

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL

Tuesday April 26, 2005  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Avila, Bhuiyan, Chan, Corella, Gaulton, Gruenberg, Lee, McLaren, Martinez, Nelson, Ohara, Palma/Saracho, Tripathi, Tuttle, Villarín, Vu, Williams, Wood

ABSENT: Tseng

GUESTS: Sam Corbett, Melinda Dudley, Ernesto Flores, Renee Fortier, Kathleen Francisco, Janina Montero, Joe Vardner

I. A. Call to Order

- Palma/Saracho called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*Corella passed around the Attendance Sheet*

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Tripathi asked to be added to the Officer and Member Reports.
- Avila asked to be added to the Officer and Member Reports.
- Villarín asked to be added to the Officer and Member Reports.
- Vu asked to table the issues of the University of California Student Association 2005-2006 Budget (Special Presentation B) and the corresponding Action Item (New Business Item B).

*Special Presentation Item B and New Business Item B were removed from the Agenda*

- Lam asked that the Election Board Updates and approval of the ballot be moved "to as soon as humanly possible."

*Old Business Item A, Election Board Updates, and New Business Item A, \*Approval of the USA Spring Elections 2005 Ballot, were moved to before Approval of the Minutes.*

- Avila moved and Vu seconded to approve the Agenda as amended.
- Martinez called for Acclamation. Palma/Saracho asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Agenda was approved, as amended, by Acclamation.

III. Old Business (Item A)

**A. Election Board Updates**

- Lam said that there were no E-Board updates, but said that he had copies of the list of candidates, as they would appear on the ballot. He said that there had been many changes, and passed them out to council. Lam said that the changes were that Eric Barba and Nish Chari had both dropped out of the race.
- Palma/Saracho said that the language for the PULSE Referendum had also been finalized, and directed council's attention to the latest version of the document which he had distributed. He said that there had been discussion with the Chancellor's Office about the Return to Aid issue, which resulted in an agreement to not include Return to Aid in the PULSE Referendum. He then passed around a copy of the letter he had sent

to the chancellor with regard to the PULSE Referendum, and he read the Chancellor's reply for Council.

*Chancellor Albert Carnesale indicated that the referendum had been approved and could be placed on the USAC ballot.*

- Palma/Saracho commented further on the Return to Aid issue by saying that there would be no Return to Aid unless it was voted on in a Special Election at some later time. Palma/Saracho pointed out the changes that had been made, saying that the footnote on the first page had been removed. He said that two additional statements had been added to clarify the historical background. He said that there was one sentence regarding a donation that had been made by the chancellor, which could be found on page 8. He also pointed out an addition on page 9, where the university had made attempts to help with the cost. Palma/Saracho said that the language before them would be the finalized language, pending approval by USAC.

IV. New Business (Item A)

**A. \*Approval of the USA Spring Elections 2005 Ballot**

- Martinez moved and Vu seconded to approve the USA Spring Elections 2005 Ballot.
- Council voted to approve the USA Spring Elections 2005 Ballot with a vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Lam said that council also needed to approve the candidate list.
- Avila moved and Lee seconded to approve the USA Spring Elections 2005 Candidate List.
- Council voted to approve the USA Spring Elections 2005 Candidate List with a vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

V. Approval of the Minutes

**March 1, 2005**

- Tripathi moved and Avila seconded to approve the Minutes of March 1, 2005, as submitted.
- Martinez called for Acclamation. Palma/Saracho asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Minutes of March 1, 2005 were approved by Acclamation.

VI. Special Presentations

**Transportation Services – Renee Fortier and Sam Corbett**

- Rene Fortier, Transportation Services Director, said that she was here to talk about BruinGO! She said that there would be an addition to this program to extend the service to include MTA, now known as Metro. Fortier said that this would be subsidized by parking fees, and said that this could be done without any increase in parking fees. She then introduced Sam Corbett, Manager of Transportation Services Planning and Analysis department.
- Corbett said that a new transit pass would be introduced in Fall Quarter. He said that BruinGo! was a very good program which has been widely used by UCLA students. Corbett said that the budget for BruinGo! was \$630,000. He said that one issue, however, was that it did not service all of Los Angeles. Corbett said that their goal for the Metro Pass was to offer subsidized transportation and regional access to current and future students and workers. Corbett said that a careful study had been done to establish how many students could be serviced by Metro determined that 9,704 students lived within ¼ mile of a Metro line and more than 2,000 lived within ½ mile of Westwood. Corbett said that the Metro program would be unlike BruinGo! He said that there were logistical differences, and that the bottom line was that Bruins would have to opt into the program by buying a subsidized transportation card. Corbett said that \$500,000 had been set aside to subsidize part of this expense. He said that the cost

of the transportation card would be \$74 for faculty and \$43 for students. He said that the period for the Fall pass would begin in September and end in December; the Winter pass would be for January to March; and the Spring pass would be for March through June. Corbett explained that BruinGo! would be subsidized by paying 200% of what the students paid on each of these cards. He said that this new program would be conducted for two years as a test, and then it would be studied to determine its effectiveness and evaluate whether it should be continued. Corbett said that advertising and public relations for this new program were in the works at the moment, and the program would be launched in the Fall.

- Palma/Saracho said that he thought this was a spectacular plan, and then said that he had a couple of questions about it. He asked if BruinGO! would operate on the weekends, or if just Metro would be operating then.
- Fortier said that all three lines would be operating 7 days a week.
- Villarin asked if there would ever be parking fee increases.
- Fortier said that Transportation Services had been in debt on the parking structures but, because they had refinanced, there would be no increases in parking fees next year or the year after.
- Villarin asked if there would ever be increases.
- Fortier said that there probably would.
- Villarin asked if there had been any specific discussions on the subject of fee increases.
- Fortier said that they had looked at a ten-year plan and, where they used to increase fees yearly, they would now be pushing that back at least one year.
- Villarin said that a student appointee to the Transportation Services Advisory Board had told Council that there would be an increase to \$8 next year.
- Fortier said that the daily parking rate would be going up to \$8, but the price of the parking permits would not be increased.
- Palma/Saracho asked if the Metro lines that used to come to the Hilgard terminal would be coming back to that location.
- Fortier said that Metro had not been coming to the Hilgard terminal for some time, but there was still a single stop on Hilgard that was being used.
- Palma/Saracho asked if the Santa Monica Blue Bus Line would be using that route.
- Fortier said that the Blue Bus would be using that route Mondays through Fridays. She said that there are 7 to 8 buses at a time, and that terminal was really needed.
- Corbett said that there were 7 to 8 stops on the UCLA campus that were serviced by Metro.
- Villarin asked if any research or discussion had taken place about extending service to the Summer months.
- Fortier said that it would be hard to fund that, and also remarked that the summer population was very different, and was serviced differently. She said that they would talk more about this, as they had done with bringing back weekend service. Fortier said that summer service would be very expensive.
- Palma/Saracho asked if buying this pass would affect the co-payment made on BruinGo!
- Fortier said that talks were underway about having a single, comprehensive transportation permit. She said that for now, however, everything was separate.
- Joe Vardner told council that, thanks to Fortier and Corbett's efforts, there would be an additional student representative sitting on the TSAB, beginning with the next appointment period.

### **Project Reaching Bigger Goals**

- Lee introduced Ernesto Flores, Kathleen Francisco, and Teresa Garcia. *Wood and Gruenberg arrived.*
- Flores said that Project Reaching Bigger Goals was a new program which they would like to be included in the Community Service Commission. He said that they were an after school program, serving 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. Flores said that right now they were working with 3<sup>rd</sup> graders on Mondays, bringing them snacks and then

leading social seminars. He said that they tried to teach the children leadership skills, dealing with peer pressure, and the importance of social skills. Flores said that all of the students were intelligent, but there were certain personal issues that they might not know how to handle.

- Francisco said that they also did one-on-one tutoring, with an emphasis on math and language arts. She said that, recently, the students' scores were so bad that the district had to add another after school program to tutor them. Francisco said that the focus, however, was still on social skills.
- Flores said that they were hoping they would be able to help raise these children's test scores through social and academic training. He said that one of their goals was to ultimately offer service on more than one day a week.
- Villarín said she thought this was a really neat program. She asked if they also wanted to reach out to more than just one school or neighborhood.
- Flores said that funding restricted them to only one school, but he said that before adding more schools, they felt it would be better to service the one school they are working at for more than one day a week.
- Martínez commended the group for seeing a need and filling it, as there were lots of service groups.
- Palma/Saracho asked if there were any objections to moving up the agenda item concerning Council's approval of this new.

*There were no objections.*

VII. New Business (Item B)

**B. \*Approval of New CSC Project: Project Reaching Bigger Goals**

- Lee said that a 2/3 vote was needed to approve the group.
- Wood moved and Martínez seconded to approve the new CSC Project: Project Reaching Bigger Goals.
- Council voted to approve the new CSC Project: Project Reaching Bigger Goals with a vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

VIII. Appointments

*There were no Appointments this week.*

IX. Fund Allocations

- Corella said that there were eight contingency applications for Council's approval. She pointed out that, in the notes regarding the allocation to the Cultural Affairs Commission, the amount should be \$6,000, not \$4,000.
- Wood moved and Martínez seconded to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations.
- Lee called for Acclamation. Palma/Saracho asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations were approved by Acclamation.

**Vietnamese Language and Culture (VNLC)**

**Requested: \$1,548.00**

**Recommended: \$ 516.00**

The Finance Committee recommended the allocation of \$516.00 for the partial cost of Transportation for Rendering Encouragement in Academic Commitment for Higher Education.

**CALPIRG**

**Requested: \$850.50**

**Recommended: \$283.50**

The Finance Committee recommended the allocation of \$283.50 for the partial cost of Transportation to the Hunger Cleanup on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**MEChA de UCLA**

**Requested: \$720.00**

**Recommended: \$360.00**

The Finance Committee recommended the allocation of \$360.00 for the partial cost of Accommodations for the Spring Statewide Conference to be held from April 29<sup>th</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Bruin Partners**

**Requested: \$688.00**

**Recommended: \$430.00**

The Finance Committee recommended the allocation of \$430.00 for the partial cost of Transportation for Spring Quarter Transportation.

**Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority Inc.**

**Requested: \$1,120.00**

**Recommended: \$ 330.00**

The Finance Committee recommended the allocation of \$330.00 for the partial cost of Registration for the Sisterhood Retreat to be held on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Tau Beta Sigma, Epsilon Kappa**

**Requested: \$2,730.00**

**Recommended: \$1,800.00**

The Finance Committee recommended the allocation of \$1,800.00 for the cost of Airfare for the Tau Beta Sigma National Convention to be held from July 26<sup>th</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Cultural Affairs Commission**

**Requested: \$15,000.00**

**Recommended: \$ 6,000.00**

The Finance Committee recommended the allocation of \$6,000.00 for the partial cost of an Honorarium for The Roots in Concert to be held on April 28<sup>th</sup> 2005.

**UCLA Chinese Cultural Dance Club**

**Requested: \$4,000.00**

**Recommended: \$2,400.00**

The Finance Committee recommended the allocation of \$2,400.00 for the partial cost of Facilities for the Lotus Steps 2005 to be held on May 7<sup>th</sup> 2005.

X. Officer and Member Reports

**Office of the General Representatives – Jenny Wood**

- Wood said that the Women's Collective had been held and a lot of goals had been set. She said that they were working with the Ashe Center to create a forum building off of the Student Health Advisory Committee (SHAC). Wood also said that Women for Change Week would be 6<sup>th</sup> week, and passed out calendars to council. She said that the General Representatives were working on the Feminist List that would be published on Friday 13<sup>th</sup>. Wood said that the only thing Feminism stands for is equal rights and treatment for women. She said that if anyone had questions about what was going on this quarter to ask her.

- Villarin said that the General Representatives also hosted their last program of the year. She said that a lot more groups were better educated about the funding process as a result of this program. Villarin also said that the event had been successful because so many of the offices in council had contacted student groups about being more responsible and helping them know about resources available to them.

**Student Welfare Commissioner – Jason Avila**

- Avila said that UCLA Run/Walk was coming up. He said that South Street Mondays was still going on, and told council to go eat there because a portion of the proceeds is being donated by South Street to Run/Walk. Avila said that Depression Unplugged had been a big success, with about 60 people turning out for the event. He said that the Recycling Committee had tips-of-the-week on BruinWalk, and they were also working to promote recycling on and off campus. Avila said that the Spring Blood Drive would be May 9<sup>th</sup> through 13<sup>th</sup>, with a Cultural Fair set for late May. He said that Disaster Day would be May 23<sup>rd</sup>, with demonstrations taking place in front of Kerckhoff. Avila said that the Substance Abuse meeting was not held due to a scheduling conflict. He closed by saying that SWC's year-end banquet would be held on Saturday evening, June 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Financial Supports Commissioner – Alex Gruenberg**

- Gruenberg said that a big thing next quarter would be debt consolidation services available for students. He said that it is important for students to take advantage of this because it was bad to leave college with debt. Gruenberg said that the minimum number of units for each quarter for financial aid was 12 units, just to clarify a misunderstanding that occurred at last week's meeting. Gruenberg also told council that the Financial Supports website was finally up.
- Villarin pointed out that it was supposed to be up in Spring Quarter.
- Gruenberg said, well, it was up now.
- McLaren asked what the url was for the website.
- Gruenberg said that it was the same address as FSC's former website.

**External Vice President – John Vu**

- Vu said that this month would be his last two meetings. He said that the first would be UCSA's meeting in San Francisco. Vu said that they would be interviewing candidates for the Student Regent positions. He said that this would be a 10-hour interview process, followed by the Regents hopefully picking one of these candidates. Vu said that his next meeting would be May 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> in Chicago. He said that it would be fun but emotional, as it would be his last action after a third year of serving with council. Vu said that he had met with Assembly woman Karen Bass this week.

**Internal Vice President – Darren Chan**

- Chan said that the editors from the Unofficial Guide had begun uploading information to the BruinWalk website. He said that he also wanted to talk about Bruin Up Books. Chan said that this had been begun last year by Justin Schreiber, the Community Service Commissioner. He said that ORL was hoping to extend this program, although the number of books that were donated last year had fallen short of their expectations. Chan said that they had done brainstorming about how to make the book drive more successful, and had spoken with some of the groups who had a vested interest in getting books to the affected regions around Los Angeles. He said that, unfortunately, most classrooms actually needed sets of textbooks. Chan said that the idea now was to adopt a classroom, so that student groups would be more invested in the drive. He said that this would also help the classrooms get the books that they needed. Chan said that the drive was scheduled for 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> week.
- Tuttle asked for a follow-up on the discussion from several weeks ago about who had editorial control over the Unofficial Guide.
- Chan replied that Bruin Walk had editorial control.

- Tuttle asked if there were specific editors who made judgments about what got uploaded.
- Chan said that Kristina Doan was the chief editor, but that each of the chapters had their own editors.
- Tuttle asked if this was approximately how the campus publications worked.
- Chan said that campus publications went through campus media.
- Tuttle asked if there was any communication between Chan and campus media, seeking their direction.
- Chan said that there were.
- Tuttle asked if there was information about landlords or professors being uploaded.
- Chan said that the information on landlords had not been uploaded yet, but the professor reviews had been around for years. He said that this idea was simply being extended to landlords.
- Tuttle expressed his concern that the Communications Board not be cut out of the loop, and said he hoped that people worked carefully to guard reputations. He said that one must be careful with publications not to make trouble.
- Chan said that he had been meeting with members of the Communications Board since last summer.
- Tuttle said that he was simply concerned because he had the sense that this was going to happen.
- McLaren asked, since they were approaching a transitional period, whether Chan thought that his successor would continue this project out of the IVP office.
- Chan said that Kristina Doan had committed to this project independently of USAC. He said that, whether or not the project continued after May would be explored at that time.
- Tuttle said that the idea was to get this under the Communications Board. He said it was his impression that within a matter of time, this project would be operating out of the Communications Board, and asked Chan if that was the plan.
- Chan said that was not the plan. Instead, he said that the plan was to have all the material completed and ready for upload by the end of the quarter.
- Williams asked if they were going to handle information about the apartment managers in the same way they have handled the Professor Reviews.
- Chan said that the way the website was designed, it was a multi-authoring website.
- Williams asked if this was a bulletin board or if this was a monitored site. He said that he recognized Tuttle's concern that this would be seen as a project directly under USAC where endorsements might result in legal action.
- Tuttle said that it was generally the case that projects like these should come out of the Communications Division. He said that, as of now, this could be seen as coming from the IVP office, which was USAC. Tuttle said that his concern was just whether or not the right people were monitoring this to make sure that everyone was comfortable with the way it was being handled.
- On another matter, Nelson handed out copies of "In Focus" which he said Vice Chancellor Janina Montero had asked him to distribute to Council.

**President – Allende Palma/Saracho**

- Palma/Saracho said that his report was simply to address the letter to council and to discuss his involvement this week in the hiring process of the next Executive Director of ASUCLA. Palma/Saracho said that Return to Aid had been a big issue in the referendum, where a lot of campuses were searching for alternatives to adding Return to Aid on campus based fees. He said that they had approved both ASUCLA's SAFE referendum and the PULSE referendum, but there had been an issue about how PULSE would be applied to Return to Aid. Palma/Saracho said that, to have a double standard between the two referendums would set a bad precedent. He said that USAC was part of the discussion that UCSA was having with Return to Aid. Palma/Saracho said that when a policy is instituted, it was a sound practice that the policy be implemented in the following Fall. He said that,

just last year when the Regents implemented the emergency fee in the middle of the year, it resulted in a lawsuit against the Governor. He said that the Governor's action was unfair because he changed the rules in the middle of the game. Palma/Saracho said that his argument was that this was not an issue of favoritism, but rather about treating everyone consistently and equitably. He said that there had been no education to the student body about this, and they would soon be voting on whether or not to tax themselves. Palma/Saracho said that students did not understand that passing the PULSE referendum would, in effect, be approving a tax on themselves under the Return to Aid requirement. He said that the only fair thing to do would be to have the provisions in the PULSE Referendum the same as in those referenda that had come before. Palma/Saracho said that council did not want to see Return to Aid on *any* referendum. He explained that ASUCLA's S.A.F.E. Referendum would be grandfathered in but, unbeknownst to the campus, UCOP had imposed a deadline after which all referenda were to include Return to Aid. Palma/Saracho said that he felt it was problematic to have a huge footnote included in the P.U.L.S.E. Referendum concerning RTA and that he had, therefore, submitted his concerns to the Chancellor. Palma/Saracho then acknowledged and thanked AVC Bob Naples and VC Janina Montero for setting up a conference call with UCOP to present the students' objections. Palma/Saracho said that the Administration had been very understanding, and that they all recognized this was the right thing to do. He said that he had been very happy to get an email today confirming that RTA would not be required on the PULSE Referendum, which meant it would allow students to really vote on the issue, itself.

- On another matter, Palma/Saracho said that he, Vu, and Chan had been part of the team interviewing candidates for the ASUCLA Executive Director Position. He said that USA and GSA were each being given an hour with each candidate.

*- Council then resumed consideration of the unfinished Old Business and New Business items.*

## XI. Old Business (Continued)

### **B. ECP Task Force Updates**

- Martinez said that he would be meeting tomorrow with the Governor's Committee in preparation for the presentation to the Faculty Committee on the Expected Cumulative Progress issue. He said that he would be presenting information to the Council on this matter at the next meeting. Martinez said that he was also working with the faculty, and they were very supportive of the students' ECP Task Force.
- Wood added that the resolution Council passed last week in support of Reforming ECP had been presented to a number of student organizations, many of which were now passing their own resolutions.
- Palma/Saracho said that Tseng had also passed out a number of petitions to garner student support regarding the changes to ECP. He reminded council that this was one of Council's Action Agenda Items.

## XII. New Business (Continued)

### **C. \*Resolution in Opposition to Amending Late Drop Policy**

- Martinez introduced a member of his staff to present information to Council about this matter.
- The student from AAC's staff said that they have been talking about how to get more student input on the Faculty Executive Committee's (FEC) recommendation to amend the Late Drop Policy, to change the deadline from 10<sup>th</sup> Week to 4<sup>th</sup> Week. She said that they also wanted to talk with Faculty members to get their input on this proposed change.

- Martinez said that, because the students had not been given the opportunity to provide input on this proposed change, the Resolution was basically taking a stance on the Late Drop Policy. He said that the FEC was just now asking for feedback, which was particularly frustrating this late in the game. Martinez said that development of this proposed change had all taken place behind closed doors, and also had been pushed through rather quickly. For these reasons, he said that they were asking that the proposed change to the Policy not even be voted on at this time. Martinez said that there were a lot of contradictions, and a lot of important people that had not participated in any of these discussions. He then offered to answer any questions that Council might have on this issue.
- Avila moved and Villarín seconded to approve the Resolution in Opposition to Amending the Late Drop Policy.
- Council voted to approve the Resolution in Opposition to Amending the Late Drop Policy with a vote of 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Martinez said that, given the severity of the issue, he would like to publish the Resolution in the Daily Bruin with a 1/3-page advertisement.
- Wood moved and Villarín seconded to place a 1/3-page advertisement of the Resolution in Opposition to Amending the Late Drop Policy on Wednesday of next week, May 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Council voted to approve a 1/3-page advertisement in the Daily Bruin on Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, with a vote of 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Martinez said that if anyone had any comments or suggestions on this issue that they email them to him as soon as possible. He closed by saying that students needed to get the word out about this.

XIII. Announcements

- Avila clarified that the invitations to SWC's Year-End banquet were for only one guest.
- Lee said that PULSE's website was online, and said that the url was [www.pulse.ucaccsc.org](http://www.pulse.ucaccsc.org). She said that if anyone wanted to submit a testimonial or pledge their support of PULSE to email her with that information.
- Bhuiyan said that there was a film screening until 10:00 p.m. this evening called Piece-by-Piece about Graffiti art in San Francisco. He also said that there would be an indoor concert at noon tomorrow in Ackerman Grand Ballroom. Bhuiyan said that The Roots Concert would be on Thursday night in Bruin Plaza, beginning at 8:00 p.m.
- Palma/Saracho asked if there would be any publicity about this concert.
- Bhuiyan said that there would be signboards and lots of flyers.

XIV. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*Corella passed around the attendance sheet.*

XV. Adjournment

- Lee moved and Avila seconded to adjourn.
- Villarín called for Acclamation. Palma/Saracho asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m. by Acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michael Keesler  
USAC Minutes Taker