

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE
SYDNEY UNIVERSITY POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION
7PM, WEDNESDAY 13 JUNE 2007 AT THE SUPRA OFFICES**

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

Present: Jenny Leong (President & Chair), Sacha van Albada, Richard Bailey, Katherine Barnsley, Fleur Beaupert, Mike Beggs, Jack Clegg (from 8.30 pm), Jodie Coleman, Jessica Gerrard, Lian Jenvey, Anthony Kachenko, F Abdul Majeed, Estelle Noonan, Nelson Yin, Rosemary Whitecross

Apologies: Leona Oliver, Emily Stewart

In attendance: Tahrid Chowdhury, Sridhar Pulikanti

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. Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 9th May 2007

Motion: *THAT the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held on 9th May 2007 be accepted.* Moved: Rosemary Whitecross. Carried

3. Safety

The Women's Officer reported that there was a suggestion to run a campaign on safety in late opening and 24 hour access spaces in the University, i.e. adequate telephones, regular security patrols, security escorts, security bus, etc. She is meeting with Ann Scahill, the Director of the Staff & Equal Opportunity Unit. This issue will be handed over to Estelle Noonan when she becomes Women's Officer.

4. Financial Position

The Treasurer reported that we had been spending under budget for the year to date.

5. Enterprise Agreement negotiations

The President reported that negotiations for a new Enterprise Agreement to operate from July 2007 were continuing constructively. The agreement will be moved from the Federal system to the State system, which will allow some of the current rights to be maintained.

6. Funding Agreement for 2008

Regular meetings are being held with the DVC Community in conjunction with the SRC and the Union. The timeframe for the current agreement has been extended to March 2008.

7. Status on submission of a PhD

Currently, on submission of a PhD or MPhil thesis the candidate ceases to be a student. The University is concerned about this, and wants the status to continue as a student until the thesis is granted. However, this will require changes to by-laws and government Acts.

8. Student conferences

Details will be circulated to Council and put in e-grad. Any postgraduates interested in the subsidy of up to \$150 to attend should contact the Queer Officer.

9. CAPA

Motion: *THAT we amend the motion of the last Council meeting to read "lack of critical engagement with" rather than "support for"*. Moved: Katherine Barnsley. Carried.

10. Postgrad week

- Katherine Barnsley had acted as "doorkeeper" at activities to check subscriber status, and we were able to enrol new subscribers.
- It was noted that we need to be better organised in setting up for things like barbecues.
- The movie night was a success, and participants want more.
- Fisher Library has said that we can hold other SAAO stalls there. Interest at the stall was mostly from new people, and some subscribed.
- We reached quorum for the AGM by 5.35 pm (meeting set for 5.30 pm)
- The postgraduate party attracted different people.

11. Postgraduate Entitlements Policy

- This has been sent to the DVC, Research. When agreement is reached, he will recommend that the University accept it.
- The Deans will be sent the text and asked to say what they currently offer.
- We will keep the petition, but may not need to send it to the Senate.
- By 2010, all research students should have their own exclusive study space.

12. 2007 SUPRA Conference

- Richard Bailey reported that the committee had decided to call it Connect 07.
- We have booked rooms in the main quad.
- It was agreed that we would hire a temporary staff person to coordinate it.
- About 30 people have expressed interest in being involved in some way in helping with the organisation of the conference.

13. CAPA

- The Labor Party appears to have reneged on their earlier position of repealing the VSU legislation. It was agreed that we should support the CAPA position on this.
- Nelson Yin has been nominated for the CAPA International Officer position
- CAPA has reached a draft memorandum of understanding with the NTEU

14. Internet Usage in the Resource Room

We will be moving our older staff and office bearer computers to the Resource Room once the new computers are up and running. They will be connected to the internet via Unikey log-ins, so that if students visit non-university sites they will have to use their free entitlements or pay via unikey accounts. In special circumstances (such as when a student has submitted their thesis) they can use one of our other computers.

15. SUPRA Committees

- (a) Motion: *THAT Council accepts the minutes of the Management Committee Meetings held on 17th and 28th May 2007 and 12th June 2007.*
- (b) Motion: *THAT Council accept the minutes of the Activities Committee Meeting held on 15th May 2007.*
- (c) Motion: *THAT Council accepts the minutes of the Policy Committee Meetings held on 17th and 31st May 2007.*

Moved en bloc: Rosemary Whitecross. Accepted.

16. Leave of absence for Treasurer

Motion: *THAT the Treasurer be granted Leave of Absence from 19th to 28th June 2007.* Moved: Richard Bailey. Carried.

17. Purchase of a Risograph

A two colour pass machine can produce SUPRA materials at approximately 0.3 cents a copy plus paper (depending on the number of copies per plate), printing 100,000 copies of A4 size per hour. Total cost (excluding GST) is \$26,500 which can be paid off in interest free instalments over 3 years. We can offer the use of it to other groups to offset the cost.

Motion: *THAT we purchase a Risograph machine, spending up to \$15,000 for the first instalment, and that the Management Committee is authorised to sign off on the details of a contract up to 3 years.* Moved: Jenny Leong. Carried.

- 18. Motion: *THAT Lian Jenvey be delegated to represent SUPRA's interests at various committees and meeting planned, particularly the National Day of Action.* Moved: Jodie Coleman. Carried.

19. 2006-7 Council

Anthony Kachenko expressed his thanks for the opportunity to be Treasurer for the last 17 months and the Council thanked him for his efforts.

Motion: *THAT the Council expresses its thanks to Jenny Leong for her Presidency of SUPRA.* Moved: Jack Clegg. Carried.

The meeting closed at 8.25 pm.