

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCILTuesday October 19, 2004  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Avila, Bhuiyan, Chan, Corella, Gaulton, Gruenberg, Lee, McLaren, Martinez, Nelson, Palma/Saracho, Tripathi, Tseng, Vu, Wood

ABSENT: Kurita, Tuttle, Villarin, Williams

GUESTS: Jeannie Biniek, Lucero Chavez, Hevily Ambriz Espinoza, Janina Montero, Tracy Ohara, Shaudee Navid, Marisela Ruiz, Joseph Vardner

I. A. Call to Order  
- Palma/Saracho called the meeting to order at 7:10 P.M.

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

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Martinez asked to be included in the Officer and Member reports. He also asked that the Resolution under New Business be moved to before the Special Presentations, as the people who were going to present the Resolution had to leave early.
- Tseng asked to be added to the Officer and Member Reports.
- Tripathi asked to be added to the Officer and Member reports.
- Palma/Saracho said that he was tabling the Special Presentation on the ASUCLA Entities Committee to next week because the undergraduate members of the ASUCLA Board of Directors could not be at tonight's meeting. He also said that the appointment to the Student Activities Center Board of Governors (SACBOG) would also be moved to next week because the appointee could not be here tonight.
- Wood asked that Funding of Welcome Week be added under Old Business.
- Martinez moved and Lee seconded to approve the Agenda, as amended.
- Tseng called for Acclimation. Palma/Saracho asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclimation. There being none, the Agenda was approved, as amended, by Acclimation.

III. Approval of the Minutes

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- Gaulton said that under announcements, Alfie would be shown from 8:00p.m. to 10:00p.m., not 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
- Lee said that on page 5, she was not in fact inviting people to her apartment to make dinner for them. She said that, actually, they would be going out to eat.
- Avila moved and Tseng seconded to approve the Minutes of October 19, as amended.
- Lee called for Acclimation. Palma/Saracho asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclimation. There being none, the minutes of October 19 were approved, as amended, by Acclimation.

## IV. New Business

**\* Resolution in Support of Dolores Huerta's Reappointment to the University of California Board of Regents**

- Martinez introduced Hevily Ambriz, Marisela Ruiz, and Lucero Chavez who were at the meeting to present background information on the resolution.
  - Hevily Ambriz, Lucero Chavez and Marisela Ruiz each introduced themselves by giving Council some background on the various projects they have been involved with at UCLA. Ambriz introduced herself to council.
  - Ambriz said that council had a copy of the Resolution in their Agenda Packet. She said that the statements in the Resolution described the reasons for the Resolution, but she stressed the importance of the clause which talked about Huerta's community and social minded voice on the Board of Regents.
- Chavez reiterated Ambriz's remarks about Huerta's involvement with community issues, and said that Huerta is a very strong supporter of the student voice at UCLA and other UC campuses.
- Ruiz said that Huerta embodied the issues that Cesar Chavez believed in and fought for, one of the most important of which was equality. She also said that Huerta was a former educator, so she would be a strong advocate of student issues.
  - Gruenberg asked if Huerta was actively seeking reappointment to the Board.
  - Martinez said that the most important point of supporting Huerta's reappointment was that Huerta is very open to hearing from students, unlike many of her fellow Regents who were just unapproachable businessmen.
  - Vu reiterated that Huerta has been very helpful to students, and said that, regarding an earlier matter, UCSA had passed a resolution to support her.
  - Tripathi moved and Wood seconded to approve the Resolution in Support of Dolores Huerta's Reappointment to the University of California's Board of Regents.
  - Lee called for acclimation. Palma/Saracho asked if there were any objections to calling for Acclimation. There being none, The Resolution in Support of Dolores Huerta's Reappointment to the University of California's Board of Regents was approved by Acclimation.
  - Palma/Saracho asked whether Council wanted to publish the resolution.
  - Martinez asked Vu if he thought an ad should be run in the Daily Bruin.
  - Vu said that it should. He said that he would like to see it run on Monday, the 25th rather than on Friday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> because Monday's circulation is higher than Friday's.
  - Vu moved and Martinez seconded to run a 1/3 page advertisement in the Daily Bruin on Monday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.
  - Avila called for Acclimation. Palma/Saracho asked if there were any objections to calling for Acclimation. There being none, the motion to publish the Resolution on Monday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, was approved by Acclimation.

## V. Special Presentations

**B. Get Out the Vote (GOTV) – John Vu and Jeannie Biniek**

- Biniek said that the voter registration deadline had been yesterday, and that she had been working with student groups on campus up until yesterday registering voters. She said that she was certain that they had exceeded their goal of 2500. Biniek added that that she got about 900 voters from the resource center on the hill, and 600 more later.
- Vu passed out fliers about Get Out the Vote, and went over what would be happening next week. He said that Monday there would be a voter workshop, where people from the community would speak. Vu said that on Tuesday there would be a Panel discussion on voting and Wednesday would be a discussion on the Patriot Act. He said that Thursday there would be talks about attacks on students of color, and finally on Monday there would be the Get Out the Vote concert.

- Biniek said that she had some voter information packets if anyone wanted them, in addition to pamphlets on Voters' rights. She also asked officers to each take one handout about making sure that students would actually go out and vote. Biniek said that the idea would be to phone call people, knock on doors, and even do a trick-or-vote on Halloween, encouraging people to vote. She said that she had passed out sign-up sheets for people to volunteer for this. Biniek asked everyone to help her with this, and she said that she would pick up the sheets next Tuesday.
- Wood asked if there were still Get Out the Vote meetings.
- Biniek said that there were, and that one would be tomorrow. She said that she would email the times to council. Biniek also asked if anyone could volunteer their office to make phone calls from on Monday or Tuesday.
- Wood also suggested that council should do something at Homecoming.
- Tripathi asked what the dates for the phone calls were.
- Biniek said that it would be October 30<sup>th</sup> to November 2<sup>nd</sup>. She said that it often made a big difference if people were called on Election Day.
- McLaren asked if Biniek had a list of locations where people could vote early.
- Biniek said that she did not, but that she would call and get the information.

### **C. Academic Empowerment Week – Eligio Martinez and Tommy Tseng**

- Tseng said that this was a week for activities to educate students about Expected Cumulative Progress (ECP) and resources available to the students. Tseng said that yesterday there had been two workshops in the Residence Halls, and today there had been an open house at the Community Service Center. Tseng said that hopefully students had learned more about ECP there.
- Martinez said that there would not be a concert tomorrow, as their performer was cancelled on account of some comments that had been made at the last performance. Martinez said that the activities would resume on Thursday with the recruitment fair held by several of the USAC offices. Last he added that there would be a Town Hall that same Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in 1260 Franz Hall.
- Tseng said that Saturday would be Community Service Day, and there would be more fliers printed and handed out tomorrow. He said that at the retreat everyone voted to have ECP as an action agenda item, and asked for everyone at council to try to put in some time on this project. Tseng said that on Thursday he really needed students to show up at the Town Hall as a show of force to the administration that ECP was important to the students. He passed around a sheet and asked everyone from council to list how many people they would bring from their offices, 5 people being the minimum.
- Wood asked what else she or the rest of council could do to help.
- Tseng said that if offices could send representatives to the next meeting on ECP it would be very helpful. He said that this meeting would be at 2:30 p.m. on the second floor of the Student Activities Center.
- Martinez said that he appreciated everyone's help in the past several weeks, but reminded council that they had all agreed to make ECP an Action Item, so it was really the responsibility of all council, not just he and Tseng.
- Palma/Saracho said that he had seen Tseng and Martinez "take the point" on this item, even though everyone on council should be investing an equal amount of effort into this, and also encouraged council to help with this.

## VI. Appointments

### **Finance Committee Vice-Chair; Student Activities Center Board of Governors**

- Corella said that she has been trying to get the Finance Committee together, and that her first step was to appoint the Vice Chairperson. She introduced Christopher Aquino, who she had had applied for FiCom in May.

- Aquino said that he was a fourth year student, and added that one of his reasons for applying to serve on the Finance Committee was to get a better understanding of how USAC worked.
- Gruenberg asked if Aquino had met with the Appointments Review Committee (ARC).
- McLaren interjected that the Finance Committee Appointments are handled in a different way. She explained that the Finance Committee Chairperson is nominated by the President, reviewed by the ARC, and approved by USAC, while the other members of the Finance Committee are interviewed and selected by the Finance Committee Chairperson. McLaren said that usually the appointees are presented to council for information.
- Palma/Saracho asked if council had to approve these people or if they were just presented to them.
- McLaren said that USAC approval is not stipulated in the Bylaws, but the recent trend had been for Council to vote on the FiCom Chairperson's designees.
- Wood moved and Martinez seconded to approve the appointment of Christopher Aquino as the Finance Committee Vice Chairperson.
- Avila called for Acclimation. Palma/Saracho asked if there were any objections to calling for Acclimation. There being none, the Appointment of Christopher Aquino was approved by Acclimation.

#### VII. Fund Allocations

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

- Corella said that she had passed out copies of the recommendation, and that there had been only one group that applied for funding.
- Gruenberg asked how the transition was going.
- Corella said that it was going well, but she wanted to get the committee together so that everything would run smoother.
- McLaren added that Corella has been doing an incredible job and has dedicated many hours to learning and carrying out her responsibilities. She added that Corella is a delight to work with.
- Regarding the Contingency request from VNLC, Tseng asked what a "Challenge Course" was.
- Ohara said that it was a team-building activity, much like a ropes course.
- Wood moved and Tseng seconded to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendation.
- Martinez called for Acclimation. Palma/Saracho asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclimation. There being none, the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendation was approved by Acclimation.

##### **Vietnamese Language and Culture (VNLC)**

**Requested:                 \$848.00**

**Recommended:            \$475.00**

The Finance Committee recommended the allocation of \$475.00 for the partial cost of fees to conduct the Challenge Course on October 24th.

#### VIII. Officer and Member Reports

##### **Financial Supports Commission – Alex Gruenberg**

- Gruenberg said that he and Gaulton went to the Alumni strategy meeting, and they could answer any questions that council had about the meeting.
- Wood asked if the Alumni Association had mentioned their funding source.
- Gruenberg said that they had not talked about that. He indicated that it was more of a very informal discussion where they wanted to hear from student leaders on campus. Gruenberg also said that Wednesday at 4:00 p.m. there would be a talk on financial issues facing students with regard to the upcoming election.

- Martinez asked where this would be.
- Gruenberg said the location was to be announced, but would probably be on the Hill.

#### **Office of the General Representatives – Tommy Tseng**

- Tseng said that over the weekend he had gone to a conference in Oakland held by the American Federation of Labor. He said that, at the conference, they learned a lot about what the union was going through. Tseng said the federation expressed a desire for workers to be given more of a chance at the workplace. He said that a common complaint was that some workers were promoted through favoritism, and this seemed unfair. Tseng passed around some information regarding how the university sources its funding and also how some of the workers have been treated. He said that he would make a full presentation on this next week. Tseng said that UCLA does not really have the money to treat its workers well on campus. He made the point that if UCLA spent more money on their employees, then this would trickle down in the form of better service to the students. Tseng said that there had also been a protest at Berkeley, and told council that he was using his position as a General Representative to work on workers' rights because he saw this as a worthy cause. He said that his hope was to set a foundation for a relationship between the workers and the administration at the university. Tseng said that at the conference they had set up a student caucus that would work on these issues. He said that last year the funding to the Labor Center at UCLA had been illegally cut by Governor Schwarzenegger, but the students had organized against the cuts and got some of the funding reinstated. Tseng said that he was planning to have a one-day teach-in during February because it would be a good opportunity to bring people from the labor movement onto campus to present their issues and ideas to the students.

#### **Facilities Commissioner – Pavan Tripathi**

- Tripathi said that a member of his staff had attended a meeting of the Campus Facilities Coordinating Committee (CFCC), and said that there were some updates that council should be aware of. He said that there were new banner restrictions, and said that anyone who was planning to hang a banner should see him about the new guidelines. Tripathi also said that the administration was trying to limit filming on campus this year, postponing most of it until the summer. He also said that they are hoping to have Wooden Center West completed by Thanksgiving. Tripathi added that he had almost completed the questions for a survey he wants to conduct which would give him feedback about students' feelings regarding campus facilities.

#### **Academic Affairs Commission – Eligio Martinez**

- Martinez said that in the upcoming week there would be speakers on campus who had been involved with cases protesting certain provisions of the Patriot Act. He said that yesterday he had been at a six hour meeting with various University leaders, and that one interesting issue they discussed was academic dishonesty. Martinez also said that they are in the process of chartering a division of the Academic Senate for UC Merced. He said that transfer requirements were also being discussed, as most of the required courses were in the humanities, rather than in the sciences, which would put science majors at a disadvantage. Martinez said that a lot of the campuses had been following up on student numbers with regard to graduation, rather than just counting total students. He said that, when only graduating students are counted, students who are Subject to Dismissal and / or on Academic Probation are discounted. Martinez said that these miscounts prevented the campus from maximizing its resources. Martinez said that, among some of the things that are wrong, he listed counseling services as being not up to par with the student needs, and added that this might be part of the reason for so many students falling behind.

**Chancellor's Representative – Berky Nelson**

- Nelson said that, some time ago, Vice Chancellor Montero had talked about having alumni from previous USA Councils get together with current USAC members. He said that Council's predecessors have acquired a great deal of experience and expertise since they graduated, and that many of them had gone on to earn advanced degrees. Nelson said that he strongly supported Montero's recommendation, and said he thought that a meeting between prior and current USAC members was a very good idea.
- Montero said she thought it might be very worthwhile for Council members to engage in conversation with alumni from recent years, perhaps from the 80's forward, both to exchange ideas and perhaps even set up some collaborative projects. She said she thought this would also be a good opportunity to inform alumni of what was currently happening on campus. Montero said that a dinner in January had been suggested, and she wanted to find out if council thought this was a good idea.
- Avila said that he and his Chief of Staff were thinking of doing something similar, with prior Student Welfare Commissioners, but they were thinking of something that would be more of a social event.
- Nelson said this was another example of great minds thinking alike. He said that there were USAC alums in the field of politics, law, medicine, education, and other relevant disciplines. Nelson said that he thought UCLA's Alumni were second to none, and said that such a get-together would provide good networking opportunities for current Council members.
- Montero said that, if Council liked this idea, they should let her know the best date for them so that the invitations could be sent out in December.
- Nelson suggested that Montero and Avila could work on this together.
- Palma/Saracho said that he thought it was a great idea, and knew of some previous council members that should also be invited from before the 80's.
- Nelson said that they were thinking of 80's on because these alums were closer in age and time to the current Council members, but said that he was not against inviting alums from earlier years.
- Montero also said that this dinner could be looked at as a beginning, and then see where it goes from there.
- McLaren said that there had been two reunions of USAC Presidents from all years which had been very successful, but had not produced the desired ongoing interaction among the Presidents. She said that she thought that this approach, where all Council Officers were included, might have better long-range benefits.
- Palma/Saracho said that Council members who were interested in holding this event should talk to Nelson about it.

**External Vice President's Office – John Vu**

- Vu said that Get Out the Vote was going well, and that the goal had been reached. He also said that the speaker for the Students of Color Conference had been finalized, and it would be Karen Bass. Vu also said that any leftover funding would be helpful for the conference. He said that, as of now, his office has eight interns. He announced that the deadline for travel grants would be October 22nd. Vu said that this weekend he would be going to the UCSA meeting with some other members of council. There he said that he wanted to reemphasize the importance of the H.E.A.R. Act, as it was very important for students to vote on this. Vu said that there was a lot of momentum in both houses for the F.I.R.E. Act and it would probably be passed this year.
- Tripathi asked if there would be polling places in the residence halls this year.
- Vu said they were currently checking on that and would let Council know what they find out.

**Internal Vice President – Darren Chan**

- Chan said that last week they had spoken about having a joint On Campus Housing Council (OCHC) and USAC meeting. He said that Paul Marian said this could be worked out, and that one possibility was to have a dinner meeting on Tuesday November 9th before the USAC meeting. He said that they wanted to have the joint

meeting prior to the next ASUCLA Entities meeting. Chan said that other possible dates are Wednesday November 3<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday October 27<sup>th</sup>.

- Avila said Wednesdays were no good for him
- Gaulton said that he could not do the 27th
- Chan said that 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. was another possible time slot. He then reminded council that the next ASUCLA Entities meeting was scheduled for November 10th.
- Palma/Saracho suggested Wednesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., rather than a Tuesday because he thought it would be tough to have the meeting right before a council meeting.

*Council seemed to agree on this.*

- Chan said that, based on replies he had received about the Internship Fair, October 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. seemed to be the best date and time. He asked council members to please make sure to have their offices open at that time. Chan also said that he was passing around a sign-up sheet for people to schedule having a meal with him. He said that he had not been very good about meeting with everyone, so he offered to treat council members to a meal in the residence halls where he would swipe people in. Chan said that he could work around people's schedules, and could even provide people with rides to or from class. He asked people to sign up, and to plan to get together with him at least every other week.

#### **President – Allende Palma/Saracho**

- Palma/Saracho said that last week he had gone to the Campus Facilities Coordinating Committee (CFCC) meeting. He also announced that IFC would be holding a "Battle of the Bands" from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday of Homecoming week, and added that the policies for this event were being discussed. Palma/Saracho said that he also spoke with Mick DeLuca, the director of the Wooden Center, who was excited about the addition of Wooden Center West. He said that DeLuca had offered to give council a tour of the new facility as soon as it opens. He said that the Student Empowerment Internship application deadlines had been extended to Friday, and said that the application forms were available on the bulletin board outside of his office. Palma/Saracho added that further extensions could be given in cases where someone knew of a friend who wanted to do the internship but was unable to get the form in on time. He said that two internship orientations were planned, one for Monday of Fourth Week and another during Sixth Week. Palma/Saracho said that there were new funding guidelines, and that an article had run in the Daily Bruin about this. He said that he would forward council a link to information about these new decisions and guidelines.
- Gruenberg asked if there had been any developments about the letter being written to President Dynes about the referendum last spring.
- Palma/Saracho said that he and Vu had met with Bob Williams and Bob Naples to go over some of the language of the letter and the necessary steps to take next. He said that he would keep council informed of further updates.

#### **IX. Old Business**

##### **Welcome Week Funding**

- Wood said that she was passing around invoices from the carnival expenses, totaling \$6,701.01. She said that, outlined on the estimates, were the facilities, inflatable games, and everything else that had been rented or purchased by council. Wood said that the cost of the extra football mini-game had been picked up by the university.
- Gaulton said that the final invoice for the nighttime stuff had been a tremendous amount. He said that this brought the total Welcome Week cost to over \$40,000, with a more exact number to come. Gaulton said that when the process began to take shape, it was not going to be a student-funded event. He said that, hopefully, the university has taken note, and in the future they will give money to the event. Gaulton said that it was not fair to put the full cost of these events on the Campus Events Commission

(CEC) and the Cultural Affairs Commission (CAC), because both CEC and CAC need to fund the traditional programs of their Commissions. Gaulton said that he was asking council to contribute \$13,000 to help offset the expenses that CEC and CAC had incurred.

- Palma/Saracho asked what would be the best way to do this .
- Gaulton said that CEC and CAC had already paid all of the bills, so he thought that the best way would be for funds to be transferred from USAC Surplus to the accounts of CEC and CAC.
- Tseng asked how this would be done.
- Gaulton said that this was the way they had done it last year, so he assumed it could be done in the same way for this year.
- Palma/Saracho asked Corella and Ohara what the Surplus for this year was.
- Ohara said that they didn't know.
- McLaren asked if anyone had spoken with Student Government Accounting about this.
- Wood said that they had.
- McLaren asked if they expected the \$13,000 to be available immediately.
- Gaulton said that all he had to go on was the information from last year.
- Lee moved to transfer \$13,000 from the USAC Surplus Fund to the Campus Events Commission and Cultural Affairs Commission accounts .
- Gruenberg asked if this could be tabled until next week when council would know exactly how much was in USAC Surplus.
- Wood said it was her understanding that Surplus was well over \$100,000.
- Gaulton said that he would be willing to wait until next week when everything was known.
- Avila asked where he would transfer the money to.
- Gaulton said to his and Bhuiyan's commissions.
- Palma/Saracho asked if there was a second for the motion on the table.
- Wood seconded the motion to transfer \$13,000 from the USAC Surplus Fund to the Campus Events Commission and Cultural Affairs Commission accounts .
- Martinez called for Acclimation. Palma/Saracho asked if there were any objections to calling for Acclimation.
- Gruenberg objected on the grounds that the motion should be tabled until the exact amount in the Surplus fund was known.
- Palma/Saracho said that, because there was an objection to calling for Acclimation, council would have to vote on whether or not to vote on the motion which is on the table.
- Council voted to overrule Gruenberg's objection to approval by Acclimation with 9 votes in favor, 1 opposed and no abstentions.
- Council then voted on the motion on the table.
- With 9 votes in favor, 0 votes opposed, and 1 abstention, Council approved the motion to transfer \$13,000 from the USAC Surplus Fund to the Campus Events Commission and Cultural Affairs Commission accounts.
- Gruenberg asked how Council could work toward involving the University Administration into contributing to next year's Welcome Week events, especially in light of the fact that many Administrators are supportive of Council.
- Wood said that there have been a couple of follow-up meetings with Administrators who have encouraged Council to start planning Welcome Week earlier so that the administration can be "more involved" in the future.
- Gaulton said that, basically, Council was doing what they could to alleviate the pressure on the University in dealing with Black Sunday. He said that the administration appreciated Council's efforts and, in future years, would likely be willing to co-sponsor Welcome Week events.
- Palma/Saracho said that he agreed with Gaulton's assessment and said that, based on his last meeting with Kenn Heller, he expected council to be getting financial help from the university next year.



## X. Announcements

- Wood said that that anyone who hadn't turned in their T-shirt sign-up sheets yet to please get them to her very soon so the shirts be ordered. She reminded council that each shirt would cost \$10.
- McLaren asked if Wood had any extra sign-up sheets.
- Wood said that she would make one for McLaren.
- Lee said that Community Service Day would be Saturday, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. with a recruitment fair afterward from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. She encouraged people from council to participate, and for Resident Advisors (R.A.) on council to bring their residents. Lee said that there were 180 applicants signed up as of now, but they were trying for 250.
- Avila said that the "Net-Workout" program had begun. He explained that idea was for people to meet friends and "network" while they "workout".
- Gaulton said that Fahrenheit 9/11 would be playing this week, and that on Tuesday of next week the first two episodes of "The OC" would be shown, sponsored by Victoria's Secret. He also said that Wednesday there would be a party hosted for the Century Film Festival, and added that it would be semi-exclusive. Gaulton also said that someone is doing a documentary on campus about council having brought Michael Moore to speak on campus, so watch out for them in the halls.
- Martinez asked if anyone had gotten the names of the documenters, as they had lied to him by telling him that the film was for a class which he later found out does not exist. *Nobody indicated that they had*
- Martinez asked council to try to get their names the next time they talked to someone, and also reminded council that they could not print anything that was not waived in writing.
- McLaren asked if anyone needed a bulletin board 3ft by 4 ft. *Wood, Gruenberg, and Bhuiyan all indicated that they would like it.*

## XI. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

- Corella passed around the attendance sheet.

## XII. Adjournment

- Martinez moved and Lee seconded to adjourn.
- Avila called for Acclimation. Palma/Saracho asked if there were any objections to approving the motion by Acclimation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 by Acclimation.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michael Keesler  
USAC Minutes Taker