



MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY  
POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION HELD AT 5.00 PM ON  
WEDNESDAY 12 MAY 2010 AT THE SUPRA OFFICES

**Chair:** Rashmi Kumar  
**Minutes:** John Nowakowski

**Present:** Surya Setiyaputra, Rosemary Whitecross, Richard Bailey, Rashmi Kumar, Nick Irving, Sophia Barnes, Fiona Curran, John Nowakowski, Heidi Claus (from 5.11pm, until 6pm), Sid De (from 5.12pm, until 5.43pm), Lian Jenvey (from 5.15pm, until 6pm), Chihong Choi (from 5.27pm), Ming Tang (from 5.37pm, until 7.11pm),

**Apologies:** Lynne Xie, Kerwin Liang, Jasmine Tan, Sid De (until 5.45pm), Paolo Mazzi, Bram Hertasing, Kathryn Stachyra

*During the meeting, proxies were provided by Heidi Claus and Lian Jenvey, both to Richard Bailey.*

*Meeting Opened, 5.08pm*

**1. Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome**

**2. Minutes**

**a. SUPRA Council, April 27, 2010**

Noted correction of Recording in [APR10-10] to Audio Recording

**[MAY10-01] MOTION:** That the minutes be accepted with corrections

*Moved:* from the Chair

*Result:* Carried

*Heidi Claus arrives, 5.11pm*

*Sid De arrives, 5.12pm*

**b. Management Committee Minutes, April 28, 2010**

**Management Committee Minutes, May 5, 2010**

**[MAY10-02] MOTION:** That the minutes be accepted

*Moved:* from the Chair

*Result:* Carried

*Lian Jenvey arrives, 5.15pm*

**3. Business arising from these minutes**

*None*

**4. Leave of Absence**

**[MAY10-03] MOTION:** That Paolo Mazzi be granted leave for the rest of his term

*Moved:* John Nowakowski

*Result:* Carried

## 5. Equity Officer Elections

John announced that a successful and quorate meeting of the Queer Students Network had met and elected Angelus Morningstar as the Queer Officer for 2010/11.

John also advise the meeting that the Women's Network Meeting was inquorate, and that elections for Women's Officer, International Officer, and Indigenous Officer had been called for the May 31 AGM.

## 6. Standing Orders

**[MAY10-04] MOTION:** That the edited Standing Orders be accepted

*Moved:* from the Chair

*Result:* Carried

## 7. Style Guide

**[MAY10-05] MOTION:** That the SUPRA Style Guide be approved

*Moved:* from the Chair

*Result:* Carried

## 8. Changes to building access

**Procedural:** That the item be moved *in camera*

*Moved:* from the Chair

*Result:* Carried

**[IN CAMERA]**

## 9. Recycling

A collection of glass and plastic recycling has been collecting, and this has not been the duty of anyone to dispose of. Please exercise consideration, and note that Staff are investigating alternative solutions.

*Chihong Choi Arrives, 5.27pm*

## 10. Other Business

### a. Constitutional Changes

Nick spoke to the document he and John had prepared outlining the ten proposed motions for the AGM relating to constitutional changes.

**Procedural:** That the speaking list be taken and discussed motion-by-motion

*Moved:* Nick Irving

*Result:* Carried

**Procedural:** That the speaking list be closed at the end of the explanation

*Moved:* Fiona Curran

*Result:* Carried

*Ming Tang arrives, 5.37pm*

The first two motions relate to the proposal for Vice-President (Policy) and Vice-President (Community). The third motion related to joint candidates. Rosemary noted that the returning officer had previously noted concern over joint candidates.

The fourth motion related to the formation of the Budget/Finance Committee, and current Standing Committee policies. Under the current constitution, it would be possibly to end Management Committee's operation by a simple act of Council, which should be continue

to exist. Further, the changes allow for sub-committees, formalise the finance committee, and still allowed for the policy and postgraduate networks (previously activities) committees. Lian Jenvey asked what the powers of the finance committee would be, and it was outlined as being an oversight body.

*Sid De leaves, 5.43pm*

John identified that the exclusion of the Publications Committee from the list reflects that Director of Student Publications isn't mandated by the Constitution. Fiona agreed, commenting on the ad hoc nature of meetings.

Richard was hesitant towards the Finance Committee, questioning the ongoing need for both Management Committee (which already deals with finances) and this second committee. He also disliked the name for the Postgraduate Networks Committee, the role associated with it, and commented that no such network already exists. Nick commented that clauses (c) and (d) could be easily removed, but that a Finance Committee was necessary. The Chair commented on the lack of activities SUPRA held, not referring specifically to social events, but to support events too, highlighting that this is central to student organising. John reinforced the differences between the finances Management Committee worked on (those being day-to-day) and that of the larger Finance Committee, being overarching processes.

*Heidi Claus and Lian Jenvey leave, 6pm*

*Richard Bailey is given proxies for both Heidi and Lian*

Nick asked the meeting for an opinion, and the meeting supported Budget Committee, not Finance Committee, Outreach Committee, not Postgraduate Network Committee, and for leaving clauses (c) and (d) in the Constitution.

On Motion 5, Rosemary identified that those who chose to be on Standing Committees were still being threatened with being lapsed from Council for not attending. Council concurred and scrapped Clause 6.5.

Motion 7 was proposed to allow for voting at the AGM, which was generally supported by Council. Motion 6 was put in to ensure an AGM could not be held with a full Council only, and Rosemary proposed a number of 5, not 10, was used for this change. Motion 9 was developed as a generic Conflict of Interest clause, mimicking many typical clauses for institutions.

**Procedural:** That the item be moved *in camera*

*Moved:* Nick Irving

*Result:* Carried

**[IN CAMERA]**

**b. Request for Support – WAAC**

Margaret Kirkby, on behalf of Women’s Abortion Action Collective, has approached SUPRA requesting support for a rally on May 29.

**[MAY10-06] MOTION:** That SUPRA endorse the rally on May 29, and permit spending for the rally for posters from discretionary funds, to be reported to the next Management Committee

*Moved:* John Nowakowski

*Result:* Carried

**c. Request for Support – RAC**

Richard Bailey brought forward the mention of an upcoming rally from the Refugee Action Collective, but could provide no further details.

**[MAY10-07] MOTION:** That discussion be deferred to Management Committee

*Moved:* from the Chair

*Result:* Carried

**d. AGM**

**[MAY10-08] MOTION:** That SUPRA Council endorse the document of Constitutional Changes

*Moved:* Nick Irving

*Result:* Carried (6,3,2)

**Procedural:** That the item be moved *in camera*

*Moved:* John Nowakowski

*Result:* Carried

**[IN CAMERA]**

Chihong Choi suggested that some form of induction day or event be held with the new Council ahead of the Rep. Select meeting.

**e. Enterprise Agreement**

Following the staff suggestion for a working group to read Amendments to the EA, John Nowakowski, Chihong Choi, and Rosemary Whitecross were to be included in discussions.

**f. Annual Report**

Submissions are past due date, and all Office Bearers are requested to submit their reports now.

A proposal of basic meeting procedure was put forward for the AGM as a guide for people unfamiliar with it. Fiona Curran to organise.

*Ming Tang leaves, 7.11pm*

**g. International Officer Report-back**

Chihong Choi was invited to go to a Senior Executive Group meeting a few weeks ago, and was well received. Chihong provided a verbal event of what happened.

*Acclamation*

**h. New Zealand & VSU**

The Chair mentioned that New Zealand was considering bringing in VSU legislation, and pending further information, SUPRA should provide support. This is to be followed through with Management Committee.

**11. Next Meeting – Thursday, May 27, 5pm**

All items for the Agenda due to [secretary@supra.usyd.edu.au](mailto:secretary@supra.usyd.edu.au) by 5pm, May 20.

*Meeting Closed, 7.17pm*