

Minutes



Committee: [Council Meeting]
Location: [Zoom]
Date: [19 January 2023]
Time: [6:30 pm]

Chair: Weihong Liang (W. L.)
Minutes: Frona Wan (F. W.)
Attendance: Arash Araghi (A. A.), Erxun Cai (E. C.), Eva Midtgaard (E. M.), Esther Zeng (E. Z.), Frona Wan (F. W.), Guangwen Fu (G. F.), Gemma Smart (G. S.), Hao Chen (H. C.), Hailey Sin (H. S.), Huizi Wang (H. W.), Joseph Black (J. B.), Jinjing Mao (J. M.), Ke Liu (K. L.), Lindsay McCabe (L. M.), Liqian Yang (L. Y.), Matthew Compton (M. C.), Qiaoyu Guan (Q. G.), Ruipeng Duan (R. D.), Sihan Liu (S. L.), Vivian Bai (V. B.), Weihong Liang (W. L.), Xu Han (X. H.), Yuning Zhang (Y. Z.), Yun Zheng (Y. Zh.)
Staff: Nil
Guests: Jackie Ding

1. Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation as the traditional custodians of the land. We acknowledge that the land upon which we meet is stolen land, and that sovereignty was never ceded. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and extend those respects to all First Nations persons here. This always was, and always will be, Aboriginal land.

2. Governance & Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

2.1 Apologies

Weiyi Wang (W. W.), Janice Zhang (J. Z.); Kevin Lenahan (K. Le.) to Arash Araghi (A. A.)

2.2 Proxies

Janice Zhang (J. Z.) to Xu Han (X. H.)

2.3 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest (if any)

2.4 Starring of Items

Councilors are invited to star any agenda items they would like to discuss.
Recommendation: That the Council approves all unstarred items.

2.5 Resignations (if relevant)

- General Councilor: Haoyang Xie, effective on 3rd January 2023
- General Councilor: Chuye Shi, effective on 3rd January 2023
- General Councilor: Kejia Feng, effective on 8th January 2023

3. Minutes and Reports of Meetings

3.1 Minutes of previous month's meetings

3.1.1 Council, 15th December 2022

4. Officer Reports

4.1 Executive Reports

4.1.1 PRESIDENT

Weihong Liang

4.1.2 CO-VICE PRESIDENT

Jingxin (Janice) Zhang
Xu Han

4.1.3 CO-EDUCATION OFFICER

Yuning Zhang
Sihan Liu

4.1.4 SECRETARY

Xinxin (Frona) Wan

4.1.5 CO-TREASURER

Ruipeng Duan
Liqian Yang

4.1.6 CO-DIRECTOR OF STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Cheuk Chi (Hailey) Sin
Guangwen Fu

4.2 Equity Reports

4.2.1 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER OFFICER

Lindsay McCabe

4.2.2 DISABILITY OFFICER

Eva Midtgaard
Gemma Lucy Smart

4.2.3 INTERNATIONAL OFFICER

Ke Liu
Yun Zheng

4.2.4 QUEER OFFICER

Joseph Jordan Black

4.2.5 WOMEN'S OFFICER

Vivian Bai
Ziqing (Evelyn) Xu

4.2.6 SATELLITE CAMPUS OFFICER

JinJing Mao

4.2.7 HIGHER DEGREE BY RESEARCH STUDENT OFFICER

Arash Araghi
Gemma Lucy Smart

4.3 Business Arising from Reports

5. Reports by Staff Members

5.1 Staff report between 16th December 2022 and 16th January 2023

The report from the admin team was not submitted.

6. Matters for Discussion

- ★ 6.1 A Motion to Access \$5000 Funding to Hold a Launch Party for 2023 *BlakOut*
[Proposed by Lindsay McCabe (L. M.)]
(Please find attached *BlakOut 2023.pdf* for more details.)

The journal began in 2022, and saw five Aboriginal students from different Countries and disciplines come together to learn how to write an academic article for peer review. To support the students, three catered workshops were held throughout the year to provide a space for them to work on their articles, and to be better integrate and privilege the voices of other First Nations scholars.

Lindsay will start proceeding this event from February. M. C. suggested SUPRA to invite relevant university departments and faculties to get involved. The Council endorsed this motion for a majority of votes.

Moved: X. H.
Second: Y. Zh.
In favor: 23
H. S., and G. F. did not vote.

- 6.2 A Motion to Increase the Honorarium of Online Q&A Platform Assistants [Proposed by Yun Zheng (Y. Zh.)]

(Please find attached A Motion to Increase the Honorarium of Online Q&A Platform Assistants.pdf for more details.)

- 6.3 Council to Approve the Disability Equity Network to Set Aside \$2500 from Its Budget for SUPRA Promotional Material [Proposed by Gemma Smart (G. S.) and Eva Midtgaard (E. M.)]

The SUPRA Disability Equity Network will set aside \$2500 from its budget for SUPRA promotional material that is specifically for items that are disability and accessibility oriented, including but not limited to: reading rulers, stim toys, pill cutters, ear plugs, and planners. These will be used at the Disability Hub stall in Welcome Week, at Disability events throughout the year, and the launch of the autonomous Disability space.

- 6.4 Council to Approve up to \$4000 to Print the Welcome to SUPRA Brochures [Proposed by Louise Corney (L. C.)]

- ★ 6.5 Council to Approve up to \$3500 from Our HDR Equity Budget toward an HDR Wine and Cheese Event on Camperdown Campus [Proposed by Arash Araghi (A. A.) and Gemma Smart (G. S.)]

We are requesting council to approve up to \$3500 from our HDR equity budget toward a wine and cheese event to be organised exclusively for HDR candidates. The aim is to bring both commencing and continuing research candidates of all disciplines together in a relaxed social setting where ideas for cross-disciplinary collaboration and networking could be fostered. As well, this event will be an opportunity for the equity network to grow. We will advertise the event heavily using all our platforms as well as the university network. The venue of preference to hire is Courtyard Café and Restaurant as it has plenty of space to hold caterings of large numbers. The tentative date will likely be in March but the exact date yet to be confirmed subject to the availability of the venue. The budget will pay for food and drink of up to 200 attendees, and cost of live music performance. Food will mostly be pizza, cheese platters and desserts, including fully vegan and halal options. Same goes with alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages (est. \$9 per head) so we can be inclusive of all attendees who may have dietary restrictions. The musician is a HDR candidate from Sydney Conservatorium of Music who will perform live music on the night. The estimate cost for this performance will be around \$250.

A.A. informed that he would like to this event to be posted on the University calendar and faculty platforms; Inviting a performer on site was also taken into consideration. Councillors suggested ways to advertise (e.g., having a photo booth on site) the event, limit the budget to a certain number (e.g., asking Countrytard Cafe to offer less food on that day when people show up).

Moved: Y. Z.
Second: L. M.
In favor: 22
E. M., H. W., and H. S did not vote.

- ★ 6.6 Seminar on Supervisory Relationships and Actively Managing your Thesis Journey
- Budget request \$1870 [Proposed by Arash Araghi (A. A.) and Gemma Smart (G. S.)]

Taking on a research degree is a long-term commitment. It is easy for HDR candidates to fall into the trap of thinking that their supervisor will guide their candidature journey every step of the way, without them having to take control themselves. For some students, this may be true. But for most students, it is (at least in part) up to them to manage both the course of their degree, and their relationship with their supervisory in an active rather than passive way. We have organised a 2-hr seminar to be held on Tuesday 28th March from 1 – 3 PM featuring thesis management expert Hugh Kearns from The University of Adelaide and itthinkWell, who will address management strategies HDRs can benefit from during their course of Research Candidatures. For more information on itthinkWell, visit: <https://www.itthinkwell.com.au/>

While this seminar will be aimed at all research students, we will take the time to provide help with those in difficult supervisory settings. With ongoing project demands and continuous expectations of meeting research milestone deadlines compounded by hurdles HDRs often experience in a form of systemic challenges and unexpected setbacks, there will be, inevitably, driving force to push student-supervisor relationship to the edge and in some cases, may lead to deterioration and breakdown of relationships. This is of course something we're very familiar with at SUPRA! We acknowledge mounting pressures from supervisors are common issues that most HDRs, if not all, experience, but most leave unspoken. And those that have been spoken about often come to an end with severely damaged and antagonising relationships. Hence, our secondary aim with this workshop is to initiate a conversation where difficult supervisory relationship could be actively but appropriately managed before letting small issues uncontrollably turn into a snowball.

The total cost of this 2-hr session is '\$1870 (incl.gst)'. This seminar will be delivered via Zoom and we will retain a recording of it for future reference. We acknowledge the importance and popularity of the topic among our HDR community, but also this may well gain traction from the Early Career Researchers (ECRs) and Academics/Research Supervisors community.

W. L. suggested we confirm with the speaker about whether the zoom meeting can be recorded and used as a public record. G. S. would follow up on this. A.A. suggested we get in touch with the Education portfolio and let them know. G. S. would promote the event ASAP and collaborate with the Education portfolio and

student centre for promotion purposes.

Moved: L. M.

Second: J. B.

In favor: 22

E. M., H. W., and H. S did not vote.

7. Matters for Noting

- 7.1 Appointment of Hao Chen (H. C.) as the General Councilior [Nominated by Haoyang Xie (H. X.)]
- 7.2 Appointment of Qiaoyu Guan (Q. G.) as the General Councilior [Nominated by Chuye Shi (C. S.)]
- 7.3 Appointment of Erxun Cai (E. C.) as the General Councilior [Nominated by Kejia Feng (K. F.)]
- 7.4 Nomination of Qiaoyu Guan (Q. G.) as the Deputy Women Officer [Nominated by Vivan Bai (V. B.)]

8. Other Business

W. L. asked councilors opinions on whether the Council should have online or in-person council meeting in S1 2023. It was largely agreed that we should have meetings in a hybrid mode.