

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY
POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION
6.00 PM, WEDNESDAY 16 JANUARY 2008 AT THE SUPRA OFFICES

Chair: Jack Clegg, Co-President
Minutes: Rosemary Whitecross, Co-Secretary

Present: Katherine Barnsley, Jack Clegg, Thomas Huang, Lian Jenvey, Richard Keep, Jenny Leong, Estelle Noonan, Emily Stewart, Rosemary Whitecross, Nicholas Wilson, Nelson Yin

Apologies: Sacha van Albada, Cath Davies (leave of absence), Tahrid Chowdhury (leave of absence), Shelly Le, Sridhar Pulikanti, Yunnan Tang,

1. Acknowledgement of Country

Jack Clegg 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 13 December 2007

Motion: *THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 13th December 2007 be accepted.* Moved: Katherine Barnsley, seconded Thomas Huang. Carried.

3. Resignation of Co-Secretary

Motion: *THAT the resignation of Sacha van Albada as Co-Secretary be accepted, with thanks and acclamation offered to Sacha for her time as Co-Secretary. Also, that Sacha van Albada be granted a month's leave of absence from Council.* Moved: Katherine Barnsley. Carried.

4. Office Bearer and Equity Officer Reports and Updates

a) Co-Presidents

- The Co-Presidents will be meeting with the Vice-Chancellor-elect in February.
- They will also be meeting with Marion Theobald to discuss enrolments.
- There will be a meeting on 29th January with Bruce Sutton, the chair of the Academic Board, the Dean of Graduate Studies and possibly the Registrar to discuss the motion put to Academic Board to change the definition of a student (to include those people whose PhD is under examination)
- Contracts have been received from the Redfern Legal Centre for the provision of legal advice to SUPRA subscribers.
- National Day of Action. There will be a meeting with Noah White, the new General Secretary of the SRC to discuss this. The NUS want to run a national campaign in O-week.
- Jack Clegg met with The Hon. John Aquilina (Fellow of Senate and Member of the Legislative Assembly). In relation to travel concessions for international students, the NSW Government will not change its position because it would be seen as a subsidy to universities and as such should be a federal responsibility.
- The Federal Minister for Youth, The Hon. Kate Ellis, will be visiting university campuses, and Katherine Barnsley has e-mailed to invite her to SUPRA – to highlight that postgraduates are different from undergraduates.

b) Vice President

- There is support from the Library for a SUPRA stall there during O-week

c) Co-Secretaries

d) Treasurer/International Officer/Activities Convenor

- The schedule for O-week is in preparation.
- The SUPRA handbooks for international students is in preparation. We will look at the amount of content before deciding on a budget. David and other SAAOs will help with input

e) Campaigns and Policy Officer

- There are no enrolments for postgraduates until 29th January. SUPRA will have a numbered stall as part of the enrolment process.
- There was discussion on what our focus should be at the enrolments and other interactions with postgraduates. The question of what we are going to do with supporters donations was also raised. It was noted that it was important to educate postgrads so that they actually know what SUPRA is and what it does. These issues were deferred to the Management Committee.
- Convergence on Canberra on February 12th. It was again noted that no posters should be made which include the SUPRA logo without one of the Co-Presidents approving the use of the logo, and that where appropriate, a monetary amount be set for the provision of such support.
- Motion: *THAT SUPRA endorses the Convergence on Canberra on February 12th.*
Moved: Katherine Barnsley. Carried.

f) Publications Officer

- The SRC is doing all the publishing work in relation to the Counter Course Handbook, and the Management Committee has overseen the editing process.

g) Women's Officer

- Is organising a picnic for parents and children in February.
- The Parents Guide to Childcare will be launched at the picnic.

Motion: *THAT the Office Bearers and Equity Officers reports and updates be accepted.*

Moved: Jenny Leong. Carried.

5. SAAO Work reports

Noted.

6 & 7. (in camera)

Motion: *THAT Council discusses the next two issues be discussed in camera.* Moved: Katherine Barnsley. Carried.

8. SUPRA Committees

- Motion: *THAT Richard Keep be appointed to the Activities Committee.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.
- The Minutes of the Management Committee were deferred to the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 7.15 pm.