



MINUTES FOR A MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN OLD TEACHERS COLLEGE SEMINAR ROOM 427 ON THE 12TH OF APRIL AT 6:00PM

Chair: Kylee Hartman-Warren

Minutes: Kane Hardy

Attendance: Kylee Hartman-Warren, Kane Hardy, Melanie Stevenson, Joshua Preece (*left at 6:56pm*), Christian Jones, Thomas Greenwell, Anna Sanders-Robinson (*left at 7:12pm*), Angelica Fernandez (*left at 7:12pm*), Rachel Evans, Alexandra Nixon, Forough Ghanizadeh (*left at 7:03pm*), Mike Butler (*left at 7:02pm*), Lily Matchett (*left at 7:47pm*), Aaron Moye (*arrived at 6:09pm*) Edward McMahon (*arrived at 6:12pm*), Gareth Charles (*arrived at 6:20pm, left at 7:50pm*), Marguerite Biasatti (*arrived at 6:35pm*), Ahmed Suhaib (*arrived at 7:00pm*), Dhaval Sanath Shukla (*arrived at 7:00pm*)

Staff: Margaret Kirkby

★ 1. Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome

The chair opened the meeting at 6:05pm and the Indigenous Officer asked for no acknowledgement of country to be given. He said that council doesn't deserve one.

Aaron Moye arrived at 6:09pm.

★ 2. Governance & Declaration of COI

2.1. Apologies

Rashmi Dixit

Ahmed Suhaib (arriving late)

Nick Rowbotham

Joshua Preece (leaving early)

Elizabeth Millar

Carlos Monteverde

Fatima Rauf

Joseph Callingham

Dhaval Sanath Shukla (arriving late)

2.2. Proxies

Rashmi Dixit to Joshua Preece (2nd preference Kane Hardy)

Nick Rowbotham to Thomas Greenwell (2nd preference Kane Hardy, 3rd preference Gareth Charles)

Elizabeth Millar to Thomas Greenwell (2nd preference Kylee Hartman-Warren, 3rd preference Christian Jones)

Fatima Rauf to Ahmed Suhaib (2nd preference Kane Hardy, 3rd preference Kylee Hartman-Warren)

Dhaval Sanath Shukla to Kane Hardy

Ahmed Suhaib to Syed Atif (2nd preference Forough Ghanizadeh, 3rd preference Rachel Evans)

Joshua Preece to Melanie Stevenson (2nd preference Christian Jones, 3rd preference Kylee Hartman-Warren)

Carlos Monteverde to Forough Ghanizadeh (2nd preference Ahmed Suhaib)

2.3. Starring of Items

Council is invited to star any agenda items they would like discussed.

Edward McMahon arrived at 6:12pm.

Motion [APR12-01]: That council approves all unstarred items.

Moved: Kane Hardy **Seconded:** Christian Jones

Carried.

Motion [APR12-02]: That discussion move to items 7 and 8.

Moved: Anna Sanders-Robinson

Carried.

Motion [APR12-03]: That discussion move to item 5 after items 7 and 8.

Moved: Christian Jones

Carried.

Motion [APR12-04]: That discussion move to the reports of the Treasurer, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Officer and Women's Officer before items 7, 8 and 5.

Moved: Mike Butler

Failed.

Discussion moved to item 7.

3. Minutes and Reports of Meetings

3.1. Minutes of the previous month's meetings

- 3.1.1. COUNCIL MEETING, 7TH MARCH 2016, PP. 5-18
- 3.1.2. POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING, 18TH MARCH 2016, PP. 19-22
- 3.1.3. EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING, 21ST MARCH 2016, PP. 23-26
- 3.1.4. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING, 23RD MARCH 2016, PP. 27-32
- 3.1.5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MEETING, 25TH MARCH 2016, PP. 33-36

4. Officer Reports

4.1. Executive Reports

4.1.1. CO-PRESIDENT

Christian Jones, pp. 37-38

★ 4.1.2. CO-PRESIDENT

Kylee Hartman-Warren, pp. 39-40

The Co-President spoke to that which was written in her report. She cited attending meetings and mentioned the end of construction on the bathrooms.

Motion [APR12-08]: That council accept the report of the Co-President.

Moved: Thomas Greenwell **Seconded:** Christian Jones

Carried.

4.1.3. VICE PRESIDENT

Thomas Greenwell, pp. 41-42

4.1.4. CO-EDUCATION OFFICER

Fatima Rauf, pp. 43-44

4.1.5. CO-EDUCATION OFFICER

Ahmed Suhaib, pp. 45-46

★ 4.1.6. TREASURER

Joshua Preece, pp. 47-48

The Treasurer spoke about his role in the SSAF negotiations. He attended some meetings but said that the role of the Treasurer is mostly quiet at the moment.

Motion [APR12-09]: That council accept accept the report of the Treasurer.

Moved: Thomas Greenwell **Seconded:** Mike Butler

Carried.

4.1.7. SECRETARY

Kane Hardy, pp. 49-50

4.1.8. DIRECTOR OF STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Christian Jones, pp. 37-38

4.2. Equity Officer Reports



4.2.1. ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER OFFICER

Mike Butler

No report submitted.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) Officer said that he was sorry that he didn't submit a report. He said that he had been liaising with the SRC Indigenous Officer. He got an article published in Honi Soit about STUCCO. He is lobbying for STUCCO to have an indigenous place as they currently don't have that. As of tomorrow the ATSI Officer said that he would be chaperoning a refugee group on Wednesday afternoons to use the downstairs area. Grandmothers Against Removals are also going to use the space.

He said that in West Papua there is a genocide happening against the indigenous people. He said that Australian society has been ignoring West Papua for decades. He has been collaborating with a group that is going to fly out there.

A councillor said that there is someone on campus who is involved with West Papua stuff and that the ATSI officer should get in contact with them.

Motion [APR12-10]: That council approve the report of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Officer on condition of the Secretary receiving a written version.

Moved: Forough Ghanizadeh **Seconded:** Marguerite Biasatti

Carried.



4.2.2. DISABILITIES OFFICER

Marguerite Biasatti, pp. 51-52

The Disabilities Officer said that she was on leave, but is now getting back into doing work. She had been trying to set a date with the manager of disability services. She is organising a coffee afternoon for students who identify with having a disability. She said that she can't get statistics from university on students with disabilities and that she can't support postgrads who identify with having a disability without sufficient clarification on factors that are disadvantaging those students.

Motion [APR12-11]: That council accept the report of the Disabilities Officer.

Moved: Thomas Greenwell **Seconded:** Joshua Preece

Carried.

4.2.3. INTERNATIONAL OFFICER

Dhaval Sanath Shukla, pp. 53-54

4.2.4. QUEER OFFICER

Rachel Evans, pp. 55-56



4.2.5. WOMEN'S OFFICER

Forough Ghanizadeh

No report submitted.

The Women's Officer said that she has had meetings with students working on gathering information on breastfeeding. She said that she helped a SAAO with bullying posters about breastfeeding stigma. She also organised a coffee event and is helping another councillor with an abortion seminar, which is now booked and confirmed.

Regarding the Childcare Handbook, she is having a meeting this Friday with a designer for a new design. She is also meeting with students who have problems with childcare.

Motion [APR12-12]: That council accepts the report of the Women's Officer on condition of receiving a written version.

Moved: Marguerite Biasatti **Seconded:** Mike Butler

Carried.

The Women's Officer said that the seminar would have about 50 people. Another councillor said that they would be bringing in two speakers, Mehreen Faruqi and John Hiatt, to discuss laws around abortion in NSW and to discuss the political landscape. Both speakers will speak and then there will be an open discussion afterwards.

Motion [APR12-13]: That council approve \$700 for catering for an abortion seminar to be held on 2 May 2016.

Moved: Forough Ghanizadeh **Seconded:** Mike Butler

Carried.

Joshua Preece left at 6:56pm.

The Women's Officer noted that money had been approved for Adobe InDesign training. A Co-President said for councillors to contact her if they were interested in training.

Action: Kylee Hartman-Warren to follow up on training for InDesign training.

4.2.6. RURAL AND REGIONAL OFFICER

Elizabeth Millar, pp. 57-58

★ 5. Education Conference

A Co-President said that the SRC put in a tender to host the Education Conference. They have asked SUPRA to co-host it. NUS runs this every year. SUPRA will sit on the organising committee if it co-hosts. They have requested that we put in \$15000. The Co-President has suggested that SUPRA put in \$5000.

Ahmed Suhaib and Dhaval Sanath Shukla arrived at 7:00pm.

A councillor asked if SUPRA won the bid. The Co-President said no and that Flinders University also wants to hold it. He said that council could sway NUS if it could guarantee the money after this meeting.

Mike Butler left at 7:02pm.

Forough Ghanizadeh left at 7:03pm, proxy to Ahmed.

A councillor asked who would be running the workshops. The Co-President said that students would run them. NUS will put out requests.

The Secretary spoke in favour of hosting the conference. He said that he attended the conference last year. He added that getting more postgraduate students involved would be beneficial and having SUPRA involved would diffuse a lot of the undergraduate factional tension that he experienced at the conference last year.

A councillor said that it would be good to have it in the Sydney CBD. She added that it was not very inclusive and that security was checking people's tags. She said that SUPRA would need to address these before hosting the conference. If SUPRA does put \$5000, it should also hear about other conferences. There need to be reports to council about how the conference is going and how councillors' concerns have been addressed.

A councillor asked for an elaboration of student conferences. The Secretary said that Education Conference is not like the CAPA ACM or CISA where SUPRA sends official delegates. It is a conference where students gather to discuss strategies to build education campaigns. SUPRA usually only pays the conference cost of councillors for conferences like this, not flights and accommodation.

A councillor said that if SUPRA is going to approve this maybe there should be a caveat/subject to discussion with the treasurer.

Motion [APR12-14]: That council approve \$5000 to co-host the Education Conference for 2016 with the SRC on the condition that SUPRA forms part of the organising committee and is given workshops spots and can be subject to reports from the organising committee.

Moved: Christian Jones **Seconded:** Thomas Greenwell

Carried.

Abstentions: Edward McMahon

★ 6. Verbal Report from a Member of Staff

Anna Sanders-Robinson and Angelica Fernandez left at 7:12pm.

The Senior SAAO said that the SAAO Coordinator had a pamphlet about the student advice and advocacy services, detailing the multiple ways in which students contact SUPRA. She also said that the amount of support SAAOs give to officers and council is a huge part of the work too.

She showed the publication about tenancy rights, which was in Mandarin. The reason for that came from the fact that SUPRA is helping people that it technically shouldn't be helping (students who come via the centre for English teaching). The centre for English teaching has been privatised so students paying a lot to do English learning. This guarantees them entry into postgrad degrees. She said that there is variability in how well students are prepared to start postgrad degrees. The pamphlets are still in Mandarin for those reasons. She said that landlords often exploit international students.

The Senior SAAO said that she attended the NTEU meeting last week in regard to changes that are occurring. She is a member as a SAAO staff member. She said that is members of the NTEU are reporting concerning what back. Management has made changes without consultation and people are losing their jobs. The union is trying to mount a campaign against that but a lot of the changes are happening in a sneaky way. University management is calling staff in individually, calling it a performance review, but raising performance management issues as an excuse to get rid of staff. They're using this tactic to remove a lot of staff.

The Senior SAAO said that students couldn't call faculties directly anymore. The university now has a centralised number. Now students may be on the phone for 30 mins instead of contacting directly. The Business School is very concerned about the centralisation of tasks. The Senior SAAO said that the university doesn't understand that it is taking away information access from students.

SUPRA is finding this year that there are more students in distress because they can't find out how to get an answer to their basic questions that they could previously have easily answered. The website is also now harder to navigate. It is very hard, particularly for international students, to now access information.

The Senior SAAO mentioned the intensification of higher education issues, which is intensifying the work of councillors. SUPRA should try to keep tabs on that stuff because it means that all of council is trying to represent students but also keep up with courses. SUPRA needs to internally document this.

The Senior SAAO said that she is catching up on data entry. She said that she couldn't believe that she had forgotten how much the work had been interrupted by the move. Different things are going on in the generic student movement, which are politically impacting people's ability to keep on top of everything. There is a lot of pressure on everyone involved with higher education stuff at the moment.

A councillor said that it is important that information is put out in community languages.

Christian left at 7:24pm, proxy to Melanie Stevenson.

A councillor said that this is the first she is hearing about privatised English courses at the University of Sydney, something that she said should ring alarm bells. She expects that a high paying course would offer these services. She said SUPRA should talk to student services, etc. The Senior SAAO said that the centre for English teaching has been privatised for quite some years. Students can see the charges on the website.

The International Officer said that he has worked on falling standards at the University of Sydney. He said that the admission requirement is lowest, even with a ranking in top 50. He

said that the English requirement should be at least 7.0. The university should be responsible for English if they are accepting international students. His plan is to mail all top 50 universities asking for their English language requirement. The UK and Singapore have better descriptions of English language requirements.

A Co-Education Officer said that he had to do an English exam. He said that the University of Sydney and the University of New South Wales have a plan that if a student doesn't meet the requirements they can do the course in first semester. In his experience he said that it's not helpful and doesn't prepare students for their degrees.

Christian Jones returned at 7:29pm.

The Co-Education officer said that the Senior SAAO and he were at the SUPRA offices until 9:00pm preparing for a radio interview on the topic.

A councillor said that SUPRA should write something for Honi Soit about this.

Motion [APR12-15]: That council thank Margaret Kirkby for her report and for her recent extra dedication to SUPRA.

Moved: Kane Hardy **Seconded:** Thomas Greenwell

Carried.

Discussion moved to item 9.

★ 7. **Standing Up for Workers in Retail and Hospitality**

See attached documentation, pp. 59-60.

A councillor said that this item is about SUPRA taking a stand against the exploitation of retail and hospitality workers. She said that under the proposed agreement workers could be up to \$140 a week worse off. She said that there is a challenge against it by Socialist Alternative. The Shop, Distributive & Allied Employees' Association (SDA) let this agreement go through without consulting workers. She wants SUPRA to condemn what the SDA did. She said that there have also been terrible conditions for those working at Grill'd and 7/11.

A councillor asked what kind of support SUPRA would be offering. A councillor said that it is not specified.

Gareth Charles arrived at 6:20pm.

The councillor asked if council should specify what help SUPRA would offer. Another councillor asked why the SDA did not support the workers. A councillor said that the SDA is in cahoots with the company.

The Senior SAAO said that she endorses it. She said that it is well known that the SDA is on the right of the political spectrum, being a union that is anti-abortion. They don't do much. She said that her daughter a member only because of solidarity to the union movement, but they don't do much for the workers. She said the motion should specify what the support is e.g. presidents writing a letter to the SDA and ACTU.

A councillor said that he agreed with the Senior SAAO. He supports it but said that it is sloppily worded.

A councillor said that the agreement is crap. She said that the SDA been doing these agreements over and over. It would be more useful to send a letter to the SDA leadership and to the ACTU and rank and file workers. She said that she wants to eliminate point 3

and add a letter to be written. The mover said that she is amenable to adding letter, but doesn't want to change other wording. A councillor said that rank-and-file SDA members wouldn't understand "class-collaborationist".

Motion [APR12-05]: That SUPRA:

1. stand against the exploitation of workers at Coles, Hog's Breath Cafe, 7/11 and other retail outlets.
2. recognise that young workers, students (particularly international students) are especially susceptible to being exploited at work.
3. recognise that the class-collaborationist style of unionism practised by the SDA is not in the interests of workers and is unacceptable.
4. condemn the SDA leadership and demands that they fight against the 2015 enterprise agreement.
5. materially support any campaign by retail workers to oppose enterprise agreements that would see them worse off.
6. presidents write a letter to the SDA and ACTU expressing SUPRA's disapproval of the agreement.

Moved: Anna Sanders-Robinson **Seconded:** Angelica Fernandez

Carried.

★ 8. **Fighting the Latest Attacks on Higher Education**

See attached documentation, pp. 61-62.

A councillor said that the Turnbull government made it clear that university fee deregulation and other attacks from 2014 are back on the table. They now also want to collect HECS from the dead. These are along with domestic attacks on campus like the restructure. She said that it is a terrible time for higher education.

Motion [APR12-06]: That SUPRA:

1. oppose the Liberal government's attacks on higher education including the re-introduction of fee deregulation, collecting HECs from the dead and a 20% fee rise
2. recognise that these attacks disadvantage poor and working class students from accessing higher education
3. affirm that university education is a right and should be free for all who choose to study at a tertiary level
4. support the April 13 NDA/speak out and councillors will attend and help build this event
5. support all actions taken by students and staff to defend university education and fight these attacks

6. condemn the Liberal government's current and future policies that attack higher education

Moved: Anna Sanders-Robinson **Seconded:** Kane Hardy
Carried.

Motion [APR12-07]: That discussion move to reports before proceeding to item 5.

Moved: Christian Jones
Carried.

Marguerite Biasatti arrived at 6:35pm.

★ 9. Naming Councillors in Minutes

See discussion from Policy Committee minutes, pp. 19-22.

The Secretary said that he was strongly in favour of naming councillors in the minutes by name. He said that as elected representatives, voters should have the right to know how their representatives are representing them. He said that SUPRA must be more transparent and accountable to its constituents. He said that if councillors are afraid of having their name put to their statements, they probably shouldn't be saying them.

A Co-President said that the case against naming councillors by name in the minutes is that they might feel silenced or afraid to speak. People didn't want to be judged based on their gender or last name, culture, etc.

The Senior SAAO said that she felt really strongly about this. She wasn't aware until she saw the minutes that councillors weren't named. She doesn't like "a councillor" to refer to speakers. She added that it's not legal. There is a major publication that outlines the law on meeting procedure called JOSKE She said that it is not legal to omit who is speaking. Whether councillors like it or not they have to be accountable to the postgraduate body, whether or not they're opposed to SUPRA's views or a supporter. When she realised that this is happening she thought how could SUPRA be critical of the Vice Chancellor or Academic Board when SUPRA is not even recording on its minutes who says what.

The issue for why this hasn't happened (reprisal) just goes with the territory with being prepared to speak up on one's views. All councillors have to be prepared to stand up for what they believe in. They should also be able to be criticised.

A councillor agreed with previous statements, saying that councillors must be accountable.

Motion [APR12-17]: That the policy be amended such that councillors are named in minutes.

Moved: Aaron Moye **Seconded:** Alexandra Nixon
Carried.

★ 10. Grievance Regulations

See attached documentation, pp. 63-78.

Lily Matchett left at 7:47pm, proxy to Rachel Evans.

Gareth Charles left at 7:50pm, proxy to Rachel Evans.

The Vice-President said that he has reformatted and amended policies with recommendations with staff. He said that they're too long and asked council to read them and make suggestions for the next council meeting.

Action: Thomas Greenwell to notify council by email to read regulation amendments.

★ **11. Election to Fill a Casual Vacancy**

See pages 79-80.

Council read the nomination from Fawn Cha.

The Senior SAAO said that she knew the nominee. They did some work together last year. She has worked with hearing-impaired students. The nominee and the nominator and the nominator were involved with the meeting. She said that she thinks Fawn would be a good person to have on council.

A councillor said that she sounds great on paper, but asked why she was not present at the meeting. The Secretary said that the nomination was received only hours before the meeting started and she was most likely not aware that she could have attended.

The Co-Education Officer said that she sounds great. The Vice-President said that it would be good to have someone from the business school on council, since they've been causing a lot of trouble.

Motion [APR12-18]: That council express confidence in Fawn Cha and accept her to council for the remainder of the 2015-2016 term.

Moved: Thomas Greenwell **Seconded:** Kane Hardy

Carried.

Fawn Cha is elected to SUPRA council.

★ **12. Election Cheat Sheet**

The Secretary spoke about a "report card" style poster that was approved by the Education Committee for the upcoming federal election. The committee approved to compare the policies of five political parties that were relevant to postgraduate students. The parties are The Liberal Party of Australia, The Australian Labor Party, The Australian Greens, The National Party of Australia and Socialist Alliance.

A Co-President noted that the SRC endorsed a similar thing and that SUPRA could work with them. A Co-Education Officer said that this good idea but this should just be a postgrad thing, relevant to postgrads.

A councillor suggested doing a "meet the candidates" forum in collaboration with the SRC.

Motion [APR12-19]: That council endorse the Co-Education Officers to work on an election report card.

Moved: Kane Hardy **Seconded:** Aaron Moye

Carried.

★ **13. Postgrad Ball**

A Co-Education Officer said that the USU is really slow getting back to SUPRA. He said that the last communication that SUPRA had was with Michael and he only works on Monday and Friday. The Secretary mentioned that the working party decided it would be a good idea to invite SUPRA staff to attend the ball for free. It would cost up to \$600 to pay for the tickets.

Motion [APR12-20]: That council approve up to \$600 for SUPRA staff to attend the postgraduate ball.

Moved: Kane Hardy **Seconded:** Ahmed Suhaib

Carried.

★ **14. CAPA**

A Co-President gave an update on the Brighter Futures Campaign. The \$4000 went to a marketing team for the forum. The money also went to catering and venue hire in Canberra. The presidents of the NTEU, NUS and CAPA and former president of CAPA attended. It was held on the same period of Universities Australia. SUPRA Decided not to give them money until they told us what the money was spent on.

The other Co-President said that SUPRA would vote on affiliating later. The Secretary said that SUPRA could affiliate later when it knows how much it will cost and is added into budget.

A councillor said that processes within CAPA don't seem very transparent. Council needs to be careful when providing money to CAPA – it needs to know where that money is going and how students at the university of Sydney are benefiting.

The Vice-President said that it is worth noting that SUPRA wasn't directly invited to that conference. A SAAO found an email and forwarded it to a Co-President and a Co-Education officer. If SUPRA is affiliating they should directly inviting us. SUPRA representatives weren't met with open arms when they attended, but rather met with disdain.

A councillor suggested emailing CAPA and asking for a report back. She said that is important that postgrads are organised nationally. Given the federal government attacks, we should still affiliate but get more accountability.

The Senior SAAO said that it helps to have a national organisation and that she would endorse SUPRA affiliating to CAPA.

★ **15. Payment of Returning Officer for General Election**

A Co-President said that a returning officer would cost \$3000 if no election is required and \$4000 would be required if an election is required. A councillor asked if \$3000 is normal is they haven't done any work. The Vice-President said that there is actually a lot of work aside from holding an election. The returning officer must review the calling of election notice, review regulations, host reselect, etc. He said that this returning officer is more affordable than the last one.

Motion [APR12-21]: That council approves up to \$4000 for the Returning Officer of the general election 2016.

Moved: Christian Jones **Seconded:** Thomas Greenwell

Carried.

★ **16. Council Attendance**

The Secretary spoke about attendance. One councillor has only attended three out of the eleven council meetings that have occurred (including this meeting) and none of his committee meetings. Under clause 05:07) of the constitution council may remove this councillor from council.

The Vice-President expressed hesitance towards removing the councillor, saying that he might think there was a political bias against his removal. The Secretary disagreed and said that the poor attendance is clear and the constitution sets out the course of action. A councillor said that since other councillors with poor attendance were warned first, the same should apply to this councillor.

Motion [APR12-22]: That council extend a formal warning to Joseph Callingham for poor attendance during the 2015-2016 term and ask him to either resign from council or commit to attending all further meetings to occur during the remainder of the term.

Moved: Christian Jones **Seconded:** Ahmed Suhaib

Carried.

★ **17. SSAF Update**

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor Registrar said informally to Co-President that SUPRA will be happy with what they are getting. Last year SUPRA had \$1.249 million. SUPRA asked for \$1.5 million this year. Both Co-Presidents, the Treasurer and the SAAO Coordinator attended meetings. The Finance Manager advised in the background.

The Senior SAAO said that she finds the attitude from senior management to student organisations patronising. They're still not informing SUPRA of what they are getting.

A Co-President said they were very persuaded by SUPRA's letter.

Motion [APR12-23]: That council thank staff and councillors for their work on SSAF negotiations.

Moved: Rachel Evans **Seconded:** Aaron Moye

Abstentions: Edward McMahon.

Carried.

★ **18. Volunteer Stipend**

The Secretary gave an update on the USU vouchers to be given to members who help out at SUPRA events. The President asked a councillor for an update. He said that the best way to get it done is to be a pest.

The other Co-President said to get all that information together and take it to the next Finance Committee meeting.

★ **19. Travel Concession Forum**

A Co-Education Officer said that he wants councillors to take the petitions to their classes to get signatures. He spoke about the forum and the funding required for catering.

Motion [APR12-24]: That council approve \$205 for catering for the international student concession forum.

Moved: Ahmed Suhaib **Seconded:** Aaron Moye

Carried.

★ **20. Government Crackdown on Indian Campuses**

A councillor said that an Indian activist in Melbourne contacted her. They were saying that their university was under Marshall law. Police were arresting students and they have not been released. The Vice-Chancellor cut off water supplies and Internet and froze bankcards. There are police all over campus. Students had risen up after the suicide of a Dhalet researcher. The uprising started in February at JNU and the student union president was charged with sedition and protesters were arrested. Two students are still in jail.

Students have been called vermin and pests. There is fear and hatred of student protesters. She wants to whip up a press release so SUPRA can sign on.

The International Officer said that he is from India, He said that the conflict started in Delhi for supporting terrorists who bombed parliament. He said that his needs more research, but he knows that students being oppressed.

The councillor said that from all accounts she read there is definitely a crackdown on students who are protesting. Student leaders at many universities are being targeted. SUPRA needs to support other student union activists.

The International Officer suggested that council condemn the attack on students instead of talking about attack in Delhi. He said not to go into details about the background. He suggested collaborating with the councillor to formulate something more accurate. A Co-President said that she would also like to be involved.

Motion [APR12-25]: That Rachel Evans, Dhaval Sanath Shukla and Kylee Hartman-Warren work together on a press release, endorsed by council.

Moved: Ahmed Suhaib **Seconded:** Aaron Moye

Carried.

★ **21. Resource Room**

See discussion from Management Committee minutes, page 27-32.

The Senior SAAO said that this needs more discussion by council. There was an incident where the behaviour of a regular user became offensive to other students. She said to think about that and that it will require a working group.

Motion [APR12-26]: That council create a resource room working group.

Moved: Rachel Evans **Seconded:** Ahmed Suhaib

Carried.

★ **22. Asbestos Campaign**

The following motion was passed at Management Committee on 23rd March:

Motion [MAR23-08]: That Management Committee recommend to council to support the “Asbestos, not here not anywhere” campaign.

Moved: Kane Hardy **Seconded:** Mike Butler

Carried.

The Secretary spoke about the admin staff member who wanted to have this campaign endorsed. A councillor said that APHEDA has been working on this. They do work on restoration, aid organisation and it was set up by the unions in Australia.

The Secretary noted that asbestos had been removed from the buildings around the office recently. A Co-Education Officer said that he is going to have a chat with the university management about asbestos on campus and how it is going to be removed.

Motion [APR12-27]: That Council endorse the “Asbestos, Not Here Not Anywhere” campaign.

Moved: Ahmed Suhaib **Seconded:** Kane Hardy

Carried.

★ **23. Other Business**

23.1. Police Harassment of former SUPRA President

The Vice-President said that in the news police officers were being racist and sexist to Jenny Leong (NSW state member of parliament for Newtown and former SUPRA president) for proposing to parliament to end sniffer dogs without warrants. Council should publicly condemn the police officers’ action and call on the NSW Police to issue a formal apology to Jenny Leong and that council extends its solidarity to Jenny Leong.

Motion [APR12-28]: That council condemn the police officers’ racist and harassing comments and call on the NSW Police to issue a formal apology to Jenny Leong and that council extends its solidarity to Jenny Leong.

Moved: Thomas Greenwell **Seconded:** Kane hardy

Carried.

23.2. Rural and Regional Officer Election

A councillor said that on 24 March a new R&R officer was appointed. He said that the election was not well advertised. A Co-President said that the new R&R Officer was elected, not appointed and that the election was advertised in eGrad.

There were questions about who qualifies as a rural or regional students. The Senior SAAO said that the definition of rural and regional is quite specific. A councillor said that she was looking at changing the requirements.

23.3. Bereavement Leave

Tom Greenwell left at 9:11pm.

A Co-President said that the Vice-President recently lost a loved one. He said that SUPRA should have bereavement leave. The Vice-President will be going to Melbourne for a day for the funeral.

Motion [APR12-29]: That council approve one day of bereavement leave for Thomas Greenwell.

Moved: Christian Jones **Seconded:** Aaron Moye

Carried.

Tom returned at 9:14pm.

Meeting closed at 9:14pm.