

2019 Curtin University Student Guild Elections

Returning Officer's Election Report

2019 Returning Officer – Peter Zaikos

Table of Contents

| ITEM | PAGE |
|--|------|
| 1. Introduction | 2 |
| 2. Election Timetable | 2 |
| 3. Returning Officer and Electoral Staff | |
| 3.1. <i>Returning Officer</i> | 2 |
| 3.2. <i>Guild Staff</i> | 2 |
| 3.3. <i>Casual Polling Staff</i> | 2 |
| 4. Changes to Elected Positions | 3 |
| 5. Advertisements | 3 |
| 6. Nominations | 3 |
| 7. Draw for Position on Ballot Paper | 5 |
| 8. Campaign Material | 5 |
| 9. Electoral Roll | |
| 9.1. <i>Final Electoral Roll</i> | 5 |
| 9.2. <i>Provisional Voters</i> | 6 |
| 10. Polling Places | 6 |
| 11. Counting Software | 6 |
| 12. Counting of Votes | 7 |
| 13. Declaration of Results | |
| 13.1. <i>Unopposed Elections</i> | 7 |
| 13.2. <i>Contested Elections</i> | 7 |
| 13.3. <i>Affirmative Action Elections</i> | 8 |
| 14. Resignation and Replacement | 8 |
| 15. Results Certificates | 8 |
| 16. Participation | 8 |
| 17. Informal Votes | 8 |
| 18. Reporting of Results | 9 |
| 19. Review of Regulations | |
| 19.1. <i>Filling Vacancies</i> | 9 |
| 19.2. <i>Authorisation of Campaign Material</i> | 9 |
| 20. Future Elections | |
| 20.1. <i>Nomination Deposits</i> | 10 |
| 20.2. <i>Campaign Material – Deadline for Approvals</i> | 10 |
| 20.3. <i>Campaign Material – Format for Approval Submissions</i> | 10 |
| 20.4. <i>Campaign Material – Streamlining of Production</i> | 10 |
| Appendix 1 – Copy of Election Timetable | |
| Appendix 2 – Copy of Election Notice | |
| Appendix 3 – Copies of Certificates of Results | |
| Appendix 4 – Recommended Wording for Regulations | |

1. Introduction

Until and including 2018, the Curtin Student Guild Annual General Elections have been conducted by the Western Australian Electoral Commission (WAEC).

However following changes to the Guild Regulations, effective after the 2018 elections and including the requirement for Affirmative Action in the election of Guild Councillors and Ordinary Representation Board Members, the WAEC declined to continue in that role.

In mid-June 2019, the Managing Director of the Guild sought out persons with suitable experience for appointment to the position of Returning Officer for the 2019 Guild Elections. Following receipt of his resume of electoral experience, the Managing Director nominated Peter Zaikos to the University's Vice-Chancellor for appointment as Returning Officer for the 2019 Elections.

2. Election Timetable

The essential requirements of the election timetable are stipulated in Regulations 15, 16 and 17 of the Curtin University's *Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*.

The key election milestones are shown in schematic form at Appendix 1, followed by a detailed table of dates and governing Regulations.

3. Returning Officer and Electoral Staff

3.1 Returning Officer

On 7th July 2019, the Vice-Chancellor approved the appointment of Peter Zaikos as Returning Officer (RO) for the 2019 Curtin Student Guild Annual General Elections.

Mr Zaikos has extensive experience as a Returning Officer with the WAEC in both WA State Elections and in Local Government elections, as well as holding senior roles with the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) in Federal Elections over many years.

3.2 Guild Staff

The Managing Director of the Guild, Guild Administration staff and the staff at G-Mart undertook additional duties during the election period to assist the RO in the smooth conduct of the elections.

Their assistance included receiving nomination deposits, the logging and printing of hard-copy campaign material, creating and maintaining a Guild Election website and uploading candidate profiles, and later, election results onto it. Experienced Guild staff also organised the logistics for polling equipment and secure storage over the polling period together with the provision of IT equipment for vote-counting.

The cooperation and assistance of all concerned meant that the election was run efficiently and at minimal cost. This in part was because the RO was able to devote time to RO-specific responsibilities rather than having to be on campus more than necessary.

3.3 Casual Polling Staff

Six casual polling staff and six data entry staff were recruited through Integrity Staffing. Three staff per polling place is the workable minimum to provide for overlapping rest break and ballot paper security requirements.

4. Changes to Elected Positions

The new *Student Guild (Guild Council) Regulations 2018* and the *Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018* governed the elections for the first time in 2019. Electoral changes were in the positions available, their terms of office, their composition by gender and the conditions of candidate eligibility.

Under the new regulations there are now twelve Ordinary Guild Councillors who hold office for two years but with six of those positions up for election in alternate years. Six new positions of Ordinary Representation Board Members have terms of one year. Furthermore in each of these two categories, Affirmative Action applies, whereby at least half of those elected must identify as female. Where there are insufficient female nominations, then the balance of female officers are appointed later by Council.

The General Secretary position has been abolished and the Queer Officer position is now filled by one person alone. A new condition is that a person cannot seek to hold an office for more than two terms.

The General Secretary position (now Secretary) is no longer elected at the Annual General Election and the Queer Officer position is now filled by one person alone. A new condition is that a person cannot seek to hold the same office for more than two terms.

5. Advertisements

As required under the Regulations, a public notice inviting nominations was published on the Guild web site and placed on the official Guild notice board. The location of the Polling Places and dates and times of operation was also advertised on the official Guild notice board.

Nomination forms for all electable positions were available on the website. All other forms relating to the elections, including applications for postal votes, registration of Groups and Group agents, candidate withdrawals and applications for campaign material approval were also available on the web site.

The Guild's election publication, *The Candidate*, published the candidates' policy statements, photographs and provided further public notice of the location of the Polling Places and dates and times of operation. The editorially independent Student Guild magazine, *Grok*, also promoted the elections with topical articles, profiles on candidates for equity positions and details of election times and polling places.

The Guild Election Handbook 2019, prepared and produced by the Guild, was used to set out in broad terms the obligations that the Regulations impose on candidates and groups. Information was provided about key dates, nominations, campaign material, group agents, election protocol and University expectations, along with helpful information for candidates.

A copy of the formal Election Notice is at Appendix 2.

6. Nominations

Nominations for the vacant positions opened 10.00 am on Monday 12th August 2019 and closed at 12.00 noon on Thursday 29th August 2019. The nomination forms for those elections where Affirmative Action applies were modified to establish beforehand those candidates who identify as female.

At the close of nominations 77 nominations in total were received for vacant positions. Nominations were lodged over the whole nomination period but the vast majority came in the final two days.

As a result of changes to the Guild Regulations for the 2019 elections, one nomination for Guild Councillor and one for Indigenous Officer were found to be invalid because the nominees had each previously served two or more terms in the respective positions. This reduced the total number of valid nominations to 75, an increase of 12 compared with the 2018 elections.

The following numbers of valid nominations were accepted for the respective vacant positions prior to the commencement of polling:

| Position | Vacancies | Nominations | Ballot Required |
|---|-----------|-------------|-----------------|
| Guild President | 1 | 1 | |
| Vice President Education | 1 | 2 | Ballot |
| Vice President Activities | 1 | 2 | Ballot |
| Faculty of Business and Law Representative | 1 | 1 | |
| Faculty of Science and Engineering Representative | 1 | 1 | |
| Faculty of Health Sciences Representative | 1 | 3 | Ballot |
| Faculty of Humanities Representative | 1 | 1 | |
| International Students Committee President | 1 | 2 | Ballot |
| Postgraduate Students Committee President | 1 | 1 | |
| Queer Officer | 1 | 1 | |
| Women's Officer | 1 | 1 | |
| Indigenous Officer | 1 | 1 | |
| Accessibility Officer | 1 | 2 | Ballot |
| Ordinary Guild Councillor | 6 | 23 | Ballot |
| Ordinary Representation Board Member | 6 | 20 | Ballot |
| NUS Delegate* | 7 | 13 | Ballot |

*The NUS Delegates election is conducted conjointly with the Annual Student Guild elections.

In accordance with Regulation 43 of the *Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, where the number of eligible nominations equalled the number of vacancies, those candidates were declared elected unopposed.

Eight of the thirteen single-officer positions received only one nomination each and were filled without going to election.

The number of nominations accepted exceeded the number of vacancies for the following positions:

- Vice President Education
- Vice President Activities
- Faculty of Health Sciences Representative
- International Students Committee President
- Accessibility Officer
- Ordinary Guild Councillors – Six (6) positions
- Ordinary Representation Board Members – Six (6) positions
- NUS Delegates – Seven (7) positions

A public notice displayed on the official Guild notice board and posted on the Guild's election web site advised candidates and electors:

- that an election would be held,
- the dates and hours of polling,
- the location of the polling places on campus, and
- that postal votes were available on application.

7. Draw for Position on Ballot Paper

The draw for ballot paper positions was held on Friday 30th August 2019. Two candidates who had previously served two terms in the positions of their nominations were included in the draw pending confirmation of their eligibility to stand. They were later removed from the draw sequence.

The results of the draw were published on the official Guild notice board and the Guild web page.

8. Campaign Material

The Guild election regulations require all printed campaign material to be approved by the Returning Officer before publication and distribution. Although the person submitting such material is ultimately responsible for its content, submissions for approval were vetted by the Returning Officer to ensure there weren't any clearly factually false claims or any directed personal criticisms. Political opinions and manifestos were considered as fundamental to the elections, subjective and thus generally acceptable.

Printed campaign material was within the monetary limit for each candidate and group. The Returning Officer received applications for campaign material approval until the second-last day of polling.

Social media pages and web sites also required the initial approval of the Returning Officer. Posted content does not require prior approval but the Returning Officer can direct that offending material be removed. However social media campaign pages and sites were in keeping with expected protocols.

9. Electoral Roll

9.1 Final Electoral Roll

At the close of the roll, 32,437 names of eligible electors were provided by the Office of the Academic Registrar. Analysis of the list revealed 115 exact duplicates, those being students enrolled in more than one course or faculty. This reduced the final list for polling to 32,322 eligible electors which was similar in number to the 33,027 eligible in the 2018 election.

9.2 Provisional Voters

On the first day of polling, fifteen provisional votes were issued. Because this seemed inordinately high, the Office of the Academic Registrar was consulted to identify categories of students who were not entitled to vote and so whose names would legitimately not be on the electoral roll.

Using that information, polling officials were able to explain to such students the reason for their ineligibility to vote and thus issue provisional votes only where there was a prospect of eligibility. Following this, another four provisional votes were issued. Of the total nineteen provisional votes, only two were found to be entitled for inclusion in the count.

Six categories were identified by the Academic Registrar as not entitled to be on the electoral roll:

- Enrolled after close of roll,
- English Language / Gateway - not a Curtin student,
- English Language Bridging - not a Curtin student,
- Uniready - Not enrolled in an award course,
- Study Abroad - not enrolled in an award course, enrolled not for degree, and
- Curtin College student - not enrolled in an award course with Curtin University.

10. Polling Places

Two polling places were provided on the Bentley Campus – at Atkinson's Forum and Curtin South (Vege Patch Café).

It was widely published that in-person voting was offered on the Bentley campus from 10.00 am until 4.00 pm on each of the four days from Monday 16th to Thursday 19th September 2019 inclusive.

The in-person postal voting service at the Curtin Law School in the Perth CBD was discontinued this year due to the low demand in the 2018 election. However normal postal voting was available to all electors.

11. Counting Software

The development of new counting software was required to determine the results in the election of Ordinary Guild Councillors and Ordinary Representation Board Members. It was needed because the new Student Guild Regulations require that at least half of the candidates elected in each of those two elections must identify as female. This condition is not handled by existing software, not even by the WAEC's software, which in any case was no longer available to the Guild elections.

The software was developed by the Managing Director of the Guild, Dr David Luketina, supported by the Returning Officer. It is fully compliant with the electoral procedures applicable to the optional proportional representation system of voting used in the two relevant elections. The program logs the counting process step-by-step, describing in detail the action taken at each step.

The software has the flexibility to process elections with any given number of vacancies, with or without Affirmative Action parameters. It also has an option to process the NUS Delegate election which requires a different variation to the standard way of counting in an optional proportional representation election.

Separate and compatible software was also written to collate the input of data from the votes cast in each election in a format suitable for loading into the counting software.

12. Counting of Votes

Manual counting in the five single-vacancy elections commenced at 4.00 pm on Thursday 19th September 2019 and concluded at 8.30pm that night.

Counting in the multi-candidate elections of Ordinary Guild Councillors, Ordinary Representation Board Members and NUS Delegates was conducted on Friday 20th September 2019 using the Guild's counting software developed for the purpose as described above (11. *Counting Software*).

The NUS Delegates count was in accordance with NUS By-Law B86, whose specific requirements were included in NUS counting option of the Guild's new counting software.

13. Declaration of Results

13.1 Unopposed Elections

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, the candidates who had nominated for the following positions by the close of nominations on Thursday, 29th August 2019, were declared elected unopposed:

- Guild President
- Faculty of Business and Law Representative
- Faculty of Science and Engineering Representative
- Faculty of Humanities Representative
- Postgraduate Students Committee President
- Queer Officer
- Women's Officer, and
- Indigenous Officer.

13.2 Contested Elections

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, following the conclusion of counting, the successful candidates in the eight contested elections were declared elected on Friday 20th September 2019.

Arrangements were made for the results to be displayed on the Guild notice board and the Guild's election web page. Certificates declaring their election were forwarded to successful candidates by the Returning Officer on 28th September 2019.

Declarations were made for the following eight contested elections:

- Vice President Education
- Vice President Activities
- Faculty of Health Sciences Representative
- International Students Committee Vice President
- Accessibility Officer
- Ordinary Guild Councillor (6 positions, Affirmative Action)
- Ordinary Representation Board Member (6 positions, Affirmative Action), and
- NUS Delegate (7 positions).

13.3 Affirmative Action Elections

The composition of successful candidates in the elections for both Ordinary Guild Councillors and Ordinary Representation Board Members met the Affirmative Action requirements of the new Regulations by counting the ballots as cast without the need for intervention to force compliance.

14. Resignation and Replacement

A formal notice of resignation from her elected position of Ordinary Guild Councillor was tendered by Claire Almeida on 23rd September 2019. This gave the need to determine the appropriate replacement using Regulation 32 (4) of the *Curtin Student Guild (Guild Council) Regulations 2018*.

On finding that Regulation 32 (4), as written, was unworkable with optional proportional voting in a multi-vacancy election, and using powers granted under Regulations 9 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, the Returning Officer used a countback of the 2019 election results to determine the rightful replacement, instead of the prescribed candidate elimination and recount. The method used fulfils both the intent of Regulation 32 (4) and that of the electorate in these circumstances.

The Returning Officer issued a certificate on the 8th November 2019 declaring that Min Dee Chia was the elected replacement Councillor with a term expiring on the 30th November 2021.

15. Results Certificates

Copies of the final Certificates of Results issued after the counting appear at Appendix 3, including that for the election of the replacement Councillor.

16. Participation

Of the 32,322 eligible electors in 2019, only 1,224, or 3.79% cast a vote at the election. This included two postal votes. It compares with a 3.50% participation rate in 2018 and so in effect remains static.

The turnout is very low despite the efforts and enthusiasm of candidates and their supporters. Promoting the elections to students over more of the academic year may lift turnout to a better level of representation.

17. Informal Votes

The percentage of informal votes received in the Guild elections is not directly comparable with that for elections in general. In the Guild elections the ballot papers for a number of elections are printed one sheet of paper and separated immediately prior to counting.

Each elector receives the entire sheet but may not have an interest in all the elections, such as the representative for a faculty that is not their own. Because that ballot paper is left blank, it is recorded as informal, but this is not an indication that the vote was cast incorrectly, or informally, in the usual sense.

However for the record, numbers of votes recorded as informal in the 2019 elections are shown below:

- Vice President Education 84
- Vice President Activities 122
- Faculty of Health Sciences Representative 75
- International Students Committee President 107
- Accessibility Officer 145
- Ordinary Guild Councillors 107
- Ordinary Representation Board Members 94
- NUS Delegates 93

18. Reporting of Results

Copies of the certificates of all results were sent to the Student Guild for display on the Guild notice board and web page. Certificates of results were emailed to the successful candidates by the Returning Officer.

The Guild was also provided with the contact details of all the successful candidates as required by the *Curtin Student Guild (Election ad Referenda) Regulations 2018*, Clause 44b.

NUS By-Laws require that within two weeks of the election, the Returning Officer must send a report under the Guild's letterhead, to the NUS Accreditation Committee confirming that the election and the counting were conducted in accordance with NUS By-Laws and detailing results of the election of NUS delegates.

The report was completed and sent to the General Secretary of the NUS, Mr Michael Iroeche on 24th September 2019 for the attention of the Accreditation Committee which was in recess at the time.

19. Review of Regulations

19.1 Filling Vacancies

The resignation of a newly elected Councillor soon after the 2019 elections drew the attention of the Returning Officer to flaws in the methodology prescribed in the new Regulations for filling vacancies occurring in positions of Ordinary Guild Councillor and Ordinary Representation Board Member.

The relevant Regulations are 32 (4) and 41 (4) of the *Curtin Student Guild (Guild Council) Regulations 2018*. The two Regulations apply in exactly the same way in each case and each carries the same flaw.

The intention in each case is to fill an arising vacancy by using the ballots of the most recent Annual General Election to determine the candidate whom the electorate would have chosen next after those who were actually elected. The aim is to honour the will of the electorate given the circumstances.

However the Regulations, as worded, aim to do this by conducting a recount, and if required, declaring the vacating officer as an invalid candidate in the recount. However counting in optional preferential proportional elections is complex and this approach will not work in the intended way.

A comprehensive analysis and report on the way to correct the regulations was produced by the Returning Officer and provided to the Guild. The recommendation is to follow the existing Regulations, but conduct a countback, rather than a recount, to identify the last candidate eliminated before the completion of the original count. They would be the elected replacement, subject to Affirmative Action rules. This would deliver the intention of the existing Regulations but in a reliable, workable way.

The recommended revised wording for the two regulations is at Appendix 4.

19.2 Authorisation of Campaign Material

Regulation 37 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018* is titled "Authorisation" and at sub-clause (c) states that

"Campaign material shall:

(c) Not be distributed unless authorised by the Returning Officer."

The word "authorised" should be replaced with either "approved" or "allowed". The word "authorised" has a specific meaning in the context of elections and should not be used in this way in this sub-clause.

20. Future Elections

A de-brief was held after polling week to identify ways in which the elections could be improved. A report titled "*Review of Procedures and Logistics*" was prepared for the Guild by the Returning Officer.

The report covered many points of logistics for polling week all of which were noted in considerable detail. However there were some matters which would affect candidates more directly and which, if implemented, would benefit from coverage in the Guild's Election Handbook. They include:

20.1 Nomination Deposits

Nomination forms currently specify that deposits must be in cash. This should be changed to allow, or even require, deposits to be by EFT. This makes it easier to transact, handle and track deposits and makes for easier processing of refunds after the election.

20.2 Campaign Material – Deadline for Approvals

The deadline for applications for approval of campaign material could be set as 5pm on the Wednesday of campaign week. It would still give candidates 2½ weeks after the close of nominations and group registrations to prepare and submit material. It would also give the Returning Officer some clear time to finalise preparations for polling week and the material itself would be ready for use before polling week.

20.3 Campaign Material – Format for Approval Submissions

By setting a logical naming format for submissions for approval, all applications and printing jobs would be readily identifiable without duplication or confusion. The Returning Officer's task of review and recording would be simplified. Material submitted with non-compliant naming would not be considered.

20.4 Campaign Material – Streamlining of Production

The process for approval, printing and collection can be streamlined for greater efficiency and quicker turnaround. This would be done by having approved material despatched directly to G-Mart by the Returning Officer. G-Mart would notify the candidate as soon as material is ready for collection and would release it on presentation by the candidate of a Guild-issued payment receipt. Guild staff would be provided details and copies of approved material by the Returning Officer.

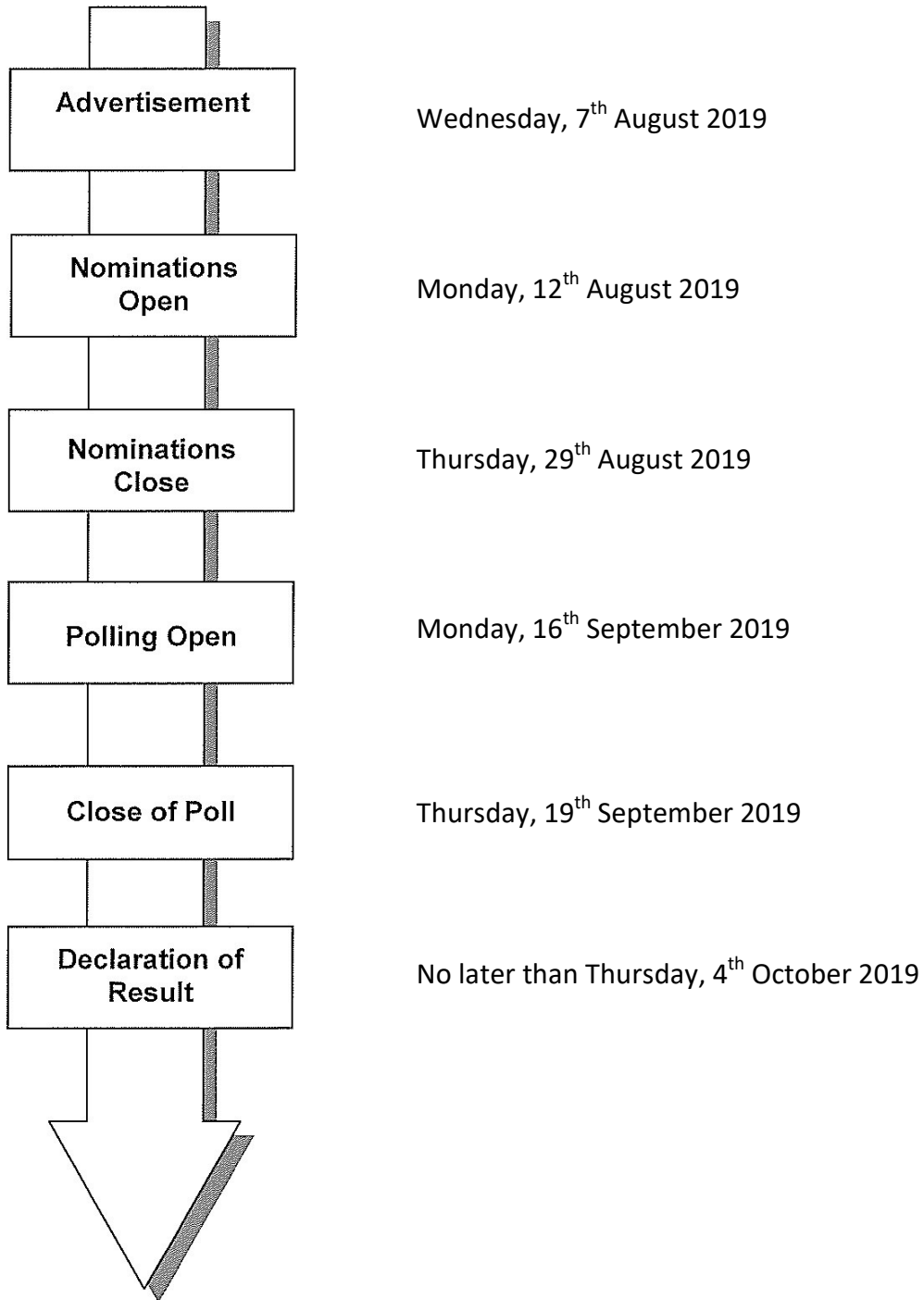


Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

24th November 2019

Appendix 1 Election Timetable

ELECTION TIMETABLE – SCHEMATIC



ELECTION TIMETABLE – DETAILS

| Step No. | Action | Date (in 2019) | Regulation |
|----------|--|--|------------------------------|
| 1. | Managing Director to consult Guild President re proposed Timetable | By Thursday 28 th February | E15(3) |
| 2. | Managing Director to write to Electoral Commissioner | 5pm Friday 21 st of June | E4 & E15(1) |
| 3. | Election Timetable approved by Returning Officer | 5pm Friday 19 th of July | E15(2) |
| 4. | Close of Initial Roll | 10am Monday 5 th of August | E16(1) & E35(1)(a) |
| 5. | Notice inviting Nominations | 5pm Wednesday 7 th of August | E19(1) & E19(2) |
| 6. | Postal voting application posted | 5pm Wednesday 7 th of August | E19(3) |
| 7. | Delivery of Initial Roll of Guild Members to Returning Officer | 5pm Friday 9 th of August | E16(1) & E35(2) |
| 8. | Opening of Nominations & Notification to NUS | 10am Monday 12 th of August | E16(2)(b) and NUS By-Law B.3 |
| 9. | Close of Final Roll | Midnight of Friday 23 rd August (close of census) | E12(1), E16(5) & E35(1)(b) |
| 10. | Close of Nominations and Group Registrations | 12 noon Thursday 29 th August | E16(2) & E16(3) |
| 11. | Ballot Draw | 9am Friday 30 th of August | E16(4) |
| 12. | Delivery of Final Roll of Electors to Returning Officer | By 10am Monday 9 th of September | E16(5) & E35(3) |
| 13. | Commencement of Campaigning | 12.01am Monday 9 th of September | E40(3) |
| 14. | Deadline for Postal Vote Applications | Noon Tuesday 10 th of September | E13(3) |
| 15. | Deadline for sending Postal Vote election packet | 5pm Tuesday 10 th of September | E13(8) |
| 16. | Opening of Polls | 10am Monday 16 th of September | E16(6) |
| 17. | Close of Polls and acceptance of Postal Votes | 4pm Thursday 19 th of September | E16(6) & E13(9) |
| 18. | Counting | 6pm Thursday 19 th of September till late | |
| 19. | Counting | 10am Friday 20 th of September till finished | |
| 20. | Declaration of Poll & Report to NUS | By 4pm Thursday 3 rd of October | E16(7) & NUS By-Law B6 |
| 21. | Report to Guild Council Due | By 5pm Monday 2 nd of December | |

Appendix 2 Election Notice



CURTIN STUDENT GUILD ELECTION NOTICE

In accordance *Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

2019 Annual Guild and NUS Elections

Nominations are invited from interested and eligible persons for the following positions in the 2019 Annual Guild and NUS elections:

- President
- Vice President Education
- Vice President Activities
- Faculty of Business and Law Representative
- Faculty of Science and Engineering Representative
- Faculty of Health Sciences Representative
- Faculty of Humanities Representative
- International Students Committee President
- Postgraduate Students Committee President
- Queer Officer
- Women's Officer
- Indigenous Officer
- Accessibility Officer
- Guild Councillors (6) (at least 3 being women)
- Representation Board Members (6) (at least 3 being women)
- National Union of Students Delegates (NUS) (7)

Nomination forms will be accepted from **10.00 am Monday 12 August 2019**. Nomination forms, group registration and other election forms are available between 9.00 am and 4:30pm on business days from the Curtin Student Guild Office at the following location: Building 106F, Curtin University, Kent Street, BENTLEY and may be downloaded from the Guild webpage.

Note that the term is:

- (a) for Guild Councillors, 2 years commencing 1 December 2019;
- (b) for NUS Delegates, from being declared elected until successors are declared elected in the 2020 election; and
- (c) for all other roles, 1 year commencing 1 December 2019.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

A candidate shall be eligible to be an Officer if they:

- (a) hold the general qualifications listed in Schedule B(1) of the *Student Guild (Guild Council) Regulations 2018*, namely:
 - i. be an enrolled student at least seven (7) days prior to the opening of nominations;
 - ii. be a Guild Member at least seven (7) days prior to the opening of nominations;
 - iii. study at Curtin University at a Curtin University campus in Western Australia or otherwise reside in the State of Western Australia;
 - iv. where a candidate for Guild Council, be eighteen (18) years of age or older, as at the date the candidate commences as an Officer; and
 - v. is enrolled in an award course at Curtin University.
- (b) do not hold any of the general disqualifications specified in Schedule B(2) of the *Student Guild (Guild Council) Regulations 2018*, specifically a candidate shall be ineligible to be an officer if they meet any of the following;
 - i. is currently or have within the last five (5) years been a staff member of the Guild;
 - ii. is a staff member of the University;
 - iii. is an undischarged bankrupt, or a debtor against whose estate there is a subsisting receiving order in bankruptcy;
 - iv. is incarcerated;
 - v. has been convicted on indictment of an offence for which the indictable penalty was or included imprisonment for life or imprisonment for more than five (5) years;
 - vi. is disqualified under any provision of the Guild Statute Book;
 - vii. is disqualified due to any requirement of a visa they may hold;
 - viii. is an editor of the Guild publication "GROK";
 - ix. is disqualified due to any act, statute, regulation, rule or by-law in force in the State of Western Australia over the Guild;
 - x. have served for more than five (5) years as an officer or where their term of office would cumulatively exceed five (5) years' service as an officer and this includes acting in an officer position;
 - xi. have been elected or appointed to the same officer position more than twice;
 - xii. have held an officer position or acted in an officer position for more than six (6) months and have been re-elected or re-appointed to the same officer position more than once; and
 - xiii. have been appointed as Chair of the Remuneration Tribunal (a current officer shall not be disqualified from their current position but may not stand for re-election or be re-appointed in the next term of office).

and

- (c) meet the specific qualifications and/or disqualifications applicable to that particular office specified in Schedule B (3) of the *Student Guild (Guild Council) Regulations 2018*, namely a candidate shall meet the following specific qualifications for the following roles:

President

A candidate for President shall not hold a visa that limits the amount of work in which a person may be engaged to less than 75 hours a fortnight.

Vice President - Education

A candidate for Vice President - Education shall not hold a visa that limits the amount of work in which a person may be engaged to less than 75 hours a fortnight

Vice President - Activities

A candidate for Vice President - Activities shall not hold a visa that limits the amount of work in which a person may be engaged to less than 75 hours a fortnight

Faculty Representative

A candidate for Faculty Representative must be currently enrolled within an undergraduate course in the Faculty they seek to represent.

International Students Committee President

A candidate for International Students Committee President must be an international student.

Postgraduate Students Committee President

A candidate for Postgraduate Students Committee President must be a postgraduate student.

Queer Officer

A candidate for Queer Officer must be queer.

Women's Officer

A candidate for Women's Officer must be a woman.

Accessibility Officer

A candidate for Accessibility Officer must be disabled.

Indigenous Officer

A Candidate for Indigenous Officer must be Indigenous.

NOMINATIONS

A person may nominate only for one (1) position that is a member of Guild Council and one (1) position that is a member of the Representation Board.

Example: A person who is eligible could nominate to be a Guild Councillor and the Faculty of Business and Law Representative. However a person could not nominate to be President and Faculty of Business and Law Representative as the President is also a member of the Representation Board.

Example: A person who is eligible could nominate to be a Guild Councillor, the Faculty of Business and Law Representative and a NUS Delegate.

A person cannot nominate to be Vice President – Activities and a member of the Representation Board.

A nomination form shall be signed by two Guild members (nominators) who shall:

- (a) be represented by the position that they are nominating a candidate for;

Example: A person cannot nominate a candidate for Women's Officer unless they identify as a woman. A Health Sciences student cannot nominate a Humanities Representative.

- (b) be Guild Members; and

- (c) only support the nomination of one (1) candidate per position.

Example: A person cannot nominate two persons to be President.

In addition, a nomination form shall be signed by a witness who shall sight the nominee's Curtin student identification card; this witness must be a member of Guild Administrative staff, the Returning Officer or a Justice of the Peace. On satellite campuses, University staff members on that campus act as acceptable witnesses, in the absence of Guild Administrative staff, the Returning Officer or a Justice of the Peace. Guild Administrative staff may not sign nominations forms if they are enrolled Curtin students.

CLOSE OF ROLLS AND ELECTORS

Roll close for the Guild Members is **10.00 am Monday 5 August 2019**.

Roll close for Electors for the 2019 Annual Guild and NUS elections is 5.00 pm Friday 23 August 2019.

Electors shall be students enrolled must be an enrolled student of Curtin University at the Semester Two Census Date and not otherwise disqualified. Only enrolled students who identify as women may vote in an election for the office of Women's Officer

LODGEMENT OF NOMINATIONS

Nominations, completed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Guild, must be lodged in a **sealed envelope** with the Returning Officer in person, or by placing into the locked nomination box located in the Curtin Student Guild Office or posted to the Curtin Student Guild Office at Building 106F, Curtin University, Kent Street, BENTLEY, to be received by the Returning Officer not later than the close of nominations, **12.00 noon Thursday 29 August 2019**.

Prospective candidates wishing to nominate outside Curtin Student Guild business hours, **must** first contact the Returning Officer to arrange a suitable time to lodge a nomination or other prescribed form. **No nomination can be accepted later than 12.00 noon Thursday 29 August 2019**.

You may include a policy statement of up to 500 words on a portable digital storage device or emailed to the Returning Officer from the candidates student email account. You may also include a recent digital head and shoulder photo (in jpeg format and no larger than 1MB in file size).

A nomination deposit of \$10 per candidate is required, payable in cash and must accompany the nomination(s) form(s). A refund of the deposit will be made to all candidates elected.

No nomination deposit is payable for NUS nominations.

LODGEMENT OF GROUP REGISTRATION FORMS

Group Registration forms shall be lodged with the Returning Officer in person or by placing into the locked nomination box located in the Curtin Student Guild Office to be received not later than the close of Group Registration, 12.00 noon Thursday 29 August 2019.

DRAW FOR BALLOT PAPER POSITIONS AND ALLOCATION OF COLOURS

The draw for ballot paper positions and allocation of colours will take place at **9.00am Friday 30 August 2019** in the Guild Offices.

POLLING

Polling will take place at the Bentley campus between **10.00 am** and **4.00 pm** from **Monday 16 September 2019** to **Thursday 20 September 2019** inclusive.

POSTAL VOTE APPLICATIONS

Postal vote applications may be made to the Curtin Student Guild Office on the form available from the office. Postal Vote Application forms can also be downloaded from the Guild web page. A completed signed and witnessed application form must be received by the Returning Officer no later than 12:00 noon Tuesday 10 September 2019.

Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER
Mobile: 0459 919 900
Email: ro.curtin@bigpond.com
26 July 2019

Appendix 3

Copies of Certificates of Results

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS

Curtin Student Guild

Election of Guild President

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

At the close of nominations at 12.00 noon on Thursday 29 August 2019 one nomination was received for the vacancy. In accordance with Regulation 43 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare the candidate named below duly elected unopposed to the position of Guild President with a term to expire on 30 November 2020.

ARAI, Hana

Term to Expire – 30 November 2020



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS**Curtin Student Guild****Election of Vice President Education**

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

CLOSE OF POLL – 4.00 pm on Thursday 19 September 2019

| | |
|--|-------|
| Number of ballot papers printed | 3,500 |
| Number of ballot papers issued (not including replacement and provisional ballot papers) | 1,223 |
| Number of replacement ballot papers issued | 3 |
| Number of provisional ballot papers issued | 19 |
| Number of unused ballot papers | 2,255 |
| Number of formal ballot papers | 1,126 |
| Number of informal ballot papers | 84 |

Candidates**Total Number of Votes**

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| HALL, Chris | 896 |
| EGLOFF-BARR, Caitlin | 230 |

In accordance with the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare the following candidate duly elected to the position of Vice President Education.

HALL, Chris

Term to Expire – 30 November 2020



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS**Curtin Student Guild****Election of Vice President Activities**

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

CLOSE OF POLL – 4.00 pm on Thursday 19 September 2019

| | |
|--|-------|
| Number of ballot papers printed | 3,500 |
| Number of ballot papers issued (not including replacement and provisional ballot papers) | 1,223 |
| Number of replacement ballot papers issued | 3 |
| Number of provisional ballot papers issued | 19 |
| Number of unused ballot papers | 2,255 |
| Number of formal ballot papers | 1,092 |
| Number of informal ballot papers | 122 |

| Candidates | Total Number of Votes |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| TRUELL, Bridge | 801 |
| MURRAY, Mitchell | 291 |

In accordance with the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare the following candidate duly elected to the position of Vice President Activities.

TRUELL, Bridge

Term to Expire – 30 November 2020



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS

Curtin Student Guild

Election of Faculty of Business and Law Representative

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

At the close of nominations at 12.00 noon on Thursday 29 August 2019 one nomination was received for the vacancy. In accordance with Regulation 43 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare the candidate named below duly elected unopposed to the position of Faculty of Business and Law Representative with a term to expire on 30 November 2020.

NAYLOR ZAMBRANO, Jesse

Term to Expire – 30 November 2020



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS

Curtin Student Guild

Election of Faculty of Science and Engineering Representative

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

At the close of nominations at 12.00 noon on Thursday 29 August 2019 one nomination was received for the vacancy. In accordance with Regulation 43 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare the candidate named below duly elected unopposed to the position of Faculty of Science and Engineering Representative with a term to expire on 30 November 2020.

SEHIC, Fatma

Term to Expire – 30 November 2020



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS**Curtin Student Guild****Election of Faculty of Health Sciences Representative**In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

CLOSE OF POLL – 4.00 pm on Thursday 19 September 2019

| | |
|--|-------|
| Number of ballot papers printed | 3,500 |
| Number of ballot papers issued (not including replacement and provisional ballot papers) | 1,223 |
| Number of replacement ballot papers issued | 3 |
| Number of provisional ballot papers issued | 19 |
| Number of unused ballot papers | 2,255 |
| Number of formal ballot papers | 1,140 |
| Number of informal ballot papers | 75 |

| Candidates | Total Number of Votes |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| HODGKINSON, Briana | 262 |
| SUNDAR, Jeru | 718 |
| BIRCHALL, Richard | 160 |

In accordance with the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare the following candidate duly elected to the position of Faculty of Health Sciences Representative.

SUNDAR, Jeru

Term to Expire – 30 November 2020

Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS

Curtin Student Guild

Election of Faculty of Humanities Representative

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

At the close of nominations at 12.00 noon on Thursday 29 August 2019 one nomination was received for the vacancy. In accordance with Regulation 43 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare the candidate named below duly elected unopposed to the position of Faculty of Humanities Representative with a term to expire on 30 November 2020.

MARTELLI, Connie

Term to Expire – 30 November 2020



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS**Curtin Student Guild****Election of International Students Committee President**In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

CLOSE OF POLL – 4.00 pm on Thursday 19 September 2019

| | |
|--|-------|
| Number of ballot papers printed | 3,500 |
| Number of ballot papers issued (not including replacement and provisional ballot papers) | 1,223 |
| Number of replacement ballot papers issued | 3 |
| Number of provisional ballot papers issued | 19 |
| Number of unused ballot papers | 2,255 |
| Number of formal ballot papers | 1,106 |
| Number of informal ballot papers | 107 |

| Candidates | Total Number of Votes |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| MIRZA, Suleman | 280 |
| NGUYEN, Amelia | 826 |

In accordance with the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare the following candidate duly elected to the position of International Students Committee President.

NGUYEN, Amelia

Term to Expire – 30 November 2020

Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS

Curtin Student Guild

Election of Post-Graduate Students Committee President

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

At the close of nominations at 12.00 noon on Thursday 29 August 2019 one nomination was received for the vacancy. In accordance with Regulation 43 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare the candidate named below duly elected unopposed to the position of Post-Graduate Students Committee President with a term to expire on 30 November 2020.

MAJIMBI, May

Term to Expire – 30 November 2020



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS

Curtin Student Guild

Election of Queer Officer

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

At the close of nominations at 12.00 noon on Thursday 29 August 2019 one nomination was received for the vacancy. In accordance with Regulation 43 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare the candidate named below duly elected unopposed to the position of Queer Officer with a term to expire on 30 November 2020.

JAGOE, Bry

Term to Expire – 30 November 2020



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS

Curtin Student Guild

Election of Women's Officer

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

At the close of nominations at 12.00 noon on Thursday 29 August 2019 one nomination was received for the vacancy. In accordance with Regulation 43 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare the candidate named below duly elected unopposed to the position of Women's Officer with a term to expire on 30 November 2020.

CASTILLO, Star

Term to Expire – 30 November 2020



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS
Curtin Student Guild
Election of Indigenous Officer

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

At the close of nominations at 12.00 noon on Thursday 29 August 2019 one nomination was received for the vacancy. In accordance with Regulation 43 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare the candidate named below duly elected unopposed to the position of Indigenous Officer with a term to expire on 30 November 2020.

CONWAY, Cheyenne

Term to Expire – 30 November 2020



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS
Curtin Student Guild
Election of Accessibility Officer

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

CLOSE OF POLL – 4.00 pm on Thursday 19 September 2019

| | |
|--|-------|
| Number of ballot papers printed | 3,500 |
| Number of ballot papers issued (not including replacement and provisional ballot papers) | 1,223 |
| Number of replacement ballot papers issued | 3 |
| Number of provisional ballot papers issued | 19 |
| Number of unused ballot papers | 2,255 |
| Number of formal ballot papers | 1,084 |
| Number of informal ballot papers | 145 |

| Candidates | Total Number of Votes |
|-------------------|------------------------------|
| RYAN, Diana | 272 |
| BOTICA, Dylan | 792 |

In accordance with the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare the following candidate duly elected to the position of Accessibility Officer.

BOTICA, Dylan

Term to Expire – 30 November 2020



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS
Curtin Student Guild
Election of Six Guild Councillors

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

CLOSE OF POLL – 4.00 pm on Thursday 19 September 2019

| | |
|--|-------|
| Number of ballot papers printed | 3,500 |
| Number of ballot papers issued (not including replacement and provisional ballot papers) | 1,223 |
| Number of replacement ballot papers issued | 3 |
| Number of provisional ballot papers issued | 19 |
| Number of unused ballot papers | 2,255 |
| Number of formal ballot papers | 1,117 |
| Number of informal ballot papers | 107 |

In accordance with the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare each of the following candidates duly elected to the position of Guild Councillor.

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| SEHIC, Fatma | Term to Expire – 30 November 2021 |
| BROSNAN, Luke | Term to Expire – 30 November 2021 |
| NAYLOR ZAMBRANO, Jesse | Term to Expire – 30 November 2021 |
| ALMEIDA, Claire | Term to Expire – 30 November 2021 |
| GRANT, Chris | Term to Expire – 30 November 2021 |
| KIM, Jason | Term to Expire – 30 November 2021 |

I confirm that at least three (3) of the elected candidates identify as women, as required under Clause 24(2) (b) of the *Curtin Student Guild (Guild Council) Regulations 2018*.



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS

Curtin Student Guild

Election of Replacement Guild Councillor

In accordance with Regulations 9 and 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018* and Regulation 32(4) of the *Curtin Student Guild (Guild Council) Regulations 2018*

Following the resignation as of 23rd September 2019 of Claire ALMEIDA who was previously declared elected to the position of Guild Councillor following the September 2019 General Election, and using the same polling returns, I declare candidate

CHIA, Min Dee

the duly elected replacement to the position of Guild Councillor with a term to expire on 30 November 2021.

I confirm that the requirement under Clause 24(2) (b) of the *Curtin Student Guild (Guild Council) Regulations 2018* that at least three (3) of the elected candidates identify as women, remains satisfied.



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

8 November 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS

Curtin Student Guild

Election of Six Ordinary Representation Board Members

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

CLOSE OF POLL – 4.00 pm on Thursday 19 September 2019

| | |
|--|-------|
| Number of ballot papers printed | 3,500 |
| Number of ballot papers issued (not including replacement and provisional ballot papers) | 1,223 |
| Number of replacement ballot papers issued | 3 |
| Number of provisional ballot papers issued | 19 |
| Number of unused ballot papers | 2,255 |
| Number of formal ballot papers | 1,127 |
| Number of informal ballot papers | 94 |

In accordance with the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare each of the following candidates duly elected to the position of Ordinary Representation Board Member.

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| RUSSELL, Erin | Term to Expire – 30 November 2020 |
| ROHL, Lucy | Term to Expire – 30 November 2020 |
| GIBSON, Luke | Term to Expire – 30 November 2020 |
| METCALF, Clare | Term to Expire – 30 November 2020 |
| GRASSI, Ben | Term to Expire – 30 November 2020 |
| PANNELL, Alexandra | Term to Expire – 30 November 2020 |

I confirm that at least three (3) of the elected candidates identify as women, as required under Clause 24(2) (b) of the *Curtin Student Guild (Guild Council) Regulations 2018*.



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS

Curtin Student Guild

Election of Seven National Union of Students Delegates

In accordance with Regulation 44 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*

CLOSE OF POLL – 4.00 pm on Thursday 19 September 2019

| | |
|--|-------|
| Number of ballot papers printed | 3,500 |
| Number of ballot papers issued (not including replacement and provisional ballot papers) | 1,223 |
| Number of replacement ballot papers issued | 3 |
| Number of provisional ballot papers issued | 19 |
| Number of unused ballot papers | 2,255 |
| Number of formal ballot papers | 1,131 |
| Number of informal ballot papers | 93 |

In accordance with the *Curtin Student Guild (Election and Referenda) Regulations 2018*, I declare each of the following candidates duly elected to the position of National Union of Students Delegate.

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| FARRELL, Michael | Term to Expire – 30 November 2020 |
| ARAI, Hana | Term to Expire – 30 November 2020 |
| HALL, Chris | Term to Expire – 30 November 2020 |
| NAYLOR ZAMBRANO, Jesse | Term to Expire – 30 November 2020 |
| MARTELLI, Connie | Term to Expire – 30 November 2020 |
| RUSSELL, Erin | Term to Expire – 30 November 2020 |
| MACFARLANE, Christopher | Term to Expire – 30 November 2020 |



Peter Zaikos
RETURNING OFFICER

20 September 2019

Appendix 4

Recommended Wording for Regulations

Recommended Revised Wording for Regulations

Following are recommended revised wordings for Regulations 32 and 41 of the *Curtin Student Guild (Guild Council) Regulations 2018*.

“32. Guild Councillors

- (4) *If there are any vacancies of Guild Councillors then:*
- (a) *There shall be a countback of the results from the most recent Annual General Election for the position of Guild Councillor;*
 - (b) *The candidate who was eliminated last from the count in that election who is not already a member of the Guild Council and is eligible to hold office will be declared elected to that position from the date of the Returning Officer’s notice and for the balance of the vacating member’s term;*
 - (c) *If the person last eliminated from the count is ineligible to hold office or is unable or unwilling to act in that capacity, then a further countback shall take place in this fashion to the second-last person eliminated. Such countbacks will continue until an eligible candidate is found who is willing and able to take up the vacant position; and*
 - (d) *If none of the unsuccessful candidates at the Annual General Election are eligible, willing or able to take up the vacant position, then Guild Council shall appoint an eligible Guild Member in accordance with the Guild by-laws.*

and

“41. Ordinary Representation Board Members

- (4) *If there are any vacancies of Ordinary Representation Board Members then:*
- (a) *There shall be a countback of the results from the most recent Annual General Election for the position of Ordinary Representation Board Members;*
 - (b) *The candidate who was eliminated last from the count in that election who is not already a member of the Representation Board and is eligible to hold office will be declared elected to that position from the date of the Returning Officer’s notice and for the balance of the vacating member’s term;*
 - (c) *If the person last eliminated from the count is ineligible to hold office or is unable or unwilling to act in that capacity, then a further countback shall take place in this fashion to the second-last person eliminated. Such countbacks will continue until an eligible candidate is found who is willing and able to take up the vacant position; and*
 - (d) *If none of the unsuccessful candidates at the Annual General Election are eligible, willing or able to take up the vacant position, then the Representation Board shall appoint an eligible Guild Member in accordance with the Guild by-laws.*

NOTE: In each of the two Regulations above, “*eligible*”, wherever it occurs, includes reference to continued compliance of the overall results of the election with Affirmative Action requirements.