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

QUT Student Guild

Board of Directors
Public Board Update – March 2026

Attendance: Emily Jones (Chair), Caleb McGiffin, Nick Woollard, Logan Hickey, Alastair Wilson, Carla Tromans, David Sims
Apologies: Archer Skinner
Absent: Emme Muggleton

This document provides a public summary of the key decisions and discussions from the March 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 in March 2026 to consider key strategic priorities, including the Guild's Constitution, financial outlook, and major projects for the year ahead. The meeting focused on strengthening governance, continuing positive financial progress, and enhancing engagement with students and student representatives.

Governance: Constitution Reform

The Board approved a new draft Constitution for submission to QUT Council, following extensive development and consultation led by the Guild President.

Key features include:

- Retention of a **student-majority Board**
- Continued democratic election of student representatives
- Inclusion of independent Directors to provide specialist expertise

Why this matters: A contemporary Constitution ensures the Guild remains student-led while meeting modern governance standards, supporting transparency, accountability, and long-term sustainability.

Strengthening Board Engagement and Transparency

The Board reviewed progress on initiatives introduced earlier in the year to improve transparency and engagement.

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Key updates:

- A **Board transparency framework** and public meeting summaries are now available online
- Board members have commenced attending SRC meetings as observers
- Ongoing focus on aligning Board activity with student priorities

Why this matters: These initiatives help ensure that Board decisions are visible, accessible, and informed by student perspectives, strengthening trust and accountability.

Student Leadership and Representation

The Board received an update from the Guild President on recent student leadership activity.

Key themes included:

- High levels of engagement and activity across the SRC and student media
- Positive national feedback on the Guild's welfare programs, recognised as sector-leading
- Continued collaboration with the National Union of Students (NUS)

The Board also acknowledged the strong early impact of **Keely (Women's Officer)**, particularly her leadership in establishing external engagement opportunities, including connections with youth representatives to the United Nations.

Why this matters: Strong student leadership ensures that student voices are effectively represented, both within the University and nationally.

Guild Operations and Strategic Initiatives

Legacy Project – 60 Years of the Guild

The Board discussed progress on the Guild's Legacy Project, which will celebrate 60 years of student representation while encouraging current students to reflect on their own impact and involvement.

The project has received strong support from key stakeholders and will include contributions from alumni and sector leaders.

Why this matters: The project highlights the Guild's long-standing contribution to student life and aims to inspire future student leaders and engagement.

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Campus Planning and Student Spaces

The Board noted early engagement with the University regarding the campus master plan and potential impacts on Guild-operated and student spaces.

This work is being led by the General Manager, with a focus on ensuring both immediate and long-term student space needs are considered.

Why this matters: Ensuring appropriate, accessible, and student-focused spaces is critical to delivering services, supporting community, and maintaining a strong campus presence.

People and Culture

The Board reviewed the results of the Guild's internal culture survey.

Key outcomes:

- Culture remains strong and stable across the organisation
- Improved communication and engagement between leadership and student representatives
- Agreement to move to a **biannual survey cycle**

The Board also acknowledged the positive culture reflected in staff engagement throughout key organisational initiatives, including enterprise bargaining. In particular, the Board recognised the leadership of **Laura Walker** in progressing the Enterprise Bargaining Agreement negotiations.

Why this matters: A strong organisational culture supports staff performance, student outcomes, and the Guild's ability to deliver high-quality services and advocacy.

Finance and Sustainability

The Board reviewed the Guild's financial position and forward planning.

Key updates:

- Continued improvement in financial performance, with the Guild on track to significantly reduce its deficit
- Focus on future investment in services and commercial operations
- Ongoing planning for potential increases in SSAF funding

Why this matters: Financial sustainability enables the Guild to invest in student services, advocacy, and long-term strategic initiatives.

Looking Ahead

The Board reflected positively on the meeting, noting strong progress across governance, financial management, and student engagement. There was a shared focus on maintaining momentum and continuing to deliver meaningful outcomes for students.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for **16 June 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.

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