

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday November 8, 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: Julia Erlandson, Constance Dillon, Melinda Dudley, Michael Garner, Anat Herzog, Michael Safaee

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

- Biniek asked to add a Special Presentation by the Darfur Action Committee, and a New Business Item to allocate funding for publication of an ad.
- Vardner, Pham, Hawkins, Sassounian, Smeets, Zai, Kaisey, and Kaminsky asked to be included in the Officer and Member Reports.
- Neesby asked to move up the Election Board Appointment.
- Doan asked to remove the UCLA Recreation Advisory Board Appointment.
- Neesby moved and Vardner 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

October 4, 2005

- Pham said that in her Officer Report, her office had collected a total of 154 units of blood. She also said that in her report she had remarked that her recruitment carnival had gone well, and asked for a note to be added reflecting that.
- Doan said that in her Officer Report, Combiz Abdobrahim is her Student Groups Director, not her Chief of Staff.
- Neesby moved and Smeets seconded to approve the Minutes as amended.
- Council voted to approve the Minutes of October 4, 2005, as amended, with a vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

IV. Appointments

Elections Board

- Wood said that she was forwarding Anat Herzog for appointment to the position of Chair of the Elections Board. She said that Herzog had been on Election Board last year, and had good ideas about what worked well and what ought to be changed. Wood also said that Herzog had a lot of experience working on campus on CEC, ORL, and with other student organizations. She told Council that Herzog was generally a very positive individual and very easy to work with, which

she saw as important for Elections Board Chair. Doan told Council that the ARC had voted unanimously for the Appointment of Herzog to the position. She said that they had been particularly impressed by Herzog's knowledge of the Election Code and her interest in improving upon it.

- Neesby moved and Malik seconded to approve the Appointment of Anat Herzog to the position of Election Board Chair.
- Tuttle asked Herzog if she appreciated the fact that many UCLA students would remain in the area after graduation, and if she understood the gravity of the damage to her reputation that would be done by her falsification of any election procedures. Herzog replied that she understood and respected the integrity of her position, and said that she would act accordingly, even if it caused her to go against her friends.
- Vardner asked Herzog what she thought about the appointment of the rest of Election Board. Herzog replied that she wanted to get started as soon as possible, as there were changes that she wanted to make to the Election Code, closing loopholes and taking care of other issues. Vardner continued, and asked if Herzog would open up those discussions of Election Code changes to the rest of council. Herzog answered that she saw Election Board and council as two separate and distinct entities, though she would enlist council's expertise in the matter.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Anat Herzog to the position of Election Board Chair with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.

V. Special Presentations

Darfur Action Committee

- Michael Gardner said that he knew council was familiar with the divestment campaign, and wanted to tell them that there would be a presentation at UCLA about whether or not to make a presentation to the UC Regents in January. Gardner said that if the presentation resulted in a decision not to present the divestment proposal to the UC Regents it would be a direct blow to the DAC, but they would press forward nonetheless. He said that they wanted to garner as much student and faculty support as possible in preparation for this meeting. Gardner said that part of the buzz that they wanted to create could be helped by the publishing of the previously approved resolution by USAC in favor of Divestment from Sudan, which they had not published at the time of approval.
- Wood asked for more specifics on the meeting concerning divestment.
- Gardner said that it would be at 1:30 p.m. in the James West Alumni Center, and the DAC definitely wanted a USAC member to speak. He said that what they really wanted was to continue presenting a diplomatic and professional image to the UC Regents, which the Regents had been responsive to thus far. Gardner said that in terms of USAC support, attending the meeting themselves would be great, and any other ideas would be well-received.
- Kaisey asked if the DAC was looking for a high student turnout.
- Gardner said that ideally, they wanted a high student and faculty turnout. He said that they might have as many as 15 different people speaking, including 4 faculty members, and someone from Stanford, a university that had already divested from Sudan.
- Tuttle asked which Regents were on the Investment Committee. Gardner said that he thought Lee, Walker, Blum, Parsky, and Dynes were on it, but he didn't know who else was.
- Tuttle said that it would be good to demonstrate bipartisan support. Gardner said that there would also be a public event on Wednesday at which a panel of members of DAC would be providing further information on the issue. He said that the event was endorsed by both the Bruin Republicans and the Bruin Democrats.
- Vardner asked if Gardner had talked to the media, to which Gardner replied that they would be having a press conference the morning of the presentation, followed by the panel's presentation.
- Wood asked if there were any other financial needs that the DAC had. Gardner said that they could use money for airline tickets to bring informed speakers to the event. He said they could also use funds for producing banners. He noted that any additional money that USAC could contribute would be greatly appreciated.

VI. New Business

C. Discussion on Publishing the Resolution in Support of Divestment from Sudan

- Neesby asked how the publication of resolutions was usually funded, to which McLaren replied that the funds come out of contingency. She said further that the standard size for an ad funding by contingency was a maximum of a one-third page ad, but said that council could approve a larger size by voting to override the one-third page maximum.
- Biniek suggested using the cap from contingency, and making up the difference by contributions from the various offices.
- Biniek moved to allocate funding for a one-third-page advertisement.
- Kaminsky said that since the presentation was on Monday, it might be a good idea to have a half-page advertisement on Thursday (Friday being a holiday) and a half-page advertisement on Monday. McLaren said she agreed with Kaminsky's recommendation but, because the Daily Bruin requires an approved requisition to be submitted two days prior to the ad date, it was too late to do what Kaminsky has suggested.
- Biniek said that it didn't matter, Council just needed to decide to allocate the funding.
- Doan said that her office could contribute however much was needed.
- Villasin said that a third page advertisement cost \$316 and full page cost \$948.
- Wood went around the table, asking how much each office could contribute, not just towards the cost of an ad, but also for towards some of the other things that Gardner said the DAC might need for their campaign. After each Council member said how much their office could contribute, Wood read off the list, saying that \$316 would come from Contingency, \$150 from Facilities Commission, \$150 from the External Vice President's Office, \$150 from the Academic Affairs Commission, \$100 from Financial Supports Commission, \$100 from the Internal Vice President's Office, \$100 from General Representative 3's Office, \$150 from Campus Events Commission, \$100 from General Representative 2's Office, \$100 from Community Service Commission, \$100 from the President's Office, \$300 from Cultural Affairs Commission, \$100 from Student Welfare Commission, and manpower from General Representative 1's Office.
- Neesby moved and Sassounian seconded to allocate \$316 from the Contingency Fund towards publication of the Resolution in Support of Divestment from Sudan.
- Council voted to allocate \$316 from the Contingency Fund towards publication of the Resolution in Support of Divestment from Sudan with a vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

VII. Appointments (cont'd)

Undergraduate Students Association Board of Directors (USA/BOD) Programming Committee – Winter Quarter

- Wood suggested Zai and Kaminsky for the Winter USA/BOD Programming Committee.
- Sassounian moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Appointment of Jason Kaminsky to the USA/BOD Programming Committee for Winter Quarter.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Jason Kaminsky to the USA/BOD Programming Committee for Winter Quarter with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.
- Smeets moved and Doan seconded to approve the Appointment of PC Zai to the USA/BOD Programming Committee for Winter Quarter.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of PC Zai to the USA/BOD Programming Committee for Winter Quarter with a vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention.
- *Vardner was out of the room when the vote was taken*

VII Fund Allocations

- Villasin said that a total of \$7,248.20 had been requested from Contingency, with \$2,771.29 recommended for allocation. She said that one of the allocations had been made through her discretionary authorization, and specified that the Music Club had requested \$20 and been allocated \$20. Villasin said that, after Council approval of the recommended total allocations, the Running Balance would decrease from \$31,929.26 to \$29,157.97.

- Biniek moved and Pham seconded to approve FiCom's Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations.
- Zai asked why FiCom was recommending such a small percentage of the amount requested by UCLA Mock Trial, to which Villasin replied that the group had not provided enough documentation with their application.
- Council voted to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations with a unanimous vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

The Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations are attached to the minutes.

IX. Officer and Member Reports

General Representative #3 – Marwa Kaisey

- Kaisey thanked all of the Council members who had attended the Town Hall on the Hill event.

General Representative #1

- Zai said that she was really excited about the upcoming workshop for first year and transfer students. She said that the purpose of the workshop was to provide information to first years and transfers to the wide range of resources that are available to them at UCLA. Zai commented on the value of providing this information during the first quarter that these students are on campus so that they can get off to a good start.

Student Welfare Commissioner – Tracy Pham

- Pham said that SWC's quarterly blood drive would be held all next week. She said that she would put flyers in Council members' mailboxes with all the details, and encouraged them to donate if possible. Pham said that, on Thursday of 7th week, they would be having a cooking class with a Thanksgiving theme. She said that the UCLA Run/Walk Basketball Tournament, to benefit the Mattel Children's Hospital, would be held on November 20th at Sunset Recreation Center, starting at noon. Pham ended by saying that it would be possible to sign up online for Dance Marathon this year, and that the theme would be announced Wednesday.

Campus Events Commissioner – Jason Kaminsky

- Kaminsky said that last week they had shown Jarhead and Pride and Prejudice, and that both films had drawn a large audience. He said that on November 16th, the President and CEO of the Motion Picture Association of America, Dan Glickman, would be speaking at 7:00 p.m. just before a showing of March of the Penguins. Kaminsky said that Glickman would be meeting with student leaders before the event, and invited Council members to come.
- Tuttle said that Council may not know enough about Dan Glickman to appreciate what a valuable resource he is. Tuttle then gave Council a brief history on Glickman, including such information as the fact that he had served in Congress for many years, had been the Secretary of Agriculture, and had been the Director of the Institute of Politics at Harvard. Tuttle urged Council members to take advantage of this opportunity to meet and talk with Glickman.
- With regard to the screening of March of the Penguins, Kaminsky said that his office was trying to get Morgan Freeman to come because he does the voice-over for the documentary.

Financial Supports Commissioner – Ryan Smeets

- Smeets said that he had met with Ed Flores from the Financial Aid Office, and there would be workshops available to students next Tuesday from 3:00 to 6:00p.m.

Academic Affairs Commissioner – Michelle Sassounian

- Sassounian said that the application deadline for the USIE program was Thursday. She also said that she and her ECP director had met with Judith Smith to talk about alleviating the burden of ECP on students at UCLA. Sassounian invited Council members to get involved, and said that she would be writing up a report with her ECP Director, which she would distribute to Council. She said the report would also include ways that Council members could get involved. She said that one of the more interesting possibilities for ECP might be to offer course credit for extracurricular activities such as volunteer or intern positions.

- Biniek asked if transfer students had an ECP requirement, to which Sassounian replied that she didn't know, but could probably find out.
- Sassounian added that her office would also be giving information to students about small-unit seminars that they could take to meet the ECP requirement.

Cultural Affairs Commissioner – Todd Hawkins

- Hawkins said that the Festival of African Music that had been held last week had been a huge success. He said that the response had been so good that they were looking into touring the show and having other universities hosting it. He said that a potential hang-up might be getting nonprofits to sponsor the event. Hawkins then reminded Council that the Hiroshima/Nagasaki exhibit was opening on Thursday evening in the Kerckhoff Art Gallery. He said that a Hiroshima survivor would be present, as well as a UCLA professor who would speak on the issue, and that the exhibit would be up from November 10 – 18. On another subject, Hawkins said that the jazz series on Monday nights in the Coffee House was currently featuring an outstanding student group, and he encouraged everyone to check them out. He added that Open Mic Night in the Coffee House would be continuing as well. Hawkins said that he was also working on the Spring 2006 Jazz/Reggae Festival, and pointed out that this would be the 20th anniversary of that event. He asked council to send him names of any artists they would like to see. Hawkins ended his report by saying that his office would be encouraging students to check out different exhibits in Los Angeles, and that this week's recommendation was to go to the Fowler Museum.
- Vardner moved and Neesby seconded to extend the time limit on Cultural Affairs Commissioner Todd Hawkins' Officer Report by three minutes.
- Sassounian called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to calling for Acclamation. There being none, the time limit on Cultural Affairs Commissioner Todd Hawkins' Officer Report was extended by three minutes.
- Nelson pointed out to Council that the African Music Festival was on the cutting edge of something that was going on at this time. He said that he saw this as something that would be going into book form eventually, and he encouraged Council to get involved, as it was only going to get bigger. Nelson also said that the Hiroshima/Nagasaki exhibit would be phenomenal.
- Tuttle said that, with regard to taking the African Music Festival on the road, if money started to flow it would be important to establish good internal controls. He suggested that Hawkins check with his CSP advisor about this. Tuttle said that if there was a good way for UCLA or USAC to make some money off of this project, then that was okay, but he reiterated his recommendation to make sure there were good internal controls in place. He said that the failure to do so could result in the destruction of one's good name.

Community Service Commissioner – Farheen Malik

- Malik said that more than 600 people attended Community Service Day, and everything had gone as planned. She listed all of the events that students had participated in, and said that it had been a huge success. Malik also said that her office was working on a sponsorship guide, which she may or may not give out to Council, as none of them had come to her Community Service Day.

Facilities Commissioner – Joseph Vardner

- Vardner opened by saying that he had been looking at council members' availabilities to meet regarding office space allocation, and it seems that there's no one time when everyone can get together. He then said that OSAC would be meeting in his office Wednesday evening at 7:00p.m., and that anyone who could make it should be sure to attend. Regarding transportation issues, Vardner said that his office has also begun weekly tabling in Ackerman to educate students about their transportation options. Vardner said that he had also sent out an email inviting interested councilmembers to attend the meeting of the Undie Run Committee. He said that his office was also working on abolishing vehicular traffic on campus during certain hours.
- McLaren remarked that there used to be regulations about when trucks could and could not drive onto campus, particularly onto Bruin Plaza.

- Sassounian moved and Kaminsky seconded to extend the time limit on Facilities Commissioner Joseph Vardner's Officer Report by two minutes.
- Biniek called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to calling for Acclamation. There being none, the time limit on Facilities Commissioner Joseph Vardner's Officer Report was extended by two minutes.
- Gwen Litvak asked about vehicles for programs like HIV Testing trucks, to which Vardner said that there would be an exception for program-related vehicles.
- Vardner then announced that Royce Hall was thinking about offering reduced rates to cultural groups who were willing to perform for young people who would be bused to the event. He said if this was approved, it would give cultural groups an extra opportunity to perform and would lower the cost of using Royce for their culture nights.

Chancellor's Representative – Berky Nelson

- Nelson said that lately there had been a lot of “preachers” on campus who were crossing the line. He said that he had spoken with the legal department about the issue of free speech, and they told him that blanket statements were free speech, but that it did not allow the speakers to accost targeted individuals. Any such inappropriate actions should be reported to CSP. Nelson said that there had been only two reported cases, and he encouraged people to file reports because CSP can take action only upon written reports.
- Sassounian asked for clarification about the delineation between Free Speech and Hate Speech. Nelson said that statements about groups of people were okay, but statements toward or against individuals were considered Hate speech. He said that, making someone feel uncomfortable, or inciting another individual to react, would be crossing the line.

External Vice President – Jeannie Biniek

- Biniek said that the Senate had voted to approve the Budget Reconciliation bill. She said that they had sent invitations to the House of Representatives party, and this was some of the most mobilization that they had ever done this early in the year. Biniek said that the Student Action Network kickoff was coming up soon. She said that the UC Regents meeting would be next week, and her staff would be contacting people to see if they were interested in going to the meeting. Biniek said that they were also working on encouraging a lower Return to Aid amount than was originally planned.

Internal Vice President – Kristina Doan

- Doan said that her office staff had emailed council to remind them that Agenda items for next week's meeting would be due one day earlier than usual due to the Veteran's Day Holiday on Friday. Doan also said that any council members who wanted to have resource materials distributed at the CSP programs fair on Thursday in the Ackerman Second Floor Lounge should get them to her office as soon as possible. Doan told Council that her office was also working on the selection of the new Assistant Police Chief, and said this would be a great opportunity for student leaders to let the UCPD know about issues of importance to students that the UCPD might not necessarily be aware of.

President – Jenny Wood

- Wood opened by saying that her report was rather lengthy, and she'd appreciate having the time limit extended.

Sassounian moved and Neesby seconded to extend the time limit on President Jenny Wood's Officer Report by seven minutes.

- Biniek called for Acclamation. Wood asked if there were any objections to calling for Acclamation. There being none, the time limit on President Jenny Wood's Officer Report was extended by seven minutes.

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

Questions and Comments followed Wood's Report

- Sassounian asked when people would find out if they would be getting parking for Winter Quarter, to which Wood replied that some people already knew, and that everyone else would certainly know by November 18th.

X. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

XI. New Business

A. Discussion of Bruin Go Status

- Vardner said that, over the Summer, the Big Blue Bus line had said that they would no longer be accepting the co-payment, but would not implement this change until January of 2007. He said that they had claimed to have lost \$200,000 because of students sneaking onto the bus without paying their 25 cents. Vardner said that this would give the university an extra \$300,000, which they would be looking into giving to Go Metro to make the rides completely free for students. He said that the problem with this the last time had been that students were not using bus transfers, which resulted in UCLA being charged twice instead of once for two consecutive rides.
- Nelson asked if the bus lines could determine from their records who was swiping on two separate buses within a brief time period and, if so, perhaps they could just not charge UCLA for the second swipe, as if a bus transfer had been used. Vardner said that they could, but were unwilling to do so because of the extra administrative responsibilities involved with this.

B. Discussion of Katrina Relief

- Zai said that the Dodgeball Tournament and dinner at Acapulco had taken place over the weekend. She said that the tournament had gone well, and she had seen a lot of people she knew at the restaurant.
- Smeets said that there had been 17 teams in the tournament, with one professional team from the Gameshow Network, and a team from Dining Services which had brought over 30 fans. He said that more than \$1,600 had been raised, bringing the total raised to over \$3,000. Smeets said that they would be planning another large event at the end of the year, but were not sure of the details yet. He said that they were also thinking about doing a food drive, as many food banks across the nation were particularly low for this time of year.
- Zai asked if Council had any suggestions about what could have been done differently, what had been done well, or what should be changed.
- Smeets said that he had done a lot of work promoting the event, and they had gotten a lot of commitments from different groups which were not met.
- Doan said that the biggest concern she heard was that the timing with midterm week had been challenging for many of the student groups.

XII. Announcements

- McLaren said that she learned late yesterday morning that USA and GSA had no Internet access over the weekend. She said that the initial problem had been fixed, but that she and the IS team were continuing to evaluate other issues to ensure that the system won't go down again. She said that, based on IS's preliminary evaluation, it appears that there were certain devices operating in some student offices that were disrupting the flow of the entire network.
- Julia Erlandson and Constance Dillon from the Daily Bruin introduced themselves to Council as the new Daily Bruin reporters on USAC affairs.
- Kristina Doan said that the Bruin Republicans and the Bruin Democrats would be having a debate Thursday in Covell Commons on universal health care, free trade, and WalMart. She said that the Seniors Reception would also be held on Thursday at 5:00p.m.
- Neesby said that the CRC would be meeting on Wednesday at 10:00a.m., but he would not be there because he was starting a new job.
- Vardner said that, during Blue and Gold week, the week preceding the UCLA /USC game, there would be a group of individuals camping out to protect the Bruin statue on Bruin Plaza from vandalism, and invited interested council members to join in. He also invited council members to come to a showing of Old School in Bruin Plaza on Tuesday night after the Basketball game.

He said the movie would be shown on a very large outdoor screen, and recommended that everyone come, with their "BYO" blanket.

- Kaisey encouraged Council to come out to the Dance Marathon kickoff meeting tomorrow, and warned council that the new fluorescent shirts would hit the streets tomorrow.
- Pham said that the Ashe Center was offering Flu Shots this year.
- Wood said that the DAC meeting would be on Wednesday night.
- Kaminsky said that CEC would be showing Wedding Crashers that night.

XIII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

Villasin passed around the attendance sheet.

XIV. Adjournment

- Kaminsky moved and Smeets 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 9:03 p.m. by Acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michael Keesler
USAC Minutes Taker