

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL

Tuesday January 27, 2009  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Champawat, Gonzalez, Liu

GUESTS:

I. A. Call to Order

- Hosseini called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The Attendance sheet was passed around.*

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Reodica added an Officer Report.
- Sobhani removed Contingency Allocations.
- Tsai added Carlyle Buchanan to Special Presentations.
- Roth added an Officer Report.
- Melgar moved and Chacon 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

*There were no Public Comments this week.*

V. Special Presentations

**A. Daily Bruin**

- A representative from Daily Bruin said that Daily Bruin is very interested in bringing the students to the candidates.
- Melgar said they have already contacted individuals for the elections.
- Birks said his office has contacted ORL in the hopes of having a debate between the candidates.

**B. Carlyle Buchanan – iPhocus**

- Buchanan said he is a part of a venture management group within iPhocus to accelerate new technologies. The current technology is a location awareness tech called iLink. It allows smartphones to use WiFi access points to alert people of an emergency, and it is anonymity is protected by a privacy button. It can also be used for social networking in addition to campus safety.

## VI. Appointments

### A. Amir Sadr – Finance Committee

- Sadr said he is a 3<sup>rd</sup> year Political Science major, and he found out about the position through Facebook.
- Chacon asked about any relative experience he could bring to FiComm. Sadr said he was the head of finance for a retail store.
- Hosseini asked Sadr if he ever worked in student government prior. Sadr said he was on the Interclub Council, and he is an officer in Phi Beta Kappa.
- Melgar asked Sadr how he will get acquainted with FiComm. Sadr said he will get involved with the processes as soon as possible to learn as much as he can.
- Chacon moved and Reodica seconded to approve Amir Sadr to the Finance Committee.
- Council approved Amir Sadr to the Finance Committee with a vote of 9-0-0.

## VII. Fund Allocations

### A. Contingency Allocations

*There were no Contingency Allocations this week.*

### B. Academic Success Referendum Fund

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

### C. Academic Affairs Mini-Grant

- Garcia said he gave \$750.00 to Queer Alliance for registration fees.

### D. Travel Grants

- Melgar said he had a total of \$2314.20 requested from the Travel Grants, and he allocated a total of \$550.00.

### 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 she will be meeting with the Bruin Initiative interns, and if any office does not want interns, said commissioner should contact her soon. She also wants to thank everyone who came out for the Peace Pole celebration.

**Internal Vice President – Evan Shulman** Shulman said his office will be hosting a grant writing workshop in Kerckhoff Grand Salon at 7:00 pm, and he is bringing an alumna. His office is also looking to expand USAC's presence on the internet.

*Chacon asked if there is any way for student organizations to be listed as non-profit organizations. Shulman said there is a way for student organizations to get a tax ID, but its complicated and the workshop will be focusing more on the writing process.*

*Tuttle asked if he is in touch with CSP. Shulman said he is.*

*Williams asked Shulman to talk to him later, as ASUCLA is considered 501(c)3.*

*Chacon asked if student organizations are considered to be under ASUCLA. Williams said the student government may have a separate tax category.*

*Tuttle said he is glad that CSP is in the loop, as 501c3's report to the Attorney General. Shulman said the workshop is mostly for equipping student organizations with the tools to write grant applications. Sobhani said everyone should keep their financial and philanthropic activities through SGA to ensure accountability.*

#### **External Vice President – Jesse Melgar**

Melgar said his office will be having Lessons in Lobby Training tomorrow, Wednesday, January 28, from 5:00pm to 6:00pm in SAC room 3. He also met with three assembly members in the past week through the Bruin Lobby Corps. His office will also be sending people to the UC Regents meeting, as well as funding a van to take students up there for public comments. Also, the week of February 9<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup>, his office will be bringing student organizations together to discuss the budget crisis, and he will be collecting post cards from students so the Lobby Corps will have testimonials to bring on their visits. His office is also working on a round table discussion, focusing on the California Master Plan. Melgar also gave a short review of the various programs that will be receiving cuts, as well as those assistance programs that will be receiving increases. Also, the application for SLC is due this Friday.

*Sobhani asked if any of the programs being removed will be compensated by the increase in Pell Grants. Birks said a lot of programs being zeroed out are not for assistance, but rather programs aiming on getting high schoolers into college.*

#### **Academic Affairs Commissioner**

Garcia said there will be a screening of a mockumentary on Condoleezza Rice February 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be a meeting on ECP and the budget cuts on January 30<sup>th</sup>. His office is looking to put on events focusing mostly on films deconstructing events like 9/11. There will also be a grassroots organizing training weekend coming up. He will also be having an emergency meeting with Chancellor Block and President Yudof regarding the executive board of Academic Senate, dealing with how the UC will work with transfer students.

#### **Financial Supports Commissioner – Elaine Reodica**

Reodica said the drawing for spring textbook scholarships will be this Thursday at 10:00am. Her office received around 960 applications, of which approximately 750 qualified.

#### **Facilities Commissioner – Galen Roth**

Roth said new basketball courts will be opening by Saxon, and there is an adaptive recreation initiative to create programs from disabled students who want to be involved athletically. The Pauley Pavilion renovations will not be affected by the budget as much as other areas, because it is funded by private donations.

*Sobhani asked if they released information on facilities to be used once Pauley is shut down for renovations. Roth said she has not heard of anything, but it will only be down for one season.*

*Tuttle asked if the Chancellor really banned Red Cross from the campus. Tsai said he was informed by the UCLA Blood and Platelet center that he did, but it appears that the Red Cross was not banned.*

### IX. Old Business

#### **A. Townhall**

- Council said the pros of the townhall were the big turnout, support from the Chancellor's office, diverse crowd, overall timing, moderator, and USAC presence. Some of the cons were the order in which the townhall went, lack of student questions

and comments, timing of the surveys, and the fact that the budgets are not solidified yet.

- Hosseini asked if anyone talked to students afterwards. Chacon said some students did not get legitimate answers to concrete questions.
- Hosseini said this was the first time many students at the townhall became aware of the issue.
- Williams said Vice Chancellor Olsen was very impressed with how organized the event was.
- Shulman said, next time, the article should mention that it is hosted by USAC.
- Williams said it would be a good idea to see how many students came in spur of the moment, rather than planning on coming.
- Hosseini said USAC should discuss interest in hosting another one. Melgar said an event on the Hill might be in order.
- Tuttle said council should consider moving the location carefully, as the event was successful on campus and perhaps should be built up in the same location.
- Melgar asked Janina Montero about the time line for concrete details on the budget. Montero said details should be available by late April.
- Williams said this could be the start of a bigger program by the student government.

X. New Business

*There was no New Business this week.*

XI. Announcements

- Chacon said February will be a big month for CAC. It will be Hip Hop Appreciation Month, and there will be music sessions at the Kerckhoff Coffee House, as well as a big concert.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The attendance sheet was passed around.*

XIII. Adjournment

- Chacon moved and Reodica 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 8:31 pm, by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas King  
USAC Minutes Taker