Murdoch University Guild of Students

Guild Council Minutes 2026

Details

Date: 27th August 2026, Thursday
Time: 11:20 AWST
Venue: Guild Boardroom & Online via Teams
Duration: 1 hour 20minutes

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

Role	Member	Attendance
Guild President	Tshering Gyeltshen	P
Education Vice President (EVP)	Tshewang Rinzin	P
General Secretary	Nayeem Faisal	P
MUPSA President	Mehrdad Savar	A
MUPSA Vice President (Coursework)	Sara Manouchehri	Online
MUPSA Vice President (Research)	Samar Mahmood	P
International Student Rep (MISA)	Soriaa Sivagurunathan	P
Mandurah Association President (MSA)	Position Vacant	N/A
Women's Rep	Ayla Kaan	P
Sustainability Rep	Vedika Shrikhande	A
Disability Rep	Mia Westera	Online
Indigenous Rep	Taleesha Kickett	A
Role	Member	Attendance

Queer Rep	Kieran Silvie	A
Council Member	Position Vacant	N/A
Council Member	Position Vacant	N/A
Council Member	Md Rakibul Islam Rakib	P
Council Member	Position Vacant	N/A
Council Member	Jeswin Raju	A
Council Member	Himal Pandey Sharma	P

Part A - Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

Meeting Start: The meeting commenced at approximately 11:07 AM

1. Welcome to the Meeting and Acknowledgement of Country

- The Chair acknowledged that Murdoch University is situated on the lands of the Whadjuk and Binjareb Noongar people and paid respect to their enduring and dynamic culture and to Noongar Elders, past and present.

2. Apologies

- A formal apology was received from Vedika Shrikhande, Taleesha Kickett, Mehrdad Savar, and Jeswin Raju

3. Decision by Circulation

- Council members were reminded that regular attendance and participation are expected as part of Council membership.
- Members were advised that at least 30 hours of contribution are required for service hours to be recorded through the relevant University process. Repeated non-attendance may affect whether sufficient contribution hours are recorded.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

- The July Guild Council meeting minutes had been circulated. No amendments were raised during the meeting, and the minutes were accepted subject to any final corrections being provided to the General Secretary.

Part B - Discussion Items

1. Guild Games Review

- Council reviewed the August Guild Games. Badminton received the strongest registrations, while several other sports had lower participation and some categories had little or no turnout.
- The event was viewed as a positive first step, particularly as a comparable Guild-wide sporting event had not been held for several years.
- Council discussed lessons for future events, including stronger promotion, clearer communication, fewer sport categories, improved reminders, and better timing around classes and study break.
- Members also discussed the gap between registrations and actual attendance. A small future entry fee was suggested as one possible way to improve participant commitment.
- The organising team was acknowledged for its work. Medals, food, and water were provided to participants.

3. Campus Development and University Merger Discussion

- Council received an update on campus development planning. The Guild requested suitable offices for student representatives and separate Student Assist spaces to protect privacy during welfare and academic discussions.
- The University had not yet provided a final response to the Guild's requested amendments to the proposed space layout.

- Council also discussed unconfirmed information about a possible future university merger. Members raised concerns about fees, student identity, representation, and transition arrangements. No formal announcement had been made at the time of the meeting.

6. MISA Global Feast

- The MISA Global Feast was scheduled for the following day and was open to the wider student community, not only international students.
- Council discussed event funding, catering, security, AV, and lighting arrangements.
- The earlier idea of students preparing food at home was discontinued due to food-safety requirements. Catering was instead arranged through a professional restaurant, with a discount secured.
- Council noted the need for stronger event promotion through short-form video and social media content rather than relying mainly on posters.

7. Guild Communication and Social Media

- Members raised concerns that the Guild's LinkedIn presence and some website information were not current.
- Council discussed the need for more regular video content, stronger event promotion, and better visibility of Council and club activity.
- Members suggested that Councillors could assist with filming, appearing in, or editing promotional content, with this work contributing to volunteer hours where appropriate.

8. $10 Meal Initiative

- The Guild will trial a $10 meal at the Tavern as a more achievable alternative to the proposed $4.99 meal.
- The initial meal discussed was lasagna and chips, with the same aim of giving students a lower-cost meal option on campus.
- Council raised dietary-access concerns. A gluten-free version was not available at this stage, while a vegetarian option was identified for further consideration.

9. Guild Ball Update

- The General Secretary provided a detailed Guild Ball update. AV arrangements were confirmed and a professional MC, Pav Lov, was selected at a cost of $850 after a broad search for available MCs.
- The photo booth was confirmed at approximately $1,000, and the returning photographer was quoted at approximately $650.
- Proposed lucky-draw prizes included a Crown staycation or $500 gift card, headphones, and Adventure World tickets. Sponsorship options were being explored to reduce prize costs.
- Approximately 220 of the 300 general tickets had been sold at the time of the meeting, leaving around 80 tickets remaining.
- The General Secretary reported selling 18 tickets directly at the previous Thursday Market and planned to continue in-person promotion.
- The current event budget still showed a projected loss. Council was advised that selling the remaining tickets would significantly reduce the loss.
- The Crown event manager had agreed that Guild representatives could visit the ballroom to create promotional video content.
- A separate allocation of discounted tickets was being held for Council members.

10. Council Vacancies and Expressions of Interest

- Following the previous dismissal of two Council members, six expressions of interest had been received for the vacant Council positions.
- Council discussed using an anonymous voting process and selecting the two candidates with the highest level of support.
- Members discussed transparency in the voting process and ensuring eligible Councilors had an opportunity to participate.
- A suitable online poll was to be circulated after the meeting because the available Teams poll did not support the required voting format.

11. Resignation of Amira Ozrain

- Council was informed that Amira Ozrain had submitted her resignation from the Guild Council for personal reasons.
- Her contribution and active participation in Guild events were acknowledged.
- Council agreed that the resulting vacancy should not be filled immediately during the same meeting. The process for filling the additional vacancy would be considered later.

12. Cyber Security Club Space Request

- A request was raised for a dedicated room or permanent workspace to support Cyber Security Club hardware, workshops, and practical student activities.
- Council noted that permanent room allocation would be difficult because of limited University space and the need to consider fairness across clubs.
- Support was expressed for the club's objective of helping IT students build practical experience and professional connections.
- Further discussion with relevant Guild and University contacts was suggested to identify possible options.

Part C - Decision Items

1. Approval of July Minutes

- The July 2026 Guild Council meeting minutes were approved with the previously identified amendment incorporated.

2. MISA Global Feast

- Council noted the confirmed funding arrangements for the MISA Global Feast, including up to $1,500 in funding and an additional $500 sponsorship from Go Global.
- The event will proceed with professional catering in line with food-safety requirements.

3. Guild Communication and Promotion

- Council agreed to increase the use of short-form video and social media content for Guild events.
- Councillors may assist with filming, appearing in, or editing promotional content where appropriate.
- Outdated Guild website and LinkedIn information will be reviewed and updated.

4. $10 Meal Initiative

- Council supported proceeding with the $10 Tavern meal trial.
- A vegetarian meal option will be explored where operationally possible.

5. Future Guild Games

- Feedback from the 2026 Guild Games will inform planning for future Guild sporting events.
- Future planning will consider fewer sport categories, stronger promotion, better participant reminders, and scheduling around classes and study periods.

6. Council Vacancies

- An anonymous voting link will be circulated to eligible Councillors to select candidates for the two existing vacant Council positions.
- The additional vacancy following Amira Ozrain's resignation will be addressed separately through the appropriate Council process.

7. Cyber Security Club Space Request

- The Guild will explore suitable shared or bookable spaces for Cyber Security Club activities.
- Any arrangement will consider current University space limitations and fair access for other clubs.

8. Campus Development

- The Guild will continue seeking suitable office space for student representatives and separate private Student Assist spaces.
- The Guild will await the University's response to the requested amendments to the proposed space layout.

6. Key Motions

- Motion: That the July 2026 Guild Council meeting minutes be approved with the previously identified amendment incorporated.

Outcome: CARRIED

7. Reports & Updates

President's Report:

- Reviewed the Guild Games. Badminton had the strongest registrations, while some other sports had low participation. Council discussed lessons around promotion, organization, and participant engagement.

- Attended Academic Council and discussed matters affecting international students, including international enrolments and visa-related concerns.

- Provided an update on campus development discussions, including the Guild's request for appropriate Guild offices and private Student Assist spaces.
- Reported on the Access Experience Employment and Volunteering event held in collaboration with Launchpad, which connected students with employment and volunteering opportunities.

- Discussed the possible University merger and concerns about how any future changes could affect students. Council noted that no formal confirmation had been provided at the time of the meeting.

Education Vice President's Report:

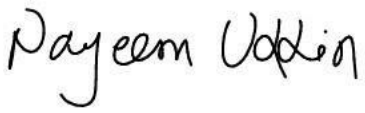
- Continued supporting students through academic hearings and academic integrity matters.
- Reported positive outcomes from several recent student cases.
- Attended the Education Committee and Board of Studies and continued representing student academic concerns.
- Assisted students with academic, completion, and visa-related matters.
- Provided an update on free tax-help support available to eligible students.

General Secretary's Report:

- Attended a screening of We Are Not Powerless and followed up with organiser Muzaffar Ali after the event.
- Provided an update on GrabMyTix as a lower-fee ticketing option and confirmed that an agreement would be used for the Guild Ball only at this stage.
- Continued Council administration, meeting documentation, member follow-up, and support for ongoing Guild event and governance work.
- Continued planning and coordination for the Guild Ball, including ticket sales, event arrangements, promotion, and communication with Crown.
- Met with Alex and Sai regarding the MISA Global Feast and its funding requirements. Sai prepared and presented the funding proposal.
- Secured up to $1,500 in funding for costs associated with the MISA event. Go Global also agreed to provide a further $500 sponsorship.
- Introduced the $10 meal initiative as an alternative to the earlier $4.99 meal proposal, which could not proceed because suitable kitchen space was unavailable.
- Reported on the successful completion of the Guild Games and discussed lessons that could improve future Guild sporting events.
- Provided an update regarding Sai following previous concerns about his Council meeting attendance. The General Secretary noted that Sai had been actively contributing to Guild and MISA activities and had kept himself updated with Council matters.

Meeting End: The meeting ended at approximately 12:35 PM.

Prepared by:



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Nayeem Faisal
Murdoch Guild General Secretary

Approved by:

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Tshering Gyeltshen
Murdoch Guild President