

Media Release



Guild applauds Universities Australia opposition to increased student fees and university funding cuts

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Curtin Student Guild has applauded Universities Australia's stance in opposing the Turnbull Government's proposals to cut university funding and increase student fees.

This follows a meeting yesterday of Australia's university leaders where an overwhelming majority of Vice-Chancellors agreed that they could not recommend the Senate crossbench pass the legislative package.

The Guild's Education Vice President Jordan Piggott said that the student organisation agreed with Universities Australia Chair Professor Margaret Gardner that the changes were a "double whammy" on students.

"The proposal increases fees for students while at the same time erodes funding for courses, student learning and student support.

"The Federal Government is selling a raw deal to Australian university students," he said.

Universities Australia said that students and graduates would be carrying higher levels of debt into an increasingly uncertain future.

Mr Piggott said that students were already facing diminished job prospects when they completed their degrees, a difficult labour market for part-time work to support them through university and now they would be paying higher fees to gain a tertiary education.

"Reducing corporate tax rates while at the same time placing an increased burden on the generation responsible for providing for Australia's economic future does not make sense," he said.

Curtin University students will this afternoon join those from UWA, Murdoch and Edith Cowan taking part in a rally in Perth's CBD opposing the funding cuts and fee increases.

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