

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE  
SYDNEY UNIVERSITY POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION  
HELD AT 6PM, THURSDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2007 AT THE SUPRA OFFICES

Chair: Jenny Leong, President  
Minutes: Rosemary Whitecross, Secretary

**Present:** Jenny Leong (President & Chair), Sacha van Albada, Katherine Barnsley, Richard Bailey, Fleur Beaupert, Jodie Coleman (to 7.00 pm), Suzanne Derok, Jessica Gerrard, Anthony Kachenko, Chen Hee Lim, Rita Lin (from 7.00 pm), Abdul Majeed, Tara McKenzie, Emily Stewart, Rosemary Whitecross, Nelson Yin (from 7.30 pm),

1. **Acknowledgement of Country.** The President 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. **Apologies and proxies:** Mike Beggs, Jack Clegg, Lian Jenvey, Nick Kelly, Estelle Noonan, Leona Oliver

3. **Resignations from Council**

Motion: *THAT the resignation from Council of Katy O'Connor and Adrienne Jerram be accepted with thanks for their efforts for SUPRA.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

4. **Nominations for Councillors.**

Nominations have been received for Cheng Hee Lim, Tara McKenzie and Jessica Gerrard (nominated by Adrienne Jerram to replace her).

Motion: *THAT Tara McKenzie and Jessica Gerrard be accepted as SUPRA Councillors.* Moved Richard Bailey. Carried.

Motion: *THAT Cheng Hee Lim (Andy) be accepted as a SUPRA Councillor.* Moved Sacha van Albada. Carried.

5. **Minutes of the Meetings of Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2007**

Motion: *THAT the Minutes of the Meetings of Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2007 be accepted.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

6. **Office Bearer Reports**

a) **President's update**

- CAPA's Consultation on Election Issues for 2007. Some comments were: the idea of being able to not pay upfront fees is not explicitly stated, nor is the idea that postgraduate education should be freely accessible. In relation to VSU – amend wording to “repeal the amendment to the HESA Act”. Include something about academic freedom. In the update of the 2004 document, include travel concessions in issue 6. Check what ‘targeted scholarships’ means. Consider the amount of scholarships in relation to Health Care cards.
- Motion: (a) *THAT the Policy Committee further discuss and prepare a brief response to CAPA's consultation on issues for the 2007 Federal Election, and (b) that we clarify*

which amount is due (\$12,848 or \$13,683) for our 2007 contribution to CAPA and pay it. Moved Jodie Coleman. Carried

- Postgraduate Entitlements Campaign - put to next Policy Meeting – encourage all councillors to come to discuss.
- A migration seminar will be held on Tuesday 17 April at lunchtime.
- Motion: *THAT a Planning Workshop for SUPRA Councillors be held at 10.00 am next Thursday 29 March at SUPRA.* Moved: Jenny Leong. Carried.
- Staff Restructure. Motion: a) *THAT the Council approves the Student Advice and Advocacy Officer Duty Statement document as circulated;* b) *THAT the Council endorses the proposed action as outlined in the above documents, including employment of a new Student Advice and Advocacy Officer on a fixed-term contract until Friday 21 December 2007.* Moved Jenny Leong. Carried.
- Stipends. Motion: *THAT SUPRA asks the NTEU to represent the office bearers of SUPRA in this matter. That Council delegates to the Management Committee the decision on how this should work.* Moved: Richard Bailey. Carried.
- The President advised that she would be working four days a week instead of five for the time being. She will arrange for a stipended office bearer to be in the office on the non-working day.
- The President expressed her thanks to everyone who helped in her job while she was on leave.

**b) Secretary**

Motion: *THAT the Secretary's report be accepted.* Moved: Emily Stewart. Carried.

**c) Treasurer**

Motion: *THAT the Treasurer's report be accepted.* Moved: Katherine Barnsley. Carried.

**7. Equity Officer Reports and Updates**

**a) Queer Officer**

Motion: *THAT the Queer Officer's Report (including O-week report) be accepted.*  
Moved: Katherine Barnsley. Carried.

**b) Women's Officer**

Thanks were expressed to the Women's Officer for her hard work on the Postgraduate Entitlements Policy launch.

Motion: *THAT the Women's Officer's report be accepted.* Moved Richard Bailey. Carried.

**c) International Officer**

- Need for translation software for computers. The Google one is free and there is one that is more professional but not free. The Administration Officer is looking at new computers. The International Officer will ask her what software the university has that we can use.
- Anti-racism – some international students have been discriminated against and don't know who to ask for help. The International Officer will talk to the Women's Officer and the Publications Officer about producing a t-shirt for a campaign against racism. We could print a large number of posters on the lines of "Have you experienced racism –

contact a SUPRA councillor". The International Officer and the Publications Officer will discuss and present a budget to the Management Committee.

- Hoping to have international network meeting on the last Friday of every month.
- There will be a meeting of cross-campus coalition (travel concessions) on 29<sup>th</sup> March at Herman's Bar at 6.00 pm
- International Students Network Meeting – will have the one on 30<sup>th</sup> March as advertised and ask for RSVP to know how many to cater for. Up to \$80.00 was allocated for this meeting.
- Motion: *THAT the International Officer's Report be accepted.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

#### **8. Publications Officer's Report**

- eXpress needs 1 more proof read.
- Anyone who wants to provide a design for a t-shirt cartoon – needs to be in a finished form.
- Motion: *THAT the Publications Officer's Report be accepted.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

#### **9. Election of a Vice President**

Nominations: Katherine Barnsley  
Jack Clegg

Motion: *THAT Council accepts the joint nomination of Katherine Barnsley (2 days per week) and Jack Clegg (1 day per week) as Co-Vice Presidents.* Moved: Jenny Leong. Carried.

#### **10. Election of a Policy Committee Convenor**

Motion: *THAT Emily Stewart be appointed as Policy Committee Convenor.* Moved: Jenny Leong. Carried.

#### **11. Council vacancies**

Motion: *That, in accordance with Section 5.18 (b) of the SUPRA Constitution:*

- *Nominations for 1 Council vacancy be declared opened.*
- *That the Secretary be appointed as the Returning Officer for the conduct of these elections and that the Council meeting appoint an assistant Returning Officer to assist with the ballot count.*
- *Nominations be received by the Secretary in writing from a Councillor, citing the nominee's name and student number, which is seconded in writing by another Councillor and accepted in writing by the nominee by 5pm, Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2007.*
- *That the election for this vacancy be conducted by secret ballot at the next SUPRA Council meeting and counted in accordance with Schedule 1 of the SUPRA Constitution.*

Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

#### **12. (in camera) Update on Funding Agreement with the University including discussions with the SRC and USU as required under our funding agreement.**

#### **13. Staffing update**

- Enterprise Agreement negotiation. The SUPRA EBA ends half way through the year and we need to enter into negotiations for new one. First meeting 16<sup>th</sup> April 2007.

Good to have one of three councillors positions not an office bearer. The President will see if Mike Beggs is available. A decision on the Councillor representation will be deferred to the Management Committee. Council also approved spending money on legal advice (the solicitor will not attend meetings in person).

- Interviewing 4 people on Monday as a casual administration assistant to do data entry and help the Administration Officer with the subscriber database.

#### **14. O-week Report**

The Activities Convenor thanked the people who helped, especially barbecue cooking and music and those at the O-week stall.

Council thanked Lian Jenvey and Nelson Yin for the great effort they made in organising a successful participation in O-Week.

Motion: *THAT the O-week report be accepted.* Moved: Katherine Barnsley. Carried.

#### **15 Planning meeting for Semester 1 activities (including Conference, AGM, Party) – 10.00 am 29<sup>th</sup> March 2007.**

#### **16. SUPRA Committees**

- (a) Motion: *THAT Jessica Gerrard be appointed to the Policy Committee, that Suzanne Derok, Tara McKenzie and Andy Lim (to be confirmed) be appointed to the Activities Committee* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.
- (b) Motion: *THAT Council accept the minutes of the Management Committee Meetings held on 20<sup>th</sup> February and 13<sup>th</sup> March 2007.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.
- (c) Motion: *THAT Council accept the minutes of the Policy Committee Meetings held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2007.* Moved: Emily Stewart. Carried.

#### **17. Other Business**

- Campaign by SRC Anti-War collective about the US Studies Department at Sydney University. Richard Bailey will e-mail Councillors about this..
- **Bank accounts** Motion: *THAT Katherine Barnsley and Jack Clegg be added as signatories to the SUPRA bank accounts and that Jodie Coleman and Gina Barnes be removed as signatories.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.
- Just Enough Faith charity, providing essentials for homeless. Tara McKenzie will circulate information about this..

#### **Next Meetings:**

Activities Planning Meeting – 10.00 am on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March.

Special Council Meeting – 1.00 pm Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> April..

Council Meeting – 6.00 pm Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April

**The meeting closed at 9.00 pm.**