# Guild Council Meeting Minutes April 29, 2015

## 1.0 WELCOME AND OPENING

Emma welcomed all Councillors, directors and proxies and acknowledged that UWA is situated on Nyoongar land. She paid her respects to Nyoongar elders past and present, and acknowledged the Nyoongar people remain the spiritual and cultural custodians of their land and that they continue to practice their beliefs, languages, values and knowledge.

#### 1.1 Attendance

Lizzy O'Shea (Guild President), Lucy Moyle (Vice-President), Jesse Martino (Secretary), Ashleigh Kotula (Treasurer), Tom Beyer (Ed Council President), Charles Viska (PAC President), Nevin Jayawardena (SOC President), Emma Boogaerdt (Women's Officer & Chair), Rida Malik (Welfare Officer), Jessica Cockerill (Environment Officer), Maddie Mulholland (Senate Representative), Ellen Cohen (Queer Officer), Vikraman Selvaraja (PSA President), Sean Matjeraie (ISS Director), Kieran Natawala (OGC), Emma Norton (OGC), Dave Thomson (OGC), Carlo Guaia (OGC), Cameron Payne (OGC), Cale Black (OGC), Alex Hamilton (OGC).

# 1.2 Apologies

Ruby Blakeway (Queer Officer).

# 1.3 Proxies

Ben Martin (for Sofie O'Mara), David Cann (for Rida Malik), Michael Heydon (for Liam Staltari), Jack Looby (for Olivia Jo).

#### 1.4 Observers

None.

# 2.0 DECLARATIONS OF POTENTIAL OR PERCEIVED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

## 3.0 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

# 3.1 Guild Council Meeting 25th March 2015

Approved via circular.

## 4.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

#### 5.0 DIRECTORS' REPORTS

# 5.1 Managing Director's Report

Tony said that because we're half way through year, he is ensuring actions are happening to benefit students. In terms of Subway and Boost, all final agreements have been sent, and he is waiting for them to sign them and send them back. He had a site meeting with Subway last week and everything is on schedule. However, he is still waiting for UWA to send the tender documents. He needs to decide who he's going to use for the Part A construction downstairs, as he is trying to get the construction of all projects beginning at the same time. The construction of Subway and Boost should start on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June.

The Hackett compliance upgrade is progressing well, and furniture will be arriving in a few weeks time. The Tavern project is also well underway, and the process of design is also underway. The SSAF annual report has been collated and was sent to John Stubbs to review it. He said it was very positive and that the Guild kept its service contract. He is also looking at various system upgrades in the finance area.

Lucy asked whether the Guild got a timeline back from Milko?

Tony said yes. The events website should be going live from tomorrow, and MyGuild should be send out in a month. Milko is from Suchi - the company that are building the website.

Jess asked when the Tavern construction would begin?

Tony said within the next month. They are using a using students' design, and thus need an architect to approve the design and agree to use it. It also has to go through campus management.

Dave asked whether Subway and Boost are going to affect seating in the ref during exam times?

Tony said it will have some effect, but if he doesn't line it up with the Part A project, the costs will increase. He can increase seating outsides however.

Emma moved a procedural motion to move in-camera. Motion carried.

Emma moved a procedural to move out of camera. Motion carried.

Maddie said that Daryl celebrated his 20 years at the Guild, and asked whether Tony can you let councilors know if there is a big anniversary coming up, so they can make sure to congratulate them.

Tony said yes of course.

## 5.2 Finance Report

Mutya said that for March the accounting profit and loss was around \$70k, which was lower than expected. However, she said that if you look at the cumulative figures, the Guild finances are better by around \$32k, so it is just a timing issue from March.

Mutya said that there are three major items affecting the operating income for March. SSAF revenue was lower than budgeted; the tavern revenue was significantly lower by around \$37k – although the severe deficit in tavern was made up by increase in revenue in catering. In terms of expenditure, events last month were much better than forecasted so the end of April events should be on par with regard to the budget.

Dave asked that under elections and referenda, the Guild runs at a \$719 loss where the Guild budgeted 0, where has this gone?

Mutya said the amount is not significant so she didn't have a good look at it but will investigate.

## 5.3 Catering Director's Report

Ken said that sales for catering this month are only \$21k over budget. The total figure for the month was \$168k however cumulatively the Guild has been below budget. Operationally, the main gains have come from the expenditure of the cost of good sold. In terms of operating income, the Guild is \$13k under budget. However, the Guild is \$53k ahead of budget in its surpluses, thus it has been a positive month.

The Tavern had been operated under its regular manager Margaret without any drawbacks or issues with compliance. The Tavern is \$45k under budget and \$20k behind in sales. This is not a serious concern of not achieving sales, as the Guild has continued to provide good services to students. In addition, all events have still happened within the Tavern without any issues. However, the Tavern will continue to have this deficit issue due to stop-start nature of mid semester break and the upcoming holidays.

Cale said that there is a new marketing sales campaign for the Tavern, 'beer is beautiful.' He asked what impact will that have on the Tavern and how will it impact attitudes towards drinking standards?

Ken said the sale of beer across all outlets in university has dropped, which is is a large concern. This advertising will increase sales and revenue, such as those used in AFL football

# 5.4 Director of Corporate Services' Report

In terms of finance and accounting, the Guild is still in the process of reviewing its finance operations, procedures and processes. Most of the club banking has moved to corporate banking, however this has been ongoing. The plan is that five clubs will start with banking in May. Mutya is currently in the process of doing the paperwork to have that begin. Mutya is meeting with some suppliers to discuss a possible change to the Guild's accounting system. The current system is old and needs a lot of control and manual processes. Manual operations result in a significant risk associated with finances. She is currently making a short list of suppliers. Mutya is also looking at POS systems. That is, the sales in cash registers and how the Guild presents itself in stores. Her aim is to have all processes and systems streamlined as much as possible to improve efficiency.

# 5.5 Director of Student Services' Report

Chloe said that Human Resources now have an events team, and the marketing position will be filled by next week. She is working with student reps to ensure that the Guild has a structured marketing campaign around everything it does. March was a slow month across all departments. There were 124 events, and 92 cases coming through student Assist. In terms of the Volunteering hub, the Guild has a new manager who has come up to 3 months, and she is currently development a volunteering strategy that has seen the removal of service learning. There have been a number of discussions around where the student body wants to take volunteering, and this initiative should be done by the 24<sup>th</sup> of May 2015.

Emma said that HPU are withdrawing funding for RSA, is there an alternative that students can go to on campus?

Chloe said that HPU conducted a review and most students weren't using the service to support student's events, they doing it for get bar work. She is looking to support first aid training as an alternative, however nothing is confirmed, but HPU are still less inclined to support the RSA.

Emma moved a procedural motion to accept all Directors' reports. Motion carried.

## 6.0 REPORTS

#### 6.1 Guild President

Report As tabled. Prosh was a really big success; Lizzy received small number of complaints. She is working with Prosh directors to implement improvements for next year.

Lizzy moved in camera to discuss confidential event. Motion carried.

Emma moved a procedural to move council out of camera. Motion carried.

Lizzy has received catering Feedback from her post in G-News, and is acting on these suggestions. For example, gluten free rolls being the same price as non-gluten free rolls.

#### 6.2 Vice-President

Report as tabled.

## 6.3 Secretary

Report as tabled. All agendas, reports, minutes and resolutions are now available on the Guild website.

#### 6.4 Treasurer

Report as tabled

#### 6.5 Education Council President

Report as tabled.

## 6.6 Public Affairs Council President

Report as tabled.

## 6.7 Societies Council President

Report as tabled. Nevin met with uniprint because currently, jobs are charged to club accounts each month and finance can't regulate this. Clubs will now be provided a printing allowance from the Guild. This will allow for bigger printing jobs that can still be regulated by the Guild. These must go through committees first before approval.

# 6.8 Women's Department

Report as tabled

# 6.9 Welfare Department

Report as tabled.

# 6.10 Environment Department

Report as tabled.

# **6.11 International Student Services**

Report as tabled.

## 6.12 Queer Department

Report as tabled. Ellen Cohen was officially voted in a queer officer.

# 6.13 Guild Sports Representative

No report submitted.

## 6.14 Postgraduate Students' Association

Report as tabled.

## 6.15 Residential Students' Department

RSD have their Charity ball on May 8<sup>th</sup>, and the charity is Camp Coolan. They decided to move away from Winthrop, as they were adding more and more restrictions of them. They will be having a Lip Dub screening on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May, a leadership program to talk about diversity, and a battle of the bands competition in August in the Tavern. RSD are rewriting their constitution and restructuring RSD to expand their influence.

#### **6.16 WASAC**

Report as tabled. Torey is creating a safe space of campus for Indigenous people to voice their experiences.

## 6.17 UWA Sports Council

No report submitted.

Emma moved a procedural motion to accept all reports. Motion carried.

# 7.0 QUESTION TIME

Lizzy updated council on the status of UWA Sports Council. The Guild is in a transition period to take sports clubs and sports council back into the guild. This is part of a broader move to bring back UWA sports into the university. There is a proposal to set sports council up similar to the other sports councils. The Guild will no longer have two sports reps on council. The Guild will have inter-fac sport under responsibility of an executive member of the council. Lizzy will be meeting up with the members of the sports council committee to discuss these changes. Additionally, the Sports Council President will be the only sports representative on guild council, resulting in the merging and streamlining of positions.

Aiden asked whether or not the sports clubs have had this idea floated to them?

Tony said that they were consulted at the panel stage, where clubs and societies were dissatisfied with the current set up and would like a change. The review of this suggested that they should move towards being under the umbrella of the Guild.

Lizzy said that currently, sports clubs don't have student representation so it's very positive that the clubs will now be represented by the Guild.

Lucy asked how this would affect the Guild regulations?

Emma said that this change would be able to be made very easily at the last minute. As an interim measure, sports council president does not exist in the regulations, as they are not elected in the election.

Dave heard of discussion about some student's replacement HSS up and running. Are people keen for this to happen under WAMSS? Or will they do better representing their students under SOC instead?

Tom said that the preference to revive HSS was to sit under WAMSS. His view is to go with what the students would prefer. However, early indications suggest that WAMSS is quite hesitant to agree to this adjustment.

#### 8.0 MOTIONS ON NOTICE

8.1 That Guild Council calls on the University of Western Australia, in particular Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Johnson, to reject Federal funding to set up the proposed "Consensus Centre" and host Bjorn Lomborg, due to his damaging reputation internationally and academically discredited research that is not in-line with the aims of the university.

Moved: Lizzy O'Shea; Seconded: Jessica Cockerill.

Lizzy said that this decision happened very quickly, and the Guild executive made a quick decision to be ratified at council. Lizzy said that the university is inappropriate in making its decision to house Bjorn Lomborg for the proposed Australian Consensus Centre. This will result in damage to the university's reputation internationally as he is a scholar whose research is universally discredited and his opinion on climate science is wrong. He is an economist and political scientist and has made a lot of comments that actively downplay the impact of climate change, and his assumptions in modeling used to assess impact of climate change are different to the IPCC, which are based on peer reviewed research.

Students, staff, alumni have approached this issue with strong opposition. Lomborg is allowed to hold an opinion, but that does not provide him with a license to \$4m and a placement at the university. Lizzy said she stands to defend the integrity and prestige of this institution that all councilors and the Guild brand are tied to. Lizzy said the Guild has never received more firm support from staff and the community on any stance the Guild has ever taken. The risk of this center is incredibly high, and it is concerning that a center will be established to create research to suit a certain political standpoint.

Emma moved procedural to limit speaking time to 2 minutes. Motion carried.

Dave asked whether the Guild is allowed to say that Lomborg's work is universally discredited in its press release?

Jess said that he has been discredited as his work; the Skeptical Environmentalist was published by the social science division of Cambridge rather than science division.

Lizzy said that is councilors have legal concerns about words in the motion; she is open to suggestions for amendments.

Aiden is in opposition to this motion. He echoed Paul Johnson who said the focus of the research center is not climate science, so any argument suggesting his science is discredited is irrelevant. This man disagrees with the broad consensus on how to fix climate change from an economics perspective. He said that what has come out of the Guild is politically charged, and that it should not be silencing the opinions of someone because it don't agree with them. Universally discredited research is not an argument to be made against someone who will be an adjunct professor of the university – he is recognized by the university for his cost benefit analysis and policies to combat climate change as an economist, not climate change itself. He concluded by saying that the university has made its decision, and we as a Guild should accept that.

Jess said that no one is suggesting he is a climate scientist, but the problem is that the field he is working in requires an inter-disciplinary approach. You must base the economic analysis that he's doing on the science of climate change. Lomborg has a history of warping those results and putting them into his methodology to come up with skewed answers. She said that if he were to use the IPPC reports, she would be happy to accept his cost benefit analysis reports. He is using scientific data inappropriately.

Tom said that he is concerned about the lack of scientific credibility and reputational damage to the university. Given the fall out from members of the university community, Lomborg is the anthesis of academic credibility. He doesn't believe that the university should be hosting this professor and this center when the faculty of science have copped significant cuts to their funding. He said the Guild should stand with the scientific community on this issue

Lizzy said the discrepancy between the VC saying the center has nothing to do with climate change, and then the university's press release saying that the center will focus on climate change is significant. Also, Lomborg was a recommendation from the government. When the Guild says internationally discredited research, the Guild is not

saying it doesn't support controversial ideas being expressed – however Lomborg he uses the fact that he doesn't deny the existence of climate change to suggest we shouldn't do anything about it, which is very dangerous. Lizzy has spoken to people from the business school saying they don't want him as they don't like his methodology or record.

Dave said the point of the consensus center is to talk about agriculture and where to spend on foreign aid, is this true?

Jess said the center is primarily used to research UN development goals, and UWA should be able to advise the UN on what they should be doing, advise government on their policy spending. There is a list of 18 development goals, and the center would rank which ones are most important. However, scientists are saying that climate change underpins the entire model of how you would rank these goals, so this is inappropriate.

Aiden said the center measures the macro-economic impact of the climate change policy decision on a number of factors, such as trade routing and unemployment.

Emma said that the aim of the center is legitimate and she supports some of Lomborgs ideas, such as to cut subsidies to the fuel industry to raise money to government and lower carbon emissions. However, Lomborg has 28 articles, 21 of which have absolutely no citations at all. She believes the university giving someone an adjunct professorship that has no academic standing is offensive to the UWA community. While his modeling is cost benefit analysis, this is not a particularly new innovation, there are lots of other developmental economists that use this analysis. Additionally, the fact that the Danish government defunded this center shows that it's obviously not working in a functioning sense. His modeling uses false assumptions on climate change and he only uses the bottom figures of carbon emissions. This is problematic.

Ellen clarified that Lomborg doesn't have a degree in economics.

Maddie said that this is an emotional issue for students, staff and alumni. UWA has never seen these three groups band together in opposition to this decision. People have lost faith in the VC's ability to make decisions and to consult. Senior staff in the business school weren't consulted, no risk assessment was completed, and Senate only heard about it after it had been made public in the papers. The way the decision was made was extremely problematic. In addition, Lomborg's appointment is extremely unusual, and staff, students and convocation are so clearly against it.

Lizzy said that she welcomes the passing of the motion to throw the full weight of the Guild behind the campaign against Lomborg and the Australian Consensus Centre being at UWA.

The motion was put. Motion 8.1 passed.

**8.2** That Guild Council endorses the 2014 Student Services and Amenities Fee Annual Report. *Moved: Lizzy O'Shea; Seconded: Jesse Martino.* 

Lizzy said this report needs to be approved by the Audit and Risk Committee – a sub committee of the Senate. The report looks at last years funding, and should give the committee an overview of everything that the Guild did, and how it spent the money the university gave it. This is essentially a compliance measure. The report looks very positive. Lizzy has tweaked some of the formatting from last year. It is incredibly thorough and non-controversial.

The motion was put. Motion 8.2 was passed unanimously.

8.3 That Council instructs the Catering department to create a variety of meals, available to students each day that will be priced at \$4. These meals will be of high quality with regard to both taste and nutrition.

Moved: Emma Norton; Seconded: Dave Thomson.

Emma said the Guild shouldn't be gauging students for profits, it should be providing services, and many live below the poverty line. It is the duty of any student run organisation to provide decent quality meals at a reasonable price. She looked at finance and catering report and concluded that there is more than enough money in the budget to achieve this initiative.

Dave said that 80% of students have to work up to 18 hours a week; this motion will help the most vulnerable. We have taken budget hits before, but this can be made up in other areas. A welfare meal has a significant impact on people's lives.

Emma moved procedural motion to limit speaking time to 2 minutes. Motion carried.

Lizzy said that she has been trying to get a welfare meal going for a couple of years and has been looking to differentiate higher and lower tiers of food. She is interested to hear from Ken and Ashleigh to see what the Guild can sustainably provide, as the Guild must factor in the costs of providing it. She is really supportive of the idea that the Guild offers something for people who are skipping means and unable to buy anything on campus because they can't afford it.

Tony said that the making of supernatural profits is not the motive of the Guild, and any profit should go straight back into the students in all forms. The Guild does profit discounts across the board, and all food is subsidized student prices. The Guild already provides food vouchers for those who cannot afford any meals, and it is important for the student assist team to do a triage investigation on the person to gauge the bigger picture of what the student needs. The Guild needs to provide better communication about what it offers, and where it offers it. Tony has created a business case for this motion, which he circulated.

Ellen said that within LGBT community there is a prevalence of homelessness, drug and alcohol issues. This means they cannot work because they have these negative external factors. Socio-economically, they hold a lower place in society. Students in the department have said they don't have lunch on a regular basis, but they would be able to afford lunch if these meals are introduced. It would also be useful to have better advertising about the welfare meals that are already available.

Ashleigh said that it is important to look at the fact that catering is the only thing that makes the Guild money. \$5 meals would be better than \$4, and would ensure we would be able to handle the loss. In order for the Guild to keep providing other services to students, we need to continue to make a profit in catering.

Emma said that a lot of money goes into high wages for managing directors, and that there is money floating around in the Guild. She said that this is a student decision; something that students have demanded Guild council is within its right to decide on a \$4 meals. The Guild can take a loss, and it is not up to the directors to say what the Guild can and cannot afford. Emma said she was personally elected to be able to argue this in the guild council, hoping other councilors will get on board. She agrees that the Guild should be advertising the services we provide, such as the \$200 emergency loan. She said that if this is provided in all outlets, it is going to alleviate poverty amongst the student population.

Jess said that she is glad there is a vegetarian option on it. People for Animal Welfare will be represented; as well as those students who have religious and other dietary requirements.

Dave said that there is a real stigma associated with asking for help – something we won't be able to counter in the university. Leaving this \$4 meal option gives students a way to receive the help from the guild without having to ask for it. The Guild is able to take a hit to the budget. This was done for the gluten free rolls and can be done again.

Lizzy moved an amendment to alter the price of the meal from \$4 to \$5. Amendment carried.

This amendment will ensure it is sustainable. It will be run in all outlets and will mean the Guild can provide something that people will actually want to eat. The guild needs to be run from SSAF and catering (and the small rent the Guild receives from tenants), so it is imperative the Guild still makes a profit. Additionally, the Guild should be advertising student assist processes and food vouchers in the actual outlets.

Aiden asked whether have Ken and the directors were satisfied that they have worked out the numbers sufficiently?

Ken said that non-for profit organisations only have a clause that their profits cannot be distributed to its members. Making a profit is an essential part of running a business, and there is no organisation that can be run without a profit. Assets need to be maintained. So, non-for —profit does not mean that the Guild does not make a profit. Ken said that \$75 000 is the difference between a \$5 meal and a \$4 meal.

Cale said that a \$5 pricing model is a lot more sustainable than a \$4 one. This will ensure that the catering division is still profitable.

Tony urged everyone to consider the fact that non-for-profit organisations need to maintain their cash flow. He said the Guild is able to create food packages around the \$5 mark.

Dave asked whether it is cheaper to run it from a single venue?

Ken said it is difficult to determine whether a single venue will make a difference. He is able to try it out and see. However, it will have impact on various other products, which are close to this price. This change will affect every outlet regardless.

Emma moved a procedural motion that council move to a vote on the amendment. Motion carried.

Tom said that he does not want to harm the Guild's bottom line when this meal is available to everyone, when the Guild should be charging higher prices to more wealthy students. He said he'd like to expand the support provided by Student Assist, as their meetings are completely confidential and they offer food vouchers.

Cale asked whether the students in business school be able to buy this meal?

Ken said that he does not have the ability to do that.

Emma moved a procedural motion to have the right of reply of the mover and then move to debate. **Motion carried.** 

Emma said that a majority of students who do struggle would find themselves financially alleviated by implementing this.

The motion was put. **Motion 8.3 passed as amended.** 

That Council instructs the Catering department to create a variety of meals, available to students each day that will be priced at \$5. These meals will be of high quality with regard to both taste and nutrition.

For: Vikraman Selvaraja, Sean Matjeraie, Jack Looby (for Olivia Jo), Nevin Jayawardena, Kieran Natawala, Emma Boogaerdt, Dave Thomson, Carlo Guaia, Lizzy O'Shea, Jesse Martino, Lucy Moyle, Ashleigh Kotula, Cale Black Against: Aiden Depiazzi, Emma Norton, Michael Heydon (for Liam Staltari), Ben Martin (for Sofie O'Mara) Abstaining: Alex Hamilton, Charlie Viska, Tom Beyer.

# **8.4** That Council:

- Opposes the state Liberal government's decision to close down 150 Indigenous communities in Western Australia.
- Supports the resistance of Indigenous peoples to this attack, including the Perth protest planned for the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2015.
- Encourages UWA students to attend the upcoming protest in Perth, in solidarity with these communities.

Moved: Emma Norton; Seconded: Ellen Cohen.

Lizzy received a message from Emma who is happy for either Lizzy or Torey to move this motion in her place and she waives her speaking rights.

Lizzy said the Guild should stand with the people from these Indigenous communities who have been saying why this is wrong. It is entirely appropriate for council to take a stance opposing the decision made by the government, which will close down the homes of some of our students who are from these communities for political capital. As a student organisation that represents 25,000 students, will send a strong message to the government that lots of people oppose this issue.

Torey said they he represents 200 indigenous students, and 10 to 20 of them are directly from these indigenous communities. Around 70-100 has family from these communities. Particularly, Derby will see the side effects of the community being closed down, such as an increased amount of homelessness, alcoholism and drug abuse, which will ultimately lead to incarceration. Most indigenous communities on campus don't know much about what the Guild does, as opposed to what WASAC does, so now is a perfect time to show support for Indigenous communities.

Aiden said that this is a very politically charged issue that has divided the community. Is the wording of the motion sufficient to gain broad support for the issue?

Lizzy believes that the wording of the motion is sufficient.

The motion was put. Motion 8.4 passed.

#### 9.0 GENERAL BUSINESS

Lizzy said that there is an Albany engagement trip coming up soon, and she will circulate a registration link to council in the coming days.

# 10.0 CLOSE / NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015 at 6.00pm. Please contact the Guild Secretary (secretary@guild.uwa.edu.au) with apologies or proxies. All office bearers will be available from 5.30pm. If unable to attend, please advise which dates you are available to reschedule if a quorum cannot be met.