# CONSTITUTION OF THE ARTS UNION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



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"The theoretical broadening which comes from having many humanities subjects on the campus is offset by the general dopiness of the people who study these things".

Richard Feynman, US Physicist.

"You should be proud to be an Arts student at UWA. If anyone makes a passing comment about your employability, pity them, for they are probably a Commerce student and will never develop the capacity for abstract thought".

Zack Doherty, Arts Union President 2008.

"Reality is an illusion. Morality is a by-product of reason. UEC is futile. We live in a simulation".

Hannah Smith, Arts Union President 2018.

THE ROLE OF THE UNION AND THE RIGHTS OF ITS MEMBERS

Name

1. The name of the society shall be the Arts Union of the University of Western Australia (UWA).

# **Objects of the Union**

- 2. The objects of the Union shall be:
  - a. To represent the interests of students studying a major under the Bachelor of Arts, or a postgraduate course within the Conservatorium of Music, Graduate School of Education, School of Humanities, School of Indigenous Studies, & School of Social Sciences;
  - b. To maintain open communication and cooperation with other societies within the University;
  - c. To facilitate and encourage a variety of social, educational, equity, external and any other activities for the benefit of Arts students;
  - d. To build and maintain an open and productive relationship of mutual benefit with the academic staff of the Faculty of Arts, Business, Law and Education: and
  - e. To undertake any action to further the fulfilment of these objects, or which is done for the benefit of Arts students.
- 3. No object shall be considered predominant over any other.

# Membership

- 4. The members of the Union shall consist of Ordinary Members, Financial Members and Associate Members.
  - a. Ordinary Membership shall be granted to any student studying a major under the Bachelor of Arts, or a postgraduate course within the Conservatorium of Music, Graduate School of Education, School of Humanities, School of Indigenous Studies, & School of Social Sciences (with exception to postgraduate courses who's specialization is within a different school, e.g. Master of Public Policy (Economics)). No subscription fee shall be attached. Ordinary Members are entitled to representation by the Union, as well as full voting rights. Ordinary Members cannot nominate for election to any position on the Committee.
  - b. Financial Membership shall be granted to any student studying a major under the Bachelor of Arts or a postgraduate course within the Conservatorium of Music, Graduate School of Education, School of Humanities, School of Indigenous Studies, & School of Social Sciences(with exception to postgraduate courses who's specialisation is within a different school, e.g. Master of Public Policy (Economics), who has registered their membership with the Union and had their membership dated. Financial Members must also have paid an annual subscription fee. Financial Members are entitled to representation by the Union, have full voting rights, and are eligible for nomination for election to the Committee.
  - c. Associate Membership shall be granted to any person paying the subscription fee of a Financial Member, but who is not studying a major under the Bachelor of Arts, or a postgraduate course within the Conservatorium of Music, Graduate School of Education, School of Humanities, School of Indigenous Studies, & School of Social Sciences. Associate Membership shall carry all rights of Financial Membership, excluding voting rights and eligibility for nomination for election to the

#### Committee.

5. The annual subscription fee for Financial Members will be determined by the Committee at the first Committee meeting of each year and shall not exceed \$10.

# **Meetings of the Union**

- The Union must convene an Annual General Meeting (AGM) in UWA Semester Two.
- 7. The Committee may convene a Special General Meeting (SGM) at any time.
- 8. Members of the Union may convene an SGM at any time by gathering the signatures of at least 20 Ordinary and/or Financial Members and specifying the business to be raised in a letter or email to be submitted to the President.
  - a. The President must convene an SGM within 10 days of receiving such a request from the Members. An SGM must occur during a teaching week and not over the examination period.
- 9. The President or Secretary must post notice in the Arts Union Common Room and electronically on the UWA Arts Union Facebook page of any Meeting of the Union at least 5 days before the Meeting takes place.

# **Procedure of Meetings of the Union**

- 10. Quorum for a Meeting of the Union shall be 30 Ordinary and/or Financial Members.
- 11. Any business that has been received by the President on behalf of the Members shall be given priority at the meeting.
- 12. All decisions made at a Meeting of the Union shall be determined by an absolute majority vote, unless specified elsewhere in this Constitution.
- 13. All Ordinary and Financial Members shall have speaking rights at a Meeting of the Union.
- 14. All Ordinary and Financial Members shall have the right to submit their votes via written absentee vote (whether hard copy or email) for any Meeting of the Union. The absentee vote must be received prior to the commencement of the meeting.
- 15. A two-thirds majority of those present at a Meeting of the Union may vote to end debate and force a poll on the resolution currently being considered.
- 16. The President shall chair a Meeting of the Union.
- 17. Subject to the limitations detailed in this Constitution, the Executive shall determine the procedure and rules for a Meeting of the Union.

#### **Elections**

- 18. Only Ordinary and Financial Members shall be allowed to vote in the Union's elections, with exception to the Junior Representative elections, of which only students enrolled in at least 1 unit in a major within the Bachelor of Arts, and within their first year of undergraduate study, shall be permitted to vote for the Junior Representatives.
  - a. Only Ordinary and Financial Members who identify as male and/or non binary are entitled to vote for the Male Sports Representative.
  - b. Only Ordinary and Financial Members who identify as female and/or non binary are entitled to vote for the Female Sports Representative.
  - c. Only Ordinary and Financial Members who are currently enrolled as international students are entitled to run and vote for the International Representative.
  - d. Members who identity as non-binary may only vote in accordance with either 18a. or 18b.
  - e. Voting can only occur in-person in the Arts Union Common Room. In the case that an Ordinary and/or Financial Member cannot attend the designated voting times, due to circumstances outside of their control, then that Member can designate a person who is not a Member of the Union to vote in person on their behalf. Members must send a request to the Returning Officer(s) via e-mail before voting commences with the details of the person they wish to vote on their behalf. That person must vote in person during the designated voting times, and receive approval from the Member before the ballot papers are submitted in the ballot box. The Returning Officer(s) must witness this approval. A person cannot be a designated voter for more than one Member. The Returning Officer(s) have discretion over what circumstances are designated as outside of a Member's control.
- 19. Only Financial Members shall be eligible to stand as candidates in the Union's elections.
  - a. No individual may be elected to more than one position on the Committee. If an individual nominates for more than one position, they must notify the Returning Officer of their preferences.
  - b. Only Financial Members enrolled in their first year of the Bachelor of Arts, or any other degree with an Arts major, shall be eligible to stand as candidates for the Junior Representative.
  - c. Only Financial Members who identify as male and/or non-binary are able to stand for the Male Sports Representative.
  - d. Only Financial Members who identity as female and/or non-binary are able to stand for the Female Sports Representative.
- 20. Financial Members that owe a debt greater than \$50 to the Union shall be barred from eligibility as a candidate in the Union's elections.
- 21. In UWA Semester Two of each year, the Secretary shall call for nominations for all positions on the Committee, with exception to the Junior Representatives. The Secretary will post notice of this in the Arts Union Common Room and the UWA

- Arts Union Facebook page.
- 22. The nomination period for all of the Union's elections must last for at least 5 days. The nominee and 2 Ordinary and/or Financial Members must sign the respective nomination.
- 23. Nomination forms must be accessible from the Arts Union Common Room and electronically from the UWA Arts Union Facebook page.
- 24. The Committee shall have the power to create and amend by-laws where there is a majority vote of both the Executive and Committee members on the matter.
- 25. All positions on the Committee shall be elected in accordance with the Electoral Regulations by-law, which can be altered in accordance with s. 25 of this Constitution.
- 26. The Committee shall appoint up to 2 Returning Officers to supervise and conduct the ballot for elections at least 5 days before polling commences.
  - a. The Returning Officer(s) may not be candidates in the election they are supervising, and may not be Members of the Union.
  - b. The Returning Officer(s) may not be Committee members.
  - c. The Returning Officer(s) shall hear any grievances related to breaches of the Electoral Regulations and shall have final adjudication on the matter.
- 27. The Secretary shall post notice of all election results in the Arts Union Common Room and electronically on the UWA Arts Union Facebook page.
- 28. The term of the Committee shall commence on December 1<sup>st</sup> and shall conclude on November 30<sup>th</sup> the following year.
- 29. If an AGM does not take place and a Committee is elected without the sanction of this Constitution, the Committee must submit itself to an SGM to take place in the month of March during the Committee's term. An election must take place at this SGM, which must follow the procedures in this Constitution.
- 30. The Junior Representatives must be elected before the end of April. a. The Secretary must post notice of the election date at least 3 days before polling commences. Polls shall remain open for at least 4 hours on a weekday.
- 31. Elections of the Union shall use an optional preferential system of voting. Counting for the elections will follow the guidelines and regulations established by the Western Australian Electoral Commission. As 2 candidates are elected for the positions of Senior Representatives (Education, Equity, Social, and Externals), the first count of each election will decide the first Senior Representative elected for each position. A secondary count will then commence, where the first elected Senior Representative's votes will be redistributed to their subsequent preferences, in order to elect the second Senior Representative for each position.

32. The Union and Committee shall always act in a manner which gives no special treatment, favour, advantage or disadvantage to any group of people, and shall vigorously defend the right of all members to feel safe and accepted within the community.

#### THE STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE UNION

#### Structure of the Executive

- 33. The Executive of the Committee shall consist of the:
  - a. President:
  - b. Vice President (Education);
  - c. Vice President (Equity);
  - d. Vice President (Social);
  - e. Vice President (Externals);
  - f. Treasurer;
  - g. Secretary, and
  - h. Marketing Director

#### **Powers and Roles of the Executive**

- 34. The Executive is tasked with conducting the business of the Union and fulfilling its objects, subject to the limitations imposed by this Constitution.
- 35. The Executive is responsible for the control over the monies and property of the Union that are to be used to further the fulfillment of the Union's objects. This responsibility, subject to the limitations imposed by this Constitution, includes but is not limited to the:
  - a. Borrowing of monies;
  - Holding of bank accounts in the Union's name, including the Union's account with the UWA Student Guild and the Union's Westpac account; and
  - c. Control over all other aspects of the Union's budget.
- 36. The Executive may appoint up to 3 Ordinary Committee Members, a Publicity Officer, Peafowl Editor(s), at least one Engagement Officer(s), a Post Graduate Representative, 1 Humanities Representative and 1 Social Sciences Representative.
  - a. Appointed Committee members are not authorised to spend or invest the Union's funds without approval of the Committee and are not granted voting rights within the Committee.
  - b. Appointed Committee members may be removed by the Committee at any time and shall not exist beyond the term limit of the Committee that appointed them.
  - c. Appointed Committee members are responsible to the President and the Executive.
  - d. Only Financial Members shall be eligible to be an appointed Committee member.
- 37. The process of appointing the Ordinary Committee Members, Publicity Officer, Peafowl Editor(s), Engagement Officer(s), Post Graduate Representative, Humanities Representative and Social Sciences Representative shall be as

#### follows:

- a. The Secretary shall call for nominations for the respective positions in the Arts Union Common Room and electronically on the UWA Arts Union Facebook page.
- b. Nominations shall be open for at least 7 days and shall be submitted to the President's official email address.
- c. The Executive will appoint the successful candidates to their respective positions.
- 38. The President may call for a meeting of the Executive at any time. Quorum of such meetings shall be 3 Executive members, one of which must be the President.

# Responsibilities of the Executive

- 39. The President, in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Be responsible for directing and coordinating the policy of the Union in all areas;
    - b. Be the Union's delegate to relevant committees and councils within the UWA Student Guild and the Faculty of Arts, Business, Law and Education where the Union has a seat, or delegate another to go in their place; and
  - c. Oversee the actions of the Union, monitor its investments and ensure that the Committee is fulfilling their responsibilities.
- 40. The Vice President (Education), in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Assist the President in formulating and coordinating the education policy and activities of the Union in accordance with the Union's objects; b. Be a delegate of the Union to the UWA Student Guild's Education Council and Public Affairs Council;
  - c. Be a delegate of the Union to any relevant committees within the School of Social Sciences and School of Humanities;
  - d. Fulfil the President's responsibilities in their absence or incapacitation; and
  - e. Deliver reports to the Committee regarding the educational activities of the Union.
- 41. The Vice President (Equity), in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Assist the President in formulating and coordinating the equity affairs of the Union in accordance with the Union's objects;
  - Assume responsibility for the planning and organisation of the Union's major equity related events;
  - c. Represent and promote the views of all Arts students in relation to issues including race, culture, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, gender, socio-economic background, age and family responsibility;
  - d. Oversee and enforce the Union's policy of Non-Discrimination; and e. Deliver reports to the Committee regarding the equity activities of the Union.
- 42. The Vice President (Social), in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Assist the President in formulating and coordinating the social affairs of

- the Union in accordance with the Union's objects;
- b. Assume responsibility for the planning and organisation of the Union's major social related events; and
- c. Deliver reports to the Committee regarding the social activities of the Union.
- 43. The Vice President (Externals), in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Assist the President in formulating and coordinating the external affairs of the Union in accordance with the Union's objects;
  - b. Assume responsibility for the planning and organisation of the Union's major career or sponsorship related events;
  - c. Investigate further study and careers options for Arts students and communicate these opportunities to members of the Union;
  - d. Pursue financial sponsorship of the Union through organisations outside of UWA; and
  - e. Deliver reports to the Committee regarding the external activities of the Union.
- 44. The Treasurer, in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Assume responsibility for keeping and updating the Union's financial records in an honest and responsible fashion;
  - b. Report the Union's financial standing to the Executive and the Committee and give advice regarding the steering of the financial policy of the Union; c. Oversee the process of consideration and application for any financial grants relating to the Union or its activities; and
  - d. Provide the members of the Union with an update of the Union's financial standing at the Annual General Meeting, including financial records, the standing of all of the Union's accounts and all income and expenditure.
- 45. The Secretary, in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Keep and maintain records of all meetings of the Executive, Committee and all other meetings of the Union;
  - b. Assume responsibility for the dissemination of information from the Executive and the Committee to the Union and its members;
  - c. Be responsible for the collation of all relevant materials for the purpose of maintaining the Union's historical records:
  - d. Maintain the notice boards within the Arts Union Common Room; and
  - e. Undertake any other administrative tasks that may arise.
- 46. The Marketing Director, in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Be responsible for posting updates and content on social media platforms of the union.
  - b. Assist the rest of the committee with coordinating the branding and marketing of the union.
  - c. Be responsible for the creation of marketing materials, such as, but not limited to: posters, social media posts, and flyers.

#### Structure of the Committee

- 47. The elected members of the Committee shall consist of the Executive, and the:
  - a. Senior Education Representatives (2);
  - b. Senior Equity Representatives (2);
  - c. Senior Social Representatives (2);
  - d. Senior Externals Representatives (2):
  - e. Junior Representatives (6);
  - f. International Representative;
  - g. Male Sports Officer; and
  - h. Female Sports Officer.
- 48. The appointed members of the Committee shall consist of the:
  - a. Ordinary Committee Member(s);
  - b. Publicity Officer;
  - c. Peafowl Editor(s);
  - d. Engagement Officer(s);
  - e. Post Graduate Representative;
  - f. Humanities Representative; and
  - g. Social Sciences Representative.
  - h. Marketing Representative(s).
- 49. The Union has the power to appoint Sub-Committees, if deemed necessary, and to delegate powers that will enable Sub-Committees to enhance the Arts Union's operation.
  - 49.1: The following subcommittees can be implemented by the committee.
    - a. Education Sub-Committee

The Education Sub-Committee shall operate under the guidance of the Education Portfolio.

b. Equity Sub-Committee

The Equity Sub-committee shall operate under the guidance of the Equity Portfolio.

c. Social Sub-Committee

The Socials Sub-Committee shall operate under the guidance of the Socials Portfolio.

d. Externals Sub-Committee

The Externals Sub-Committee shall operate under the guidance of the Externals Portfolio.

e. Diversity and Inclusion Sub-Committee

The Diversity and Inclusion Sub-Committee shall operate under the guidance of the Equity Portfolio.

f. Peafowl Sub-Committee

The Peafowl Sub-Committee shall operate under the guidance

#### **Powers and Roles of the Committee**

- 50. The Committee shall be responsible for giving effect to the Objects of the Union and for the efficient administration, organisation and conduct of the activities and affairs of the Union within their respective roles and responsibilities.
- 51. The Committee must approve any expenditure over \$250 made on behalf of the Union.
- 52. The Committee may request reports from any Executive member regarding their activities and actions undertaken on behalf of the Union.
- 53. The Committee may request receipts, financial statements and any other documentation from the Executive related to their management of the Union's affairs.
- 54. The Committee may form a Subcommittee to investigate issues and potential courses of action that may prove valuable to the Union's administration and activities, but which the Committee does not have the time or expertise to examine in detail.
  - a. The Committee shall determine the method of appointment to the Subcommittee, which may include Committee members and members of the Union.

#### **Responsibilities of Non-Executive Committee Members**

- 55. The Education Representatives, in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Be responsible to the Vice President (Education); and
  - Assist the Vice President (Education) in formulating and coordinating the education policy and activities of the Union in accordance with the Union's objectives.
- 56. The Equity Representatives, in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Be responsible to the Vice President (Equity); and
  - b. Assist the Vice President (Equity) in formulating and coordinating the equity affairs of the Union in accordance with the Union's objectives.
- 57. The Social Representatives, in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Be responsible to the Vice President (Social); and
  - b. Assist the Vice President (Social) in formulating and coordinating the social affairs of the Union in accordance with the Union's objectives.
- 58. The Externals Representatives, in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:

- a. Be responsible to the Vice President (Externals); and
- Assist the Vice President (Externals) in formulating and coordinating the externals affairs of the Union in accordance with the Union's objectives.
- 59. The International Representative, in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Represent the interests of International students studying a major under the Bachelor of Arts; and
  - b. Organise events and initiatives that cater to the interests of these students.
- 60. The Sports Officers, in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Be responsible for their respective teams in Interfaculty Sports; and
  - b. Organise the Union's sporting activities.
- 61. The Ordinary Committee Members, in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Assist the rest of the Committee in organising and conducting its activities.
- 62. The Publicity Officer, in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Be responsible for the creation and promotion of all advertising materials of the Union and its activities; and
  - b. Publicise these materials in the Arts Union Common Room and electronically on the UWA Arts Union Facebook page, as well as any other appropriate mediums.
- 63. The Peafowl Editor(s), in addition to the duties specified elsewhere in this Constitution, shall:
  - a. Be responsible to the Vice President (Education); and
  - b. Assist the Vice President (Education) in the formulation and promotion of the Peafowl publications.

# 64. Engagement Officer

- a. Communicate and maintain good faith with all of Arts Union's members and financial sponsors under the direction of the Executive.
- b. Assist the publicity and marketing officer(s) in monitoring engagement of the Union's members and implement strategies to increase engagement.
- c. Maintain good relations between the committee itself and monitor engagement of each position with activities of the Union.
- 65. Post Graduate Representative
  - a. Assist the Vice-President (Education) with any unallocated duties pertaining to postgraduate studies.
- 66. Humanities Representative
  - a. Assist the Vice-President (Education) in regard to representation of students

within the School of Humanities.

- b. Attend any Council or Committee meetings as a delegate within the School of Humanities if the Vice-President (Education) is unavailable, and under the direction of the Executive.
- 67. Social Sciences Representative
  - a. Assist the Vice-President (Education) in regard to representation of students within the School of Social Sciences.
  - b. Attend any Council or Committee meetings as a delegate within the School of Social Sciences if the Vice-President (Education) is unavailable, and under the direction of the Executive.

## **Meetings of the Committee**

- 68. The President may convene a meeting of the Committee at any time.
- 69. The minimum number of Committee meetings that must be convened in each semester is 3.
- 70. Any 3 Committee members can call a meeting of the Committee at any time by submitting a request to the President which specifies the reason for calling the meeting.
  - a. Once the President has received such a request, they must convene a meeting of the Committee within five days of the request being made. The meeting must occur during the semester in a teaching week.
- 71. The Secretary shall notify all Committee members through online communication and/or by phone that a Committee meeting is going to be held at least 24 hours before the meeting is set to take place.

#### **Procedure of Meetings of the Committee**

- 72. The President shall chair meetings of the Committee and shall retain full voting and speaking rights.
- 73. All members of the Committee shall have speaking rights during meetings of the Committee. The Committee may grant speaking rights to any other person present.
- 74. Quorum for Committee meetings shall be two-thirds of the full Committee. (NB: The standard constitutional committee quorum is 13).
  - a. At least 3 of those present must be members of the Executive. b. Appointed Committee members shall not be counted when determining quorum, with exception to the Publicity Officer.
- 75. Any business that has been brought to the attention of the President from the Committee shall have priority at the meeting and shall be dealt with before any other business.
- 76. All decisions of the Committee shall be decided by a majority vote. In the event that a majority is not achieved, the decision shall be regarded as having been

defeated.

- 77. Motions must be nominated and seconded by two different voting members of the Committee.
  - a. Motions must not conflict with the Objects of the Union, must comply with the principle of Non-Discrimination and must be enactable by the current Committee.
  - b. Committee members may abstain from voting on a motion.
  - c. Passed motions bind the Committee for the entirety of their term, unless they are overturned.
  - d. Motions may only be overturned by a majority vote of the Committee at a Committee meeting.

#### **OBLIGATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

# Indemnity

78. Any Committee member, or any party acting on behalf of the Committee, shall be indemnified against financial loss incurred as a result of carrying out the Union's activities in good faith.

# **Dismissal of Committee Members**

- 79. A member of the Committee may be dismissed from their position due to:
  - a. Failing to attend 3 Committee meetings without giving notice or a valid reason;
  - b. Undertaking actions in breach of the provisions of this Constitution or any by-laws:
  - c. Undertaking actions that bring the Union into disrepute; or
  - d. Serious failure in fulfilling their duties, determined by a majority vote of the Executive.
- 80. Dismissal of a member of the Committee must be approved by two-thirds of the Committee.
- 81. A member of the Committee may voluntarily resign from their position at any time.

# **Vacancies**

- 82. A position on the Committee shall become vacant when a member of the Committee resigns, dies, is incapacitated or is dismissed.
- 83. Procedure for by-elections to fill a vacancy on the Committee shall be governed by the Electoral Regulations by-law.
- 84. If the Secretary vacates their position, the President shall assume their duties.
- 85. If a vacancy occurs after the month of May, the Committee is empowered to appoint a replacement.

### **Transparency of Documentation**

- 86. The Secretary shall provide the minutes of any Committee meeting and any records of the Committee's decisions and policy to any Ordinary or Financial Member that requests them within 3 works days of such a request being made.
- 87. The Treasurer shall provide any financial records of their term to any Financial Member who requests them within 3 works days of such a request being made.
- 88. A hard copy of this Constitution shall be available in the Arts Union Common Room at all times.

#### **Obligations to Other Bodies**

- 89. The Committee shall send delegates to any Council or Committee within the School of Social Sciences and School of Humanities that allows the Union a seat.
- 90. The Committee shall send delegates to any Council or Committee within the UWA Student Guild that allows the Union a seat.
  - a. The Union shall comply with any applicable regulations of the UWA Student Guild and shall ensure that all documentation requested by any party of the UWA Student Guild is lodged in a timely and correct manner.

# **Authorisation of Expenditure**

- 91. 2 Executive Members must sign all cheques and forms of authority for any expenditure of the Union's monies.
- 92. The Treasurer must be granted authorisation, by way of a majority vote of the Committee, to transfer funds to the Union's Westpac account. The limit that this account can hold is \$1000. Any funds granted to the Union by the UWA Student Guild cannot be transferred to this account.

#### ALTERATION AND DISSOLUTION OF THE UNION STRUCTURE

#### **Alteration of the Constitution**

93. Any alteration of this Constitution must be authorised by two-thirds of the Committee and an absolute majority of members present at a Meeting of the Union.

# **Interpretation of the Constitution**

- 94. In the event of a dispute in interpreting the meaning of any part of this Constitution, the dispute must be reviewed by a panel consisting of the President, the Vice President (Education) and any other 3 members of the Committee, as selected by the Committee.
  - a. In the event that a decision of the panel is disputed, a member may raise the dispute at a Meeting of the Union, where the interpretation of the disputed part will be decided by an absolute majority of members present.

#### **Dissolution of the Union**

95. If the Union should be dissolved for any reason, all monies and property that are not committed towards resolving outstanding debts or liabilities shall be transferred to the UWA Student Guild, to be kept until a successor organisation becomes affiliated to the UWA Student Guild as the Faculty Society for UWA students studying a major under the Bachelor of Arts. All monies and property of the Union must then be transferred to the successor organisation.

#### ANNEX ONE: ELECTORAL REGULATIONS BY-LAW

#### **Roll of Electors**

- 1. Efforts shall be made to secure a roll of electors for any election of the Union.
- 2. If the Returning Officer(s) are unable to obtain a roll of electors, they may request to see a voter's enrolment details in studentConnect to prove that they are eligible to vote.

#### **Exclusion Times and Zones**

- 3. Candidates may not enter the Arts Union Common Room during polling hours unless they are voting.
- 4. The Arts Union Common Room shall be closed to all students during polling hours, except the Returning Officer(s) and voters.

#### **Broadsheets**

- 5. Candidates are permitted 1 A4 coloured broadsheet to advertise themselves and their policies.
- 6. The Returning Officer(s) shall determine the appropriate placing of the broadsheets in an accessible area in the Arts Union Common Room and on the UWA Arts Union Facebook page.
- 7. Broadsheets may not:
  - a. Include any offensive language or illustrations; or
  - b. Reference other candidates in the election.
- 8. The Returning Officer(s) will display all broadsheets during elections on all available noticeboards in the Arts Building, in a fair and equitable manner, subject to the rules and regulations of UWA.
- 9. The Returning Officer(s) reserve the right to remove broadsheets that do not comply with the above rules.

10. Candidates are permitted to alter and resubmit their broadsheet if their broadsheet is removed by the Returning Officer(s).

# Campaigning

- 11. Candidates may communicate their nomination and reasons for nominating to other students by the following means:
  - a. Candidates may speak about their nomination in private to other students, except for in Arts lectures, UWA libraries and near or within the Arts building:
  - b. Candidates may send private messages to other students; and
  - c. Candidates may make 1 online post on their personal Facebook account to explain what position they are running for and their policies. They may make no other online post that relates or refers to the elections.
- 12. Candidates may not refer to any other candidate in the election in their campaigning.
- 13. There shall be no other form of campaigning, oral or written, by or on behalf of any candidate.
- 14. Online campaigning may not include any offensive language or illustrations.

#### **Scrutineers**

- 15. Candidates running for a position are entitled to appoint a scrutineer to monitor the counting of votes for their respective position.
- 16. Scrutineers may not be a candidate in the election they are scrutineering in and may not divulge any details of the counting of votes until the counting for all positions has concluded and the results have been finalised.

#### **Contraventions of these Regulations**

- 17. The Returning Officer(s) shall have absolute discretion in sanctioning a candidate who breaches these regulations, or who knowingly permits or instructs another person to do so. Sanctions that can be made by the Returning Officer(s) include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Verbally warning the candidate;
  - b. Removing the broadsheet submitted by the candidate from the accessible area in the Arts Union Common Room, the Arts Union Facebook page and the available noticeboards in the Arts Building; and
  - c. Striking out the candidate's nomination.