

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL

Tuesday April 6, 2004  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
7:00pm

MINUTES

PRESENT: Ambrosio, Chen, Chiang, Kaczmarek, Kozak, Lam, Lawson, McKesey, McLaren, Nelson, Nguyen, Palma/Saracho, Schreiber, Williams

ABSENT: Gaulton, Grace, Husse-Jerome, Tuttle, Wynn

GUESTS: Crystal Lee, Roy Samaan, Paul Marian, Amy Lucas, Shantanu Bhuiyan, Marisela Ruiz, Eligio Martinez Jr., Alexandra Ramos, Lucero Chavez, Diana Aldafa, Sara Taylor, Steven Ly, Elizabeth Russell, Shiva Bhaskar, Eduardo Saldivar, Pedro Gomez

I. A. Call to Order  
-McKesey called the meeting to order at 7:09pm.

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

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Schreiber and Kozak asked to be added to the Officers and Members Reports.
- Lawson said that he would like to make a Special Presentation on the petition his office is circulating for a Special Election.
- Kozak asked that the Resolution in Support of Chicana/o Studies Departmentalization be moved up to follow the Special Presentation on the same subject.
- Kaczmarek asked that the Election Board Calendar and the E-Board Candidate Packet be made into action items and be moved down under the heading of Old Business.
- Schreiber moved and Palma/Saracho 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 8 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

III. Approval of the Minutes

**\*February 3, 2004; March 9, 2004**

- Schreiber said that on page 2 of the March 9<sup>th</sup> minutes the CAC Talent / No Talent Show should be changed to read the CSC Talent / No Talent Show.
- Lam said that there was a misspelling at the end of Tuttle's comment on the bottom of page 1 of the March 9<sup>th</sup> minutes.
- Kaczmarek moved and Schreiber seconded to approve the Minutes of February 3, 2004, as submitted, and the Minutes of March 9, 2004, as amended. Council voted to approve the motion with 8 votes in favor, 0 against, and 0 abstentions.

*Moment of Silence in Observance of 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rwanda Genocide, April 6, 1994*

- Kaczmarek said that on April 6, 1994 the plane carrying the President of Rwanda crashed, sparking a massive genocide. He said that more than 800,000 people were killed. He said that he had passed out some reading material on this matter. He said that he thought it would be good for USAC to reflect on this tragic event with a moment of silence.
- Council observed a moment of silence.

## IV. Special Presentations

**Chicana/o Studies Departmentalization**

- Eligio Martinez Jr. said that he would like to talk about the background of the Caesar Chavez Center. He said that the center was created after a massive struggle on the part of the students and community. He said that, since that time, the center has grown, yet it remains an interdisciplinary program. He said that the center is now attempting to gain department status.
- Marisela Ruiz said that student input is highly sought at the center. She said that changing its status to a department would be the final step in the goals of the students who fought for the center.
- Martinez said that this resolution would show that the students are in favor of departmentalization of Chicana/o Studies.

**\*Resolution in Support of Chicana/o Studies Departmentalization**

- Kozak said that this is the 11<sup>th</sup> year since the hunger strikes which brought about the creation of the Caesar Chavez Center. She said that it is about time that the center is recognized by elevating its status to that of a department.
- Kozak moved and Palma/Saracho seconded to approve the Resolution in Support of Chicana/o Studies Departmentalization.
- McKeseey asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve the motion with 8 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.
- Kozak moved and Lawson seconded to publish the Resolution in Support of Chicana/o Studies Departmentalization in the Daily Bruin on April 9<sup>th</sup> as a half page advertisement.
- McKeseey asked if there was any discussion. There being none, Council voted to approve the motion with 8 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

**Petition**

- Lawson said that he was officially submitting the signatures that his office has collected on the Election Rights Initiative petition. He said that they collected more than 10% of the undergraduate student body population, so he was certain that the petition would be qualified to be voted on.
- McKeseey asked if this would confirm the need for a Special Election.
- Lawson said that it would. He said further that he felt the matter should be voted on in a Special Election so that, if the measure is approved, the changes would be made and in place before the general election.
- Ambrosio asked what the changes would be.
- Lawson said that the first change would be to add a section to the Constitution, which would establish that every student has a right to vote in the elections. He said that the other major changes include the removal of IP address delays because they felt that those delays caused problems during the last election. He said he believes that there is a need to protect against block voting, but also believes that a better solution should be found to guard against block voting.
- Schreiber asked if Lawson had looked into the questions that Council members had raised about the petition at a prior USAC meeting.
- Lawson said that his office did look into those questions, but decided not to make any changes based on the points that other Council members raised. He said that one of the questions that had been raised was what would happen if technology changes and the internet is no longer the easiest means for holding the election. He said that there is a clause in the proposed changes which states that other methods may be used to supplement the online voting method.
- Palma/Saracho said that, if this issue is dealt with by a Special Election, USAC would be holding two elections in the span of just a few weeks. He said he felt this would be costly and might cause voter burnout.

- Lawson said that he would have preferred to do it last quarter, but they did not have enough signatures until this quarter.
- Kozak said that there is a lot of concern about block voting. She asked how it could be dealt with without IP address delays.
- Lawson said that his office felt that IP address delays were discriminatory. He said that they didn't have the delays on-campus but did off-campus. He said that it would seem that off-campus voters were disadvantaged in a way that on-campus voters were not.
- McLaren asked if all of these changes would override the Election Code, and whether it was Lawson's assessment that the changes would take effect immediately.
- Lawson said that they would take effect upon approval by the Chancellor.
- McLaren asked if Lawson, or anyone on his staff, had spoken with people at My.UCLA to determine if there could be set up for a Special Election within this time frame.
- Lawson said that they had not. He said he had spoken with Mike Cohn, but would not presume to speak for him.
- Kaczmarek said that if My.UCLA can't do it, the election would have to be held by a paper ballot.
- McKesey said that she sees a lot of problems with this initiative. She said that a number of Council members had expressed a lot of concerns earlier about this initiative that might have been worked out at the table. She said that she found it problematic that Lawson's office felt it was necessary to vote on this in a Special Election. She said that she would encourage the rest of Council to educate students about the impact this initiative would have.
- Roy Samaan, Election Board Chairperson, said that his concern is that it is the Election Board's responsibility to ensure that elections are carried out in the best manner possible. He said that he is worried that holding two elections within a short time period would spread the E-Board too thin.
- Lawson said that he is sorry this is a problem but that he felt that it was a pertinent concern.
- Kaczmarek pointed out that three prior Election Boards had recommended IP address delays. On another matter, he asked Lawson if he felt it was appropriate to hold a Special Election which would take more than \$7,000 from USAC's budget.
- Lawson said that the students who signed the petition have given him a reason to do that. He said that approximately 3,000 signatures have been collected in support of this initiative. He said that, if Council had come up with this as a special election without the mandate of the students he would object, but that this is a different case.
- Chen asked if changes were made after the petition began to circulate.
- Lawson said that no changes were made after the first signature was collected in October.
- Chiang, after checking her records, said that Lawson's first presentation to Council on this initiative was at the January 13 USAC meeting, and that was when she and other Council members had raised a variety of questions regarding the measure. She said further that, at that same meeting, Lawson said that he would review the questions Council members had raised and would make a presentation to Council on the matter later in the year. Chiang said that Lawson had not brought the matter back until tonight. She said she was concerned as to whether the students who signed the petition were aware of both sides of the issue.
- Lawson said that his staff made it clear when circulating the petition that signing the petition was not a vote in favor of the proposed amendments. He said that it is now up to the students to decide.

#### V. Appointments

##### **Election Board**

- Samaan said that he has interviewed and identified five qualified students to serve on the E-Board, and is presenting them to Council tonight for their approval. He said he has confidence in the ability of each of them to carry out their respective assignments.
- Palma/Saracho moved and Kaczmarek seconded to appoint Steven Ly, Elizabeth Russell, Shiva Bhaskar, Eduardo Saldivar and Pedro Gomez to the Election Board.

- Ambrosio asked Russell if she felt she would have any biases based on the student government election she had taken part in at her previous university.
- Russell said that felt that she did not have any biases from that election that would affect her ability to do her job on the USAC Election Board.
- Ambrosio asked Ly what changes he plans to make to the election to educate the voters.
- Ly said that he would try to spread the word more widely. He said that he had read the Election Code and believes he has an idea of how things work.
- McKesey asked if there was any further discussion. There being none. Council voted to approve Steven Ly, Elizabeth Russell, Shiva Bhaskar, Eduardo Saldivar and Pedro Gomez to the USAC Election Board with 9 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions.

## VI. Fund Allocations

### \*Contingency

Chen said that she was presenting a total of five allocations to Council, three of which she approved through her discretionary authorization.

-Kozak moved and Nguyen seconded to approve the Fund Allocations.

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

### Hui O Imiloa – UCLA Hawaiin Club

**Requested: \$1,600.00**

**Recommended: \$1,600.00**

FiCom recommended the allocation of \$1,000 for Honorarium, \$300 for Graphics, and \$300 for Facilities for Luau 2000 to be held on April 10, 2004.

### Nikkei Student Union

**Requested: \$500.00**

**Recommended: \$450.00**

FiCom recommended \$450 for Facilitis for NSU's Spring Staff Retreat to be held April 10 and April 11, 2004.

### Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc./ Gamma Xi

**Requested: \$396.04**

**Recommended: \$396.04**

The FiCom Chair, under her 2003-2004 Discretionary Authorization, allocated \$396.04 for Travel to the Western Regional Leadership Conference held March 24-28, 2004.

### MEChA de UCLA

**Requested: \$1,000.00**

**Recommended: \$ 400.00**

The FiCom Chair, under her 2003-2004 Discretionary Authorization, allocated \$400.00 for Transportation to the 2004 MEChA National Conference held March 25 -28, 2004.

### Pi Kappa Phi

**Requested: \$1,200.00**

**Recommended: \$ 545.36**

The FiCom Chair, under her 2003-2004 Discretionary Authorization, allocated \$545.36 for Pi Kappa Phi Rush Events held April 6-7 2004.

## VII. Officer and Member Reports

### President

-McKesey said she met with UC President Dynes and other members of the UC administration during 10<sup>th</sup> week of the previous quarter. She said that tomorrow is the CalPIRG press

conference against Thomson Textbooks. She said that the College Honors Day Fair is on Tuesday. She said that the Student Advisory Committee to the Hammer Museum is looking for student members who can provide input for their programming. She also said that UCLA sent a delegation of students, including herself, to Washington D.C. where they received the Campus of the Year Award from the USSA.

#### **Internal Vice President**

-Palma/Saracho said that his office has been trying to schedule a meeting with several organizations to discuss the changes to the funding guidelines. He said that they are going to try to have a Student Advocacy Collective next Tuesday.

#### **External Vice President**

-Kaczmarek said that, on March 10<sup>th</sup> he met with Vice Chancellors of Student Affairs from across the UC system. He said that Vice Chancellor Montero is truly a great advocate of advancing student rights. He said that on March 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> he met with the UCSA at UC Merced, where they had a chance to tour the new campus. He said that on March 15<sup>th</sup> he met with UC President Dynes and other members of the UC administration along with McKesey. He said that today the Regents announced that they would be holding more of their meetings on campuses with an undergraduate population. He said that on March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> he attended the Regents meeting. He said that he also went to the USSA Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., and that were almost 500 students from throughout the country in attendance at that event.

#### **Community Service Commissioner**

-Schreiber said that he was able to go to Tijuana with Bruin Hope, a service group that is being considered for CSC sponsorship this year. He said that they did great work at the community center there. He said that there will be a vote soon to have them brought into the CSC. He said that there was a hotdog sale today and tons of people signed up to learn about the community service programs at UCLA. He said that the Hunger Cleanup will be this Saturday.

#### **Academic Affairs Commissioner**

-Kozak said that the Minimum Progress Committee met with Judy Smith. She said that they were able to get Smith to agree to give broader publicity to the exemptions to the policy. She said that they will be going ahead with the survey through her office. She also said that the Diversity Requirement issue would be coming to a head this quarter.

#### **Administrative Representative – Berky Nelson**

-Nelson said that there is a survey going around, and suggested that Council should answer it as best as they can. He said that over Spring Break the California Campus Statewide Republicans had a conference at UCLA. He said that many people felt that UCLA was not very hospitable to people who are not liberal. He said that this stems back to the comments that the Bruin Republicans made on Al Rantel's radio show. He said that some people tend to believe the media without much question.

### VIII. Old Business

#### **\*Election Board Candidate Packet**

-Samaan said that the packet is the same except for the cover letter. He said that he has two options for the election calendar so that Council may decide which one they prefer. He said that, if the elections are held during Week 6 and Week 7 rather than Week 5 and Week 6, the E-Board would have more time to conduct the elections, but the process would be more drawn out.

-Kaczmarek moved and Kozak seconded to approve the Candidates Packet and the Election Calendar with the Primary during Week 6 and the Runoff, if necessary, during Week 7.

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

**\*Updates to USAC Action Agenda**

-Palma/Saracho said that the updates were to Action Agenda items 3 and 4. He said the proposed change to Item 3 would be to save Outreach, and the proposed change to Item 4 would be to include the Budget Advocacy Campaign.

-Palma/Saracho moved and Ambrosio seconded to approve the Updates to the USAC Action Agenda.

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

-Chiang asked if these Action Agenda items could be published so that students could be more aware of major issues that Council has been working on, and make Council's Action Agenda more visible to the campus community.

-McKesey said that Council could try to design an ad that would accomplish these goals.

IX. New Business

**\*Approval of Minor Updates to USA Programming Fund Guidelines**

-McLaren said that this is basically just a housekeeping matter. She said that the last Student Fee Referendum, which was approved in November 2002, allocated an extra \$1 per student/per quarter to the Programming Fund, but that the Programming Fund Guidelines were never changed to reflect that increase. She said that the additional money had been going into the Programming Fund, and that no group had been disadvantaged by the oversight in not updating the Guideline accordingly. She referred Council members to the changes, as indicated on Page 1 of the Guidelines, and recommended Council's approval of the updated document.

-Kozak moved and Schreiber seconded to approve the Updates to the USA Programming Fund Guidelines.

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

X. Announcements

-Palma/Saracho said that a number of groups had organized a MEChA Solidarity Week Rally for tomorrow at noon. He said that the Korean Culture Night will be held this Friday at 6:30pm in Royce Hall.

XI. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

-Chen passed around the Attendance Sheet.

XII. Adjournment

-Palma/Saracho moved and Nguyen seconded to adjourn the meeting. There being no objection, the motion was approved with 9 votes in favor, 0 against and 0 abstentions and the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

XIII. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen Araiza  
USAC Minutes Taker