



ECU Student Guild

First Nations Department Policy

POLICY TYPE	Senate
POLICY TITLE	First Nations Department Policy
POLICY OWNER	First Nations Officer

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1. INTENT

- 1.1. The purpose of this policy and its supporting procedures is to regulate how the Department is managed within the Guild's governance framework.

2. ORGANISATIONAL SCOPE

- 2.1. This policy applies to all Officers and Delegates.

3. DEFINITIONS

- 3.1. The singular includes the plural and vice-versa.

- 3.2. Words importing a gender include any other gender.

- 3.3. A reference to:

- 3.3.1. A person includes a corporation and government or statutory body or authority;

- 3.3.2. A person includes the legal personal representatives, successors, and permitted assigns of that person; and

- 3.3.3. A statute, ordinance, code or other law includes regulations and other statutory instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements of any of them by any legislative authority.

- 3.4. The word "including" and similar expressions are not words of limitation.

- 3.5. The word "under" includes by and by virtue of; as well as, pursuant to and in accordance with.

4. OVERVIEW

4.1. Making Changes to the Policy

All policies are approved, amended or repealed by the Senate in accordance with the Guild's Policy Framework and compliance with relevant governance instruments, following recommendations from the Continuous Improvement and Development Committee.

4.2. Transparency Commitment

The Guild must maintain a Policy Manual of all current policies in a manner, which is easily accessible to members, Officers, Employees and other stakeholders, where appropriate.

4.3. Annual Review Commitment

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure relevance and accuracy.

5. POLICY

5.1. Title

The title of this Department will be the “**First Nations Department**”, which at any point throughout ECU Student Guild documentation may be referred to as “**FN**”.

5.2. Membership

The Department’s membership will be all General Members and Financial Members of the ECU Student Guild who are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

The Department’s governing body will consist of the First Nations Officer, reporting to the Senate. Where needed, the First Nations Officer may appoint any member of the Department to assist in governing the Department. As far as is reasonably practicable, the First Nations Officer will endeavour to ensure that the Department is representative of the demographic of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student community at Edith Cowan University.

5.3. Accountabilities and Responsibilities

The Department will:

- a) Formally represent all students in any forum where matters concerning Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students are required or desirable;
- b) Facilitate lines of formal communication between the University and Senate on issues related to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students;
- c) Encourage a sense of community for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in themselves both as a demographic, and as part of the entire ECU student body;

- d) Campaign for improvement in the standards of services and facilities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students offered by the University.
- e) Campaign for equitable, supportive, and inclusive standards of teaching and learning in courses offered by the University, in-line with those offered to all students;
- f) Promote student engagement and education in issues affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students;
- g) Engage in outreach programs and campaigns to provide benefit or visibility to the Members of the Department;
- h) Monitor, where appropriate, the Department Budget and ensure funds are expended accordingly;
- i) Maintain this Department's Policy's relevance, accuracy and potency through submitting proposed changes to the Senate, through the First Nations Officer, after consultation with the Continuous Improvement and Development Committee.
- j) Represent the interests of students, in relation to First Nations issues, via the Senate, and other Guild Bodies where required or desirable, to encourage and implement the goals of the Department.
- k) Be accountable and adhere to this Department Policy and Annual Department Proposal, the Constitution, and other relevant regulations; and
- l) Ensure the **Annual Department Proposal** is completed and approved by the Senate before the start of Semester 1 each year.

5.4. Powers

This Department will have the following powers conferred upon it by the Senate:

- a) Expend funds within the Department Budget in accordance with the Guild's Schedule of Delegation and Authority;
- b) Operate and administer activities and initiatives for the exclusive benefit of the Guild's membership who are also Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander students;
- c) Publish relevant and appropriate material, subject to relevant Policy;

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- d) Refer General or Financial Members to the Discipline Committee as necessary;
- e) Conduct campaigns and make representations on behalf of its membership, subject to relevant Policy; and
- f) Do all other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above powers.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS

6.1. Edith Cowan University Student Guild Constitution

6.2. Edith Cowan University Student Guild Code of Conduct

6.3. Edith Cowan University Student Guild Standing Orders

7. CONTACT INFORMATION

For queries relating to this document please contact:

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8. APPROVAL HISTORY

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