

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL

Tuesday April 18, 2006  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Khadeeja Abdullah, Diana Aldapa, Patty Alfaro, Luis Arellano, Eric Cai, Daniela Conde, Matt Crosby, Ahn Do, Julia Erlandson, Salma Hernandez, Dorothy Le, Cicili Mislang, Remington Ong, Jorge Rios

I. A. Call to Order

- Wood called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*Villasin passed around the Attendance Sheet*

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Kaisey asked to be added to the Officer and Member Reports.
- Biniek asked to move the Resolution Against Anti-Immigration Legislation to directly after the accompanying Special Presentation.
- Malik asked to move New Business Item A, \*CSC New Project Inclusion, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA), to directly after the accompanying Special Presentation.
- Kaisey asked to remove New Business Item G, \*Commitment of Funds for Bruin Bash 2006.
- Neesby said that New Business Item F, Amendment to USA Bylaws Article IV and V should have been listed as an Action Item.
- Zai, Vardner, and Pham asked to be included in the Officer and Member Reports.
- Wood said that the presentation by Dorothy Le was more specifically going to be about bikes.
- Biniek moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Agenda as amended.
- Neesby called for approval by Unanimous Consent. Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Unanimous Consent. There being none, the Agenda was approved, as amended, by Unanimous Consent.

III. Approval of the Minutes

**February 28, 2006**

- Biniek said that on page 3, under her presentation on the Federal Budget, on the 9<sup>th</sup> line down, the phrase: "loans for middle income families", should be struck.
- Pham said that on page 4, under Officer and Member Reports, she had been mislabeled as the Community Service Commissioner.
- Biniek said that on page 6, under her Officer and Member Report, the sentence on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> lines, "Biniek said that the stipend ... fees increased", should instead read, "Biniek said that UCSA was working to increase the stipend on the Cal Grant."
- Biniek moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Minutes of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006, as amended.
- Council voted to approve the Minutes of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006, as amended, with a vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

## IV. Special Presentations

**CSC New Project Inclusion, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)**

- Remington Ong introduced himself to Council as VITA's head coordinator.
- Ahn Do introduced himself to Council as one of VITA's finance coordinators.
- Matt Crosby also introduced himself to Council as one of VITA's finance coordinators.
- Crosby told Council that VITA was a group that provided free tax return services for individuals who lived in or around the UCLA community. He said that this was their 20<sup>th</sup> year, and they worked in conjunction with the IRS to help out families in the area.
- Ong said that in the past they had focused their efforts on campus, but over the past few years they had tried to extend their services to the surrounding community. He said that they had been assisting the homeless, and in the last years they had added two additional locations. Ong said that they had filled out over 200 returns this year, with most of them filled out on campus, but about 40 or 50 filled out off-campus. He said that they wanted to make this less of a student club and more of a community outreach group. Ong said they felt, by being a project within the CSC, they would be better able to provide their services to the community, and would additionally be able to synergize with other groups.

*Kaminsky Arrived*

*Sassounian Arrived*

- Do said that they wanted to help people act in their own best interest. She said that they also provided their services completely free of charge, which was an amazing service in comparison to the \$75 to \$500 fee that professional firms asked for. Do said that they really wanted to outreach to lower income families.
- Ong said that everyone was affected by taxes, and they felt that they offered a very unique service, and that with their inclusion within the CSC they could help the CSC by outreaching to more individuals, and they too could be helped by being able to expand their own services.
- Sargent said that he was glad to see VITA returning, as when he had been on Council it had been under the FSC. He asked how they had decided to come back, to which Do said that their Center for Student Programming Advisor had recommended it.
- Sargent asked Malik if she approved of this, to which she said that she did.
- Vardner asked the group if they would still service the campus, to which Ong said that they would.
- Kaisey asked how much they serviced the campus versus the community, to which Remington again said that they had been focused on UCLA primarily, but were now working to branch out to the community.
- Zai asked how many students were helped, to which Ong said that they had helped 200 in the last year.
- Malik said that she had addressed some concerns over email, including the fact that the group did not work year-round and that the group did not service the community as much as other CSC projects did. She said that the group had expressed interest, however, in both offering more services and in servicing the community. Ong added that they worked on tax returns from January through mid-April. He also said that all of their people were volunteers, and they worked over Spring Break, weekends, and Finals week. Ong said that they also wanted to offer year-round services such as teaching students how to reduce their tax liability in the future year.
- Neesby asked where the group was registered now, to which Ong said that VITA was under the Anderson School. Neesby asked if they would sever that tie in becoming a CSC group, to which Ong said that he was not sure, but they would be officially registered under the CSC.
- Pham asked Malik if she had considered the negative effects the addition of another group would have on the current groups. Malik said that the three areas affected most would be office space and funding. She said that the other groups had said that this was not a problem for them.
- Do said that VITA also sustained itself with funding from several of their sponsoring firms, and they had even been donated free laptops.
- Ong said that VITA had been operating for a long time as a self-sufficient group, so he didn't anticipate a large financial burden on the CSC by the addition of VITA.

- Tuttle asked how much money the group got from these firms and where it was kept. Ong said that it was kept in a bank account. Tuttle asked if this money would be going into the CSC, and asked how much money they got each year. Ong said that they had gotten about \$500 from each of three sponsors, and said that they had established checks and balances to ensure that things were legitimate.
  - Tuttle asked if the group anticipated decreasing their services to UCLA students as they expanded into the community. Ong said that he did not, as right now there were way more volunteers than clients, with a single client often being serviced by 3 or 4 volunteers at once. Do added that they usually serviced the university during the day when students were on campus and the community at night.
  - Malik said that the commission did not financially support the groups individually, but just by subsidizing their transportation.
  - Nelson asked if the Anderson School had been helpful to the group in finding these sponsors. Do replied that they had been pretty successful in getting the sponsorship on their own. Ong said that they had not specifically approached Anderson for help in finding sponsors, though they did have an advisor who helped make suggestions as to the direction they should take. Matt added that most if not all of the volunteers were currently interns at firms where they requested the sponsorship.
  - Wood thanked VITA for all of their work and the presentation.
- Council Applauded*

#### V. New Business

##### **A. \*CSC New Project Inclusion, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)**

- Biniek moved and Sassounian seconded to include Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) as an official group under the Community Service Commission.
- Pham asked if the Bylaws needed to be changed, to which Malik said that the Bylaws were outdated on all of the projects at this point, but that she would change them.
- Council voted to include Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) as an official group under the Community Service Commission with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

#### VI. Special Presentations

##### **Immigrant Rights and Pending Legislation, Immigrant Rights Coalition and MEChA de UCLA**

- Jorge Rios, Danie la Conde, and another presenter introduced themselves to Council.
- Conde said that they were present to talk about pending legislation on immigrant rights and HR437. She said that they wanted to talk about how immigrants were being seen and portrayed in the media, and how students were affected by all of this.
- Jorge Rios passed around information from Time Magazine. He said that most of the immigrants right now came from Mexico, Latin America, and Southeast Asia. Rios said that the reason many immigrants came was to look for work, because in their own countries they could not make enough to support themselves or their families. Rios said that it was estimated right now that there were 11 million undocumented people living in the states. He said that they tended to be young on the whole, and they moved in families. He said that they are concentrated in service, agriculture, construction, cleaning, and labor in general. Rios said that the situation was becoming tense, and now HR437 was being proposed.
- Conde said that the bill was also referenced as being anti-terrorism. She said that the bill was passed in December by the House of Representatives, and it was a 257 page document. Girl said that one of the things proposed was to criminalize immigrants. She said that this meant that it would make it a felony for immigrants to be in the country. She said that it would also be a felony for anyone that helped an illegal immigrant, whether by providing shelter, giving a ride, or giving work. She pointed out that this would include priests, social workers, or anyone. She said that for this reason a lot of faith-based groups had come out against the bill. She said that the border patrol would also be increased, with additional funding for detection devices and more general regulation. She also told Council that local police officers would also be allowed

to act as INS officers. She said that the problem with this was that, while there was training available to them, most of them would not have to actually go through that training. She said that it would be potentially dangerous for police officers to enforce laws that they were not educated about, and this could lead to racial profiling. She said that they were still focusing on HR437 even though the Senate had endorsed another bill because there were a lot of the same points in each of the two bills. She said that this other bill categorized immigrants based on how long they had been in the country illegally. She said that this included paying back taxes or deportation.

- Rios said that people who had been in the country for five years could be naturalized, while those here less than five years would be deported and then only allowed to return later.
- Conde said that the Senate Bill also had an increased border enforcement stipulation. She said that there was no reason for this, as there had been increased border enforcement, and the illegal entry had not decreased.
- Rios said that one of the big myths was that immigrants were bad for the economy. He said that much of the money made by immigrants stayed in the Country instead of being spent overseas. Rios said that another misconception was that immigrants came to the United States to take advantage of public services. He said that this was not true, with lots of immigrants moving from the Southwest to the Southeast. He said that most states also had restrictions on the rights given to immigrants. He said that although they do use some public services, they made up for that in the taxes that they paid. Rios said that another misconception was the worry about the control of the border, especially in light of recent terrorism. He said that, however, following border intensification there had been positive results from the immigration. He said that instead of border intensification, there should be better cooperation between the states and Mexico.
- Conde said that the worry about allowing police officers to act as INS agents was dangerous and could lead to racial profiling. She said that in cities like Costa Mesa there were already instances of the City Council allowing police officers to do this, which means that immigrants will not want to report crime to the police for fear of their own deportation. She said that this affected students at UCLA, as these people worked all over campus. She said that it affected the whole country, and they wanted Council to oppose this legislation.
- Kaisey thanked the group for coming before Council, saying that she belonged to the 75% of legal immigrants, and that myth #10 particularly applied to her family and her Father.
- Zai thanked the group and for all the information.
- Rios told Council that it was important to understand that these issues went well beyond the Council meeting room, and stressed his point that this was a national issue.
- Tuttle asked if the Kennedy-McCain proposal was better, to which Rios said that it was better, but there were still problems, particularly with the temporary work visas. He said that the people who came to work in the states had a huge incentive to stay in the country, and they might just never leave, so it did not really solve the problem. Tuttle said that his understanding was that the White House was in favor of this proposal.
- Neesby said that he had read that any foreign student who fell below full-time status would be deemed an illegal and thus committing of a felony. Rios said that was his understanding. Neesby said that he understood that to have a student visa one had to be full-time, so if they went off full-time then they would then be felons. He said that what he was getting at was just how pointedly this affected students. Rios said that if what Neesby said was true then that would be a bad situation. He also said that there were students in the UC who were AB540. Rios said that he had been legalized last year, but he had to go to meetings at INS twice a week for seven weeks, and it had been a huge imposition on him.
- Biniek said that there were specific provisions within the bill that specifically addressed student visas, and there were lots of specifics.

## VII. New Business

### **E. \*Resolution Against Anti-Immigration Legislation**

- Biniek said that she had passed out an updated version of the Resolution Against Anti-Immigration Legislation. She also said that to emphasize the effects on students, there were a lot of immigrants on campus, and of those at least 50% had one parent born outside the US. Biniek

said that there were 650 students who had taken advantage of the AB540 exemption, just to give an idea of the number of students who were affected by this kind of thing. Biniek also said that she had personally met a girl who had been Valedictorian of her high school, but was undocumented, and was thus ineligible for federal funding, and had to struggle to pay her way through UCLA.

- Biniek moved and Vardner seconded to approve the Resolution Against Anti-Immigration Legislation.
- Doan asked if the first “Be if further resolved...” was specific or general, to which Biniek said that it was about the two bills currently under review and any others that came up with similar ideas.
- Biniek said that the Regents had adopted AB540 for students who had been in California high schools for three years. She said, with regard to the last clause, it would be about what each office could contribute. She said that she would be at events and conducting lobby visits, which is why it was so vague.
- Neesby asked about AB540, to which Biniek said that it allowed students to pay instate fees.
- Neesby said that under “Therefore, be it resolved...” he was a little hesitant to oppose hypothetical bills that had not yet been created. He said that it would be more powerful to specifically oppose the bills in place right now, and that it might dilute the bill to just throw in anything else that had ever been suggested. Biniek replied that, since the debate was still going on, and since those were the two main arguments, it should be kept in to formalize precisely what about the bills Council was opposing.
- Rios added that by making it a felony, then individuals would never be able to become legal.
- Wood said that in general, she felt that it was clear that the community and the UCLA student body were strongly opposed to criminalization of illegal status, and thus it should be left in.
- Neesby said that his second concern was that the resolution was not specific enough to students. He suggested adding a clause describing the adverse effects on students.
- Neesby moved and Smeets seconded to add “Whereas, any foreign student in the US who is undocumented would automatically be classified as a felon under US criminal law and as an aggregate felon under immigration law.”
- Tuttle asked where this would be inserted, to which Neesby said that it would be the second “Whereas...”
- Biniek suggested adding it after the sixth “Whereas...”
- Nelson asked if this Resolution was against just these bills or if it was against any such legislation, to which Biniek said it was against any such legislation.
- Council voted to add “Whereas, any foreign student in the US who is undocumented would automatically be classified as a felon under US criminal law and as an aggregate felon under immigration law” as the second Whereas, with a unanimous vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Vardner moved by Unanimous Consent and Biniek seconded to put semicolons after every “Whereas” and commas after every “resolved”.
- Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Unanimous Consent. There being none, semicolons were put after every “Whereas” and commas were inserted after every “resolved”.
- Neesby moved and Smeets seconded to change the first add “as felons” after “undocumented immigrants” to the sixth “Whereas...”
- Biniek said that she did not feel that people should be charged as criminals for entering the country.
- Council voted to add “as felons” after “undocumented immigrants” to the sixth “Whereas...” with a vote of 7 in favor, 3 opposed, and 2 abstentions.
- Council voted to approve the Resolution Against Anti-Immigration Legislation with a unanimous vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Vardner asked what the April 20<sup>th</sup> event was, to which Rios said that there would be a speech in Meyerhoff Park. The other presenters added that students would be marching on campus. Rios said that there would be another rally on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

## VIII. Appointments

*There were no Appointments this week.*

## IX. Fund Allocations

- Eric Cai said that \$23,009.36 had been requested from the Contingency Programming Fund, with FiCom recommending \$13,190.88 for allocation. He said that, upon USAC's approval of FiCom's these recommended allocations, the running total in the Contingency Programming Fund would drop from \$25,863.80 to \$12,672.92. Cai said that a total of \$1,583.92 had been requested from the Contingency Capital Items Fund, and that FiCom was recommending a total allocation of \$441.44. He said that, upon USAC's approval of FiCom's recommended allocation, the remaining balance in the Contingency Capital Items Fund would drop from \$14,502.57 to \$14,061.13.
- Smeets asked if that balance included allocations that had yet to be spent, to which Villasin said that it did, as they were trying to close out the accounts. Cai added that another thing to consider was that it was the beginning of the quarter and more groups were applying.
- Pham asked why Facilities did not get the full amount requested for their movie, to which Villasin said that the recommendation was based on the quality of the proposal.
- Biniek moved and Neesby seconded to approve FiCom's recommended allocations for the Contingency Programming Fund and their recommended allocation for the Contingency Capital Items Fund.
- Council voted to approve to approve FiCom's recommended allocations for the Contingency Programming Fund and their recommended allocation for the Contingency Capital Items Fund with a vote of 10 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention.

*The Contingency Programming Fund Allocations are attached to the Minutes.*

*The Contingency Capital Items Fund Allocation is attached to the Minutes.*

## X. Officer and Member Reports

**Student Welfare Commissioner – Tracy Pham**

- Pham said that Earth Day was Tuesday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, and said that there would be a big event with lots of groups present. She said that it would go from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and there would be lots of visual aids. Pham said that the Bruin Health Symposium would be on Wednesday, with a free CPR class being offered. She said that there would also be a career fair in addition to many other things. Pham said that there would also be "Anti-Up", a poker tournament held by Tri-Delt in Ackerman Grand Ballroom benefiting the Mattel Children's Foundation. Pham also said that UCLA Run/Walk was coming up in case anyone still had not signed up. She said that it was \$15 a person for teams of 6 or more, and \$20 per individual registration. Pham said that the last thing was that there was a group fighting the FDA about the blood donor questionnaire. She said that the petition was against the question about sexual affiliation, which had to do with the taboo about homosexuality and AIDS. Pham said that this was a particularly big deal as the Gay and Lesbian community had been very supportive of Blood Drives, and they were now unable to give blood at all. She said that all blood was tested before using it, so there was really no reason for the question to be on the form at all.
- Biniek added that this created a bad situation on campus since students may have had to leave donation stations and then explain to peers why.

**Facilities Commissioner – Joseph Vardner**

- Vardner said that there was a lot of construction taking place on Gayley on the new hospital and a lot of construction for the parking facility on the Hill. He said that there had been some problems resulting from students removing signs during the night and then cars getting towed in the morning. Vardner said that the vehicle display guidelines that had been discussed before had luckily been reviewed in light of blood donation vans and HIV testing vans, but it looked like the ban on vehicles in Bruin Plaza was going to be applied. He said that if anyone wanted more

information on this matter they should ask him or Kaminsky. Vardner said that the first meeting of the Westwood Civic Group had been held in the last week, and they had outlined some priorities for students to get more interested in community and city issues. Vardner said that he also had a phone number that could be called to talk to City Services about street lights that were out or potholes that needed to be fixed in the North Village.

**General Representative #1 – PC Zai**

- Zai said that the Town Hall Self Defense workshop had been a big hit. She also said that she was looking forward to the Campus Safety Fair.
- Doan said that the Campus Safety Fair had gotten funding, but the day that they had planned to hold it was already taken by the LA Times Book Fair. She said that they were trying to find another location and asked if anyone had a good recommendation to make.

**General Representative #3 – Marwa Kaisey**

- Kaisey said that the workshops had gone very well. She said that her office was also moving along really well with professor evaluations, and was working in conjunction with Judy Smith. She said that her staff was also moving forward with their year-round programs, and she was excited about her interns' increased involvement.

**Administrative Representative – Dr. Rick Tuttle**

- Tuttle said that the visit by the President of the Czech Republic had been cancelled.

**External Vice President – Jeannie Biniek**

- Biniek said that the USSA meeting would be over the weekend. She said that there would also be another meeting by the Council on Student Fees, with most of Council being invited to the reception. Biniek said that on Monday there had been joint action taken with testimony given on the budget and on academic preparation programs. Biniek said that the compact that had been envisioned by UCSA had been sponsored by Carol Liu, and it was an affordable fee policy. She said that it looked at what families could actually afford, such that fees would be raised at times that they could actually be absorbed. She said that this was part of an effort to change the way that fee increases were looked at. Biniek said that she would be meeting with Dynes on May 4<sup>th</sup>, and she would be talking about communication between UCSA and the president. Biniek said that the system-wide committee applications would also be due on Friday, and she would forward the fliers to Council. She said that there was already substantial representation from UCLA, and it was a great opportunity for students to get involved on external issues. Biniek also said that the 5K AIDS walk for Women and Children would be over the weekend, and also mentioned that travel grants would be available soon and said that the application form was available online.

**Internal Vice President – Kristina Doan**

- Doan said that she had sent out the USAC report to OCHC, as she like to make sure that other groups knew how USAC was serving its constituencies. She said that this would allow them to help with campaigns or whatever. Doan said that she would be meeting with people from OCHC about increasing and improving communication between OCHC and USAC. Doan said that the search-committee for the Student Psych Services Director would be meeting on Monday to go through applications and develop questions that would be asked of applicants. She said that they wanted to make sure that the new director would be particularly sensitive to students needs. Doan said that she had also been reviewing the appointed committees, and the only defunct committee was the Committee on Disabilities. She said that there were students who wanted to work on this issue.
- Sargent asked if there were any stipended appointees who were not responding to the follow-ups, to which Doan said that there were not.

## XI. Special Presentations

**B. Campus Sustainability Committee at UCLA, Dorothy Le**

- Dorothy Le from Bike Advocacy said that they wanted to let students use bikes without having to buy them. She said that there would be free bikes for every interested Council member and that for other UCLA students, there would be a lending program with participants having to pay only a deposit and a usage fee. Le said that the goal was to get students excited about bikes. Le said that good reasons to bike included exercise, enjoyment, convenience, fun, and affordability.
- Biniek said that biking was good for the environment too.
- Le said that this would be a long-term lending program, with bikes lent out for either a year or a quarter. She said that Spring Quarter would be the pilot quarter where Council would be given bikes. Le said that the Bike Master Plan would also be coming out, which would establish bike lanes or “sharrows,” which indicate to drivers that they are to share lanes with bikers. She said that Council would be surveyed later to see how much the bikes were used. Le said that she would pass around a sign up sheet for interested individuals to list their name and height so they could be matched to bikes.
- Sargent asked if this would be for on or off campus, to which Le said both.
- Kaminsky asked if book racks would be made available on the bikes. Le said that anyone who wanted one should say so on the sign-up sheet.
- Doan asked how liability would be covered. Le answered that if the bike was stolen then it would not be the fault of the individual, but that still needed to be ironed out.
- Nelson asked if they had thought about insurance for the bike riders. Le said that would be looked into.
- Vardner said that this was run out of CRA, such that the same liability waiver had to be signed by users. He asked if the bikes would be equipped with the UCPD anti-theft tags, to which Le said that they would.
- Biniek asked how soon the bikes would be available, to which Le said that they were already ready.
- Wood asked when the Triathlon was, to which Pham said that it had already passed.
- Kaminsky asked if the bikes came with a lock, to which Le said that Council would not have locks during the pilot quarter, but in Fall there would be locks for students.

## XII. Officer and Member Reports

**President – Jenny Wood**

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

*Questions and Comments followed Wood’s Report.*

- McLaren asked what CSP’s guidelines were regarding global emails. Nelson said that the problem was that there were no guidelines. He said the issue was that, because there are hundreds of registered student organizations, even if a small percentage of them asked CSP to send out global announcements, there would be an unmanageable backlog. He said further that there was also the issue of a high volume of spam.

## XIII. Old Business

*There was no Old Business this week.*

## XIV. New Business

**B. \*Approval of Campus Sustainability Committee as USAC Presidential Appointment**

- Wood said that the word “environmental” had been taken out. She also said that the last sentence of the description paragraph should read, “The committee will also be involved with the integration of ...” Wood also said that, “The appointment will be for two-year staggered terms” should be added. She added that there had already been appointments made, so there would be none to be made during 2006-2007.

- Vardner said that he really did think that this should be a Facilities Commissioner appointment instead of a Presidential appointment. He said that this was because of how much the President already had to do, plus this committee was a vital part of facilities, especially in light of the fact that the Facilities Commissioner should be involved with sustainability issues.
- Wood said that her suggestion would be to do the same thing as they did with the Wooden Center appointments in the Bylaws, where they said that the Facilities Commissioner should advise the president.
- Sargent asked what document Council was talking about changing. He said that right now there seemed like there was not an overall document that listed the appointments. Wood replied that she thought this was more about the act of appointment, rather than about changing documentation of these appointments. Sargent said that his understanding was that the President had a list of committees to which he or she could appoint individuals, but it seemed like there was no such guiding document. Wood said that all they were trying to do was to add these groups to the unofficial documentation that was passed down from year to year.
- McLaren explained that this process was handled in conjunction with Bob Naples' Office. She said that these committees were already in existence, but they were recognizing the fact that they wanted student involvement on these committees. McLaren said that there had not been an Eating and Activities Task Force until now, but it was something that was worked out by USAC and the Vice Chancellor's office.
- Sargent asked if this was a guiding document for next year's Council, which Wood confirmed.
- Tuttle said that if the question was whether or not there was a mandated process like a guiding document, then the Constitution on page 19 said that the President was the appointing authority. He said that the basic framework through which the Vice Chancellor worked was that the President shall appoint these individuals, subject to Council's approval. He said that there was no document or no such list. Tuttle said that he was also aware of the fact that there was a place in the Constitution where the duties and powers of the Internal Vice President were outlined, and suggested that perhaps something similar be done for the President.
- Biniek told Vardner said that she understood why he thought the Facilities Commissioner should have input on these appointments, but said she thought it made more sense for all of Council's appointments to be located under one office.
- Neesby said that he saw two arguments, as the President did have the ability to appoint as outlined in the Bylaws. He said that the thing though was that the President had so many appointments to make, it seemed like it made sense to give the Facilities Commissioner the right to make an appointment that so directly applied to that commission.
- Wood clarified that this committee had specifically requested that this be a Presidential appointment.
- Vardner asked if Wood had talked to Dorothy Le and Crystal, to which she said that she had. Vardner said that he had the impression that they thought a presidential appointment was the only kind of a USAC appointment possible. He said that it seemed like this would not be best for the Campus Sustainability Committee, and asked that Wood ask the group to clarify this.
- Sargent clarified that since this was an advisory vote, nothing decided here would be set in stone, as USAC did not have ownership of any of these committees. Wood explained that the groups would be writing the USAC appointments into *their* guiding documents, so it was important to make sure that both USAC and the groups agreed on the process of appointing people to the committees.
- Tuttle said that it was dangerous for any organization to go too far away from the umbrella organization, which would be USAC. He said that another issue was that there was a framework in the Constitution that it was the President who made these appointments. Tuttle said that if the language in the proposed documents were changed such that the President was not making the appointment, then the Bylaws might need to be changed to accommodate this new trend. Tuttle said that this was not an urgent change either, and should not be done at 9:20 in the evening during third week of Spring Quarter by the standing majority of Council.
- Neesby agreed with Wood that this should be postponed so that Wood could talk to the groups and find out more specifically what they wanted.

**D. \*Approval of Drug-Free Schools Committee as USAC Presidential Appointment**

- Pham suggested that the first sentence should end with, "...student alcohol and drug harm reduction *and education*."
- Pham moved and Neesby seconded to approve the Drug-Free Schools Committee as a USAC Presidential Appointment.
- Council voted to approve the Drug-Free Schools Committee as a USAC Presidential Appointment with a unanimous vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

**C. \*Approval of Eating and Activities Taskforce as USAC Presidential Appointment**

- Neesby moved and Sassounian seconded to approve the Eating and Activities Taskforce as a USAC Presidential Appointment.
- Pham said that the Student Welfare Commissioner should have a say in this appointment, suggesting that the language read, "The USAC President *and Student Welfare Commissioner* in conjunction..."
- Council voted to approve the Eating and Activities Taskforce as a USAC Presidential Appointment with a unanimous vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Vardner suggested that next week Council take such action regarding the University Recreation Advisory Board.

**F. Amendment to USA Bylaws Article IV and V**

- Neesby told Council that he had several proposed changes. He said that the first change was changing Article IV.C.1. to read "The committee shall designate a chair by a majority vote, unless USAC has already chosen who will chair the Constitutional Review Committee Meetings." Neesby said that the second change was to Article IV.E.4.a., in which "two thirds of the voting members" would be replaced by "a majority vote." He also said that in Article IV.E.4.b., the second sentence was struck. Neesby said that the third change was to Article V.A.1.a., which would now read "A special meeting of Council shall meet on call of the USA President or upon petition by two-thirds of the voting membership of Council." He said that Article V.A.1.c would also be changed to now read "Each meeting shall constitute a separate session of USAC." Neesby said that the fourth change would be to Article V.A.2.a.ii., where he would correct the grammar by beginning the sentence with "The". He also said that in Article V.A.2.a.iv. "Contingency" would be struck, and in Article V.A.2.a.v., "and" would be struck before "the Internal Vice President", and "and the External Vice President" would be added to the end of the sentence. Neesby said that the fifth change would be to Article V.A.2.b.iii., in which "(e.g., a Resolution, etc.)" would be struck, and "Written backup shall constitute the wording of an amendment, a ballot proposition, a resolution, or anything else that necessitates written documentation for clarification of the action item. This stipulation may be waived by unanimous consent" would be added. Neesby said that the sixth change would be to strike Articles V.A.2.b.vi, V.A.2.b.viii, and V.A.2.b.x. Neesby said that the seventh change would be to Article V.A.3.b., in which "the meeting" would now read "a scheduled meeting", and "for no more than 10 additional minutes" would be struck. He said that a sentence would also be added to the end reading "The only action that can be legally taken in the absence of a quorum is to fix the time to which to adjourn, adjourn, call a recess, and take measures to obtain a quorum. The motion to obtain a quorum is a privileged motion and takes precedence over the motion to recess". Neesby said that the eighth change would be to Article V.A.3.c., which would now read "Discussion on Agenda Items may still occur. Neesby said that the ninth change would be to Article V.A.3.d., which would now read "...for that date, unless a motion is approved by unanimous consent of those present and voting to continue as a "Committee of the Whole." Neesby said that the tenth change would be to Article V.A.5.b., which would now require Resolutions to have at least three sponsors. Neesby said that the eleventh change would be to strike Article V.A.5.d and f. He also said that in Article V.A.5.h., "office/commission involved" would also be replaced by "USAC." Neesby said that the final change would be to Article V.A.7., which would now read "Seven days notice must be given before any Bylaw amendment can be put to a vote by USAC. Notice includes the announcement that the amendment will be introduced, as well as a written copy of the proposed amendment(s)."

- Biniek moved and Pham seconded to approve Neesby's amendments to the Bylaws except the amendments to Article IV.E.4.a. and b.
- Biniek said that office space could be very political, and only requiring a majority vote by Council was dangerous, rather it was important to force a supermajority. Neesby said that all of the other committees were simple majority, and he saw no reason to change that for just OSAC. He said that even finance was simple majority. Biniek countered that perhaps those should be changed to supermajority instead of changing OSAC.
- Sargent said that he thought that for any sort of major decisions there should be a supermajority. He said that he felt that as a whole Council did not pay nearly enough attention to finances, but office space was amazingly political, and perhaps it should even be unanimous.
- Biniek asked what "measures to obtain quorum" meant under Article V.A.3.b. Neesby said that was a Robert's Rules thing, which allowed for Council to recess to find people and make calls in order to establish quorum. He said that a Committee of the Whole could meet for no longer than 10 minutes.
- Kaisey said that this issue should not be taken lightly by saying that a majority's voice was not enough to invoke change.
- Council voted to approve Neesby's amendments to the Bylaws except the amendments to Article IV.E.4.a. and b. with a vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Neesby moved and Kaisey seconded to amend Biniek's motion to include approval of Article IV.E.4.a. and b.
- Biniek said that approval of these guidelines required a 2/3 vote. She also said that the need to compromise on issues was very important. She said that she felt that a lot of these issues should require a 2/3 vote, but now she was feeling like there was hypocrisy at the table. She said that a majority voting on these guiding documents could not serve that purpose. She said that it was irresponsible to rely on a simple majority.
- Neesby withdrew his motion and Kaisey withdrew her second.
- Neesby moved and Smeets seconded to amend Biniek's motion to include approval of Article IV.E.4.a.
- Neesby Called the Question. Wood asked if there were any objections to calling the question. There being none, Council voted to amend Biniek's motion to include approval of Article IV.E.4.a. with a vote of 7 in favor, 5 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- McLaren asked why Neesby had struck the line about tabled items in Article V.A.2.b.x. Neesby said that he was worried about people doing ghost submissions, where people could come to meetings and put things on to the Agenda by untabling them, instead of having it put on the Agenda ahead of time. He said that this would surprise people. Neesby said that tabling had no timeline, while a motion to postpone did.
- Tuttle explained that what Neesby was trying to correct was a loophole in the Bylaws that allowed for a tabled motion to come up for action at a meeting despite the fact that it would not have appeared on the published Agenda. He said that the problem was that people could table items and then bring them back up at a chance meeting when their opponents were not present.
- Tuttle asked why the motion passed earlier, to which Wood said that it was an amendment to the motion, which required a simple majority, but if the vote was the same on the motion itself, then the overall motion would subsequently fail.
- Sargent said that under Article IV.C.1., he would like to see the committee either designate the chair by majority vote or have USAC choose the chair by majority vote. Neesby said that was fine; he was just codifying presidential power. He said that USAC could choose who would chair the committee.
- Neesby moved and Kaisey seconded to amend Article IV.C.1. to "The chair of the Constitutional Review Committee will be forwarded by the USAC President and approved by Council by a majority vote."
- Council voted to amend Article IV.C.1. to "The chair of the Constitutional Review Committee will be forwarded by the USAC President and approved by Council by a majority vote." With a vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Biniek Called the Question on her amended motion.

- Wood objected. She said that the situation was that she had been approached by the majority of Council and told that this was what they were going to do, and it seemed to her like there was an ulterior motive at work.
- Vardner said that he was not a special interest lackey, and any actual changes to space allocations were a big deal. He said that Office Space Allocations were not going to change in any one year. He added that even if a group got a 2/3 vote to get space there might still be issues. Vardner said that the reason he had voted to change this to majority was for consistency, as everything, including finance, was simple majority. He said that this was the only inconsistent thing in the committees.
- Biniek said that Council needed to be conscious of those decisions, and just because something was inconsistent was not a reason to change it, rather things should be changed to be the best version of them.
- Council voted not to approve the amendments with a vote of 7 in favor, 5 opposed, and 0 abstentions.
- Neesby appealed to the Chair, saying that USAC's Bylaws did say what kind of vote was required for them to be amended themselves, which meant that Robert's Rules took effect, which meant that it was a majority vote, and said that the vote that had just been held had been a simple majority.
- Neesby moved to overrule the Chair.
- Wood asked for a motion to recess to research this, and said that it was hypocritical of Neesby to now take this action after making so many Bylaw changes with a 2/3 vote.
- Vardner moved and Pham seconded for Council to take a 10-minute recess.  
*Council went into recess at 9:59 p.m.*

*Council returned to session at 10:09 p.m.*

- Wood said that the Bylaws seemed to indicate that there needed to be a vote by the entire campus, so the overruling of the chair seemed to be prompted by a stride to leave some strange legacy. She said that she thought this was completely ludicrous. Wood said that her ruling was that this motion required a 2/3 vote, and she was sticking with that in this instance. She said that she was doing this to ensure that things were not done for special interest and that things were kept right.
- Nelson said that he did not want to doubt anybody's sincerity, but looking at the United States' Constitution, it was implicit that voting relied on the protection of the minority. He said that he was concerned about representation of the minority on this Council, which had been going on for decades. Nelson said that, like a pendulum, these things swung back and forth, so the minority should always be protected. He said that the Founding Fathers recognized this, and it was also important to keep in mind that these things swung back and forth. Nelson said that at one time or another everyone would be part of the minority, so it was important to think about how one would feel if they belonged to the minority.
- Neesby Called the Question on the Motion to Overrule the Chair.
- Council voted to overrule the chair with a vote of 7 in favor, 5 opposed, and 0 abstentions. The motion to approve the amendments was thus passed, with a vote of 7 in favor, 5 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

#### X. Announcements

- Kaminsky said that earlier in the day, the Campus Events Commission had confirmed the Comedy Central event for the coming weekend. He said that it would be on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3:00 p.m. Kaminsky said that the Jack Benny Award event had gone really well, and told Council that the Short-Takes Film Festival submissions were due soon. Kaminsky also said that the \$2 movies were now free, but Campus Events was asking students to bring canned goods. Kaminsky lastly said that there would be a Sudan rally at the Federal building on Wilshire on Sunday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- Sargent said that Friday was Spring Sing and urged Council to get their tickets. He also said that there would be a VIP reception afterward and that anyone who was interested in attending that reception should let him know.

- Hawkins said that WorldFest was going on this week, and said that it was a big success. He also said that there would be a special WorldFest Eclectic Series in the Kerckhoff Coffeehouse.
- Zai said that Wednesday was Denim Day, and asked Council to wear jeans. She also said that Project Clothesline would be going on.
- Kaisey said that the American Medical Students Association (AMSA) was having a fair on campus tomorrow.
- Malik said that the Mayor's Day of Service was May 7<sup>th</sup>, and said that CSC would provide two buses for interested volunteers.
- Vardner said that next weekend would be the Festival of Books, as well as a UCLA vs. USC track meet on Saturday.

XI. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*Villasin passed around the attendance sheet.*

XII. Adjournment

- Vardner moved by Unanimous Consent and Kaminsky seconded to adjourn.
- Wood asked if there were any objections to approval by Unanimous Consent. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 p.m. by Unanimous Consent.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Michael Keesler  
USAC Minutes Taker