



Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association

Minutes of a meeting of the Sydney University Postgraduate Representative Association Council to be held in [Footbridge Theatre](#) on the [5th of March 2019](#) at [6:00PM](#)

Chair:	Weihong Liang
Minutes:	Azhar Saeed
Attendance:	Nicholas Avery (N.A.), Patrick Cook (P.C.), YiFang Du (Y.D.), Jinghan Feng (J.F.), Geena George (G.G.), James Leeder (J.L.), Junke Li (J.L.), Weihong Liang (W.L.), Minran Liu (M.L.), Zirui Lui (Z.L.), Oliver Moore (O.M.), Azhar Saeed (A.S.), Shuai Wang (S.W.), Llewellyn Williams-Brooks (L.W.), Yunlin Ye (Y.Y.), David Espinoza (D.E.), Kelly Wang (K.W.), Eric Chen (E.C.)
Staff:	TBC
Guests:	TBC

1. Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome

We acknowledge the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation as the traditional custodians of the land. We acknowledge that the land upon which we meet is stolen land, and that sovereignty was never ceded. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and extend those respects to all First Nations persons here. This always was, and always will be, Aboriginal land.

2. Governance & Declaration of COI

2.1 Apologies

Yanning Bai
Huan Zheng
Kimberley Yoo
Wang Yunhe
Sara Evison Rose
Cheng Rong
Matilda Grace
Carolyn Zhou
Xiner Yuan
Kiki Wu
Karishma Rajan Menon
Divya Mansingka
Domi Johnson

2.2 Proxies

Kimberley Yoo proxies to Llewellyn, 2nd David, 3rd Nic
Wang Yunhe proxies to Simon Li.
Sara Evison Rose proxies to Azhar Saeed
Cheng Rong proxies to Jinghan Feng
Matilda Grace proxies to Nic Avery
Carolyn Zhou proxies to Geena George
Xiner Yuan proxies to Azhar Saeed
Kiki Wu proxies to Jinghan Feng
Karishma Rajan Menon proxies to Weihong Liang
Divya Mansingka proxies to Weihong Liang

2.3 Starring of Items

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

Recommendation: That the Council approves all unstarred items.

- 2.3.1 Secretary officers report
- 2.3.2 President's report
- 2.3.3 Item 6 (Audit Report)
- 2.3.4 Minutes of the meeting

[190305-1]: Council to approve all unstarred items

Moved: Azhar

Seconded: James

Motion carried.

2.4 Resignations (if relevant)

3. Minutes and Reports of Meetings

3.1 Minutes of the previous month's meeting ★

3.1.1 Meeting of Council, 29th Jan 2019

James says that there is an error in attendance, Cathey Eatock has not attended the meeting. He says that it is important that we need to be clear on attendance and the record should honestly reflect that.

He says that It is importance to record the votes. We should stipulate the degree of the votes. It's important to allow people to vote in favor, not in favor or abstain.

N.A agrees with the point. He says we need to accurately show the process of meeting and record the votes.

He says that we moved a motion to thank the work of Margaret Kirkby, We thank her in the meeting. That motion is abstain in these minutes. Lastly, electoral rigs can be interpreted in a poor way. He says he thinks the term should be regulation.

Action Item: to make all the necessary changes as discussed in the January Council Meeting minutes.

3.2 Business arising from the minutes

3.2.1

4. Officer Reports

4.1 Executive Reports

4.1.1 PRESIDENT ★

Weihong Liang

4.1.2 VICE PRESIDENT

Junki Li

Jinghan Feng

4.1.3 EDUCATION OFFICER

Minran Liu *[no report received]*

Domi Dana Johnson *[no report received]*

4.1.4 TREASURER

Shuai Wang

4.1.5 SECRETARY ★

Azhar Saeed

Fangyuan Wang

4.1.6 DIRECTOR OF STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Yiqi Wu

4.2 Equity Reports

4.2.1 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER OFFICER

Cathy Eatock *[no report received]*

4.2.2 DISABILITIES OFFICER

Marguerite Biassatti *[no report received]*

4.2.3 INTERNATIONAL OFFICER

Divya Mansingka *[no report received]*

4.2.4 QUEER OFFICER

Carolyn Zhou

4.2.5 WOMEN'S OFFICER

Sara Evison-Rose

4.2.6 SATELLITE CAMPUS OFFICER Karishma Rajan Menon

4.3 Motion from reports

4.3.1 Secretary Jan Report

O.M. says that the vice president and secretary are claiming money for attending orientation and that should be expected as a volunteering work. He says that miscommunication can be avoided if details are provided.

W.L. says that the officers should write a detailed report.

James says the presidents report is mislabeled with the dates. He is unsure on the number of hours worked as it has reached 35 hours per week. He says that the report mentions no work in the week 3 and week 4 of January. He says if we are putting this out the reports to public, clarifications should be added.

W.L. says that the position of president is different from other council positions and has more administrative work that were missed in the report. He says that he is here in the office every day on Monday to Friday and deals with admin and SAAO team regularly apart from council work.

James says that that should justify the working hours if mentioned in the report.

Nic says that the residents and secretary report should be deferred until next council meeting.

James says that we all will be happy if we can provide it via circular email. The president report should be defendable by everyone in the council if details are provided.

[190305-2]: The president and Secretary should send their reports via email or in the next council meeting

Moved: Azhar

Seconded: James

Motion carried.

5. Staff Report

The council takes five minutes to go through the staff report.

Oliver says that if SUPRA can do anything for the researchers who are kicked out by their research period.

Nic says that the NTEU had the members meeting yesterday. They moved a motion asking for the university to re-evaluate and consider the change process. There are a number of other areas where university is doing non-consultative change processes.

W.L. says that the NTEU wants to make negotiations with the staff of the university. W.L. says SUPRA is for students. W.L. says its not a good time for SUPRA to pass a motion.

[190305-3]: The council thanks staff for its work

Moved: Oliver **Seconded:** James
Motion carried.

6. SUPRA Audit Report ★

Steven presents a report on SUPRA finances report to the council

James says that we received \$200,000 from the university, what period is that for?

W.L says that this was a one-year special program approved in last October. Moreover, he says that last year SUPRA lost big money in legal dispute; \$35,000, we hired a new caseworker named Alison on contract for one year as Margaret Kirkby resigned last month. Our coordinator is on the long service for last two years and these two pays were finished from last december. In the last year's election week, the council hired casual contractors for the elections that did cost us much.

The council further discussed the disability officer's report. Few irregularities were discussed

[190305-4]: a) Until the disability officer meets the requirement under SUPRA constitution office bearer duty statements and financial regulation, SUPRA freezes additional payment until the next council meeting. b) Treasurer confer with financial officer, from August onwards, she needs to determine hours of work and any money being paid from Aug 2018 and January 2019.

Moved: Oliver **Seconded:** James

[190305-5]: The council approves the report prepared by SUPRA treasurer

Moved: Oliver **Seconded:** James

Procedural motion: The council wants to discuss item 10 here.

Moved: Nic **Seconded:** Azhar

7. HDR Activity Proposal ★

David will talk about a monthly event for postgraduates where they all come together to talk about their academic challenges, obstacles in a friendly environment.

He explains the idea and says that \majority of HDR spaces do not have spaces to interact. We already have support from FASS faculty, they are committed to approve \$150 and asking supra for \$200 for every meeting.

L.W. thanks David for continuing the event and says that it's important for the HDR community.

David says that SUPRA to make the booking for the room for monthly meetup.

Nic says that he loves the idea and says that SUPRA was founded in 1970s by research students. Over the years, the course of SUPRA has changed and now focus is more on Coursework students and research students are being more marginalised.

[190305-6]: The council supports David's proposal for the HDR monthly event for every third Thursday for one full year and integrate SUPRA connect in advertisements and promotion. SUPRA also allocates \$200 per meeting for this time period

Moved: David **Seconded:** James
Motion carried.

8. \$1,000 for SUPRA Free Lunch ★

SUPRA would like to hold a free lunch for postgraduate students in every 3rd week of the month for the postgraduate students. It comes under the plan to keep SUPRA-Student interaction active and continuing.

[190305-7]: Council to approve \$1,000 per lunch for SUPRA free lunch till end of this semester

Moved: Weihong **Seconded:** Azhar
Motion carried.

9. \$10,000 for intra university Futsal tournament by SUPRA and SUSF ★

Azhar will update the council on a new initiative under sports and fitness for the postgraduate students. A one-day futsal tournament will be organised by SUPRA along with SUSF and SRC. The tentative date of the tournament is April 28 and October 11, 2019. The money will be spent on buying soccer kits, and other stuff required for organising the whole tournament.

James asks if this tournament will be only for postgraduates, to which Azhar replies that we will be collaborating with the SRC in order to make it a university wide tournament for all the students. James raises concerns on the amount to be spent on this tournament as this is not specific to postgraduates and that SRC won't be pitching in much. He asks if we have considered bibs instead of buying t-shirts and shorts as it will cost us much. Azhar says that this needs to be checked. Azhar also says that he will consider all the possible options and present the finances to the council for further action.

[190305-8]: Council to defer this item till the next council meeting, quotes and details should be provided

Moved: James **Seconded:** Nic
Motion carried.

10. SUPRA to set aside \$700 for monthly catch up event at Camden campus ★

Karishma wants SUPRA to continue supporting post-grad monthly catch up event held at Camden campus.

[190305-9]: Council to defer this item till the next council meeting

Moved: Weihong **Seconded:** Oliver

Motion carried.

11. Other Business

11.1 Returning Officer for General Elections

Weihong discusses the details on the returning officer for General Elections 2019. He says that Ralph Mazzoldi has expressed interest in being the Returning officer for 2019 General Elections.

[190305-10]: The council approves Ralph Mazzoldi as the Returning Officer for SUPRA General Elections 2019.

Moved: Weihong **Seconded:** Azhar

Motion carried.

Meeting closes at 8:00pm.