

CURTIN STUDENT PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

THIS AGREEMENT IS BETWEEN
THE CURTIN STUDENT GUILD
AND CURTIN UNIVERSITY

**CURTIN
STUDENT
GUILD**



Curtin University

THE PARTNERSHIP

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Curtin University and the Curtin Student Guild pay our respect to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander members of our community and acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which the Bentley Campus is located, the Wadjuk people of the Nyungar Nation; and on our Kalgoorlie Campus, the Wongutha people of the North-Eastern Goldfields. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this university, city and region.

Curtin University and the Curtin Student Guild commit to adopting First Nations' knowledge and practice throughout the student partnership agreement, in accordance with the University's Elevate Reconciliation Plan and the values of our First Nations staff, students and community.

If you require the Curtin Guild / Curtin University Partnership Agreement in an alternative format please contact us on +61 8 9266 2932 or e-mail educationvp@guild.curtin.edu.au.

THE PARTNERSHIP

INTRODUCTION

The Curtin Partnership focuses on three common goals:

- To promote a receptive and accessible institutional culture which encourages and values the student's voice.
- To actively encourage students to engage in and contribute to the inclusive education and research experience and the advancement of knowledge and extracurricular activities.
- To foster strong, supported and effective student leaders.

This Agreement (The Partnership) provides the core principles to:

- Create and promote a culture of staff and student partnership which is supported by all members of the Curtin community.
- Support staff and students to work together at all levels of decision making and governance for the enhancement of quality learning and teaching, the student experience and outcomes for students.
- Encourage students' participation in governance, as co-designers of their learning and student experience and in project co-creation.
- Position students to take on roles of leadership.

This Agreement identifies six pillars to:

- Create a culture that is consistent across the university, fostering an environment of working directly with students to ensure that their concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and respected.
- Outline the principles for partnering with students in each aspect of problem-solving, from identification through to a solution and that encourages outcomes that are student informed and led.

The Partnership will be reviewed every three (3) years:

- The review may include the alignment and proposed engagement with Student Voice Australia (SVA); National and International Students as Partners models that are relevant to Curtin; and identification of good practice, gaps, opportunities and expectations of the partnership agreement.
- To ensure the alignment with Curtin University's Strategic Plan, the Partnership's supporting Operation Plan is a three (3) year plan that will be reviewed annually.
- The Partnership shall be reported on through the Curtin Learning and Student Experience Committee (LSEC). LSEC will develop the terms of reference and The Partnership will be analysed annually by an independent body.

The Curtin Student Partnership Agreement is an agreement between the Curtin Student Guild (*See Curtin Student Guild Statute 4*) and Curtin University (*See Curtin University Act*).

THE PARTNERSHIP COMMITMENT

The Curtin Student Guild and Curtin University Perth are committing to:

INCLUSIVITY



- Being empathetic and provide special support to staff and students, being open to their unique needs.
- Showing respect for the views, opinions and beliefs of others.
- Ensuring underrepresented student groups are sought out and engaged.
- Adopting First Nations' practices and growing our authentic collaboration with first nations people.

SHARED VALUES



- Building authentic partnerships between staff and students, where both parties understand the importance of partnership, co-creation and recognising power imbalances.
- Upholding the values of both the Student Guild (Australia) and the University.
- Working honestly and transparently, with genuine effort to fulfil our commitments.

SHARED UNDERSTANDING



- Creating an engaging, supportive, and rewarding university experience where everyone is able to share their voice, be heard and generating positive change.
- Prioritizing handover and sustainability of projects and partnership.
- Developing strong staff leaders so that they can meaningfully engage with students in partnership and understand the value of co-opting them in decision-making processes.

CONSULTATION



- Embedding the student voice into all planning processes in research, teaching, learning, facility design and developmental opportunities.
- Collaborating in research, teaching, learning, facility design and developmental opportunities.
- Seeking and providing effective and relevant feedback.
- Acknowledging the differences in life-cycle and knowledge.

RECOGNITION



- Celebrating achievement and excellence in the pursuit of shared goals.
- Upholding the values of both the Guild and the University.
- Recognising formal and informal engagement.
- Celebrating and promoting the community's diversity.
- Developing and recognising strong student leaders from the Guild and the wider student community.

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE



- Ensuring that training and support is provided to all parties, to understand the principles, governance, procedures, life-cycle and expectations of each other and the spaces they engage in.
- Developing, comparing and sharing good practice models across our faculties and global campuses.
- Benchmarking to international and national leaders to grow our Students As Partners Model.

THE PARTNERSHIP

ONE CURTIN

Over the years, Curtin's physical expansion has mirrored the institution's forward looking nature and responsiveness to the changing needs of Curtin students, partners and the broader communities we serve.

We acknowledge and respect the differences in culture and law between our Australian and Global Campuses and the range of ways that working with students as partners within a global network can be achieved. Our commitment to students as partners will ensure that we can develop a shared understanding of partnership and develop common goals at each of our campuses to achieve the excellence in partnership that meet the strategic objectives of each local environment.

CAMPUSES AUSTRALIA



- A predetermined cultural understanding of co-creation and student involvement already existing within Australian institutions and we acknowledge the advantage that the Australian Campuses have to adopt far more complex levels of commitment from the student partnership agreement due to the nature of the environment.

- A commitment to students being engaged as partners and providing opportunities for student involvement in the decision making and educational practices at each of our institutions.

GLOBAL CAMPUSES



- Consulting with the staff and students of our global campuses to identify their areas for growth and deliver objectives that fit the nature of each campus environment.
- Growing the understanding of partnership at our global campuses is key to establishing innovative ways of meeting our common goals.
- The strategic plan will include local implementation and enactment of projects that meet the strategic objectives of each of the global campuses.

THE PARTNERSHIP

ACCOUNTABILITY

Underpinning the Agreement is a Governance structure and an Operational Plan.

The Operational Plan includes measuring the partnership agreement and partnership projects. It may include a review of existing Students as Partners initiatives at Curtin (mapped, and benchmarked for good practice); a mid-year review date for the progress of projects and the establishment of new projects that enhance student partnership.

The Operational Plan works to ensure the Partnership Agreement:

- Improves learning and teaching practices,
- Informs university decisions, increases student engagement,
- Enhances the student experience, and
- Evaluates student satisfaction.

There are many existing practices that this partnership seeks to formalise, all in which are joint responsibilities of the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic representing the University Staff and the Guild President, representing all students. These include but are not limited to;

- Including the Curtin Student Partnership Agreement in induction packs.
- Implementing policy and procedure that ensures consistent evaluation of the authentic involvement of students engaging with and contributing to the inclusive education and research experience and the advancement of knowledge and extracurricular activities throughout the institution.
- Ensuring regular communication channels are maintained between the Guild President and Curtin's Vice Chancellor (monthly, or as agreed by the parties) and that a member of the Senior Executive teams of the University and the Guild are assigned as liaison officers.
- Working in partnership to ensure awareness and adoption of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) throughout the curriculum and through co-curricula activities.

Curtin University recognises the Curtin Student Guild as the peak student representative body for Curtin Perth students.

- It is the responsibility of Curtin staff members to meaningfully engage with students in partnership by co-opting them into spaces where decisions will be made that affect their education and university experience.
- It is the responsibility of Curtin students and the elected Guild Representatives to uptake these opportunities and to provide meaningful contributions to ensure that the best outcomes can be met for students and the University.

THE PARTNERSHIP

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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The Curtin Student Guild and Curtin University agree that:

- This framework shall become effective upon signature by the authorised officials from Curtin and the Guild and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any of the partners by mutual consent.
- This Agreement (and associated framework) is at-will and may be modified by mutual consent of authorised officials from Curtin University and the Curtin Student Guild.
- All parties will make every effort to support and promote this agreement to their members and staff.

The undersigned agrees to the terms and conditions set out in The Partnership Agreement and is authorised by their respective organisation to make this agreement.

SIGNED:

SIGNED:

NAME:

NAME:

SIGNED:

SIGNED:

NAME:

NAME:

**CURTIN
STUDENT
GUILD**



Curtin University