



UWA SCIENCE UNION PROSPECTUS



2022–2023

Prepared by

Keegan Mitchell (President)
Kirti Giridhar (Externals Officer)

www.scienceunion.org.au

ABOUT SCIENCE UNION



We have an amazing capacity for company exposure and community engagement, not only through the coordinated efforts of our marketing and external affairs portfolios but also by the sheer range of events we can offer across all five of our portfolios and through our affiliated and subsidiary clubs. This gives us multiple teams dedicated to maximising event attendance and diversity.

Keegan Mitchell, President



Founded in 1924 UWA Science Union is one of the oldest and largest student clubs in Australia. With over 5000 members and nearly 60 committee and subcommittee members Science Union operate entirely on a non-profit basis to improve the lives of science students through our five portfolios; education, welfare, marketing, externals and social.

Science Union has a large social media presence with our Facebook having an outreach of just under 6000 people in addition to our presence on LinkedIn and Instagram. We also have our fortnightly bulletin, our monthly newsletter and are in regular contact with the student population through in person ticket sales and events which we also use to promote our sponsors.

Going in to 2023, we aim to use our expansive presence on campus and online, to continue to improve student life for our members and all Science students. As a volunteer organisation, however, this requires us to seek out sponsorship

OUR WORK IN EDUCATION



The portfolio strives to provide all the tools needed to attain the highest standard of achievement and hone university skills through the organisation of specialised academic events. We are the primary point of student representation, working alongside the Science Faculty and Guild Education Council to provide the best education to all science students.

Aditya Patil, Education Vice-President



Post-Graduate Representation

As the representative body for all science students, we follow students throughout their entire academic journey at UWA, from their formative undergraduate years and on to all further levels of study. Whether this is pre-med students undergoing a graduate diploma, or students in allied health and research beginning their masters, we here to enrich their experience at uni.

While at its basis this sees us maintain strong relations with the Postgraduate Students Association - there is far more to be done for these students. One of our most historically popular events for these cohorts is our "Profs and Pints" event which allows postgraduate students to socialise and network with their professors, peers, and industry professionals.

International Student Representation

With the opening of Western Australia's borders and, the international student representative now works as part of the Education portfolio to address the specific barriers and struggles international students of all backgrounds may face when coming to UWA to study science

This expresses itself in a variety of ways, whether it be actively advocating for specific students academic rights to be upheld or in the organisation and running study nights and seminars aimed at international science students.

National Science Week

One of Science Union's annual collaborations with the UWA Guild, the National Science Week, is the crown jewel of the education portfolio's achievements. As implied by the name, this is an enormous effort from the portfolio which spans an entire week. It is comprised of multiple events run as part of the initiative, each catering to a different audience.

Traditionally, this involves a STEM-based challenge run with upwards of a hundred high school students in collaboration with our associated science clubs, including the Physical Education Students Association, the UWA Chemistry and Genetics Club (CHeMnBiO), the Health Students Society, and other faculty societies such as the University Engineers Club.

In the same week we also run a STEM festival which features an array of clubs and stalls, all of which are running free events and demonstrations catering to university students. This week features a large amount of student exposure through social media & our in person events creating a very enticing opportunity for sponsors.

Other Education Events

Beyond all the nitty gritty, the education portfolios primary goal is to create broadly accessible and low barrier events to ease the stress of studying. To this goal, we run a number of degree specific study nights, report nights in collaboration with university libraries, and seminars on how to improve your study technique.

In this past year the education portfolio ran more than 15 free events to aid students in their studies, and managed to run the most highly attended study nights within the past 5 years . All of this is possible due to Science Union's extensive connections to recent graduates and final year science students, as well as notable UWA staff who volunteer to tutor at these events.

OUR WORK IN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

— “ —

The Externals portfolio works to ensure Science Union members leave University with a clear vision for their future career in STEM. We collaborate with our corporate sponsors and alumni to run events, like our annual Networking evening, which give young people the chance to make real industry connections. The Networking evening has always been a huge success, and has a great track record of helping Science Union members secure real, meaningful employment in their chosen field.

Liza Kneebone, Former Externals Vice-President

” —



Networking Evening

Science Union’s annual networking night is an amazing night which allows students from all facets of science to come and network with peers and industry professionals. While this of course includes some keynote speakers like former chief scientist Lyn Beazley and Noble Prize Laureate Barry J. Marshall — it also showcases an array of honoured guests who work locally in their chosen field and can provide valuable employment and research opportunities for students.

This event has time and again proven to give Science Union members real, valuable opportunities in their future profession, all alongside a night of catered food and easy discussion.

OUR WORK IN WELFARE

— “ —

The Welfare Portfolio, also known as the Equity & Diversity portfolio, focuses on running events catered towards volunteering, relaxation, and self-care to help students cope with responsibilities and workloads in their everyday lives. We will run plenty of wholesome activities throughout the year to help anyone at UWA cope with their studies and exams. Formal workshops are also run throughout the year, focused on stress management, mental health awareness, sexual health, suicide prevention, and substance abuse.

Eve Stewart, Welfare Vice-President

— ” —

Volunteering Crawl

Our annual volunteering crawl returned in 2022 better than ever, with the event reaching capacity and a whole heap of work getting done.

The wholesome counterpart to a pubcrawl, this event sees us making stops at the Western Australian AIDS Council, St Bart's housing and making donations of pre-loved clothes to at-risk transgender youths.

Diversity Breakfast

Our annually held Diversity Breakfast is run to encourage networking between non-binary/female speakers in STEM and similarly identifying students studying STEM at UWA. This event greatly helps Science Union with achieving Equity on campus; priding itself on our constant vigilance and effort towards equity for every student at UWA.



Seminars and Training

The Welfare Portfolio also provides opportunities for students to upskill themselves and help make the local community safer by organising formal seminars which teach students about issues surrounding substance use, mental health, sexual health or even physical health - such as this years "What Your Parents Didn't Teach You About Sex" online seminar.

We are also constantly on the lookout for ways to provide students with subsidised and widely accessible training opportunities that can have them certified to perform first aid, guide others through a mental health crisis, or any other number of harm reduction activities.



Interfaculty Sports

Interfaculty Sports, or interfac as it's more commonly called, is a weekly social sport league that allows students from different fields of study to face off in a rotating schedule of entry level sports, with just enough competition to really get the blood pumping.

Interfac is invaluable initiative that gets people involved in the local University community, exercising regularly, and forming strong connections with their peers. This year the Science Union team had the strongest attendance we've seen and regularly we had to be split into two teams - so our focus on sports will only be growing this coming year.

OUR WORK IN SOCIAL EVENTS

— “ —

The social portfolio is here to give students that final bit of the university experience that makes all the study worthwhile. The social portfolio are here put on events to allow students the chance to get together and create new relationships and memories, whether that be through our show-stopping annual ball or through picnics and first-year outreach

Finn Hagley, Social Vice-President

— ” —



Annual Student Ball

Our annual student ball is the culmination of months of work from the social portfolio and is a night of festivity that draws in 300 students and alumni. This event is the grand stage for which Science Union is able to showcase the work of its committee and sponsors for the duration of that academic year and is the perfect what way for students to unwind just before the end of year exams.

OUR MARKETING TEAM

— “ —

The Marketing Portfolio is concerned with the promotion of Science Union’s events and initiatives. The work of this portfolio keeps students in the loop and engaged with all our educational, welfare, social, and external happenings. The main concern here is accessibility and keeping on top of social media trends and popular culture issues.

David Paik, Marketing Vice-President

” —



Social Engagement

The establishment of the marketing portfolio in the past year has allowed us considerable growth in our social media engagement, with a 74.5% increase in Facebook page visits from 2021, 9100% increase in Instagram followers and 70.9% increase in account visits. Our LinkedIn also shows a 157.3% increase in page visits and we are now the most followed and engaged with UWA based STEM organisation on LinkedIn.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Science Union, at its core, is an entirely volunteer run organisation concerned with fighting for the rights of all students who study science at UWA - an ideal we have held fast to for nearly 100 years. This mission has expanded of the year, but this is still our primary passion and the reason why we work as hard as we do year round. Despite this, however, we rely on funds from our sponsors to run the events and initiatives we are so known for.

To do this, we offer a range of sponsorship packages that all aim to increase your audience and engagement so that we might develop a long-lasting and mutually beneficial partnership.

Our marketing opportunities are truly unique and reach a broad range of students from undergraduate science, to graduate alumni and PhD students.

This affords our sponsors a truly limitless range of opportunities in a partnership with Science Union. To discuss possible sponsorship further please contact:

Keegan Mitchell (President) : 23165243@student.UWA.edu.au

Kirti Girdihar (External Affairs Officer) : 23433857

Science Union Executive: scienceunion@gmail.com



The 2022 Committee Accepting the Faculty Society Choice Award