report from my side. I did the Guild Council Meeting Minutes for March and thank you for the Circular Motion. It is all approved now. Jesse, I emailed the Meeting Minutes and Circular motion to you but your email bounced back.

Jesse:

Yeah, there are a lot of unclear emails. I have not deleted it. Sorry about that.

Christopher Nonis:

The next one, I formed a committee called Combined Cultural Club Committee (CCCC). So basically, this committee involves all cultural clubs. The purpose of this committee is to unite all the committees from various cultural clubs to discuss matters arising from, memberships, events, future collaborations, etc. We had our first meeting on the 14th April 2023. We discussed the events they are focusing on for Semester 1, Q-pay or grant issues, and also we have decided to host a combined event called Gila Liga – a sports competition with all cultural clubs. I spoke to Jamie Ball from Murdoch Active, and he is happy to collaborate with us for this event. We are getting sorted with the structure and the sports activities, but I will keep you updated. This event will be hosted in August, Semester 2. The date has not been finalised yet.

Regarding the Guild Ball, I would like to start the preparation from now on. I have experience in this event as I organised it with Ruth. We want to get things sorted by October. The Executive Council is going to a conference in November, and the ball will be held around this time. So, with that, I'm going to form a Guild Ball Committee, which I need around two to three people from the Council. I will also put a poll and message in the Guild group chat. Anyone who wants to nominate themselves, you can do so. Your role will involve booking venue, decorations, marketing, budgeting, logistics, etc. I have experience with all of these again, and I will definitely guide you in that. It is also good for those who have no experience holding an event. The Guild General Secretary usually has the responsibility to organise the Guild Ball. This year will be my last term, and I will not run for the next election. So, it will be a good chance for you guys, whoever is taking my role next year, to be able to organise the next Guild Ball.

Jesse:

Do the Guild Committee get a free ticket to the ball?

Christopher Nonis:

No, we don't. we only give a discount. I think it was 10%. We have a special table for the Guild Ball committee.

Kieran Leeson:

So about the budget, how does the budget work? How much does the Guild roughly chip in, and how much do we pay?

Christopher Nonis:

So, basically how it works, there is a budget. We had a \$40,000 or \$45,000 budget last year, but we exceeded it to \$52,000. We usually charge students or anyone who wants to attend this event. The Guild will pay for the cost first, and then the income from students or guests will be deducted from there.

Heidee Austic:

With the Guild Ball, we never really make a profit from it. We just break the even. That is just for students to have something to do. The same goes with any other events, we don't make a profit from students. We either break even or make a loss. The event we do is to benefit students.

Kieran Leeson:

I went to one a few years back, it was worth it.

Heidee Austic:

The emails that David received after the Ball last year. I think a big complaint from last year's Ball was that there were too many performances and not enough dancing time, so this year will significantly just cut down on that. Maybe a couple of people are performing something

cool, a couple of different performances. One of the students from the Change Agent Program is a magician. We could include him in the performance. Also, there was a complaint that the DJ, who was Chewe's friend, had a Spotify playlist last year. And apparently, he was playing from the playlist. If anyone wants to be on that committee, please jump on.

Elizabeth Tan:

I do know someone who can play the guitar.

Heidee Austic:

That is cool! But yeah, if any of you guys want to join the committee, you can brainstorm all your ideas into a big shared document.

Jesse:

When is that? As soon as possible?

Christopher Nonis:

I will put in the chat first, and we decide from there. Hopefully we can have our first meeting next week. Like last year, we had a lot of decorations to do.

Jesse:

When was the ball last year? I'm keen to join the committee

Christopher Nonis:

It was on the 26th November 2022.

Heidee Austic:

Cool, does anyone have anything to report on?

Elaine Dessie:

I want to clarify the club funding. So, the club funding now is pending, or what? I'm kind of confused about it. Obviously, we have events coming up and stuff for this month. So is the situation where clubs will have to hold on to the receipts and just wait until Sarah gets the reimbursement done?

Heidee Austic:

At the moment, it kind of pending. They are getting processed very slowly. But if a club needs the funding as soon as possible, I can do my best to get her to do them. But if you have anything on and the club has not received the funding, keep the receipts. Belicia will be back online from 10th May, I will ask her to process all of them if Sarah has not done them already. But if you have an event coming soon and need funds for it. Just let me know, I will message her on the spot.

Elaine Dessie:

All right, all good.

Heidee Austic:

Yeah, sorry about that. Also, the Café Kadj is trailing staying open until 8 pm now. So it is open from 8 am to 8 pm. This is the scenario at the moment. Obviously, exams are coming up. If it is successful, then, we will try and extend it even later. But if anyone has any feedback on the 8 am to 8 pm at any point, feel free to let us know. There are many students are then in the evening, and there is nowhere to get coffee, so that is why we are doing this. Hopefully, during the actual exam period or during the week before study week, we will try and stay open until 11 pm. Again, even at the moment with the 8 am to 8 pm shift, and if we are not making a profit or making a loss, having to pay a staff member. We are still going to try and remain open till 11 pm. Students need that service, and some people can't live without their coffee.

Christopher Nonis:

I would also like to say something. It is regarding the bookshop. If anyone of you is in a club, do promote it to your clubs as well. We do have a coffee machine and candy bar, but we are not getting enough traction from students. Just getting students who want their Smartrider

card.

Kieran Leeson:

I'm just touching base in general with Access and Equity on Monday's pending work with the access of our bikes. And regards to the referendum, what is our point of view, as a Guild? Are we in favour? Or is it a general awareness?

Heidee Austic:

So I think the post we wanted to put up was a bit of the background to what the situation is and then saying that we are in favour of it. We do think that there should be an indigenous voice in the Parliament. Obviously, again, the university has the First Nations as one of the key points. I think that it is important that we are all on the same page.

Jesse:

Just quickly, I'm studying in the Nexus Theatre; it is rarely or not been used. Tim was saying if the Guild wants to use the facility, please let him know. Nexus is amazing, and let's not go to waste.

Heidee Austic:

Cool, we can let MPAC know about this space. I think they may struggle to find places for their jam sessions. Anything else?

Elaine Dessie:

This is just from the International Student's Perspective. So recently, I attended a meeting with the Minister of International Education. There was some conversation about the wellbeing of international students currently at all university platforms. A lot of the topics surrounding the Housing Crisis Situation. I'm sure everyone is aware of the issue that is happening. I just wanted to get an idea of what is our stance regarding this issue and how have we as the Guild in combating this issue. A lot of international students have reached out to MISA as well.

Heidee Austic:

In terms of an overview, from the University's point of view. They are looking at 2 options for starting Sem 2. The first option is converting spaces or building new ones to have more housing. Preferably, they are looking to build a new accommodation building. This is because, obviously, there will be more students in general with COVID now gone. The second option is a much quicker option: to get camper vans attached to the village for the time being. The university does not run the village, but from what they have told us that they have 120 people on their waitlist for housing in the Village. From a Guild perspective, we can direct this matter to Shazhi, the Student Assist Manager, who can help in this matter. The Student Assist team is currently reaching out to the community, reaching out to people if they have any rooms available for these students. The same goes for giving access to the food bank and paying their bills if necessary. There was a case of a student who came in a couple of weeks ago, who was living out of their car, and while he was at McDonalds or something, someone smashed his window and broke into his car. We paid for the replacement of the window. Yeah, it is just small things at the moment. I hope I have answered your question. If you have students contacting MISA about this matter, direct them to Student Assist.

Elaine Dessie:

Another topic, I'm currently correlating with the Access and Wellbeing Team. Kenny from the department has reached out regarding the Mental Health surrounding International students because of a lot of stigmatisation and stuff about mental health. We are noticing is that a lot of international students are not utilising well in regard to the counselling session. I believe there are six or seven free counselling sessions for students. Right now, I'm just speaking to the Access team to see if we could. Is there a possibility for those access to those free sessions to be used for international students? Or is it just domestic students? Just try to raise awareness because, obviously the situation right now, like you said, it's not the best. And I'm sure a lot of students are kind of going through a lot of stress and stuff like that. MISA is trying to be the middleman between students and the Access Team in regard of that.

Heidee Austic:

Yeah, I'm surprised that it is not getting utilised well. But hopefully, it will. If you need the Guild to post anything as well, just let us know or ask the Project's Team to post regarding the Counselling Session.

Elaine Dessie:

We got marketing material, and they have sent it over to me, but I haven't seen the final product yet. Kenny sent it over, but I will look at the final product and then send it to the Project Team. I hope it can be posted on the Guild Page and to get awareness going.

Heidee Austic:

Cool, thank you. If there is nothing else, thank you for coming to this meeting, and I will officially close this meeting at 11.15 am. Thank you again.

Prepared by :

Approved by:



Christopher Nonis

Murdoch Guild General Secretary

Heidee Austic

Murdoch Guild President