



**MINUTES FOR A MEETING OF COUNCIL
NEW LAW SCHOOL SEMINAR ROOM 117
6:00 PM ON 20TH JANUARY, 2014
EX CAMERA**

Chair: Joanne Gad

Minutes: Guien Miao

Attendance: Douglas King, Joss McCay, Timothy Scriven, Ensiyeh Kazerarni, Vaivi Mase, Andrew Fraser, Kieran Latty (*arrived 6:04 p.m.*), Thomas O'Connor (*arrived at 6:12 p.m.*), Kylee Hartman-Warren (*arrived at 6:12 p.m.*)

Guests: John Fell

★ **1. Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome**

The Chair opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement of Country at 6:02 p.m.

★ **2. Governance**

2.1. Apologies

Tuba Omer

Anette Hansen

Callum Forbes

Maral Hosseinpour

Joseph Callingham

Michael de Waal

Alice Brandli

Tanveer Sohal

2.2. Proxies

Tuba Omer to Guien Miao (2nd pref: Timothy Scriven; 3rd pref: Kylee Hartman-Warren)

Tanveer Sohal to Joanne Gad (2nd pref: Douglas King; 3rd pref: Guien Miao)

Anette Hansen to Joanne Gad

Callum Forbes to Joseph Callingham

Maral Hosseinpour to Guien Miao

Michael de Waal to Timothy Scriven (2nd pref: Guien Miao)

Alice Brandli to Kylee Hartman-Warren

2.3. Resignations

William Clarke

Huon Curtis

Emily Dale – *this position was declared vacant in accordance with Section 5:07 2 of the SUPRA Constitution*

David Follent – *this position was declared vacant in accordance with Section 5:07 2 of the SUPRA Constitution*

2.4. Starring of Items

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

Recommendation: SUPRA Council accepts all un-starred items

Kieran Latty entered at 6:04 p.m.

Motion [JAN20-01]: SUPRA Council accepts all un-starred items.

Moved: Douglas King **Seconded:** Guien Miao

Carried.

★ 3. Minutes and Reports of Meetings

3.1. Minutes of the previous month's meetings

★ 3.1.1. COUNCIL MEETING, 12TH DECEMBER 2013

Recommendation: SUPRA Council designates the Verbal Report from a Staff Member as in camera.

The co-Secretary noted that some of the material discussed in the verbal report from the staff member referred to in camera matters and, for this reason, the report should also be designated as in camera.

3.1.2. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING, 16TH DECEMBER 2013

3.1.3. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING, 13TH JANUARY 2014

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

Attached documentation: Minutes of the abovementioned meetings.

Motion [JAN20-02]: SUPRA Council designates the Verbal Report from a Staff Member (in the Council Meeting) as in camera and accepts the tabled minutes.

Moved: Timothy Scriven **Seconded:** Douglas King

Carried (1 abstention).

★ 3.2. Business Arising from Minutes

No business arising from minutes was noted.

4. Officer Reports

4.1. President

Joanne Gad

4.2. Vice-President

Kylee Hartman-Warren

★ 4.3. Education Officer

Timothy Scriven

To be tabled at the meeting.

4.4. Treasurer

Douglas King

4.5. Secretary

Tuba Omer & Guien Miao

4.6. Director of Student Publications

Tanveer Sohal

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

To be tabled at the meeting

4.7.4. WOMEN'S OFFICER

Ensiyeh Ghanizadeh Kazerarni

4.7.5. RURAL AND REGIONAL OFFICER

Callum Forbes

No hours claimed.

4.7.6. ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER OFFICER

Vacant

Recommendation: SUPRA Council accepts the tabled reports of Officers.

Attached documentation: Reports of Officers.

The Education Officer/Queer Officer noted that he had not submitted his report on time as he had been side-tracked by the SSAF negotiations.

Motion [JAN20-03]: *SUPRA Council accepts the tabled reports of Officers.*

Moved: Joanne Gad

Seconded: Douglas King

Carried.

★ 4.8. **Business Arising from Reports**

No business arising from reports was noted.

★ 5. **Verbal Report from a Member of Staff**

John Fell spoke to this item. He noted that the external audit was occurring; he added that we had predicted a deficit of \$61 000 in our budget, but the actual deficit for the year is \$36 000 (\$41 000 operating costs). He pointed out that we had made savings in stipends, the election (which had not been contested), legal expenses (which were lower than in the previous year) and the new photocopier; however, this was offset by an increase in staff wages and the CISA sponsorship. He added that the auditor will be continuing the audit this week and give us a draft of his report next week.

Thomas O'Connor and Kylee Hartman-Warren entered at 6:12 p.m.

Motion [JAN20-04]: *SUPRA Council thanks John Fell and accepts his report.*

Moved: Joanne Gad **Seconded:** Andrew Fraser

Carried.

★ 6. **Workplace Health and Safety**

No WHS issues were noted.

★ 7. **Elections for Vacant Positions**

There are multiple positions vacant:

Ordinary Council positions (2)

No nominations were noted.

★ 8. **SSAF [In Camera]**

Procedural motion to move in camera. Carried.

Procedural motion to move ex camera. Carried.

★ 9. **Redfern Legal Centre Contract**

This item is for noting.

The President noted that this had been circulated by email. She noted that the cost was for the Redfern Legal Centre and a full-time lawyer. She pointed out that this happens every year and is already included within the budget. John Fell added that the fee has gone up slightly in line with CPI. The President noted that she had already signed off on the contract.

★ 10. **USU Thank You**

Recommendation: SUPRA Council thanks the University of Sydney Union (USU) for the discount on the O-Week stall.

The co-Secretary spoke to this, noting that USU had given SUPRA a discount from \$1300 to \$650 for the cost of the O-Week stall. The Vice-President noted that we have been asking USU for a discount for a while and strongly recommended thanking them.

Motion [JAN20-05]: *SUPRA Council thanks the University of Sydney Union (USU) for the discount on the O-Week stall.*

Moved: Timothy Scriven **Seconded:** Kylee Hartman-Warren

Carried.

★ 11. Medicare

Recommendation: SUPRA Council adopts the position that health care in Australia should be free, particularly with reference to recent announcements around introducing a fee for GP visits.

The President noted that this was a recommendation from Management Committee.

The Education Officer spoke to the item, noting that the Federal Government had moved to impose a fee for GP visits. He added that the fee of \$6 would need to be paid for the first 12 visits to the doctor and noted that the health care system could be slowly undermined from there. He noted that people sick is not a choice and effectively, the fee becomes a form of taxation. He added that there is currently a rally being planned.

A councillor noted that it was, in reality, an ideological issue. He added that the current Government is opposed to Medicare and are trying to chip away at it. He noted that there are many other ways to raise money, for example, removing the private health care rebate, so this looks like an attack on those with low incomes.

The Vice-President pointed out that she had heard that the Government were also going after the private health care rebate and agreed that this would be a slippery slope.

The Treasurer pointed out that we have already seen this happen with the PBS. He noted that, originally, 100 live-saving drugs were subsidised for all patients, but, now, it is \$6 per script for every pensioner, up to \$36 per script for others up to a cap. He noted that it forces people into the position of choosing not to take medication.

Motion [JAN20-06]: *SUPRA Council adopts the position that health care in Australia should be free, particularly with reference to recent announcements around introducing a fee for GP visits.*

Moved: Kylee Hartman-Warren **Seconded:** Joss McCay

Carried.

The President noted that SUPRA's position on this matter should be publicised to postgraduate students as many postgraduate students do not get support from the government for their studies, so they would be pleased with our position.

★ 12. Publications Quotes

Recommendation: SUPRA Council approves up to \$8800 for printing of the 15th edition of the Postgraduate Survival Guide.

Recommendation: SUPRA Council approves up to \$4000 for an additional print run of the 12th edition of the Thesis Guide.

The Vice-President noted that the prices look similar to last year, however, she also noted that the quote seems a bit high and suggested trying to get a quote that is lower. John Fell noted that the expenditure on the Postgraduate Survival Guide last year was \$7 000 for the first print run + \$2 000 for the additional print run. A councillor suggested approving it with a degree of caution; the co-Secretary noted that the motion already contains "up to" to cover this. The President asked the Vice-President to follow up on lower quotes.

Motion [JAN20-07]: *SUPRA Council approves up to \$8800 for printing of the 15th edition of the Postgraduate Survival Guide.*

Moved: Timothy Scriven **Seconded:** Andrew Fraser

Consensus.

The President noted that we only have 70-100 copies of the Thesis Guide left, adding that many people have been taking notice of it. The Education Officer added that the Vice Chancellor had positive feedback on the Thesis Guide. The President noted that he also asked if we gave a copy out to all students and that she had pointed out that we don't have the money to it.

Motion [JAN20-08]: *SUPRA Council approves up to \$4000 for an additional print run of the 12th edition of the Thesis Guide.*

Moved: Douglas King **Seconded:** Guien Miao

Carried.

★ 13. Student Discounts on Light Rail

Light rail discounts are currently being targeted at school students but this could be extended to tertiary students as well because light rail is a transport option for Sydney University students and many students could benefit from it.

Recommendation: SUPRA Council adopts the position to allow student discounts on Light Rail.

The Education Officer suggested including in the motion an action that we can follow up on.

A councillor noted that the Greens are supporting the light rail discounts for secondary students. He suggested that we write a letter to Jamie Parker pointing out our support and asking that it be extended to tertiary students. The Vice-President asked whether we could include International students in the letter and the councillor pointed out that the intent of the motion was to also include International students. The Education Officer suggested modifying the motion to include: *and directs Andrew Fraser to write a letter to Jamie Parker suggesting that the campaign for concessions be extended to all tertiary students.*

Motion [JAN20-09]: *SUPRA Council adopts the position to allow student discounts on Light rail and directs Andrew Fraser to write a letter to Jamie Parker suggesting that the campaign for concessions be extended to all tertiary students.*

Moved: Timothy Scriven **Seconded:** Andrew Fraser

Carried.

★ 14. Student Democracy Forum

Recommendation: SUPRA Council sponsors a forum on Student Democracy (in which MUPRA will be used as a case-study) during O-Week.

A councillor spoke to this; he noted that he had attended the MUPRA committee meeting this week and gave some background to the issue. He noted that the meeting had been held at NTEU office as MUPRA had been kicked out of own offices. The result of the meeting was an intent to hold a rally or forum during O-Week. The councillor noted that, in his opinion, it would better to have a forum than a rally and that he has previously organised a forum in two weeks.

The Vice-President asked the councillor whether it would be held during our O-Week and he clarified that it would. She noted that it would be great to have it run on the Friday and suggested getting it organised as soon as possible to have it included in the O-Week app.

The councillor pointed out that he is happy to organise the forum, but will need help. Another councillor asked about location and noted that similar events have, in the past, been held on the USU front stage. The councillor noted that he was not as familiar with the campus, but that the previous forum had been held in a hired seminar room.

The Education Officer pointed out that he has been in contact with students from Macquarie University (including Doug Williams from MUPRA) and put to them the idea of running a Facebook ad campaign. He noted that they had responded well initially, but when he asked them to get in contact with him regarding designs for the ads, they did not get back to him. The councillor noted that he had been in talks with Doug Williams all day and that they were trying to organise a multi-faceted campaign. The President asked the Education Officer to follow up on this. She noted that it would be good for us to push to have to USU stage as we would have the spotlight for a while and this would also help us push for our own visibility.

The Vice-President added that she would work on contacting people from CISA and CAPA to ask for their participation and get information to the O-Week coordinators. A councillor suggested asking the SRC to co-sponsor the forum as it would mean that we could ask the EAG to support it too.

The President noted that we need a lot of people to sign up to help out with the forum. A councillor suggested having a few different teams to work on it. The President noted that the costs could be deferred to Management Committee. A councillor noted that the MUPRA forum cost \$3000. The Vice-President noted that, if we get everyone on board, then we could have the forum as the start of the O-Week BBQ and create an event oriented around democracy discussion.

Motion [JAN20-10]: *SUPRA Council sponsors a forum on Student Democracy (in which MUPRA will be used as a case-study) during O-Week.*

Moved: Kylee Hartman-Warren **Seconded:** Thomas O'Connor

Carried.

★ 15. Universities Australia

The President noted that the Universities Australia conference will be held during O-Week and that the cost was originally \$2000 per person fee and that the Vice-President had noted that we traditionally get a discount, so the President had inquired and the price is now \$400 per person for two delegates. She added that she is not sure whether it is necessary for her to attend UA.

The Education Officer noted that we have been trying to get SUPRA to be an organisation that engages with students, so it would be good to have our President (as our prime public face) at O-Week. The Vice-President noted that it is important to have someone – even if it is just one person – at UA as it is a good chance to meet other students at a student level. She added that many peak bodies are sending their students, that they discuss engagement with students at the conference and that it would be good for us to be seen at government level. She suggested asking why it is held during the Group of Eight O=Week. A councillor suggested that the President remain for O-Week and that the Vice-President go to UA.

The President pointed out that costs of two delegate passes, travel and accommodation would likely fall under the costs that Management Committee could approve. The Vice-President noted that there has been talk about sharing accommodation cost with other groups and the travel cost is roughly \$35 each way.

A councillor noted that if the Group of Eight have deliberately put UA and O-Week at the same time, then we should send our President as a presence.

The Education Officer noted that we recruit a lot of people who go on to be activists and workers in SUPRA during O-Week. He added that it has a critical effect on our future and it seems that we have been prioritising UA in recent years. He further noted that having the President at O-Week will have an impact that no one else can replicate because, at UA, people are not as open to SUPRA whereas, at O-Week, students are receptive. He pointed out that it might not be the case of always or always not sending our President to UA, adding that the Vice-Chancellor himself does not attend UA.

The Vice-President clarified that we should send someone but not necessarily the President. She noted that Friday at UA is usually workshops and that, if the President went, then she could definitely still be back in time for the O-Week BBQ. She reiterated that it is really important to send someone and pointed out that last year was first time that UA conflicted with O-Week.

A councillor suggested sending someone who deals with policy and the Vice-President noted that she shares policy with the President. The Education Officer asked the President what she would prefer. The President noted that she would love to be here for O-Week and that Council could approve that two councillors are sent and leave the motion open ended. She added that she is tending to stay here for O-Week as she thinks we could benefit from this. The Vice-President noted that UA would be a great opportunity for student leaders, noting that it would be a good experience for anyone who plans to stay on Council. A councillor noted that he

would be interested; the President noted that, as she would normally go, she would like to choose who would go in her place.

Motion [JAN20-11]: *SUPRA Council authorises the President to select up to two delegates for UA and delegates the approval of costs to Management Committee.*

Moved: Timothy Scriven **Seconded:** Kylee Hartman-Warren

Carried.

★ 16. Other Business

The Vice-President spoke on O-Week preparations. She noted that she would be sending the O-Week roster around soon and would like volunteers as well as any ideas of small events to hold at the stall. Various other techniques for drawing in students were discussed. The President checked for volunteers and all of those present volunteered. A councillor asked about merchandise and the Vice-President noted that she would like to go with a survival theme to link in with USU's "Into the Wild" theme. She added that she will be calling places for in-kind support tomorrow, noting that there would be a lead time of 21 days to a month on merchandise.

The Chair closed the meeting at 7:29 p.m.