

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY
POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION HELD ON WEDNESDAY 8th
MARCH 2006 AT 6.00 PM**

Present: Jenny Leong (President and Chair), Roozbeh Araghi, Richard Bailey, Kate Barnsley, Jack Clegg, Jodie Coleman, Alison Doriean, Kirsten Harley, Lian Jenvey, Adrienne Jerram, Anthony Kachenko, Sophia Leon de la Barra, Estelle Noonan, Will Noonan, Rosemary Whitecross, Jun Zhao

Apologies: Frances di Lauro, Mark Kelly, Xue Yang Li, Zhen Yi Li, Julian Pinder, Timotheos Roussos

1. **Minutes**

Motion: *That the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February 2006 be accepted.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Will Noonan. Carried.

Amendment to minutes of meeting held on 9th February 2006 (5 replacements to read Jack Clegg, not John Clegg) Noted.

2. **Resignation from Council.** Motion: *THAT the resignation from Council of Caroline Hamilton from Council be accepted, with thanks for her contribution to SUPRA.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

Nominations for new Councillors : Mike Beggs, Jodie Coleman, Jun Zhao

- Jodie Coleman and Jun Zhao addressed the meeting. Motion: *THAT Council accept a written report from Mike Beggs.* Moved: Adrienne Jerram, seconded Rosemary Whitecross. Carried
- Motion: *That Jodie Coleman's nomination be accepted.* Moved Jenny Leong, seconded Richard Bailey. Carried
- Motion: *THAT Jun Zhao's nomination be accepted.* Moved Alison Doriean, seconded Richard Bailey. Carried.
- Jodie Coleman and Jun Zhao left the room while voting took place.

Motion: *THAT Mike Beggs, Jodie Coleman and Jun Zhao be elected as Councillors.* Moved Adrienne Jerram Seconded by Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

3. **President's Report.**

In addition to the written report, the President advised :

- that SUPRA had made a submission to the Learning and Teaching Committee regarding charging fees for remarks, opposing this proposal.
- The former President has approached the University regarding outstanding expenses. The President will contact the Receiver, Mr. Peter Hedge about this. No formal request has been made to SUPRA at this stage.
- The President has also had meetings with solicitors regarding a former employee in industrial dispute with SUPRA. The solicitor is now fully briefed and has been asked to report back each time costs reach \$1,500.
- The President removed the recommendation about a post VSU survival meeting on 18th March from her report and will circulate three suggestions for times for a meeting.

Motion: *THAT the President's Report be accepted.* Moved Will Noonan, seconded Estelle Noonan. Carried. Amendments noted.

4. **Vice-President's Update**

The Vice President gave the following oral report:

- Show bags: About 1500 have now been stuffed and distributed – that is to approximately 1/10th of SUPRA's membership. We do need more stuffed, preferably another 500, so please come in whenever you can.

- We have been moving boxes of thesis guides and whatever else we can from the back corner office, which is starting to look almost like a work space.
- BBQ: Thanks to everyone who helped organise this (especially Tim, Will, Anthony, Rosemary and Alison). Went well after the early hiccups.
- Inductions etc: Spent a few hours at ISSU O-Day distributing show bags, which went down really well. Went to Nursing and Arts Inductions (with Jenny) and have organised to go to Conservatorium.
- Work on website: Is ongoing – thanks to Jaclyn for her hard work on that.
- Anti-War leaflet: was written and produced before O-Week – let's put them in show bags.
- Library Sub-committee: Meeting went well and I raised some objections to some changes to late fines policy that were well received .
- Meetings attended (with Jenny): VSU chat with the VC, staff meeting, meeting with Facilities Manager.
- Locum staff member – selection panel meeting this week to write advertisement etc.
- Staff reports: looking at hopefully having staff reports to council in some form for next meeting.

Motion: *THAT the Vice-President's report be accepted.* Moved: Jack Clegg, seconded Will Noonan. Carried

4. Treasurer's Report

Motion: *THAT the guidelines contained in the treasurer's report in relation to petty cash and invoicing be incorporated into the Financial Management Policy with such minor alterations as PAC may deem necessary.* Moved Jack Clegg, seconded Kate Barnsley. Carried

Motion: *THAT SUPRA maintain stipend rates at the level previously approved by Council. These rates will revert back to the minimum after the next SUPRA meeting unless a special request is brought to Council.* Moved: Kate Barnsley, seconded Alison Doriean. Carried

Motion: *THAT Council approve the stipended period of 35 hours per week for the President's stipend for the two weeks prior to the last council meeting. This is being done to correct a previous oversight.* Moved Jack Clegg, seconded Adrienne Jerram. Carried.

Motion: *THAT the Treasurer's report be accepted.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Will Noonan. Carried

5. Secretary's Report

Motion: *THAT the Secretary's report be accepted.* Moved Jack Seconded Kate. Carried.

6. Appointment of a Councillor to the SUPRA Workplace Consultative Committee

Motion: *THAT SUPRA recommends that Richard Bailey be appointed to the Workplace Consultative Committee.* Moved Jack Clegg, seconded Kate Barnsley. Carried

7. Representatives for SUPRA/Senate Liaison Committee

Motion *THAT the President and Vice President be SUPRA nominees to the SUPRA Senate Liaison Committee, with the two other positions being filled on a rotating basis.* Moved: Jack Clegg, seconded Anthony Kachenko, Carried.

Nominations for two other positions for first meeting: Kate Barnsley, Jodie Coleman

Motion: *THAT the nominations of Kate Barnsley and Jodie Coleman are accepted.* Moved Adrienne Jerram, seconded Kirsten Harley. Carried.

There being no other nominations these members are declared elected

Motion: *THAT if any of the elected representatives are unable to attend the SUPRA Senate Liaison Committee the President or AFC are able to nominate a replacement.* Moved Kirsten Harley, seconded Roozbeh Araghi. Carried.

8. Administration & Finance Committee Update

- a) Motion: *THAT the minutes and recommendations of the meetings held on February 10, 2006, February 13, 2006 and February 28, 2006 be accepted.* Moved: Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Jack Clegg. Carried.

9. Policy Advisory Committee Update and Policy Officer Report

- a) Motion: *THAT Council note the minutes and accept the recommendations of the PAC meetings of 15th February 2006 and 24th February 2006.* Moved Anthony Kachenko, seconded Kate Barnsley. Carried
Motion: *THAT the Policy Officer's Report be accepted.* Moved Kate Barnsley, seconded: Jodie Coleman. Carried
- b) Motion: *THAT the Revised Office Bearer Stipends Policy be accepted.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Kate Barnsley. Carried
- c) Revised President's Duty Statement
Motion *THAT under the heading "other" we add the phrase "be an authorised SUPRA cheque signatory to the duty statements of the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary,* Moved Roozbeh Araghi. seconded Kate Barnsley. Carried.
- d) Revised Vice-President's Duty Statement
Motion *THAT we adopt the duty statements for the President and the Vice President.* Moved Richard Bailey, seconded Jack Clegg.
- e) Motion: *THAT we use the term PAC Officer to describe the position previously described as Policy Officer position further discussion at a future Council meeting following the convening of at least one SAAC meeting.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Rosemary Whitecross. Carried

10. Publications, Activities & Services Committee Update

- a) Motion: *THAT Council note the minutes and accept the recommendations from the PASC committee meetings of 16 February 2006 and 23 February 2006.* Moved Richard Bailey, seconded Jack Clegg. Carried
- b) O-Week Debrief
Alison Doriean, Roozbeh Araghi and Tim Roussos were asked to draft a letter to the Union for the President to sign about the International Students Party and the exclusion of SUPRA material. Motion *THAT the Council expresses thanks to Estelle, Will, Tim and the whole express/O-week Team.* Moved: Jack Clegg, seconded Kate Barnsley. Carried with acclamation.
- c) Group Funding
Motion: *THAT the President send a group funding proposal for the Medical Faculty to PASC for consideration.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Jack Clegg. 1 against, 1 abstention. Carried
- d) Open Forums
An idea for a group of open forums where postgraduate students could talk with councillors was floated. This was referred to PASC.

11. Director of Publications Report

- Motion: *THAT the Director of Publications report be accepted.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross, seconded Alison Doriean. Carried.
Motion: *THAT the AFC be delegated the to appoint the an interim director of Publications and that all councillors be notified of the vacancy.* Moved: Jack Clegg, seconded Kate Barnsley. Carried
Estelle Noonan made a verbal recommendation that Will Noonan be appointed as an interim Director of Publications in her absence overseas.

12. International Officer's Update

The International Officer will start his reports to the next Council meeting.

13. Queer Officer's report

Recommendation: THAT SUPRA makes a lighter weight SUPRA banner, to be produced at a cost of up to \$100

Recommendation: THAT SUPRA allocate the Queer Officer \$50 to buy refreshments for the first Queer network meeting.

Motion: *THAT the Queer Officer's report, including the recommendations above be accepted.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Will Noonan. Carried

Motion: *THAT SUPRA give to the Queer Collaboration conference \$2000 to help with covering costs of running the conference and help to ensure the maximum participation of queer students from around the country.* This motion was deferred for two weeks pending the supply of more details and the production of the SUPRA banner

14. Women's Officer's Update

- Making links with SUN within the University.
- In the process of organising a cocktail function. Motion: *THAT the council allow \$100 for catering for the women's cocktail function.* Moved Jack Clegg, seconded Will Noonan. Carried
- Has contacted the SRC and the NTEU about the childcare campaign.
- Contact details are on the website for the rally for International Women's Day on Saturday 12th March
- Is working on the e-list and on convening a meeting of the women's network.

Motion: *THAT the women's Officer's update be accepted.* Moved Alison Doriean, seconded Jodie Coleman. Carried.

15. Other Business

a) Appointment of new councillors to committees.

Motion: *THAT Jodie Coleman be appointed to PAC.* Moved Will Noonan, seconded: Kate Barnsley. Carried

Motion. *THAT Jun Zhao be appointed to AFC.* Moved :Kate Barnsley, seconded Will Noonan. Carried

b) Forum on the effects of Google on education. Richard Bailey has spoken to RIHSS, who are keen to meet with SUPRA to discuss how they can support postgrads in the Arts Faculty. Richard will contact David Carmichael to see if he knows anyone who is researching in that area.

c) The Treasurer will be away from Tuesday for 5 days.

d) The PAC Officer flagged the need to draft policy on who could be authorised to speak on behalf of SUPRA. Will seek feedback and bring it to the next Council meeting.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 22nd March 2006 at 6.00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.