



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF COUNCIL CARSLAW LECTURE THEATRE 173 6:00PM ON 21ST NOVEMBER 2012

Chair: Angelus Morningstar

Minutes: Mike de Waal

Attendance: Mike de Waal, Amy Mao, Tim Scriven, Pip Muratore, Khawaja Almas, Angelus Morningstar, Kylee Hartman-Warren, Tuba Omer, Joanne Gad, Tom Munro, Alice Brandli, Nicole Doughty, David Follent

Guests: David Follent [Until his election]

1 Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome

The President opened the meeting at 6:08pm with an Acknowledgement of Country.

2 Governance

2.1 Apologies

Kareena Denley
Siva Purushothuman
Audrey Irish
Zhila Bahman
Cyrus Achaemian
Marilena Indelicato
Muhammad Usama
John Nowakowski
Manna Mostaghim

2.2 Proxies

Siva Purushothuman to Alice Brandli (2nd pref: Tuba Omer, 3rd pref: Kylee Hartman-Warren)
Audrey Irish to Kylee Hartman-Warren (2nd pref: John Nowakowski, 3rd pref: Cyrus Achaemian)
Zhila Bahman to Mike de Waal
Marilena Indelicato to Joanne Gad
Muhammad Usama to Timothy Scriven
Manna Mostaghim to Kylee Hartman-Warren



2.3 Starring of Items

The President invited Council to identify any items not currently scheduled for discussion

Motion [NOV12-01]: That Council accepts all un-starred items.

Moved: Angelus Morningstar **Seconded:** Tuba Omer **Consensus.**

2.4 Notifications

The Women's Officer, Kareena Denley, hereby notifies Council that she will be out of Australia from November 19th, 2012 to February 16th, 2013. She will remain contactable by email throughout this time.

The Secretary, Mike de Waal, hereby notifies Council that he will be out of Australia from December 5th, 2012 to December 22nd, 2012. He will remain contactable by email, though will be delegating some necessary tasks such as minuting during his time away.

Recommendation: That Council approves the notified absences.

★ 3 Election for a Casual Vacancy

The President noted that there was one nomination.

The President called for a Returning Officer for the elections of the general councillor and acting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Officer. Pip Muratore nominated. He was appointed with no objections.

David Follent spoke to his nomination.

A vote was conducted. David Follent was elected to SUPRA Council.

★ 4 Appointment for Acting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Officer

The President noted that David Follent had nominated for this position. He further noted that Andrew Rhodes, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Liaison, had agreed to the arrangement.

The President asked if it was acceptable to Council to appoint David by manner of election. There were no objections.

A vote was conducted. David was elected acting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Officer.

5 Minutes and Reports of Meetings

5.1 Minutes of the previous month's meetings

5.1.1 Meeting of Council

5.1.2 Management Committee

5.1.3 Finance Committee: November 7th

5.1.4 Policy Committee

5.1.5 Equity Committee

5.1.6 Finance Committee: November 20th

Recommendation: That Council accepts the tabled minutes, with noted amendments.

5.2 Reports of the previous month's meetings

6 Officer Reports

6.1 President

Angelus Morningstar

6.2 Vice President (Community)

Tim Scriven

6.3 Vice President (Policy)

Kylee Hartman-Warren

6.4 Vice President (Publications)

John Nowakowski

6.5 Treasurer

Joanne Gad and Khawaja Almas

6.6 Secretary

Mike de Waal

6.7 Education Officer

Joanne Gad

6.8 Equity Officers

6.8.1 International Officer

Tuba Omer

6.8.2 Disabilities Officer

Timothy Scriven

6.8.3 Queer Officer

Tom Munro

6.8.4 Women's Officer

Kareena Denley

6.8.5 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Liaison

Andrew Rhodes

6.8.6 Equity Convenor

Tom Munro

Recommendation: That Council accepts the tabled reports of Offices.

6.9 Business Arising From Reports

7 Verbal Report from a Member of Staff

No report was given.

★ 8 SUPRA Website

The President outlined that SUPRA has been having issues with its website over the last 2-3 months. It's vulnerable to hacking. The University are unwilling to host the website on their servers because of that vulnerability. We have two options: we can either look at substantial hosting external to the University (requiring external support and maintenance), or we can redo the website to comply with the University requirements. Part of that would require the website to be branded with University colours and logo. The President asked for Council's thoughts on whether we should host it externally with the current setup, which would include significant upfront expenses, or modify what we have for the University's needs.

The Vice President (Community) argued that last time we acquired a new website, it was developed by Wasabi. It caused us endless problems as we needed the IT support for updates and changes. So when we're making decisions about websites, we need to consider the long-term costs.

A straw poll was taken. Council was overwhelmingly in favour of the University option.

The Vice President (Policy) asked for clarification as to whether the University branding would be restricted to colours and logo. The President replied in the affirmative. If the website offered us *looks* like a University website in a significant way, we would have an objection.

The Vice President (Community) asked, with regard to the logo, whether we could have it framed as "Resources provided by..." or "Provided by..." the University rather than "The University of Sydney"? That may make us seem more independent.

The President responded that there might need to be some kind of slogan to that effect. But it seems the main question has been resolved.

★ 9 Stipends

The Co-Treasurer outlined the motion to Council tabled by the Finance Committee. If Council could try to not change stipends too much it would help a lot in resolving the finances, particularly in determining the budget over the course of the financial year.

The President noted that the compromise position is that "there is a maximum amount that is budgeted for, and Council can vary within that maximum claim". This still allows some flexibility that wouldn't actually change the budget. The Co-Treasurer responded that the recommendation is in fact that the maximum is not changed.

All office-bearers declared a conflict of interest.

The Vice President (Policy) asked about *ad hoc* extra hours that may be claimed from time to time. The President responded that our approach to that would not change.

The Secretary noted that the motion tabled is not "binding" in the sense that it is regulatory. It's more of a direction about what Council should or should not do.

The International Officer asked what effect this would have on the deficit. The President responded that this goes into a different area that will be discussed later. SSAF changed a lot of expectations this year. We are going to have to develop an interim budget due to these negotiations anyway.

The Co-Treasurer further noted that halfway through the year, a new Council is elected. Council can always make a supplementary budget in light of that.

Motion [NOV12-02]: That once a budget has been set for 2013, Council should refrain from

amending, unless there is a review of the budget prior, the maximum claimable hours set in the Finance regulations for that budgetary year.

Moved: Joanne Gad **Seconded:** Angelus Morningstar **Consensus.**

★ 10 Management and other Subcommittee Attendance and Reform

The President noted that our executive committees are struggling to meet quorum. He is required to make more unilateral decisions because of this. This has been problematic particularly with regard to the relocation. Management Committee has not been quorate more than once since that time.

He reminded Council that their attendance at these meetings is a claimable aspect of their time.

He suggested that one idea is merging Management and Finance Committees as a fortnightly executive meeting to talk about what is happening with office-bearers, provide general oversight, etc. He would like Council to consider delegating considerable authority to that committee, and allow Council to retain authority over broad, strategic decision-making.

The Equity Convenor asked specifically what sort of authority could be delegated. The President responded that staffing decisions and policy review must come to Council. But a lot of the other administrative stuff could be addressed by this Committee.

The Secretary added that we could treat it like a “mini Council” with a circulated agenda, adequate notice, etc.

The International Officer suggested that if we’re thinking of doing it twice a month, maybe one of them could be immediately prior to Council.

The President noted that his first thought is that it should be at a regular time every fortnight. If you set that regularity, people remember when it is. If we’re going to have a meeting just before Council, it might be redundant because it can just go through Council.

The Co-Treasurer stated that she likes the idea of merging two subcommittees, but she isn’t sure about taking responsibilities away from council. Some people may not be able to make the time regularly, so they may be locked out. Some councillors may not have so much day-to-day contact with the SUPRA offices.

The President added that a good rule of thumb might be if its relevant to SUPRA internally, it could go to committee (with Council receiving reports and updates) but Council needs to set broad strategic issues.

Amy Mao left the room at 6:49pm.

The Secretary suggested that changing the times up regularly would allow for more people to attend.

A straw poll was taken. A majority of Councillors supported investigating the possibility of amalgamating the subcommittees.

★ 11 Council of International Students Australia Funding Request

The International Officer submitted the following request to Council:

“Further to the discussion for the CISA proposal in September meeting, the new proposal is now attached.

This is the proposal giving a detailed account of the possible avenues where SUPRA's money will be spent as requested by Council. I would like to propose that funds amounting to \$7,500 be granted to CISA for the beginning of next year.”

The International Officer outlined CISA’s proposal with an expenditure list of where their budget is going, including general operating costs, etc. She reiterated her support for the organisation and the work they are doing for international students.

The President received the proposal as a report to Council that can be considered as part of the budget process.

★ 12 Proposed 2013 Budgets [In camera]

Procedural: That the meeting be moved *in camera*.

Moved: Angelus Morningstar **Seconded:** Tuba Omer **Consensus.**

Motion [NOV12-03]: That the stipend allocation for International Officer be 14 hours claimable per week under Budget A.

Moved: Thomas Munro **Seconded:** Alice Brandli **Carried (12 for, 3 against, 1 abstention (International Officer)).**

Motion [NOV12-04]: That the proposed Budget C be adopted in the interim for 2013.

Moved: Angelus Morningstar **Seconded:** Mike de Waal **Carried (8 for, 0 against, 7 abstentions).**

The President procedurally moved the meeting ex camera.

★ 13 CAPA ACM

The President noted that CAPA’s ACM is next week. Kylee Hartman-Warren, David Follent, and himself are planning on going as delegates.

Motion [NOV12-05]: That Angelus Morningstar, Kylee Hartman-Warren and David Follent be the credentialed delegates for SUPRA at CAPA ACM 2012.

Moved: Timothy Scriven **Seconded:** Thomas Munro **Consensus.**

★ 14 Other business

The President called for any other business.

It was asked how someone nominates for Council. The President said all such inquiries should be directed to the Secretary.

The President called for any other business. There was none.

The President closed the meeting at 7:54pm.