

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL

Tuesday May 20, 2008  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Birks, Chacon, Champawat, Chibnick, Garcia, Gonzalez, Hosseini, Kohles, Liu, McLaren, Melgar, Nelson, Reodica, Roth, Shulman, Sien, Sobhani, Tressel, Tsai, Tuttle, Williams

ABSENT:

GUESTS: Michael Brenner, Christine Davila, Ryan Fainstein, Jamel Greer, Jennifer Lorch, Meggan Mcgrath,

I. A. Call to Order

- Hosseini called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The Attendance sheet was passed around.*

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Garcia added his officer report.
- Shulman removed Student Health Advisory Committee from Special Presentations.
- Hosseini added USABOD Programming Fund to Appointments.
- Gonzalez added her officer report.
- Garcia moved Administrative Representatives to the end of Officer and Member Reports.
- Hosseini called for Acclamation. Hosseini 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

**May 14, 2008**

- Reodica asked if there was a possibility of having the minutes sent out with the agenda. McLaren said the current logistics of bringing in the new council has complicated certain processes.
- Birks moved and Tsai seconded to approve the minutes of May 15, 2008.
- Hosseini called for Acclamation. Hosseini asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the minutes of May 15, 2008 were approved, by Acclamation.

IV. Public Comments

- Ryan Fainstein, Megan Mcgrath, and Michael Brenner from the Rally Committee introduced themselves to council. Rally Committee is the group in charge of student

spirit, along with the things associated with it like the Victory Bell and Helmet Car. They hope to work more closely with council over the next year.  
*Nelson said Rally Committee used to be a large presence on campus, but due to the waning of student interest it began to die out. He is glad to see Rally Committee up and running again.*

V. Special Presentations

*There were no Special Presentations this week.*

VI. Appointments

**USA Board of Directors**

- Hosseini said Tsai will be appointed to the USABOD

VII. Fund Allocations

**A. Contingency Allocations for May 20, 2008**

- Sobhani said that there were 11 Contingency Requests submitted this week, totaling \$32859.63. He said he was recommending total allocations of \$4501.48.
- Sobhani recommended to council that those who required funds from Capital should apply for it next week.
- Sobhani moved and Garcia seconded to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations.- Hosseini called for Acclamation. Hosseini asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations were approved by Acclamation.

**B. Academic Success Referendum Fund**

- Garcia said he allocated funds towards an event detailing how to escape the social constraints of prison
- Melgar moved and Chacon seconded to approve the Academic Success Referendum Fund allocation.
- Council approved the Academic Success Referendum Fund allocation with a vote of 11-0-1.

**C. Academic Affairs Mini-Fund**

- Sobhani said the various funds coming after the contingency allocations do not have to be approved by council, but instead they are allocated at each officer's discretion.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

**President – Homaira Hosseini**

Hosseini said the applications for the presidential appointments are online, and the deadline for the applications is May 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Internal Vice President – Evan Shulman**

Shulman said he has not decided whether or not his application process will be rolling or have a specific deadline.

**External Vice President – Jesse Melgar**

Melgar said his staff applications are out. Also, the UC Regents voted to increase fees by 7.4%, with a 10% increase to registration fees.

*Williams asked if UCSA is taking an aggressive stance towards the state budget. Melgar said UCSA does not have enough resources to have their own complex analysis of the state budget.*

**Academic Affairs Commissioner – Jeremiah Garcia**

Garcia said the Academic Affairs mini-grant will be suspended next year because the previous commissioner did not submit an annual report. His staff applications are also out, and he currently has 5 open positions.

*Nelson said this is the first he has heard about the situation.*

**General Representative – Natalie Gonzalez**

Gonzalez said her staff applications are out, and the deadline will be set later this week.

*McLaren asked that everyone with staff applications to email her the forms so she can put them on the website.*

**Administrative Representative – Dr. Berky Nelson**

Nelson said a strange occurrence at the UC Regents meeting was that the Regents voted 5-4 to not freeze fees, but they voted 7-2 to raise the fees. Nelson feels the UC Regents are sympathetic, and they did not want to throw the decision back on the state legislature.

*Melgar said he, along with the UCSA president, met with a UC Regent as a partnership to work together on student issues.*

## IX. Old Business

**A. Retreat Planning**

- Shulman said the weekends of July 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> are the weekends that mostly everyone from council is available. Also, the venue he was trying to get is no longer available, so if anybody has a place of which he or she knows, it would be greatly appreciated.
- Garcia asked at what time they would be leaving on Friday. Shulman said that is still up for discussion.

## X. New Business

**A. Recommendations Re: Reallocation of Surplus**

- Sobhani said the \$80,000.00 from Concerts for Cash was reallocated to surplus from the President's Office, but they can not end the year with that much money in surplus. Sobhani recommended council should allocate the rest of surplus to Campus Events, Might Mic, and JazzReggae, because they deal with the largest events on campus that are still to be put on, and they also deal with a large amount of exposure. Campus Events should get \$15,000.00, Might Mic \$22,000.00, and JazzReggae \$43,000.00.
- Liu moved and Chacon seconded to approve the Reallocation of Surplus.
- Melgar asked if the money can only be used for programming. Sobhani said it can only be used for programming, and since it is the end of the year, it must either be used up now or SGA can face a severe auditing problem.
- Garcia asked if it is possible to put the money away for next year. Sobhani said it must be used up now.
- Tuttle asked why the money can not be put into reserve. Sobhani said there is no reserve function at the end of the year.
- Tuttle said it is troubling that the money can not be saved until next year.
- Reodica said she would like to use some of the money for a textbook scholarship program she wants to implement next year. Sobhani said the money can not be used for programs happening next year.
- Tressel asked if JazzReggae and the Cultural Affairs Commission really needed the money. Chacon said they ran out of money for JazzReggae yesterday.
- Melgar moved and Chacon seconded to recess.
- Hosseini called for Acclamation. Hosseini asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, council recessed at 8:13 pm, by Acclamation.

- Meeting was called back to order at 8:21 pm.
- Williams said SGA has to stop funding programs tonight because they have to prepare the books for auditing. If the money is not spent, it will be put back into surplus, where it will be carried over to next year's surplus. However, in the mean time, it will not be able to be used.
- Sobhani said the money should go to programs that are happening this year.
- Reodica asked by what time the money would have to be spent. Sobhani said May 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Sobhani said he recommended the biggest groups this year to get money from the extra surplus because they were the groups who were shortchanged the most.
- Tressel said textbook scholarships would be best implemented in Fall Quarter where more noise can be raised about them.
- Sobhani said he is not comfortable with doling out the money to various other programs without proper investigation.
- Birks said it would be wise to take care of the pressing matters and see what is left over.
- Chacon said he would like it if some money was left in contingency for others to use.
- Hosseini said council would be able to dole out money but have some left in contingency for others to use. If the big events still need money, they can apply for it.
- Garcia said ISU fell a little short for money on one of their events, and they might need the money
- Roth said she is uncomfortable with allocating money to a student group in that manner.
- Sobhani said ISU just filled out their application today, while JazzReggae and the other events filled them out weeks before. Also by opening the money up to certain groups and not other may alienate some student organizations.
- Chacon made a friendly amendment stating Campus Events is allocated \$15,000.00, Mighty Mic is allocated \$22,000.00, and JazzReggae is allocated \$40,000.00. Garcia objected.
- Garcia said he objected because he does not know where the money will go.
- Kohles said she does not know where the money will go, but if Sobhani is keeping it within USAC, it should be open to all groups.
- Chacon called the question.
- Council called the question with a vote of 10-2-0.
- Council decided to vote by way of roll call.
- Chacon, Gonzalez, Kohles, and Liu voted in the affirmative. Birks and Roth voted in the negative. Garcia, Melgar, Reodica, Shulman, Sien, and Tsai abstained. Council approved the Recommendation Re: Reallocation of Surplus with a vote of 4-2-6.
- Tuttle said Hosseini will have to decide whether or not to count the abstentions. It has been precedent in the past to not count the abstentions. Hosseini said she will not count the abstentions.

**B. Discussion of Transitional Logistics and C. Forms for Office Access, Mailbox Key Requests, and New Hire**

- McLaren passed out the forms pertinent to council regarding sample signatures and locks for the offices.
- Williams said they have had the current lock system in place for only a couple years, and they want to create a safe environment so please avoid propping doors open.
- McLaren told the council members to obtain an email that they can use for USAC emailing services.

XI. Announcements

- Melgar said there will be a presentation from the Students Vote Project next Tuesday meeting. He also said they would like at least one council member to be committed to this project.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The attendance sheet was passed around.*

XIII. Adjournment

- Melgar moved and Gonzalez seconded to adjourn.
- Council adjourned at 9:40 pm with a vote of 12-0-0.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas King  
USAC Minutes Taker