

**Summary of the QPSU Council meeting**  
**11 September 2007**

QPSU Council met on 11 September 2007. 121 delegates were in attendance, plus observers. Council met at the Convention and Exhibition Centre in South Brisbane.

Delegates received a report from the General Secretary, Alex Scott, regarding union membership. He reported that since the last report to Council, 1511 new members had been accepted. He noted that this was the same amount as was recruited in a 12-month period last year. This continues the QPSU's membership growth in defiance of the overall trend.

The meeting saw a briefing on the union's new Your Rights at Work Hero program by Steven Miles, Director of Industrial Services. Starting with an initial goal of recruitment of 500 very active members, the "Your Rights at Work Heroes", he noted that this number had already been exceeded, with 570 Heroes recruited so far. He explained the Your Rights at Work Hero campaign in detail, mentioning the campaign website, [www.qpsu.org.au/hero](http://www.qpsu.org.au/hero), and described how Heroes will receive campaign updates via online video briefings, the website, email, and other means. He also detailed the training programme that was being provided to Heroes.

The meeting heard from a special guest speaker in the form of Don Brown, a former Industrial Commissioner and now head of the Queensland Workplace Rights Ombudsman. Mr Brown provided delegates with a detailed outline of his role and functions, the work of his office, and how to access the Workplace Rights Ombudsman. He spoke about the threat posed by the federal government's legislation and the Queensland government's role in protecting employees within its jurisdiction.

Another briefing was given by Karin Peut and David Kofed of QSuper, who described the effects of the federal government's changes to superannuation legislation, and the effect this would have on public service employees. QSuper stressed that any members looking to retire in the near future should consult with a financial planner. They also indicated that QSuper is available to assist should members have questions about superannuation issues.

The meeting accepted the report of the 2007 QPSU Women's conference. WorkCover delegate Rebecca Beggs was announced as the QPSU's nominee for the Anna Stewart Memorial Project, for the training and skill development of women unionists, organised by the Queensland Council of Unions. It was also announced that three nominations had been received for the Ellen Matilda Nolan, a similar project run by the QPSU internally. These will participate in the project next March.

Other important business discussed at the Council meeting included the determination of electoral sub-divisions for the election of delegates to be held in 2008.