

FINAL

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday April 28, 2009
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Garcia, Kohles

GUESTS: Hannah Ahmed, Diaris Alexander, Ronald Arruejo, Shahida Bawa, Adam Benson, Gregory Chu, Cole Froelich, Rodolfo Juarez, Kris Kaupalolo, Danyelle McGill, Janina Montero, Matthew Moretti, Jeremy Peretz, Frank Refuerzo, Jesse Sachs, Armando Salazar, Nicole Smedley, Randa Wahbe, Phillip Wang, Mallory Wang, Bailey West, Catherine Yan

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

- Chacon added Jazz Reggae to Special Presentations and under New Business as an action item.
- Sobhani moved USAC Budget Approval to Special Presentations.
- Shulman added Executive Summary of CRC to New Business as an action item.
- Shulman added the Minutes of October 28, 2008 and January 13, 2009.
- Reodica 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. There was one abstention.

III. Approval of the Minutes

October 28th, 2008

- Chacon moved and Sien seconded to approve the Minutes of October 28, 2008.
- Hosseini called for Acclamation. Hosseini asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Minutes of October 28, 2008, were approved by Acclamation.

January 13th, 2009

- Sobhani changed “no” to “not” under the minute corrections.
- Gonzalez said Shulman's name was misspelled under Jason Tengco's appointment.
- Gonzalez said there was a misused article in Carroll's Public Comment.
- Chacon moved and Shulman seconded to approve the Minutes of January 13, 2009.

- Hosseini called for Acclamation. Hosseini asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Minutes of January 13, 2009, were approved, as amended, by Acclamation.

IV. Public Comments

There were no Public Comments this week.

V. Special Presentations

A. Election Board

- Mallory Wang said the ballot is approved, as the Ecode dictates it needs USAC's approval prior to the elections.
- Hosseini said the ballot order was decided at the endorsement orientation.
- Hosseini said the referendum is shown after the names on the ballot. The supplemental information would be a clickable link.
- Chacon said voting starts Monday at 7:00pm.
- Wang said the electoral process is the exact same as last years, and the only place where people will be ranked in the vote are the General Representatives.
- Wang said there will be a pop up to vote when people sign onto MyUCLA.
- Reodica moved and Shulman seconded to approve the ballot order.
- Council approved the ballot order with a vote of 9-0-0.
- Wang said it was brought to the Eboard that debates should be moved up, but they can not do that without council's approval. She asked if it would be OK to move the debates to Saturday, May 2nd, at the De Neve Auditorium, from 7:00pm to 9:00pm.
- Gonzalez asked what rule she would break without council's approval. Wang said debates have to be held two days prior to the start of voting, as pursuant in the Ecode.
- Shulman asked Wang if she is in touch with the Daily Bruin. She said she is.
- Tuttle asked if she has worked on space configuration to enhance the privacy of voting. There has been some concern of people looking over others' shoulders while they are voting. Wang said there is a twenty second delay where a terminal can not be used to vote for twenty seconds after someone voted.
- Sobhani mentioned that the GSA had two booths in front of the textbook store, might be a good idea.
- Hosseini asked if the debates could be done on Friday instead of Saturday. Wang said the rooms is available Friday, but there might not be enough time to prep the candidates.
- Shulman asked if she is in touch with the candidates. Wang said she is, and the endorsement hearings are not over yet.
- Gonzalez asked when the times for flyering are. Wang said the times are Monday through Thursday, 9:00am to 5:00pm.
- Shulman moved and Chacon seconded to change the debate time to Saturday, May 2nd, from 7:00pm to 9:00pm in the De Neve Auditorium, and the flyering time to Monday through Thursday, 9:00am to 5:00pm.
- Council approved the changes with a vote of 9-0-0.

B. Jazz Reggae

- Chacon introduced Bernice Shaw, who introduced the rest of the Jazz Reggae planning team. It is the largest student run event in the entire nation.
- Shaw gave an outline of what they plan on focusing upon this year. They try to improve upon the line up, budget, sponsorship, and sustainability each year.
- The marketing directors described the various types of advertising they have been implementing for the festival.
- The sustainability directors discussed their outreach and plan for sustainable energy at the festival.

- The education directors discussed how they plan on teaching the festival attendees about the goals of Jazz Reggae.
- Shaw said they will be needing about 80 volunteers a day.
- The transportation directors discussed how they will be accommodating and providing travel to the artists and their entourages.
- Shaw discussed the various vendors that will be at Jazz Reggae, and how they will adhere to sustainability and diversity.
- They discussed the hospitality area, what items will be available to the artists, and the education component that is a part of it.
- Shaw discussed the amount the budget went down, in that they hoped to cut 20% across the board, but they were not able to meet that goal, due to higher costs this year.. However, they did make strides in getting sponsorships and reducing costs in other fields. They received \$23,000.00 in sponsorships, which is the most they've ever had.
- Shaw discussed their income from the festival. The fields have a maximum capacity of 12,000 people, but they projected it at 65% of that for attendance. They are getting money from contingency, but they are asking for a \$100,000.00 from USAC for box office accounts. This is because they have to pay off bills ahead of time, when money they make from the festival will not be available.
- Nelson asked how ticket sales are doing. Shaw said they have sold more tickets now than they did two years ago, but they have been on sale longer, so its hard to say. Last year, tickets did not go on sale until May 1st.
- Tuttle said he is intrigued in the new methods they have been using, and is glad to hear they cut expenses, but he hopes the cuts do not affect the income they will get. He asked how many days before the event. Shaw said twenty-six days.
- Tuttle asked if there is something big they are not doing now. The JR team has stopped using printed advertisements, since a lot of them are going out of business.
- Tuttle asked that they look at past years and see if there are any institutionalized practices that were dropped and are now out of memory.
- Williams asked how festivals are doing in comparison to the economic climate. Shaw said they are getting hit hard, but JR is doing comparatively well.
- Tuttle asked if there is a reserve. Shaw said there is a \$75,000.00 JR reserve and \$220,000.00 in contingency reserve. Tuttle says it sounds like they can weather a storm this year if it happens. Williams said they can do it once, but not several years in a row.
- Sobhani asked if they are planning on having the total funds presented in front of council today. Shaw said this is a conservative estimate based off of last year.
- Chacon said, since they were in the red last year, they have been meeting and created a budget that is very viable.
- Sobhani asked, if there is a motion, what the language would be. Shaw said they are looking for the \$100,000.00 receivable taken off of their CTO box office account as a security measure.
- Sobhani asked, if this year had a perfect storm and no income came, where the money would come from to pay back the receivable.
- Champawat said this is a very normal procedure, and it occurs annually.
- Tuttle said TGIF has money, and, since JR has a sustainability component, if anyone thought of using TGIF as a source of funding.
- Hosseini asked if there will be a time when JR does not need a receivable. Shaw said when they have \$150,000.00 in their surplus, perhaps in 2025.
- Champawat said the reality of the festival is that people like to pay at the day of the event.
- Tressel asked if insurance covers unforeseen disasters such as cancellations. Shaw said it does not.
- Chacon moved and Reodica seconded to approve a \$100,000.00 receivable to Jazz Reggae festival to be taken off of their CTO box office account.
- Council approved the receivable with a vote of 9-0-1.

C. Shahida Bawa – SHAC Presentation

- Shahida Bawa from SHAC presented some of the changes they made. They renegotiated the student health plan and utilized reserve funds to take down some increased costs. Co-pays increased from \$100 to \$150 for MRI's and X-rays, because they are the least utilized. The GAP plan and dependent plan were cheaper than the student health plan on some line items. The largest benefit was the transgender health benefit, which allows surgery costs up to \$25,000.00 to be utilized by individuals. The website will be up June 1st. They're also trying to push more hours on the Nurse Triage. The GAP plan is available for up to 6 months after graduation on a monthly basis. The dependent plan's lifetime maximum was reduced, and premiums were increased due to high utilization. SHIP waivers must still be completed each term.
- Hosseini asked how the student advocacy was in the negotiations. Bawa said the SHAC meetings are open and all SHAC members are invited to sit with others during the negotiations. The negotiations themselves are closed due to issues of confidentiality.
- Shulman said he is glad that SHAC got the transgender amendments to the student health plan approved. Bawa said UCLA is now on the same level with other UC's in comparison to this area.

D. Brian Tan – USAC Budget Approval

- Tan said USAC needs to approve the budget for next year, and he had some changes to propose.
- Sobhani said a lot of the budget stays the same from last year, because certain amounts are earmarked off to specific places. However, there are inefficiencies that can be changed now. One of which is the USA secretaries budget. Also, Eboard is stipended for a 9 month position for five different people, but historically Eboard has not been appointed for all those months. Council may want to consider a three month stipend, perhaps giving the chair an extra month.
- Hosseini asked if Eboard's budget is zeroed by the end of the year. Deb Simmons said its usually around half.
- Nelson said they should first check on what each group has been doing before cutting their funds, as bad economic times goes hand in hand with higher fees.
- Champawat said it has been at least five years since stipends have changed. Williams said and idea for next year would to have some sort of system where stipends increase automatically so the body does not have to fret over the decision.
- Sobhani said they talked about removing telephone lines last year because they are used very little. Using that money to increase stipends is an idea to look into.
- Chacon said it is hard for students to retain themselves if the money they received is paltry in comparison to the work they do.
- Hosseini said she does not know how to initiate a process where stipends can be increased in comparison to inflation. Williams said BOD has similar language in their stipends.
- Sobhani said it would be a bylaw change to accomplish this feat. They would have to bring the changes in next meeting and have to be approved by FiComm.
- Tuttle said they can develop a formula for deflationary cycles as well.
- Sobhani said one issue UCLA has is that they do not generate money from entertainment.
- Hosseini asked if this can be finalized for next week. Sobhani said it will be.
- Hosseini said telephones are not a complete deductible, as she can not remove her phone.
- Hosseini said she would like to see a USAC publicist position created, and lessen the amount of months Eboard gets paid.
- Champawat said there is only one room budgeted, not both of the Kerckhoff rooms that were opened for office space.
- Hosseini took a count of who was interested in meeting up outside of meeting.
- Tuttle advised council to be careful of everyone agreeing on a *de facto* decision.

- Shulman moved and Chacon seconded to table the USAC Budget Approval until next week.
- Council tabled the USAC Budget Approval until next week with a vote of 10-0-0.

VI. Appointments

There were no Appointments this week.

VII. Fund Allocations

A. Contingency Allocations

- Sobhani said there were 6 recommendations. A total of \$5,085.94 was requested, and he recommended an allocation of \$1,352.84.
- Sobhani said the line item for Pilipinos for Community Health is wrong, and he will forward a correction soon.
- Sobhani said, while two new offices are being opened on the fifth floor of Kerckhoff, the budget only says there is one.
- Birks moved and Reodica seconded to approve the Contingency Allocations of April 28, 2009.
- Council approved the Contingency Allocations of April 28, 2009, with a vote of 10-0-0.

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

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

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President – Homaira Hosseini

Hosseini said she is still working on Bruins in the City, and she is getting Keith Parker to sign on to a letter shes sending to the commissions. There was also a long article on Bruintant in the Daily Bruin. The Chancellor's wife was there, and Montero spoke at the event. They raised four thousand dollars, which is great for a first year. Student elections are next week, and the debate times are changing to Saturday. She will have a mini address where she can talk about the flyering for USAC. There will be another rally in front of Powell about fees and the budget, at 12:30pm on Thursday. She, Garcia, and Roth and her staff have worked to open up the fifth floor of Kerckhoff for office space use. She talked to GSA into giving USAC their designated space. One office was budgeted in, and shes hoping to get the other one in there too.

Internal Vice President – Evan Shulman

Shulman said he has an unpublished Facebook page, on which he hopes council can give him feedback. He asked that council email him logos and information from their events so he can put them on the flyer. End of 9th week, they have GROW weekend, sponsored by the EVP's office, AAC, and the President's office. He was also talking to services about expanding UCLARadio.

External Vice President – Jesse Melgar

Melgar met with various people at the Uc Regents meeting and it seems the fee increase will about around 9.3%. They are trying to negotiate, but it seems like that is the figure. Also student regents elections are coming up. UCSA committee appointments are up, and he hopes everyone's staff will apply. Also, the Alliance of Dreams will visit Henry Waxman's Office.

Administrative Representative – Dr. Berky Nelson

Nelson said, after USAC entertained the Gaza Resolution, a physician from Gaza was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize for his advocacy of peace. Bruins for Israel put on an event, and they invited MSA, who did not join. Also, Jenna Graham in the CPO passed last Saturday, as a nice gesture, it would be good to send condolences to the CPO.

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

X. New Business

A. Subcommittee Memos

- Hosseini said she shared a Google document with everyone as a way to standardize the content of the memos. She said everyone is accountable for their office's work on the memos. She hopes council will write recommendations in the memos that they can give to next year's council. She hopes its approved next week, so that administration can get an idea of what the campus climate is like.
- Shulman asked Hosseini if she will deal with the layout and format. Hosseini said she will take care of those things.
- Tuttle and Champawat commended Hosseini for the idea on the memos.
- Hosseini said she wants this to correlate with the USAC flyer that will go out. Shulman said the flyer will show how USAC has relevance to the student, and hopefully get some students to vote in the elections.
- Hosseini said the flyer should include the four subcommittees and what they focus on.

XI. Announcements

- Hosseini said May 19th is the leadership orientation with the Chancellor. Everyone should have gotten an invite in their mailboxes. It will be from 4:00pm to 6:00pm at the Chancellor's residence.
- Hosseini the Clothesline Project will be from May 19th to May 21st.
- Hosseini asked for a moment of silence for Janet Brown, who just passed away.
- Chacon said there is a fundraiser for CSC at BJ's. There is another one on campus at Rubio's.
- Chacon said Friday is May Day, and also the International Workers' Day. They will start at Echo Park in the morning, and they hope to focus on the Dream Act.
- Chacon said the Daily Bruin never printed the Dream Act Resolution. Sobhani said he never got the request, but he will give them the money. Chacon said he will do the request.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

FINAL

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Birks moved and Roth 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 10:12pm. by Acclamation.
- Birks moved and Reodica seconded to call the meeting back to order at 10:16pm.
- Chacon moved and Shulman seconded to table the Executive Summary of CRC to next week's meeting.
- Hosseini called for Acclamation. Hosseini asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Executive Summary of CRC was tabled until next week's meeting by Acclamation.
- Reodica moved and Chacon 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 10:17pm. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas King
USAC Minutes Taker