

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL

Tuesday August 30, 2005  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Biniek, Doan, Hawkins, Kaisey, Kaminsky, Malik, McLaren, Neesby, Nelson, Pham, Sassounian, Smeets, Tuttle, Vardner, Villasin, Williams, Wood, Zai

GUESTS: Todd Sargent, Kimberly Spino, Diem Tran

I. A. Call to Order

- Wood called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*Villasin passed around the Attendance Sheet*

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Kaisey asked to have a Welcome Week Update added under New Business.
- Vardner, Smeets, and Zai all asked to be added to the Officer/Member Reports.
- Wood removed the SHAC appointments, and reminded council of the 15-minute action agenda item limit.
- Neesby moved and Sassounian seconded to approve the Agenda as amended.
- Kaminsky 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

*There were no Minutes this week.*

IV. Special Presentations

**ASUCLA Board of Directors (BOD) – September Report**

- Tina Park said that the BOD had just met, and said that the main item discussed had been the proposed changes to the USA Programming Fund Guidelines which USAC had approved on August 23, 2005. She said that the Board made just one minor change in Article VI.A.12. by spelling out “Center for Student Programming” just prior to its acronym, “CSP”. She told council that Taco Bell was returning to campus and would soon be in its new location in Ackerman Union. She said further that the Chancellor had approved the Board’s Budget and Five-Year Plan. Park then said that there was a plan in the works to allocate Kerckhoff 138 and 140 the Graduate Students Association to correct an existing imbalance in the 1/3 – 2/3 GSA/USA space allocation requirement. Park ended her report by saying the Entities Committee was starting up again, and said that the meetings were open to all USAC members.

V. Appointments

**Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Disabilities (CACD)**

- Wood told council about Deepinder Goraya, one of her nominees for the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Disabilities. She said that Goraya could not be at tonight’s meeting because she’s in Florida at an independent living school for the blind. Wood said that Goraya has not been interviewed for the position yet, but is available to be

interviewed by 'phone. Wood said further that Goraya would not be on campus for Fall Quarter, but that once she gets to campus she would be able to fulfill a two-year term on the CACD. Wood then outlined Goraya's qualifications, and asked council if they had any questions about her. Tuttle spoke favorably about Goraya qualities and qualification for the seat on CACD. Neesby asked if it would be a problem that she would not be on campus in Fall Quarter. Wood said she had spoken with the Office of Students With Disabilities who told her they had experienced problems in past years finding good candidates for CACD, and that they would be very happy to have Goraya on the committee, even 'though she won't be on campus in Fall Quarter.

- Biniek moved and Smeets seconded to approve the Appointment of Deepinder Goraya to the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Disabilities.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Deepinder Goraya to the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Disabilities with a unanimous vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

#### **Wooden Center Board of Governors (WCBOG)**

- Wood said that Kimberly Spino was one of her nominees for a seat on the WCBOG, and presented to Council a list of Spino's qualifications for the position, including that Spino has been on the Women's Track and Field Team for three years. Wood said that she thought it would also be nice to bring a woman's perspective to this male-dominated committee. Doan expressed her support of Spino's appointment to the WCBOG, citing a list of Spino's strong points.
- Doan moved and Vardner seconded to approve the Appointment of Kimberly Spino to the Wooden Center Board of Governors.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Kimberly Spino to the Wooden Center Board of Governors with a unanimous vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

#### **Budget Review Director**

- Wood introduced Diem Tran and directed council to a two-page, single spaced outline of Tran's qualifications and relevant experience for the position of Budget Review Director.
- Neesby moved and Vardner seconded to extend the time limit on the approval of the Appointment of Diem Tran to the position of Budget Review Director by 15 minutes.
- Biniek called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to calling for Acclamation. There being none, the time limit on the approval of the Appointment of Diem Tran to the position of Budget Review Director was extended by 15 minutes.
- As the Chair of the Appointments Review Committee, Doan reported that the ARC had voted unanimously, 3-0-0, in favor of Tran's appointment to the position of Budget Review Director. Biniek echoed many of the positive comments made by Wood and Doan. Malik asked if Tran was ready to transition to such a time-intensive position, to which Tran replied that she was used to making fast transitions. Hawkins also spoke in favor of Tran's appointment, saying that he was most impressed with her ability to outreach to all organizations on campus.
- Neesby asked Tran to expand on how she would be objective. He also asked if she would recuse herself when a group that she's been affiliated with was being evaluated. Tran explained how she had been able to be objective in past funding processes. She said that SIOC's funding criteria were very objective and said she had learned from that process how to be objective even in situations where the organization under evaluation was one that she was, or had been, affiliated with. Neesby reiterated his position on this matter by saying he thought that it would be in everyone's best interest for her to recuse herself if a group that she had been affiliated with came before the BRC for funding. After pointing out that she was no longer on the SIOC Board, Tran stated that she would definitely recuse herself in cases where she was involved with the organization requesting funding. Hawkins commented that this rule was already in place because it had been established when the BRC evaluated the offices and

commissions that applied for Student Government Operational Funds. He said he felt that Neesby's question was somewhat of a moot point.

- Kaminsky asked if Tran had any concrete ideas about how to strengthen the funding process, as she had mentioned in her application to be Budget Review Director. She explained that, in the past, there has been a shortage of groups that completed the paperwork required in the funding process, and said that she would like to explore other possible ways to fund student organizations..
- Malik moved and Hawkins seconded to approve the Appointment of Diem Tran to the position of Budget Review Director.
- Vardner called the question.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Diem Tran to the position of Budget Review Director with a unanimous vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

#### VI. Fund Allocations

- Villasin directed council's attention to the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations, and pointed out that two of the three requests had been handled through the discretionary authorization that is granted to the Finance Committee Chairperson by USAC. She also emphasized that the Contingency Fund was to be used only for unanticipated expenses, and she asked council to think of it as their last source of funding.
  - Hawkins moved and Pham seconded to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations.
  - Council voted to approve the Contingency Funding Allocation Recommendations with a unanimous vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- A copy of the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations is attached to the Minutes.*

#### VII. Officer and Member Reports

##### **Cultural Affairs Commissioner – Todd Hawkins**

- Hawkins said that he was working on a retreat for his commission, and was also wrapping up his responsibilities for Council's retreat in Palm Springs over Labor Day. He said that he was back from vacation and working hard on a number of different programs, one of which was co-sponsorship of the World Sacred Music Festival's September 17<sup>th</sup> event at UCLA. He said he would be sending out information on the event when he had more details to report. Hawkins said he was seeking cultural groups that would like to perform at UCLA's Convocation, and asked Council to tell him about any group or individual they thought might like to participate. He also said that he was still doing recruitment for his office, as he still needed a lot of staff. Hawkins ended his report by saying that he had been invited to participate in a very special program that was part of UCLA's Year of the Arts. He said he was very honored to be included in planning this event that would focus on the heritage of African American Music, and said he was particularly excited about the opportunity to work with Kenny Burrell.

##### **Student Welfare Commissioner – Tracy Pham**

- Pham said that she had just had her Executive Board retreat, and was currently planning a retreat for the rest of her staff, to be held in a couple of weeks. She said that she was still looking for more staff members. Pham ended by saying that she had been meeting with her CSP advisor, who had recommended that she and all other Council members get involved with upcoming events.

##### **General Representative #1 – PC Zai**

*General Representative #1 Zai's Officer Report is attached to the minutes.*

*Questions and Comments followed Zai's Officer Report.*

- Kaisey asked if Zai had explored increasing the hours of the campus CSO's (Community Service Officers). Zai replied that she wanted to do that, but has been informed that there's not enough money from the chancellor's discretionary fund to do that at this time.

**Facilities Commissioner – Joseph Vardner**

- Vardner said that he had not been able to talk to the Hilgard Neighborhood Association yet about the bus turnaround, but said that he would be doing it a later date. Vardner said he had met with the Sustainability Committee, saying that the students at this campus were very motivated, and he intended to make sustainability one of Council's action items. Vardner asked people to email him if they were interested in working on the ASUCLA Entities Committee. He also said that he would be working on a study-space bookmark, so students could have good study space references. Vardner reported that UCLA Parking Services is undergoing an overhaul and review, which might result in some drastic changes. He said that they had hired an outside consultant and were going to conduct focus groups. He asked council that if they had input, to please direct it to him.

**Financial Supports Commissioner – Ryan Smeets**

- Smeets said that his office had held budget workshops, and that more than 50 groups had attended. He said the workshops had gone very well, thanks in large part to Rita Qatami's leadership (*Council broke into spontaneous applause in appreciation of Rita's hard work and commitment*). Smeets said that the Book Lending Program was back on track, and that the committee would soon be receiving information on textbooks that will be used in the coming term so that they could evaluate and update their inventory.

**Administrative Representative – Dr. Berky Nelson**

- Nelson said it had come to his attention that there were discrepancies between the price estimates that the BRC was listing and the estimates that certain other funding committees were using. He said his point in raising this matter was that he didn't want to see funds set aside unnecessarily by using the higher estimates. He said that the BRC might want to look at this situation.

**External Vice President – Jeannie Biniek**

*External Vice President Jeannie Biniek's Officer Report is attached to the minutes.*

*Questions and Comments followed Biniek's Report.*

- Tuttle said that a huge issue to be addressed was that the campus calendars being so dissimilar may undercut the ability of various campuses to collaborate on the proposed call-in. Doan responded to this by saying what a great job Biniek's office had been doing.

**Internal Vice President – Kristina Doan**

- Doan said that the issues of on-campus housing and mental health would be addressed on The Hill this year. She thanked Council for their submissions to the UCLA Happenings website. With respect to USAC's retreat, Doan said that her estimate of the amount each Council member would have to chip in for food was around \$20. Also referring to USAC's retreat, Tuttle emphasized the importance of council's adherence to all state laws, both with age restrictions and with driving laws. Doan assured Tuttle that they would all abide with all the relevant laws.

**President – Jenny Wood**

*President Jenny Wood's Officer Report is attached to the minutes.*

*Questions and Comments followed Wood's Report.*

- Kaminsky reiterated his concerns about SAC meetings on Saturdays conflicting with the Sabbath.
- Tuttle asked about the communal space for student groups, and Wood explained that it was still being worked out.

## VIII. Old Business

### A. USAC Retreat Updates

- Wood passed out the Agenda for the retreat, saying that Sunday had been shortened by a half hour, per council's request. She said that the campaign discussion had also been removed.
- Wood said that everyone had been chosen to facilitate two items, and said she'd be glad to assist anyone who wanted help or input on their items. Nelson said that he might need to move his time because of conflicting engagements. Vardner expressed some concern about not being able to watch the first UCLA football game Saturday night, and Wood said that she would work on a remedy for Vardner's concern. Hawkins notified everyone that checkout would be Monday by 10 a.m. Wood reminded council to bring sleeping bags just in case they were needed. Doan noted that one of her items was Bylaws and said that, because she doesn't know much about Bylaws, perhaps someone else should lead this discussion. This remark triggered a discussion about switching the facilitators, which prompted Wood to ask everyone to email her their suggestions and preferences so that she could rearrange who facilitated what.
- Malik said that there would be six vans available for transportation to the retreat, after which Wood passed around a driver sign-up sheet.
- Hawkins said that he would be sending out to everyone the address of the retreat site.
- Wood passed around Concentration Submission Forms, which she asked council to get back to her by Thursday at 5:00 p.m. She said that these were, in effect, action items, and offered some qualifications for what would make a good concentration. Doan asked how the concentrations would be selected, and Wood explained that they would be discussed and agreed upon by council, with voting only if necessary. She said that there would be only three concentrations this year, because the selection of five in past years had proven to be overwhelming. Tuttle pointed out that the spirit of the Brown Act should be adhered to at the retreat, and said that some resolution of sorts may be needed upon Council's return to campus.
- Wood told council to email her about what they want to put into the binders, and reminded everyone to send their office descriptions to her so they could be included. Hawkins also told council that he would send out a list of good things to bring to that retreat.

## IX. New Business

### A. Welcome Week Updates

- Kaisey said that she was working with a committee about the role of ASUCLA in Welcome Week. Kaminsky said that he had been working with the Alumni Association about emailing students regarding the event, and there would be a website as well. He also said that the new Jessica Alba movie would be sneak previewed. Hawkins said that "Common", a hip-hop artist who was very socially conscious, had been booked for the event. He said that "Thrice" had also been contacted and an offer had been submitted. Hawkins said that the concert would be completely restricted to UCLA students. Wood said that she had been meeting with CPO to coordinate the Open House, and also had a meeting scheduled with a key ASUCLA food guy. She also said that she was working on a map of Kerckhoff for the self-guided tour. Kaminsky said that another meeting would be held the next day in Ackerman 3517.

## X. Announcements

- McLaren announced that the updated Campus Funding Guide was now on USAC's website, and that it included all relevant information on the new Student Organizations Operation Fund (SOOF). She then handed out a large stack of hard copies of the document, asking council members to keep one for their office and to distribute them to as many student organizations as they could. She closed by asking council to let her know about any errors or oversights. Biniak pointed out that one of the "n's" in her first name had been left out, to which McLaren replied, "Whoops, sorry about that."

XI. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*Villasin passed around the attendance sheet.*

XII. Adjournment

- Biniak moved and Vardner seconded to adjourn.
- Kaminsky called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m. by Acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michael Keesler  
USAC Minutes Taker