

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday February 4, 2003
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00pm

MINUTES

PRESENT: Clark, Dahle, DerManuelian, Harmetz, LaFlamme, Lam, McLaren, Neal, Pearlman, Tuttle, Wilson, Yu

ABSENT: Cordero, Diaz, Eastman, Grace, Leyco, Nelson, Styczynski

GUESTS: Janice Oh, Menaka Fernando, Gideon Baum, Justin Levi, Joshua Lawson, Bert Thomas, Rita Kern, Rob Hennig, Dria Fearn, Andrew Green

- I. A. Call to Order
-Dahle called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.
- B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet
-DerManuelian passed the Attendance Sheet around.
- II. Approval of the Agenda
-LaFlamme, Wilson and Yu asked to be added to the Officer and Member Reports.
-Lam asked that the No Student Fee Increase Resolution, under New Business, be tabled.
-Dahle asked if there were any objections to approval of the Agenda, as amended, by consent.
There being no objections the Agenda, as amended, was approved by consent.
- III. Approval of the Minutes
-There were no Minutes this week.
- IV. Special Presentations
University Professional and Technical Employees Union (UPTE), Rita Kern
-Rita Kern introduced herself as a staff research assistant at the Neuropsychiatric Institute and the president of the UPTE. She said that UPTE represents 3 different groups of employees, the researchers, technicians, and health care workers. She said that the union was formed in 1993 and represents 2,500 employees. She said that many of the employees that this union represents work on a day to day basis with students. She said that the technicians often teach classes. She said that the staff has a larger role than just service, they also take a large part in student interaction. She said that their contract recently expired. She said that their raises have been delayed and it looks as if when they come salaries will only increase by 1.5%. She said that in comparison to the increase in the cost of living, the parking rate, and other factors, the 1.5% increase in pay is small. She said that it will result in a net loss for many people. She said that it is also being said that next year there will be no raises. She said that the UPTE is also trying to organize the administrative professionals into a union. She said that if the union can secure just a 1 percent increase in wages it pays the member's dues. She said that last year the union worked with the students to make a change. She said that they wanted to make themselves available again to the students.
- Bert Thomas introduced himself as the president of the Coalition of University Employees. He said that they are a clerical union. He said that they are upset. He said that he has been pushed into being a labor activist by UCLA. He said that the UC system has used numbers in the past to say that they are broke. He said that this is bull. He said that the UC system is a

four star firm. He said that roughly 21% of the UC system's funding comes from the state and the rest is private. He said that the UC system tells the banks that they're healthy and the press that they're broke. He said that last year the system had a growth rate of 11%. He said that according to their 2001-2002 annual and national report they are strong and healthy. He said that despite all of this they still tell the banks that they're broke. He said that today they run UCLA like a Wal-Mart. He said that he has found that the labor movement is real. He said that people who have been treated badly will continue to be treated badly. He said that he encourages USAC to be on the side of labor whenever they can. He said that on February 26th they would be holding a rally throughout the state asking for no layoffs and no cuts and exposing the UC system's lies. He said that the UC system has a \$4 billion dollar non-earmarked reserve. He said that the Coalition of University Employees is interested in supporting USAC and having their support.

-Rob Hennig introduced himself as a lecturer in the Political Science Department. He said that all of the groups are here today because they are working together for the good of the employees at UCLA. He said that the UC system is one of the worst employers in higher education. He said that UC President Atkinson promised to clean things up three years ago and things only got worse. He said that the lecturers have been bargaining for three years without a contract. He said that this is no way to run a business. He said that they are experiencing declining standards of living because of the UC system. He said that he came to USAC to let them know about the situation. He said that the quality of the employees at UCLA is directly related to quality of UCLA student's education. He said that there can't be high quality in departments with a high turnover rate and a low pay rate. He said that USAC deserves to be saluted for their work with the ASUCLA employee situation. He said that the problems at UCLA do not end there. He said that he came to ask USAC to get involved in the fight for the unions at UCLA.

Parking Fee Consultation Presentation, Renee Fortier of Transportation Services

- Renee Fortier, of Parking and Transportation Services (PTS), said that she had come to talk to Council about parking fees and the parking situation. She said that 2002/2003 parking revenues are over \$32 million. She said that parking expenses are a little over \$33 million. She said that this means that expenses for the year were higher than revenues and that most of the revenues and expenses are from operations.
- Dahle asked what MMR means.
- Fortier said it stands for major main reserve and is used to maintain the 7 million square feet of property.
- Pearlman asked where money from citations go.
- Fortier said that that money goes to support alternative means of transportation. She said that last year a new fee increase was announced but that that increase has been delayed due to collective bargaining talks with employees. She said that the downturn in the economy has lowered their sales. She said that PTS's debt is also increasing from \$103 million to \$167 million.
- Pearlman asked what the expected revenue increase would be with the installation of the intramural field parking lot.
- Fortier said that the change would be small because when that lot becomes ready they will eliminate many stack parking spaces around the campus.
- Pearlman asked why they were doing that instead of paying down their debt.
- Fortier said that stack parking is very expensive. She said that it costs \$1.2 million a year. She said that PTS has an agreement with LA to limit the amount of transportation that comes to campus. She said that the parking inventory cap is 25,169 spaces. She said that in order to achieve this goal they have to be rigorous in maintaining their ride sharing program. She said that if they go over their set caps all of the construction on campus will have to stop. She said that at this time there are 22,330 spaces on campus and 2,839 spaces are projected to be built by 2011. She said that will take them right up to the cap. She said that in the next few years only a few hundred more spaces can be built, beyond Lot 7, and the

campus will have about 5000 more people in the same amount of time. She said that so far they are doing alright as far as parking space management goes. She said, however, that the trip cap is more worrisome. She said that only a certain number of trips are allowed to be made on and off of UCLA property, per day, according to the same agreement with the city of LA. She said that they are only 11.2% below that cap, and that they have to stay below it until 2010.

- Pearlman asked if trips made by the Campus Express shuttle counts towards this cap.
- Fortier said that they do, but that the campus shuttles help far more than they hurt because they reduce the number of cars coming to campus.
- McLaren asked how these trips are monitored.
- Fortier said that there are sensors at each entrance to the campus. She said that PTS's existing Transportation Demand Management program uses a large part of their resources. She said that they try to benefit everyone they can. She said that many benefit from the vanpool subsidy and others benefit from the carpool subsidy. She said that due to rising costs they will have to make decisions on where to make cuts. She said that the carpool subsidy costs \$262,000 and reduces the number of trips to campus by about 231,000. She said that that means that the cost per trip saved from the carpooling program is \$1.13 per trip. She said that the vanpool subsidy costs \$1.8 million and reduces the number of trips by 505,000 ending in a cost per trip saved of \$3.50. She said that the BruinGo! subsidy costs \$1.4 million and saves \$263,385 ending in a cost per trip saved of \$5.34.
- Pearlman asked if they have looked into how increases in the number of students over the next few years may affect the cost per trip saved of these programs.
- Fortier said that they do not expect a major change. She said that growth in the past has not affected the numbers much and that they don't expect growth in the future to affect it either.
- Neal asked where the Campus Express program comes in.
- Fortier said that that is a different type of program. She said that it allows them to shuttle in people from places like Lot 32. She said that BruinGo! is not really reducing the number of trips people make to campus. She said that people who use BruinGo! now were commuters before the program began as well. She said that the proposed plan for continuing BruinGo! is to reduce the cost of the subsidy. She said that they plan to eliminate the weekend and holiday subsidy and renegotiate their contract. She said that they will probably implement a 25 cents per ride user fare which would cover 36% of the costs. She said that there may be a temporary reduction in ridership due to this but they hope to add the Culver City Bus Line to the program. She said that another problem is that since the fare is free to students at this time, they don't take transfers and instead swipe their card again the next time they get on the bus. She said that this increases the costs of the program quite a bit, and PTS is therefore charged several times for one ride. She said that they are trying to get a rebate for that money. She said that they are doing many things to try to save the BruinGo! program. She said that they modified the Campus Express route and converted some permit spaces to daily sales spaces. She said that they are also restructuring their debt. She said that they are also eliminating the Lot 32 kiosk.
- Clark asked if they are planning on decreasing MMER.
- Fortier said that MMER includes concreting, lighting, new equipment and repairs in all of the 7 million square feet of parking structures on campus. She said that they deferred much of those costs last year, such as painting, to pay for the BruinGo! program. She said that sooner or later those costs will have to return to normal.
- Neal asked how many students use the campus shuttle as opposed to the BruinGo! program.
- Fortier said that there are over a million trips on Campus Express. She said that in the past people have said that cuts should be made in the Campus Express program to save BruinGo!. She said that Campus Express is used very heavily. She said that there would be a major impact if the Campus Express program was cut back any more. She said that they don't want to cannibalize one program for another.
- LaFlamme asked why PTS increased the amount of debt they were paying off this year.

- Fortier said that new structures are coming online and that means that new debt is being added on.
- Harmetz asked if the student fare would go up if the Big Blue Bus fare increases.
- Fortier said that they have a three year contract, but that it may have to be reexamined after that.
- DerManuelian asked what Lot 31 and 30 were.
- Fortier said that those will be the new graduate student housing lots.
- Dahle asked when the final decision on the programs will be made by PTS.
- Fortier said that it would be made in April.
- Harmetz asked if an opt in program is being considered, in which a person could pay an amount of money to use the BruinGo! program, rather than a fare every ride.
- Fortier said that Morabito has been against that because it would probably raise costs.
- LaFlamme asked if the debt was due to construction.
- Fortier said that all of the debt is a result of construction.
- LaFlamme asked if that meant that the debt would decrease after all of the new lots are built.
- Fortier said that it should level off.
- Pearlman said that this year saw an increase in housing even though it was said there wouldn't be. He asked how PTS could be sure that no new lots would be built.
- Fortier said that they are not in the same position. She said that they can't build anymore.
- Pearlman asked if fees will continue to level off then.
- Fortier said that they will level off for now but that that may change if they change programs around in the future, such as by including the MTA system in the BruinGo! program. She said that as far as growth goes, the community does not want the number of spaces to be increased.

V. Appointments

- There were no Appointments this week.

VI. Fund Allocations

- Dahle pointed out that Council didn't have quorum. He suggested that they adjourn until another Council member could be found.
- Dahle called a recess at 9:03 pm.
- Council reconvened at 9:07 pm.
- DerManuelian said that funding was not approved for Theta Chi Fraternity because they have already received money for the Impact Retreat.
- Pearlman moved and Lam seconded to approve the Fund Allocations as recommended.
- Dahle asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve the Fund Allocations, as submitted, with 8 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

Vietnamese Language and Culture

Recommended: \$390.97

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$390.97 for the cost of Supplies for the Tet Festival on February 9th.

Theta Chi Fraternity

Recommended: \$0.00

FiCom did not approve an allocation to Theta Chi Fraternity due to the provision that "each group or office shall be allowed to receive funding for only one retreat per quarter" within the 2002-2003 USA Finance Committee Guidelines.

Campus Event Commission

Recommended: \$550.00

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$550.00 for the cost of Film Rental for the the film Spirited Away on February 27th and 28th.

Muslim Students Association

Recommended: \$712.00

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$712.00 for the cost of Honorarium and Advertising for The Muslim Women on February 10th.

Muslim Students Association**Recommended: \$350.00**

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$350.00 for the cost of Honorarium for Confessions on February 13th.

Muslim Students Association**Recommended: \$200.00**

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$200.00 for the cost of Honorarium for Islam and Science on February 11th.

Muslim Students Association**Recommended: \$160.00**

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$160.00 for the cost of Graphics for Prophets on February 12th.

VII. Officer and Member Reports

Student Welfare Commissioner

-Leyco said that RollAIDs was taking place in Ackerman Grand Ball Room this evening, and she asked Council members to stop by after the meeting.

President

-Dahle said that his office is working on information cards on the state budget situation. He said that they would begin passing them out and petitioning soon.

Financial Supports Commissioner

-LaFlamme said that he received a proposal from someone to put together the housing database. He said that it is pretty extensive.

Campus Events Commissioner

-Wilson said that a lot will be going on in the coming weeks. He said that Dave Chapelle and Mike Myers would be coming to campus for programs. He said that they would be sneaking Old School on February 13th. He said that Austin Powers II would be showing, as well as, Bowling For Columbine. He said that there would be a sneak of Cradle to the Grave on February 25th. He also said that Crooked Fingers and Ok Go would be having performances on campus during the month of February.

Community Service Commissioner

-Yu said that PCH is having a health fair on Sunday from 8:30 to 3:30 at the Our lady of Peace clinic. She said that Vietnamese Language and Culture would be having the Tet Festival at UCLA from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on February 9th. She also said that Project Literacy is having a series of Seminars on Wednesday, February 12th from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the MS building.

Facilities Commissioner

-Pearlman said that anyone interested in being a part of the Office Space Allocation Committee should contact him soon.

VIII. Old Business

-There was no Old Business this week.

IX. New Business

-There was no New Business this week.

X. Announcements

-Tuttle said that many activities are going on at the Bradley Center. He said that their latest newsletter had just come out. He said that the center has a lot of programs worth taking advantage of. He said that anyone interested should contact him.

XI. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

-DerManuelian passed around the Attendance Sheet.

XII. Adjournment

-Due to the loss of quorum, there was no motion to adjourn this meeting.

XIII. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen Araiza
USAC Minutes Taker