

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

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

MINUTES

PRESENT: Dahle, DerManuelian, Diaz, Grace, Harmetz, LaFlamme, Lam, McLaren, Neal, Nelson, Pearlman, Styczynski, Tuttle, Wilson, Yu

ABSENT: Clark, Cordero, Eastman, Leyco

GUESTS: Menaka Fernando, Joe Vardner, Gideon Baum, Justin Levi, Josh Lawson, Amy Lucas, Caroline McCarthy, Jessie Gaskell, Erin Walsh, Jolene Mitchell, Stef Funke

I. A. Call to Order
-Dahle called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet
-DerManuelian passed the Attendance Sheet around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Dahle said that he wanted to move the John Wooden Center Appreciation Day Resolution to the end of New Business.
- Styczynski, LaFlamme, Yu and Harmetz asked to be added to the Officer and Member Reports.
- Amy Lucas, OCHC's representative to USAC, said she would like to discuss a problem that occurred today because the Joint Resolution on Housing that was published in the Daily Bruin was not the language the OCHC approved.
- Dahle said that Lucas could present this matter immediately following the Officer and Member Reports.
- Dahle asked to add an action item to the end of the Special Presentations section to approve a CalPIRG Day Resolution.
- 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

***January 21, 2003**

- Dahle asked if there were any changes or edits to the Minutes from January 21, 2003.
- Styczynski moved and Diaz seconded to approve the Minutes from January 21, 2003 as submitted. Council voted to approve the motion with 7 votes in favor, 0 against, and 1 abstention.

IV. Special Presentations

***CalPIRG Annual Report, Erin Walsh**

- Walsh said that CalPIRG is an organization that does educational studies about pressing issues and tries to involve the community in those issues. She said that last year they helped pass a state energy law. She said that in the past they have helped lower interest rates on student loans. She said that at UCLA they have created the Water Watch Campaign to teach the community about water conservation. She said that they have used the Hunger and Homeless Campaign to provide 750 sandwiches to the homeless. She said that they have collected water and food. She said that they have used the Higher Education Campaign to reduce the burden of student debt and to increase accessibility to higher

education. She said that they gathered 1000 signatures on a petition asking for better options on student loan money. She said that on Earth Day 2003 they hope to educate students on what the government is doing to the environment.

***Resolution in Support of CalPIRG**

-Walsh said that this year will be the 30th anniversary of CalPIRG.

-Harmetz moved and Lam seconded to approve the Resolution in Support of CalPIRG.

-Dahle asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve the motion with 11 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

-Diaz moved and Pearlman seconded to publish the resolution as a half page advertisement in the Daily Bruin on Thursday, April 3rd.

-Dahle asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve the motion with 10 votes in favor, 0 against and 1 abstention.

V. Appointments

-There were no Appointments this week.

VI. Fund Allocations

***Contingency**

-DerManuelian said that the Conciencia Libre request should read \$4,195.00 rather than \$5,095.00.

-LaFlamme moved and Pearlman seconded to approve the Fund Allocations.

-Dahle asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve the motion with 11 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

General Representative, Adam Harmetz

Requested: \$462.00

Recommended: \$462.00

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$462.00 for the full cost of an Advertisement on the Student Fee Increase.

UCLA Panhellenic Council

Requested: \$3,513.00

Recommended: \$1,159.50

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$1,159.50 for the partial costs of Facilities, Travel and Registration for the Western Regional Greek Conference 2003 from April 3rd to the 6th.

UCLA Special Olympics

Requested: \$788.28

Recommended: \$788.28

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$788.28 for the full cost of Transportation for the Special Olympics Saturday Practices program on March 8th and 15th.

Conciencia Libre

Requested: \$4,195.00

Recommended: \$1,475.00

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$1,475.00 for the partial costs of Facilities, Travel and Transportation for the El Salvador Delegation from March 11th to the 18th.

Lapu, The Coyote That Cares Theatre Company

Requested: \$350.00

Recommended: \$250.00

DerManuelian authorized the allocation of \$250.00 upon his own discretion in compliance with the 2002-2003 USA Finance Committee Guidelines for the full costs of Graphics for the LCC, South for the Winter program on March 4th and 5th.

Alpha Lambda Delta; Phi Eta Sigma**Requested: \$300.00****Recommended: \$300.00**

DerManuelian authorized the allocation of \$300.00 upon his own discretion in compliance with the 2002-2003 USA Finance Committee Guidelines for the full costs of Transportation for the Fifth Annual Honors Youth Conference on March 1st.

VII. Officer and Member Reports

President

-Dahle said that his office had been tabling at De Neve Plaza. He said that he is working with other members of Council on a second student survey. He said that he had read through applications for the Student Regent position with GSA President Charles Harless. He said that they sent ten applicants on to be interviewed in the next round.

External Vice President

-Neal said that UCSA had put on the Students of Color Conference over the last weekend. He said that it was a very positive experience. He said that from Friday to Tuesday he would be going to Washington DC for the Annual Legislative Conference. He said that he would be lobbying with representatives for increases in the Pell Grant and to avert cuts in outreach. He said that the UCSA Board Meeting would be on April 5th and 6th. He said that on April 7th he would be going to Sacramento to lobby. He said that UCSA wants to voice their opinions about the cuts in education. He said that his office is tabling in the dorms with cards to be sent to Senators Boxer and Feinstein and Representative Waxman.

General Representative – Michelle Styczynski

-Styczynski said she had been out to help clean up Westwood over the past weekend. She said that there were 15 volunteers present. She said that on Thursday she would be meeting with the Director of Communications at the Hammer Museum about programming with them.

Financial Supports Commissioner

-LaFlamme said he had also been involved in Operation Clean Sweep over the past weekend. He said that they had cleaned off stop signs that said "STOP Bush". He said that 9 am was a little early for him. He said that Styczynski had taken the lead in the program and deserved thanks. He said that applications for the book lending program are available now. He said that the Housing Index is online. He said that the information is not up yet and it needs some work but that the basics are there. He advised Council Members to look at their web pages. He said that many of them are in dire need of updating.

Facilities Commissioner

-Pearlman said that OSAC would be meeting tomorrow at 4:45 pm in his office.

Community Service Commissioner

- Yu said that last week she had co-programmed with Diaz on an Education in Action workshop. She said that the event had a good turnout. She said that most people said they had a good time. She said that she hopes to do it again in the future. She said that she and members of her staff would be attending the COOL Conference in Cleveland next Thursday. She said that her staff would be making a presentation on Community Assessment. She said that her staff would be having a retreat on April 4th to fine tune programs.

Student Welfare Commissioner

- Leyco said the Dance Marathon had been tons of fun. She said that it went really well and they raised at least \$46,000.

Finance Committee Chairperson

- DerManuelian said that he will be gone this Friday. He said that all requisitions should be given to the Student Government Accounting office.

OCHC Representative

- Lucas said that the resolution printed in today's Daily Bruin was not the one that was approved by Council. She said that was actually a rough draft that had been accidentally sent to the Daily Bruin. She said that she just wanted to make sure that the resolution printed was not the one Council voted on. She said that that resolution printed was not the one approved by OCHC.
- McLaren said that, when she asked who would email the language of the Resolution to her so that the Computer Center Operators could put it into ad format, she was told that Cordero would send it to her. She said further that, when she received the email from Cordero, she thought it was the wording that had been approved by USAC and OCHC at the January 25 joint meeting. She said she didn't have a hard copy of the final wording that was agreed upon at the meeting because she arrived late and there were no copies left. As a result, she didn't recognize that the text Cordero emailed to her was not the language that was approved.
- LaFlamme asked if there were major differences.
- Lucas said that many of the numbers printed were incorrect.
- Neal asked if the resolution in the paper achieved the desired effect or if it was detrimental.
- Lucas said that it wasn't detrimental but that it was very different. She said that the one approved was clearer.
- DerManuelian said that Council should find out who erred. He said that \$500 of student fees were used incorrectly. He said that he disagrees with the idea of using more contingency money to clear up someone's mistake.
- Neal said that he understands Lucas' disappointment but that he thinks that the one printed gets the point across. He said that he sees running another resolution as irresponsible. He said that the one printed should suffice.
- Pearlman said that what was passed was not printed.
- Lucas said that the main problems are the numbers printed. She said that one part that says 25% should say 35%.
- Diaz said that he agrees with Pearlman. He said that this resolution was not the one that was approved. He said that he would be willing to donate money from his budget towards reprinting the advertisement.
- Tuttle said that it would be best to have a clear record of what was actually passed by USAC. He said that Council does not want people to have incorrect data.
- Neal moved and Leyco seconded to make the necessary corrections and re-publish the OCHC resolution.
- Dahle asked if there was any discussion.
- LaFlamme said that he thought the issue of funding for the advertisement needed to be addressed. He said that Council needed to consider how readily they were willing to pay a total of

\$1,000 for a half page advertisement. He said that the Council should consider another more cost-effective method of advertising.

-Neal amended his motion, and Leyco accepted the amendment, to include that the means of funding the advertisement would be settled among individual Council members.

-Dahle asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve the motion with 11 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

VIII. Old Business

***USAC Resolution Against Raising Student Fees and Cutting Student Services**

-Harmetz said the Committee met and that there were only three people present.

-Pearlman moved and LaFlamme seconded to approve the USAC Resolution Against Raising Student Fees and Cutting Student Services.

-Dahle asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve the motion with 11 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

-Pearlman asked if the second day of the next quarter would be a proper time to publish the resolution.

-Wilson said that he thought that the resolution was time sensitive.

-Neal said that it was assumed that the Regents would be discussing the issue in March but that they have moved the discussion back to May.

-Pearlman said that it is also possible to send this to the Regents before it is printed. He said that he is just concerned with student readership.

-DerManuelian said that they could print the advertisement twice as a quarter page.

-Dahle said that it is a long resolution.

-LaFlamme said that, no matter what the decision on printing is, copies should be sent to the appropriate people.

-Pearlman said that he thinks that Council should definitely be proactive.

-Neal said that he thinks that it would be fine to print the resolution next week.

-Pearlman moved and Styczynski seconded to publish the resolution as a half page advertisement in the Daily Bruin on Monday, March 10th.

-Dahle asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve the motion with 10 votes in favor, 0 against and 1 abstention.

-LaFlamme asked who would take the lead on the resolution.

-Neal said that he would take the resolution to UCSA and to the Lobby Day.

***Decision on Campaign Spending Limits**

-Vardner said that he was bringing back the unresolved issue at last weeks meeting. He said that he included a memo from the Associate Vice President of Student Academic Services regarding spending caps. He said that the issue in question falls under the Constitutional section of the memo. He said that candidates would still have to turn in expense reports and there would be a cap on donations even with the changes to the E-Code that he is proposing. He said that those changes would be within the range of the Constitution.

-Neal asked if Vardner could institute voluntary spending limits.

-Vardner said that that would be up to the candidates. He said that he couldn't offer incentives for doing it or penalties for breaking any voluntary caps.

-Neal said that that is public information. He asked if Vardner could publish what each person spends.

-Vardner said that he already plans to. He said that that is public information and he will publish in the Daily Bruin what each person spends.

-Neal asked if he would be putting the information online.

-Vardner said that he could.

-Pearlman asked if all of the candidates' expenses would be included in one advertisement.

-Vardner said that they would.

-Pearlman asked if Vardner could put a recommended cap at the top of the expense advertisement. He asked what the current spending cap is.

- Cohn said that it is \$800.
- Pearlman asked if USAC could set a recommended spending cap of \$800.
- Cohn said that he would advise that Council allow the candidates to propose their own caps. He said that it would not be good for the E-Board to get involved in that decision.
- LaFlamme said that he thinks that there should be an advertisement that states historical caps as well as whether or not the candidates were willing to adhere to a voluntary cap.
- Pearlman asked when the first candidate meeting would be.
- Vardner said it would be on April 15th.
- Diaz moved to keep the spending caps from last year as a recommended voluntary cap. The motion failed for lack of a second.
- Vardner said that he thinks it would fine to recommend a cap. He said that he would prefer not to have it written in the E-Code though because of the potential for confusion.
- Diaz asked if the amounts could be listed with the explanation that they are voluntary limits.
- Cohn said that he thinks it would be wiser not to list caps and to recommend that candidates set their own caps.
- Pearlman asked if that would be in the E-Code.
- Cohn said it would be alright if no specific amounts are listed.
- Dahle asked if historical caps could be included.
- Cohn said that he would advise that they not include historical caps.
- Neal said that there is nothing that states that numbers can't be stated in the E-Code. He said that the only issue is that there be no penalties for going over caps. He said that they should recommend caps without a penalty for going over them.
- LaFlamme said that he doesn't think that amounts should be included in the E-Code. He said that it should instead state that the E-Board will present historical caps to the candidates at the candidate information meeting.
- Grace said that he doesn't understand why Council would insert recommended spending limits in the E-Code without penalties. He said that Council could make recommendations and then present them at the orientation meeting. He said that it would seem that Council wants to put their opinion in the E-Code while still keeping it clean for the courts.
- Pearlman moved and Harnetz seconded to approve the recommended changes to the Election Code.
- Dahle asked if there was any discussion.
- Pearlman said that he would take up the effort to make an official USAC statement for candidates. He said that it could create a mess to incorporate the recommendations into the E-Code though.
- Tuttle asked what the motion was.
- Pearlman said that it was to approve the recommended changes to the E-Code.
- Tuttle asked what the recommended changes were.
- Vardner said that it was to strike out the section about the maximum campaign expense limits. He said that it would also place a limit on allowable donations at \$30.
- Tuttle asked what would happen if someone comes along and spends \$8000. He asked if the \$30 cap would be removed in that instance.
- Vardner said that his understanding is that the E-Code can limit donations but an individual can spend as much money as he or she wants on their own campaign.
- Tuttle said that that is true. He said that the E-Board can impose caps, but that they can also remove them if one of the candidates spends more than a certain amount of money. He said that that is something to think about in the future.
- Nelson said that some excellent comments have been made. He said that the hypocrisy of the election system is vexing to him. He said that equality only exists if you have more money than everyone else. He said that he thinks that the judge who made this decision was only thinking of class. He said that this is one of the corrupt aspects of society. He said that he thinks that this needs to be addressed.

- Cohn said that he thinks that the cap on donations is irrelevant. He said that there is no way to enforce it. He said that that there is no way to disprove that the money spent was actually their own.
- Diaz said that his problem is that the E-Code will have no reference to voluntary spending caps. He said that he thinks that Council should make it clear that they want the candidates to use voluntary spending limits.
- Grace said that he agrees that there should be a trigger at which point the donation cap is removed. He said that if a person spends more than a certain amount, other candidates should be allowed to seek other sources of funding.
- Tuttle asked if the candidates could set their own caps.
- Diaz said that that would be fine as long as it says so in the E-Code.
- Wilson said that he agrees with Diaz.
- Vardner said that he would have no problem with that being in the E-Code. He said that a section could be included in the E-Code that says that the E-Board will provide the candidates with recommended spending limits.
- Pearlman said that he would accept such an amendment.
- LaFlamme said that he would caution Council that the wording of such a section is important. He said that he thinks that the E-Board should make a presentation later based on Council suggestions.
- Cohn said that the candidate packets would be available Monday of Spring Break. He said that something needs to be done now.
- Harmetz said that he thinks Council is close to an agreement. He said that the wording just needs to be hammered out.
- LaFlamme said that such a section should be in the section regarding the Orientation Meeting and not in the spending cap section. He said that it should be added that they are self-imposed and candidates are allowed to withdraw from them.
- Cohn said that it is not for E-Board to make sure candidates follow their self-imposed caps. He said that the E-Board could not enforce anything having to do with spending caps.
- Tuttle said that the sanction would not be enforced by the E-Board but there would be political sanctions. He said that if someone breaks the caps it would be fair game for their opponents to inform the public. He said that to state in the E-Code that there are voluntary caps implies that there may be a contractual relation. He said that it should state that there will be no sanctions for breaking any caps.
- Vardner said that it is already written in the E-Code that the amount a candidate spends will be published.
- LaFlamme said that he would like the advertisement to note whether or not the candidates choose to set self-imposed spending caps.
- Cohn said that he would leave that up to the candidates. He said that Council should not penalize those who decide not to set caps.
- LaFlamme said that he doesn't think that would be penalizing them. He said that otherwise people could buy an election.
- Clark made a friendly amendment, which Pearlman accepted, that the changes to the Election Code include Article III Section D.6 which shall read "The Election Board will set aside time for candidates to set non-binding voluntary spending limits for the election".
- Dahle asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve all recommended changes to the Election Code, with 9 votes in favor, 0 against and 1 abstention.

IX. New Business

*Election Calendar

- Vardner said that the proposed Election Calendar includes the days and times of everything that will take place. He said that he would have liked to have signboards up earlier but that they would get in the way of the LA Times Book Festival the weekend before.
- LaFlamme asked what the final campaign was.

- Vardner said that that was in the event of a runoff.
- Pearlman moved and Harmetz seconded to approve the Election Calendar.
- Dahle asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council rejected the motion, with 3 votes in favor, 6 against and 1 abstention.
- Yu said that the election seems abrupt. She asked if it is the same as last year.
- Cohn said that it is the same as the last 10 years.
- Vardner said that applications would be due the first day of the quarter and due 10 days later.
- Diaz said that that seems early in the quarter.
- Cohn said that the calendar has been basically the same for 10 years.
- LaFlamme asked if it was moved back a week a year ago.
- Cohn said that the calendar was moved back a week last year because of specific reasons.
- Lam asked if it could be moved back a week this year to give people more time. She asked if that would cause problems.
- Vardner said that he would have to find new rooms to hold meetings in.
- Wilson asked when the results of the election would be announced.
- Cohn said they would be announced at 10 pm on the last day of voting.
- LaFlamme said that pushing the calendar back a week may be helpful to everyone.
- Leyco said that the application due date should be pushed back a week. She said that rooms shouldn't be a large issue.
- Diaz said that 5th week is also right in the middle of the quarter. He said that pushing everything back a week would be beneficial.
- Vardner said that if one thing on the calendar changes everything has to be changed. He said that they can begin advertising the availability of applications for offices this quarter.
- Yu said that that would be good. She said that the gap of Spring Break would make it hard to see USAC function though.
- LaFlamme moved and Diaz seconded to approve the Election Calendar with all of the current events pushed back 7 days.
- Dahle asked if there was any discussion.
- Vardner said that he is not sure of the feasibility of that at this time.
- Wilson asked if the E-Board was currently contracted with My.UCLA on the days of the election.
- Cohn said that that is amendable.
- Wilson made a friendly amendment, which LaFlamme accepted, to begin publishing the availability of applications on the first day of Spring Quarter.
- Dahle asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve the motion with 10 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

***Appointment of Election Board Members**

- Vardner said that only one of the candidates was present.
- Dahle asked if the appointments could wait until they were all present.
- Vardner said that it could.

***John Wooden Center Appreciation Day Resolution**

- Pearlman said that the last page of the agenda was a resolution passed by the John Wooden Center Board of Governors for a day commemorating the construction of the John Wooden Center. He said that John Wooden would be attending the event.
- Harmetz moved and Lam seconded to approve the John Wooden Center Appreciation Day Resolution.
- Dahle asked if there was any discussion.
- Tuttle said that the first referendum that was put forth to establish the John Wooden Center failed. He said that a group of students worked to pass a new referendum to construct a center that they would never use. He said that this resolution acts to properly memorializes the efforts of those students, under the leadership of President Craig Ehrlich
- There being no further discussion, Council voted to approve the motion with 10 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

-Pearlman said that the resolution would be going to GSA tomorrow. He said that he would propose funding to advertise the Resolution at a later date.

X. Announcements

- Diaz said that there would be a walk out tomorrow against the war, raising student fees and cutting student services. He said that it starts at 11:15 am in Bruin Plaza.
- Clark said that tomorrow in the Cooperage there would be MCs and DJs performing from 7 to 10 pm. She said that Chuck D would be on campus on Thursday.
- Dahle said that Council may need to meet next week to approve contingency allocations. He said the only other option would be to give DerManuelian increased discretionary power for one week.
- Wilson said he'd prefer to have a special meeting on Monday or Tuesday.
- Dahle said that they would meet quickly next week.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

- DerManuelian passed around the Attendance Sheet.

XIII. Adjournment

- Styczynski moved and Lam seconded to adjourn the meeting. There being no objection, the motion was approved with 10 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions and the meeting was adjourned at 9:26 pm.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen Araiza
USAC Minutes Taker