

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday February 10, 2009
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Champawat

GUESTS: Brandon Harrison, Sonya Mehta, Dianne Tanjuaquio

I. A. Call to Order

- Hosseini called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The Attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Hosseini added Film & Photography Society to Special Presentations.
- Melgar added Resolution for College Affordability Act to New Business.
- Garcia added Grant Burgdorf under Appointments.
- Melgar 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

- Sonya Mehta from Mighty Mic said there will be a spoken word concert, Wednesday the 18th, from 6:00pm to 8:00pm in the Northwest Auditorium. Last year's Mighty Mic focused on Darfur, this year's concert will focus on Burma. The show will be free.
- Theresa from CALPIRG updated council on their pledge driving, saying the organization is short of 250 pledges. They have come under fire from the Daily Bruin and other sources, and they need help explaining to people what CALPIRG really is, as well as getting people to pledge. If council could write the Daily Bruin in support of CALPIRG, it would help greatly.

V. Special Presentations

A. Dave Valk – Student Group, Won Together

- Shulman said he is coming in next week.

B. JP Castel – Film & Photography Society

- Castel gave an introduction to the movie “Slick” and invited all of council to attend. Their goal is to create a movie similar to a huge production movie, but without the cost. He then showed the movie trailer.

VI. Appointments

A. Grant Burgdorf – GE Governance Committee

- Garcia said Burgdorf will not be making it tonight.

VII. Fund Allocations

A. Contingency Allocations

- Sobhani said that there were 7 Contingency Requests submitted this week, totaling \$8020.19. He said he was recommending total allocations of \$3251.47.
- Chacon moved and Shulman seconded to approve the Contingency Allocations for February 10, 2009.
- Council approved the Contingency Allocations with a vote of 11-0-0.

B. Academic Success Referendum Fund

- Garcia said he had 1 request this week from the Academic Success Referendum Fund. His office gave \$900.00 to the General Representative 2 Office for LEGCON.

C. Academic Affairs Mini-Grant

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

D. Travel Grants

- Melgar said there were 2 requests from the Travel Grants. A total of \$664.20 was requested and a total of \$475.00 was allocated.

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 went to the UC Regents meeting, and her proposal for a Question and Answer session in their committee meetings was approved. She also went with Dianne Tanjuaquio to a special committee on Student Alumni Relations, which is the first committee specifically addressing student life. The Regents also passed some other items. Her office is sending out information to student groups for Bruinent, and she is working on getting a keynote speaker. She was also contacted by Bruins for Traffic Relief, and they want to work with USAC to host a debate between city council officials.

Internal Vice President – Evan Shulman

Shulman said, if an office does not have a blog yet, that office should get in contact with Tony, as he is the one who sets them up. Also, SWC, Office of the IVP, and CEC have started sharing a Google calendar. His office is also trying to get UCLARadio playing in the Kerckhoff coffeehouse in order to bolster their presence on campus. They are also trying to get the Slick trailer on Daily Bruin TV and the Cooperage video wall. *Williams said the board wants primarily sports programming on the video wall, and there is a concern on opening it up to other sorts of programming.*

Shulman said the GROW weekend is coming up too.

External Vice President – Jesse Melgar

Melgar said his office took a group of students to the Regents meeting. Cinthia Flores, who sits on the Board of Admissions and Relations of Schools, was able to speak during the student admissions policy discussion. There is also a teach in tonight, being used as a proactive measure to teach students about the budget cuts. Also, from 12:00pm to 2:00pm in Meyerhoff there will be a rally to show a student perspective on the budget cuts. There is also a UCSA board meeting this weekend, as well as SLC and LEGCON coming up.

Academic Affairs Commissioner – Jeremiah Garcia

Garcia said the Campus Retention Committee needs a representative from Tsai's office and Reodica's office in order to have quorum.

Tuttle asked if this has been a problem in the past couple years. Garcia said it has.

There has also been a problem of representation on SIAC. Tuttle asked how long this problem has been going. Garcia said it has been a problem for at least three years.

Tuttle said such an absence is striking, and he hopes there is a nonpartisan transparent feedback loop for attendance. Garcia asked that all offices find a representative for these committees.

Garcia said the admissions coalition will be meeting in Kerckhoff Hall 310 on Friday at 5:00pm. He is also looking into starting a queer retention committee on campus.

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

X. New Business

A. Constitution

- Garcia said there is a one word change that he believes is antiquated, but he does not know if it should be submitted to Judicial Board for clarification. The change being discussed is in Section D of the USA Constitution, and concerns abstentions in voting.
- Roth said the suggestion is to ask JBoard for clarification and then move forward.
- Tuttle said he does not think it is wise to ask JBoard for there opinion on an issue that is a matter of council, especially when no case is involved. It may allow justices to go into issues that are not at hand and cut into the power of the chair.
- Garcia suggested striking the whole clause because it uselessly locks council into treating abstentions in a certain manner.
- Williams asked if the clause can be fixed without going to the voters. Garcia said it has to go to the voters.
- Williams asked if the clause should be fixed. Garcia said it should be.
- Hosseini said the best plan for now is to have a meeting away from the table.

B. OSAC

- Roth said CRC met Thursday and finalized some of the OSAC documents that Champawat had updated. Council needs to recognize these documents as the most current guidelines.
- Chacon moved and Shulman seconded to recognize these documents as the most updated version of the OSAC guidelines.
- Council recognized these documents as the most updated version of the OSAC guidelines with a vote of 11-0-1.
- Roth said the second item to discuss are changes to the OSAC guidelines. Roth listed the proposed changes.
- Melgar asked who sits on CRC. Roth said it is Sien, Roth, and Shulman.

- Chacon moved and Birks seconded to approve the changes to the OSAC guidelines.
- Council approved the changes to the OSAC guidelines with a vote of 10-2-0.

C. CRC Sustainability

- Shulman said CRC approved the sustainability edits with a vote of 3-0-0. It involves making the agendas and presidential appointment applications digital, and thus more sustainable. It does not require digital applications, but it puts a priority on them.
- Tuttle asked that the previous changes to the OSAC guidelines be read back, and that Roth confirms they are correct. King read back the changes made, and Roth said they were correct.
- Shulman said these changes also ensure a paper trail concerning the updating of bylaws and guidelines. There is a form to link changes at the table to Student Support Services.
- Tuttle asked if minutes of these meetings are being hard copied and bound. Hosseini said she believes so, as there are such copies in McLaren's office.
- Sien moved and Chacon seconded to approve the CRC Sustainability changes to the Bylaws.
- Council approved the CRC Sustainability changes to the Bylaws with a vote of 10-0-2.

D. Resolution for College Affordability Act

- Melgar said he sent it out last night, and even though there is a Bylaw concerning a rule of 2 days before, this is a timely issue.
- Tuttle asked why they should not suspend the bylaws. Melgar said it is an action agenda item and it was not on the original agenda sent out. Tuttle said the voting requirements to add it to the agenda as an action item were met, so no suspension of the bylaws is necessary.
- Brandon Harrison said the Act was put forth by Current Price, a district member from Inglewood, and it looks to levy a 1% tax on all income over one million dollars in California to go towards the CSU and UC systems.
- Hosseini said, in the first clause, "a" needs to be removed from "cost of a higher."
- Gonzalez said, in the last clause, an "o" needs to be put in, so it reads "show support of."
- Melgar said Birks and Garcia also cosponsored this resolution.
- Reodica moved and Tsai seconded to approve the Resolution for College Affordability Act.
- Council approved the Resolution for College Affordability Act with a vote of 12-0-0.
- Melgar said he would like to see the resolution printed in the Daily Bruin.
- Melgar moved and Garcia seconded to have the resolution printed in the Daily Bruin as a quarter page advertisement.
- Council approved to have the resolution printed in the Daily Bruin with a vote of 12-0-0.
- Garcia clarified that funding for the advertisement comes from Contingency.

XI. Announcements

- Melgar asked that everyone would come to the rally this coming Thursday.
- Reodica said there will be a forum tomorrow at 4:30pm for the Government Relations Office.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Kohles 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 8:24 pm. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas King
USAC Minutes Taker