

Minutes



Committee: [Council Meeting]
Location: [Zoom]
Date: [27 July 2023]
Time: [6:30 pm]

Chair: Weihong Liang (W. L.)
Minutes: Vivian Bai (V. B.)
Attendance: Arash Araghi (A. A.), Benny Shen (B. S.), Chaoyang Li (C. L.), Dorothy Liu (D. L.), Eva Midtgaard (E. M.), Frona Wan (F. W.), Gemma Smart (G. S.), Hailey Sin (H. S.), Hillary Davis (H. D.), Jinjing Mao (J. M.), Jules Rankin (J. R.), Justin Wu (J. W.), Ke Liu (K. L.), Qian (Eileen) Yang (Q. Y.), Qiuming Zhang (Q. Z.), Sabrina Chen (S. C.), Shangru Li (S. L.), Siran (Shirley) Li (Si. L.), Xingyan Zhou (X. Zhou.), Yao Yao (Y. Y.), Yitong Bao (Y. B.), Yuwen Si (Y. S.), Zheqi Ding (Z. D.), Zion Liu (Z. L.)
Staff: Nil
Guests: Lauren Lim

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

Yuning Zhang (Y. Z.)

2.2 Proxies

Yuning Zhang (Y. Z.) to Eva Midtgaard (E. M.)

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: Ke Wang, effective on 22nd July 2023

3. Minutes and Reports of Meetings

3.1 Minutes of previous month's meetings

3.1.1 Council, 29th June 2023

4. Officer Reports

4.1 Executive Reports

4.1.1 PRESIDENT

Weihong Liang

4.1.2 VICE PRESIDENT

Xinxin (Frona) Wan

4.1.3 CO-SECRETARY

Sabrina Chen

Vivian Bai

4.1.4 CO-TREASURERS

Zihao (Justin) Wu

Chaoyang Li

4.1.5 EDUCATION OFFICER

Yinfeng (Benny) Shen

4.1.6 CO-DIRECTOR OF STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Siran (Shirley) Li

Jinyi (Dorothy) Liu

4.2 Equity Reports

4.2.1 ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER OFFICER

Lindsay McCabe

4.2.2 DISABILITY OFFICER

Gemma Smart

4.2.3 HIGHER DEGREE BY RESEARCH (HDR) STUDENT OFFICER

Arash Araghi

4.2.4 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT OFFICER

Xingyan Zhou

4.2.5 QUEER OFFICER [not submitted]

Jules Rankin

4.2.6 SATELLITE CAMPUS OFFICER

Jinjing Mao

4.2.7 WOMEN'S OFFICER

Qiuming Zhang

4.3 Other Officers' Reports

4.3.1 CO-COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICERS

Ke Liu

Hailey Sin

4.4 Business Arising from Reports

5. Reports by Staff Members

5.1 Staff report between 27th June to 24th July 2023

6. Election of the Carer's Officer [Candidate: Eva Midtgaard]

Congratulations to Eva, who was elected.

7. Matters for Discussion

★ 7.1 Proposal to increase office opening days [proposed by Frona Wan (F. W.)]

Council agrees that they would like staff in the office and for it to be open more days in the week. Council would like some staff from all teams to be in the office all days that we are open with an understanding that this will be limited for the Legal Service at the moment. The President will discuss with the coordinators about how this can be implemented.

Weihong (W. L.) suggested that since students are returning to campus this semester, our office should also be open 5 days a week, aligning with the University's office working days. While it's not mandatory for all staff, we need to ensure that there is someone present in the office during working hours.

Moved: K. L.
Second: G. S.

In favor: 21
Not in favor: 0
Abstention: 0
H.D., J. R., Y. Y., Y. Z., Y. S., and Z. D. did not vote.
Motion approved.

7.2 Proposal to hold fitness events in 2023 S2 [proposed by Ke Liu (K. L.)]

(Please find attached Proposal to hold fitness events in Semester 2, 2023.pdf for more details.)

There are five courses scheduled over the weekends in Semester 2, and the total amount is \$21,300, including climbing shoes rental.

7.3 SUPRA 2023 S2 Postgraduates Welcoming Party Budget Approval [proposed by Zihao (Justin) Wu (Z. W.)]

(Please find attached SUPRA 2023 S2 Postgraduates Welcoming Party Budget Approval.docx for more details.)

The Community committee is planning to host a postgraduate welcome party for 250 students on 4th August from 5 pm to 8 pm at Courtyard. This party is partially funded by the Student Life Grants Committee. The final budget for approval from Council: \$1,550.

7.4 Proposal for welcome party [proposed by Eva Midtgaard (E. M.)]

We propose to hold the supra welcome party at the at Paul's rooftop 19:00-21:00. We would like to provide light snacks through ordering pizza as well as having some snack plates available. Drinks will be provided by the St Paul's wine cellar, alcoholic and non-alcoholic options available. (Sangria was very popular last time and we hope to make this again. This is similar to the party we had last semester, but with pizza instead of wine. The event will be hosted with the help of volunteers from St Paul's graduate house, we are using the facilities for free but welcoming the residents of the house to the event. There will be a photographer at the event.

Budget: up to \$2,500 (\$16.67 per person)

People: 150

Eva (E. M.) provided additional information about the event. The scheduled date for the event is 11 August. She plan to order food from Dominos, while snacks and drinks will be purchased directly from the retailer at retail prices. Volunteers from St. Pauls wine cellar will be assisting with serving, prepping, and cleaning up. Additionally, there is no fee for using the space for the event.

★ 7.5 SUPRA Welcome Week Food Voucher Budget Approval [proposed by Frona Wan (F. W.)]

(Please find attached SUPRA Welcome Week Food Voucher Budget Approval.docx for more details.)

SUPRA will set up six stalls during the O-week, and both SUPRA Councilors and volunteers will be required to be present at these stalls. An allocation of \$2,500 will be designated for USU food vouchers, which will be provided to these dedicated participants.

Eva (E. M.) suggested that we should provide volunteers with snacks on the stall day, irrespective of the duration of their assistance.

Gemma (G. S.) brought to our attention that there will be a disability hub during the Welcome Fest. As Sabrina (S. C.) is conducting a volunteer training before the event, she will take the opportunity to inform the volunteers about this stall.

Moved: A. A.
Second: S. C.

In favor: 22
Not in favor: 0
Abstention: 0

J. R., Y. Y., Y. Z., Y. S., and Z. D. did not vote.
Motion approved.

7.6 Westmead Celebration Night 2023 [proposed by Jinjing Mao (J. M.)]

(Please find attached Proposal for Westmead Celebration Night 2023.docx for more details.)

The Westmead Celebration Night, a collaborative event hosted by three main student societies at Westmead campus, is expected to have approximately 70-100 attendees, with a budget ranging from \$3,500 to \$4,500.

J. M. confirmed that this event will take the form of a gala, explaining the higher price associated with it.

★ 7.7 The establishment of SUPRA Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) [proposed by Yinfeng (Benny) Shen (Y. S.)]

(Please find attached The establishment of SUPRA Strategic Planning Committee (SPC).docx for more details.)

The SPC fosters collaboration between SUPRA Council and staff, addressing governance, welfare, and academic matters, prioritising external engagement, and ensuring postgraduate community well-being.

Gemma (G. S.) raised a concern about sharing meeting information with non-attendees. Benny (B. S.) will ensure the content is accessible to all councilors. Additionally, he will organise an informal councilor catch-up to facilitate in-person interactions and help councilors get to know each other better..

Moved: B. S.
Second: H. S.

In favor: 22
Not in favor: 0
Abstention: 0

J. R., Y. Y., Y. Z., Y.S., and Z. D. did not vote.
Motion approved.

★ 7.8 \$1000 toward HDR Welcome Afternoon Tea [proposed by Arash Araghi (A. A.)]

In order to welcome the incoming cohort of HDR candidates, we are organising a welcome event scheduled for September. During the event, we plan to gather for an afternoon tea (estimated cost per head ~\$15). Our primary objective is to connect with the new cohort, introduce them to SUPRA's core services and activities, and foster an inclusive HDR equity network.

Moved: E. M.
Second: B. S.

In favor: 21
Not in favor: 0
Abstention: 0

J. R., Y. Y., Y., B., Y. Z., Y. S., and Z. D. did not vote.
Motion approved.

8. Matters for Noting

8.1 Ke Wang (K. W.) has resigned from the position of SUPRA councilor, and expressed his desire to transfer his position to Yitong Bao (Y. B.)

★ 8.2 GradCon 2023 Report [proposed by Gemma Lucy Smart (G. S.), Frona Wan (F. W.), and Xingyan Zhou (X. Z.)]

(Please find attached GradCon Report.docx for more details.)

G. S. (online), F. W. (in-person), and X. Z. (in-person) attended the GradCon conference hosted at the University of Queensland. The event brought together representatives from various Australian universities to discuss the future of graduate education and issues affecting students nationwide. The discussions were relevant to SUPRA's ongoing work on the Strategic Plan and advocacy initiatives.

8.3 Starting from August and continuing onwards, our Council Meeting will transition into a hybrid format, combining both online and in-person attendance. [proposed by Weihong Liang (W. L.)]

9. Other Business

- 9.1 Vivian (V. B.) requests all councilors to review the Constitution 2023, which was approved by the Members at the AGM on 30 May 2023 and by the DVC(E) on 25 July 2023. Ingrid has uploaded it to the policy manual on the server and archived the previous 2021 version. Additionally, Emma has also uploaded it to our website.
- 9.2 Gemma (G. S.) informed us that the disability induction week is scheduled for the first week of September, and she suggests that we avoid planning any other events during that week.
- 9.3 Benny (B. S.) proposed the idea of opening up a group chat as a way to increase councilors' overall engagement. Weihong (W. L.) also encourages all councilors to come to the staff-organised trainings, with the aim of fostering better interaction and collaboration among councilors.