

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL

Tuesday September 23, 2003  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
6:00pm

MINUTES

- PRESENT: Chen, Chiang, Husse-Jerome, Kaczmarek, Kozak, Lam, Lawson, McKesey, McLaren, Nguyen, Palma/Saracho, Schreiber, Tuttle, Wynn
- ABSENT: Eastman, Gaulton, Grace, Nelson, Saldaña
- GUESTS: Zara Bukirin, Georgine Piper, Debra Simmons, Gideon Baum, Pavan Tripathi, Brian Neesby, Lili Harbottle, MaRaissa Corella, Julie Chuang, José Lara, Karuna Karmarkar, Micah Hauptman, Jason Lowe, Paul Marian, Kelly Rayburn
- I. A. Call to Order  
-McKesey called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.
- B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet  
-Chen passed the Attendance Sheet around.
- II. Approval of the Agenda  
-Lawson asked to have his Officer Report removed.  
-Wynn and Schreiber asked to be added to the Officer and Member Report section.  
-Simmons asked if the JSU Appeal could be moved up to after the Appointments.  
-McKesey said that the Welcome Week item under Old Business would not be an action item.  
-McKesey also said that the USAC Presidential Appointment Guidelines would be tabled until the next meeting.  
-Schreiber moved and Kaczmarek seconded to approve the Agenda.  
-McKesey 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  
**\*September 2, 2003**  
-Lawson moved and Kaczmarek seconded to approve the Minutes from September 2, 2003, as submitted. Council voted to approve the motion with 8 votes in favor, 0 against, and 2 abstentions.
- IV. Special Presentations  
-There were no Special Presentations this week.
- V. Appointments  
-Chen said that she has four appointees to make the Finance Committee. She said that there were ten applicants. She said that she went through the applications and carried out interviews before choosing the four applicants that she felt were best fit for the Finance Committee. She said that she was looking for a variety of experiences. She said that she was looking for experience in funding, as well as, other types of experience that may be valuable to the Finance Committee.  
-Lily Harbottle introduced herself as one of the applicants being considered. She said that she has experience working with different groups. She said that she understands the importance of

the funding process. She said that she hopes to be able to direct groups to different funding sources.

- José Lara said that he is also a candidate for the Finance Committee. He said that he is a transfer student and hopes to bring a different point of view to the FiCom. He said that he has programming experience and that he has worked with the Student Retention Center and the Raza Youth Conference.
- MaRaissa Corella said that for the past two years she has been involved with the Student Initiated Outreach Center and has worked with a variety of organizations on campus. She said that she has interacted with a variety of people from different backgrounds.
- Julie Chuang said that she has a broad range of experience. She said that she has worked with a project in the Community Service Commission and knows what is involved in programming.
- Chen said that all four of the candidates are very well qualified. She said that they plan to set regular office hours.
- Kaczmarek moved and Chiang seconded to approve Finance Committee Chairperson's recommendations for the appointment of the Finance Committee Vice Chair and Members, Harbottle, Lara, Corella, and Chuang.
- McKesey asked if there was any discussion.
- Lawson asked the FiCom applicants what they would say is the most important part of programming.
- Corella said that there is no specific equation for a good program. She said that she would like to see a diversity of programming. She said that programming should also try to unify the campus rather than focusing on a single group of people.
- McKesey asked if there was any further discussion. There being none. Council voted to approve the motion with 10 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

#### VI. Old Business

##### **\*Jewish Student Union (JSU) Appeal of Base Budget Allocation**

- Palma/Saracho said that had agreed to hear JSU's appeal of the Base Budget allocation. He said that it is not USAC's purpose to speak to the quality or content of the proposal. He said that they can only focus on the Base Budget process. He said that JSU will have ten minutes to make their case. He said that the Budget Review Committee will then also be given ten minutes to make a presentation. He said that the floor will then be opened to Council for questions to either JSU or the BRC.
- Gideon Baum introduced himself as the president of the JSU. He said that he would first like to apologize to the Budget Review Committee for what must seem to be an affront. He said that the crux of the JSU's argument were centered on Priorities 2 and 3. He said that they feel that the BRC's requirement for retention in Priority 2 is too narrowly defined. He said that many people viewed the AMC Bowling Night, included in the JSU proposal, as a social event. He said that the purpose of that bowling night is to target the more observant Jewish students at UCLA. He said that many Jewish students feel left out of many of the activities that are provided for the other students. He said that bowling is very popular in the Jewish community and that it allows for the breakdown of gender separation that prevails in the more conservative segment of the community. He said that it allows the more observant Jewish students to feel a sense of community. He said that in essence this program helps keep students at UCLA. He said that the JSU's appeal is also based on priority 3. He said that he believes that this priority places a premium on community service projects that occur off-campus. He said that the main Jewish groups on campus are Hillel, PJSA, BFI and JSU. He said that since Hillel, PJSA, and BFI do quite a bit of off-campus community service, JSU felt that it would be better serving the community to focus on on-campus work. He said that they hope to perform community service by strengthening the on-campus community.
- Bukirin said that she would like to thank JSU for following due process. She said that she would like to emphasize that the BRC has faith in the process. She said that she would like to

remind Council that they approved the guidelines, which the BRC used, three weeks before group proposals were turned in.

- Lam said that there are three grounds for appeal stated in Article V.C.6.b. of the Constitution, as follows: “(1) Alleged lack of a reasonable opportunity to appear before the funding committee or body. (2) A procedural error or discrepancy that caused a proposal to be substantially disadvantaged before the funding committee or body. (3) Alleged unfair treatment or inconsistent treatment by the funding committee or body”.
- Lam said that the application was made available to all of the groups that applied. She said that the BRC used every method available to them to get the application to the groups. She said that the priorities are not new. She said that they were used last year.
- Chen said that JSU stated that the priorities were poorly defined. She said that these priorities were adopted from the priorities used during the previous year. She said that she would argue that the BRC’s priorities are not poorly defined but that JSU’s interpretation of them was too narrow. She said that their application and their interview did not adequately demonstrate how JSU meets the priorities set forth.
- Schreiber said that the BRC’s final point is that the remedy requested is unfair. He said that the JSU was given a fair allocation based on their proposal and interview.
- Palma/Saracho said that Council is now free to ask questions of either group.
- Wynn asked if anything that JSU stated before Council was not stated before the BRC.
- Baum said that he felt that the information was provided to the BRC, but that his description to Council was more explicit.
- Kozak asked why JSU had not asked the BRC questions about the priorities before they turned in their application.
- Baum said that at that time much of their leadership was in a state of flux. He said there were major communication issues. He said that he feels, nonetheless, that the priorities that the BRC used to judge groups were flawed.
- McKesey asked why JSU’s leadership turnover affected them so badly when other groups had the same problem.
- Baum said that they had a president leave early, which caused a double turnover. He said that it really affected the JSU.
- Lawson asked how many students JSU reaches.
- Baum said that that number differs from event to event. He said that they reach anywhere from 1,000 to 1,500 people directly through email as well as another 500 through Hillel. He said that those students are not just Jewish.
- Husse-Jerome asked why the BRC believes that JSU’s definition of retention is too narrowly defined.
- Chen said that the BRC gave the priorities to the groups so that they could apply them to themselves.
- Bukirin said that the BRC didn’t just look at a group’s programs. She said that it was up to a group to adequately define how they fulfilled the priorities.
- Wynn said that she thought that questions were supposed to apply to the BRC’s process.
- McKesey said that any further questions should be based on the process.
- Tuttle said that JSU had mentioned that there were things that they said implicitly that they should have said explicitly. He asked if there were any difference in the way that this group was dealt with compared with other groups. He asked if there was any discussion between the BRC and other groups that would draw those implicit things out and make them explicit that wasn’t provided to this group.
- Bukirin said that every group was asked how they addressed the priorities given. She said that no groups were asked questions that other groups were not.
- Lam said that the interviews were just a second opportunity for organizations to make clear to the BRC how they fulfilled the priorities.
- Tuttle asked if this same process was followed with JSU.
- Chen said that it was.
- Lawson asked JSU if they believed that Priorities 2 and 3 disadvantaged their group.

- Baum said that they believed that Priorities 2 and 3 had disadvantaged their group.
- Nguyen moved and Lam seconded to approve the Jewish Student Union's Appeal of their Base Budget allocation.
- McKesey asked if there was any discussion.
- Lawson said that he would like to remind Council that JSU is a former Student Advocacy Group (SAG). He said that at one time USAC felt that any program that a SAG put on was helping the UCLA community. He said that it is a mistake to believe that every campus groups should have a budget tailor-made to these priorities.
- McKesey asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to reject the motion with 2 votes in favor, 7 against and 1 abstention.

#### VII. Fund Allocations

##### **\*Contingency**

- Chen said that there were two discretionary allocations this week. She said that one was for the Transfer Students Association for a phone line that was billed to their account. She said that the other discretionary allocation was to General Representation #2 for the USAC Voter Registration Drive.
- Lawson moved and Chiang seconded to approve the Fund Allocation to the Community Service Commission, Student Welfare Commission, Academic Affairs Commission and the Campus Events Commission in the amount of \$1,138.00.
- McKesey 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.
- Schreiber moved and Nguyen seconded to approve the Fund Allocation to the Asian Pacific Coalition in the amount of \$400.00.
- McKesey 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.

#### VIII. Officer and Member Reports

##### **President**

- McKesey said that USAC doesn't have a venue yet for the Open House. She said that the Open House serves as a means to introduce students to USAC. She said that they will be taking students on tours of the offices and giving them food. She said that a total of nine things need to be solidified: (1) Venue (2) Flyers need to be made by Friday (3) An informational advertisement needs to be placed in the Daily Bruin (4) Banners and signs need to be made (5) Emails need to be sent to parties that may be interested (6) Phone calls need to be made to parties that may be interested (7) A pop-up should be placed on My.UCLA (8) Food (9) A program needs to be solidified.
- Kaczmarek said that he would find a venue.
- Chiang said that she would help distribute flyers.
- Chen said that she would design the flyers.
- Lam said that she would prepare the banners.
- Nguyen said that she would place the advertisement in the Daily Bruin.
- Palma/Saracho said that he would send emails.
- Schreiber said that he would also help send emails.
- Kozak said that she would make phone calls.
- Lawson said that he would also help with the phone bank.
- Husse-Jerome said that she would work on getting a pop-up on My.UCLA.
- McKesey said that she would work on getting food.
- Palma/Saracho said that he would help.
- Kaczmarek said that he would work on the program with McKesey.
- McKesey said that everything needs to be ready by Thursday.
- Lawson said that several members of the Queer Alliance were present. He asked if the Resolution in Support of Same-Sex Marriage could be moved up so that they wouldn't have to wait until the end of the meeting.

-McKesey said that they would handle that item next.

**\*Resolution in Support of Same-Sex Marriage**

-A member of the Queer Alliance thanked USAC for their time. He said that they feel that civil recognition of same-sex marriages does not bind religious groups to recognize those marriages. He said that legalizing them would not force religious groups to perform the marriages.

-Husse-Jerome moved and Kozak seconded to approve the Resolution in Support of Same-Sex Marriage.

-McKesey asked if there was any discussion.

-Husse said that in the future she would like to know about these kinds of resolutions before they are included in the Agenda so that she can do more to support them then just vote on them.

-Lawson asked if transgender violence has been an issue in non-gender neutral bathrooms at UCLA.

-A member of the Queer Alliance said that transgender people face the threat of violence on a daily basis. She said that the lack of privacy in bathrooms and gyms can cause problems for people because of their genitalia or lack thereof.

-McKesey asked if there was any further discussion. There being none. Council voted to approve the motion with 8 votes in favor, 1 against and 0 abstentions.

-Palma/Saracho moved and Wynn seconded to publish a full-page advertisement in the Daily Bruin with one-half of the page being devoted to the resolution and the other half announce programs taking place during National Coming Out Week.

-McKesey asked if there was any further discussion. There being none. Council voted to approve the motion with 9 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

**External Vice President**

-Kaczmarek said that he went to the UC Regents meeting last week. He said that they approved budget cuts to many units in the UC System. He said that they held a Proposition 54 press conference while there. He said that he also attended, with the Regents, a Giants game against the Padres. He said that this week he attended the voter registration sections of the concert and movies on campus. He said that he also attended the Freshman convocation.

**Internal Vice President**

-Palma/Saracho said that there was a tremendous effort on voter registration. He said that CalPIRG put in an incredible amount of effort.

-Kaczmarek said that a total of 1,500 student voters registered.

-Palma/Saracho said that he is now working with Lam and the Queer Alliance on a Get Out The Vote concert on the first day of National Coming Out Week.

**Cultural Affairs Commissioner**

-Wynn said that October 3<sup>rd</sup> will conclude USAC's welcome week. She said that there is a program entitled the Art of Rice coming to UCLA. She said that she will be passing around a sponsorship sheet for that group.

**Community Service Commissioner**

-Schreiber said that the Community Service Carnival would take place a week from today. He asked that Council please come and support it.

IX. Old Business

**\*Welcome Week**

- Lam said during welcome week they registered a lot of people at the concert and at the movies on campus. She said they also registered voters at the Convocation as well as that night in the Resident Halls. She thanked everyone who helped.
- Wynn said that everything came together for the concert. She said that they don't have the numbers on sales yet. She said that a huge amount of money went into the concert but that fruitful things came out of it.
- McKesey said that she knows that the movies went well. She said that the Italian Job, in Ackerman Grand Ballroom, drew a room full of people. She said that the OCHC Resource Fair was today from 9:00 – 2:30 pm.
- Lam said that there were about 200 signups for the phone bank at the fair.
- Kaczmarek said that he wanted to point out that Lam, Kozak, Palma/Saracho and Chen all worked very hard on the voter registration drive.

X. New Business

**\*USA Programming Fund Appointment**

- McKesey said that not many people had come to her with interest in being on the Programming Committee. She said that only Nguyen had expressed interest so far. She said that the appointments will only be one funding cycle long.
- Wynn moved and Palma/Saracho seconded to appoint Nguyen to the USA Programming Committee.
- McKesey asked if there was any further discussion. There being none. Council voted to approve the motion with 9 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

**\*Certificate of Recognition: MEChA de UCLA**

- Palma/Saracho said that a few weeks ago the opponents of Bustamante released a news story accusing MEChA de UCLA of committing several acts that they had no part in. He said that he would like USAC to approve a certificate to MEChA de UCLA in recognition of over 30 years of service to the campus.
- Palma/Saracho moved and Nguyen seconded to present a certificate of recognition to MEChA de UCLA in recognition of their many years of service to the campus community.
- McKesey asked if there was any further discussion. There being none. Council voted to approve the motion with 9 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

XI. Announcements

- Palma/Saracho said that next week USAC would be meeting with several campus groups.
- Lawson asked if only USAC sponsor groups are invited.
- Palma/Saracho said that anyone is invited but that only USAC sponsored groups would be encouraged to come due to space constraints.
- Kaczmarek said that Wednesday will be UC President Atkinson's last day. He said that Robert Dynes the Chancellor of UCSD would be taking his place on Thursday.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

- Chen passed around the Attendance Sheet.

XIII. Adjournment

- Palma/Saracho moved and Nguyen seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by acclamation and the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen Araiza

FINAL

APPROVED: November 4, 2003

USAC Minutes Taker