

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday, November 1, 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: Dorothy Le, Steven Ly, Janina Montero, Tommy Tseng

I. A. Call to Order

- Wood called the meeting to order at 7:13 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

Villasin passed around the Attendance Sheet

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Vardner asked to add a Discussion on "The Undie Run" under New Business.
- Smeets, Kaminsky, Sassounian, Neesby, Kaisey, and Malik asked to be added to the Officer and Member Reports.
- Wood said that she was adding a Special Presentation on the President's Internship Program.
- Biniek moved and Kaminsky seconded to approve the Agenda as amended.
- Sassounian 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

Presentation on UCLA Transportation Resources, Dorothy Le and Joseph Vardner

- Dorothy Le from Facilities Commission said that she would be making a presentation on Transportation issues on campus. She said that it was a myth that UCLA could build more parking spaces, and there were actually more spaces than at almost any other college in the nation. Le said that there were around 23,000 spaces, with 9,000 allocated to students. Le also told council that the vanpool was the largest in the nation, and went to Antelope Valley, Orange County, Ventura, and various areas in Los Angeles County. She said that there were 131 routes, and it saved over 15 million gallons of gasoline. Le told council that carpooling was actually quite common, with 2,000 students carpooling, who received guaranteed parking and savings of up to \$30 per month for each student. She also said that the BruinGO! program was very popular, saving 200,000 trips and now servicing students on the weekends. She added that there were passes available for the program, and these could save even more money. Le told council that 2.5% of students biked to campus, and a new bicycle master plan had been established. She said that this would include a community bike shop, a bicycle advocacy committee, and a bicycle-lending program. Le said that other interesting developments included an evening shuttle service, a parking allocation change, a change to BruinGO!, a Safe Ride Program, an Ackerman Resource Table, free nighttime parking, and discount taxi rides for students. Le said

that the Flexcar program was also in development, which allowed students to rent cars by the hour, but it's grossly underutilized.

- Kaminsky and Nelson agreed that Flexcar sounded like a great program, and suggested that council help promote it. Nelson asked what the cost was, to which Le said that sign-up was free, with an hourly rental rate of \$7 per hour.
- Neesby asked how renting the cars overnight worked, to which Le said that she thought students were charged by credit card, and the keys could be picked up at an office. Le ended her report by giving council some related website addresses and contact information.
- Neesby noted that only 9,000 of the 23,000 parking spots were allocated to students, and asked who the other 14,000 were allocated to. Le replied that they were allocated to UCLA Medical Center personnel and other staff members.

V. Appointments

Judicial Board

- Wood said that she was forwarding Dana Huber to Council for Appointment to the Judicial Board, and told Council of some of her vast experience and research on the subject matter. She said that Huber had also been both a Resident Advisor and a Program Advisor at the UCLA dorms. Doan said that the ARC had voted unanimously in favor of Huber for Appointment to the Judicial Board, and noted that Huber was not present at the meeting because of prior RA commitments. She told council and Dr. Tuttle that the ARC had asked Huber "Tuttle's Questions", knowing that she would not be at the meeting to respond to him in person. Doan assured Dr. Tuttle that Huber had answered all his questions appropriately.
- Biniek moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Appointment of Dana Huber to the Judicial Board.
- Zai expressed some concern about Huber's time commitments, but Neesby said that she had answered those questions well during the ARC interview.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Dana Huber to the Judicial Board with a vote of 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

VI. Fund Allocations

- Villasin said that \$6,841.23 had been requested, with \$2,933.85 recommended, leaving the running balance after approval by council at \$31,929.26.
Hawkins Arrived
 - Neesby asked how the money was holding up, to which Villasin said that council was on-par with previous years' running totals. She added that, if the amount set aside for Contingency runs out, additional funds could be drawn from surplus.
 - Kaisey asked if any of the items on this week's list of Contingency recommendations had been funded retroactively. Wood and Villasin explained that there had been no retroactive funding, but that, if funds had been requested prior to an event, it was appropriate to allocate them even if Council's approval doesn't occur until after the event..
 - Zai moved and Biniek seconded to approve the 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. (Sassounian was out of the room)
- The Contingency Funding Allocation Recommendations are attached to the minutes.*

VII. Special Presentations

USAC Student Empowerment Internships

- Tommy Tseng introduced himself to council, saying that the first requirements of the interns were to intern in one of the USAC offices. He said that, at a reception held earlier in the day, the interns had ranked the offices they would like to work in, in order of preference. Tseng said that the second component of the internships was the leadership development sessions. He said that this would require interns to attend a class that would meet once a week for ten weeks. Tseng said that this class would consist of education about issues affecting students and about

leadership development. He said that students would learn about such issues as ECP while also learning how to be good leaders, by working with the media, planning and executing events, and running an organization. Tseng said that the president's office was also working on allowing the students to receive course credit for the class. Tseng told council that interns would also be required to participate in community service programs through CSC or the Student Initiated Outreach Center. He said that in the coming weeks, there would be USAC tours, diversity training, and other programs for the interns-to-be. Tseng said that there would be two different diversity training sessions, specifically, as that was one of the most important issues facing students at UCLA.

- Neesby asked if the interns would automatically be assigned to their first-choice office, to which Tseng said that they would be trying to make sure that each intern got to work in one of their top three choices.

Vardner Arrived

- Wood added that she hoped Council would contact their interns as soon as possible, as well as including the interns in each office's meetings and list-servers. She also asked Council to provide feedback from the interns to her and her office.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

General Representative #2 – Brian Neesby

- Neesby said that there would be a CRC meeting on Thursday at 9:00 p.m. He said that it would be in the President's Office. Neesby also said that the shared governance task force had been unable to set up a meeting time, and discussed times with council. He and Council decided that the meetings would be on Mondays from 4:00-5:00.

Academic Affairs Commissioner – Michelle Sassounian

- Sassounian said that the USIE program was going well, and they would be holding another informal workshop on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. She said that this would be a follow-up to the previous training session.

Community Service Commissioner – Farheen Malik

- Malik said that she had been working with the Service Record Committee, and was working on the pilot program. She also said that she was continuing working on Community Service Day, which would be on November 5th. Malik said that her office had also had a hot dog-sale, and registered attendance for Community Service Day was higher than it had ever been. She said that the mayor would not be participating, but a city council member would be at one of the schools on Community Service Day. Malik said that she was also still working on the Battle of the Bands fundraiser on January 25th.

-The Community Service Commissioner's Officer Report is attached to the Minutes

Campus Events Commissioner – Jason Kaminsky

- Kaminsky said that the \$2 movie this week would be Mr. and Mrs. Smith, and the sneaks would include Jarhead and Pride and Prejudice. He also said that Stan Lee, the comic book artist, would also be coming out to an event.
- Sassounian asked about Invisible Children, to which Kaminsky said that they would be holding an event on campus.
- Tuttle asked if Dan Glickman was coming to campus, to which Kaminsky said that he was, and would be speaking about the MPAA on November 16th.
- Sassounian said that she had talked with representatives from the Hammer Museum, and suggested that Kaminsky and Hawkins talk to them about collaborative efforts.

Financial Supports Commissioner – Ryan Smeets

- Smeets said that the big Dodgeball Tournament was being held on Friday, and there would be one last big push before the tournament on Friday to increase interest and participation.

General Representative #3 – Marwa Kaisey

- Kaisey said that at 10:30 a.m. she would be hosting a campus committee meeting. She also told council that there would be a Town Hall on the hill, geared toward educating students about the Special Election and the Propositions. Kaisey said that the Bruin Republicans and the Bruin Democrats would be speaking on the issues, and the first 50 people in attendance would receive a mood ring.
- Wood asked if the Campus Community Concentration meetings were every week, to which Kaisey said that they would be deciding that at the meeting on Friday.

Cultural Affairs Commissioner – Todd Hawkins

- Hawkins said that tonight Eclectic would be taking place in the Kerckhoff Coffee House, and the African Music Festival would be beginning later in the night. He said that tomorrow night would be blues, and Thursday night would be the Latin jazz festival. Hawkins said that Friday night would be Rap and Spoken Word. He also said that an art exhibit would open in the gallery on November 10th, with the subject matter being the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Hawkins said that Eclectic would also be taking place on November 17th.
- McLaren asked if a large audience had been drawn to the African Music Festival, to which Hawkins replied that the first night had been small, but had built enough that tonight's program was exceeding capacity.
- Nelson said that the group sponsoring the Hiroshima/Nagasaki exhibit had told him that they would need some assistance in setting it up..

External Vice President – Jeannie Biniek

- Biniek said that unfortunately the bill for Budget Reconciliation had reached the Senate, and would probably be passed on Thursday. She said that this meant that UCSA would have to work that much harder to make sure that the House didn't approve it. Biniek said that they had created a party for House Members who voted down the bill, and they had established more call-in days. She said that \$275 million had been borrowed in federal student loans, and passing this bill would increase that figure to nearly \$400 million. Biniek said that there was another UC Regents meeting approaching, and UCSA would be holding a meeting next week to find out how many students want to go to the Regents meeting. She said that 500 postcards had been collected against the fee hikes, and 45 people had attended the Student Action Network meeting last week.

Internal Vice President – Kristina Doan

- Doan thanked everyone who had come to the Student Leader Networking Night. She said that the leaders had been very appreciative of how much work USAC was doing to incorporate them. Doan said that her office would be holding a reception for the Katrina-affected students before the Dodgeball tournament on Friday. She also told Council that a memorial would be held for Mandy Hathaway, and her office was helping to fund the event. Doan said that from there they would be moving into SPS and seeing how they could better serve the students.

President – Jenny Wood

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

Questions and comments followed Wood's report.

- Vardner asked Wood if she would be attending all of the meetings of the Chancellor's Search Committee, to which she replied that she would rearrange her schedule so that she could.
- Zai asked how often the International Social Justice Network would be meeting, to which Wood said once a month this quarter and perhaps more in the next quarter.

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

X. New Business

A. *Resolution Against an Early On Campus Housing Contract Date

- Vardner said that the university wanted to move up the housing contract deadline from May to February. He said that if students in the dorms had to decide sooner, then students in the apartments would be competing with those students at an earlier date, and all of this would have to be done before even signing up for Fall classes. Vardner said that academic decisions should come first, and this was more important than housing contracts. He said that this Resolution supports OCHC members, who are in favor of keeping the date where has been. Vardner said that the FSC would continue to educate students about their housing options.
- Biniek said that the first couple “Therefore be it Resolved,”s should be “Whereas’s. She also said that she was worried about telling students where not to live, because that might cause conflict between USAC and On Campus Housing.
- Zai suggested that the word “issues” be changed to “arrangements” in the last line of the Resolution.
- Doan said that working with housing, her office had decided to teach students how to talk to landlords, how to get a fair contract, and to know the resources available to them.
- Neesby moved and Kaminsky seconded to approve the Resolution Against an Early On Campus Housing Contract Date, as amended.
- Neesby said that the last sentence in the third “Whereas” should reflect that council was opposed to the policy change, which was not explicitly stated at the moment. He said that the last sentence should instead read, “...therefore, USAC is opposed to this policy because it is not in the best interest of students.”
- Neesby moved and Vardner seconded to have the last sentence in the third “Whereas” read “...therefore, USAC is opposed to this policy because it is not in the best interest of students.”
- Kaisey moved and Neesby seconded to additionally add the line “...and the whole UCLA community would be negatively affected.”
- Biniek said that she supported the Resolution, but she was worried about the tone of it. She said that she was interested in promoting living on campus, and the last “Therefore, be it resolved” made it sound like council was opposed to on-campus living. Tuttle agreed, saying that there was a tone of menace in the Resolution. He asked what Vardner had in mind where he wrote, “...if this detrimental policy was not repealed.” Vardner replied that his intention was to educate students on all of their housing options, and the statement was intended to be a reminder of just that. He said that the goal to create a residential community included living in the neighborhood, so that students did not need to commute.
- Tuttle asked if Vardner was intending to encourage off-campus living to students. He said that if this was a fake threat, then that was silly, and if it was real, then it was equally bad, because it was dangerous to try to leverage the financial issue of On Campus Housing. Kaminsky agreed that the Resolution should just be about keeping the date, rather than threatening action upon its change, especially since students would not know by the earlier proposed date whether or not they would be studying abroad.
- Kaminsky moved and Zai seconded to change the fifth “Whereas” to include, “Students have not heard yet if they are accepted to a study abroad program.”
- Zai agreed with Tuttle that the Resolution should be changed to say that the policy was not in the best interest of the students. She said that a lot of the leaders in the housing community had a history of advocating on behalf of residents. Zai said that it was hard for RA’s to advocate on behalf of students and still do their jobs.
- Neesby moved and Biniek seconded to extend the time limit for discussion of the Resolution Against an Early On Campus Housing Contract Date by 10 minutes.
- Zai called for Acclamation. Wood asked for any objections to calling for Acclamation. There being none, the time limit on discussion of the Resolution Against an Early On Campus Housing Contract Date was extended by 10 minutes.
- Kaisey said that she loved the community on the hill, but said she felt there was a bigger issue than the 60 days difference on the contract deadline. She said the bigger issues is that they did not seek any student input on this proposal, even, ‘though they should have.

- Tuttle said that not just the wording of the text concerned him, because the influence was not proportional. He said that he was also worried that there would be a repeat of the '70s, when the financial situation of On Campus Housing teetered. Tuttle said that his urging was to remove the language that referred to these issues.
- Vardner said that it had been a long time since Council had a discussion about student input in On Campus Housing issues. He said that he was all for educational efforts for students, as they would be completely fair and unbiased. Vardner said that housing had built itself a monopoly, and any education about housing options would inevitably cause a decrease in On Campus housing. He further said that this would be the first issue where housing had moved to hurt the students but the students stepped in and said "no". Vardner said that there had been no student input on this and other decisions that had been made that affected students living in the residence halls.
- Wood asked if Vardner was intending to educate students about housing options regardless, or only if the policy change was made.
- Neesby moved and Zai seconded to again extend the time limit to discuss the Resolution Against an Early On Campus Housing Contract Deadline, this time indefinitely.
- Sassounian called for Acclamation. Wood asked for objections to calling for Acclamation. There being none, the time limit for discussion of the Resolution Against an Early On Campus Housing Contract Deadline was extended indefinitely.
- Neesby suggested striking the last line of the Resolution. He said that council was supposed to educate the students anyway, but it might be better to leave the resolution a little ambiguous.
- Biniek moved and Pham seconded to strike the last "Be it Resolved..." from the Resolution.
- Doan said that as, an author of the resolution, she thought the removal of the last "Be it Resolved" was a good idea.
- Council voted to strike the last "Be it Resolved..." from the Resolution with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Wood said that OCHC had approached her with concerns about USAC overstepping their bounds. She said, in that light, she suggested adding the line, "The Undergraduate Students Associated Council will present the negative implications along with OCHC".
- Kaminsky said that language sounded even more like Council was stepping on their toes.
- Wood said that it sounded like OCHC was also opposed to this policy change, but they wanted to proceed at their own pace.
- Doan said that the purpose of the clause was that they educate the student body about living in apartments, which OCHC did not do. She said that they had also designated a point person on the issue, who would be working with Council.
- Kaisey moved to reword the line to "would present the policy's negative implications to the entire campus including the off-campus residents."
- Wood said that her other point was that she was unsure what information Council could provide to OCHC, and suggested that they change the statement to reflect just aiding OCHC.
- Vardner suggested changing it to "any information", as OCHC had less contact with the administration than USAC did. He said that Council could include that assistance.
- Vardner moved and Zai seconded to add the word "any" before "information."
- Biniek called for Acclamation. Wood asked for any objections to calling for Acclamation. There being none, the word "any" was added before "information".
- Zai moved to add a "Therefore be it further resolved USAC supports and advocates for fair and representative student input to housing policy decisions that impact students."
- Biniek said that was more of a "Whereas" kind of clause.
- Neesby said that it depended on whether it was reflecting the way things were or the way things were hopefully going to be.
- Biniek agreed that Council did not have much of a voice, and RA's were the one's who had the most input to offer. She said that she thought the Resolution would do better to just oppose the policy change rather than to promise or threaten action.
- Wood suggested "Therefore be it further resolved that USAC would continue to support significant student input in housing decisions before decisions are finalized."

- Neesby moved and Kaisey seconded to add, "Therefore be it further resolved that USAC would continue to support significant student input in housing decisions before decisions are finalized.", to the Resolution.
- Zai called for Acclamation. Wood asked for objections to calling for Acclamation. There being none, "Therefore be it further resolved that USAC would continue to support significant student input in housing decisions before decisions are finalized.", was added to the Resolution.
- Vardner Called the Question.
- Council voted to approve the Resolution Against an Early On Campus Housing Contract Deadline with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

B. Discussion on The Undie Run

- Vardner said that the Undie Run was a growing issue, and the administration was concerned about safety, because of such things as improper shoes and the streets not being closed down. He said it was also loud, and disturbed the non-student neighbors. Vardner told council that the administration wanted to do something, but as soon as they touched the issue, it became their problem. He said that if something to address those concerns could not be reached, then the university would allow LAPD to "handle it". Vardner said that it might be much like what happened with Black Sunday, with the S.W.A.T. team coming out. He asked Council for suggestions on what they should do.
- Neesby asked if the administration wanted to set up a task force on the issue, to which Vardner and Montero said that they did.
- Sassounian asked what types of issues had occurred in the past, to which Nelson said that there had been people falling and getting hurt and the administration was concerned about injuries and lawsuits. He said that there had been a similar issue with the midnight yell, which had escalated to garbage fires and vandalism. Nelson told council that they did not want the LAPD to come handle the issue because they do not know how to deal with students like the UCPD do.
- Wood agreed with Nelson, and agreed that a committee should be formed. She suggested forming this under Vardner, since it was a facilities issue.
- Neesby asked if this committee would be with the administration or if it would be Council's own, to which Vardner said that he would seek to include both the administration and UCPD.
- Sassounian said that the North Village housed mainly students, and asked where the complaints came from, to which Vardner said that they came from the non-student residents.
- Vardner said that anyone who wanted to be on this committee should come and find him and let him know that they want to be involved in the issue. Vardner said the sooner they move on this, the better because, as it is now, the event could get out of control and people could get hurt or arrested. He said that this committee had to come up with a solution almost immediately before things get out of control.
- Nelson said that the most important thing to keep in mind was that the students' leadership was much more powerful than a decree by the university. He said that closing down the streets on Black Sunday had been a student initiative. Nelson said that in his years at UCLA students had been seriously injured or worse by similarly innocuous things.

XI. Announcements

- Kaisey said that she had flyers for the Town Hall meeting, and passed them out to Council.
- Steven Ly said that, this coming weekend, the West Coast Room would be used for phone banking for Get Out the Vote.
- Biniek said that the Feminist Majority Alliance and Queer Girl were holding a Speak Out on Proposition 73, with Biniek and Zai giving speeches. She said that this proposition required consent by a parent for a minor to get an abortion, and asked council to come to the event.
- Pham said that "I'm Going to College" brought students from low-income neighborhoods to football games, and said that the program needed volunteers to take kids.
- Malik said that Project Literacy was holding a seminar on November 2nd.
- Kaminsky said that the November 10th event for Katrina Relief had been cancelled.
- Zai said that, after the Dodgeball tournament, Acapulco would be giving 25% of their before-tax profits for that night to Katrina relief.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

Villasin passed around the attendance sheet.

XIII. Adjournment

- Biniek moved and Pham seconded to adjourn.
- Sassounian called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m. by Acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael Keesler
USAC Minutes Taker