

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL

Tuesday, September 4, 2007  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Rose, Chang, Colosimo, Ducharm, Hotter, Iberti, Jang, McLaren, Mossahebfar, Nelson, Pham, Sajan, Shaw, Simmons, Sobhani, Tanjuaquio, Tressel, Tuttle, Williams

ABSENT: Lyon, Weintraub

GUESTS: Conor Leonard, Teach for American; Jeremiah Garcia, James Birks, and Edgar Alvarez, Queer Alliance; Edward Truong, Daily Bruin; Jennifer Lorch, and Pardis Farhadian

I. A. Call to Order

- Rose called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The Attendance sheet was passed around.*

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Under New Business Items, Colosimo asked that the Presentation of Appeal on Behalf of Queer Alliance be dealt with *before* the item on Approval of SGOF Allocations.
- McLaren said to remove the Approval of the Minutes of August 21, 2007 from the Agenda.
- Rose asked if there was any objection to approval of the Agenda, as amended. There being no objection, the Agenda was approved, as amended, by unanimous consent.

III. Approval of the Minutes

*Approval of the Minutes of August 21, 2007 was removed from the Agenda.*

**May 29, 2007**

- Under Appointments, Tanjuaquio asked that Rose's name be stricken from the names of the officers designated to serve on the Constitutional Review Committee.
- Tanjuaquio moved and Chang seconded to approve the Minutes of May 29, 2007, as amended. There being no objections, the Minutes of May 29, 2007 were approved, as amended.

IV. Public Comments

*There were no Public Comments this week.*

V. Special Presentations

**Teach for America**

- Conor Leonard, Teach for America Recruitment Director, made a brief presentation on their program. (Information on the Teach for America program is included in this Agenda packet.) Leonard wrapped up his presentation by telling Council about the incredible progress that a student he had worked with had made. He said that, during

## VII. Fund Allocations

**\* Contingency Allocations**

- Sobhani said that three Contingency Requests were submitted this week totaling \$8,106.60, and that the Finance Committee was recommending total allocations of \$1,441.22.
- Mossahebfar moved, and Sajan seconded, to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations.
- Council voted to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations with a vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

## VIII. Officer and Member Reports

**President – Gabe Rose**

- Rose said that he has reopened the appointments process and that a revised application form is on the website with a rolling deadline.
- He said his Fun Fact for USAC this week is that UCLA is the largest UC campus in terms of the number of students, but has the smallest-sized campus. Tuttle said it was his understanding that UCSF has a smaller campus than UCLA. Rose said that Tuttle was correct, but pointed out that UCSF enrolls only graduate students.

**Internal Vice President – Dianne Tanjuaquio**

- Tanjuaquio said she has USAC's parking permit application forms for Fall quarter, and said that anyone who wants to purchase a permit should get an application form from her.
- McLaren said that parking permits are issued on a quarterly basis and said she wanted to be sure that Council members understood that each person has to pay for his/her permit. She said the cost per quarter for a Blue Permit is \$225; the cost of a Standard Permit is \$183 per quarter.

## IX. Old Business

*There was no Old Business this week.*

## X. New Business

**\*Presentation of Appeal on Behalf of Queer Alliance**

- Jeremy Garcia, Director of Queer Alliance, presented an Appeal to Council regarding the Finance Committee's denial of funding for the play "N\*gger, Wetb\*ck, Ch\*nk: The Race Play."
- Rose recognized Tanjuaquio to give background information on this matter. He said he would then like to hear from Jeremy Garcia, and then would like to hear from the Finance Committee Chairperson.
- Tanjuaquio said this was the first Appeal that this year's Council had received. She said that, according to USAC's Bylaws, Council is not to consider the merit of the program but is to consider whether the process was fair.
- Garcia handed out copies of two documents he had received: the first a letter from Allan Axibal, a member of the cast of the N\*W\*C play; the second an unsigned Gmail he received from msm10@aol.com dated September 4 at 5:50 p.m.
- Garcia said his first concern was that he had not received any official notification that Queer Alliance was not going to be funded for The Race Play. He said he did receive an email from the Finance Committee which said they do not fund entertainment. Garcia said that the Finance Committee's claim that Queer Alliance's Contingency Application was filed late was flawed.
- Sobhani thanked Garcia for bringing this issue to the table. Sobhani said that the contingency application that he received, which was signed by Garcia, indicates that Garcia applied on July 17<sup>th</sup> for an event that was to be held on July 21<sup>st</sup>. He said that

- make allocations as long as they comply with the relevant Bylaws and guiding documents.
- Williams said that this Appeal seems to have merit and asked if all, or part of, the event could be funded through discretionary funds.
- Simmons said that the actual request for allocation did not come to Student Government Accounting.
- Garcia asked if SGA could issue an account number for reimbursement after an event has taken place.
- Simmons replied that they could.
- Tuttle suggested that it might be worthwhile to have this issue discussed away from the table.
- Nelson suggested that Council might not want to interpret the guidelines too strictly, but instead might consider what they could do to reach an agreement that is suitable for all concerned parties. He said sometimes it's an issue of the Letter of the Law vs. the Spirit of the Law.
- Tuttle remarked that Council might be able to work something out, while being very careful to ensure the integrity of the process.
- Tanjaquio moved, and Mossahebar seconded, to table the matter, with the understanding that it will be brought back to the table at the next USAC meeting. Council approved the motion to table to a time certain with a vote of 8 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention.

**\*Approval of SGOF Allocations**

- Sean Chibnik, Budget Review Director, gave an overview of how the SGOF applications had been scored by the committee members, and said that each office is scored on a point value system to make it as fair as possible.
- Rose said that the point value system is a good one, and pointed out that offices that requested less money actually received a better point value rating. Rose said that one office asked for upwards of \$60,000, maybe thinking they could beat the formula. He said this is what many people tend to do, but said he thought it was kind of a ridiculous way to go. Rose said further that he thinks the SGOF process is flawed and is a waste of time. He said he knew, going in, that the maximum any office would get would be about \$3,000, and that was the way it turned out. Sajan said she felt that all offices asked for a lot more than they needed .... saying it was a "wants vs. needs" mentality. Shaw remarked that the amounts requested had increased a lot over the last couple of years.
- Chibnik said that they'd be able to tier the SOOF allocations.
- Jang moved, and Sajan seconded, to approve the Student Government Operational Fund allocations for 2007-2008.
- Council approved the 2007-2008 Student Government Operational Fund allocations with a vote of 9 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

**How to Access Your SGOF Allocations – Debra Simmons, SGA Manager**

- Simmons referred to the packets she handed out which contained instructions on how officers and commissioners can access their Student Government Operational Fund allocations. She then walked them through all the steps in accessing their funds, and referred them to the *Guide to Student Government Accounting* which is available online on the USAC website. Simmons' presentation included such details as how to fill out a requisition, the time-line for submitting requisitions and where to find their account numbers. She also reminded them that they need to complete forms that are available in her office in Kerckhoff 332 to be able to receive their stipends. She said that, after SGA processes the requisitions, they will put them into the officers' mailboxes. She recommended that they check their mailboxes on a regular basis. Simmons also said that, anyone who hasn't gotten a key for their mailbox yet should pick up a Mailbox Key Request Form in the SGA Office.