

FINAL

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday August 25, 2009
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Flores, Bawa, Li, Farmer, Lin, Faelnar, Mullins, Tengco, Banani, Huddy, Tep, Tan, Tuttle, Geller,
Nelson, Casillas

ABSENT: Wu, Nguyen

GUESTS: Patty Zimmerman, Chris Grays, Maria De Shazer, Ronald Arruejo, Don Andres, Austin Ford, Samantha
Schaefer, Carolyn McGough, Daniel Schonhaut, Jonathan Kuo

I. A. Call to Order

- Flores called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Bawa added two Presidential appointments for confirmation: Maria De Shazer to CAC, and John Tran to CPC.

-Bawa moved contingency to end of agenda following New Business.

-Bawa added USAC Funding guidelines to new business.

-Li added Bruin Bash funding under new business.

-Mullins added a Facilities officer report.

-Faelnar, Li, and Tep asked to strike their funding reports.

-Bawa moved and Faelnar seconded to approve.

-The Council unanimously voted to approve the agenda, as amended.

-Mullins moved, and Tengco seconded to add the publishing of the Undie Run Resolution to the Daily Bruin as an action item, following the previous approval. There were no objections.

III. Approval of the Minutes

A. *7/28/2009

-Faelnar moved and Farmer seconded to approve the minutes for July 28, 2009.

-The Council unanimously voted to approve the minutes for July 28, 2009.

B. *8/11/2009

-Mullins asked to strike his apology statement.

-Bawa asked to strike the statement "that she stated as audacious"

-Huddy asked to strike the statement beginning with "Huddy said that Mullins".

-Bawa asked to strike "SRC" and replace with SREC. She also added "which to her knowledge is not true" after the statement "never met with USAC".

-Tressel asked to rephrase the statement addressing his question to Tengco.

-Banani asked to change Wednesday to Monday, and change "on campus" to all students.

-Farmer moved and Mullins seconded to approve the minutes for August 11, 2009, as amended.

The Council unanimously voted to approve the minutes for August 11, 2009, as amended.

IV. Public Comments

Professor Baker and Professor Steven Nelson, In regards to news of closing of Arts Library

- Professors Baker and Nelson stated that they wished to come to the meeting to inform the council of the closing of the Arts Library on campus. They said that there is a student formed Facebook group titled “Save the UCLA Arts Library”, where a link to a petition is also available to sign. Nelson said that the library is not only a resource to students in the arts, but also to every student. He charged USAC to get in touch with friends and acquaintances to inform about the closing of any library. Baker said that the arts library has been an institution on campus since 1952, and holds over 250,000 items. It is designed for arts students, but students from all over campus utilize its resources. Baker said that there are no proposals of what will happen to the books and resources in this library, and there is not any space in the other libraries. He said there is a potential for all of these books to go into storage. He said that this could create a system in which users must “page” materials that they need. Nelson stressed the severity of the issue for the campus, generally. He said part of what makes UCLA a great institution is its libraries.
- Williams asked if anyone has quantified the benefit of closing the library.
- Nelson stated that no one has offered any numbers. But he said that the only certain cuts that would be made are those to student employee jobs, facilities costs, and maintenance charges.
- Tressel asked if any of the materials in Special Collections have been created by UCLA affiliates.
- Baker said that many professors and students have donated their works. He cited Robert Heineken, a famous alumni photographer. He said that there is a significant amount of outrage coming from alumni from the Film of Theater, Film, and Television who have donated substantially.
- Tuttle said that there is room for a Faculty representative to be appointed to the USAC table. He said that those spots historically have been filled when the need for a student and staff coalition to be built. He said that as much as students need Professors, in moments like this, it is also very important to seek out the help of student leaders such as those serving on USAC.

V. Special Presentations

There were no special presentations this week.

VI. Appointments

A. Austin Ford- Student Conduct Committee (SCC)

- Bawa said that Ford received no recommendation from ARC, with a vote of 1 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstention. She said that Ford included many details in his answers and has a good grasp of student conduct. She said he was found to have come from a diverse background that issues a strong foundation of judgment and moral and ethical conduct. He is very committed to due process of law and constitutional rights but ARC added that he did not seem to exhibit strong student advocacy or the determination to fashion outreach for those who could use the committee as a resource.
- Bawa moved and Farmer seconded to approve Ford to the Student Conduct Committee.
- Bawa asked Ford to describe how his interest in SCC was developed.
- Ford said he was drawn to the SCC by his opinion that justice should be done. He said that he feels it is very important to stick very closely to the Constitution, and he feels that SCC has the duty to abide by the rules of the constitution.
- Tep asked what relevant experience Ford has, and for his vision for the Student Conduct Committee.
- Ford said that he has served as the President for his High School student council, where he created a committee to help establish a judicial board. He said the job of the SCC is to obtain justice. He wishes to make the committee an impartial and evidence finding council. He said that there should be no bias, and that the cases need to stay confined to fact finding.
- Farmer said that there are levels of student conduct cases. He asked how Ford will deal with cases where students feel discriminated against.
- Ford said that he will refer to the law to help decide cases, and work assiduously to make certain that the possibility of any discrimination is diminished.
- Tengco moved and Li seconded to call to question.
- Ford was unanimously approved to SCC with a vote of 10 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

B. Maria De Shazer- Community Activities Community (CAC)

-Bawa said that De Shazer received a positive recommendation from CAC, with a total of 2 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 1 abstention. She said that De Shazer demonstrated a limited knowledge of the committee, yet a strong desire to facilitate community service and outreach on UCLA's behalf. She said that ARC found De Shazer to be a very ambitious individual with a strong desire to learn. She said that she has been passionately dedicated to community service.

-Bawa moved to approve De Shazer to CAC.

-Tressel asked De Shazer to explain her passion for Community Service.

-De Shazer said that she believes her true education will come from helping others, and she believes that is a message that all should live by.

-Tengco asked her to share her relevant experience.

-De Shazer said that she is a second year student. She said she did not know how to contribute to the university during her first year, but she would like to reshape that experience for future students.

-Mullins asked De Shazer to share her vision for CAC.

-De Shazer would like to create more community service oriented fairs, and really push the idea of service to students. She would like to make community service requirements for the University.

-Tuttle said that USAC should really consider whether or not to embrace the requirement to the University. He said it is a very relevant and huge idea, and that it should not be overlooked.

-Tep asked for her experience with Community Service.

-She was recently elected to Community Service leader for Afrikan Student Union. She also served as a chair for ASU admit weekend, and performed numerous volunteer hours at UCLA and in the Los Angeles community.

-Tep moved and Banani seconded to call to question.

-De Shazer was approved with a unanimous vote.

-Tressel recommended that De Shazer speak with Banani about all community service ideas.

C. John Tran- Campus Programs Committee (CPC)

- Bawa said that Tran received a unanimous recommendation from ARC. She said that he demonstrated an astute knowledge of the committee; he plans to encourage co-programming amongst organizations, and has financial experience within his own organization and balancing a large budget.

-Bawa moved and Tengco seconded to approve John Tran to CPC.

-Tran wished to thank the council for having him at the meeting. He wished to express his gratitude for the work the council members had done.

-Bawa asked Tran to elaborate his understanding of CPC.

-Tran was a fiscal coordinator for his own personal organization. He understands that the committee is composed of undergraduates, graduates, and faculty. His service for his personal group has allowed him to have an inside look into the operations of CPC.

-Mullins asked if there is a way for CPC to transition to an electronic application.

-Tran said that one of the main issues that he would like to address is creating an electronic application. He said this would save time, and would also be more sustainable.

-Flores said that CPC is already in the process of going digital, and Tran should work with them to ensure that the application becomes electronic.

-Tengco moved and Faelnar seconded to call to question.

-Tran was unanimously approved to CPC with a vote of 10 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

VII. Fund Allocations

A. Contingency Allocations

There were no Contingency Allocations this week.

B. SOOF Updates

There were no SOOF Updates 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.

G. SGOF Updates

- Grays said that the total budget is \$40,703. He reviewed the individual budget for each office.
- Grays said that each office did not receive requests for advertisements, because the funding is for events.
- Mullins moved and Huddy seconded to add changes to SGOF allocations to the standing agenda, as an action item. There were no objections.
- Mullins moved and Huddy seconded to approve the funding allocations.
- Tuttle and Nelson voiced objections with only having verbal communication of the distribution of the SGOF allocations.
- Mullins asked to remove his motion as previously stated.
- Grays re-sent the SGOF allocations to the council.*
- Bawa stated that the council listserv is available to the entire board.
- Zimmerman also stated that under the website, under contacts, each member can also access the list serv.
- Flores asked if there were any additional questions.
- Farmer moved to approve the allocations- there was already a motion on the table.
- Mullins moved to call to question the motion to withdraw the motion to approve the funding allocations.
- Flores said that council members in favor of removing the motion should raise their hand. There were 11 opposed to the motion to remove the approval motion.
- Mullins moved and Li seconded to call to question. Nguyen objected to allow for further discussion.
- The committee would need to reach a 2/3 majority opposed to the call to question in order to continue debate.*
- There were a total of 8 in favor of ending allocation debate, and 3 opposed.
- The SGOF allocations were approved with a vote of 10-1-0.

- Deborah Simmons, advisor for SGOF, passed around guidelines for the SGOF allocations. She stated that any concerns with the bylaws can be addressed by approving a new set of bylaws in the current school year. She said that Brian Tan will be signing all requisition forms to apply for funding for the upcoming year. She said that there are quarterly deadlines for each request. She asked that each council member set-up direct deposit to ensure that stipends be received before the campus closes down for two weeks over winter break. Simmons stated that in many instances, funding may not be used for food items. She said that if there are any issues with funding approvals, to please make certain to fill out requisition forms, and her staff will address all concerns. She then further reviewed the process to fill out all requisition forms.
- Farmer wanted to know if donation money also was restricted to certain items.
- Simmons said that items restricted from SGOF funding could be paid for by donations.
- Flores thanked Simmons for her time.*

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President – Cinthia Flores

- Flores said that she is working with Voice of Our Nations, to cosponsor an event in late April or May to address homelessness at a local, state, and national level. She said that the organization is working to sponsor a run to raise awareness. She and Tengco have been working with library administrators to address concerns with the closing of two libraries, and the termination of Saturday and late night hours. She said that no closures are for certain at this moment. She said that she will be meeting with the officials to help find resources to keep these institutions in operation.

- Tengco said that some of his staff recommended opening up other institutions to provide for students in the event that Night Powell hours were to be cancelled.
- Huddy asked if there was any financial understanding of the cost of running Night Powell.
- Tengco said that the cost to keep it open annually is between 75-100,000 dollars.
- Nelson asked if that estimate includes the Summer costs. Tengco said that he is unaware but will research.
- Farmer said that he has concerns with these closures, because there are substantial closures taking place on the hill. He said that this creates an academic burden, and could really reflect on student performance.
- Flores stated that she agrees, and that the closures would also create safety issues.

Internal Vice President – Shahida Bawa

- Bawa met with the Student Risk Education Committee. She said that they wish to meet during the fall to develop training. She is working closely with the Ashe center to help develop a health fair at the orientation to provide TB tests and Flu shots for all UCLA student volunteers.

Academic Affairs Commissioner—Layhannara Tep

- Tep has been corresponding with Shane Butler. He stated that he was unaware of the cuts to the libraries on campus before the announcement had been made. He said that students have not been asked about the closing. Tep said that she and the SWC are looking at the possible effects the closures could have on student retention.

Facilities Commissioner—Tim Mullins

- Mullins, Tengco, and Huddy will be meeting with Bob Naples next week. He is working with Rich Haisner, Alex Fay, and Mayor Villaragosa’s office to further develop the Zip car program. He will be doing a presentation at the next meeting. He said that there is a launch event at the Mayor’s office on September 14th; the Mayor will be speaking. He said the event is to help provide awareness, and the day will be a very significant day for the community.

Administrative Representative—Dr. Rick Tuttle

- Tuttle said that he has been in conversation with Patty Zimmerman on the question of TGIF, and whether or not the guidelines for the program had ever been approved by USAC. He does not have a clear memory of whether or not the council had ever approved the necessary guidelines to allot money from student fees. He said that if those minutes can not be located, the remedy is to bring up the guidelines as designed by the TGIF committee, and be revised and approved by USAC. He wished to bring this issue up to the table

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

X. New Business

A. USAC Funding Guideline Changes*

- Bawa said that currently, contingency guidelines currently fund light refreshments and non-alcoholic drinks. She suggested that the council redefine “light refreshments” as “food”, and keep non-alcoholic drinks as is. She said that there has not been a limit established, but she and Tan suggest adding a \$500.00 funding limit.
- Tan said that there is currently no other fund that allows for food and drinks on campus. He said that these revisions could allow for many organizations to hold events that they may not have been able to hold otherwise.
- Bawa moved and Farmer seconded to approve the Funding guideline changes.
- Mullins asked how many changes had been proposed. She said that the guideline already exists to fund food, but she and Tan wished to clear up ambiguity of the words “light refreshments”.
- Bawa said that the original statements to be replaced are:

- *A request for food must include a statement detailing the reasons that food is necessary to the functioning of the program.*
- *For all food-funded requests, only non-alcoholic light refreshments such as cookies and punch will be admissible.*

And the proposed amended guidelines are:

- *Students may purchase food and non-alcoholic drink not exceeding the amount of \$500.*
- *However, this limit is at the discretion of the Finance Committee Chair.”*

- Tan said that groups may request additional funding, but there is a \$1,000 cap that cannot be exceeded.
- Tuttle said that changing “light refreshments” could create problems in the future. He said the institutional understanding will be gone, and the leaders will only have the amended guidelines to refer to. He said that trouble can be developed from changing such as these. He said that the change appears small, but could be very controversial later on. He said there is a history which led to a light refreshment standard.
- Flores said that a per-person capita should be developed.
- Mullins said that there may be a better way to take Tuttle’s suggestions.
- Champawat said that it is very important to follow all changes to USAC guidelines, and to keep the ramifications of such changes in mind at all times.
- Tuttle said that a change that appears small, such as this, could end up being an issue during future student elections.
- Tengco said that he believes Bawa and Tan had discussed the possible repercussions, and he feels comfortable with the approval of the amendment.
- Williams said that ratios for food spending are standard, and he likes the idea of developing ratios to decide the appropriate spending limits per-person.
- Tan said that for these events, there is already a requirement that FiCom utilizes to ensure that spending limits are not abused.
- Tengco moved and Li seconded to call to question. Mullins objected to the motion and second.
- There were two voting in favor of Mullins’ objection to the call, and 8 against. The motion went to a vote.
- The funding guideline changes were approved with a vote of 8-0-0.
- Tan said that he will keep the council informed about the changes to the guidelines.

B. Bruin Bash Funding*

- Lin and Faelnar said that everything is going well with Bruin Bash. They have booked The Clipse and LMFAO for the show. Lin said that the committees currently have \$40,000 from the Chancellor’s office, and they are requesting a \$60,000 allocation from USAC Surplus.
- Faelnar moved and Bawa seconded to allocate \$60,000 from the Surplus fund.
- Lin said that Bruin Bash website is www.bruinbash.ucla.edu.
- Tuttle said that staying within \$50-\$70,000 range is a good idea, and this request from Lin and Faelnar is reasonable.
- Tengco moved and Tep seconded to call to question.
- The council unanimously voted to allocate \$60,000 to Bruin Bash committee.

C. Contingency Approval*

- Banani moved and Tep seconded to approve contingency approval.
- Bawa said that for this weekend, the amount allowed is \$35.00 per person. She said that the fee to rent out part of the restaurant is included in this amount.
- Bawa moved and Farmer seconded to call to question.
- The council unanimously voted to approve the Contingency Allocations.

D. Daily Bruin Publishing of Undie Run Resolution*

- Mullins moved and Farmer seconded to not publish the Undie Run Resolution in the Daily Bruin.
- Lin asked for Mullins’ reasoning.

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-He said that it would have made more sense to publish the resolution a week ago. He said that he, Tengco, and Huddy will already be meeting with Bob Naples this week.

-Bawa said that the argument for the resolution was that it would allow students to know that the council was working on the issue. She said that the motion to not publish is counter intuitive.

-Tressel said that he agrees with Mullins' motion to not publish the resolution.

-Farmer moved and Tengco seconded to call to question.

-The council unanimously voted to not publish the Undie Run Resolution to the Daily Bruin.

XI. Announcements

There were no announcements at this meeting.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Mullins moved and Tengco 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 9:12p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Casillas
USAC Minutes Taker
2009-2010