



MINUTES FOR A MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN EDUCATION LECTURE THEATRE 424 ON THE 10TH OF JUNE AT 6:00PM

Chair: Kylee Hartman-Warren

Minutes: Kane Hardy

Attendance: Kylee Hartman-Warren, Kane Hardy, Edward McMahon (*left at 7:10pm*), Christian Jones, Ahmed Suhaib, Dhaval Sanath Shukla, Mike Butler, Rachel Evans, Alexandra Nixon, Gareth Charles, Thomas Greenwell, Joshua Preece (*arrived at 6:20pm*), Nick Rowbotham (*arrived at 6:25pm*)

Staff: Francine Seeto

Guests: Mariam Muhammad (*left at 6:52pm*), Paul Duffill (*left at 6:52pm*)

★ 1. Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome

The chair opened the meeting at 6:14pm and gave an acknowledgement of country.

★ 2. Governance & Declaration of COI

2.1. Apologies

Carlos Monteverde

Melanie Stevenson

Elizabeth Millar

Fatima Rauf

Tavenisa Diri

Aaron Moye

Fawn Cha

Joseph Callingham

Marguerite Biasatti

Lily Matchett

Angelica Fernandez

2.2. Proxies

Carlos Monteverde to Syed Atif (2nd preference Ahmed Suhaib, 3rd preference Joseph Callingham)

Melanie Stevenson to Joshua Preece (2nd preference Christian Jones, 3rd preference Ahmed Suhaib)

Elizabeth Millar to Kane Hardy (2nd preference Kylee Hartman-Warren, 3rd preference Ahmed Suhaib)

Fatima Rauf to Ahmed Suhaib (2nd preference Kane Hardy, 3rd preference Rachel Evans)

Tavenisa Diri to Mike Butler (2nd preference Dhaval Sanath Shukla)

Aaron Moye to Mike Butler (2nd preference Thomas Greenwell, 3rd preference Kylee Hartman-Warren)

Joseph Callingham to Mike Butler

2.3. Starring of Items

Council is invited to star any agenda items they would like discussed.

Motion [JUN10-01]: That council approve all unstarred items.

Moved: Mike Butler **Seconded:** Thomas Greenwell

Carried.

Motion [JUN10-02]: That discussion move to item 16.

Moved: Rachel Evans

Carried.

Motion [JUN10-03]: That the report of the Women's Officer be discussed before item 16.

Moved: Mike Butler

Carried.

3. Minutes and Reports of Meetings

3.1. Minutes of the previous month's meetings

3.1.1. COUNCIL MEETING, 12TH MAY 2016, PAGES 5-22

3.1.2. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING, 24TH MAY 2016, PAGES 23-30

3.2. Business Arising from the Minutes

4. Officer Reports

4.1. Executive Reports

4.1.1. CO-PRESIDENT

Christian Jones

★ 4.1.2. CO-PRESIDENT (AND WOMEN'S OFFICER [ACTING])

Kylee Hartman-Warren

Joshua Preece arrived at 6:20pm.

Kylee Hartman-Warren (K.H.W.) summarised her written report. She spoke about Wine & Cheese, the AGM, segRTC, academic board, following up with work dynamic and Management Committee. She's currently working on PRU.

In terms of Women's Officer work, she mentioned coordinating the second election of the Women's Officer, at which Mariam Muhammad was elected. She recommended appointing Mariam as acting Women's Officer until the end of council since she is the next Women's Officer. Christian Jones (C.J.) said that Mariam would have to already be a councillor to take an office bearer position.

K.H.W. said that the notice that went out for the election of the Women's officer was vague. It said the election was for the 2016-2017 term. The constitution says that once someone is elected as Women's Officer they take over from the liaison.

Nick Rowbotham arrived at 6:25pm.

Rachel Evans (R.E.) said that she supports the appointment of Mariam Muhammad to Women's Officer. She said that it is also in the spirit of democratic functions. The old Women's Officer left the position three months ago and council has been trying to fill the position. She said that it would be good if the newly-elected Women's Officer could begin her term.

Mike Butler (M.Bu.) said that the constitution says that the acting officer will surrender their role and that is quite clear. Ahmed Suhaib (A.S.) said that SUPRA has always tried its best to stay out of equity decisions. He said that council should respect equity group decisions and respect the election of Mariam Muhammad.

Motion [JUN10-04]: That Mariam Muhammad take over from the role of Women's Officer for the remainder of the 2015-16 term.

Moved: Rachel Evans **Seconded:** Ahmed Suhaib

Carried.

Motion [JUN10-05]: That council approve the report of the Co-President and acting Women's Officer.

Moved: Kane Hardy **Seconded:** Rachel Evans

Carried.

Discussion continued to item 16.

4.1.3. VICE PRESIDENT

Thomas Greenwell

4.1.4. CO-EDUCATION OFFICER

Fatima Rauf

4.1.5. CO-EDUCATION OFFICER

Ahmed Suhaib

4.1.6. TREASURER

Carried.



4.2.3. INTERNATIONAL OFFICER

Dhaval Sanath Shukla

Edward McMahon left at 7:10pm, proxy to Kane Hardy.

Dhaval Sanath Shukla (D.S.) said that he wants to do a survey on international student issues. He had meetings with Margaret Kirkby and Thomas Greenwell for which he didn't claim hours. He is not sure how to get replies on international student issues. He said that he has left that and has started working on a social media platform for international students. He said that he is doing more hours than he is claiming.

D.S. said that he convened the PRU meeting this morning.

Motion [JUN10-09]: That council accepts the report of the International Officer.

Moved: Ahmed Suhaib **Seconded:** Mike Butler

Carried.

Motion [JUN10-10]: That discussion move to item 10.

Moved: Dhaval Sanath Shukla

Carried.

4.2.4. QUEER OFFICER

Rachel Evans



4.2.5. WOMEN'S OFFICER (ACTING)

Kylee Hartman-Warren

4.2.6. RURAL AND REGIONAL OFFICER

Elizabeth Millar



5. Verbal Report from a Member of Staff

F.S. said that she did not have much more to add to what she already said. She said that staff had been working on a lot of special consideration cases. She said that admin are close to being able to recruit for new the admin position, which will really help all staff.

M.Bu. asked if the transition to new special con system is affecting work. F.S. said that it is a bit early to tell. It has always been a big part of SAAO work. She said that there are more problems around faculties losing their discretionary powers around students themselves. The decision used to be made by academics and now admin people are doing it. There are some bizarre decisions because admin people don't have the contextual relationship on a particular student's ability to complete an assessment.

Motion [JUN10-12]: That the 2015/16 council thank the SAAO team for all the work they have done for the organisation this year.

Moved: Kylee Hartman-Warren **Seconded:** Dhaval Sanath Shukla

Carried.

★ 6. Request for Support

Thomas Greenwell left at 7:47pm.

Oliver More can't get to the Queer Collaborations conference in Perth because they don't have a lot of money. They are asking that SUPRA send them and they will give a report back to SUPRA and write a report for Honi. They will be staying with people over there, but costs will total around \$500.

Motion [JUN10-13]: That SUPRA fund the return flight of \$500 for Oliver Moore to Queer Collaborations Conference 2016 in Perth.

Moved: Ahmed Suhaib **Seconded:** Dhaval Sanath Shukla

Carried.

★ 7. Policy

7.1. Grievance Regulations

See attached documentation, pages 53-61.

Thomas Greenwell wasn't in the room to speak to this.

Motion [JUN10-14]: That discussion move to item 8 while Thomas Greenwell is out of the room.

Moved: Kylee Hartman-Warren

Carried.

Discussion moved to item 8.

Thomas Greenwell (T.G.) said that not much has changed. The policy has the approval of the lawyers who have looked at it. He said that it is ready to be approved after being worked on extensively.

Motion [JUN10-17]: That council adopt the attached grievance regulations as SUPRA's official grievance policy.

Moved: Rachel Evans **Seconded:** Thomas Greenwell

Carried.

7.2. Privacy Charter & Safer Spaces Charter changes from “Charter” to “Policy”

Gareth Charles (G.C.) asked why the wording needed to be changed. C.J. said that “charter” isn’t binding, “policy” is.

Motion [JUN10-18]: That the Privacy Charter and Safer Spaces Charter be renamed to the Privacy Policy and the Safer Spaces Policy.

Moved: Ahmed Suhaib **Seconded:** Dhaval Sanath Shukla
Carried.

★ 8. NOWSA

K.H.W. said that this is a women’s conference.

Thomas Greenwell returned at 7:50pm.

K.H.W. said that registration is \$100 each. From 11th-16th of June. It is in Sydney and is at UTS. Kylee Hartman-Warren, Rachel Evans and Mariam Muhammad have all expressed interest in attending.

Motion [JUN10-15]: That SUPRA approve up to \$260 for Kylee, Rachel and Mariam to attend the NOWSA conference this year.

Moved: Rachel Evans **Seconded:** Alexandra Nixon
Carried.

Motion [JUN10-16]: That discussion move back to item 7.

Moved: Kylee Hartman-Warren
Carried.

Discussion moved back to item 7.

★ 9. Solidarity with PNG Students

R.E. said that there was an action in solidarity with PNG students today. There was a 5-week strike that took place at 4 universities. Universities are calling on the government to go to the corruption commission. Police shot at students at the protest. R.E. wants at the end of the meeting to have a photo shoot in solidarity.

M.Bu. said that, in addition to this, organisers would like to fly out a student representative to talk about it. He would like to financially support this.

Motion [JUN10-19]: That SUPRA stand in solidarity with the PNG students and condemn the action of the PNG government.

Moved: Rachel Evans **Seconded:** Ahmed Suhaib
Carried.

★ 10. International Officer Stipend

D.S. said that since the last council meeting he has been claiming 14 hours per week. He said that even that is not enough. 7 hours per week is a joke. He can't handle 12,000 international students each week in 7 hours. Events, etc. take more than 14 hours per week.

Joshua Preece (J.P) said that he wouldn't be upset if it is increased, but he said he will oppose it because every time council increases a stipend it costs SUPRA \$10,500. That cash could be spent on other things.

Christian Jones (C.J.) said that equity officer stipends are not meant to be a living wage. He said that they are only paid 7 hours because most people should have another job. SUPRA doesn't have the \$10,500 to increase the stipend. SUPRA doesn't have enough to keep the women's officer stipend at 14 hours. SUPRA can't last with stipends this high.

Mike Butler (M.Bu.) said that he doesn't understand why council is so mean to the equity groups. He said that it goes against the principle of equity. These are disadvantaged students. Other students are middle class white Australians making decisions about equity groups.

Rachel Evans (R.E.) said that she supports 14 hours. She is only on 7 hours per week as the Queer Officer. International students are one of the cohorts super exploited by university and federal government. The Business School treatment of international students this year was a big issue. She said that it does raise questions about the budget though. Council will have to look at things like wine and cheese that aren't human beings and see if it could do it cheaper.

Alexandra Nixon (A.N.) said that the statement that people should be doing another job is an ablest thing to say. Nick Rowbotham (N.R.) said that he supports an increase and said that council needs to reprioritise spending. Activist spending is the core function of the organisation.

Ahmed Suhaib (A.S.) said that he agreed with what people have said. Council doesn't have to cut stipends. Social events need to be cut down. If you go through the budget there are other places where the budget could be cut.

D.S. said that he if he should be working voluntarily, why isn't Christian doing his work voluntarily?

Francine Seeto (F.S.) said that she was reluctant to speak about this. She has understanding on SSAF. Staff always consult with students in council each year. SUPRA provides core advocacy functions. She said that there are other services outside council. She was heartened to hear equity officers speak so passionately about their portfolios though. Equity positions are complex. She is supportive of postgrad students and this council looking at the way the money is received and what council wants to achieve and how to achieve its goals with the money it is given. Equity positions are putting a lot of work into their portfolios. Council needs to look at how to structure stipends sustainably. Staff do advocacy on behalf of all those equity groups. Council should look at how to distribute responsibilities and not just rely on one equity officer.

Motion [JUN10-11]: That council approve the increase of the international officer stipend from 7 hour to 14 hours per week.

Moved: Mike Butler **Seconded:** Rachel Evans

Carried.

Against: Joshua Preece, Christian Jones

Discussion moved back to item 5.

★ **11. CISA Conference**

D.S. said that he wants SUPRA to go there to talk about student issues. The costs would be the flights to Darwin. He has suggested previously that someone from SUPRA should accompany him and support him. He wants to approve money for one person and he will accompany them at his own expense. The conference is \$350, \$600 for flights and accommodation.

Motion [JUN10-20]: That council approve \$1000 for a SUPRA delegate to attend the CISA conference in Darwin.

Moved: Dhaval Sanath Shukla **Seconded:** Ahmed Suhaib

Carried.

★ **12. 2016 Budget**

J.P. said that three things need discussion. Stipends have already been dealt with this meeting. He said that the other change that he wanted was to change all equity officers to 7 hours, but council doesn't seem willing to do that. He said that the Women's Officer stipend was only increased until June 30.

Motion [JUN10-21]: That the Women's Officer stipend be permanently increased to 14 hours per week.

Moved: Ahmed Suhaib **Seconded:** Alexandra Nixon

Carried.

Against: Christian Jones

J.P. said that the third change is discussion about CAPA affiliation. Last year SUPRA paid \$26,000. He said that given that SUPRA received little to no support in first 4 months, council should ask for a remission. He suggested paying \$15,000.

D.S. said that, to his understanding, SUPRA approved \$5000 for the NUS Education Conference. If asking that we have a fee waiver CAPA, we should have one for NUS too. Nicholas Rowbotham (N.R.) said that this needs a more thorough discussion because council doesn't know much about CAPA's finances.

R.E. said that she has a document from the CAPA SCM held in May. CAPA hasn't been responding to SUPRA but it isn't known who will be elected at the next federal election. Neither Liberal nor Labor will be good for students. It is important to have a national organisation. SUPRA shouldn't rush to cut affiliation.

J.P. suggested approving \$15,000 then council could discuss this again later. R.E. said that students need a national organisation to counter government attacks. SUPRA should keep it at \$26,000. The president of CAPA does want to come and address SUPRA.

Two counterposed motions were proposed:

Motion [JUN10-22]: That SUPRA budget for a \$26,000 affiliation fee and revisit this at the next meeting.

Moved: Rachel Evans **Seconded:** Nicholas Rowbotham

Carried.

Motion [JUN10-23]: That SUPRA budget for a \$15,000 affiliation fee and revisit this at the next meeting.

Moved: Christian Jones **Seconded:** Joshua Preece

Failed.

Motions [JUN10-22] and [JUN10-21] each received 9 votes. The chair had the casting vote and voted for Motion [JUN10-22].

T.G. asked about satellite campus support and why it says \$3500 was allocated but only \$900 was spent. J.P. said this refers to events Margaret Kirkby does at other campuses.

A.S. said that he wanted to reduce hours for Vice-President, Secretary and Education Officer to 20 hours. He said that international students can't work more than 20 hours per week and this would be more inclusive. R.E. said that this is a cut and isn't in support of it.

D.S. said that council should think again about investing money in an undergraduate conference (EdCon). Kane Hardy (K.H.) responded, stating that it's not exactly an undergraduate conference. Attacks on higher education are relevant to all students and SUPRA is co-hosting the conference.

K.H.W. said that the next council should think about raising money for social events. D.S. agreed, stating that council needs to restructure events like wine and cheese to get the most out of them. J.P. said that wine and cheese is important because it helps people engage with the organisation. K.H. said that wine and cheese events only total around \$2500 a semester, which is not a huge expense for SUPRA's biggest event and which so effectively engages people with the organisation. F.S. said that social events like wine and cheese are important also for international students who can't otherwise network with other people.

Motion [JUN10-24]: That the stipends of the Vice-President, Secretary and Education Officer be reduced to 20 hours per week.

Moved: Ahmed Suhaib **Seconded:** Dhaval Sanath Shukla

Failed.

Motion [JUN10-25]: That council approve the attached budget.

Moved: Joshua Preece **Seconded:** Christian Jones

Carried.

★ 13. Election Cheat Sheet

Ahmed Suhaib (as the Co-Education Officer) said that he only had replies from Labor and Socialist Alliance. The Greens and Liberals didn't respond. He is going to research the information that wasn't provided. He will compile it into a pamphlet with all details. Fatima

Rauf (Co-Education officer) will hopefully have it finished by Sunday at the latest. He will then distribute to postgrad areas and maybe hand them out on Eastern Avenue. He is asking council to endorse it to be ready to be distributed.

Motion [JUN10-26]: That council endorse the Co-Education Officers to create an election cheat sheet with the information they have collected to be distributed on behalf of SUPRA.

Moved: Kane Hardy **Seconded:** Dhaval Sanath Shukla

Carried.

★ **14. Calico for Banners**

A.S. said that he wanted to get some money approved for calico material to be used for banners. The calico material is 90cm wide and the roll is 36.6 metres long. The material costs \$3.35/metre, totalling \$122.61. K.H. said that R.E. just got some calico but SUPRA will always need it so council should still approve the money.

Motion [JUN10-27]: That council approve \$150 for calico material.

Moved: Christian Jones **Seconded:** Dhaval Sanath Shukla

Carried.

★ **15. Rape Culture Event**

See attached documentation, pages 71-73.

K.H.W. spoke about the event. She wants \$350.00 for brunch, snacks and coffee. R.E. said that there should be an asterisk where the U is in "FUCK RAPE CULTURE". This is a joint event with the Women's Collective.

Motion [JUN10-28]: That council approve \$350 for brunch, snacks and coffee for the F*ck Rape Culture Event.

Moved: Mike Butler **Seconded:** Alexandra Nixon

Carried.

★ **16. Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies (CPACS)**

Paul Duffill (P.D.) said that he is a visiting scholar at CPACS and he is on the executive committee. R.E. invited him to speak about the current situation with CPACS. It will be downgraded to a department soon from a centre. That means CPACS will lose community engagement mechanisms and outreach. It currently has a council of people from different backgrounds. That council will no longer have an official structure as a department and the constitution will become defunct. Outreach activities including nuclear disarmament, refugee language program etc. will be under threat.

He has two main asks:

1. He wants SUPRA to write something to the dean to ensure there will be no effect on CPACS advocacy. CPACS is postgrad only so it fits well with SUPRA's goals.

2. He wants SUPRA to promote the centre. The university has said that CPACS can keep postgrad teaching open if it keeps enrolments up. This is quite vague but the centre must try to increase enrolments regardless.

CPACS has been involved in promoting basic human rights in Israel-Palestine. They do human rights advocacy. They have helped a student from Gaza graduate for example. Sydney University has exchange agreement with an Israeli university. Israeli universities actively are involved in military activities against Palestinian civilians. He asked for support in campaign against Israeli human rights abuses.

Mariam Muhammad left at 6:52pm, proxy to Dhaval Sanath Shukla.

Motion [JUN10-06]: That SUPRA write a letter to the Dean of Arts asking that CPACS keep its advocacy programs and that it be sent out in eGrad.

Moved: Mike Butler **Seconded:** Thomas Greenwell

Carried.

Discussion continued back to item 4.2.

★ 17. Other Business

17.1. Trip to China

M.Bu. said that there is tour of Chinese Universities organised to meet Chinese student representatives and he has been invited. He said that it is almost entirely funded but he is asking for SUPRA to foot his visa application (\$200) and \$400 for expenses. He will report back to SUPRA and will work on Chinese students studying in Australia. J.P. said that he is wary to pay for an individual's visa.

R.E. said that SUPRA going to China is a good thing. There is a lot of fact finding that could happen. She said that Mike should be a SUPRA representative though if SUPRA is going to foot the costs. He would need to tell council what he will do specifically for SUPRA at the events. She expects a thorough report back. She requested that this be in writing so that council can assess it.

T.G. said that it is supposed to be all expenses paid. M.Bu. said yes, but there are smaller expenses that aren't covered. G.C. said that this should be deferred to Management Committee.

Motion [JUN10-29]: That it be noted that each councillor's contribution to SUPRA over the last is very appreciated.

Moved: Kylee Hartman-Warren **Seconded:** Christian Jones

Carried.

G.C. thanked Kylee Hartman-Warren for all of her service to SUPRA over the years.

Meeting closed at 9:18pm.