



UWA STUDENT GUILD EDUCATION COUNCIL

MEETING AGENDA | TUESDAY 22TH JANUARY 2019

UWA Student Guild | M300, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley WA 6009
ed@guild.uwa.edu.au | (08) 6488 2294 | guild.uwa.edu.au

1. Welcome and Opening

1.1. Attendance

Faculty Societies: Katrina Revy (Arts Union President), Bradan Sonnendecker (Arts Union ED VP), Mike Myers (Blackstone President), Alexander Anile (Blackstone ED VP), Parsa Amid (ECOMS ED VP), Phoebe Sun (HSS ED VP), Peyton Hawkins (MSS President), Kira O'Dell (MSS Delegate), Olivia Tan (Science Union President), Rach Darwin (SNAGS ED VP), Rowan Sobey (UEC President), Lianne Leung (WAMSS Internals VP)

Committee:

Lincoln Aspinall (ED President), Cath Astell (ED Secretary), Dylan Perkins (ED Treasurer), James Dow (EAN Coordinator & ED OCM), Nic Cokis (ED OCM), Conrad Hogg (Guild President)

Standing Invitees:

Alexander Tan (PSA President), Tony Li (BPhil ED VP), Saskia Mason (Pride Officer), Mike Anderson (Access Officer)

Proxies:

Jimmy Ton (ECOMS President), Jerry Pang (HSS President), Alison Walsh (SNAGS President), Michael Widjajana (PMSS President).

Apologies:

Hannah Smith (ED VP), Nisa Shahrin (ISD President), Emma Mezger (Science Union President), Charlotte Groom (BPhil President), Tim Smith (WAMSS ED VP), Harry D'Souza (WAMSS President), Martha McKinley (Pride Officer)

Absent:

Ruohan Zhang (UDSS President), Adam Kadri (UDSS ED Officer), Simran Bhalla (UDSS ED Officer), Nicola Haste (UEC ED VP), Alexander Sparrow (PSA VP Coursework), Dennis Power (PSA VP Research), Tadyn Krop (PMSS ED VP)

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

- Confirmed.

3. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

- Nil.

4. Reports

4.1. Guild President

- As tabled.

4.2. Education Council President

- As read.

- Note from Guild Chair, Patricia Paguio, asking for any more clubs that would be interested/benefit from the collaboration between discipline specific clubs and Facsocs. Please email chair@guild.uwa.edu.au.

4.3. Education Council Vice-President

- Nil.

4.4. EAN Coordinator

- Nil.

4.5. PSA Representatives

- As tabled.

4.6. ALVA Society

- Nil.

4.7. Arts Union

- Nil.

4.8. Blackstone Society

- As tabled.

4.9. ECOMS

- As tabled

4.10. HSS

- As tabled

4.11. MSS

- As tabled

4.12. Science Union

- Olivia asks if executive members can get volunteering hours for the club.
 - o Lincoln says to visit or email Guild Volunteering with the hours you have done, and they will be added to your supplementary academic transcript.
 - o Conrad adds that having a method of logging the hours is important. He also states that anyone who volunteers for the club can claim the volunteering hours.
 - o Lincoln says it is best to accumulate hours and bring them to Guild Volunteering at the end of the year instead of continually sending them through.

4.13. SNAGS

- As tabled.

4.14. UDSS

- Nil.

4.15. UEC

- As tabled.

4.16. WAMSS

- Lianne comments on a good day at the medicine orientation yesterday.

4.17. BPhil

- Tony Li states that BPhil host a summer residence for freshers every year, but they haven't been noticed as to when it will be happening nor other details about rosters etc which is unusual.
- Tony says the university has indicated that they are planning on increasing the intake from 50-70 to 140-180 BPhil students. He indicates that BPhil are unhappy with this decision and are still in discussion with the university over this.
- Conrad says in academic policy it still says that BPhil is only quoted to 44 students.

4.18. PMSS

- Michael says PMSS were a part of the orientation last week.

5. Motions

- NA

6. General Business

6.1. Echo360 System

- Callan Rose discusses the new LCS system which was kickstarted mid 2018. The system was worked on by the university's IT, the AV team and the Education Enhancement unit, including Echo 360 within that.
- The three streams of the project include a system upgrade, upgraded capture appliances and capability development.
- The objectives of the new system are to improve quality, provide an integrated and stable system, as well as provide parity with existing system
- Video will be available in both SD and HD.
- Callan gives a live demonstration of the system.
- New components include its ability to support both video and presentation files as well as Transcripts and Closed Captioning. Other features include notes, Q&A, confusion flag and interactive questions.
- Callan assumes the time between lectures occurring and being uploaded will be 2-3 days but may be faster as Student Access will be aware of the time in which lectures occur.
- Callan mentions it will be run as a SaaS platform meaning there will be continuous development and roll out. Future features that have not been switched on yet include automatic speech recognition, live streaming, Ad Hoc and Universal Capture (the ability to record outside of lecture capture enabled venues using any device able to connect to the network).
- Students will be able to upload content to the system.
- The policy developed at the end of last year states that all scheduled lectures will be recorded, available and downloadable throughout the teaching period. Lecturers will be able to request permission to not record due to certain circumstances.
- Lincoln places importance on ensuring reps keep lecturers accountable for recording and not allowing them to sidestep the policy by calling them workshops.
- Callan says lectures will not be able to turn of the feature allowing lectures to be downloaded.
- Students should be notified in advance if a lecture will not be recorded due to confidentiality issues etc.
- Callan says guest lecturers will have access to the system through their staff account if they have one.
- Lecturers will be able to turn the discussion platform on and off.
- Parsa asks about the level of education for lecturers regarding the new system.
 - o Callan says they will be running several workshops to focus on how to effectively use different features of the system, however this will not be compulsory.

6.2. Orientation

- Conrad overviews the orientation week plan.
 - o Monday: Welcome ceremony and student expo.
 - o Tuesday: Faculty orientation in the morning with Guild and Facsoc activities on oak lawn in the afternoon (2PM – 5PM).
 - o Friday: O-Day which will also involve carnival games, a big inflatable water slide and a DJ on oak lawn.
- Conrad asks which Facsocs were keen to be involved in the Facsoc activities on Tuesday afternoon. Arts Union, ECOMS, MSS, UEC, SNAGS and Science Union indicate they wish to be involved.

6.3. Education Week

- Lincoln discusses the implementation of ED Week. It is to be run by Facsocs and the committee during week 1 which will get them engaged with the students straight away. The aim is to inform students about who represents them.
- Tuesday afternoon will be a collaboration with Pac. There will be several activation activities as well as free food and a DJ. Lincoln says ideally all Facsocs will have a stall as it is a good opportunity for free promotion for the Facsocs. It will also promote the ED Collective which will be running through common lunch hour throughout the year.
- Lincoln will be in touch about the individual events the Facsocs will be running.
- Lincoln touches on the benefits of holding it during first week of semester. It lines up with the university's six weeks of orientation which means events will be promoted by both the Guild and the university.
- Michael asks if funds will be provided.
 - o Lincoln says that the events do not need to be big just effective and that he will try to cover the cost as much as possible.
 - o Lincoln says that if a Facsoc does want to put substantial funding into the event they can apply for a SPG.
 - o Lincoln also mentions the possibility for funding through the club collaboration initiative.
- Conrad says at O-Day there will be no charge for a stall

6.4. Welfare Officer Collective

- Conrad says both the Welfare and Women's Officer are putting together a collective of different representatives from clubs and societies. If Facsocs have a position focused on either area (eg. a Women's rep) they are encouraged to contact Bre regarding Women's and Maddie regarding Welfare.
- Lincoln adds that Nisa Shahrin is attempting to do the same thing so international reps should be forwarded to Nisa.
- Lincoln raises the Guild Induction unit that he and Conrad are working on. He asks for scenario suggestions for which a 'how to' would be beneficial.

6.5. Women's Collective

- Addressed in 6.4

6.6. Breakout Session

- In what ways do you feel students wants and needs are rapidly evolving in a university environment?
 - Alison believes SNAGS can benefit from running events similar to their last year farm trips as it provides the hands on experience that many agriculture students are missing.
 - Lianne discusses WAMSS move towards an inclusion of 'more chill' events such as debrief sessions to address the mental health portfolio.
- How do you see these changes continuing to evolve among students? How can your FacSoc support change?
 - Conrad addresses that newer surveys show an increased student demand for wellbeing services.
 - Rowan says UEC got a welfare rep last year which has been beneficial as companies are quite interested in it.
 - Parsa comments on the impact of almost all club-run events being focused around drinking alcohol. He says this alienates potential members who do not like to engage with that culture.
 - Mike Anderson adds that religious reasons may prevent people from engaging with Facsocs if the majority of their events revolve around drinking.
- Do you feel running events and encouraging attendance has changed within the past few years? What events have worked well and continue to work well for your FacSoc?
 - Phoebe says HSS's biggest event was the karaoke night. She adds that they have mostly written off events solely focused on alcohol as they believe there will not be enough attraction if there is nothing else included.
 - Peyton says MSS had a big increase in events around mental health including their info session.
 - Alison says SNAGS saw mostly the same faces at events but the careers night got different people involved.
 - Lincoln asks if a career focus could be implemented in ED week. Alison says SNAGS are attempting to have researchers run the green house tour.
 - Parsa thinks that ECOMS's business events where they directly benefit the student (eg. Resume writing) are most successful.
 - Rowan says UEC have done fairly well with big events such as the ball and pub crawls over the last few years. They have introduced some new events which Rowan thinks will do better the 2nd or 3rd attempt.
 - Michael says the ball was the biggest event for PMSS. He believes a big pull for the ball was the networking opportunity.
 - Alexander Anile says the ball was the biggest event for Blackstone, but the courtyard show is struggling. They are attempting to work with other law schools but they are not interested. He says an issue that arose for Blackstone was their provision of networking to disadvantaged groups and they will work to widen the scope of the opportunities they provide.

- Bradan says the pub crawl was the most successful event for Arts Union. He adds that the study night did really well and believes it can be good for introducing freshers into the Facsoc.
- Alexander Tan says events been increasing for PSA as the university increases the focus on postgraduate study. He says PSA events have a greater career focus than social focus
- Are you trying any new ways to engage students in 2019?
 - Olivia says Science Union will attempt to find areas which do not have events targeted at them in order to get new people engaged.
- Has collaborating with other clubs helped strengthen your engagement with students? How has this come about?
 - Conrad say collaboration can be a good opportunity to bring together different groups of students who are interested in the same kind of thing.

6.7. 12 Week Semester

- Lincoln presents a survey that was rolled out last year regarding 12 week semesters. This will provide evidence when approaching the university.
- Lincoln says returning to 13 week semesters is the most optimal result. However, as the university seems set on 12 weeks, introducing a better holiday period would be the second choice. Third preference is an increase of welfare services and support for students on campus.
- The survey had 1766 responses, the majority from undergraduate students but some responses being from postgraduate.
- Over 80% of respondents preferred 13 teaching weeks.
- Presented by the survey were the negative outcomes of the move to 12 teaching weeks. These included cramming of content, loss of revision time, increase levels of stress, assignments all due around the same time, less time to be on campus and contribute to clubs and Facsocs.
- Lincoln says with 12 weeks students are getting less out of their degrees due to less content and paying SAF when they are not on campus. This is especially an issue for international students.
- Most respondents believed the quality of education was poorer due to 12 weeks. Almost everyone agreed the unit was more compressed. Further almost everyone responded saying there was a negative impact on welfare as well as participation.
- Lincoln presents the recommendations they will be taking to the university. In order of priority these are:
 - 13-week semesters.
 - Explore the introduction of an additional study free week.
 - Invest into support services.
 - Ensure that each unit's content is appropriate for the teaching period.
 - Ensure the assessments in majors and courses are appropriately aligned.
 - Ensure that future changes that impact the student experience are effectively communicated to all current students
- Alexander Anile says when he Mike Myers met with the Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor he kept comparing UWA to other universities in suggestion that we should follow what they are doing. Alexander however believes they should focus on our students and their needs. He adds that other universities teach differently and it is therefore not comparable.

- Mike Anderson asks if the point that 13 weeks might be a stand out point for UWA against other universities could be communicated.
- Phoebe asks how the data will be presented to the university.
 - o Lincoln says he and Conrad are currently working on the presentation paper.
 - o Conrad says that the paper will be available to be proofread.
- Conrad says the university has a range of reasons for having 12 week semesters. Part of this is having graduations in December, economical benefits, as well as running summer and winter school between the semesters. He adds that they successfully ran the summer school between 13 week semesters and so this reason is mostly auxiliary.
- Lincoln says we need to consistently push back against the move towards trimesters. He believes providing evidence that it may impact enrolment is a good approach considering the university's hard lined position.
- Conrad says the new executive is not focused on trimesters but historically that has been the goal.
- Conrad says a major issue is how the units are designed. Other universities have units developed around less weeks whereas UWA units were designed for 13 weeks and are taught by staff used to teaching over 13 weeks.
- Rowan addresses the justification that you could have a better summer school. He reports the Dean of Engineering says the reason there are limited engineering and maths units for summer school is the lack of funding.
- Alexander Anile suggests Conrad and Lincoln should address the argument around cost as the university was able deliver 13 weeks successfully with the same funding and so the argument has limited merit.
- Conrad says study free breaks are aligned around public holidays in order to minimise the impact on teaching. He says there has not been much advocacy around this as there is no strong consensus around when they should be placed.
- Alexander Anile addresses the public holiday during exam week. Conrad says the university is currently undecided. He will address this next month after receiving more clarity.

6.8. Late Submission Penalty Survey

- Lincoln encourages Facsocs to push the survey out to members to complete. It will go out with the COMMS plan this week.

7. Close/Next Meeting

The next meeting of Education Council will be on 19th February in the Guild Council Meeting Room.

Proxies and Apologies must be sent to Cath Astell (ed-secretary@guild.uwa.edu.au) 48 hours prior to the meeting. Motions and Motion Attachments must be received by the Education Council Secretary by COB on the Monday, one week prior to the Education Council Meeting, which is to be circulated by COB on the Tuesday, one week prior to the Meeting.

All reports must be submitted to the Education Council Secretary by COB the Saturday prior to the Education Council Meeting, to be circulated by COB the following day, on Sunday.