

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SYDNEY  
POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION HELD ON  
THURSDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2006 AT 6.00 PM**

**Present:** Jenny Leong (President and Chair), Roozbeh Araghi, Richard Bailey, Kate Barnsley, Jodie Coleman, Lian Jenvey, Bao Jun (Rita) Lin, Rosemary Whitecross

**Apologies:** Mike Beggs, Adrienne Jerram, Kirsten Harley, Sophia Leon de la Barra, Will Noonan, Leona Oliver, Julian Pinder, Jun Zhao

The President acknowledged that we were meeting on the land of the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation.

**1. International Officer's Report**

- The International Officer will be spending time trying to find out what the interests and concerns of international postgraduate students are, and to increase their awareness of SUPRA and its roles.
- Motion: *THAT Council approves spending of up to \$250 for food and drink for the International Students barbecue to be held on June 28, 2006.* Moved: Rita Lin, seconded Jodie Coleman. Carried.
- Motion: *THAT Council approves a 3 hour per week stipend for the Acting International Officer, Rita Lin, until June 30, 2006.* Moved: Rita Lin, seconded Jenny Leong. Carried.

**2. VSU Discussion**

A Discussion Items paper was circulated (and will be e-mailed to all Councillors after this meeting).

**Item 1: Monday 19 June Senate Action**

The 'fundraising sale' will start at 4.30 pm and the Senate Meeting is at 5.00 pm. The theme will be that Time is Short and the SRC and SUPRA Need Money. An e-mail will be sent to e-grad and to the SRC for forwarding to all their e-groups. Press releases will be prepared for Monday morning.

**Item 2. Semester 2 Interim Arrangements**

- The University is expecting student organisations to go to Semester 2 enrolment sites to recruit members.
- If we are to make services available only to members for Semester 2, we will need details of members from the university.
- The Maurice Blackburn Cashman legal opinion on 'opt-out' rather than 'opt-in' was discussed at the Senate's VSU Working Party meeting together with our submissions. They are exploring the models and getting more legal advice.
- The SUPRA and SRC Presidents are meeting with two of the Senators on the Working Party before the next Senate Meeting.
- The VSU Working Party report to the Senate will be a verbal one as it is too late to be included in the Agenda. We will request the student senators that if nothing is said about the timeline and representation from student organisations that they raise it so that it is minuted.

- We can function on our full budget for Semester 2 from the income from Semester 1 but it will leave little reserves for the following year. We can still ask the university to make up the shortfall to allow some reserve funds for the future.
- There was discussion on whether we should offer services to all postgrads for Semester 2, irrespective of membership.
- The Semester 2 student association form states that people's details will be given to student organisations if they join.
- Motion: *THAT SUPRA write to the VSU Working Party expressing our concern about the process and the form (separate form, opt-in) and that it not be a precedent for 2007 and that student associations should be represented in negotiations. Also we note that Semester 2 arrangements are not in accordance with the Senate's motions.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Jodie Coleman. Carried.
- Motion: *THAT SUPRA should request membership lists from the university.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

### Item 3. Personal Accident Insurance

Currently SUPRA covers posgrads and the Sports Union covers undergrads for Personal Accident Insurance.

Motion: *THAT SUPRA expresses in principle support for the university to take back the provision of Personal Accident Insurance for postgraduates. If our staff are used for processing of claims, there should be adequate compensation.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

### 3. VSU Discussion Meeting

There will be a VSU Discussion Meeting on Wednesday, 21 June at 6.00 pm to consider Items 4 and 5 on the discussion paper and other VSU issues.

The meeting finished at 8.30 pm.