QUT Kelvin Grove Campus
C Block, Level 4, Kelvin Grove QLD 4059

QUT Student Guild

Board of Directors

Public Board Update – 27th January 2026

Attendance: Caleb McGiffin, Nick Woollard, Logan Hickey, Emily Jones, Emme Muggleton (Chair), David Sims, Carla Tromans

Apologies: Alastair Wilson, Archer Skinner

This document provides a public summary of the key decisions and discussions from the January 2026 meeting of the QUT Student Guild Board of Directors. It is intended to support transparency and student engagement, while excluding confidential, commercial, or sensitive operational matters.

Meeting Overview

The Board met on 27th January 2026 to welcome new Directors, Nicholas Woollard and Logan Hickey, and to confirm governance priorities for the year ahead, and receive updates on student representation, operations, and strategic initiatives. The meeting marked a strong start to 2026, with a clear focus on transparency, collaboration, and impact for students.

Strengthening Board Engagement and Transparency

The Board discussed how it can more meaningfully engage with students and student representatives, while remaining focused on its governance role.

Key outcomes:

- The **Chair of the Board** will engage with student media following each Board meeting to share key decisions and themes.

- The Chair will also continue to report annually to students through the AGM and the Guild's Annual Report.
- **Student Directors** will attend Student Representative Council (SRC) Executive meetings on a rotating basis as non-voting participants, strengthening connections between governance and student leadership.

Why this matters: These measures are designed to make Board decision-making more visible, accessible, and accountable to students, while improving alignment between elected student leaders and the Board.

Governance: Sub-committee Terms of Reference

Following a process identified and led by the President, the Board approved revised Terms of Reference for its sub-committees, which will take effect in 2026.

Why this matters: Clear and up-to-date Terms of Reference support strong governance by clarifying roles, responsibilities, and decision-making processes. This helps ensure the Board and its sub-committees operate effectively and transparently.

Student Leadership and Representation

The Board received an update from the Guild President on SRC operations and student advocacy.

Key themes included:

- Improved oversight and consistency in SRC operations, including written reporting and clearer accountability processes.
- Continued engagement with the National Union of Students (NUS), with a focus on collaboration, networking, and sharing best practice initiatives between universities.

- Strong and growing engagement between student representatives and the University, with increasing demand for students to sit on university committees.

Why this matters: Strong student leadership and representation are central to the Guild's purpose. Improved systems and growing engagement ensure student voices are heard and supported at all levels of the University.

Guild Operations and Strategic Initiatives

The Board received a report from the General Manager outlining progress across operations and strategy.

Celebrating 60 Years of the Guild

Planning is underway for the Guild's **60th anniversary Legacy Project**, which will both celebrate the Guild's history and encourage students to reflect on the impact and legacy they want to leave.

Why this matters: The Legacy Project aims to connect current students with the Guild's long-standing role in advocacy, community, and student life, while looking forward to the future.

Commercial and Campus Activity

The Board noted progress in the Guild's commercial operations, including positive developments relating to Guild-operated venues and events.

Why this matters: Strong commercial performance supports the Guild's financial sustainability and enables reinvestment into services, advocacy, and student initiatives.

Marketing and Student Engagement

The Board noted that a comprehensive **Guild marketing strategy** has been developed to strengthen student engagement and clearly communicate the Guild's role, services, and value to students.

The Board **praised the work of Emma Surman** in leading the development of the strategy and acknowledged the quality and clarity of the approach.

Why this matters: A strong, well-articulated marketing strategy supports increased student awareness, participation, and trust in the Guild, ensuring students understand how the Guild represents their interests and delivers impact.

Looking Ahead

The Board reflected positively on the meeting and expressed strong confidence in the year ahead. There was a shared sense of momentum across governance, student leadership, and operations.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for **31 March 2026**.
If you would like to learn more about the Guild's governance or Board decisions, please contact the QUT Student Guild or attend the Annual General Meeting.