

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

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

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

ABSENT: Kohles, Reodica, Tuttle

GUESTS: Bear Allen-Blaine, Amanda Alameddine, Boris Lipkin, Gene Ivanov, Elisabeth Michaels, Pedro Navam, Kim Sanders, Zafir Shaiq, Arvli Ward, JJ Yang

I. A. Call to Order

- Hosseini called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The Attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Melgar added SOOF under New Business.
- Melgar added Approval of Travel Grant Guidelines under New Business.
- Hosseini moved her officer report before Appointments.
- Melgar moved and Chacon seconded to approve the Agenda.
- 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

A. September 2, 2008

- Gonzalez said her name was misspelled under Contingency Allocations.
- Chacon moved and Roth seconded to approve the Minutes of September 2, 2008, as amended.
- Hosseini called for Acclamation. Hosseini asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Minutes of September 2, 2008 was approved as amended, by Acclamation.

B. August 25, 2008

- Gonzalez said her name was misspelled under Announcements.
- Garcia said the conversation about the Academic Affairs Mini-Grant was actually in reference to Academic Success Referendum Fund.
- Roth moved and Birks seconded to approve the Minutes of August 25, 2008, as amended.
- Hosseini called for Acclamation. Hosseini asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Minutes of August 25, 2008 was approved as amended, by Acclamation.

IV. Public Comments

- Bear Allan-Blaine from OCHC said she hopes to encourage transparency between the Hill and USAC. She would love to help any members of the council with programming, and if they have any questions they should talk to her. She also said any flyer on the Hill has to have the OCHC logo on it, and any publicizing on the Hill has to go through OCHC.
- Birks asked when the OCHC meetings are. Allan-Blaine said they are from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm on Tuesdays.

V. Special Presentations

There were no Special Presentations this week.

VI. Officer and Member Reports

A. President – Homaira Hosseini

Hosseini said she had a phone conversation with a UC Regent concerning system wide conference calls as well as the issues with SFACs statewide. She went on the UCLA Alumni Association Board Retreat on September 19th, and there will be a board meeting on October 10th. Over the retreat they edited their mission statement and made some policy changes. November 5th, there will be the Student Risk Education Committee (SREC) where they will discuss liability issues. She was also in Oakland on September 27th for the Student Mental Health Oversight Committee, where they discussed how the issues of mental health will be presented to President Yudof and Provost Hume. Another interesting development is other UCs like UCLA's life skills course, and they hope to implement similar programs at their campuses. Hosseini also said an issue the UCs have been encountering is tracking student deaths off campus, and if those deaths were related to mental health at all. Other mental health developments include UCLA hiring a psychologist to stay on the Hill after hours, and four students were sent home from UCSB due to mental health issues. There will be a conference call October 23rd where these issues will be discussed with the UC Regents. Hosseini also forwarded 23 appointments to ARC, and she is waiting for those interviews to be scheduled. Lastly, Hosseini talked to Bob Naples about canceling Undie Run. While its logistically complicated to completely shut down the event, they are worried about the danger such an environment can present to students. Hosseini said other potential high-risk events are also being considered, such as Dance Marathon.

Roth said she will be holding office hours for any students who want to come in and work with USAC on the issue of Undie Run.

Gonzalez said they have taken all necessary precautions to ensure the safety of all participating students and Dance Marathon is not being canceled at UCLA. Melgar said he heard many other campuses are canceling their own dance marathons this year.

VII. Appointments

D. Ezra Wolkenfeld, Communications Board

- Shulman said Wolkenfeld could not be here tonight due to the Jewish holiday, but ARC voted 2-0-0 in favor of him. Garcia was not present during ARC's voting.
- Arvli Ward said he has known Wolkenfeld for a while, and he considers him to be very experienced enough for the position.
- Chacon moved and Roth seconded to appoint Ezra Wolkenfeld to Communications Board with the stipulation that Wolkenfeld comes before council.
- Council appointed Ezra Wolkenfeld to Communications Board with a vote of 8-0-2.

- McLaren asked if it is a one year or two year appointment. Hosseini said they are all two year appointments.
- McLaren asked if they are all staggered appointments. Hosseini said they should be.
- Roth asked if there is a stipulation that all presidential appointments have to be present. Shulman said he is not sure about that stipulation, but he invited everyone to come to meeting.
- Hosseini said she believes there is a stipulation that he comes back to be questioned by council, and that it was understood in communication with Wolkenfeld.

G. Jessica Nazar, Communications Board

- Shulman said ARC did not recommend Nazar for the position with a vote of 0-2-0. While she has a lot of experience, they did not think she has a thorough understanding of the position. Also, it seems she could not make it to the council meeting tonight.
- Ward said there are more important things than a thorough understanding of the position. There are training sessions for the Communication Board members, so, as long as she has other experience and ambition for the position, knowledge of the Board will come with time.
- Garcia asked about Comm Board's time line. Ward said they are going to have their second meeting this coming Monday.
- Gonzalez said she sat in on the ARC meeting, and she thought Nazar did not show any knowledge of the position, financial and budgeting issues, or the problems that Comm Board will be facing this year.
- Sobhani said she focused on the news magazine, which is not a very large focus.
- Hosseini said she feels Nazar's focus on the news magazine is quite pertinent to Comm Board.
- Gonzalez said Nazar did not show a firm understanding of student media as a whole.
- Roth said this particular situation would benefit if Nazar was present in the room, and she does not know why council is moving forward with an appointment when the applicant is not present.
- Garcia concurred with Roth's sentiment, saying, with the exception of religious holidays, he does not feel quite comfortable moving forward with absent applicants.
- Hosseini said they should table Nazar, Tim Wen, and Alisa Ahmadian since they will not be at meeting tonight.
- Gonzalez said I.D.2.b.3 of the USAC bylaws states all appointments for positions receiving a stipend funded by membership fees must be in front of USAC for approval.
- Garcia said he feels Wolkenfeld's vote should not be stricken due to the nature of his absence. Also, there is not time frame as to when the appointees have to be in front of council.
- Melgar disagreed with Garcia and said council should follow the bylaws.
- Hosseini said council should discuss the matter after the other appointments.

A. Laila Fahimuddin, Student Fee Advisory Committee

- Shulman said ARC recommended Fahimuddin with a vote of 2-0-0. She has experience advocating for students, and she has good ideas as to integrating the committee into the general lives of students.
- Melgar asked her experience with student fee issues. Fahimuddin said she has worked in the EVP's office as well as Bruin Lobby Corps. She was also the Financial Aid Director for the EVP's office.
- Melgar moved and Chacon seconded to appoint Laila Fahimuddin to the Student Fee Advisory Committee.
- Council appointed Laila Fahimuddin to the Student Fee Advisory Committee with a vote of 9-0-1.

B. "Gene" Ivanov, Wooden Center Board of Governors

- Shulman said Ivanov was the Vice Chair last year, and he is reapplying because his term is over. He has a lot of experience, as well as some good ideas to reduce congestion in the Wooden Center.
- Gonzalez asked Ivanov about his goals for the position. Ivanov said he hopes to establish satellite facilities elsewhere on campus, such as the one they established at the Weyburn graduate housing.
- Gonzalez moved and Chacon seconded to approve Gene Ivanov to the Wooden Center Board of Governors.
- Council approved the appointment of Gene Ivanov to the Wooden Center Board of Governors with a vote of 10-0-0.

C. Amanda Alameddine, Student Conduct Committee

- Shulman said ARC did not approve Alameddine with a vote of 0-1-1. She has experience, but she did not display much knowledge about the position.
- Alameddine said she was not completely researched on the committee at the time of the interview, but she has obtained more knowledge about the position since then. She said she can give a fair and unbalanced opinion on the committee, and she has experience working with different organizations. She has also researched different cases put forth the Student Conduct Committee.
- Tressel asked what kind of cases she encountered in her research. Alameddine said she found alcohol related cases, as well as issues of plagiarism.
- Gonzalez asked Alameddine about the importance of having a student representative on the committee. Alameddine said it is important to have a variety of opinions from different people, whether it is staff, faculty, or students.
- Roth asked Alameddine why she is interested in this specific committee. Alameddine said she would like to become more involved on campus and in student life.
- Chacon asked Alameddine for a goal or vision she has for the committee. Alameddine said she would like the committee to get involved with the career fairs around campus.
- Hosseini said she only had the paper applications, and while she was not present during the ARC interview, she feels Alameddine took the initiative to research the committee.
- Birks moved and Tsai seconded to appoint Amanda Alameddine to the Student Conduct Committee.
- Council did not appoint Amanda Alameddine to the Student Conduct Committee with a vote of 4-1-5.

E. Boris Lipkin, Transportation Service Advisory Board

- Shulman said ARC voted 2-0-0 to approve Boris Lipkin. He has knowledge of the board itself, as well as setting and reviewing policy. He also shares the views of a majority of the board.
- Hosseini asked Lipkin if he has any new ideas for the Board. Lipkin said he would like to expand shuttle routes and hours, as well as getting bike racks installed on shuttles. He would also like to get more late night service between Hilgard and Gayley.
- Roth said she is interested in working on the late night van shuttle.
- Chacon moved and Sien seconded to appoint Boris Lipkin to the Transportation Service Advisory Board.
- Council appointed Boris Lipkin to the Transportation Service Advisory Board with a vote of 10-0-0.

H. Kim Sanders, Campus Sustainability Committee

- Shulman said ARC voted 2-0-0 to approve the appointment of Kim Sanders. She was a member of the committee, and she has a lot of working knowledge about it.
- Gonzalez said she sat in on this interview, and she was impressed by the ability of Sanders.
- Sanders said there are two seniors on the committee at the moment, and it might be wise to make both appointments two years long and staggered.

- Birks moved and Chacon seconded to appoint Kim Sanders to the Campus Sustainability Committee.
- Council approved the appointment of Kim Sanders to the Campus Sustainability Committee with a vote of 10-0-0.

J. Budget Review Committee Reappointments

- Hosseini said they have to reappoint Brian Tan as Budget Review Director (BRD) because he was appointed during the summer.
- Sobhani said Tan is a good BRD. He works hard, is willing to learn, and is accessible.
- Chacon asked if Tan should be at the council meeting.
- Hosseini asked if ARC discussed the reappointment process.
- Melgar said it would be wise to suspend the bylaws before going through with the reappointment of Tan.
- Hosseini asked Sobhani if he needs a BRD soon. Sobhani said they have hearings next week before Tuesday, so he does.
- Chacon moved and Liu seconded to reappoint Brian Tan as Budget Review Director.
- Council reappointed Brian Tan as Budget Review Director with a vote of 8-0-2.

- Hosseini said Zafir Shaiq was appointed to SFAC under the stipulation that he appears before council. He is here tonight to answer any questions council may have.
- Shaiq said SFAC had their orientation last week, and he got a good idea of what is expected of him and what he can do on the committee.
- Melgar asked if Shaiq had prior experience dealing with student fee issues. Shaiq said he has applied for funding from SFAC before while working in CPO. He understands the services funded by SFAC.
- Shulman said Shaiq was recommended 3-0-0 by ARC, as he is experienced with student fees and student advocacy, and he only has one other time commitment. He said Shaiq would also like to increase availability and oversight for the fee waiver program.
- Chacon moved and Roth seconded to recess at 8:08 pm.
- Hosseini called for Acclamation. Hosseini asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was recessed at 8:08 pm, by Acclamation.
- The meeting was called back to order at 8:15 pm.
- Hosseini said the record should reflect Ezra Wolkenfeld was not able to come to meeting due to a religious holiday, and his appointment is currently provisional until he can come before council. The appointments of Jessica Nazar, Tim Wen, and Alisa Ahmadian will be tabled until next week, when they will hopefully be present.
- Melgar said the approval of Wolkenfeld to Communications Board is due to a timely issue, and not as a precedent for future councils.

VIII. Fund Allocations

A. Academic Success Referendum Fund

There was no business for the Academic Success Referendum Fund this week

B. Academic Affairs Mini-Grant

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

C. Travel Grants

There was no business for the Travel Grants this week.

D. Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant

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

IX. Officer and Member Reports

Internal Vice President – Evan Shulman

Shulman said he is still looking for staff. Also, the Alumni Center is putting on a leadership workshop on November 13th. He had a meeting with the External Sustainability Director, and he is excited to work with the sustainability committee. In addition, he attended the Shared Governance Conference, which was useful. This Thursday, Shulman will be having a meeting with D'artagnan Scorza. He has also been running into an issue about the communal office space, as some groups want to reserve it.

Hosseini said a calendar could be put up where students can sign up to reserve the room. Chacon recommended that groups can only sign up to a week in advance to prevent taking the space for extended periods of time. Melgar said there should be an individual in charge of that calendar, like a paid secretary.

External Vice President – Jesse Melgar

Melgar said he had his first staff meeting this week. He also thanked council for all the help in getting students registered to vote, as they registered over 2100 people so far. His staff retreat will be October 10th.

X. Old Business

A. Constitutional Review Committee (CRC)

- Shulman said they will be discussing the changes suggested by Roth to OSAC and the changes suggested by Kohles to ARC.
- Roth said she does not have the documents Kohles submitted.
- Tressel asked if IV.C is in reference to the application student groups have to fill out. Roth says it is. Hosseini said it should read the "The application form for student groups."
- Gonzalez said the application should be approved by a two-thirds vote, rather than a majority. Melgar agreed.
- Gonzalez said she feels OSAC would be too in favor of organizations already with office space due to the provisions proposed in IV.E. Birks disagreed, saying the provisions of IV.E are a courtesy to groups planning in the long run. Also, it is a measure of preventing what has happened in the past. Birks asked what happens when a signed notice is not obtained from a student group.
- Roth said some procedure of investigation would be in order if a signed notice is not obtained from a group. There should be a provision for unreachable groups.
- Gonzalez said OSAC is now made responsible for groups with office space. She then asked if there will be such responsibilities for groups without space. Roth said groups without space can be notified through CSP. The provision in regard to groups with space is meant as a back up due to glitches that occurred last year.
- Melgar said there should be some sort of provision in the guidelines that states groups have to turn in the form on time to OSAC, so as not to overburden OSAC.
- Roth said there needs to be some sort of confirmation that groups have heard from OSAC.
- Melgar said it may be a good idea to have groups fill out the notice at group registration.
- Shulman said council could push to have a generic form included in the group registration packet.
- Nelson said he is a little wary of doing this notice at the beginning of the year. It might be better to do the notification process two weeks prior to the application process. He also said it might be possible to put return tags on emails, so CSP would be know which groups got the email.
- Tsai said putting notices on doors might be too dangerous, as some may get torn down accidentally.
- Gonzalez said none of these changes should be made to the guidelines without a chair. Also, there is no committee to put forth any changes to council. Gonzalez continued,

- saying she feels it may not be within USAC's jurisdiction to make changes to the OSAC guidelines.
- Hosseini said the logic behind these changes is to fix the problems of last year, so this year's committee has something with which to work.
 - Roth said there may be some sense in making a flyer about OSAC.
 - Williams said council should not lose focus of getting the OSAC process along. He said they should not get tied up in measures that may be overkill.
 - Tressel said council should work to be proactive.
 - Roth said the consensus was last year's OSAC had a lot of problems. Now, council is trying to fix those problems. When a committee is appointed, they can suggest further changes to the document. Roth continued, reading the changes to the guidelines.
 - Melgar said IV.F allows for less than par groups to latch onto stronger groups for office space, and it should be taken out completely. Gonzalez agreed.
 - Hosseini said the second sentence of IV.F.2 should be removed, as that effect can be attained without the extra wording.
 - Gonzalez said J.2 should not be removed, as extra locker space means OSAC should look for more groups who need the space.
 - Roth said she decided to put that sentence back in, as extra space that is not being sought should be given to groups who want it.
 - Shulman said he feels every group that needs locker space should get it, but he does not know how for long that process should go.
 - Hosseini said they discussed the issue, and the phrase "unless extra space available" should be inserted.
 - Williams said council may want to leave that clause in there, as it puts a burden on OSAC to go out and find more groups to fill that space. However, they should remove the provision that OSAC can allocate multiple spaces to one group.
 - Gonzalez said she does not want to see a situation where a group is allocated more than one locker space while some groups do not get any.
 - Roth said last year there were 12 lockers that were not allocated. She said such resources allowed to lie fallow is a disservice to the student groups who could benefit from the lockers, but can not use them due to restrictions. The changes proposed allow for OSAC to find more groups to fill those lockers, while also allocating them to other groups who may need multiple lockers.
 - Gonzalez said if there is extra space, OSAC is not looking hard enough.
 - Hosseini said she does not think OSAC should have that huge of a burden.
 - Shulman asked if IV.N allows for an opportunity for every group to go before OSAC. Roth said that is what IV.N accomplishes.
 - Gonzalez asked why IV.S was changed to three weeks. Roth said council can rarely make decision in one week.
 - Hosseini asked if council would like to see IV.C changed to a two-thirds vote. Gonzalez, Shulman, and Melgar agreed that it should be two-thirds.
 - Garcia said he is wary of having a high majority due to the history of walk-outs at the council table.
 - Hosseini asked for a quick vote of preference for majority or two-thirds vote in regard to IV.C of the OSAC guidelines. Five members want a majority vote, two members want a two-thirds vote, and three members abstained.
 - Hosseini said the second sentence of IV.E should be removed. A sentence detailing a flyer being handed out at CSP registration should be inserted.
 - Roth asked if the first sentence should be kept. Garcia said it is overkill, but it is better to be safe rather than not.
 - Hosseini said the second part of IV.F.2 is removed. Hosseini also said IV.J.2 should be kept in, but with the phrase "unless extra space is made available" attached.
 - Birks moved and Chacon seconded to approve the OSAC Guidelines, as amended.
 - Council approved the OSAC Guidelines as amended with a vote of 6-1-3.

XI. New Business

A. SOOF

- Hosseini said last week, they discussed a committee that would pursue changes for the SOOF rubric. She asked if anyone would like to be a part of that committee.
- Birks, Chacon, Garcia, and Hosseini all want to be a part of said committee.
- Sobhani said they should discuss the topic after the hearings.

C. Travel Grant Guidelines

- Melgar said this is a timely issue, as groups are beginning to ask for the funding. He sent out the updated guidelines, and the changes he made are in red.
- Melgar said the guidelines state the awards will differ per application, as members of the same group may have different applications. Also, the cap of \$500.00 that Justin Hotter set has been a good cap. Also, the guidelines guarantee that each organization will get some kind of funding.
- Tsai asked if applications must be submitted two weeks prior. Melgar said they must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the date needed.
- Tsai asked how Melgar judges applications from the same organization. Melgar said three people per organization can apply for each conference the group attends. It works on a first-come first-serve basis; if there are extenuating circumstances, he will bring the issue to the table.
- Chacon moved and Birks seconded to approve the Travel Grant Guidelines. Council approved the Travel Grant Guidelines with a vote of 10-0-0.

XII. Appointments

I. Tim Wen, Student Conduct Committee

- Shulman said Wen had class until 9:00 pm. ARC recommended Wen with a vote of 2-0-0. He has past experience on the Hill, and he has great knowledge of the current committees. The only issue is he will be in Africa for the entire month of February.
- Chacon moved and Sien seconded to appoint Tim Wen to the Student Conduct Committee.
- Council appointed Tim Wen to the Student Conduct Committee with a vote of 8-0-2.

XIII. Announcements

- Tsai said there is a blood drive this week, and tomorrow is the last day.
- Garcia said the Vice Provost will be making a special presentation on WASC Reaccreditation October 14th.
- Sobhani said there are still spots open for the Financial Committee.
- Gonzalez said Reodica and herself have to be reappointed to BRC.
- Birks moved and Chacon seconded to reappoint Natalie Gonzalez to the Budget Review Committee.
- Council reappointed Natalie Gonzalez to the Budget Review Committee with a vote of 10-0-0.
- Hosseini said Reodica will be reappointed when she is present at meeting.

XIV. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XV. Adjournment

- Shulman moved and Chacon seconded to adjourn.

- Hosseini called for Acclamation. Hosseini asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm, by Acclamation.

XVI. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas King
USAC Minutes Taker