



**MEETING OF COUNCIL
NEW LAW SEMINAR ROOM 115
6:00PM ON 15TH AUGUST 2013
EX CAMERA**

Chair: Joanne Gad

Minutes: Mike de Waal & Tuba Omer

Attendance: Joanne Gad, Timothy Scriven, Georgiana Toma, Guien Miao, Tuba Omer, Jay Tharappel, Kieran Latty, Joss McCay, Joe Callingham, Tanveer Sohal

Guests: Rosie Hancock, Shvonne Hasan, Margaret Kirkby

★ **1 Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome**

The Chair opened the meeting at 6:06 p.m. with an Acknowledgement of Country.

★ **2 Governance**

2.1 Apologies

David Krasovitsky
Shaikh Nayeem Faisal
Nicole Doughty
Kylee Hartman-Warren
Callum Forbes
Will Clarke
David Blight

2.2 Proxies

David Krasovitsky to Timothy Scriven
Shaikh Nayeem Faisal to Guien Miao
Nicole Doughty to Mike de Waal (2nd pref: Timothy Scriven)
Kylee Hartman-Warren to Tuba Omer (2nd pref: Georgi Toma, 3rd pref: Timothy Scriven)
Callum Forbes to Joe Callingham
Will Clarke to Joss McCay
David Blight to Joss McCay

2.3 Resignations

Simone White

Audrey Irish
Jennifer Baldwin

2.4 Starring of Items

No starred items.

Motion [Aug15-01]: To accept all unstarred items

Moved: Mike de Waal **Seconded:** Joss Mc Cay **Consensus**

3 Minutes and Reports of Meetings

★ 3.1 Minutes of the previous month's meetings

3.1.1 Council Meeting, 17th July 2013

3.1.2 Policy Meeting, 19th July 2013

3.1.3 Management Committee, 22nd July 2013

Amended minutes to be tabled at the meeting.

3.1.4 Finance Committee, 22nd July 2013

3.1.5 Management Committee, 29th July 2013

3.1.6 Publications Committee, 7th August 2013

To be tabled at the meeting.

Motion [Aug15-02]: To accept the minutes.

Moved: Georgiana Toma **Seconded:** Guien Miao **Consensus.**

3.2 Business Arising From Minutes

No business arising from minutes.

4 Officer Reports

★ 4.1 President

Joanne Gad

The President said it's important to read reports. A lot of the information is in the reports.

Procedural: To move in camera.

Moved: Joanne Gad **Consensus**

Rosie Hancock, Shvonne Hasan, Margaret Kirkby left the room at 6:12pm.

Procedural: To move ex camera.

Moved: Joanne Gad **Consensus**

Motion [Aug15-03]: To accept the president's report

Moved: Timothy Scriven **Seconded:** Georgiana Toma **Consensus.**

Rosie Hancock, Shvonne Hasan, Margaret Kirkby, Tuba Omer entered the room at 6:15pm.

4.2 Vice President (1)

Kylee Hartman-Warren

4.3 Vice President (2)

Timothy Scriven



4.4 Vice President (3)

Tanveer Sohal

The Vice President's (Publications) report was late because of the thesis guide.

The secretary asked how was the thesis guide launch?

The Vice President (Publications) said it was really good. People were very keen and 80 people showed up. The majority of students were PhD students from different faculties.

A councillor asked if the physics coordinator come?

The Vice President (Publications) said that she can check.

Motion [Aug15-04]: To accept the Vice President (Publications) report

Moved: Guien Miao **Seconded:** Joe Callingham **Consensus.**



4.5 Treasurer

Georgiana Toma and Guien Miao.

4.5 and 4.7.4 Co-Treasurer & Women's report

The Co-Treasurer and Women's officer said that she has been doing a lot of work, including working on the sponsorship kit. So the report wasn't a top priority. She mentioned that the Graduate office has been very supportive of her recommendations around the Annual Progress Review and has incorporated a lot of the feedback.

The Co-Treasurer and Women's officer talked about the PGARC campaign & Women Girls Night Out!

Motion [Aug15-05]: To accept the two reports of Co-Treasurer and Women's officer.

Moved: Mike de Waal **Seconded:** Joss Mc Cay **Consensus.**

Motion [Aug15-06]: That we allow Joe to hold Emily's proxy for tonight's meeting.

Moved: Mike de Waal **Seconded:** Joss Mc Cay **Carried** (1 abstention – Joe Callingham)

4.6 Secretary

Mike de Waal

Mike de Waal spoke to his report and noted that he had resigned from the position of Secretary effective last Friday. For the remaining secretarial work to be completed, including the handover, he proposed that additional hours be approved for him as a councillor.

Motion [Aug15-07]: Six hours for Mike de Waal to be approved.

Moved: Guien Miao **Seconded:** Georgiana Toma **Carried** (1 abstention – Mike de Waal)

4.7 Equity Officers

4.7.1 International Officer

Tuba Omer

4.7.2 Disabilities Officer

Nayeem Faisal Shaikh

No hours claimed.

4.7.3 Queer Officer

Timothy Scriven

4.7.4 Women's Officer

★ Georgiana Toma

See above

4.7.5 Rural and Regional Officer

Callum Forbes

No hours claimed.

4.7.6 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Officer

Vacant

4.7.7 Equity Convenor

Tuba Omer

No hours claimed.

Recommendation: That Council accepts the tabled reports of Officers.

Attached documentation: Reports of Officers.

★ 4.8 Business Arising From Reports

No business arising from reports.

★ 5 Verbal Report from a Member of Staff

Margaret Kirkby spoke to the meeting. Regarding the handover, Adrian Cardinali finished on the 26th of July. She has taken over from him since then as Acting SAAO Coordinator. She has been adjusting to the role, is doing a lot more supervision of her three colleagues, giving them advice etc.

She mentioned that a new member of staff has been taken on, Hayley Stone, to fill the vacant advocate position.

Casework is continuing apace. In the break between semesters it usually drops down quite a lot, but it hasn't this time. Drop-in sessions have been very busy too.

A staff member has nominated to be a Chief Fire Warden. Hayley Stone has done this in the past so she's now the Warden.

★ 6 Workplace Health and Safety

The President reminded councillors to let people know that they're the last to leave when they're at the offices etc. Margaret Kirkby echoed this.

The President reminded council to fill the self-assessment form about safe workplace practices.

★ 7 Elections for Vacant Positions

7.1 Elections for Casual Vacancies on Council:

Ordinary Council positions (3)

Nominations received:

Alice Brandli

Douglas King

Rosie Hancock
Shvonne Hasan

The President called for nominations for Returning Officer.

Timothy Scriven nominated himself. There were no other nominees.

Seconded: Tuba Omer **Consensus.**

The returning officer explained that due to constitutional affirmative action provisions, two of the three positions are reserved for students not from main campus.

The Returning Officer noted that Douglas King and Alice Brandli both provided a written nomination.

The Returning Officer suggested that each of the candidates who wish to speak do so, and for any of the candidates who could not be present, someone could speak on their behalf. The returning officer also proposed that the order would be determined through a random draw. There were no objections.

The President spoke on Alice's behalf mentioning that she is a full time PhD student. She read out Alice's candidate statement. A councillor asked why she didn't nominate earlier? The President replied that it was because she was overseas.

The Vice President (Publications) spoke on behalf of Doug. He ran for election but didn't secure a spot at the last AGM. She read out his statement. She added that he helped with the Thesis Guide launch a lot.

Rosie spoke to her nomination. She is a student rep for PG Arts research space and is involved in Central Committee. She has been involved since PGARC and has a lot of experience in student activism. It was noted that she had not been nominated. She was nominated by Georgiana Toma and Tuba Omer.

Shvonne spoke to her nomination mentioning that she is an international student from Canada. She would really love to be involved on women's issues. Increasing awareness of international students on campus. She mentioned that there's not a huge awareness about what is going on. She's been involved in poverty and international development campaigns.

The Returning Officer explained that this is a ballot for one position. He then distributed the ballots.

Jay Tharappel nominated to scrutineer. They started counting the vote. At that time nominations for the Secretary position were taken.

7.2 Election for the position of Secretary

There was a joint nomination from Tuba Omer and Guien Miao.

Tuba Omer spoke to her nomination that she is the current International Officer. She has been on council for more than a year. This is a good opportunity to get more involved and liaise with staff.

Guien Miao said that she is studying Civil Engineering. She has been involved in SUPRA this year. She has had a bit of experience already with the secretarial role. I'm excited to work with Tuba and divide the role appropriately.

The Returning Officer declared that Douglas King has been elected to SUPRA Council for 2013-14.

A ballot was conducted for the position of Secretary.

There was a query about whether the Returning Officer can vote. The Returning Officer mentioned that this has happened since time immemorial. When there's a supplementary election, the Returning

Officer is one of the SUPRA representatives. Given that a council member is running that election, generally we should enfranchise them.

It was also noted that where something is not disallowed, there are two rules of thumb: one is the historical practice, and the other is to allow things so long as council votes for them.

It was noted to take it to the Policy Committee and look at the regulations.

Rosie Hancock and Shvonne Hasan left at 7:05pm.

Guien Miao and Tuba Omer were elected to the position of Secretary.

Guien Miao resigned from the position of Co-Treasurer.

Motion [Aug15-08]: That Georgiana Toma be confirmed as the office-holder for Treasurer in light of the resignation of Guien Miao from that joint position.

Moved: Timothy Scriven **Seconded:** Guien Miao **Consensus** (1 abstention)

★ 8 SUPRA Standing Orders

The Vice President (Community) noted a proposal for some changes but that it was put in agenda a bit early and needs further work.

Procedural: Defer item 8 to next meeting.

Moved: Joanne Gad **Consensus**

★ 9 SSAO Policy

The President noted that we have a SSAO policy that governs the advocacy service. Recently there's been a need to revise it and it hasn't been revised for a little while. It has been discussed at Management Committee and recommended for council. The President spoke to all the changes.

Point 2.1: Organisational objectives.

Point 4.5: The Vice President (Community) noted it's quite strict to enter that. It would mean some students are deprioritised.

Margaret Kirkby noted that's not really the case. If someone is up for possible exclusion, they have a right of appeal and we can continue to help them until all appeals are exhausted.

The Vice President (Community) said that let's imagine someone has been expelled and is putting in a complaint to the Ombudsman. If they want SUPRA's help then, the wording of this means they would be deprioritised below other students.

Margaret Kirkby noted that in the environment of the SSAF, the university would take the attitude that current students should be the priority. I think this provision is good because there are non-students who do need assistance. E.g. a student who accepts their offer of a place but had not formally enrolled had a change in circumstances.

The International Officer asked if "should not normally be able to obtain assistance" applied to graduates? Margaret Kirkby said that she knows some former students who come back for help with studies, they should get assistance, but if it's a car accident, they shouldn't be able to clog up our services.

The President noted that this comes from the fact that we didn't previously have limitations of service. Margaret Kirkby agreed. A Councillor noted that our SAAs are stretched already. There are

so many current students who already need our services.

Margaret Kirkby noted that this is about balancing. The Vice President (Community) suggested inserting “normally” given priority into final sentence. Council was happy with amendment.

Motion [Aug15-09]: Accept SAAO policy with noted amendments.

Moved: Mike de Waal **Seconded:** Jay Tharappel **Consensus**

10 NDA & NTEU Strikes

The Vice President (Community) spoke to this item. SUPRA has been working around the NDA and strikes, the NTEU and the bargaining campaign. The main thing needed from council is to turn out to attend pickets on the 20th of August and the NDA, which is also on the 20th of August.

Jay Tharappel has set up an event on Facebook, a SUPRA strike contingent bloc. It would be great to have more people involved in that.

The EAG is on at 2pm on New Law Lawns, every Tuesday. More involvement in that would be great.

A councillor asked if the strike is mainly over pay now?

The Vice President (Community) replied that technically speaking it is, and now the university is threatening to remove all conditions unless an agreement is reached by 30th August. A councillor mentioned that it is 2.9% + backdating.

The Vice President (Community) noted that there will also be a strike on the Open Day.

A councillor said Open Day strikes don't make sense. Another councillor replied that he can't support Open Day either.

Motion [Aug15-10]: That we support the strikes on August 20th, but not on August 31st.

Moved: Joe Callingham **No seconder.**

The President noted that prospective students have a right to know how the staff here feel.

It was asked if we have found the SUPRA Banner? The Vice President (Community) replied No.

Margaret Kirkby said she understood the concern about strikes on Open Day. In a lot of the casework dealt with, we see the impact of the university operations. It raises the question of where is the money that's been acquired from international students or federal government funding? There's been too many cuts to administrative staff and frontline staff.

A councillor voiced his support for both strikes. We are picketing. It's a soft picket – we are trying to educate people about what's going on. It's good for prospective students to know about the struggles that are going on.

Motion [Aug15-11]: That SUPRA does not send a delegate to the Thesis Competition on the 31st of August and communicate our reason to the Competition organisers for not sending anyone. We will propose to the Graduate Studies Office to shift it to another day.

Moved: Timothy Scriven **Seconded:** Jay Tharappel

A councillor said we're representative body of postgraduates. I view us restricting and having less of a say in postgraduate matters as just counter-intuitive. I don't see how this motion achieves anything.

The Vice President (Community) said that the way strikes work is that there's an invisible line around the campus, and you can cross that line or not cross that line. You either support or do not support the struggle of the striking workers. The strike sets itself up that is in a way quite polarising. That's why they're so rare; they're a desperate struggle between management and staff.

Regarding the thesis competition, a councillor noted that we should be trying to increase awareness of SUPRA as an organisation. This might reduce our legitimacy.

The Co-Treasurer and Women's officer said that we support postgraduates. We represent this body of students. You have to choose your battles; supporting the Thesis Competition is good but supporting the strikes should be our priority.

The Vice President (Publications) said that a lot of the advertising for the thesis competition is through eGrad. If supra decides not to go, we shouldn't advertise it either.

A suggested amendment to the motion was proposed to include: "We will propose to the Graduate Studies Office to shift it to another day."

The International Officer asked if there is a middle ground?

The Vice President (Community) replied that it's always good to look for one. In this instance it's just that if we provided support for the event despite boycotting it, it would be sending a mixed message.

Motion [Aug15-11] was put to a vote.

For: 13, Against: 6, Abstentions 0. **Carried**

The President asked to procedurally move to item 14, then 13.
Procedural to move In camera, **Carried**.

Margaret Kirkby left at 8:01pm.

★ 11 Sponsorship Kit

The Co-Treasurer asked how SUPRA feels about her seeking sponsorship? This would be small scale in-kind sponsorship. She noted that we want to save money on events so we can spend more on other events.

The Vice President (Community) noted that he is happy with small-scale in kind sponsorship, but SUPRA shouldn't move to larger sponsorships particularly of a directly monetary nature. There was broad agreement.

Motion [Aug15-13]: That we endorse the draft Sponsorship Kit.

Moved: Timothy Scriven **Seconded:** Guien Miao **Consensus.**

There was a query whether we put this in camera. Straw poll was to keep this item in camera.

The Vice President (Community) said we have to be careful about accountability.

Procedural: That last item is ex camera.

Moved: Joanne Gad **Consensus.**

Motion [Aug15-14]: All other items deferred.

Moved: Mike de Waal **Seconded:** Tuba Omer **Consensus.**

The chair closed the meeting at 9:10pm.

★ **12 Thesis and Survival Guides**

This item was deferred.

★ **13 Complaint [In camera]**

The chair moved to item 11.

14 Probation Review [In camera]

The chair moved to item 13.

15 SUPRA Submission – Draft Standards

Attached documentation: SUPRA Submission.

This item is for noting.

★ **16 Other Business**

There was no other business.