

FINAL

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday June 16, 2009
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Flores, Bawa, Farmer, Lin, Faelnar, Mullins, Huddy, Tep, Tan, Tuttle, Nelson

ABSENT: Tengco, Wu, Li Casillas

GUESTS: Zimmerman

I. A. Call to Order

- Flores called the committee to a whole to order at 7:02 pm.

-AFTER REACHING QUOTA:

-Flores official called the meeting to order at 7:45 pm.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

-Bawa asked to add the approval of changes to the CS Mini-Fund as an action item.

-Flores said that the agenda could not be approved until the council officially convened.

AFTER REACHING QUOTA:

-Tuttle said that Flore is a voting a member in this situation.

-Tep asked to strike her grants.

-Mullins moved and Bawa seconded to approve the agenda, as amended.

- Flores called for Acclamation. Flores asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the agenda was approved, as amended.

III. Approval of the Minutes

There were no minutes to approve at this meeting.

IV. Public Comments

There were no public comments this week.

V. Special Presentations

There were no special presentations this week.

VII. Fund Allocations

A. Contingency Allocations

There were no Contingency Allocations to approve this week.

C. Academic Success Referendum Fund

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

D. Academic Affairs Mini-Grant

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

E. Travel Grants

There were no Travel Grants this week.

F. Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant

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

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President – Cinthia Flores

Flores said that she would like to improve the town hall meetings. She said that there was very poor attendance which she said may have been due to the fact that the meeting was held during 10th week. She said that UCLA is facing a cut of 32 million dollars and an additional proposed cut of 109 million if things do not shape up. She said that the administration is negotiating which areas of the university will be affected by the cuts. Vice Chancellor Olsen said that priority funding will go to essential instruction, meaning that student services will suffer. She said that these cuts will more than likely affect anything that has to do with additional services offered on campus. Financial aid will be transferred from middle income to lower income students—presenting those students with dire figures to have to make up. Over 7,000 students currently receive Cal Grants. She said that all UCLA departments are facing a proposed 10% funding cut, and she doubts that the needs of students will be the focus of the departments facing said cuts. She said that the next town hall will be held in late June or early July and believes that the UC budget is due on July 1st. The town hall will be before that, and she hopes to see a higher attendance at the next meeting.

Internal Vice President – Shahida Bawa

Bawa said that the USAC officer retreat will unfortunately not be held at Lake Arrowhead, but she is in the process of finding other venues. She said that some vacation homes in San Diego look promising but she needs to see if the distance falls within the guidelines. She said that all summer appointments will be approved when council convenes in the Fall. Bawa will be speaking about student health insurance at a young adult seminar on Cancer, and asked council to spread the word for higher attendance.

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

X. New Business

Tap said that there is going to be a large scale mock graduation in support of the DREAM act to be held on June 23rd, more details will be distributed through e-mail to council soon.

Undie Run—Mullins

-Mullins said an email was received from Bob Naples yesterday about the Spring Undie Run. He said that around 10,000 people showed up. The email cited fights that broke out, acts of vandalism that were committed, and burglaries. Mullins said that USAC has an obligation as representatives of the Undergraduate student body to stand up for this event—and he and Huddy will be working with the administration to make the event more UCLA-centric. He yielded the floor to Nelson.

-Nelson spoke with Ken Heller who was not at the event. He only read the e-mails about the event. He presented his concerns: 1) The event is a safety issue, 2) The potential cost of holding the event. How much of that cost goes toward repairs, security, and damages. 3) How LAPD might want to handle the event. He said with those crucial concerns, it is hard to rationalize having the Undie Run. He said that if

the event becomes solely a police matter, the last thing USAC could want is LAPD having any responsibility for quelling problems. He said that could lead to brutal and uncontrollable actions.

-Tressel said that Mardi Gras, a 40-year UCLA tradition, also had to be cancelled.

-Nelson said that someone possessed a firearm at one event, and noted that there are people in this city who do not share values, and also those who resent college students. Students are perceived as being privileged by many in the community, and said that this could be interpreted as doing something negative to gain a sense of worth.

-Tuttle said that Metro police are tough and use force to quell problems. He said that they are very mission driven and that Police dread exuberant riots and domestic situations.

-Flores said that she is active and interested in this process and would like to be invited to sit in with any meetings that Mullins and Huddy hold with administration.

New Campus Services (CS) Mini-Fund Guideline Changes

-A representative from CS said that the CS Mini-fund guidelines are outdated, and they made additions for clarification sake. They removed budget-line items to help clarify requirements and direct community services.

-Bawa said that one change is to strike Section 7, Part E—the transfer of funds clause.

-Nelson said that the mini-fund was created as a one-time only pot of money. No other money was supposed to be used, and that people often applied to the mini-fund. If one applies to both, it would allow to tap into other funds—which both violates the concept of the mini-fund entirely.

-Bawa said that there is not enough in the budget for everyone to receive funding, so that is why they are limiting it only to that fund.

-Huddy said that around 30-40 groups apply for this fund per quarter, and all are granted. He said that health groups receive more. In the winter \$200,000 was requested. He asked why groups cannot apply to both.

-Mullins said that penalties should be stringent, however in the interest of students, penalty is vague without any countermeasure. He said that rules should be in writing to avoid any confusion.

-The representative said that it is up to USAC to decide penalties and make enforcements.

-Mullins said that it seems arbitrary between the committee, and that it is in the interest of students to create clear definitions.

-Flores asked if the penalties may be articulated.

-The representative said that the new guidelines will be adding hearings.

-Farmer said that the terminology is not new, but should have clarification.

-Bawa said that this brings CS mini-fund in line with other committees, and those applying for funding need to be transparent.

-Mullins said that he would like to take time to better define the penalties.

-Farmer expressed his agreement and said that the by-laws should state how severe penalties will be.

-The presenter said that he thought the by-laws were clear. Farmer said that it is not.

-Huddy proposed striking the words – “will render” to erase any ambiguities.

-Tuttle said that he is in favor of tough standards. He said that putting a strict standard weakens control of the committee. He asked if all other standards are as strict.

-Bawa said that it depends on individual committee decision.

-Bawa moved and Huddy seconded to approve the CS Mini-Fund guideline changes. Mullins objected.

-Mullins proposed that the text read “will result in penalties including but not limited to score reductions and/or rendering that organization ineligible, at most, for the next hearing date.”

-Flores asked if there were any objections. There were no voiced objections, so the line item was added as an amendment, to be approved.

-Flores said that she feels an orientation to teach students about new procedure is necessary to get the message across to only ask for what is needed.

-Mullins moved and Bawa seconded to approve the CS Mini-Fund guideline changes, as amended by council. Council unanimously voted to approve the guidelines with changes, with a total of 7 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

XI. Announcements

-Bawa reminded council to invite any survivors to the Life After Cancer Seminar.

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- Flores said that Ex-Officio members are invited to sign in.
- Zimmerman said that she is working with a carpenter to get a quote about encasing the poster printer. She said that Student Support Services cannot change the door to the Communal Office Space but there are many keys that can be passed out.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Mullins moved and Bawa seconded to adjourn.
- Flores called for Acclamation. Flores asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 8:29p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Casillas
USAC Minutes Taker
2009-2010