

**Submission**

**No 36**

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ACCOMMODATION IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Dr Gloria Mao

**Date Received:** 7/10/2011

I am a resident of Leichhardt Council Municipality (LCM) and a member of [REDACTED] (CAC). CAC has become aware of Boarding House applications under the NSW Dept of Planning Affordable Housing SEPP (AH SEPPA) during our fight against 2 development applications to convert 2 Heritage Conservation Area homes at [REDACTED] Lilyfield NSW. We opposed the boarding house applications on the grounds that it proposed modifications are too large in bulk and scale, degrade the conservation value of the area, adverse impacts to neighbouring amenity such as loss of privacy and loss of street parking. The property owner indicated that Council development control plans would be disregarded because of the AH SEPP. CAC has written to MP Hazzard, Minister of Planning to protest the AH SEPP because it is being used as a mechanism for property owners to overstep local council development controls.

With regards to International Student Housing, I have become aware of the work of MARS (Marsfield Against Residential Suffocation). I have read the MARS submission and I am in complete agreement with their "principles to address the problem." I want to emphasize that Macquarie University must take responsibility to assist students with accommodation. Macquarie should work with the community to find approved housing and work with the operators of the housing to maintain a high standard of operation. It is completely unfair for residents living near Macquarie University to shoulder the social problems created from unregulated boarding houses servicing the needs of the international students.