



1. WELCOME AND OPENING

Meeting opens at 6.04pm

Acknowledgement of country

1.1 Attendance

James Hodgeman (JH)
Nikhita Talluri (NT)
India Creed (IC)
Rachel Yeo (RY)
Jelena K
Paige Brandwood (PB)
Lauren Kohlen (LK)
Jay Williams (JW)
Anya Kai (AK)
Alexia Wood (AW)
Lorenzo Ianuzzi (LI)
Archit Menon (AM)
Ritika Menon (RM)
Suchi Kalia (SK)
Keertikka P Ganesan (KG)
Lucinda Bartlett (LB)
Olivia Stronarch (OS)
Christopher-John Daudu (CJD)
Anthony Sims (AS)
Aidan Kirby-Smith (AKS)
Shreya Bardwaj (SB)
Casey Taylor (CT)
Aarohi Tipathi (AT)
Anirudh Mohan (ANM)
Roshal Robert (RR)
Tabarek Alhaffer (TA)

1.2 Apologies

Amira Nunn
Selina Al Ansari
Mehardeep Kaur (MK)
Rishav Neog (RN)
Juan Lakonawa (JL)
Akshata Jois (AJ)

1.3 Proxies

SK for MK
RM for RN
CT for JL
JW for AJ



1.4 Absent

Luke Alderslade (LA)
Rama Sugiarta (RS)
Parham Brahma (PB)

Motion to accept proxies passes

2. DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

- 3.1 June Guild Council Minutes
- 3.2 July Minutes
- 3.3 Committee Minutes
 - 3.4.1 Equity and Diversity Committee
 - 3.4.2. Governance committee
 - 3.4.3 Student Services Committee
 - 3.4.4. Election Culture Committee

NT raise that the issue regarding the June council minutes has been verified, confirming that what was written in the minutes was accurately reflected in the recording. MV verified that the concern raised by Parham matched what actually occurred and expressed satisfaction with the minutes.

Motion to accept previous minutes
Moved by JK
Seconded by IC

This motion passes.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5. BUSINESS COMPLETED VIA CIRCULAR

6. DIRECTORS' REPORTS

6.1 Managing Director

TG updated the council on recent legal changes affecting clubs and societies with an ABN or those registered as independent entities. These clubs are now subject to tax regulations by the ATO, posing risks for those unaware of their incorporation status. Clubs without an ABN or that are not incorporated remain covered by the Guild. TG emphasized that incorporated clubs are not protected by the Guild's managerial or liability insurance, as they are separate entities. TG and Mutya have cautioned clubs against becoming incorporated, as it puts students at risk in case of financial or legal issues. The law change took effect on August 26, and



clubs have until October to seek legal and financial advice regarding their incorporation status.

IC emphasized that the Guild cannot provide tax or legal advice to independent organizations, including clubs with ABNs or those that are incorporated. IC requested that club members be advised to seek independent tax advice instead of contacting SOC. MV advised against causing too much distress to clubs and any information communicating this matter to clubs should be checked by them.

TG provided several key updates. First, they emphasized the importance of clubs and departments ensuring proper recordkeeping compliance as the Risk and Audit meeting in October approaches. They also discussed the potential impact of the Labor Government's new cap on international students, which could affect student numbers and the Guild's SAFF figures. Although the exact impact on UWA is unclear, there is a possibility of a slight increase in numbers depending on trends at other Perth universities.

TG mentioned the ongoing recruitment of a new Student Assist Officer, as Sasha will be leaving soon. Regarding campus renovations, the Guild Village Master Plan is progressing well, with the tavern renovation on schedule for a mid-September completion. Efforts are being made to open the front area of the tavern for student use, though rain has delayed some of the construction.

On Guild elections, TG noted that the process is going smoothly, but they reminded staff not to get involved in campaigning or political activities. Adjustments to polling booth locations may be required due to construction and weather conditions. The BPOS app is nearing its launch, with the university currently assessing risks before proceeding. Finally, TG announced that the new tavern website is live, with a functions website set to launch soon. Lizzie, the new functions coordinator, is working to drive more business.

LI inquired about how student information would be stored on the BPOS website. TG explained that the data would be cloud-based and managed by the university, which is involved in the process. The current challenge is navigating through the university's firewall, which has delayed the website's launch, though everything else, including content and images, is already in place.

6.2 Finance Director

TG reported positive financial results, stating the Guild currently sits on a \$154,000 profit, which is a significant improvement compared to the budgeted loss of \$161,000. This reflects an almost \$30,000 turnaround, primarily driven by efficient staff management. However, TG expressed concerns about the potential impact of the federal government's cap on international students, which could affect future financial performance.



TG highlighted some additional points, including a workers' compensation reimbursement from UWA and a slight downturn in tavern sales due to equipment issues, which are being addressed. They also mentioned that recent fleet work contributed to staffing and public affairs expenses.

Overall, TG expressed confidence in the Guild's financial standing, noting that the accounts are strong, with \$5 million in the offset account. However, much of this will be used for upcoming capital expenditures related to building works.

Happy to go talk about the main finances if anyone's got any questions, and then we'll go and do the outlets.

LI inquired about when the individual budgets for all departments would be updated, acknowledging that some delays were due to illness. IC noted that the mid-year budgets had not yet taken effect. TG responded that they were unsure of the reason for the delay but would investigate and provide an update.

Motion to move into camera
Moved by JK
Seconded by IC

This motion passes.

Motion to move out of camera
Moved by JK
Seconded by IC

This motion passes.

- 6.3 Commercial - AT
- 6.4 Student Services - AT
- 6.5 Venture Student Innovation Centre - AT

Motion to accept directors reports
Moved by JK
Seconded by IC

This motion passed.

7. QUESTIONS TIME – Directors' Reports

8 STUDENT REPORTS

- 8.1 Guild President - AT
- 8.2 Guild Vice-President - AT
- 8.3 Guild General Secretary - AT
- 8.4 Chair of Guild Council - AT
- 8.5 Education Council President - AT
- 8.6 Societies Council President – AR



MV reported significant developments for SOC this month. The team successfully removed booking fees for clubs, students, and commercial spaces, which will save clubs thousands of dollars monthly. SOC has also been working closely with the university to release resources aimed at reducing sexual assault and harm in club spaces. Additionally, the "How-to-be-a-Club" guide is nearly complete, though there has been a slight delay due to changes with commercial bookings. MV commended the SOC team for their efforts and achievements.

- 8.7 Public Affairs Council President - AT
- 8.8 Women's Officer - AT
- 8.9 Wellbeing Officer - AT
- 8.10 Postgraduates Students' Association President - AT
- 8.11 International Students' Department President - AT
- 8.12 Residential Students' Department President – AS

AS reported that the Battle of the Bands competition, organized in collaboration with SOC, has been highly successful. RSD has sold 800 tickets, generating significant revenue for the event. AS noted the positive financial outlook for this year's competition.

- 8.13 Environment Officer - AT
- 8.14 Sports Officer - NS
- 8.15 Access Department – AR

OS informed about the recent meeting of the NUS Performance Working Group, where they finalized several motions aimed at enhancing the accessibility of the NUS's national conference scheduled for December. These motions will be presented at NX.

- 8.16 Pride Officers – AT

AW expressed great satisfaction with the support during Pride Week, noting a strong turnout and overall positive participation.

- 8.17 Ethnocultural Officers - AT
- 8.18 Volunteering Chair – AT

CT conveyed a message from Juan regarding the Relay for Life event, noting that it has been rescheduled from 12 p.m. to 10 a.m. on the 5th and 6th of October. They encouraged everyone to sign up for the event, but emphasized that participation is optional.

- 8.19 OGCs
- AKS – AT
- ALM – AR

ALM reported on the Gaza solidarity protest that took place on Thursday, highlighting it as a significant focus for students. They participated by facilitating speeches during the event, which aimed to address UWA's compromising ties to the Gaza situation, including research partnerships linked to military applications. ALM emphasized the protest as a lively and dynamic effort to raise awareness about



Gaza solidarity at UWA and expressed hope for continued activism on this issue.

AN – AT
AM – AT
CL – AT
KG – AT
LA – AT
MK – AT
RY – AT
SA – AT
SB – AT

8. QUESTIONS TIME – Student Reports

AS raised questions about how to register a team for Relay for Life at UWA, noting that they had received numerous inquiries. They asked whether colleges should contact CT to set up a team or if registration could be done online. CT clarified that interested parties can find an application form by searching for Relay for Life and selecting the WA state page.

CT explained that the first person registering a team needs to complete the form, and on page four, they should indicate that they are creating a team by answering "yes" and entering the team name. If someone wants to join an existing team, they should contact the team's captain. For any registration issues, CT offered assistance via the Relay Instagram.

AS inquired about registration costs. CT responded that while it only costs to register individuals, there is a \$40 fee to create a team, which includes registering the team captain. If a team takes advantage of a flash sale, the cost drops to \$20, but participants still pay for individual registrations.

AS also asked about the timing of flash sales, to which CT noted that they are typically surprise announcements, encouraging everyone to follow the Relay for Life Instagram for updates. CT emphasized the importance of promoting the Relay UWA Instagram, as many people have mistakenly contacted the national Relay Instagram, leading to confusion.

SK inquired about the medical waste bin project, specifically asking OS who had been consulted regarding the matter, as they had mentioned staff. OS clarified that discussions had taken place with Uni Access and the Disability Inclusion Working Group, and they had also engaged with Campus Management. They noted that the feedback received suggested it would be a high-cost project, with uncertainty about the level of student interest. OS argued that students needing such facilities might not attend campus if adequate provisions are unavailable, and they have persistently advocated for the initiative.

LB added that while they had raised the issue multiple times over different weeks, progress had been limited. They were considering refocusing their



efforts on ensuring safe sharp disposal in all bathrooms and promoting the installation of menstrual waste bins.

SK then asked if they had consulted with the medical center to garner support for the project. OS admitted they had not. LB mentioned that based on the information received during the handover, they had assumed Campus Management would handle the initiative, but recognized there was some weight to the matter. OS explained that with changes in leadership at Uni Access, the issue may have been overlooked in the handover process.

Motion to accept student reports
Moved by JK
Seconded by IC

This motion passes.

10. BUSINESS FROM THE EXECUTIVE

11. ELECTIONS

12. MOTIONS ON NOTICE (OPERATIONS)

13.0 MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE (OPERATIONS)

14.0 MOTIONS ON NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)

14.1 The 111th Guild Council:

- 14.1.1 Supports the principle that the people of Scotland should have the right to determine their own future, including the right to full independence from the United Kingdom
- 14.1.2 Reiterates its support for the right of self-determination for all Indigenous groups and peoples around the world.
- 14.1.3 Acknowledges that the Scottish people have been fighting for independence from the English and United Kingdom since 1296 and the First War of Independence.
- 14.1.4 Expresses its concern over the November 2022 decision by the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom to prevent the Second Independence Referendum and affirms its belief in the democratic right of the Scottish people to decide their constitutional status through a legally recognized referendum process.
- 14.1.5 Acknowledges the long-standing impact of English occupation on the political, economic, and cultural life of Scotland, and recognizes the need for Scotland to have the autonomy to address these issues independently.
- 14.1.6 Supports the Societies and Public Affairs Council in their efforts to help affiliate new, and support existing, cultural clubs on campus.

PROPOSER: Max Vinning
SECONDER: Lauren Kohlen

MV expressed pride in the Scottish heritage as a member of the Irskinne Clan. They emphasized the importance of standing in solidarity with all students impacted by colonialism around the world. MV thanked LK for



seconding the motion but expressed disappointment that the Ethnocultural Department had not supported the motion nor attended the Council meeting. They conveyed their feelings of disappointment towards the department for failing to recognize the importance of Scottish issues and for the excluding their community. MV criticized the departments behavior as unacceptable urging them to reflect on their actions

This motion passes

15.0 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE (REPRESENTATION)

15.1 The 111th Guild Council:

- 15.1.1 Notes the Federal Government's proposed NDIS reforms has now passed both houses after it passed the Senate on Thursday the 22nd of August.
- 15.1.2 Reaffirms Motion 15.1 passed at the 111th May Guild Council meeting, highlighting the reduced choice and autonomy for disabled Australians that these changes are likely to bring.
- 15.1.3 Calls for the current legislation to be withdrawn in solidarity with People With Disability Australia (PWDA), the peak Australian disability advocacy group, which has cited numerous concerns including potential human rights breaches and disproportionate impact on marginalised First Nations people with disability.
- 15.1.4 Encourages any members of the UWA community experiencing any distress as a result of these changes to make use of support services such as:
 - 15.1.5 The Guild's Student Assist.
 - 15.1.6 Counselling services in the UWA Medical Centre.
 - 15.1.7 24/7 crisis support services like Lifeline, Beyond Blue, Mensline and Suicide Call Back Service.

PROPOSER: Olivia Stronach
SECONDER: Indi Creed

Motion was late because bill was passed after motions were due

Motion to hear motion without notice passes.

OS expressed deep disappointment over recent legislative changes that impact the disability community, noting that nearly all disability organizations in Australia had opposed these changes. They emphasized concern about the precedent set by the government's decision to ignore advocacy groups, highlighting the potential consequences for individuals who may suffer or even die without necessary support.

IC echoed Olivia's sentiments, emphasizing that students on campus would be directly affected by the changes. They pointed out that even those not directly impacted are feeling distrust and disappointment in a government that should be safeguarding their interests. IC lamented the recurring need to express disappointment in government actions this year, underscoring the commitment to raise these issues with federal and state representatives in future meetings.



This motion passes.

15.2. The 111th Guild Council:

- 15.2.1 Acknowledges the importance of collecting and recording the various demographics of a community for the adequate advocacy and representation of those demographics in decision-making.
- 15.2.2 Acknowledges that the exclusion of demographics from censuses can cause detriment to the wellbeing those excluded demographics.
- 15.2.3 Acknowledges and condemns the recent Albanese-Labor Government's decision to not include census-data on Queer Australians.
- 15.2.4 Acknowledges that the 2023 Labor Party platform included a commitment to ensuring the 2026 census gathered "relevant data on LGBTIQ+ Australians", and that the current decision goes against the Party platform.
- 15.2.5 Calls on the Albanese-Labor Government, the Labor Party, and the Australian Bureau of Statistics to reverse this decision.
 - a. Directs the Guild and the Pride Department to work together to write a statement in support of including the collection of Queer identities and familial relationships in the upcoming census.
 - b. Encourages Guild Councillors and UWA Students to petition the federal government to ensure that the census is inclusive of Queer identities.

Moved: Lorenzo Iannuzzi

Seconded: Alexia Wood

The motion was late because this only came out in the news recently

Motion to hear motion without notice passes.

LI stated that 'The recent decision to refuse to include census questions on queer identities by the Albanese-Labor government continues to exemplify the Australian Government's refusal to engage with activists and representatives of not just the Queer Community but all activist communities.

This refusal to include the census questions will not already cause more harm than what was already by us not being included, but it will also continue to make us invisible. Not counting queer people in the census makes it impossible for the Government to make informed decisions on policy that affects us. I urge Guild Councillors to support queer advocates for the inclusion of census questions on queer identities.

I would like to read a statement by Mx. April Long, a non-binary parent. "The 2021 census rendered us invisible, and today's decision ensures that invisibility extends into 2026 and beyond. Today's outcome is devastating. After hearing the news, I had to look at my 3-year-old son knowing that when he starts school, I won't be able to tell him how many kids are just like him with two mums. This isn't just about numbers or data, it's about our basic human right to be counted, recognised and valued. It's about ensuring our census counts everyone."



Madame Chair, Members of Guild Council, I think I speak for the queer community when I say: We are tired of being invisible, we are tired of being ignored, and we are tired of having our rights be used as political bargaining chips!

Procedural motion number 29, that speech be entered verbatim in the minutes.

That passes.

AW began by expressing gratitude to Lorenzo for crafting a well-worded motion, emphasizing that the more individuals publicly identify as queer, the easier it becomes to advocate for legislation that improves access to care, particularly regarding gender-related issues. AW committed to working with the Minister to garner the council's attention on these matters.

ALM supported the motion, criticizing the Albany government for its failure to uphold election promises related to queer rights. They pointed out that the withdrawal of a modest inclusion in the census was indicative of Labor's unwillingness to stand up against oppression, calling for a readiness to fight for these rights.

OS echoed these sentiments, noting the recent NUS motion that highlighted the Labor government's neglect of minority voices. They proposed an amendment to include a link to a petition run by Equality Australia, aiming to boost awareness and support.

Friendly amendment c: Encourages Guild Councilors to express their support for the Equality Australia petition to ensure that Queer people are properly counted in the Census < <https://equalityaustralia.org.au/our-work/countusin/>>

IC also expressed disappointment in the Albanese Labor government, referencing their history of retracting commitments to queer rights. They criticized the government's excuse of lacking sufficient data to enact reforms, highlighting that this reluctance ultimately prevents the collection of necessary data. IC expressed hope for a future where queer individuals are recognized in the census.

This motion passes

15.3 The 111th Guild Council:

15.3.1 Notes the Heritage Foundation's plan in the 2024 United States election to self-coup the US Government and install radical conservatives into the US executive government should a Republican Presidential Candidate be duly elected in November dubbed Project 2025.

15.3.2 Acknowledges the ties between the Trump-Vance ticket and the Heritage Foundation.

15.3.3. Acknowledges that Project 2025 includes plans to:



- a. Institutionalize discrimination against Queer people;
 - b. Ban and restrict access to reproductive Health Care;
 - c. Amend the US Constitution to repeal the 19th Amendment;
 - d. Repeal the Civil Rights Act;
 - e. Cut free lunch programmes for Children; and,
 - f. Limit voting access in the United States, just to name a few policies.
- 15.3.4. Condemns Project 2025, the Heritage Foundation, and the far-right being a threat to the foundations of Liberal Democracy.
- 15.3.5. Recognizes the harm Project 2025 has already caused, despite not yet being implemented.
- 15.3.6. Directs, in the event of a Presidential Candidate who supports Project 2025 being elected, the relevant departments to coordinate a response to:
- a. Support US students who may choose to seek refuge in Australia;
 - b. Facilitate support sessions with affected students; and,
 - c. In collaboration with the Guild, put out a statement condemning Project 2025, including support services for affected students.

Moved: Alexia Wood

Seconded: Lauren Kohlen

The motion was late due to the emotionally heavy topic
Motion to hear motion without notice passes.

AW began by acknowledging the support from Japanese IPS individuals to the Pride Department and emphasized the detrimental impact of Project 25 on mental health, not only in the US but globally. They highlighted the potential rescinding of rights, such as marriage equality, and the loss of access to reproductive care and basic human needs, expressing their horror at how such proposals dehumanize individuals. AW emphasized the global implications of US policies, urging that other countries often follow suit, and concluded by thanking everyone for their attention before leaving for breakfast.

LK expressed their agreement with AW's sentiments, reinforcing the idea that the proposal would harm communities both internationally and on campus.

AK shared their personal connection to the motion as a queer and trans individual who has accessed emergency reproductive healthcare. They voiced their fear for the future due to proposals like Project 2025, urging everyone to speak up against such changes.

LI also supported the motion, thanking those involved in drafting it. They highlighted the danger of a potential fascist state in the US and the repercussions it could have on democracy in Australia. LI stressed the importance of condemning the spread of fascism to other countries.

ALM added that the prospect of a Trump presidency is alarming and criticized the Democratic Party for failing to effectively challenge transphobia and far-right politics. They noted recent instances where



Democratic lawmakers collaborated with the GOP on anti-trans legislation, emphasizing the need for proactive resistance against bigotry rather than relying on the Democrats for change.

IC reiterated the importance of recognizing that many students on campus would be affected by US policies. They pointed out that the US often serves as a precursor for trends seen globally, citing the emotional response on campus to the overturning of *Roe v. Wade*. IC highlighted the need to support students feeling disheartened by international events, reinforcing the significance of the motion in relation to global issues.

This motion passes.

15.4

15.4.1. Expresses its deep concern at the outright actions by the federal government in further making international students a cash cow as they have done for years,

15.4.2. Expresses great concern at the Federal Government's intentions to establish a cap on the amount of international students commencing tertiary education,

15.4.3. Recognises that these caps will block international students coming to Australia, who may view their education here as a means out of poverty, and many of whom take loans to study to pursue a brighter future,

15.4.4. Recognises that international students contribute to the economy and culture of Australia, and are essential for our path forward as a diverse nation,

15.4.5. Recognises that international students are being scapegoated as the cause of the house and cost of living crisis,

15.4.6. Recognises that international student visa costs have increased from \$710 to \$1600, partially to fund initiatives coming from the Accord (HECS relief, paid placements, FEE-free Uni Ready courses, financial support for apprenticeships) that they will reap no benefits from,

15.4.7. Directs the Guild President, in consultation with the International Students Department and International Student Services, to continue campaigning for an end to the international student caps, and a cessation of discourse from members of Parliament that international students are to blame for the housing crisis,

15.4.8. Demands that UWA will not utilise a potential drop in international student enrolments as an excuse to cut jobs or essential programs at the University.

Proposed: Archit Menon

Seconded: India Creed

Motion was late as the policies were released recently and it took time to draft the motion.

Motion to hear motion without notice passes.

AM expressed disappointment over the new policy capping international students, emphasizing its negative impact on Australia's diverse culture and university campus environment. They criticized the notion of



international students being viewed as "cash cows" for universities, highlighting increased visa fees that primarily benefit domestic programs.

IC noted that the Guild had previously addressed the caps but was now informed of specific details: a limit of 270,000 commencing international students for 2025. This cap could hinder the expected intake of international students, reducing community diversity. They pointed out that the federal government had largely ignored opposition from various educational bodies.

RY agreed with AM's concerns about international students being objectified. They recounted their struggles with visa acquisition during the pandemic and criticized the government for imposing additional financial burdens on international students. AW shared anecdotes from international students in the Pride Department, stressing the sacrifices families make to send their children to Australia for safety and quality education, especially for those facing persecution due to their sexual orientation.

RM criticized the cap as a lazy policy that fails to address underlying issues in the education system, stating that it affects genuine students while doing little to deter those misusing the system. SK expressed strong disapproval of the federal government's lack of transparency regarding visa fee increases and the perception that international students are a burden during economic crises. They highlighted the damaging rhetoric directed at international students.

ALM emphasized that the opposition to caps stems from a belief in equal access to education for all, regardless of nationality. They condemned the Labor government for succumbing to right-wing pressure and called for international students to have access to free education. CJD echoed concerns about the government's narrative blaming international students for local issues, which could foster division among student populations.

OS, a German citizen, pointed out the stark contrast between the cost of education in Germany and Australia, noting that high fees deter international students from pursuing further education in Australia. Casey highlighted that a significant portion of the volunteering committee at UWA consists of international students. The caps would likely reduce the university's volunteering capacity and affect the scale of events organized by students.

This motion passes.

15.5

The 111th Guild Council

15.5.1 Expresses solidarity with the family of the victim of the recent murder and rape case in the R.G Kar Medical College, Kolkata, India case.

15.5.2 Stands with healthcare workers and essential service providers in India, and all around the world advocating for a safe work environment.



15.5.3 Recognizes the mental and emotional toll on students, specifically Indian female identifying students on campus and reiterates the wellbeing services provided by UWA and the UWA Student Guild to all students

15.5.4 Recognizes the difficulties, harassment and discrimination that women and marginalized communities face at the workplace.

15.5.5 Directs the International Students Department, Women's Department and Sanskriti-Association for Indian Culture UWA to publish a statement expressing the following

- a. Solidarity with the victim
- b. Condemning this incident and all similar incidents world-wide
- c. Addressing the blaming of the victim by authorities and those online.
- d. Raising awareness on the issue

Proposed By: Rishav Neog(Proxy-Ritika Menon)

Seconded By: Paige Branwood

It's a very emotionally heavy topic and stakeholders consulted with needed some time to put it into words.

Motion to hear motion without notice passes.

In a recent council meeting, RM opened the discussion by expressing the difficulty in articulating their emotions regarding the brutal sexual assault and murder of a young female trainee doctor at the RJ Cowan Medical College in India. They acknowledged that the topic might be triggering for some attendees and detailed the disturbing aspects of the case, including the inhumane nature of the crime and the inadequate responses from authorities, such as false announcements and violent interruptions of protests. RM emphasized the emotional toll this case has had on students from the Indian community and encouraged everyone to seek support and check in on those who may be struggling.

PB expressed gratitude to the International Students Department and RM for bringing the motion forward, urging everyone to educate themselves on the details of the incident, which They described as horrific and directly impactful on students. They highlighted the prevalence of victim-blaming and sexual violence, both globally and on campus, reiterating the importance of ongoing work to address these issues.

PB wholeheartedly supported the motion and announced that the council would post on social media to stand in solidarity, encouraging difficult conversations and support-seeking among students.

Rosha Roberts, an observer and committee member, shared their personal feelings of fear and caution in light of the recent events in India. They noted a surge in reported rape cases following a specific incident and conveyed their concerns for the safety of both women and men. Rosha emphasized the importance of passing a motion that



acknowledges the struggles faced by victims and creates a supportive environment on campus.

AM spoke in favour of the motion, thanking RM, Rosha, and PB for their contributions. They expressed empathy for students affected by the situation in India and reiterated the significance of support services available on campus. AM pointed out the concerning trend of victim-blaming, particularly in light of recent events related to sexual assault. The council then opened the floor for questions and additional speakers, with various members reiterating the need for support systems and the importance of addressing the cultural implications of such violence.

This motion passes.

16.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

MV congratulated the Environment Department on their new Instagram account, expressing support as an Environmental Science student and former president of an Environment Club. MV addressed recent negative comments about the department, emphasizing that such remarks were misinformed and urging those making them to reconsider their perspectives. They acknowledged the hard work the Environment Department has been doing, particularly in collaboration with Anya to advocate against the university's practices.

AK followed up by sharing their experience attending a university seminar on sustainable investment, which they described as disheartening due to its poor attendance and lack of student engagement. They highlighted that only two students attended, and both had learned about the seminar through non-student advertisements. AK expressed disappointment in the university's response to questions regarding the genocide in Palestine and its ties to carbon-heavy investments, criticizing the administration's lack of transparency and regard for student interests.

IC emphasized the importance of pushing the university for greater disclosure about its investment portfolio and the need for student consultation on investment policies. They argued that students should have a say in how their money is invested to ensure alignment with their values.

LB expressed concern over the negative discourse surrounding the activities of Guild councillors, thanking them for their hard work, which often goes unnoticed. They acknowledged the behind-the-scenes efforts that contribute to the effectiveness of the council, urging everyone to recognize the commitment of their peers.

IC reminded everyone about the importance of professionalism as the election season approaches, urging members not to involve staff in



electioneering. They expressed pride in the team and the accomplishments made throughout the year.

Finally, OS announced the start of the Paralympics, highlighting the recent decision to equalize the pay for Paralympians and Olympians. They encouraged everyone to watch the events and support the athletes, recognizing the hard work they put into their sports.

17. CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING 7.03PM

The next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 25th September 2024 at 6.00pm**. Please contact the Guild General Secretary (secretary@guild.uwa.edu.au) with apologies or proxies. If unable to attend, please advise which dates you are available to reschedule if a quorum cannot be met.