

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday September 20, 2005
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Biniek, Zai

GUESTS: Matthew Bukirin, Nishanth Chari, Lucero Chavez, Gwen Litvak, Kristen Lum, Justin Mikita, Cindy Ong, Roy Samaan

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

- Vardner moved and Kaminsky seconded to approve the Agenda.
- Neesby called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Agenda was approved by Acclamation.

III. Approval of the Minutes

August 23, 2005

- Hawkins moved and Kaminsky seconded to approve the Minutes of August 23, 2005.
- Neesby called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Minutes of August 23, 2005 were approved, as submitted, by Acclamation.

August 30, 2005

- Neesby moved and Sassounian seconded to approve the Minutes of August 30, 2005.
- Smeets called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Minutes of August 30, 2005 were approved, as submitted, by Acclamation.

IV. Special Presentations

Student Initiated Outreach Committee (SIOC) – Lucero Chavez and Matt Bukirin

- Chavez and Bukirin told USAC that they were laying the groundwork for the Academic Preparation Program. They said that this would be the first outreach program, complementing their seven outreach projects and one financial aid project.

University of California Students Association (UCSA) – Roy Samaan

Wood removed the Special Presentation by UCSA from the Agenda.

V. Appointments

Faculty Welfare Committee

- Sassounian moved and Malik seconded to approve the Appointment of Anat Herzog to the Faculty Welfare Committee.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Anat Herzog to the Faculty Welfare Committee with a vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Committee on Undergraduate Relations and Admissions to Schools (CUARS)

- Sassounian said that many students had applied for a seat on the Committee on Undergraduate Relations and Admissions to Schools, but she felt that none of them had the strong qualifications that Melvin Jimenez has. She mentioned, among other things, that Jimenez had directed the Diversity Campaign in the Academic Affairs Commission Office and said that she thought he would be very effective on this committee. In addition, she said that a number of different organizations had contacted her in support of Jimenez because of his leadership on the Student Initiated Outreach Committee (SIOC). For these reasons, she said that she was forwarding Melvin Jimenez for CUARS.
- Sassounian spoke highly of Jimenez, and said his perspective as a transfer student was very important to this committee because a large number of students come to UCLA from community colleges with a diversity of backgrounds. Sassounian then expressed her concern that the application process for Academic Senate Committee appointments had been cut short. She said it was her understanding that Jimenez's application had come in after the deadline, and wanted to know whether Council Members wanted to consider another student whose application had also come in after the deadline. Sassounian then explained that, at about noon today, she had received an application for this position from a student who she thought was equally qualified to Jimenez. She said that she was facing an ethical quandary, and wanted to make sure that everyone at the table had all the facts before they voted on filling this position.
- Neesby asked why Jimenez's application came in after the deadline.
- Wood said that she thought there hadn't been enough education about the availability of appointments to the Academic Senate because no ad had been run in the Daily Bruin and no other means of publicizing the appointments had been used.
- Tuttle said it appeared to him that this should be the Commissioner's call, but said he recognized that perhaps there was a constituency to be considered. He suggested that, if there was no time pressure to fill this position, it might be equitable to reopen the process.
- Wood asked the SIOC leaders who were at the meeting to comment on this situation based on their expertise.
- Lucero Chavez said she thought that, in the past, there has not been good communication between USAC and SIOC. She said she felt that, because of Jimenez's experience with SIOC, he was one of the most informed applicants they could find, and that he would know how to provide a direct link between SIOC and Admissions.
- Vardner remarked that, in the past, this Council had agreed to compromise, and said that he didn't think they should get into being lobbied by other students. He said he would prefer to hear more information about Wood's nominee and the applicant Sassounian referred to before they decided what to do about this appointment.
- Sassounian said that she had two points she'd like to make. First, she said that she stood behind forwarding Jimenez for the position on CUARS. Second, with regard to Dr. Tuttle's comment about reopening the process, she said that although it might seem easy to reopen the process for one week, it might not be possible to interview every applicant prior to the next meeting. She said, therefore, that she was forwarding Jimenez at this meeting and, if Council Members want to reopen the process, they should vote against Jimenez.
- Doan said she understands the need for a deadline because, as Chair of the Appointments Review Committee, she has to set up interviews with all the applicants.
- Gwen Litvak, Wood's Legislative Liaison, asked Sassounian if there would be widespread outreach to advertise the extension of the application deadline if Council decides to go that route.

- Sassonian replied that she didn't think she could conduct an extensive outreach within the allotted time.
- Hawkins said, based on what has been presented so far, he thought they should discuss further the possibility of tabling the matter and reopening the process, with extended outreach.
- Wood said that she had conducted outreach to organizations across the campus, with signboards and fliers, about this position, especially to those with knowledge of educational policies. She commented on the declining number of Black students that were coming to UCLA, saying that this year there were only 100.
- Neesby moved and Smeets seconded to approve the Appointment of Melvin Jimenez to the Committee on Undergraduate Relations and Admissions to Schools (CUARS).
- Steven Ly said, speaking from the perspective of Sassounian's Chief of Staff, that he had sent out an email to SIOC and to CRC seeking applicants for CUARS, and that he had spent a lot of time going to SIOC and CRC meetings asking for applicants.
- Sassounian acknowledged Ly's outreach, and said that she did not want her office's efforts to go unnoticed.
- Wood compared Jimenez's qualifications to the qualifications of the applicant Sassounian referenced by saying that the application Sassounian had brought to the meeting had no information about knowledge of the Admissions process, nor any concrete ideas for getting a diversity of students to be admitted.
- Neesby called the Question. There were no objections to calling the Question.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Melvin Jimenez to the CUARS with a vote of 7 in favor, 2 opposed, and 1 abstention.

Chancellor's Enrollment Advisory Committee (CEAC)

- Wood listed Lucero Chavez's many qualifications for the CEAC, stating that she was articulate, passionate, knowledgeable and committed to every role she takes on. Wood continued by saying the Chavez is a very effective advocate for students.
- Doan said that the ARC voted 2-0-0 in favor of Chavez's appointment particularly because of her work with the Student Initiated Outreach Committee (SIOC.)
- Pham moved and Vardner seconded to approve the Appointment of Lucero Chavez to the Chancellor's Enrollment Advisory Committee.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Lucero Chavez to the Chancellor's Enrollment Advisory Committee with a vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

UCLA Committee on Disability

- Wood outlined Janelle Kulik's relevant experience for a seat on this committee.
- Doan said that the ARC had voted 3-0-0 in favor of Kulik because she is proactive and has good experience regarding policies on disabilities.
- Neesby moved and Sassounian seconded to approve the Appointment of Janelle Kulik to the UCLA Committee on Disability.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Janelle Kulik to the UCLA Committee on Disability with a vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Student Health Advisory Committee (SHAC)

- Wood spoke of Kristen Lum's qualifications and her interests in Public Health policies. She said that Lum writes for the undergraduate Science Journal and that she has concrete goals in this field.
- Doan said that ARC voted 3-0-0 in favor of Lum's appointment because of her work in a clinic at UCLA, her concern about public health issues and her positive attitude.
- Neesby moved and Sassounian seconded to approve the Appointment of Kristen Lum to the Student Health Advisory Committee.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Kristen Lum to the Student Health Advisory Committee with a vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Wood then introduced her next appointee to SHAC by saying that Justin Miyamoto has extensive experience in health care and is interested in health care insurance issues. She said that

Miyamoto had been an R.A for the past two years and had participated in Dance Marathon for three years.

- Doan said that the ARC had voted 2-0-0 in favor of Miyamoto's appointment because of his knowledge on policy issues and his productivity on numerous committees that he has served on. In addition, she said that Miyamoto had attended SHAC meetings even 'though he was not a member. She said further that current appointees to SHAC have recommended that Miyamoto be appointed to SHAC.
- Hawkins moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Appointment of Justin Miyamoto to the Student Health Advisory Committee.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Justin Miyamoto to the Student Health Advisory Committee with a vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

VI. Fund Allocations

- Villasin said that the Finance Committee had received requests for Contingency funding totaling \$24,123.35 and that FiCom was recommending total allocations for this week of \$10,842.90. She said that if Council approves FiCom's recommendations, the remaining balance in the Contingency Fund will be \$56,299.87.
- Hawkins moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Finance Committee's Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations.
- Council voted to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations with a vote of 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions. (Doan was out of the room when the vote was taken)
The Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations are attached to the Minutes.

VII. Officer and Member Reports

Student Welfare Commissioner – Tracy Pham

- Pham said that SWC had just held their staff retreat in San Clemente, and that it went very well. She said that she was looking for volunteers to help with Bruin Bash. She also said that if anyone would like to co-program with her office to let her know.

General Representative #2 – Brian Neesby

- Neesby said that members of the Constitutional Review Committee (CRC) have been working on open meeting policies. He said that the proposed policies would be on next week's agenda for Notice and Discussion, and that he would be presenting them to Council in two to three weeks for Action.
- Neesby said that the Shared Governance Task Force would be meeting on Thursday from 3:30p.m. - 5:00p.m.

Cultural Affairs Commissioner – Todd Hawkins

- Hawkins told Council that there were still many positions available on his staff.
- He said that the Sacred World Event was very successful and that he was now working on the Welcome Week Bruin Bash.
- Hawkins then introduced one of his staff members, Justin Mikita.

Campus Events Commissioner – Jason Kaminsky

- Kaminsky said that his office was still working very hard on the Welcome Week events. Kaminsky said that they were co-programming with OCHC. After reporting that CEC's retreat was coming up soon, Kaminsky introduced two of his staff members, Nish Chari and Cindy Ong.

Community Service Commissioner – Farheen Malik

- Malik handed out a flier about a City Wide Day of Service to be held on October 8th which was being spearheaded by Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. She said that she was helping to get word out to UCLA students about this event.
- She said that on Friday she would be meeting with the chairperson of GSA's Community Service Committee so they can work together and co-program on Community Service Day.

- She said that she had met with a member of the Queer Alliance regarding co-programming. She ended by saying that the CSC Fall Retreat would be held October 7th - 9th.

Financial Supports Commissioner – Ryan Smeets

- Smeets gave an update on the Katrina Relief effort. He said that another fifteen groups had signed on and that they are continuing to work on the Dodgeball Fundraising Tournament.
- He said that they have chosen Habitat for Humanity and The Dream Center as the two charities they will donate to.

Academic Affairs Commissioner – Michelle Sassounian

- Sassounian said that she was currently spending a big chunk of her time on selecting appointees to the Academic Senate committees.
- She said that she was also spending a lot of time in developing the Student-Initiated courses, and had met with a lot of people in Murphy Hall about this program. She said that the classes would be designated as “Honors 101 C” and would all be discussion-based. She said the student instructors will receive training in teaching methods, and it will be the same type of training that is currently given to T.A.’s. Sassounian ended her report by saying that the guidelines for the Student-Initiated courses were almost completed, and that a Student Faculty Advisory Committee, comprised of two students and two faculty members, will review the applications.

Administrative Representative – Dr. Rick Tuttle

- Tuttle said that the orientation of International Students is currently taking place.

External Vice President – Jeannie Biniek

- Roy Samaan spoke for Biniek, saying that she was on her way to the UC Regents Meeting in Sacramento to “Whiteline”.
- He told council that voter registration would be available at Bruin Bash.

Internal Vice President – Kristina Doan

- Doan said that she was compiling a detailed list of all the appointments that Council has made to date, and said that this information must be provided to Bob Naples’ office.
- She thanked people for indicating their interest in the USAC T-Shirts and said that they had ordered one hundred of them which should be ready in time for their Open House.
- Doan told Council that she had met with the Outreach Director of the Student Alumni Association (SAA) regarding Blue and Gold Week and also about the USAC Action Item of Building Campus Community.
- Doan also told Council about Student Leader Networking Night, which was being co-sponsored by the Graduate Students Alumni Association, Student Alumni Association, and the LGBT Resource Center.

President – Jenny Wood

- Wood told Council that the Chancellor was interested in working with USAC on the Action Item on Shared Governance.

President Jenny Wood’s Officer Report is attached to the Minutes.

VIII. Old Business

A. Welcome Week

- Kaisey said that she had completed budget transfer forms regarding funding for Welcome Week events, and she passed them out to all Officers for their signatures. She said that after they signed them they should give them to Kaminsky. Kaisey said that at Welcome Week USAC would have two special tables for Get Out the Vote and Katrina Relief. She said that 224 student groups signed up to participate in Welcome Week but, because there weren’t enough tables, ten of the groups are on a waiting list.
- Kaminsky passed out information cards about Welcome Week.

- Hawkins said that all USAC officers will be given a guest pass for the Bruin Bash Concert. He said that Welcome Week cards had been delivered to The Hill to be put into their Welcome Week Packets.

B. USAC Open House

- Wood said that USAC's Open House was coming up. She also mentioned that Governance Day was approaching, and would be held in Covell Commons. She said that the Agenda for Governance Day would include breakfast, speeches, planning sessions, discussion of housing issues, a presentation by Chancellor Carnesale, breakout sessions, and a discussion of Shared Governance. She said the list of presenters would include Janina Montero, Judith Smith, Pete Blackman, Suzanne Seplow, Mike Foraker, Claudia Mitchell-Kernan, John Sandbrook and Pat O'Brien. She said that she and GSA President Jared Fox would also be presenting.

IX. New Business

There was no New Business this week.

X. Announcements

- Doan said that September 21 was ASUCLA Employee Appreciation Day.
- Vardner said that the first students who were coming to UCLA because of the Katrina disaster had just arrived on campus.
- Villasin said that she was ready to appoint members to the Finance Committee and asked council to let her know about any possible applicants.
- Williams announced that Taco Bell was back on campus and had begun operating yesterday.

XI. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

Villasin passed around the attendance sheet.

XII. Adjournment

- Kaminsky moved and Vardner seconded to adjourn.
- Neesby called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 9:08p.m. by Acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Phoebe Nelson and Michael Keesler