

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday July 30, 2008
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Birks, Chacon, Chibnick, Garcia, Gonzalez, Liu, McLaren, Melgar, Nelson, Shulman, Sien, Sobhani, Tsai, Tuttle, Williams

ABSENT: Champawat, Hosseini, Kohles, Reodica, Roth, Tressel

GUESTS: Sikhander Iqbai

I. A. Call to Order

- Shulman called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The Attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Shulman said, in order to add a Special Order regarding a discussion and approval of extended usage of funds allocated to Sikhander Iqbai and 4 Real Hop, they need a two-thirds vote to add the item to the Agenda.
- Nelson said he supported the proposal originally brought forward. However, Iqbai wanted to add an additional item to the proposal, regarding an event in which Iqbai would like to use allocated funds. Unfortunately, this occurred after he was allocated funds. Nelson continued, saying he felt it would be best to bring this to council instead of going over their heads on the issue. Note that Iqbai will not be asking for additional funds, he will be inserting an additional clause into his proposal, stating an additional item on which the funds already allocated will be used.
- Tuttle said the vote required to put it on the agenda prior to approving the agenda is two-thirds, while it would be three-fourths after the approval of the agenda. He suggests council use a two-thirds vote, as he sees it meeting due diligence.
- Melgar moved and Birks seconded to add Special Order: Sikhander Iqbai and 4 Real Hop to the Agenda.
- Special Order: Sikhander Iqbai and 4 Real Hop was added to the Agenda with a vote of 8-0-0.
- Chacon moved and Sien seconded to approve the Agenda.
- Shulman said the Agenda requires a two-thirds vote to be approved.
- The Agenda was approved with a vote of 8-0-0.

III. Approval of the Minutes

There were no Minutes this week.

IV. Public Comments

There were no Public Comments this week.

V. Special Presentations

There were no Special Presentations this week.

VI. Appointments

Budget Review Director

- Shulman said Brian Tan is currently in Riverside, but is transferring to UCLA in the fall. He drove two hours to UCLA for the interview, and ARC recommended him with a vote of 3-0-0. He has a wealth of experience at UC Riverside in terms of advocating for students, but an issue that came up involved his timetable. While he will be in LA permanently towards the end of August, his presence is required before then. Tan said he would be willing to make the drive out to UCLA for the things required to be done prior to his move. Tan will not be at the council meeting in person, but council will ask him questions and talk to him via internet video chat.
 - Melgar asked how familiar Tan has become with the budget processes at UCLA and which individuals he has talked to concerning it. Tan said, while he has had no direct experience at UCLA, he has engaged in numerous similar processes at Riverside and in the general UC system, but he has not talked to anyone prior to his interview.
 - Sobhani asked how Tan learned about the position since he was not at UCLA while applying for it. Tan said he learned about it through the UCLA representative at the UCSA congress in Berkeley.
 - Sobhani asked if Tan will be available for the August 13 hearing for all student government allocations, and the SOOF allocations of September 8-19. Tan said he will make it to both of them.
 - Sobhani asked Tan how he will train and learn the system at UCLA. Tan said he will be taking a hands on, pragmatic approach to training,
 - Tuttle asked if Tan will not be able to make any of the scheduled events or hearings, and if he can not, to please tell the council. Tan said, despite any extracurricular activities, he can make those events.
 - Shulman said this appointment will only be a summer appointment, and Tan will be up for review at the end of summer.
 - Chacon moved and Tsai seconded to appoint Brian Tan as the Budget Review Director.
 - Council appointed Brian Tan as the Budget Review Director with a vote of 9-0-0.
- [video feed of Brian Tan was ended at this point]

Community Activities Committee

- Shulman said Stephen Acker was approved 3-0-0 by ARC. He is not very knowledgeable, but he would bring a good direction to CAC.
- Acker said his main focus would be connecting the UCLA campus to the greater Los Angeles community, as he feels much of the student body lives as if on an island and not in a city.
- Birks asked if his current three summer jobs will carry over into the school year. Acker said they will most likely not.
- Nelson asked if he will have time during the summer to work on CAC. Acker said he will.
- Gonzalez said Acker seems extremely committed to fulfilling the duties of CAC.
- Sien asked how Acker will create new avenues into the LA community. Acker said he will concentrate on programs that already have a history of working in the community and make them more available to other students.
- Garcia said Acker should seek retention counseling.
- Melgar said he is impressed by the passion Acker exudes for this position.
- Melgar moved and Chacon seconded to appoint Stephen Acker to the Community Activities Committee.

- Council appointed Stephen Acker to the Community Activities Committee with a vote of 9-0-0.
- Shulman said ARC voted 2-0-0 in favor of appointing Dina Mahmood to CAC. She has experience both with applying for funding and reviewing funding, and she hopes to help student organizations build better funding applications; however, they would like to see more ideas for improving outreach. On the most part, she has a lot of experience and she can make the orientation meeting.
- Mahmood said she will make the orientation on August 11th and she will be at the hearing the first week of September.
- Chacon moved and Melgar seconded to appoint Dina Mahmood to the Community Activities Committee.
- Council appointed Dina Mahmood to the Community Activities Committee with a vote of 9-0-0.

Student Initiated Access Committee

- Shulman said ARC recommended appointing Stephanie Roberts to SIAC with a vote of 3-0-0. She is also a transfer from UCSC, but she has extensive experience. She hopes to bring back the report system to ensure students are using their allocated funds properly. She also sites on SHAPE, which could create a conflict of interest. Shulman also said she will not make it to the meeting tonight.
- Garcia said the committee is fine with appointing her, but she would have to excuse herself from voting on funding for projects.
- Melgar said he has worked with her in the past, and she has a strong dedication with plenty of initiative.
- Gonzalez moved and Melgar seconded to appoint Stephanie Roberts to the Student Initiated Access Committee.
- Council appointed Stephanie Roberts to the Student Initiated Access Committee with a vote of 9-0-0.

VII. Fund Allocations

A. Special Order: Sikhander Iqbai and 4 Real Hop

- Iqbai said his organization applied for funding through CAC and was allocated more than enough funding to finish their project. However, they discovered the national hip hop convention will be taking place in Las Vegas, and while they have more than enough funding already allocated to pay for the trip, they would like the approval of council for them to use the funds for the trip.
- Chacon asked when the convention is taking place. Iqbai said it will be occurring on August 1st through the 3rd.
- Gonzalez asked on what the allocated funds will be spent. Iqbai said the funds will only be used for transportation of UCLA students.
- Melgar asked if Iqbai already has a surplus and is asking for authorization to use that surplus. Iqbai said he is.
- Nelson said CAC was the entity that allocated the funds, and since there is no precedent of an administrator going over the student body's head in a case such as this, he felt it important to bring this before council.
- Garcia asked if CAC is a part of SGA. Sobhani says he believes CAC is a part of CSP.
- Shulman said a copy of the original proposal should be sent to CSP.
- Gonzalez asked how much they are expecting to spend on transportation. Iqbai said transportation will cost between \$630 and \$650.
- Garcia moved and Chacon seconded that 4 Real Hop is approved to use their allocated funds in regard to the National Hip Hop Convention in Las Vegas, given that Janice in CSP is forwarded the auxiliary paper work.
- Council approved the use of 4 Real Hop's allocated funds in relation to the National Hip Hop Convention in Las Vegas with the auxiliary paperwork being forwarded to Janice in CSP with a vote of 8-0-1.

B. Contingency Allocations for July 30, 2008

- Sobhani said that there were 5 Contingency Requests submitted this week, totaling \$8941.00. He said he allocated a total of \$1950.00. All of the allocations were done by Sobhani's discretionary authority.
- Shulman asked if they vote on the allocations since they were allocated via Sobhani's discretionary authority. Tuttle said they do not have to, but it is customary to approve the allocations.
- Melgar moved and Chacon seconded to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations.- Council approved the Contingency Allocations for July 30, 2008 with a vote of 9-0-0.

C. Academic Success Referendum Fund

- Garcia said he is going to transfer \$2000.00 out of the Academic Success Referendum Fund to the Student Retention Center and Student Initiated Access Center to help them with summer training.
- Garcia did not transfer any money at the moment.
- Williams asked why he did so. Garcia said he is not comfortable in releasing funding information.
- Melgar asked if they have to approve it or if they get a report later. Garcia he is not sure if its specific to this particular case.

D. Academic Affairs Mini-Grant

There was no business for the Academic Affairs Mini-Grant this week.

E. Travel Grants

There was no business for Travel Grants this week.

F. Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant

There was no business for the Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant this week.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

External Vice President – Jesse Melgar

Melgar said there is a USSA conference in Madison, WI, and there will be thirteen UCLA students going to it. He also met with ORL in reference to the students VOTE! resolution and obtained access to the dormitories for three days.

IX. Old Business

A. Retreat Planning

- Shulman said the place in Marina del Rey did not work out, so it seems that Lake Arrowhead will be the best possibility. Since it is far away, it will probably happen on the Friday and Saturday of the chosen weekend, with workshops being completed prior to leaving. There was a place in Corona that got back to Shulman, but nothing is set in stone yet.
- Garcia said the Lake Arrowhead complex UCLA has a conference center. It might be worthwhile to check out.
- Garcia asked if there would be kosher food. Shulman said there will be.
- Shulman asked if everyone received the form. He also said Lake Arrowhead provides an inconvenient location and logistics, so he would like to have a second choice. Sien recommended the Big Rock Creek Camp in the San Gabriel Valley, where she had her office's retreat.
- Shulman asked if they could fit 32 people at the location. Sien said it is possible, and that they have large grounds to choose from.
- Tsai asked if multiple groups would be there. Sien said the location would warn them if other groups are on the location.

X. New Business

A. Status on Academic Senate Committee Appointments

- Garcia handed out a sheet detailing the different appointments for the Academic Senate Committee.
- Sobhani asked if Garcia was sitting on all of the committees listed under his name. Garcia said he is only sitting on one, and the rest are blank spots.
- Tuttle asked Garcia if he contacted his predecessor to see about past precedents. The precedent last year was she set recommendations under appointments and brought it to council for approval. There is also the question of ARC.
- Garcia said the Academic Senate Committee appointments are not defined as USAC appointments. They do not receive a USA stipend, and the general precedent is for the Academic Affairs Commissioner to appoint them and to bring them to the council table for review.
- Tuttle said in section D.2.b.10 of the bylaws, it says elected USAC officers submitting officers shall furnish them to the council. Tuttle said he believes this is met with Garcia bringing them to the table for review; however, there remains the possibility that someone may try and push the issue, making it mandatory that these appointments get sent to the ARC workload. Tuttle continued, saying it is a close call, but he thinks council can go forward with it.
- Garcia said a remedy to put everyone's mind at ease would be to send them to ARC.
- Tuttle said that would be time consuming.
- Melgar said if there is ambiguous language confusing a person's office, it would be best for that officer to bring a proposal to the table regarding that language.
- Nelson asked what the time line is for getting the appointments verified. Garcia said he hopes to have them approved by the next regularly scheduled meeting, and most definitely in their positions prior to fall quarter. Garcia also said the committee asked Aaron Israel to stick around and help them out.
- Tuttle asked if Israel is still a student. Garcia said he is not. Tuttle said he is not eligible to be a representative because he is no longer a student, and a fine line should be drawn delineating as such. There should be some respectful notification of the student senate that Israel is a former student.
- Garcia said if any council members know anybody who would be interested in Academic Senate Committee, that they should contact him and check out the website.

XI. Announcements

- Gonzalez said she is in the process of compiling an informative email to send out to first years, describing the various ways to get involved in USAC. If any of the council members want some information on the sheet, they should send it to her.
- Shulman said he is considering starting a USAC IVP newsletter for student groups, detailing how they can become more involved with the student government. Also, Shulman asked about the progress for the new USAC website.
- Sobhani said they have been talking to Emerson about it.
- Gonzalez asked if each council member has individual websites.
- Sien said her commission has a new website, but perhaps the best option would be to talk to Emerson.
- Garcia said he signed up for the Freshman Summer Program/Transfer Summer Program (FSP/TSP), either on next Tuesday or the Tuesday after. He will be tabling to recruit the new freshmen and transfer students.
- Tuttle asked if the conference call for next Monday at 5:00pm is still on. Shulman said it is, and the first actual meeting is Monday, August 18th.

- Tuttle said meetings will take place every Monday at 5:00pm starting on August 15th. During the school year, the meeting time will switch back to 7:00 pm every Tuesday in 417 Kerckhoff Hall. Tuttle said its best to stay in that room for council meetings because everyone knows it is the council's meeting location and home territory. However, its doable to make an occasional excursion outside of 417 Kerckhoff.
- Shulman said they may have to change the summer meeting times to 5:00 pm on Monday rather than 7:00 pm.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Gonzalez moved and Sien seconded to adjourn.
- Shulman called for Acclamation. Shulman asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm, by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas King
USAC Minutes Taker