



UWA STUDENT GUILD EDUCATION COUNCIL

MEETING AGENDA | TUESDAY 19TH MARCH 2019

UWA Student Guild | M300, 35 Stirling Highway, Crawley WA 6009
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1. Welcome and Opening

1.1. Attendance

Faculty Societies: Katrina Revy (Arts Union President), Bradan Sonnendecker (Arts Union ED-VP), Mike Myers (Blackstone President), Isobel Bleddyn (ECOMS President), Phoebe Sun (HSS ED-VP), Peyton Hawkins (MSS President), Kira O'Dell (MSS Delegate), Emma Mezger (Science Union President), Olivia Tan (Science Union ED-VP), Rach Darwin (SNAGS ED VP), Rowan Sobey (UEC President), Nicola Haste (UEC ED-VP), Lianne Leung (WAMSS Internal VP), Tim Smith (WAMSS ED-VP).

Committee: Lincoln Aspinall (ED President), Cath Astell (ED Secretary), James Dow (EAN Coordinator & ED OCM), Nic Cokis (ED OCM).

Standing Invitees: Alexander Tan (PSA President), Charlotte Groom (BPhil President), The Jun Yi (PMSS President), Mike Anderson (Access Officer).

Proxies: Isaac Ng (ISD President), Manul Koralage (HSS President).

Apologies: Hannah Smith (ED-VP), Conrad Hogg (Guild President), Ruohan Zhang (UDSS President), Adam Kadri (UDSS Ed Officer), Olivia Tan (SU Ed-VP), Tony Li (BPhil Ed-VP), Kendra Evans (SNAGS President), Alexander Anile (Blackstone ED-VP), Harry D'Souza (WAMSS President).

Absent: Simram Bhalla (UDSS ED Officer), 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

4.2. Education Council President

- As tabled.

4.3. Education Council Vice-President

- As tabled.

4.4. EAN Coordinator

- Report will be on the drive.

4.5. PSA Representatives

- As tabled.

4.6. ALVA Society

4.7. Arts Union

- Acknowledged.

4.8. Blackstone Society

4.9. ECOMS

- Parsa asks how SPG funding is allocated for study nights in regards to unit size.

4.10. HSS

- As tabled

4.11. MSS

- Kira states that a student approached them regarding a lecture not being recorded. The lecturers response was that it was not classified as a lecture so the class won't be recorded.
- Lincoln says he will go through the relevant policy with Faculty Societies. His aim to ensure class facilitators are uploading recordings on a basis of best practise instead of withholding uploads on grounds of technicalities is further discussed in the Education President March Report.

4.12. Science Union

- As tabled.

4.13. SNAGS

4.14. UDSS

4.15. UEC

- As tabled.

4.16. WAMSS

- Lianne asks for people to contact her regarding how they ran their boat party.

4.17. BPhil

- Charlotte mentions that Maths Honour lectures are not required and asks about the policy regarding that.

4.18. PMSS

5. Motions

- Nil.

6. General Business

6.1. Education Council Treasurer Resignation

- Lincoln acknowledges that Dylan has resigned from Education Council Treasurer.
- Lincoln mentions the idea of merging secretary and treasurer roles. Would still need to make up numbers on the Education Committee which could potentially be another OCM.
 - o Lianne asks how it would impact quorum.
 - o Lincoln says there would need to be discussion around adding another executive. This role could potentially be another VP or OCM.

6.2. Ed Week Debrief

- Lincoln asks for feedback regarding Ed Week.
- Rowan asks if week 1 is the most suitable week to run it. He says it doesn't allow for word of mouth advertising.
- Lincoln asks for suggestions regarding running another ED week.

- Parsa mentions week 2 may be better as freshers have not yet liked Facebook pages etc. so it is difficult to push events through to freshers. He does acknowledge that it needs to be early in semester to get people involved early so believes week 2 may be optimal if possible.
 - o Lincoln said he wanted ED week events to be students first interaction with the FacSocs so that they are aware of what they do from the beginning of semester. Running in week 1 does achieve this.
- Emma agrees with Rowan and Parsa. She says it was difficult to run multiple events so early in semester as they found they didn't have enough time to advertise or prepare.
- Peyton said staff booked meetings during MSS event after agreeing to help out so they struggled with it being in week 1.

6.3. PsySoc Proposal

- Lincoln mentions that it is within regulation for societies to affiliate with Ed Council however that body does not generally remove and mix students from currently standing Faculty Societies.
- Lincoln says he wrote PsySoc a comprehensive email regarding concerns and challenges he thinks they would encounter if they were to affiliate. They have written their proposal in response to this.
- Olivia said SU was disappointed with PysSoc's allegations, she believes they reach out to them but there is no reciprocation. Last year the SU Ed-VP ran through problems with the head of PysSoc. Last year PysSoc attendance at the SU forum was very poor and not very many issues were raised. Some people raised issues with SU after finding PysSoc didn't address it. Emma says it wasn't an active decision to neglect the PysSoc sundowner, SU committee don't go to all science club sundowners.
 - o Emma adds that committee members go to the events as individuals rather than a society. PysSoc overlapping between faculties is not a need to become a FacSoc as student issues regarding a unit will need to be address by the Faculty for that unit, either science or arts. She asks whether PysSoc would be on the Faculty of Science or the Faculty of Arts or both? Emma says PysSoc should form better relationships with Science & Arts Union and use the services already set up. She doesn't believe they fit the description of a FacSoc.
- Lincoln mentions that he said the collaborative groups was a good space for them to receive funding. He also adds that Pat denies saying what was quoted in the proposal.
- Rowan says bridging between two Faculties will causes issues as they will need to be student representatives on more than one School/Faculty. It will also create a need for communication between two FacSocs regarding this representation, complicating the matter. He also states being a representative body is not enough to qualify as a FacSoc. Rowan further asks how many students within majors each FacSoc represent and believes comparisons between current FacSocs and PysSoc should be a consideration for the decision. He questions how many FacSocs a Faculty can be split into before impact is diluted.
 - o Lincoln adds that the more people brought to the table attenuates actual progress and undermines the intention of student representation.
- Katrin says Arts Union has never been contacted by PysSoc asking for better representation. She says that Arts Union are capable to help if contacted. She believes it is unnecessary for them to affiliate with Ed Council as they can still be effective without being FacSoc.

- Lincoln says PysSoc should exhaust existing options before becoming a FacSoc.
- Parsa asks if feedback will be given to PysSoc.
 - Lincoln says he will reflect what has been said in the meeting in discussion with PysSoc.
- Parsa says last year they ran 2 education based events. He says they aren't representing their students' education needs enough to be entitled a FacSoc. He mentions that Maths Union and many other small clubs run at least as many education events. They could then be incentivised to seek becoming a FacSoc. He states that faculties are a broad umbrella and FacSocs should be also.
- Rowan extends on Parsa's comparison to Maths Union and UEC.
- Isobel addresses the tone of the proposal and interprets it to potentially reflect the wrong intention for affiliating.
- Lianne asks if PysSoc currently sits on a faculty or school.
 - Lincoln says they don't as they are a club.
- Emma says SU will try harder to reach out to PysSoc.
- Rowan asks if there have been steps before the proposal.
 - Lincoln says they approached the societies council and they were passed on to him. He has been in email communication with them and wanted to bring the proposal to Ed Council rather than shut it down without consultation.

6.4. Academic Policy Communication

- Lincoln wants to ensure there is no gap between policy and actual practice in regards to LCS.
 - He asks for any lecture capture issues to be sent through to him with the venue, unit and time included.
- Phoebe asks about lectures that go over time.
 - Lincoln says to keep lecturers to their time, try to limit them waffling etc.
- Mike mentions that unit outlines are not being made public.
- Lincoln says he and Conrad will release a blog post regarding the removal of scaling. He says the guild didn't advocate for the decision.
- Lincoln mentions that the Tertiary Education Quality Standards Association has said on a national level that in order to run accredited courses you require criterion-based marking. It is therefore important that assessments are set well and aren't ridiculously hard or easy.
- Rowan asks about the weightings of assessments and how scaling will impact that. From what he is aware of the approach to dealings around scaling will be addressed on a case by case basis.
- Lincoln says the university does has support services in place for this transition.
- Lianne asks if there would be a plan b for units in which assessments are not set properly.

- Lincoln says he is currently unsure, but it should be addressed in the upcoming blog post.
- Parsa discusses his worries considering there has no been no adjustments made to account for removal of scaling.
- Alex mentions moderation which will still be used. This shifts grades in a certain direction rather than forcing a bell curve. He also addresses the need to maintain accreditation which not removing scaling would jeopardise.
- Mike Anderson asks about the speed of the moderation process.
 - Alex says moderation will be a slower process as it is case by case.

6.5. Cycle 2 Review

- Cycle 2 Review is the revaluation of the post graduate program.
- Alex says it is a yearlong review. They are looking at how Master's students are performing currently and how they compare to other universities as well as where UWA aims to be. A major focus of improvement will be engagement with industry and development of soft skills to increase employability within graduates.

6.6. Communities of Practice

- Lincoln says communities of practice are silos of academics which achieve consensus on certain ideas. They are essentially think tanks for certain topics for example teamwork and alternative dispute resolution.
- Conrad thinks it will be good to get student input. More information will be provided later.

6.7. SCC

- An email has been sent out which includes an invitation to the Student Consultative Committee meeting. This will be an opportunity for academics and high level university staff to hear from student representatives on Ed Council.

6.8. Curiosity

- Curiosity is an external online provider that has subject specialists able to provide students with live course skills help and 24/7 writing help. It was piloted in some units last semester and has been rolled out into all first year units this year. It is free for all students enrolled in the units.

6.9. SPG Workshop

- Cath discusses SPG expectations. She highlights the importance of clarity and detail to ensure budget credibility. She adds that it is also required in order to assess expenses in comparison to funding for reports at the end of semester.
- Cath goes through the SPG template, explaining and providing examples for relevant headings. The provided template should be used with sufficient detail, breaking down costs and event income. Improved events should include reference to the ways in which adjustments are adding to student value.

6.10. Breakout Session

- What do you perceive as the role of the Access Department?

- Mike Anderson says the role of the Access Department is to represent students who have lived experiences with disability, medical conditions and mental health. They both facilitate support for and promote awareness of access issues.
- How is your Fac Soc working to include student's with disabilities or other accessibility requirements in your event and decision-making process? Does this extend to committee management?
 - Lianne mentions that WAMSS has two Mental Health Reps and are making an effort to run events promoting mental health such as a free yoga session and Mental Health Fest.
- What kind of events could your Fac Soc run during Access Week (or any time!) that engage students with disabilities or work towards breaking the stigma of living with one?
 - Rowan says UEC will be running a lego building session to provide students with an opportunity to relieve stress. He mentions benefit of running mental health events that engage students in activities which foster discussion as it can be difficult to initiate discussion regarding mental health without this.
- What do you see as the largest accessibility issue students from your faculties and across campus face, and how can you work towards helping remove those barriers?
 - Rowan says the engineering building is not very accessible by wheelchair as the elevators are only accessed by going through a heavy door.
 - Mike Myers says law rooms have similar accessibility issues regarding wheelchairs.
 - Cath says structural adjustments may not be within the immediate capabilities of the FacSocs but mental health has been and is increasingly an area where they can provide support to their students.
 - Peyton mentions a suicide within MSS last year that contributed to an increase of focus on the mental health of students.
- What do you do for self-care and to destress? How could you apply these types of things to events you may run?
 - Mike Anderson says the Access Department are more than happy to help with the running of access focused events. He encourages people to reach out to both himself and Lauren Espinoza to discuss potential events or initiatives.

6.11. SCREW Week – Gals and NB Pals Care Night

- SCREW Week is run by the Women's department. It stands for sex, consent, respect, education and wellbeing.
- Thursday 4th April will focus on wellbeing. Hannah Smith will run the Gals and NB Pals Care Night which is a stall system where students come in and do activities/make things. Last year some FacSocs were involved; SU made face masks and bath bombs, AU made mocktails, Fab Soc gave free beauty and skin care consultations.
- Interested FacSocs should contact Hannah.

7. Close/Next Meeting

The next meeting of Education Council will be on 16th April 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 Friday prior to the Education Council Meeting, to be circulated by COB on the Sunday.