

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY  
POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION HELD ON THURSDAY 25<sup>th</sup> MAY  
2006 AT 6.00 PM**

**Present:** Jenny Leong (President and Chair), Roozbeh Araghi, Katherine Barnsley, Mike Beggs, Jodie Coleman, Adrienne Jerram, Rosemary Whitecross

**Apologies:** Richard Bailey, Jack Clegg, Frances di Lauro, Alison Doriean, Brian Doyle, Kirsten Harley, Lian Jenvey, Sophia Leon de la Barra, Anthony Kachenko, Xue Yang Li, Zhen Yi Li, Estelle Noonan, Will Noonan, Leona Oliver, Julian Pinder, Tim Roussos, Jun Zhao

1. **Minutes of meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2006**

Motion: *THAT Council accepts the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2006.* Moved: Jodie Coleman, seconded Adrienne Jerram. Carried.

2. **Resignations from Council**

Motion: *THAT Council accepts the resignations from Council of the International Officer, Mark Kelly, and the PASC Convenor, Timotheous Roussos with thanks for their contributions.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Jodie Coleman. Carried.

3. **Elections of equity officers for 2006-7.**

Motion: THAT Council accepts with acclamation the election of the following equity officers: Co-Indigenous Officers: Brian Doyle and Leona Oliver, International Officer: Rita Lin, Women's Officer: Katherine Barnsley. Moved: Jodie Coleman, seconded Adrienne Jerram. Carried.

4. **President's Report**

CAPA - The President and Vice-President were concerned that CAPA did not fully appreciate the seriousness of VSU. It is good that the Vice President is now on the CAPA executive. SUPRA paid \$40,000 affiliation fees for 2006, other universities had pledged at the end of 2005 how much they felt they could afford and had only paid that amount. SUPRA's concern at the lack of openness had been expressed.

Motion: *That the Council congratulate Roozi on his election as National Queer Officer for the Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations and endorse Roozi in his role as SUPRA Vice President and CAPA Queer Officer as our CAPA Liaison Officer to keep us informed of CAPA related issues.*

Motion: *THAT the President's Report and the motion [above] contained therein be accepted.* Moved: Jodie Coleman, seconded Adrienne Jerram. Carried.

5. **Vice-President's Report**

The feedback forms are being passed to Adrienne Jerram for comment.

Motion: *THAT the Vice-President's report be accepted.* Moved: Katherine Barnsley, seconded Adrienne Jerram, carried

6. **Audited Accounts**

The accounts have yet been finalised by the auditors as they are waiting for further information from the Commonwealth Bank in relation to some cheque payments. Motion: *THAT Council refers the consideration of the audited accounts to the Administration & Finance Committee at its meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> May prior to their presentation to the Annual General Meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> May.* Moved: Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

7. **Secretary's Report**

Motion: *THAT the Secretary's report be accepted.* Moved: Adrienne Jerram, seconded Mike Beggs. Carried.

8. **Indigenous Update (reported by the President)**

A meeting of indigenous students on 8<sup>th</sup> May re-elected Leona Oliver and Brian Doyle (in a part-time capacity) as Co-Indigenous Officers, acknowledging as before the cultural appropriateness of having a male and a female representative.

Motion: *THAT Council approve \$100 to provide lunch for a meeting during a block mode at the end of July, when SUPRA's Student Advice and Advocacy Officers will be present.* Moved: Adrienne Jerram, seconded Jodie Coleman. Carried.

9. **Queer Update (reported by the Vice-President)**

- The Queer Forum on 24<sup>th</sup> May was well attended by both undergrads and postgrads, and the debate on same sex marriage was inclusive. The Union had agreed to provide catering but this did not eventuate. Council requested the President and the Queer Officer to write to the Union expressing concern that the catering arrangements did not materialise.
- The term 'gay marriage' was used on the posters, apparently at the request of the Queer Network, despite Council (27 April 2006) requesting the phrase 'same sex marriage' on material with the SUPRA logo.
- **REMINDER**: Current SUPRA policy is that all posters with the SUPRA logo should be signed off by the President (or Vice-President in the President's absence).
- The broader issue of equity officers responsibilities to their networks and to Council is referred to PAC for consideration, along with the use of the word 'network'

10. **Women's Officer's Report**

Motion: *THAT the Women's Officer's report and the minutes of the meeting of the Women's Network held on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2006 be accepted.* Moved Adrienne Jerram, seconded Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

11. **PAC Officer's Report**

- There were no minutes from the last PAC meeting as the only matters discussed were possible constitutional changes.
- It was decided that it was only necessary for relevant staff s to attend PAC meetings for any agenda item for which they are giving a report.

Motion: *THAT the PAC Officer's report be accepted.* Moved Katherine Barnsley, seconded Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

12. **Publications**

The second issue of eXpress for 2006 has been published and is available both in printed form and on the website.

13. **Staffing**

The Administration Officer, Jaclyn Booton, will be resigning in mid-July. *Motion: THAT Council delegates to AFC the advertising and choice of selection panel to fill this position on a fixed term contract to the beginning of December 2006. If the Council and office bearers are to be significantly different for July onwards, then representatives of the new Council should be involved in the selection process.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Katherine Barnsley. Carried.

14. **VSU Discussion**

- The Registrar has advised that Elizabeth Evans has been appointed, reporting to the Chief Financial Officer, to work on post-VSU matters relating to the student associations. The President is meeting with the SRC President on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> to discuss the SRC/SUPRA positions.
- The Senate's VSU Working Party is meeting on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May. It was suggested that the President and the SRC President could write a joint submission to the Task Force, including an application to meet with Elizabeth Evans as soon as possible.
- It was noted that all decisions reached by the university to date had been made without the involvement of the student organisations.
- The SRC has agreed to pay half the cost of legal advice (probably \$250-500, maximum \$1,000 each) on the legality of the Opt Out options. Maurice Blackman Cashman will give a cost estimate by 26<sup>th</sup> May and basic advice by 1<sup>st</sup> July. This will allow time for Jack Clegg and Rose Jackson to put any necessary motions to the next Senate meeting.
- The President will make a VSU report in her report to the AGM and allow time for discussion of the post-VSU situation at the meeting.

15. **Administration & Finance Committee**

It was noted that no formal action will eventuate from the in camera section of the meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> May. Motion: *THAT council accepts the minutes and recommendations of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May, with the proviso that the wording of the IRC matter is amended to read 'IRC matte'.* Moved Katherine Barnsley, seconded Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

16. **Policy Advisory Committee**

- When a portion of a meeting of Council or the AFC moves in camera, minutes should continue to be taken.
- The further minor constitutional amendments will be moved from the floor of the AGM. Motion: *That Council endorses the proposed constitutional changes for consideration at the AGM. It also recognises that further changes to the constitution may need to be made once the post-VSU situation is clarified.* Moved Adrienne Jerram, seconded Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.
- Motion: *THAT Jodie Coleman and Kirsten Harley be thanked for their particularly hard work in bringing together the proposed constitutional changes for the AGM.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Adrienne Jerram.

17. **Publications, Activities and Services Committee**

Motion: *THAT the minutes of the PASC meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May be accepted.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Rosemary Whitecross.

Motion: *THAT in view of the resignation of the PASC Convenor, the Director of Publications be delegated authority to convene PASC until the next Council takes office.* Moved Roozbeh Araghi, seconded Katherine Barnsley. Carried.

18. **AGM, 31<sup>st</sup> May**

The annual report will be prepared 'in house' by Jaclyn Booton and will be ring bound. The Secretary will speak to all current Councillors to encourage their attendance.

19. **Equity Officers**

There is currently no policy which determines, if an equity officer resigns before the end of their term in office, the period of time for which it would be necessary to call an election for a replacement to the end of the current Council term. This will be referred to PAC for consideration. The President will propose to the AGM that as there is no incumbent International Officer, that Rita Lin act as the International Officer until her official term in office starts on 1 July.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2006 at 6.00 pm

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm.