

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCILTuesday September 6, 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

ABSENT: Sargent

GUESTS: Peter Bautista, Steven Ly, Jesse Melgares

I. A. Call to Order

- Wood called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

Villasin passed around the Attendance Sheet

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Sassounian, Smeets, Neesby, Zai, Kaisey, Kaminsky, Hawkins and Pham all asked to be added to the Officer and Member Reports.

- Smeets moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Agenda as amended.

- Hawkins 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

There were no Special Presentations this week.

V. Appointments

USA/BOD Programming Fund Committee

- Wood said that, at tonight's meeting, she wanted to designate for the entire year the USAC officers who would sit on the Programming Fund Committee. She said that her recommendations would be Doan and Sassounian for Fall Quarter, Kaisey and Zai for Winter Quarter, and Pham and Vardner for Spring Quarter. Wood briefly outlined the requirements of being a member of the USA/BOD Programming Fund Committee.

- Vardner expressed some concern about his appointment, saying that Spring was a long time away, and much could change by that time. Wood responded to this by saying that appointing him tonight would give him plenty of time to plan ahead. Vardner said that he would rather spend his energy elsewhere.

- Pham declined her appointment, saying that the majority of her offices obligations came in Spring Quarter. Wood asked if Pham could do it in Fall Quarter. Pham said that she could really do it only in Winter Quarter.

- Doan also said that she would be unable to hold the position in Fall Quarter.

- In light of Vardner and Doan's declining of their Appointments and Pham needing to be moved to Winter Quarter, Wood said that she would suggest moving Kaisey up to Fall Quarter with Sassounian, having Zai and Pham in Winter Quarter, and having herself and Malik be on the committee in Spring Quarter.
- Kaminsky moved and Biniek seconded to approve the Appointment of Marwa Kaisey to the USA/BOD Programming Committee for the Fall Quarter.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Marwa Kaisey to the USA/BOD Programming Committee for the Fall Quarter with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and Kaisey abstaining from voting.
- Kaminsky moved and Pham seconded to approve the Appointment of Michelle Sassounian to the USA/BOD Programming Committee for the Fall Quarter.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Michelle Sassounian to the USA/BOD Programming Committee for the Fall Quarter with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and Sassounian abstaining from voting.

Academic Senate

- Sassounian said that there were a lot of appointments, and that she had collected as many applications as she was able to get. She said that she actually did not have enough applicants to fill all the positions, and asked that council continue to send potential appointees her way. Sassounian said that students did not need a lot of experience for these committees because it was more just an opportunity for them to voice their opinions.
- Sassounian said that the appointee to the Academic Senate's University Extension Committee was Peter Bautista.
- Wood asked if there was any way to see the applications that Sassounian had received. Sassounian said there wasn't, but that she could push the appointments until the next meeting of council which would not only allow time for everyone to review the applications, but would also allow her more time to find additional applicants. Steven Ly, Sassounian's Chief of Staff, said that he recommended making some of the appointments now, because some of the appointees were present at the meeting. He said he thought that Peter Bautista, in particular, should be appointed now because he had already served on this Senate committee last year. Sassounian agreed, telling council that the applications consisted simply of a checked box indicating which committee the applicant was interested in. McLaren said that, historically, the Academic Affairs Commissioner had presented their appointees to Council for approval, but that the process had not been nearly as formal or structured as the process for Presidential Appointments has been. Tuttle recommended delaying the appointments for several reasons. First, he said that it would allow the council members to discuss the appointments among themselves. In addition, he said that he felt this would allow council to escalate and recognize the importance of appointments to the Academic Senate. Kaminsky said that, if these appointments were tabled, he would appreciate having the applications emailed instead of photocopied, in the interest of sustainability.
- Neesby asked what positions were open, and whether or not council members could apply. Ly said that, traditionally, council members did not sit on the Academic Senate committees. Sassounian, on the other hand, said that she did not see any reason why Council members could not apply. She then listed the committees that still had open positions. Neesby said that, if there were no time-sensitive issues, he would encourage postponing the appointments. He said he agreed with Tuttle's position on the importance of Council focusing more time on, and elevating the importance of, appointments to the Academic Senate committees. Sassounian said that there were no time-sensitive issues as far as she was concerned. Nelson agreed that these appointments should be given a great deal of attention, as these were academic committees, and it was important for council to show that they cared about academics. Wood recommended that the appointments be postponed, and asked that Sassounian

send out a comprehensive email to Council with details about the positions and about the applicants.

- Biniek moved and Vardner seconded to table the Academic Senate Appointments to the next Council meeting.
- Two of the appointees who were at the meeting said that they would be unable to attend next week's meeting, but said that they were comfortable with Sassounian speaking on their behalf at that time.
- Council voted to table the Academic Senate Appointments to the USAC meeting of September 13 with a vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

VI. Fund Allocations

- Villasin said that \$2,231.00 had been requested from the Contingency Fund, and that \$1,757.00 had been recommended for allocation.
 - Doan moved and Biniek seconded to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations.
 - Council voted to approve the Finance Committee's Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations with a vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- A copy of the Finance Committee's Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations is attached to the Minutes.*

VII. Officer and Member Reports

Campus Events Commissioner – Jason Kaminsky

- Kaminsky said that the Fall Movie schedule for the \$2 films had been set up, and the calendar was posted on their website. He said that the calendars were also being printed, and would be available by the time of Bruin Bash. Kaminsky said that Denise Richards would be present for an event on the hill, and added that "Into the Blue" was being shown. Lastly he said that CEC had scheduled their retreat and that it would be held in Big Bear.

Student Welfare Commissioner – Tracy Pham

- Pham said that she had been going to the On-Campus Housing Council (OCHC) meetings to help plan "ResFest". She said that if anyone had input, to please share it with her. She then said that she had been asked if USAC could help fund ResFest. Pham said she had made no promises, but did tell OCHC that she would raise the question at the next Council meeting.
- Neesby asked what ResFest was, to which Pham explained that it was a festival for residents on the hill that would be held at the John Wooden Center.
- Wood said, with regard to funding, that either the commissions could give OCHC funding or they could apply for USAC Contingency Funding. Pham asked that anyone interested in helping to ResFest should let her know.

General Representative #1 – PC Zai

- Zai said that she had met with representatives of the LGBT Resource Center last week. She said that changing the program to be more about sensitivity education had been brought up, with less emphasis on putting stickers up around Kerckhoff. She said that she also wanted to make a special presentation to USAC on this issue at a later date.

General Representative #3 – Marwa Kaisey

- Kaisey said that she would be meeting with her Professor Evaluations contact in the near future. She said that she had met with John Middleton from the Alumni Association, and had discussed Homecoming, as well as ways to spark attendance at sporting events other than football and basketball.

General Representative #2 – Brian Neesby

- Neesby said that he was working on two things for shared governance, and would soon be forming a task force on that issue. He said that members of the task force would be contacting students at other Universities to find out what they had been doing on the issue of shared governance. Neesby concluded by stating that Sassounian, Biniek, Wood and Sargent had already expressed interest in serving on the Task Force.
- Jesse Melgares, Neesby's Chief of Staff, said that he had pictures from the USAC retreat and would be getting those to everyone. He also said that, in the spirit of USAC's Campus Community concentration, he was suggesting a tailgate party for the first football game of the year. Melgares said that they could meet at Ackerman Turnaround at 4:00 and go to the game together. He said that the cost of student tickets would be \$6.

Financial Supports Commissioner – Ryan Smeets

- Smeets said that the first hurricane relief meeting would be held Thursday, September 8th, at 2:00 p.m. He said that he and his staff had met recently with VC Janina Montero and AVC Bob Naples about how students could help in this effort. He said he and his staff were very excited about this project, and hoped that others would like to work on this effort and would show up for the September 8th meeting. Wood said that the Vietnamese and Muslim Student Associations (VSU and MSA) had both told her they were interested in working on hurricane relief efforts. Pham said that if council would give her the names of every group that had expressed interest, she would send them an email tonight about the Thursday meeting. Kaminsky suggested mass-emailing all the student organizations that are housed in the Student Activities Center.
- Tuttle asked Neesby why student governance was not under Academic Affairs. Neesby explained that it was actually an "All Council" issue and that he had been selected as the point person for the project. Tuttle then asked what the purpose and goal of this project was. Neesby replied that the priorities were to get strong appointees on every Academic Senate committee, and to encourage the appointees to attend every meeting so they could work on getting student-friendly policies pushed through.

Academic Affairs Commissioner – Michelle Sassounian

- Sassounian said that she wanted to update council on her meeting with Lucy Blackmar, and said that she would be meeting with her tomorrow about the student-facilitated courses. She said that they were also preparing for a second, larger meeting that would be held at a later date.

Cultural Affairs Commissioner – Todd Hawkins

- Hawkins said that his commission was working on the World Sacred Music Festival event to be held on September 17th at the Sunset Rec Center, and asked council to tell him if they had any staff members who were interested in working on this festival. He said that it would be on a Saturday evening, beginning at 5:00 p.m., and also said that there would be free tickets available from CAC if enough students showed interest. Hawkins also said that he had met with Kenny Burrell about the African Music Conference, which would be held on campus over several days in either late September or early October. He said that this would be free for the entire public. Hawkins said that there would be a number of different programs held in Schoenberg Hall and possibly Royce each night, and that every form of African music would be featured on its own night. He said that they are considering having one of the concerts be a fundraiser for hurricane relief, and said that Stevie Wonder and Shaka Kahn might perform at that concert. Hawkins said that discussions were underway with folks at Schoenberg Hall to see if this was feasible.
- Nelson said that he had been talking with someone about the World Sacred Music Festival and that they had told him that the descendants of a group of Africans that went to India in 1400 would be performing at this event. Nelson commented on the

significance of this, and of his excitement about it being part of the Festival. Hawkins said that, he too, was really excited about the festival and the opportunity to work on it.

External Vice President – Jeannie Biniek

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

8:00 (Time stamp for accompanying cassette recording)

President – Jenny Wood

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

Questions and comments followed Wood's report:

- Vardner told council he thought that UCOP had just confirmed subscription to a "Napster-like" file-sharing service for all students.

VIII. Old Business

A. Welcome Week Updates and Discussion

- Kaisey said that the Welcome Week Website was up, and said that 197 student groups had signed up to take part. She said that she was also close to getting Wells Fargo to sign on as a sponsor. Kaisey said that she would be mass-emailing the student groups to remind them about Welcome Week, and said that if council wanted to include anything in the email to let her know.
- Kaminsky said that he and Hawkins had a productive meeting earlier today about the Bruin Bash concert and said that, although the artists had been tentatively confirmed, any and all planned media about the event had to be approved by their agents before the contracts were finalized.
- Vardner said that Best Buy had agreed to sponsor \$1000.
- Wood said that ASUCLA would be helping with the flyers and advertisements. She also said that the time of the USAC Open House had been changed to 12:00noon to 4:00p.m. so that more administrators would be able to attend. Kaminsky, said that he had gotten word that a dodgeball tournament had been scheduled for the same time block.

IX. New Business

A. USAC Concentration Review

- Wood passed out Malik's notes from the USAC Retreat, and asked council to look through them and see if there were any additions or corrections she should make. Vardner said that his group has been meeting twice a week. Kaisey said that Sargent's section was with regard to the implementation of UCLA Happenings, so Wood added the language "invest in university support" to the notes. Tuttle said that he had not brought this up before the retreat, but again stressed the importance of Council notifying their constituents about the concentrations, and suggested that this might be done in the form of a Resolution which could be published in the Daily Bruin.
- Neesby asked if Wood thought that this should be approved as a packet, to which Wood suggested that, in keeping with Dr. Tuttle's suggestion, all the details be put into the form of a resolution, with specific information, to be approved by Council at a later date.

X. Announcements

- Sassounian said that someone left their iPod speakers at the retreat, and Malik said that they were hers.
- Wood said, on behalf of the Budget Review Director, that Diem Tran would be looking for applications from students interested in serving as the Assistant Budget Review Director. Wood asked Council to let Tran know of anyone who might be interested in

applying. She said that Tran would also be reviewing some of the applications of students who had applied for the BRD position and would be contacting them to find out if they would like to be considered for the Assistant BRD position.

- Vardner said that the Campus Sustainability Committee had met today, and said that he told them about USAC's related goals and plans, which they were very excited to hear.

XI. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

Villasin passed around the attendance sheet.

XII. Adjournment

- Neesby moved and Doan seconded to adjourn.
- Biniek called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m. by Acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael Keesler
USAC Minutes Taker