

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

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

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

ABSENT: Champawat, Melgar, Nelson, Williams

GUESTS:

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

- Sobhani added USAC Web Site under New Business.
- McLaren added USAC Blogs under New Business.
- Reodica added an officer report.
- Roth added CRC Changes under Old Business.
- Tuttle asked if they are working from online copies of the Agenda. Shulman said everyone should have a hard copy.
- Shulman added Isaac Rose for Wooden Center Board of Governors, Stefanie Ju for Financial Aid Policy Committee, Haseeb Bajwa for Financial Aid Policy Committee, and Amir Goodarzi-Panah for Judicial Board under Appointments.
- Birks moved and Reodica seconded to approve the Agenda, as amended.
- 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

There were no Minutes this week.

IV. Public Comments

- Sean Carroll, the organizer for CALPIRG, updated council on the various projects on which they are working. He invited all council members to join with CALPIRG on the various events they are working.

V. Special Presentations

A. USAC Blogs – Mikal Saltveit

- Saltveit said he will be adding blogs to the USAC websites this year as a method for council members to update information online quickly. He told members to get all of the necessary information to McLaren.
- Chacon asked if council members will be able to control the content and design of the blogs. Saltveit said council members will be able to control the template. Saltveit said council members just need to go through him for the initial set up, then they have freedom of control.
- Saltveit said he emailed everyone the information.

B. Teach for America – Jesse Melgares

- Melgares gave a presentation about Teach for America, including the goals of the program and what activities participants would engage themselves.
- Shulman asked about the balance between participants choice of region and where they are placed. Melgares said there are twenty-nine different regions in the program, and placement can be tricky depending on the needs of each region.
- Reodica asked if the program provides any training. Melgares says there is an intense residency during the summer.

C. Dribble for the Cure – Suzy Howell, UCLA Alumni Association Rep

- Howell said they will be putting on the first Dribble for the Cure. They would like to have different groups of students collect pledges and participate, dribbling around campus, meet Ben Howland, win prizes, etc. All of the money goes to Mattel's Children's Hospital.
- Tsai asked about the route. Howell said the route is measured off to 1,000 dribbles.

VI. Appointments

A. Alisa Ahmadian, Campus Sustainability Committee

- Shulman said ARC approved her 2-0-0. Shulman said she is currently a co-chair of E3 and she works with Kim Sanders.
- Tressel asked how the committee will work with TGIF. Ahmadian said she will be performing a report on TGIF soon.
- Gonzalez moved and Reodica seconded to approve Alisa Ahmadian to the Campus Sustainability Committee.
- Council approved the appointment of Alisa Ahmadian to the Campus Sustainability Committee with a vote of 11-0-0.

B. Stephanie Ju, Community Service Mini-Fund Committee

- Shulman said Stephanie Ju was recommended with a vote of 1-0-1. Shulman said Ju had adequate knowledge of the position with experience in allocating funds.
- Gonzalez asked about Ju's understanding of the position. Ju said she would have to allocate money across a wide group of students who need it.
- Chacon asked about Ju's goals for the position. She said she hopes to represent her peers' voices.
- Tuttle said a good idea would be surveying the reasons why some kids leave UCLA and determining if there is a way to fix retention.
- Chacon moved and Birks seconded to approve Stephanie Ju to the Community Service Mini-Fund Committee.
- Council approved the appointment of Stephanie Ju to the Community Service Mini-Fund Committee with a vote of 8-0-3.

C. Isaac Rose, Wooden Center Board of Governors

- Shulman said Rose was approved 2-0-0 by ARC for the position. He said Rose has a good working knowledge of the board as well as experience allocating money with Sobhani last year.

- Chacon moved and Shulman seconded to approve Isaac Rose to the Wooden Center Board of Governors.
- Council approved the appointment of Isaaco Rose to the Wooden Center Board of Governors with a vote of 11-0-0.

D. Amir Goodarzi-Panah, Judicial Board

- Shulman said ARC voted 3-0-0 to approve Goodarzi-Panah for Judicial Board. Shulman said Goodarzi-Panah is well versed in the Judicial Board guidelines and has experience in issue resolution.
- Tuttle asked Goodarzi-Panah if he understands his reputation is at stake if he abuses his position on Judicial Board. Goodarzi-Panah said he understand this.
- Tuttle asked Goodarzi-Panah if he is ready to say “no” to his closest friends if his position requires it. Goodarzi-Panah said he is ready.
- Tuttle asked if he sees any situation where he may have to recuse himself. Goodarzi-Panah said he does not foresee any such situation.
- Shulman moved and Chacon seconded to approve Amir Goodarzi-Panah to Judicial Board.
- Council approved Amir Goodarzi-Panah to Judicial Board with a vote of 10-0-1.
- Council tabled the appointment of Haseeb Bajwa for Financial Aid Policy Committee.
- Gonzalez asked Hosseini how many more appointments she needs to make. Hosseini said she needs to make about 11 more.
- Gonzalez asked about the OSAC appointments. Hosseini said she first wants to see the OSAC Guidelines shape up.
- Tuttle asked if summer appointments need to be redone. Hosseini said ARC is aware.
- Kohles asked if positions are being advertised. Hosseini said all positions are being advertised in the Daily Bruin.
- Tuttle said he received an email from Mike Cohn describing a special task force called Intergroup Relations, and he would like to know if USAC would like a representative on it.
- Shulman asked if the TGIF position is formed yet. Hosseini said it is, and she has a forwarded application.

E. Scott Harris, Academic Senate, Intercollegiate Athletes

- Harris said he is a fourth year international economics major with experience and interest in working in the field of sports.
- Birks asked Harris if he had any goals set out for the committee. Harris said he wants to ensure academics are not placed on the back burner for athletes.
- Birks moved and Reodica seconded to approve Scott Harris to Intercollegiate Athletes.
- Council approved Scott Harris to Intercollegiate Athletes with a vote of 10-0-1.

F. Kimia Ghalambor, Academic Senate, Committee on Planning and Budget

- Ghalambor said she is currently studying business economics, accounting, and french, and she has experience working for accounting firms.
- Hosseini asked Ghalambor what she hopes to bring to the committee. Ghalambor said she hopes to see diversity and quality preserved at UCLA.
- Shulman moved and Chacon seconded to approve Kimia Ghalambor to the Committee on Planning and Budget.
- Council approved Kimia Ghalambor to the Committee of Planning and Budget with a vote of 11-0-0.

G. Haseeb Bajwa, Financial Aid Policy Committee

- Shulman said ARC recommended Bajwa with a vote of 3-0-0. Bajwa has a good grasp on roles of the committee as well as any logistical matters.

- Gonzalez asked Bajwa about roles of the committee. Bajwa said the committee advises the UCLA Board about issues dealing with financial aid, so as to fairly serve the students and reach a wider demographic.
- Gonzalez asked Bajwa about any experience working with the administration. Bajwa worked with administration through the Incarcerated Youth Program.
- Tuttle told Bajwa one area of interest would be to survey students who leave UCLA prematurely and for what reasons, so the university can work to correct those problems.
- Roth moved and Reodica seconded to approve Haseeb Bajwa to the Financial Aid Policy Committee.
- Council approved Haseeb Bajway to the Financial Aid Policy Committee with a vote of 10-1-0.

VII. Fund Allocations

A. Contingency Allocations

- Sobhani said that there were 3 Contingency Requests submitted this week, totaling \$1830.00. He said he was recommending total allocations of \$1615.00. He said they were via his discretionary authority.

B. Academic Success Referendum Fund

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

C. Academic Affairs Mini-Grant

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

D. Travel Grants

There was no business for the Travel Grants this week.

E. Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant

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

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President – Homaira Hosseini

Hosseini said the Chancellor is building a relationship with Robert F. Kennedy High School, a school currently being built in Los Angeles. Also, they talked about SOCC. She also met with GSA's External Vice President to discuss a way to engage the UC Regents in a forum where they are more inclined to respond to students' comments and issues. Hosseini will also be collaborating with GSA and USAC to work on a vote coalition for the election. There was a meeting from 4:00pm to 5:30pm with Lester Montes in Murphy A244 about the WASC Accreditation. They discussed certain issues, like lack of money and resources for student groups. Lastly, she went to the Sunset Rec Challenge Course with the staff of the IVP and AAC offices on October 4th, 2008.

Internal Vice President – Evan Shulman

Shulman said the USAC website currently does not have anyone's bios uploaded. He also talked with Jenny from the Daily Bruin, who mentioned each office should have an advertising representative to talk to the Daily Bruin. Also he has been working on creating a USAC presence on the internet through things like Facebook groups and Google calendars. ARC is currently going over the summer appointments. Thursday, November 13th, from 3:00pm to 7:00pm, there will be a Leadership 101 workshop for student leaders in the James West Alumni Center. There will also be a Sustainability Fair next Wednesday, October 22nd, from 11:00am to 2:00pm in Bruin Plaza. It will be put on by the General Facilities with Transportation.

Financial Supports Commissioner – Elaine Reodica

Reodica said she forwarded her textbook proposal to ASUCLABOD, where it received unanimous support from the Service Committee. The Finance Committee tabled it to this month's meeting, and once both committees have looked at it, the proposal will reach the actual BOD. Also, the applications will be out week 4, with publicity between weeks 4 and 9. The drawing and awarding of scholarships will be during finals week.

Academic Affairs Commissioner – Jeremiah Garcia

Garcia said he has to attend the Executive Board meetings of Academic Senate, and he forwarded to council the agenda and minutes of their meeting last Thursday. Garcia said the chair of Academic Senate can appoint faculty to TSAB based on outside donations, which is an area that might interest council.

Shulman said he is worried about the possibility that private donations may injure the public mission of the university.

Garcia said they have also been going over the psychiatric withdrawal proposition. He said the proposition describes an involuntary withdrawal of students for psychiatric reasons, but many people spoke out against it due the concerns the actual proposal raised. The document would give the university the power to withdraw a student based on any number of reasons that are not clearly defined in the document.

Kohles asked if it was proposed last year and is now currently being voted on. Garcia said it is.

Garcia said mostly everyone is agreed in responding to UCOP with a letter stating they are unhappy with the wording and message of the document.

Reodica said council should be more educated about this subject and believes it would be a good idea to bring in administrators to talk about it.

Garcia said another problem was that the student representative to the committee last year was not present at all, and he will look into why. Also, the document does not seek to help students with their issues, but instead stigmatizes them to a point where students may not actively seek help.

Alumni Representative – Willard Tressel

Tressel said he booked Tom Soto to speak at the council meeting on October 28th, 2008. He is a venture capitalist who works with issues regarding green technology and the environment.

IX. Old Business**A. CRC Changes**

- Shulman said the changes council will be discussing this week pertain to ARC.
- Kohles said the first change is to clarify what kind of meeting it is by amending I.D.2.b.(10) and adding "of the ARC" to the end of the section. The second change is to ensure that every member of ARC gets a written copy of the application before deliberations by adding I.D.2.b.(11), reading "The Committee Chairperson shall furnish a written application for each recommended applicant to each member of the ARC not later than noon (12:00pm) one day prior to the meeting of the ARC. Kohles said it originally stated a time of two days, and she believes it should still be two days. The third change sets a time limit by which council is supposed to be notified of ARC meetings and their locations by amending I.D.2.b.(5).(b) to read "Notifying the committee members and Council of designated meetings and locations not later than noon (12:00pm) one day prior to the meeting of the ARC. The fourth change delineates that council will be furnished with the written application by amending I.D.2.b.(5).(c) to read "Furnishing a written application for each recommended applicant to the Committee (see I.D.2.b.(11)). The fifth change is the addition of a sub-operative clause under I.D.2.b.(5) to read "Providing the USAC with a written

- application for each recommended applicant no later than noon (12:00pm) one day prior to the USAC meeting where the applicants candidacy will be discussed and voted upon.”
- Hosseini asked if there was a 6th amendment. Roth said she forgot to retype it. It would have been the addition of I.D.2.b.(12) stating digital documentation may qualify as a written copy for sustainability reasons, and the email inbox may be substituted for a mailbox.
 - Kohles asked why the time was shortened to one day. Roth said it gives the ARC Chairperson time to forward the email to all committee members. Kohles said the intention was for the Chair to immediately forward the application once it was received.
 - Hosseini said that by not allowing that day for the Chair to forward the application, it leaves open numerous chances for a bylaw to be unintentionally broken.
 - Kohles said ARC members did not have any time to read the applications under the old bylaws.
 - Shulman said there are rarely any times, save spring quarter, when there is a rush to read applications.
 - Birks moved and Kohles seconded to approve the changes to the ARC bylaws as outlined by Kohles earlier.
 - Shulman said the one day gap provides leeway for applicants who may have issues in making an appointment.
 - Gonzalez said the change offered by Kohles is protecting the whole of ARC in their decision making.
 - Reodica called the question.
 - Council voted 6-2-3 to vote on the changes to the ARC bylaws.
 - Hosseini said the changes also include the 6th amendment (I.D.2.b.(12)) not included in the original handout.
 - Tuttle said the chair ruled earlier that only votes in the affirmative or negative will be counted, and the chair may vote to create the necessary threshold of a two-thirds majority.
 - Council voted to approve the bylaw changes with a vote of 7-2-2.

X. New Business

A. USAC Website

- Sobhani said last year's council approved money to improve the USAC website. Emerson quoted USAC at \$1500.00, and there is some left over at \$1912.85. They gave him the green light to design the site but never formalized a method to pay him. The council just needs a formal motion to pay him.
- Hosseini asked if the amount coming out of the account would be \$1500.00. Sobhani said it is.
- Garcia asked about the rest of the money. Sobhani said it would stay in the account for site maintenance.
- Chacon moved and Sien seconded to approve the payment of \$1500.00 to Emerson Taymor for designing the website.
- Council approved the payment of \$1500.00 to Emerson Taymor with a vote of 10-0-1.
- Sobhani said he and BLT have 5 applications for the 5 open spots on Finance Committee. They will come forward with a Vice Chair next week.
- Tuttle asked about the maintenance agreement of the site. Sobhani said Tony is designated.

XI. Announcements

- Tsai said he will be working Blue & Gold week with Sien and Chacon next week from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

- Roth said there will be another CRC meeting this week, either Thursday or Friday. She will post the agenda ahead of time.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Tsai moved and Birks 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 9:41 pm. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas King
USAC Minutes Taker