

FINAL

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday September 27, 2005
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Hawkins, McLaren

GUESTS: Adriana Ahumada, Faith Christiansen, Melinda Dudley, Bryan Furukawa, Gwen Litvak, Yiu Lee, Anthony Nguyen, Victoria Nguyen, Cindy Ong, Joline Price, Noa Simchoni, Debra Simmons, Diem Tran

I. A. Call to Order

- Wood called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

Villasin passed around the Attendance Sheet

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Sassounian moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Agenda.
- Smeets 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

- Biniek moved and Sassounian seconded to approve the Minutes of September 6, 2005.
- Neesby called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Minutes of September 6, 2005 were approved by Acclamation.

IV. Appointments

Appointments to Academic Senate Committees

Academic Freedom Committee

- Sassounian moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Appointment of Patricia Alfaro to the Academic Freedom Committee.

- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Patricia Alfaro to the Academic Freedom Committee with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

- Sassounian moved and Kaisey seconded to approve the Appointment of Faith Christiansen to the Academic Freedom Committee.

- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Faith Christiansen to the Academic Freedom Committee with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Committee on Continuing and Community Education (CCCE)

- Sassounian moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Appointment of Peter Bautista to the Committee on Continuing and Community Education (CCCE).

- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Peter Bautista to the Committee on Continuing and Community Education (CCCE) with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Committee on Planning and Budget

- Sassounian moved and Biniek seconded to approve the Appointment of Shawn Do to the Committee on Planning and Budget.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Shawn Do to the Committee on Planning and Budget with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Committee on Libraries

- Sassounian moved and Kaisey seconded to approve the Appointment of Adrianna Ahumada to the Committee on Libraries.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Adrianna Ahumada to the Committee on Libraries with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Faculty Executive Committee

- Biniek moved and Smeets seconded to approve the Appointment of Michelle Sassounian to the Faculty Executive Committee.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Michelle Sassounian to the Faculty Executive Committee with a vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.

Appointment to the USAC Finance Committee

USAC Finance Committee

- Biniek moved and Smeets seconded to approve the Appointment of Bryan Furukawa to the USAC Finance Committee.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Bryan Furukawa to the USAC Finance Committee with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Appointment to the Student Initiated Outreach Committee (SIOC)

Student Initiated Outreach Committee (SIOC)

- Sassounian moved and Biniek seconded to approve the Appointment of Pritika Singh to the Student Initiated Outreach Committee.
- Doan, speaking on behalf of the Appointments Review Committee, said that they had approved Singh's appointment with a unanimous vote of 3-0-0.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Pritika Singh to the Student Initiated Outreach Committee with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

V. Officer and Member Reports

Academic Affairs Commissioner – Michelle Sassounian

- Sassounian told council that her office's website had been launched.

General Representative #2 – Brian Neesby

- Neesby told Council that he was working on two programs. He said that the first was the Club Sport Jamboree. He said the second event, entitled the Bayside Movie Night, would be held on September 29. Neesby also said that the Constitutional Review Committee would be meeting next week, and he would notify everyone of the time and place.

Campus Events Commissioner – Jason Kaminsky

- Kaminsky told Council that Campus Events Film Calendars for Fall Quarter were out. He also said that CEC would be holding its retreat at Big Bear over the weekend. Kaminsky said that there would be an MPAA event on campus in the near future regarding piracy and intellectual copyright issues. Lastly, Kaminsky said that he was looking into new fundraising possibilities for Katrina Relief.

Student Welfare Commissioner – Tracy Pham

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- Pham said that there would be a blood drive on October 3 and 4 in Ackerman. She said that, as a reward, donors would be given a coupon that would allow them to cut to the front of the textbook line. Pham also said that SWC would be having a Recruitment Carnival, and the theme would be "Healthy Service in a Small World." She said that it would last from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and that there would be donation buckets at the event for Katrina Relief. Pham lastly said that she would also be working on Katrina Relief with the organizers of a Poker and Dodgeball Tournament.

VI. Special Presentations

Budget Review Committee – Student Organizations Operational Fund (SOOF)

- Diem Tran told Council that 123 groups had applied for the Student Organizations Operational Fund, with \$492,933.56 requested, and \$57,607.00 recommended for allocation. Following Tran's report, individual members of the Budget Review Committee reported on various elements of the funding process..
- Tran started by giving a comprehensive overview of the SOOF funding and allocation process. Malik then explained the hearing process in more detail, Villasin explained the deliberation process in greater detail, and Smeets explained the allocation process in greater detail.
- Council engaged in a discussion over the validity and equity of the formula used to determine allocations. One of the matters discussed concerned the fact that certain groups had miscalculated their requested amounts, and the suggestion was made that these groups should be penalized in some way. Tran said that groups which miscalculate their requested amounts are marked down a few points by the Committee.
- Council then entered into a discussion regarding the maximum funding a group could request, the maximum being \$4,000 and the minimum being \$1,000. The point was raised that this gap should be reduced due to the fact that groups who did not request the maximum amount, or something near the maximum, were punished and received lower allocations not because they received a lower score but because they had not requested an amount in the maximum range. For that reason, it was suggested that the amount should be lowered to \$1,000 which is what the majority of the groups had requested.
- It was argued that, if the amount remained at \$4,000, groups would apply for the maximum amount regardless of their financial needs just to avoid having their requested amount reduced unfairly. The BRC replied that this would be evident in their application and then reflected in their point total.
- Tran said that she did not believe that these groups were being punished for not requesting a lot of money. She said their need is evidently not as great as more established groups. If their needs are not as great as the more established groups then they should not request a larger amount of money than they need.
- Members of the BRC said that if they don't allow for variance between the minimum and maximum requests, then every group would be allocated the same amount regardless of the scoring process.
- Smeets said that he would refrain from voting in favor of this motion as he would prefer to look at all the calculations in order to make his decision.
- Doan said that if a group miscalculates their request, she thought the requested amount they submit should be regarded as their Cap, saying she thought this was a better process than punishing the group with point deductions.
- Tran and other members of the BRC reminded Council that this was the first time that they were dealing with the SOOF funding process, so they thought it was not surprising that they had run into some problems. BRC members felt that these problems could be addressed at the debriefing meeting where they could look at the process and improve it. They said they realized that the formula they were using now could be improved, but said they felt it was good enough for what they needed to achieve at this time.
- At the conclusion of the discussion on the SOOF allocation formula, it was agreed that Neesby, with the assistance of Jerry Mann and Bob Williams, would rework the numbers.
- Pham moved and Biniek seconded to approve the Student Organizations Operational Fund Allocation Recommendations.

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- Council voted to approve the Student Organizations Operational Fund Allocation Recommendations with a vote of 7 in favor, 1 opposed, and 3 abstentions.

VII. Fund Allocations

- Villasin said that the Finance Committee had received requests for Contingency Funds totaling \$1,983.43 and that FiCom was recommending total allocations for this week of \$851.34. Villasin said that, in addition, she had allocated \$1,020.00 through her discretionary authorization. She said that, if Council approves FiCom's recommendations, the remaining balance in the Contingency Fund will be \$43,585.63.
- Biniek moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Finance Committee's Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations.
- Council voted to approve the Finance Committee's Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations with a vote of 10 in favor, 1 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
The Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations are attached to the minutes.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports (Cont'd)

Community Service Commissioner – Farheen Malik

- Malik said that Community Service Day would be on Saturday November 5, and that Victoria Nguyen was in charge of the event. She also notified Council that the locks on five different offices had been broken, and warned everyone to be careful.

External Vice President – Jeannie Biniek

- Biniek told Council that the deadline for Budget Reconciliations had been extended. She also told Council about important dates coming up, including the UC Regents Meeting at UCSF on September 21st and 22nd, the UCSA Meeting on September 17th and 18th, and the electoral training session on September 16th at Cal State University Long Beach.

Internal Vice President – Kristina Doan

- Doan told Council about Student Leader Networking Night.

President – Jenny Wood

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

IX. Old Business

A. Welcome Week

- Kaminsky recapped for Council all the events that occurred during Bruin Bash. Dr. Nelson congratulated Council for the success of the event. He then recommended that Kaminsky document the success of the event in a written report to be distributed to the Administration. He said he felt that this would ensure funding in the future.

B. USAC Open House

- Zai reminded everyone that the USAC Open House would be held the next day, Wednesday September 28.

X. New Business

A. Discussion of USA Bylaws, Article VI.C.5.

- Neesby distributed a document which included the current version of the language in Article VI.C.5. of the USAC Bylaws regarding Formal Records of Hearings, along with a list of his proposed revisions.
- Kaminsky asked to make a minor change to (3). (c). stating that a signature is required.

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- Tuttle asked if the Bylaws made any reference to whether or not administrators should be in the room during the deliberations.

XI. Announcements

- Vardner said that he would be talking with Westwood Community Relations about housing issues. He also said that there would be a mandatory update of all students' Bruin Cards to encrypt them for additional security.
- Malik introduced Anthony Nguyen, a new Assistant Commissioner in her office.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

Villasin passed around the attendance sheet.

XIII. Adjournment

- Biniak 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 9:31 p.m. by Acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Phoebe Nelson,
(Substituting for Minutes Taker Michael Keesler who was out of town)