

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday February 10, 2004
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00pm

MINUTES

PRESENT: Chen, Chiang, Gaulton, Husse-Jerome, Kaczmarek, Kozak, Lam, Lawson, McKesey, McLaren, Nelson, Nguyen, Palma/Saracho, Schreiber, Tuttle, Williams, Wynn

ABSENT: Grace

GUESTS: Janina Montero, Melody Hanatani, Brian Neesby, Amy Lucas, Alissa Leroy, Hong Tran, Art Ambrosio, John Vu, Lana Shamma, Rebecca Wasserman, Agita Taliwalker

- I. A. Call to Order
-McKesey called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.
- B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet
-Chen passed the Attendance Sheet around.
- II. Approval of the Agenda
-McLaren, Schreiber, Nguyen, Gaulton and Kozak asked to be added to the Officers and Members Reports.
-McKesey said that the ASUCLA Vision, Mission and Structure item under New Business would not be an action item.
-McKesey said that the Resolution for Higher Education Reauthorization Act and the Resolution in Support of USSA Fighting for Immigrant Rights to Education items under New Business would also not be action items.
-Lawson moved and Schreiber seconded to approve the Agenda, as amended.
-McKesey asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve the Agenda, as amended, with 9 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.
- III. Approval of the Minutes
***November 4, 2003**
-Wynn moved and Nguyen seconded to approve the Minutes of November 4, 2003, as submitted.
Council voted to approve the motion with 9 votes in favor, 0 against, and 0 abstentions.
- IV. Special Presentations
United States Student Association
-Agita Taliwalker, the Vice President of the USSA, said that she and Wasserman were present to give an update on their foundation projects. She said that one of those projects consists of two groups that offer training to campuses, the Grass Roots Organizing Weekend and the Electoral Action training. She said that they offer training nationally, on 25 occasions. She said that there is a project gearing up to do a National Day of Silence with 430 campuses participating. She said that they also have projects that work on labor solidarity. She said that they also work on Affirmative Action. She said that USSA is gearing up for its Annual Grassroots Organizing Conference, which is a culmination of national campaigns. She said that, at the federal level, USSA works on making connections between what is happening in the states and what is happening on the national level.

- Tuttle asked if the organization is keeping away from being intertwined with political parties.
- Taliwalker said that all of their efforts are non-partisan and issue based.
- Rebecca Wasserman, the President of the USSA, said that they recently added the Electoral Program and were able to raise funds at a high level because of it. She said that helps to insulate them from partisan work.
- Nelson asked who in positions of higher authority listens to USSA. He asked how effective they thought their lobbying was.
- Taliwalker said that she thinks it is very effective. She said that they work in Washington D.C. with the Department of Education. She said that the power that they have is in helping the students. She said that it is a tag-team effort with the colleges and state organizations.

Federal Issues Update

- Lana Shamma said that there are two major issues this year. The FIRE Campaign and the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act. She said that the acts include provisions that would make it possible for immigrant students to gain access to higher education. She said that they would also make it easier for international students who want to get Visas for same-sex partners. She said that they are also lobbying on the Higher Education Reauthorization Act. She said that that act would help increase financial aid and the reinstatement of several relevant student policies. She said that they also lobbied in Washington D.C. recently and visited 15 offices.
- Kaczmarek said that the lobbying interns in his office are divided into two groups, state and national. He said that that they were able to take all of the interns to Washington D.C. He said that President Bush released a new budget on February 2, and that there are a number of federal programs that will receive little or no funding. He said that the PELL Grants, SEOG, LEAP, Federal Work Study, Perkins and Graduate Student Aid programs were all being cut. He said that the LEAP program was being zeroed out.

Student Fee Policy

- Kaczmarek said that he wanted to go through this proposal for the student fee policy. He said that the process to alter the student fee policy began sometime ago. He said that UCSA was asked to make comments on the policy but their comments were largely ignored. He said that, after a lengthy delay, UCOP finally issued its first draft of the policy, and that UCSA had several points of contention with it. As a result, the initial draft was taken back and reviewed, and a second draft has now been released. He said that the draft is based on several recent court cases, including the Southworth case. He said that, according to Southworth, students can collect student fees if the method used to distribute them is viewpoint neutral. He said that this draft allows student groups to lobby. He said that it also recognizes the off-campus role of student groups. He said that it discusses viewpoint neutrality as well. He said that there are still three points of contention. He said the first is that it places restrictions on student governments from participating in campaigns. He said that the draft policy views student governments as an extension of the University, while UCSA views them as separate entities. He said the second point of contention is that registered organizations would no longer be able to run referenda to obtain funds for allocation to specific campus activities. He said that this would mean that a referendum cannot be run which would benefit a specific group or program. He said that, instead, referendum money would have to go to USAC to be allocated viewpoint neutrally. He said that the third point of contention is that, currently, policies prevent students from passing a referendum to support off-campus organizations, such as USSA. He said that UCSA feels that students should be able to send money to groups which advocate on their behalf.
- Lawson said that he will be making a presentation to USAC on the question of maintaining a difference, in funding, between Officially Recognized student groups and Independent student groups.

V. Appointments

-McKesey said that applications for General Representative #3 and Election Board Chairperson are due next week.

VI. Fund Allocations

***Contingency**

-Chen said that, in addition to the eleven Contingency recommendations that must be approved by Council, there are two allocations which she made through her discretionary authorization.

-Wynn moved and Lawson seconded to approve the Fund Allocations.

-McKesey 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.

USAC President

Requested: \$600.00

Recommended: \$600.00

The Finance Committee Chairperson allocated \$600 through her 2003-2004 Discretionary Authorization for the President's Office for Advertising the application process for Election Board Chair and General Representative #3.

Society of Automotive Engineers

Requested: \$100.00

Recommended: \$100.00

The Finance Committee Chairperson allocated \$100 through her 2003-2004 Discretionary Authorization for Facilities for the Titanium Car Presentation which was held February 6, 2004.

Sigma Pi Fraternity

Requested: \$608.80

Recommended: \$304.40

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$304.40 for transportation for the Sigma Pi 2004 Mid-Year Leadership Workshop held on February 6th - 8th.

Campus Events Commission

Requested: \$1,116.00

Recommended: \$ 150.00

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$150.00 for programming the Love Actually screening to be held on February 11th and 12th.

CPR/SFA Committee

Requested: \$1,600.00

Recommended: \$ 501.15

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$501.15 for supplies for the Winter Quarter CPR Classes to be held on Friday and Saturday of Finals week.

CPR/SFA Committee

Requested: \$1,054.00

Recommended: \$ 250.00

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$250.00 for CPR Certification Cards for the Super CPR training to be held on March 7th.

Muslim Students Association

Requested: \$4,861.60

Recommended: \$1,304.00

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$1304.00 for transportation for the MSA-WEST Conference to be held February 13th - 15th.

Ni Una Mas

Requested: \$1,720.91

Recommended: \$ 757.40

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$757.40 for travel for the International Violence Against Women Conference to be held February 13th - 15th.

MEChA

Requested: \$300.00

Recommended: \$300.00

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$300.00 for honorarium for the Aztec Stories event to be held on February 17th.

CSC/PREP

Requested: \$2,498.69

Recommended: \$1,012.88

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$52.50 for the total cost of graphics and \$960.38 for the total cost of transportation for the Day in a Life (DIAL) event to be held on February 27th.

CSC/Best Buddies

Requested: \$299.50

Recommended: \$172.00

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$172.00 for the total cost of transportation for the "My Funny Valentine" event to be held on February 13th.

Facilities Commission

Requested: \$45.46

Recommended: \$45.56

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$45.56 for the total cost of graphics for the USAC Brochure to be printed on February 10th.

Community Service Commission

Requested: \$1,528.00

Recommended: \$ 586.00

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$586.00 for transportation for the COOL Conference to be held February 13th and 14th.

VII. Officer and Member Reports

President

- McKesey congratulated Dance Marathon on a major success. She said that she will be making a presentation to the Communications Board next week. She said that she got a 'phone call yesterday regarding the fact that the term of Regent Dolores Huerta is almost over. She said that Huerta is asking for letters of support from the UC campuses.
- Kozak asked if it would make an impact if Council passed a resolution in support of Regent Huerta.
- McKesey said she would find out about that.

Internal Vice President

- Palma/Saracho said that he has had a busy week. He said that today was the Student Advocacy Collective, where they gave out folders with information about the Student Affairs administrators, along with a directory. He said that he has petitions for anyone who wants to lobby in support of outreach. He said that he is working with Kaczmarek's office to put

on a budget forum where they hope to give a breakdown of the Governor's budget. He said that the forum will also feature speakers talking about the impacts of the proposed budget cuts. He said that his office is working on a 7th week program, entitled Fear Factor, to help members of the campus community overcome its cultural phobias. He said that the Constitutional Review Committee is meeting this Thursday at 6:00pm.

Community Service Commissioner

-Schreiber said that the Our Lady of Peace Health Fair was a success, and that they helped more than 400 people. He said that the Tet Festival was also great. He said that tomorrow will be a networking day for community service groups.

Academic Affairs Commissioner

-Kozak said that the Brown Bag Luncheon last week went well. She said that they are trying to better advertise the fact that students can build their own major. She said that the Diversity Requirement is scheduled to be presented to the Academic Senate soon. She also said that a Resolution objecting to the lack of student voting power on the Academic Senate is forthcoming. She said that her office holds Minimum Progress meetings on Mondays at 2:00pm.

Facilities Commissioner

-Nguyen said that the Student Advocacy Collective was held prior to the Council meeting and that it went well. She said that there was an article in the Viewpoint section of the Daily Bruin today criticizing USAC's office space allocations, stating that some of the space allocations were unfair. She said that it was a struggle to get space for the offices that have it. She said that office space was provided to organizations that represented a great number of students. She mentioned that, about four or five years ago, when the Office Space Allocation Committee (OSAC) opened the allocation process, OSAC recommended reassignment for a number of groups. However, none of the changes occurred because, during the appeals process, every group submitted an appeal, and OSAC ended up making no changes. She said that no group was happy. She said that there is a specific process for reallocating space and that it cannot be done arbitrarily. On another matter, Nguyen said that her office has created a calendar of events, and that Council members should feel free to write in their events on this calendar which is posted on the wall near the ASUCLA Library on the Third Floor of Kerckhoff. She said that the Facilities Commission web page is almost done.

Campus Events Commissioner

-Gaulton said that, this week, Love Actually will be screened on Wednesday and Thursday. He said that next Tuesday, Club Dread will be playing. He said that a band will also be in the Cooperage on Tuesday night. He said that James Tracy will be in the Grand Salon soon. He said that they were able to put on a comedy show recently entitled Comics on Rye, and that it is the first step towards staging a pure comedy show at UCLA.

ASUCLA Administrative Representative

-McLaren said that the USAC website has been redesigned, using Flash. She said that she hopes to have the webmaster make a presentation to Council in two weeks. She said that she would distribute feedback sheets prior to the presentation so Council members can provide suggestions and other feedback.

External Vice President

-Kaczmarek said that he went to a lobbying retreat last week. He said that the UCSA Board of Directors met last weekend, and the Regents Subcommittee on Eligibility will meet this week.

VIII. Old Business

- There was no Old Business this week.

IX. New Business

ASUCLA Vision, Mission & Structure

- McKesey said that this is based on the information in the packet. She said that right now they are looking at restructuring ASUCLA.
- Williams said that ASUCLA is currently in a state of change, and the Board is evaluating the general mission and vision of the Association. He said that they want to fit into the changing face of the campus. He said further that ASUCLA is currently going through a rough period.
- McKesey said that a document has been distributed at the table so that Council can go over the basic process.
- Williams asked what point number one meant.
- McKesey said that she thinks that the policies decided on by the Strategic Planning Subcommittee should be politicized.
- Williams asked McKesey what part of the process she thought should be politicized.
- McKesey said it was her opinion that decisions on the Vision and Mission would be made through a collective process, involving several groups, and that all fiduciary and management decisions should be made by the Board.
- Tuttle said he thought that it would be hard for Council to become too involved in ASUCLA. He said that that is why USAC appoints the best student leaders possible to represent their interests on the ASUCLA Board.
- Kaczmarek said that the goal is to have conversations on the process. He said he believes that ASUCLA is a coalition of undergraduate and graduate students and, therefore, they should have a role in the decisions being made about the ASUCLA vision and mission.
- Nelson said that it is difficult to see the future effects of policies and principles. He said that the term here, politicizing, seems to have a negative connotation. He said that Council should be wary of putting something out there that could come back and bite them.
- Williams said that policy and fiduciary decisions are often intertwined. He asked if they were saying that there is a point at which policy decisions should come under the scope of student government.
- McKesey reiterated her view that student government should have a role in deciding the vision and mission of ASUCLA and that management issues should be handled by the ASUCLA Board.
- Williams suggested that Council members consider the fact that the USA and GSA representatives on the Board of Directors believe that they directly represent the student governments. He said it seems to him that the student members of the ASUCLA Board make their decisions based on what they perceive to be the wishes of their student constituencies.

Resolution for Higher Education Reauthorization Act

- Kaczmarek said that that this bill will be broken up into several separate bills this year. He said that it is not clear if action will be taken on the issue this year. He said that USSA is ready to advocate on behalf of the students.

Resolution in Support of USSA Fighting for Immigrant Rights to Education (FIRE)

- Kaczmarek said that, at the USSA Congress, it was decided that immigrant rights would be a priority. He said that the DREAM Act at first extended state (local) tuition fees to immigrant students all over the nation. He said that the DREAM Act was then amended and became very different. He said that USSA no longer supports it as it is. He said that they are working to make it acceptable again.

Resolution in Support of Bruin Up Books

- Schreiber said that the program was started on the hill. He said that the idea was to give books to people in impoverished areas. He said that they are looking into extending this program to provide books to people on campus.
- Schreiber moved and Lam seconded to approve the Resolution in Support of Bruin Up Books.
- McKesity asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve the Resolution in Support of Bruin Up Books by a motion of 11 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.
- Schreiber moved and Nguyen seconded to approve publishing the Resolution in Support of Bruin Up Books in the Daily Bruin on March 2nd as a one-third page advertisement.
- McKesity asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve the motion to publish the Resolution in Support of Bruin Up Books with 11 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

X. Announcements

- Palma/Saracho said that there would be a budget forum tomorrow from 3:00-5:00pm.
- Chiang said that SWC would be holding its quarterly Blood Drive during 7th week.
- Chen said that the Capital Items /Surplus Applications would be due on February 13th, and that the recommendations would be made at the meeting on February 17^h.
- McKesity said that Council will be attending a dinner meeting with Student Affairs Administrators on March 3rd from 5:00-6:30 pm.
- Wynn said that Butterflies and Brainwash will be performing soon. She said that Eclectic will be performing on February 19th. She said that CAC is beginning to recruit volunteers for JazzReggae.

XI. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

- Chen passed around the Attendance Sheet.

XII. Adjournment

- Palma/Saracho moved and Husse-Jerome seconded to adjourn the meeting. There being no objection, the motion was approved with 11 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions and the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 pm.

XIII. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen Araiza
USAC Minutes Taker