

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION
6 PM, THURSDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2007 AT THE SUPRA OFFICES**

Chair: Kate Barnsley/Jack Clegg, Co-Presidents

Minutes: Sacha van Albada, Co-Secretary

Present: Katherine Barnsley, Jack Clegg (from 6.40 pm), Sacha van Albada, Emily Stewart, Thomas Huang, Sridhar Pulikanti, Yunnan Tang, Nelson Yin, Rosemary Whitecross, Lian Jenvey (from 6.30 pm)

Apologies: Jenny Leong, Jodie Coleman, Estelle Noonan, Nicholas Wilson, Wendy Huang, Shelly Le, Tahrid Chowdhury

1. Acknowledgement of Country

Kate Barnsley 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 14th August 2007

Motion: *THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 14th August 2007 be accepted.* Moved: Sacha van Albada. Carried

3. Resignation of Vice-President

Motion: *THAT the resignation of Richard Bailey from the SUPRA Council and the position of Vice-President be accepted.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

Richard was thanked for his work for SUPRA with acclamation.

4. Resignation of Mike Beggs

Motion: *THAT the resignation of Mike Beggs from the SUPRA Council be accepted.* Moved: Sacha van Albada. Carried.

Mike Beggs was also thanked for his work for SUPRA with acclamation.

5. Hours of Vice-President

Motion: *THAT up to 14 hours per week extra be shared between the Co-Presidents until the election of a new Vice-President.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

6. Office Bearer Updates

a) Co-Presidents

Preparations for the Connect conference are in full swing. Kate urged all Councillors to help out at the conference.

SUPRA has endorsed Jenny Leong for the Postgraduate Fellow of Senate elections, being the immediate past president of SUPRA.

The SAAO database is up and running, hosted on an external server.

Motion: *THAT the Co-Presidents' report be accepted.* Moved: Cath Davies. Carried.

b) Co-Secretaries

Motion: *THAT the Co-Secretaries' report be accepted.* Moved: Emily Stewart.

c) Treasurer

The Treasurer reported that we are getting close to spending the full amount of University funding.

Motion: *THAT the Treasurer's report be accepted.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

d) Policy and Campaigns Officer

At the previous Policy Committee meeting Lian proposed that SUPRA take a stand for the Greens, but it was decided to devote a section to the elections instead. This would allow postgraduates to decide for themselves based on the facts.

Protests during APEC proceeded peacefully and were a success.

The Policy and Campaigns Officer requested that SUPRA endorse the Walk Against Warming, which is scheduled to be held two weeks before the election, as well as the CFMEU demonstration against the maltreatment of guest workers.

Motion: *THAT the Policy and Campaigns Officer report, and the recommendations contained therein, be accepted.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

7. Equity Officer Updates

a) International Officer/Activities Convenor

Activities on the agenda for the rest of the year include another movie night, a trip to Hunter Valley, and an end-of-year party.

Kate noted that the USU has supported SUPRA for the end-of-year party. Instead of having an international students party during the conference, we will have nibbles and drinks at Manning, and the international party may be organised in the beginning of next year.

Motion: *THAT the International Officer's report be accepted.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

b) Queer

The Queer Officer has organised most of the performers and volunteers for the Queer Performance Night, but is still looking for a venue. Some funding will be needed.

Motion: *THAT up to \$500 be allocated for the Queer Performance Night.*
Moved: Cath Davies. Carried.

Motion: *THAT the Queer Officer's report be accepted.* Moved: Lian Jenvey.
Carried.

8. SAAO work report summaries

The SAAO casework comments were noted.

9. Connect '07 Conference

A booklet containing the agenda for the conference has been prepared with the lay-out done mainly by Anne Coates. It is looking like a full program, thanks in large part to Angie Dunstan. A roster was handed out for councillors to help out with setting up the various forums, panels and social functions.

10. SUPRA Policy positions

Lian Jenvey noted that she thinks SUPRA should not only have official positions on higher education, but also on social issues, including the war in Iraq. This item was further deferred to the Policy Committee.

11. Allocation to committees

Motion: *THAT Shelly Le be allocated to the Activities Committee.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.

12. Management Committee and Policy Committee minutes

(a) Motion: *THAT Council accepts the minutes of the Management Committee Meetings held on 27th August and 3rd and 10th and 17th September 2007.*

(b) Motion: *THAT Council accept the minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on 17th September 2007.*

Moved to accept en bloc: Sacha van Albada. Carried.

13. Other Business

• Nomination for Council

SUPRA received a nomination for Council from Amanda Mengpo Li. Lian Jenvey expressed her concerns that we know nothing about nominees' political views or affiliations. Jack Clegg emphasized the need to create a functional Publications Committee as soon as possible, where Amanda's graphic design skills would be useful.

Motion: *THAT Amanda Li be accepted to the SUPRA Council.* Moved: Sacha van Albada. Carried (with abstention from Lian Jenvey)

- **Food co-op**

Motion: *THAT SUPRA endorse the campaign by the Sydney University Food Co-op for an accessible new space so they can continue to exist.* Moved: Sacha van Albada. Carried.

The Co-secretaries will write a letter of support to be checked by the Co-presidents.

The meeting closed at 7 pm.

Next Meeting: