

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday February 17, 2009
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Gonzalez, Melgar, Sobhani

GUESTS: Carrie Barrett, Sonya Mehta, Mikael Miller, Doug Montgomery, Max Nelson, Stephen Searles, Dave Valk

I. A. Call to Order

- Hosseini called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The Attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Shulman added the minutes of October 14, 2008, to the Minutes.
- Shulman added Dave Valk to Special Presentations.
- Shulman added Student Fee Advisory Committee under Appointments.
- Tsai added his officer report.
- Shulman 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.
- Hosseini said Lisette Flores is from the EVP's office as proxy for Melgar, but she will not be voting. Sherin Nosrati is also here as proxy for Sobhani.

III. Approval of the Minutes

October 14, 2008

- Shulman said Dai is spelled incorrectly.
- King read Gonzalez's comments and proposed changes from her email received.
- In regard to a meeting referenced by Gonzalez, Hosseini said she made changes for voting and non-voting members.
- Chacon said the meeting referenced by Gonzalez and Hosseini are in fact two separate meetings that took place.
- Chacon moved and Roth seconded to approve the minutes of October 14, 2008.
- Council approved the minutes of October 14, 2008, with a vote of 8-0-2.

IV. Public Comments

- Sonya Mehta said there will be a spoken word event tomorrow night about the Burma tragedy. Also, this Monday, there will be a local elections forum for students, as a way

to build student power at the local level. It is a non-partisan event put on by the EVP's office. There was also a city council forum last week dealing with various important issues, such as the solar power initiative.

V. Special Presentations

A. Dave Valk – Student Group, Won Together

- Valk said the event, 1Fest, will be April 19th, from noon to 7:00pm in Wilson Plaza. He said it will be a day focusing on bringing students and groups together around LGBT civil rights.
- Tuttle asked about what will happen during 1Fest. Valk said the main idea of the event is to get community groups and student organizations directly involved with it by sponsoring tables and activities.
- Nelson asked about the upcoming court case. Valk said the case is coming up March 5th, and they think they will get a ruling sometime in May.
- Shulman asked how many booths they will have. Valk said they anticipate 20 booths.

VI. Appointments

A. Tiffany Thompson – Eating and Activities Task Force

- Shulman said ARC recommended Thompson 3-0-0, as she has experience working on various nutritional committees. Her goal is to give nutritional options, not force them.
- Tsai asked if she was familiar with her role on the task force. Thompson said she is not quite sure what the role entails, but she does know the committee looks at eating disorders, and she hopes to represent the student government as best as she can.
- Roth asked if there was any research she would like to initiate through EATF. Thompson said she would like to survey students' reactions to what they eat on a regular basis.
- Hosseini said she felt Thompson had the best application, especially since she has a personal connection to the subject matter. Hosseini also tried to research EATF on her own and did not find much.
- Shulman moved and Garcia seconded to approve Tiffany Thompson to the Eating and Activities Task Force.
- Council approved Tiffany Thompson to the Eating and Activities Task Force with a vote of 10-0-0.

B. Thuy Huynh – Student Fees Advisory Committee

- Shulman said ARC recommended Huynh 3-0-0. Huynh has extensive knowledge of the committees and responsibilities of the position, as well as experience concerning budgets.
- Chacon asked Huynh about publicity. Huynh said she will give presentations telling students about SFAC.
- Hosseini said she received emails endorsing the appointment of Huynh, and that SFAC is very pleased with her appointment.
- Reodica moved and Chacon seconded to approve the appointment of Thuy Huynh to the Student Fee Advisory Committee.
- Council approved the appointment of Thuy Huynh to the Student Fee Advisory Committee with a vote of 10-0-0.

C. Salomon Hossein – Student Advocate

- Shulman said Hossein was recommended 3-0-0 by ARC. The goal of USAC is to build up the infrastructure around the new office, and Hossein has a lot of knowledge from studying the position's counterpart at UC – Berkeley.
- Hosseini said last year's council implemented the position, and this year's council needs to appoint someone.

- Roth asked Hossein if he has any personal vision for what the Student Advocate will be. Hossein said he will be focusing his work in four areas as a base: Conduct, Financial Aid, Academic, and Other Grievances.
- Tuttle asked Hosseini if the council has appropriate documentation from which it can work an accurate profile for the position. Hosseini said specific grievances of logistics or bureaucracies goes to her office, while issues of advocacy would go to Hossein's position, if he were to be approved. Hossein said issues such as grade disputes or problems with the Financial Aid Office would go to him. Tuttle said the wording should be researched.
- Tressel said the discussion last year had the student advocate being a presidential appointment who reports to the president's office.
- Roth asked if the position is stipended. Hossein said it is voluntary.
- Reodica moved and Chacon seconded to approve Salomon Hossein as the Student Advocate.
- Council approved the appointment of Salomon Hossein as the Student Advocate with a vote of 10-0-0.

D. Grant Burgdorf – GE Governance Committee, Academic Senate

- Hosseini asked if there was any objection to carrying over the appointment of Burgdorf from last week's meeting. Seeing none, council continued to review the appointment.
- Burgdorf said he knows the chair of the committee well, and he observed last week. He is also involved with the sports medicine internship on campus.
- Birks moved and Tsai seconded to approve Grant Burgdorf to the GE Governance Committee.
- Council approved Grant Burgdorf to the GE Governance Committee with a vote of 10-0-0.

VII. Fund Allocations

A. Contingency Allocations

- Nosrati said there is a typo for the amount CSC was allocated. The correct amount is \$255.00.
- Chacon said the allocation to Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship was for Honorarium, not Facilities.
- Roth asked about the transportation cut for PISA. Nosrati said there is a maximum for allocations, which is \$40.00 a day.
- Nosrati said that there were 11 Contingency Requests submitted this week, totaling \$12250.55. He said he was recommending total allocations of \$2406.26.

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 she met with Janina Montero and the student regent about the budget cuts, specifically about the decentralization of benefits to each specific department. She also discussed with the student regent about putting on a conference to go over discretion of fees and to review the SFAC on each campus. She also went to a CPOSA meeting and discussed risk issues, and she has tentative plans for a liability town hall. They also discussed community outreach and other things, like expanding ORL. Also, the Islamic Studies department, despite being the oldest in the nation, is closing down to restructure itself. She is setting up a meeting to talk about this issue.

Internal Vice President – Evan Shulman Shulman said he is looking into having another CRC meeting, and he will send out a reminder email about it later. If any council member has video footage or a trailer for one of their events, he or she should send it to Shulman for a Cooperage video wall segment his office is putting together. He is also putting together a newsletter to send out to all of the student groups, and any commission can submit material to it.

Tsai asked if he could only send video, or if he could also send a still. Shulman said stills are fine too.

External Vice President – Jesse Melgar

Flores, on behalf of Melgar, said there will be a local elections forum on February 23rd, tentatively in Moore 100 from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. Flores also went over the week of action that Student Affairs had last week. The Bruin Lobby Corps sent out their Legislative Lowdown concerning the budget in California, and they will have two lobby meetings with assembly members.

Academic Affairs Commissioner – Jeremiah Garcia

Garcia said the admissions coalition will be meeting Friday at 5:00pm in Kerckhoff 417. There will also be a meeting next week to discuss the diversity requirement on February 20th, at 3:00pm in Kerckhoff 310.

Student Welfare Commissioner – Jonathan Tsai

Tsai said SWC will be hosting a global volunteer fair. Janina Montero will be supporting, and there will be 35-40 different volunteer groups tabling.

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

X. New Business

There was no New Business this week.

XI. Announcements

- Sien said CSC will be having a mini-CS day on November 28th. It is a huge day in the fall to expose students to a variety of issues in which they can volunteer.
- Birks said his commission will be putting on LoveFest on the 20th. It is put on through the LGBT center and CAPS, and it will focus on a variety of workshops and teaching healthy sexual practices.
- Tuttle asked who the CSP advisor is. Birks said it is through ORL, so he is working with the ARD.
- Tuttle asked what the main problem is with the event. Birks said he is waiting on approval from the fire marshal.

- Tuttle asked Birks if he has contracts set up. Birks said he has one with the DJ and one with the masseuse
- Hosseini said the USAC subcommittees will be giving their updates next week, so each subcommittee should be ready.
- Hosseini said Cynthia Flores and Susan Li from the EVP's office spoke out about the fee issues and college affordability act at UCSA's day of action.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Reodica moved and Tsai 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 8:19 pm, by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas King
USAC Minutes Taker