



MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE SYDNEY UNIVERSITY
POSTGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE ASSOCIATION HELD AT 5.00 PM ON
THURSDAY 15 APRIL 2010 AT THE SUPRA OFFICES

Chair: Rashmi Kumar

Minutes: John Nowakowski

Present: Rashmi Kumar, Lian Jenvey, Tim Dunstone (Until 5.57pm), John Nowakowski, Lynne Xie (Subscriber, Until 7pm), Paolo Mazzi (until 5.59pm), Nick Irving, Surya Setiyaputra (from 5.14pm), Fiona Curran (from 5.14pm), Chihong Choi (from 5.18pm, until 7.14pm), Bram Hertasning (from 5.20pm), Heidi Claus (from 5.29pm), Rosemary Whitecross (from 5.57pm), Ashlesha Bawase (Subscriber, from 6.05pm), Jasmine Tan (from 7.08pm)

Apologies: Sophia Barnes, Bram Hertasning (late), Jasmine Tan (late), Kerwin Liang, Mimi Zhang, Rosemary Whitecross (late), Tim Dunstone (until 6pm), Paolo Mazzi (until 6pm), Heidi Claus (late)

Meeting Opened, 5.06pm

- 1. Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome**
- 2. The Passing of Kathryn Stachyra's Grandmother**

Council noted this with sadness and passed their condolences to Kathryn and her family

Procedural: To hear from Paolo Mazzi regarding the Emissions Reduction Working Group and Website ahead of other business

Moved: John Nowakowski

Result: Carried

- 3. Other Business**

- a. Website Report Back**

The new website is now 'live' and apparently working, run via a CMS. eGrad will be going through the new system, though a 'glitch' meant a temporary solution was sought at one point, costing \$50. The University deleted the old site, though a backup is being tracked for resources. Final cost is approximately \$20,000, and Paolo has copies of all documentation if necessary.

- b. Emissions Reduction Working Group**

The working group is redeveloping existing policy and working on reducing carbon dioxide emissions. The University is currently behind world standards and has recognised this fact.

Surya Setiyaputra and Fiona Curran arrive, 5.14pm

The Chair expressed concern in the delay of a report from Paolo. Comments from council were made to ensure that the ERWG has plans that fall into line with policies adopted by SUPRA, agreeing with the Environment Collective on campus.

Chihong Choi arrives, 5.18pm

It was proposed that the ERWG should be added to the SAAO Briefing list for communication and ensuring procedures being endorsed with SUPRA's presence aligns with current policies. Furthermore, the Green Paper submission from SUPRA is at odds, at times, with the ERWG, and this discrepancy should be examined.

Bram Hertasning arrives, 5.20pm

4. Minutes

a. March Council, March 18, 2010

A correction was made on the statement of the President arising from their report.

[APR10-01] MOTION: That the minutes be accepted with corrections

Moved: Nick Irving

Result: Carried

b. Management Committee Minutes

A typographical correction was made

[APR10-02] MOTION: That the minutes be accepted with corrections

Moved: John Nowakowski

Result: Carried

5. Business arising from these minutes

The Co-President stated that, while the minutes do not need to have direct sources for each comment, there should be attribution from comments when necessary, such as referring to documents or for assistance.

6. The Resignation of Richard Bailey from Council

Noted and accepted by Council

7. The Resignation of Fiona Curran as Publications Officer

Noted and accepted by Council

8. The Resignation of Jason Judge as Queer Officer

Noted and accepted by Council

9. Audited Reports

Procedural: That the item be moved In Camera

Moved: John Nowakowski

Result: Carried

Lynne Xie leaves, 5.29pm

[IN CAMERA]

Heidi Claus arrives, 5.29pm

10. Nominations for Vacancies on Council

Lynne Xie returns, 5.40pm

Nick Irving leaves, 5.55pm

[EX CAMERA]

11. Nominations for the role of Activities Co-Convenor and Publication Officer

Procedural: To defer this item until next Council meeting

Moved: John Nowakowski

Result Carried

Tim Dunstone leaves, 5.57pm

Rosemary Whitecross arrives, 5.57pm

Nick Irving returns, 5.58pm

12. Green Paper

Paolo Mazzi leaves, 5.59pm

John Nowakowski reviewed the documents in the Green Paper section, including a submission on Childcare from Sophia Barnes. Nick Irving reviewed Section 6 of the Green Paper submission

Ashlesha arrives, 6.05pm

Comments were made by Council that the APA may be government restricted, that teaching at the University is inequitable, that there is a lack of training for effective teaching, and that SUPRA has a policy on Casual Teaching. The Chair proposed that the policy be appended to the submission.

Lian Jenvey leaves, 6.13pm

Nick Irving responded to the comments. The Chair spoke to Section 13 of the submission. Concerns were raised that the target levels set forth in Section 13 were unclear and needed clarification.

Lian Jenvey returns, 6.15pm

[APR10-03] MOTION: That SUPRA endorse the targets set by the Environment Collective of the SRC, as noted in Section 13 of the Green Paper Submission

Moved: from the Chair

Result: Carried

The Chair spoke to Section 4 of the submission, and feels that SUPRA should push for co-operative, and not privately-run student housing. Comments were made that there is a

need to address affordability, and a general opposition to University-owned housing. The Chair spoke to Section 11 of the submission. Comments were made that consideration needs to be granted for the workloads for International Students as well as Part-time students with limited resources. The Chair spoke to Section 2 of the submission. Comments were made that the Green Paper implicitly holds numbers constant and moves towards more Research students. Council feels that University should be put forth as a right, not a privilege for students, and that SUPRA opposes fees and limiting students. A cap should be put forth on High SES students, not just meeting a target for Low SES students. Accessibility is critical, and a link should be made between the green paper and these statements. The Chair spoke to Section 9 of the submission, and noted that clarification is needed on what “a portion of the Teaching and Learning Budget” is. Further, the University needs to recognise that the USU has improved services in recent years and the autonomy of the Student Associations on campus. Administration and Maintenance need to be separated from Governance, and disassembling the Union does not address issues.

Procedural: Move to a vote

Moved: Nick Irving

Result: Carried

[APR10-04] MOTION: That Council endorse the Green Paper Submission, with amendments and notes as above

Moved: Nick Irving

Result: Carried

Procedural: To return to Item 10 to allow Ashlesha to address Council

Moved: John Nowakowski

Result: Carried

Ashlesha addressed Council and took questions regarding her nomination.

Surya Setiyaputra and Nick Irving leave, 6.52pm

Nick Irving returns, 6.55pm

Sid De leaves, 6.55pm

Surya Setiyaputra returns 6.56pm

Sid De returns, 6.57pm

13. Electoral Reform

a. Electoral Regulations

[APR10-05] MOTION: That Chihong Choi be permitted to appoint a proxy for the remainder of the meeting

Moved: John Nowakowski

Result: Carried

[APR10-06] MOTION: That Council accept the changes made to the Regulations, with a change to wording of 21c) from “recommend SUPRA take” to “recommend a General Meeting of the Subscribers take”

Moved: John Nowakowski

Result: Carried

b. Updated Standing Orders

Procedural: To defer the item to Management Committee

Moved: Nick Irving

Result: Carried

Procedural: To move the meeting In Camera

Moved: John Nowakowski

Result: Carried

Ashlesha leaves, 7.07pm

[IN CAMERA]

Jasmine Tan arrives, 7.08pm

Council adjourned, 7.14pm

Council resumed, 7.22pm

[EX CAMERA]

Fiona reported that Lynne Xie and Richard Bailey were appointed to Council.

14. Referrals to SAAOs from Councillors

Nick Irving updated Council as to the proper paths for referring people on to seeing SAAOs, noting that the main form of intake is via the SUPRA Admin, and that Councillors should not refer students directly to SAAOs. Furthermore, the Chair commented that Councillors are not SAAOs and should not advise students beyond referring them to the SAAOs.

15. Induction and Enrolments Debrief

A session for all people involved in both processes is scheduled for 11am, Friday April 23

16. Annual Report

The Annual Report is due for the beginning of May, with all Office Bearers required to submit a report and photo.

17. Other Business

a. Elections

A Councillor needs to work as a liaison between Council and the Electoral Officer. John Nowakowski was nominated and appointed by Council. Council encourages all nominations.

b. Thanks

Council sends their thanks to Fiona Curran and Jason Judge for their hard work and commitment to SUPRA.

18. Next Meeting – Tuesday, April 27, 5pm

All items for the Agenda due to secretary@supra.usyd.edu.au by 5pm, April 23.

Meeting Closed, 7.38pm