

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday November 18, 2008
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Champawat, McLaren

GUESTS: Clarissa Chen, Flavia de la Fuente, Aresha Martinez, Judith Perera, Bailey West, JJ Yang

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

- Melgar added Bruin Lobby Corps to Special Presentations.
- Sobhani added Financial Committee under Appointments
- Melgar moved and Sien 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

- Flavia de la Fuente said there will be a screening tomorrow of *Burma: Land of Fear* from 7:00pm to 9:00pm in the Kerckhoff Art Gallery. She said this is especially important because, unlike Darfur, events in Burma tend to not be widely known.

V. Special Presentations

A. Bruin Lobby Corps

- Stephanie Perez from the Bruin Lobby Corps introduced herself and spoke about an event they are hosting the next day. It is an all organization issues forum, where student groups and leaders are invited to come out and learn about issues on campus. Perez asked that council spread the word to the various groups they are a part of.

VI. Appointments

A. Finance Committee

- Sobhani said Ramin Savar is the potential appointee for the Financial Committee. Savar said he is involved with off campus organizations, but he would like to get more involved with finance.
- Reodica asked Savar how he heard about the position. Savar said he learned about it through a Facebook listing, and he talked to a close friend of his.
- Shulman asked Savar about his goals for the committee. Savar said he would like more people to know how to get funds.
- Chacon asked about Savar's opinion regarding the increase in organizations applying for funding without an increase in overall funds available. Savar said he is not very widely knowledgeable about this crisis.
- Hosseini asked about Savar's experience. Savar said he worked for his dad's private investing business as well as a commercial real estate firm.
- Gonzalez moved and Tsai seconded to approve the appointment of Ramin Savar to the Finance Committee.
- Council approved the appointment of Ramin Savar to the Finance Committee with a vote of 10-0-2.

B. Community Service Mini-Fund Committee

- The first applicant for the Community Service Mini-Fund Committee was Vinh Truong. He majors in chemical engineering, and his main goal is to give back to high schoolers so they have a shot at getting into college.
- Reodica moved and Birks seconded to approve Vinh Truong to the Community Service Mini-Fund Committee.
- Council approved the appointment of Vinh Truong to the Community Service Mini-Fund Committee with a vote of 12-0-0.
- The second applicant for the Community Service Mini-Fund Committee was Tammy Lin, a fourth year political science and geography student. She has worked a lot with environmental organizations as well as the EVP's office, and she would like to see other people able to carry out their projects for the community.
- Birks moved and Melgar seconded to approve Tammy Lin to the Community Service Mini-Fund Committee.
- Council approve the appointment of Tammy Lin to the Community Service Mini-Fund Committee with a vote of 12-0-0.

VII. Fund Allocations

A. Contingency Allocations

- Sobhani said that there was 1 Contingency Requests submitted this week, totaling \$150.00. He said he was recommending total allocations of \$135.00.
- Reodica moved and Sien seconded to approve the Contingency Allocations for November 18th, 2008.
- Council approved the Contingency Allocations for November 18th, 2008, with a vote of 12-0-0.

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

- Chacon said there were 9 Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant requests for the weeks of November 3rd and 11th, 2008, totaling \$14467.46. He said he allocated a total of \$4218.22.
- Chacon said these groups were applying for a lot of money from a fund that is considered a last resort. This is evident of the rising problem of facility charges groups are facing.
- Tuttle asked about the nature of Navratri Raas-Garba. Chacon said it is a culture night for ISU.
- Tuttle asked about the rising costs of facilities. Chacon said, after looking at charges from JazzReggae and Bruin Bash, facilities charges have been rising. Tuttle said this is an issue that should be flagged and discussed with ASUCLA, as students should not receive the burden of inflation.
- Sobhani asked about the dates of these allocations. Chacon said they are dealing with an outdated application, so some of these are for events that already happened. Sobhani said, for future reference, justifications for certain allocations, such as retroactive funding, should be given. Sobhani also asked why #7 has an asterisk next to the name. Chacon said he cosponsored the event with that group.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President – Homaira Hosseini

Hosseini said she went to the CFCC meeting and talked about the Bruin Intent Council. Also, tomorrow, the council members that have not presented to the interns will be giving a 5-10 minute discussion, telling the interns what to expect working in each office.

Internal Vice President – Evan Shulman

Shulman said his office is having their retreat this Saturday, which will be integrated into the SOCC. He also wants to develop their blog, and if any offices need ideas they should contact him. He will also be digitizing the agendas, so every week groups subscribed to the listserve will receive and email. It will also be available on the website. He was also at ASU and saw that the university implemented emergency phones in a more efficient manner. He passed the information on to Roth.

External Vice President – Jesse Melgar

Melgar said SOCC is this weekend, and those who did not sign up should do so as soon as possible. There will be mandatory delegation meetings this Thursday from 5:00pm to 10:00pm. Next week he will have a presentation on student fees and what the increase means for student enrollment. Also there will be a UCSA board meeting on Friday at 3:00pm. The room situation is not figured out yet, but he hopes everyone will stop by.

Academic Affairs Commissioner – Jeremiah Garcia

Garcia said the event with Antwone Fisher will be in the Tom Bradley Center 6:00pm to 9:00pm on November 25th.

Administrative Representative – Dr. Berky Nelson

Nelson said the UC Regents have recently passed a rule where an organization's signatory can be personally liable if his or her organization is involved in vandalism.

Kohles said offices are a year appointment, but signatories tend to stay over after elections for a period of time. She asked how the rule would apply in that situation.

Nelson said it would be targeted at whoever is the most liable person.

Chacon said contracts signed with artists delineate that the artist is responsible for any damage caused. He asked how the rule would affect these contracts. Nelson said the rule would follow the contract.

IX. Old Business

A. USAC Targeted Campaigns – Issues Affecting Students

- Hosseini said council will split up into four groups to discuss varying issues of student interest, so that council as a whole can aim to cosponsor events and more efficiently allocate student resources to address these issues.
- Shulman gave a presentation outlining the issues council has decided to tackle, in addition to the manner in which council will operate. The issues decided upon were Affordability, Sustainability, Student Group Engagement, Academic Advancement. He said the choice of these issues should not detract from other areas of interest on which other offices would like to work.
- Council split into these groups: Roth and Shulman for Sustainability; Gonzalez, Sien, Birks, and Tsai for Student Group Engagement; Reodica, Kohles, Melgar, and Hosseini for Affordability; Garcia, Liu, and Chacon for Academic Advancement.
- Reodica asked if they were to take notes. Hosseini said they should, and they will discuss the notes at a later time.
- Tuttle asked how a record will be formed if they adjourn. Hosseini said they will update it next week.
- Garcia asked if an email of things covered in groups should be sent out. Hosseini said an email should be sent out.

X. New Business

There was no New Business this week.

XI. Announcements

- Tsai said World AIDS Day will be next Tuesday, and the march will begin in De Neve Plaza, Court of Sciences, and Dixon Court and will end in Bruin Plaza.
- Garcia said he will be restarting the Admissions Coalition and the Diversity Requirement Coalition. He will send an email out with more information.
- Reodica moved and Chacon seconded to recess for an hour.
- Council recessed at 8:00pm.
- Birks moved and Sien seconded to return from recess.
- Council returned at 9:01pm.
- Hosseini asked that the note takers get all the names of the people who participated in the discussions.
- Shulman asked if they will be discussing the town hall. Hosseini said they will be doing that next week.
- Shulman said he will be sending out an email detailing possible times for the town hall.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Chacon moved and Shulman 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 9:09 pm, by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

FINAL

Approved: January 13, 2009

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas King
USAC Minutes Taker