

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY  
POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION HELD AT 6.00 PM ON  
WEDNESDAY 26<sup>h</sup> MARCH 2008 AT THE SUPRA OFFICES

(Noted that this is a reformed meeting from the meeting called for 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2008, which was inquorate)

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

**Present:** Jack Clegg, Tahrid Chowdhury, Thomas Huang, Richard Keep, Lian Jenvey, Emily Stewart, Rosemary Whitecross, Nelson Yin

In attendance/present: Heidi Claus

**Apologies:** Katherine Barnsley (leave of absence), Jenny Leong (leave of absence), Sridhar Pulikanti, Yunnan Tang, Nicholas Wilson

### **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 20<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

Motion: *THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2008 be accepted.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Accepted

**3. Resignations from Council** - Wenting Huang, Estelle Noonan (Women's Officer), Shelley Le. It was noted that Estelle has agreed to organise the meeting to elect a new Women's Officer in May.

Motion: *THAT the resignations of Wenting Huang, Estelle Noonan and Shelley Le from the SUPRA Council be accepted.* Moved: Nelson Yin. Carried

### **4. Applications for positions on Council:**

Motion: *THAT Heidi Claus, Sam Greenland, Abishek Guru, Rashmi Kumar, Sishir Kumar Kamalapuram, Kathryn Morgan, Leona Oliver, Thomas van Dantzig and Shuo Yang (Alice) be accepted on to the SUPRA Council.* Moved Rosemary Whitecross. Seconded Lian Jenvey. Carried

### **5. Office Bearer Reports**

#### **a) Co-Presidents (verbal)**

- The Registrar has approved the official stipend increase to \$14.60 per hour
- A Submission was made to the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority about the use of Callan Park and a letter written to the head of Unions NSW

- We are writing to Kate Ellis, Julia Gillard and Kim Carr about the VSU process highlighting that it is unfortunate that the consultation process was framed in terms of youth as most postgrads don't fall into that category.
- Busy with committee meetings and induction talks, writing Honi Soit articles, giving out showbags.
- We have leased a replacement photocopier at the same cost of lease but with substantially cheaper copies
- We have bought a new printer as the old one only has one tray working.
- A conference coordinator has been appointed from about 120 applicants. At 11.00 am on Tuesday 1 April we will have a meeting for brainstorming for the 2008 conference.
- Anne Coates has been promoted to Administration and Communications Officer. She will spend one day a week doing layout for publications. She is also taking one day a week study leave. We have just closed applications for a two day a week admin assistant for Wednesday and Thursday for 3 months to cover Anne's leave and her 'layout' day.
- Council agreed that we should reopen up the computers in resource room – taking off the unikey and setting up the old printer for free printing. This will be monitored – we may not leave paper in resource room. New printer and photocopier will be very cheap on ink etc. We will consider asking people not to print more than 10 pages a day without asking us.
- Katherine Barnsley (Co-President) and Rosemary Whitecross (Secretary) will be overseas for next month - if anyone wants to do some work and be stipended, let Jack Clegg know. Council delegated to Management Committee to assign people extra hours during this time.
- Motion: *THAT Jack Clegg be allowed to claim up to 35 hours a week during Kate's absence.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried.
- The revised Thesis Guide is almost ready to go to printers.
- Students requesting money towards cricket match – we offer them in kind support. Jack Clegg will contact them for more details.

**b) Vice-President**

- Focusing on coursework entitlements policy.
- Barbecue last week very well attended – we even ran out of food and drink

**c) Secretary**

Motion: *THAT the Secretary be granted Leave of Absence from 31 March to 5 May 2008.* Moved: Emily Stewart. Carried.

**d) Treasurer/ International Officer/Activities Officer**

- It is suggested we have two seminars in Postgrad week – maybe one a research seminar – a forum about some sort of academic/social issue. Please send any ideas to Nelson Yin. We will also talk to the Careers Centre.
- A suggestion was made that we should have a launch for the Connect Conference, with an 'early registration' bonus

**e) Campaigns and Policy Officer**

- The Logan Latuiri forum was bigger than expected. Motion: *THAT SUPRA contribute up to \$350 for the cost of a flight from Sydney to Melbourne and one night's accommodation to the expenses of Logan Latuiri.* Lian Jenvey to get more details and

*donation will be made to the Jeff Goldhar Foundation who sponsored his visit. The Management Committee will sign off on this. Moved Lian Jenvey. Carried.*

- Next thing NTEU/SUPRA casuals forum. The Management Committee will sign off on for catering for the forum.
- Student Conferences – we need to advertise the conferences and encourage participation – we will establish a pool of money for registration and some towards expenses. Lian Jenvey will prepare details for e-grad.

## **6. Equity Officer Reports and Updates**

### a) Queer Officer

- Cath Davies made a report last week to the informal meeting.
- The Queer e-mail list is now operating.

## **7. Staff matters**

It was noted that the new SAAO is Patricia Quinn, who is filling in for Ann Turner for a year.

## **8. SAAO work reports**

- A lot to do with exclusion cases and showing cause.
- Also some unusual things to do with Intellectual Property. A new IP rule has been drafted.
- Scholarships with difficult conditions (public-private partnerships) is also been looked at.

## **9. O-week**

- Jack Clegg thanked people for helping out.
- It was noted that some people felt there were far too many corporate stalls.
- Clubs and societies etc. were not allowed to solicit at front of stalls. None got prime positions – all went to the corporate stalls.

## **10. Events**

- Barbecue Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 12-2 here. Lian Jenvey and Nelson Yin will help set up.
- Evening 2<sup>nd</sup> April – drinks at Sydney College of the Arts for their seminar – SAAOs will go – all councillors welcome – from 4.30 pm.

## **10. Councillor participation and Continuity planning**

- Need more people to come in part-time to do things.
- Postering often needs to be done – builds our profile.
- Have to poster for the barbecue this week.
- Possibility of stipending councillors for this (the Management Committee to authorise) – possibly also other postgrads
- Need to organise election

## **11. SUPRA Committees**

- (a) Motion: *THAT Council accept the minutes of the Management Committee Meetings held on 25<sup>th</sup> February and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> March 2008.*
- (b) Motion: *THAT Council accepts the minutes of the Policy Committee Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2008.*
- (c) Motion: *THAT Council accepts the minutes of the Activities Committee Meetings held on 25<sup>th</sup> February and 10<sup>th</sup> March 2008.:*

Moved en bloc: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried

(d) Motion: *THAT Heidi Claus be on the Policy Committee*. Moved: Lian Jenvey. Carried.

## **12. Satellite Campuses Committee**

The possibility of establishing a Satellite Campuses Committee was considered. We need a Liaison Officer – maybe through the part-time Admin Officer – to find out who all the reps/presidents of postgrad associations are. Phone hook-ups are a possibility.

The meeting closed at 7.20 pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2008 at 6.00 pm