



# MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF COUNCIL FOR THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION HELD AT 6:00PM ON FRIDAY THE 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2011 AT THE SUPRA OFFICES

**Chair:** Angelus Morningstar  
**Minutes:** Kylee Hartman-Warren  
**Present:** Heidi Claus, Ben Ferris, Kylee Hartman-Warren, Lian Jenvey (*arrived at 6:05pm*),  
Rashmi Kumar, Angelus Morningstar, Thomas Munroe, Pip Muratore, John  
Nowakowski, Bradley Wells, Rosemary Whitecross (*arrived at 6:20pm*)

*Meeting opened at 5:57 PM*

## 1. Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome

## 2. Housekeeping

### 2.1. Apologies

Sophia Barnes, Chihong Choi, Andrew Clayphan, Andrew Elder, David Latimer,  
David Robertson, Lizzie Scally, Simone White, Felicity Wilson, Lynne Xie

### 2.2. Proxies

Heidi CLAUS carried the proxy for Simone WHITE.

Ben FERRIS carried the proxy for Andrew ELDER and Felicity WILSON.

Kylee HARTMAN-WARREN carried the proxy for Sophia BARNES and David  
LATIMER.

Rashmi KUMAR carried the proxy for Lizzie SCALLY.

Bradley WELLS carries the proxy for Andrew CLAYPHAN.

Rosemary WHITECROSS carried the proxy for David ROBERTSON.

### 2.3. Leave of Absence

Chihong CHOI has requested a Leave of Absence from 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2011, to 13<sup>th</sup>  
February 2011.

#### [Motion 110128.1]

That Council approves Chihong Choi request for a Leave of Absence.

*Moved by the Chair*

*Result: Carried*

*Lian Jenvey arrived at 6:05pm.*

### 3. Presentation from branch representative of the NTEU

As part of the consultation process, the Staff have requested that the branch representative be permitted to represent on behalf of the staff to Council. Management Committee have approved this request, and he will be given an opportunity to speak before Council.

#### *Discussion Summary*

Michael Tompson was unable to attend because he thought the meeting was Monday night. He tendered his apologies.

### 4. Budget [In Camera]

**[Ex Camera Edition]** The discussion with regard to the Budget was deferred in light of the NTEU Notice of Industrial Action. Council decided that enough time was needed for the President to meet with the WCC and with Michael Thompson so he could report the feedback to Council and allow Council to make an informed decision about the Budget. (See Item 6.1 for further information.)

*Rosemary Whitecross arrived at 6:20pm.*

#### **[In Camera Edition] To be removed from Circulated Documents**

#### *Discussion Summary*

A lengthy discussion took place with regard to whether Council should discuss the Budget, or skip to item 6.1. This discussion included a sense of frustration with WCC as their only desire is for a Budget option which includes three days of the Redfern Legal Centre, and after making line-by-line cuts on the Budget Council was still uncertain how maintaining Redfern Legal Centre at three days is possible without running a deficit which may threaten the sustainability of SUPRA in the future.

It was also noted that industrial disputes come with their own protocol. When a dispute surfaces, organisational changes cannot be implemented until the resolution of the dispute, thus a decision about the Redfern Legal Service cannot be made until the Dispute is resolved. Thus, a motion (see below) was put forth.

Rashmi KUMAR informed Council at this point that she has a Conflict of Interest as she is applying for employment with the NTEU at Macquarie University.

#### **[Motion 110128.2]**

That Council not discuss the Budget until the dispute is resolved.

*Proposed by Lian Jenvey*

*Result:* Lost, with 15 against

Council discussed why Council should consider allowing more time to consider the Budget in light of the Industrial Dispute. The following justifications for allowing more time were discussed:

1. Council wants to work in good faith with the Staff.
2. Council is concerned that the Staff may have or requiring too much decision making capacity in the decisions regarding the Budget.
3. Council wants to maintain a spirit of negotiation which is why Council is trying to operate in good faith.
4. Redfern Legal Centre is one of the core aspects for the three Budget Options put forth to Council by the Budget Committee. There is limited discussion on what we can do with the Budget but more time to allow for further discussion with the WCC and NTEU will at least demonstrate the difficult situation SUPRA faces in light of its lack of funding.
5. More time will give the WCC an opportunity to suggest where SUPRA could save in areas directly related to staff functions.

It was also suggested that Council allow for extra time to consider the implications of two days of the Redfern Legal Centre and to allow for the Staff to provide Council with extra options and suggestions that may allow SUPRA to keep the Redfern Legal

Centre at three days. Council consented that it would like a timeline for a negotiation to get feedback. Before the next Council Meeting, it was raised that the WCC could provide feedback, that the Budget Committee would consider the feedback if warranted, and that the President would meet with NTEU's Michael Tompson in light of that feedback.

**[Motion 110128.3]**

That the President negotiate a timeline with staff and NTEU for receiving feedback and concluding consultations regarding changes to the Legal Service. This timeline should be around 2 weeks in total duration.

*Proposed by Rashmi Kumar*

*Result: Lost, with 8 against and 3 abstentions*

**[Motion Counterposed]**

That there will be no discussion to the Budget and the President should meet with Michael Tompson and report feedback to Council.

*Proposed by Lian Jenvey*

*Result: Carried*

**[End of In Camera Discussion]**

*Ben Ferris and Bradley Wells left at 7:37pm.*

## 5. Office Bearer Reports

- 5.1. **President**
- 5.2. **Vice-President (Policy)**
- 5.3. **Vice-President (Community)**
- 5.4. **Secretary**
- 5.5. **Treasurer**
- 5.6. **Director of Student Publications**
- 5.7. **Women's Officer**
- 5.8. **International Student Officer**
- 5.9. **Queer Officer**
- 5.10. **Acting Disabilities Officer**

**[Motion 110128.5]**

That Council accept all Office Bearer Reports.

*Proposed from the Chair*

**Result: Carried**

Heidi Claus put forth a motion in her Office Bearer Reports.

**[Motion 110128.6]**

**That** SUPRA shall commit to running a serious campaign demanding more funding for SUPRA from the university. This should include writing media releases, petitioning students at inductions and other events, calling protests at senate meetings, and involving the SRC in the campaign. SUPRA's VP Community should call a campaign meeting to discuss and plan the details of such a campaign in the first week of February 2011.

*Proposed: Heidi Claus*

*Result: Carried*

## 6. Other Business

### 6.1. Notice of Industrial Dispute

A lengthy discussion took place with regard to the Industrial Action under the Budget item, largely to decide as to whether discussing the Budget at this point in time, was appropriate. As noted above, Council decided to put off discussions with regard to the Budget in order to allow enough time for the President to receive further feedback from the WCC, meet with Michael Thomson, and return to Council with informed feedback. The consensus was that this needed to be allowed to show the NTEU that Council is open to considerations with WCC and is acting within good faith with the staff and its Union.

## 6.2. Acting Treasurer

Council agreed that SUPRA required representation for the Treasurer in light of Chihong Choi's leave of absence.

**[Motion 110128.7]**

That the Council empowers the President to represent the Treasurer.

*Proposed by Tom Munroe*

*Result: Carried*

## 6.3. Acting International Officer

Council agreed that SUPRA required an Acting International Officer in light of Chihong Choi's leave of absence.

**[Motion 110128.8]**

That Kylee Hartman-Warren be the Acting International Officer until Chihong Choi returns.

*Proposed: Rosemary Whitecross*

*Result: Carried with 4 abstentions*

*The meeting closed at 7:49pm.*