

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY
POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION HELD AT 5.30 PM ON
TUESDAY 22nd APRIL 2008 AT THE SUPRA OFFICES

Chair: Jack Clegg

Minutes: Emily Stewart

Present: Lian Jenvey, Heidi Claus, Nick Wilson, Rashmir Kumar, Nelson Yin, Sam Greenland, Tom Van Dantzig, Cipi Morgan, Lulu Stewart, Jenny Leong

Apologies: Abhishek Guru, Tahrid Chowdhury, Thomas Huang, Yuna Tang, Richard Keep, Rosemary Whitecross (leave of absence)

1. Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair acknowledged that we were meeting on the land of the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation, and offered our respects to them and their elders

2. Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 26th March 2008

Motion: *THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 26th March 2008 be accepted.* Moved: Lulu Stewart. Carried.

3. Office Bearer Reports

a) Co-presidents (verbal)

- committee meetings, managing the office, very busy
- Academic board meeting: New student appeals policy from 1st July – now only 14 days to appeal instead of previous 3 months. Continued right to apply for extension, however, faculty has final say. Jack talked to chair of Academic Board about this, but at the Academic Board meeting he did not verbalise these concerns, despite the fact he told Jack he would.

Motion: *THAT Council accepts the following motions:*

That SUPRA Council believes a hallmark of an appropriate student Appeals Policy is the support of the student population.

That the SUPRA council opposes the Academic Board's new Student Appeals Policy.

That SUPRA council believes that a robust, free and fair Appeals Policy is necessary to maintain academic standards at the University.

That the SUPRA council calls on the Academic Board to amend this policy so that it is not detrimental to students' rights nor academic standards

That the SUPRA council has no confidence in the Chair of the Academic Board.

That the SUPRA council is opposed to all forms of plagiarism and calls for the immediate resignation of any members of the University's staff who engage in such a practice.

- Lian to draft petition and disseminate regarding these new motions.
- Kate back next week
- New IP rule coming in, which will affect research students

b) Vice-president (verbal)

- Also committee meetings, general office duties, article writing etc
- Issues with con that need to be rectified

c) Secretary

- On Leave of Absence

d) Treasurer and International Officer

- Payroll tax
- Resignation of Nelson Yin as Activities Officer accepted. Richard Keep appointed acting Activities Officer until next council meeting. Stipend up to 7 hours per week.

e) Campaigns and Policy Officer

- Funding for universities, response to government
- Motion: *THAT SUPRA endorse the Anti-Power Privatisation Rally.*

f) Publications Officer

- Theses guide ready for publication. Should be printed by the end of this week.

Motion: *THAT SUPRA Council accept the Office Bearer Reports and the motions contained therein.* Moved: Lian Jenvey. Carried.

4. Equity Officer Reports and Updates

No updates.

Motion: *THAT Rashmir shall act as acting Women's Equities Officer and be stipended up to 7 hours/ week.* Moved: Lulu Stewart. Carried.

5. Staff Matters

- Jonathan Hulme has resigned. Ad has gone out for new SAAO.
- Motion: *THAT the Council representatives on the Interview panel comprise of Kate or Jack, Lulu and Tom.* Moved: Jack Clegg. Carried.

Other Business

- i) Student Conference Funding
4 conferences: Education Conference (Brisbane), Queer Collaborations (Melbourne), Network of Women's Students Australia (Adelaide), Students of Sustainability (Newcastle)
Motion: *THAT up to \$1,000 to be allocated for PG students wanting to go to conferences, to be approved by Management Committee and reviewed if necessary. Attendants to report back to council on experience, possibly for article in Honi Soit.* Moved: Lian Jenvey. Carried.

- ii) AGM
Motion: *THAT SUPRA's 2008 Annual General Meeting be held on Thursday 29 May 2008 at 5:30pm at the SUPRA office.* Moved: Lulu Stewart. Carried.

- iii) Appointment of returning officer
Motion: *THAT Ema Esteves be appointed Electoral/ Returning Officer.*
Moved: Jenny Leong. Carried.

- iv) Consideration of electoral regulations
Motion: *THAT council approves changes made to electoral regulations as tabled, with amendments on page 2 point 8. "Voting shall be conducted by ballot In a form consistent with the SUPRA constitution, (i) The vote will be conducted by optional pre-poll postal or internet ballot before the AGM and secret ballot at the AGM....."* . Moved: Jenny Leong. Carried.

The meeting ended at 6:15pm.