

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday August 23, 2005
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Biniek, Corella, Doan, Hawkins, Kaisey, Kaminsky, Malik, McLaren, Neesby, Nels on, Pham, Qatami, Sassounian, Sargent, Smeets, Tuttle, Vardner, Villasin, Williams, Wood

ABSENT: Zai

GUESTS: Linda Chu, Christian Diaz, Adam Elsayed, Aaron Gerschbock, Jerry Mann, Cindy Nguyen, Roy Samaan, Greg Wannier, Debra Williams

I. A. Call to Order

- Wood called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

Villasin passed around the Attendance Sheet

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Sassounian, Kaisey, and Vardner all asked to be added to the Officer and Member Reports.
- Neesby said that he would like to remove Old Business Item C, as he had not meant to have it put on the Agenda.
- Qatami asked if they could move forward New Business Item A, Approval of Recommended Student Government Operational Fund (SGOF) Allocation Guidelines. Wood confirmed with the appointees who had come to the meeting that, if New Business Item A was moved up on the agenda, would they be able to remain long enough to be in the room when their name was submitted for consideration. On confirming that they could all be there, Wood moved New Business Item A to directly after Special Presentations.
- Wood also said that it would be a good idea to set a time limit on the various items up for discussion, and added that any time limit could be extended with a motion if necessary or desirable. She suggested that 15 minutes be allotted for each Action Item, 5 minutes for each Appointment, and 3 minutes for each Officer and Member Report.
- Wood also added the Student Conduct Committee (SCC) and ASUCLA Communications (Comm.) Board Appointments to the Agenda.
- Vardner moved and Sassounian seconded to approve the Agenda as amended.
- Biniek called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Agenda was approved, as amended, by Acclamation.

III. Approval of the Minutes

May 24, 2005

- Smeets moved and Kaminsky seconded to approve the Minutes of May 24, 2005.
- Sargent said that he had one minor edit to make to a statement he had made at the end of Hawkins' Officer's Report on Page 6. He asked that the words "May Regional" be inserted before the word "Newsletter."
- Council voted to approve the Minutes of May 24, 2005, as amended, with a vote 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

May 31, 2005

- Kaminsky moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Minutes of May 31, 2005, as submitted.
- Biniek called for Acclamation, but Vardner objected, so Council moved to a vote.
- Council voted to approve the Minutes of May 31, 2005, as submitted, with a vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

June 7, 2005

- Neesby moved and Biniek seconded to approve the Minutes of June 7, 2005.
- Kaminsky called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Minutes of June 7, 2005 were approved as submitted by Acclamation.

June 17, 2005

- Biniek moved and Pham seconded to approve the Minutes of June 17, 2005.
- Sargent said that, in the middle of page 17, where he talked about the Office Space Allocation Committee, he said that the end the sentence which reads, "... the BOD Co mmittees could not do anything without the approval of USAC" should be corrected to "... the Standing Committees could not do anything without the approval of USAC."
- Smeets called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Minutes of June 17, 2005 were approved, as amended, by Acclamation.

IV. Special Presentations

United States Student Association (USSA) – Board Members Jeannie Biniek & Roy Samaan

- Biniek and Samaan gave a comprehensive presentation on the many facets of USSA. Together they explained the structure of the organization, also identifying themselves as elected officers within the organization. They told council about the many caucuses and regions represented and served by USSA. Additionally, they outlined many of the various services that USSA offers and projects they undertake. They spoke proudly of the many recent victories of USSA had, including increasing funding as well as campaigns to put education first. The presentation continued with information on USSA's Action Agenda Items, including the upcoming Special Election campaigns, and the proposals that USSA would be making in the coming year. The presentation ended by referencing a handout, and saying that everyone should get involved with USSA.

Hawkins arrived at the meeting.

V. New Business

A. Approval of Recommended Student Government Operational Fund (SGOF) Allocations

- Qatami, Hawkins, and Smeets referenced handouts to council in presenting the SGOF recommended allocations. It was explained that, in calculating a USAC Office or Commission's raw score, the scores of all the BRC members were averaged. Furthermore, they said that in applying for more than \$5,170, a new formula had to be followed in calculating funding recommendations, acting much like a cap. The differing needs between offices was pointed out, and the formula for allocation was further explained. As the explanation grew increasingly complex, Jerry Mann interjected that the formula and process would be simplified at a later date. Vardner expressed some concerns about the formula, but Smeets alleviated Vardner's concerns with further details. Neesby confirmed with Qatami that certain caps were still in place, and put an emphasis on not publicizing the cap so that students did not aim for it. Mann explained that Base Budgets, which are now referred to as Operational Funds, forced every office, commission, and organization to think ahead on how much funding they would be likely to need throughout the coming year.
- Vardner moved and Neesby seconded to extend the allotted time for discussion of the recommended SGOF Allocations by an additional 15 minutes.

- Wood spoke on behalf of the BRC, saying that the process they had put into place would cut back on excessive requests by offices and commissions. Hawkins announced that the Mandatory Allocation Meeting would be held the next day, Wednesday, August 24th, from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., in Ackerman 2408.
- Hawkins moved and Vardner seconded to approve the Recommended Student Government Operational Fund Allocations.
- Council voted to approve the Recommended Student Government Operational Fund Allocations with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

VI. Appointments

Communications Board (Comm Board)

- Wood said that she had forwarded Linda Chu to the ARC for review, and gave Council her reasons for why Chu was qualified for Comm Board. Steven Ly also spoke on Chu's behalf, saying that he had only pleasant experiences with her when they served together on the Election Board (E-Board).
- Pham moved and Malik seconded to approve the Appointment of Linda Chu to a 2-year term on the Communications Board.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Linda Chu to a 2-year term on the Communications Board with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Student Conduct Committee

- Wood said that she had forwarded Greg Wannier to the ARC for review, and gave Council her reasons why Weiner was qualified for the Student Conduct Committee.
- Biniek moved and Doan seconded to approve the Appointment of Greg Wannier to the Student Conduct Committee.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Greg Wannier to the Student Conduct Committee with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Constitutional Review Committee (CRC)

- Wood said that her recommendations for the CRC were Doan, Neesby, Villasin, and herself. She explained why she thought each person was qualified and well-suited for the CRC.
- Hawkins moved and Smeets seconded to approve the Appointment of Hazel Villasin to the Constitutional Review Committee.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Hazel Villasin to the Constitutional Review Committee with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Doan moved and Biniek seconded to approve the Appointment of Brian Neesby to the Constitutional Review Committee.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Brian Neesby to the Constitutional Review Committee with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Malik moved and Wood seconded to approve the Appointment of Jeannie Biniek to the Constitutional Review Committee.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Jeannie Biniek to the Constitutional Review Committee with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Judicial Board (J-Board)

- Wood noted that two of the former applicants for the positions on J-Board had withdrawn their names due to concerns brought up by both the Appointments Review Committee (ARC) and other council members. She told council that she was recommending Christian Diaz for J-Board, and outlined his experience and qualifications. Biniek, reporting on behalf of the ARC, said that the two members present had both voted in favor of his appointment. Tuttle addressed Diaz, impressing upon him the importance of integrity and truthfulness in his position on the Judicial Board. Nelson also made certain that Diaz was willing to work with CSP, which he was.
- Doan moved and Pham seconded to approve the Appointment of Christian Diaz to the Judicial Board.- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Christian Diaz to the Judicial Board with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

- Wood spoke on behalf of Adam Elsayed, recommending him as the second appointee to J-Board, and then moving on to his accomplishments and qualifications. Pham, speaking on behalf of the ARC, said that the ARC had voted in favor of Elsayed's appointment. Elsayed himself spoke of his personal beliefs and reasons for wanting to serve on the Judicial Board. Tuttle then conveyed to Elsayed a similar statement to the one he had made to Diaz. Nelson then asked Elsayed about his willingness to work with CSP, and Elsayed replied that he would.
- Pham moved and Biniek seconded to approve the Appointment of Adam Elsayed to the Judicial Board.
- Council voted to approve the appointment of Adam Elsayed to the Judicial Board with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Wood then moved on to her next nominee for the Judicial Board, Aaron Gerschbock, delineating why she believed that he, too, was qualified to serve on USAC's Judicial Board. Speaking on behalf of the ARC, Biniek said that they, too, had voted in favor of Gerschbock's appointment to J-Board. Because Gerschbock was not present at the meeting for Dr. Tuttle and Dr. Nelson to question, they both asked Biniek if she would comment on Gerschbock's likely response to their questions. Biniek replied that she felt certain that Gerschbock would uphold the integrity of the J-Board and that he would be very willing to work with CSP.
- Hawkins moved and Vardner seconded to approve the Appointment of Aaron Gerschbock to the Judicial Board.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Aaron Gerschbock to the Judicial Board with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Student Fee Advisory Committee (SFAC)

- Wood spoke of Gregory Cedona, telling council why he was both experienced and qualified for the position. Pham said that the ARC had voted unanimously in favor of Cedona's appointment.
- Vardner moved and Neesby seconded to extend the discussion of the Appointment of Gregory Cedona to the Student Fee Advisory Committee by 5 minutes.
- Kaminsky called for Acclamation on Vardner's motion. Wood asked if there were any objections to calling for Acclamation. There being none, the discussion of the Appointment of Gregory Cedona to the Student Fee Advisory Committee was extended by 5 minutes.
- Vardner asked Cedona how he felt about Student Psychological Services, to which Cedona expressed how important he thought it was. In response to Sargent's concerns about Cedona's availability, he said that he would be willing to make sacrifices to put more time toward SFAC. Vardner followed up by asking Cedona if he would be sure to alert council if he became overwhelmed, to which Cedona replied that he would.
- Doan moved and Hawkins seconded to approve the Appointment of Gregory Cedona to the Student Fee Advisory Committee.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Gregory Cedona to the Student Fee Advisory Committee with a vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.
- Wood then said that her next nominee for SFAC, Daniela Conde, had been present at the August 16 meeting, but that Conde's appointment had been tabled until this week's meeting. Wood then outlined how qualified she thought Conde was to serve on SFAC. Biniek said that the ARC had also voted in favor of Conde's appointment to SFAC. Vardner asked Conde what she thought about mental health issues at UCLA. Conde replied that she believed it was a very important issue.
- Hawkins moved and Malik seconded to approve the Appointment of Daniela Conde to the Student Fee Advisory Committee.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Daniela Conde to the Student Fee Advisory Committee with a vote of 7 in favor, 0 opposed, and 4 abstentions.

VII. Fund Allocations

- Villasin said that all 15 Contingency Fund Allocations that were on the document in their agenda packet had been made during the Summer and all were done under the Finance Committee Chairperson's discretionary authorization. She said that the total amount requested was \$22,380.58 and the total amount recommended for allocation was \$5,003.40. Villasin said that

she had intended to provide a running balance each week for Council's information, but didn't get it done for this meeting. She said that, beginning next week, she would include the Contingency Fund's running balance on the document.

- Neesby moved and Sassounian seconded to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations.
- Council voted to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

A detailed list of the 15 Contingency discretionary allocations is included as an attachment to the minutes

VIII. Appointments

- Wood said that Cindy Nguyen, one of her nominees for the Community Service Mini Fund, had been present all through tonight's meeting, and asked council if this appointment could be added to the agenda. Malik also stressed the importance of making this appointment tonight so that the committee can begin to meet and set their schedule of hearings for the coming year..
- Neesby moved and Smeets seconded to make the Appointment of Cindy Nguyen to the Community Service Mini Fund a Special Order of the Day.
- Council voted to make the Appointment of Cindy Nguyen to the Community Service Mini Fund a Special Order of the Day with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Community Service (CS) Mini Fund

- Wood told Council why Cindy Nguyen was qualified for the CS Mini Fund, and said that Nguyen had also been recommended by Community Service Commissioner Farheen Malik. She explained the confusion about why the appointment had not been on the Agenda, adding that Nguyen had just returned to the country.
- Malik moved and Pham seconded to approve the Appointment of Cindy Nguyen to the Community Service Mini Fund.
- Nguyen spoke on her own behalf, explaining her passion for community service and how interested she was in becoming involved with CS Mini Fund.
- Hawkins Called the Question.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Cindy Nguyen to the Community Service Mini Fund with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

IX. Officer and Member Reports

General Representative #3 – Marwa Kaisey

- Kaisey told council that she was back in the country, but that she was not living in Los Angeles, so everyone should contact her if they need to meet with her in person.

Facilities Commissioner – Joe Vardner

Facilities Commissioner Joe Vardner's Officer Report is included as an attachment to the minutes.

- Vardner said that he would be making visits to the Hilgard Neighborhood to talk to the residents about their concerns regarding the Hilgard Bus Terminal. He also said that he had been researching the Office Space Allocation Committee, and he had found documentation from 1996, which he then passed around including space calculations and allocation guidelines. Vardner impressed upon council the importance of getting OSAC set up very soon, and said that he could field any questions in the meantime.

Academic Affairs Commissioner – Michelle Sassounian

- Sassounian said that Steven Ly had been doing a great job as her Chief of Staff in her absence, but that she was back now. She said that Academic Senate Appointments needed to be made soon, and asked council to tell interested parties about the available positions. Sassounian said

that the Academic Senate was a very important body, and told council of some of the student accomplishments on the Senate.

- Vardner moved and Neesby seconded to extend the time limit on Sassounian's report by 10 minutes.
- Biniek called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to calling for Acclamation. There being none, the time limit on Sassounian's report was extended by 10 minutes.
- In response to some questions of Tuttle's, Sassounian said that there was student representation on almost all of the Academic Senate committees, but that the students did not have voting power. Tuttle told her that it might be possible to have the votes of students recorded, although not given weight. McLaren said that there was a list of all the Academic Senate Committees to which students can be appointed. She invited anyone who wanted to have a copy of that list to let her know. Vardner pointed out that there was a position on USAC for a Faculty Member, but said that the position had not been filled for a number of years. Tuttle said that Council might want to look into getting this vacant seat on Council filled. Neesby said he'd like to correct an earlier point that had been made by saying that the student appointees to the Academic Senate Committees do have an advisory vote.

External Vice President – Jeannie Biniek

External Vice President Jeannie Biniek's Officer Report is included as an attachment to the minutes

Internal Vice President – Kristina Doan

Internal Vice President Kristina Doan's Officer Report is included as an attachment to the minutes..

President – Jenny Wood

President Jenny Wood's Officer Report is included as an attachment to the minutes.

X. Old Business

A. USAC Retreat Update

- Wood passed around Agendas for the USAC 2005 Summer Retreat. She pointed out a number of different activities that were planned for the three-day-weekend, and told council that each member would be making a 15-minute presentation about their offices. Additionally she explained that they had decided not to make Action Agenda Items for this council, but rather Areas of Emphasis.
- Hawkins said that each office is allowed to bring one staff member, and that the location had yet to be determined. He also told everyone to bring a sleeping bag, just in case, and to bring clothing for all temperatures.
- Doan passed around a sign-up sheet for the retreat, asking each council member to write down any dietary restrictions. She also said that food could not be covered by mandatory fees, and said that they should expect to chip in about \$25 per person for food.

B. Welcome Week Update

- Kaisey said that she was working on getting as many student groups involved in Welcome Week Fair as possible, including IFC and Panhellenic. She said that both a drawing and a caricaturist had been added to the attractions.
- Vardner said that he and Hawkins were working on getting sponsorship for the Welcome Week Fair. He said that there would be a logistics meeting at 2:00 p.m. in the UCLA Events Planning Office on the first floor of Kerckhoff. Vardner said that emails would be to incoming students to promote the Welcome Week events.
- Wood said that she had met with a representative from Target, and that they had agreed to donate \$2,000, goodie bags, and flash drives. She said that she was also working on a self-guided tour map, along with working on the USAC Open-House.

- Kaminsky said that he was working on getting sneak previews during Welcome Week, and said that he was still working on the concert. Hawkins added that they were much closer to getting an artist booked for the date. He said that he had also spoken with sponsors, and said that Axe would like to sponsor the event, offering \$2,000. Hawkins also said that Mr. Coffee was interested, and would possibly be giving out free coffee.

XI. New Business

B. Resolution in Support of USSA's Action Agenda Items

- Biniek said that the resolution had been included in the Agenda Packet, and said that it was in-line with the earlier presentation. Neesby suggested that the 7th Whereas be moved to the "Resolved" section.
- Hawkins moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Resolution in Support of USSA's Action Agenda Items, as amended.
- Council voted to approve the Resolution in Support of USSA's Action Agenda Items, as amended, with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

C. Approval of Amendments to the USA Programming Guidelines

- McLaren reminded Council that they had approved the proposed amendments to the USA Programming Guidelines at last week's meeting, but said that, because some terminology was incorrect, she was bringing the document back to council for its review and approval of these subsequent edits. She then walked Council through each section in which minor changes had been made. Wood expressed some confusion about the correct terminology for officially registered organizations. Mann explained that the organizations were identified as student organizations to qualify which groups were to be funded. He acknowledged that there were some inconsistencies in the exact terminology used in other funding guidelines. Wood suggested that "registered campus organization" be changed to "registered student organization". Kaminsky raised a question about the use of the word "attendance" versus the word "entrance" in Article VII.J. on page 6. After a discussion of this distinction, it was decided that "entrance" was a more relevant word to use than "attendance."
- Hawkins moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Amendments to the USA Programming Guidelines.
- Council voted to approve the Amendments to the USA Programming Guidelines with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

XII. Announcements

- Vardner said that he had a copy of the move-in packet for incoming freshmen, and said that he would be interested in working with council to amend that.
- Hawkins encouraged council to start the "buzz" on Welcome Week to ensure great attendance. Kaminsky added that all of the orientation groups had been told about it, but it would take the work of everyone to get returning students to attend.

XIII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

Villasin passed around the attendance sheet.

XIV. Adjournment

- Neesby moved and Kaminsky seconded to adjourn.
- Pham called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 9:56 p.m. by Acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael Keesler, USAC Minutes Taker