

FINAL

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday September 8, 2009
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Wu, Lin

GUESTS: Patty Zimmerman, King Adei-Frompong, Nick Chapa, Alexandria Richardson, Argie Mina, Soza King, Arianna Taboada, Dai Troung

I. A. Call to Order

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

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

-The attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

-Farmer added an EduBudget presentation and an Officer Report. He also added Textbook scholarships as an action item.

-Flores removed the carpet cleaning and replacement action items.

-Tengco asked to strike the Locknetics action item.

-Bawa asked to table the appointment approval of Troung because he was running late.

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

III. Approval of the Minutes

A. 8/25/2009*

-Geller was not present.

-Faelnar moved and Banani seconded to approve the minutes.

-The Approved by acclamation.

IV. Public Comments

There were no public comments this week

V. Special Presentations

A. Zipcar Presentation—Tim Mullins

Mullins said that a representative from Zipcar could not make it to the meeting. Zipcar is a car rental program that houses cars at different locations across the country. There are many types of cars that are suited to customer need. He said that the point of the program is to compete with rental businesses, and potentially lower the amount of cars on the road in general. He said that there are financial and environmental benefits to the program. He said that this program is a great sustainable alternative. Gas, insurance, cleaning, and maintenance are covered with the car for \$8.00 per day. Bookings can be made up to minutes in advance, adding to its convenience. The cars are run by a magnetic car system, and everything is handled electronically—also adding to convenience. Those who apply for the program will receive their card in the mail and can make use of cars in any part of the country that the cars are located.

There are 13 cars scattered throughout the Westwood village. Mullins said that a ZipCar event is being held Monday, September 14th with Villarogosa and Paul Koretz to launch the ZipCar program to Los Angeles streets. There is no limit to the amount of cars offered. The event will be from 10AM-11AM, with opportunities to meet the Mayor. Mullins said that his mission is to get as many UCLA students to attend as possible. There will be several of the UCLA local Zipcars at the event to allow for interested students with Zipcar accounts to drive the vehicles back to campus, free of charge.

-Flores asked how Mullins believed Zipcar fits the mission of USAC.

-Mullins said this program promotes sustainability and that is one of his priorities. He said that every ZipCar is projected to remove 15 cars off of the road, promoting a true culture of sustainability.

-Tressel asked how the campaign plans to promote to younger students.

-Mullins said that ZimRide is linked with Zipcar and they work together to advertise on Facebook.

-Tressel suggested rebuilding travel fairs that have been held in the past.

-Nguyen asked if there have been dramatic changes to the program.

-Mullins said there were a number of FlexCars that were recalled in order to consolidate the program.

-Geller asked if there were any UCLA user statistics.

-Mullins said that he could e-mail a contact with ZipCar to attain those statistics.

UCLA.edubudget.com Presentation—D’Juan Farmer and Cal Chan, External Website Designer

-Farmer and Chan are proposing an online resource for students to help students manager their funds received from financial assistance. He said that the university is facing overall budget costs, but no compromise to help the lifestyle of students. This initiative is to help streamline UCLA benefits on one website. Farmer said a main aim of this site is to promote financial management as a process. He said that this takes time, and this website can help empower students to take control of their finances. Farmer and Chan have developed EduBudget.com as a tool to help provide students with a hub for easy digestible financial information. He said the point is to foster a culture of responsibility. He said that the site will consist of a easy to use Quarterly Budget Tracker, and present students with coupons.

-Chan presented the Council with a visual of the projected website, and showed how the site works. He said that all of UCLA financial resources are presented on the site. He also said that outside scholarship and aid is also promoted on EduBudget.com. Chan said one of the many benefits of the site is that it allows individuals to decide which benefits they would like to see and receive. The site has a budget tracker to calculate monthly expenses, which will be pre-programmed specifically for UCLA. The calculator considers all expenses and income, and helps five students an idea of their current budget. The site will present students with coupons generated by the preferences of the student.

-Farmer said that this site is a response to student needs. He said that it is not a solution, but can really help to maximize student experience at UCLA. The site is not structured solely to those students receiving financial aid from the university, it is a tool for all students and their parents. He said a site like this is also good for UCLA because it promotes financial literacy to students. Farmer is attempting to promote the site, and is meeting with university officials currently. He said a financial literacy fair is being held during the Winter Quarter, and this will serve as the kick-off event for EduBudget.com. He also plans to get pamphlets in orientation packets, as well as a direct link to every student MyUCLA page.

-Williams asked who will be running the website. Chan responded that EduBudget.com will be managing the website.

-Williams said to make certain to get permission to use the UCLA logo on the website.

-Huddy said that there will be a substantial amount of data received from this site, and that could eventually be sold.

-Geller said that she has concerns with the possible selling of student information

-Chan said that when the agreements are finalized, they will make certain that no student information is sold to 3rd party organizations.

-Tengco asked when he would like to officially launch this website.

-Farmer said that he would ideally like to see the site running by Winter Quarter.

VI. Appointments

A. King Adei-Frompong- Judicial Board

-Bawa said that ARC gave Adei-Frompong a unanimous recommendation.

- Bawa moved and Tengco seconded to approve Adei-Frompong to Judicial Board.
- Tressel asked if he has had any past involvement with student groups.
- Adei-Frompong stated that he has been involved with the Presidential Office, and is also affiliated with a fraternity.
- Banani moved and Li seconded to call to question.
- Adei-Frompong was unanimously approved to the Judicial Board with a total of 10 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

B. Nick Chapa- Communications Board

- Bawa said that Chapa received a unanimous recommendation to the Communications Board.
- Bawa moved and Faelnar seconded to approve Chapa to Communications Board.
- Nguyen asked Chapa to expand on his prior leadership experience.
- Chapa said that he has been active individually with Latino business association, as well as an executive for the USES board.
- Tressel asked which publications Chapa reads every day.
- Chapa said that he reads BBC, Huffington Post, and the Economist.
- Tengco moved and Tep seconded to call to question.
- Chapa was unanimously approved to the Communications Board with a total of 10 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

C. Alexandria Richardson- Community Activities Board

- Bawa said that Richardson received a unanimous recommendation to Community Activities Board.
- Bawa moved and Mullins seconded to approve Richardson to Community Activities Board.
- Tep asked how far her community service experience spans.
- Richardson has performed community service since middle school. She this includes beach clean ups, reading tutorials for younger students.
- Li asked what makes her passionate about the position.
- Richardson said that she has a passion for community service in general. She would like to further the connection that UCLA has with the community, and to expand greatly on what has already been established.
- Mullins asked what improvements she sees as necessary.
- Richardson would like to make the process for funding for community programs more accessible and clear for users.
- Farmer moved and Tep seconded to call to question.
- Richardson was unanimously approved to the Community Activities Board with a total of 10 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

D. Argie Mina—Office Space Allocations Committee Chair

- Bawa said that Mina received a unanimous recommendation to be the OSAC Chair.
- Bawa moved and Tengco seconded to approve Mina.
- Tengco asked how Mina plans to use his experience to address current concerns with OSAC.
- Mina said that he has found many gaps in the application process and he would like to use his experience to make the application very clear. He would like to specifically designate deadlines and move in dates to avoid any further issues in the future.
- Mullins asked Mina how OSAC has been involved with the Facilities commissioner in the past.
- Mina said that in the past there has not been too much correspondence, but he would like to work closer with the facilities commissioner to handle all office space concerns on campus.
- Nelson asked how Mina plans to clear up discrepancies that lead to problems.
- Mina said that in the past he has found a lack of communication to lead to problems, and plans to address that this upcoming year.
- Li moved and Faelnar seconded to call to question.
- Mina was unanimously approved to OSAC, with a total of 10 in favor, 0 abstentions, and 0 in opposition.

E. Soza King—SAC BOG

- Bawa said that King was unanimously recommended to SAC BOG.
- Bawa moved and Tep seconded to approve King to SAC BOG.
- Tep asked what her understanding of SAC BOG is.
- King said that the purpose is to make sure that all student groups have the space that they need to carry out their planned activities.
- Flores asked how King will use her experience to improve next year.
- King said that she plans to use her experience to help navigate clearly through issues that may arise.
- Tep moved and Tengco seconded to call to question.
- King was unanimously approved to SAC BOG with a total of 10 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

F. Arianna Taboada-CSC

- Bawa said that Taboada was unanimously recommended to CSC.
- Bawa moved and Farmer seconded to approve Taboada to CSC.
- Tengco asked to elaborate on community service activities.
- Taboada has worked with the Rites of Passage program which has helped her come in contact with other community service organizations.
- Mullins asked Taboada what his vision for CSC is.
- Taboada said that she would like more awareness for community service leaders. She would like to help by holding application workshops and more visual promotions to help promote applying for the Community Service Mini-Fund
- Li moved and Tengco seconded to call to question.
- Taboada was unanimously approved to CSC with a total of 10 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

G. Dai Troung- Community Service Mini Fund

- Bawa moved and Farmer seconded to table the approval of Troung until later in the meeting. There were no voiced objections.

After Troung arrived:

- Bawa said that Troung received a unanimous recommendation to the Community Service Mini Fund.
- Bawa moved and Tengco seconded to approve Troung to the Community Service Mini Fund.
- Troung has served the mini-fund for six quarters, and said that his experience could help him to make improvements.
- Li asked what improvements he would like to propose.
- Troung said he is working on workshops to help communicate changes and advertise the new application process.
- Li moved and Faelnar seconded to call to question.
- Troung was unanimously approved to the Community Service Mini Fund with a total 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.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President – Cinthia Flores

Flores said that the USAC retreat was success. Primary focus for the year: maintain student interests. The council specifically wishes to reinstate Night Powell in its entirety. USCA Presidents Council will convene this weekend, and will be discussing issues that affect students at UC level. Center for Student Programming retreat is being held this week, and Flores said that it would be very beneficial if USAC members would attend the retreat.

Internal Vice President – Shahida Bawa

Bawa said that she is working with SREC on fall-training dates, and CSP in those efforts. Bawa and Farmer will be passing out planners to USAC to help facilitate co-programming between offices and commissions.

External Vice President- Susan Li

Li said that she is making the final preparations for the UCSA BOD, President’s Council, and SIAP Coalition meetings happening during the upcoming weekend. She is very excited because representatives from all of the UC Campuses are coming to UCLA for the events. She participated in a national conference call for the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act (SAFRA), was briefed on the national plan of action that should be happening on each campus, including actions, etc. Li will be on another national conference call this Thursday for the United States Student Association. She met with the Daily Bruin to talk about what her office is going to be doing for the upcoming year. She also met with faculty leading the faculty walk-out, a professor from UCLA, Sianne Ngai, and a professor from Davis named Joshua Clover with the hopes of building faculty-student solidarity and getting more insight as to what they have been /plan doing. Li wished to share the following important dates with the council:

- September 10– Rally for a New California, 3:30pm at 3rd and Spring
- September 11-13– UCSA BOD Meeting, President’s Council, and Student Initiated Academic Prep Coalition meeting at UCLA
- September 15th-17th- UC Regents Meeting at UCSF
- September 20th -22nd – UCSA Staff/Field Organizer visits UCLA!
- September 23rd– DREAM Back-to-School Action
- September 24th– Faculty Walk Out

Academic Affairs Commissioner—Layhannara Tep

Tep said that she and Li met with Faculty members who are heading the UC wide faculty walk-out to be held on September 24. She will have more updates after the next meeting takes place.

-Huddy asked if there is going to be a walk-out held around Thanksgiving.

-Li and Tep said that further walk-outs are not verified at this point, and

-Nelson asked for the details of the event.

-Li said that there is a petition that will be passed around to students to help ask faculty to walk out. She said that “walking out” depends on the specific faculty member. She said that there is going to be an action day held that day hosted by a labor organization. Some Professors will actually be walking out, and others might cancel class on that day.

-Nelson asked how many faculty plan to participate. Li said that there are 300 state-wide and 23 here at UCLA. Li said that a press release was issued yesterday, and the plan is to bring more faculty members on-board with the efforts.

-Tep said the main point of this is to help raise awareness.

Administrative Representative—Nelson & Geller

-Nelson said that he received an e-mail from Dr. Steven Nelson who stated that there will be a faculty representative to USAC.

-Geller asked USAC members to RSVP to the Student Welcome event to be held during week zero.

D’Juan Farmer

-Farmer said that all first year students are receiving a book titled *Mountains Beyond Mountains* to help promote the chancellor’s community service initiative.

IX. Old Business

A. Banner—Faelnar

-Faelnar sent the design for the banner to USAC e-mail accounts. She asked for any suggestions or concerns with the banner.

-Faelnar asked if anyone could help her with the delivery of the banner. Farmer agreed to help her.

X. New Business

A. Business Cards*

Flores said that she and Zimmerman have been discussing the possibility of having USAC business cards.

-Zimmerman said that a logo and template for business cards has been developed. She said that USAC members will have to purchase the business cards and then receive reimbursements after.

-Nguyen suggested that a card designated specifically for Business Cards could be developed.

-Zimmerman said that she agrees that business cards should be included as an account within the written budget. She said this could make more simple for future ordering.

-Flores wanted to see if there was a universal interest in getting business cards. She said that no money will be committed, she just wanted to make certain that council members would make use of the business cards.

B. Textbook Scholarships*

-Farmer said that \$25,000 was allocated to textbook scholarships for the past year. For the 2009-2010 school year, he, Flores, and Tep are proposing \$50,000 worth of scholarships. He said this amount would increase the total number of recipients to 250. The three USAC members drafted the following proposal for approval:

WHEREAS, the Financial Supports Commission of the Undergraduate Student Association Council works to address areas of financial concern for UCLA undergraduates to protect student education and allow students to prioritize academics;

WHEREAS, according to a survey conducted by the California Student Public Interest Research Group (CALPIRG), UCLA undergraduate students will spend an average of \$900 per year on textbooks, and;

WHEREAS, rising textbook prices are significant barriers to access for low and moderate-income students;

WHEREAS, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Producer Price Index, college textbooks prices have increased at four times the rate of inflation since 1994 and continue to increase;

WHEREAS, in the 2008-2009 Academic School Year, over 50 recipients have benefited from the Textbook Scholarship Fund, and hundreds have applied in the Winter and Spring Quarter;

WHEREAS, the Undergraduate Student Association Council is charged with the ability to assist students financially in times of tuition hikes, resource declines, and faculty and staff furloughs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Undergraduate Student Association Council, this September 8, 2009, that the Financial Supports Commission Scholarship Fund is allocated \$50,000 in funding from surplus funds for the Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarter of 2009-2010 academic year, resulting in 200 scholarships.

-Williams said he is a supporter of the Textbook scholarship program. He did say that he has concerns with the administration asking for funds from USAC.

-Farmer said that there are funds set aside for serious financial changes. He said that this fund which gives money directly to students could help students deal with the inability to not afford textbooks.

-Tan said that \$20,000 was allocated to the scholarship from surplus contingency over the past year.

-Bawa said that she has concerns with the proposed language in the document. She asked if there is any way to incorporate textbook scholarships into the budget as an item. She said that this could help avoid further dependence on surplus contingency.

-Mullins said that he has not heard any mention of how textbook scholarships are distributed. He said that there might be issues with giving funds accumulated from all student fees. He said that there might be issues with having the student body fund a scholarship for a very select group of students. He said the idea behind the funding presented is to go to events that any student can enjoy, and he said this certain amount of student funds is locked up to a certain group of people.

-Farmer said the application for textbook scholarships are found on the FSC website. He said that Farmer: issues with rationale of Mullins—compare this spending to locknetics, carpet. Done nothing to help affect student lives. This should be used for long terms things→ rebuttal: this money could be made use of by students.

-Banani asked how much of the allocation was used.

-Farmer said that the money was eligible for three quarters, and to his understanding most of the funds were utilized.

-Farmer moved and Li seconded to allocate \$50,000 to the textbook scholarships through surplus contingency fund.

-Zimmerman said that if council members wish to propose changes to the budget, e-mail her to make certain that funding sources are available. She said this could further eliminate confusion in the future.

-Bawa moved and Tep seconded to call to question the motion to allocate \$50,000.

-Huddy and Mullins objected to the call to question. The objection stands with a total of 6 in favor of calling to question, 3 in opposition, and 1 abstention.

-Mullins said that he acknowledges that the scholarship is a noble cause, but said that USAC has an obligation to look at how to benefit the most people because this fund is comprised of money from all students.

-Flores said that every student does pay \$130.00 in student fees, and that every USAC member, as fiduciaries have the duty to look closely at all funds and disbursements.

-Huddy said that he would like future budget proposals sent out to the council further in advance. He said that there are student groups who will need to rely on a surplus budget in the future, and that groups who receive funds will expect the same allocations in the future.

-Tressel said that the textbook scholarship is a tangible and valuable initiative. He said that there is room for compromise in the dollar amount requested.

-Li said she does not understand the rationale because an allocation like this could directly improve the lifestyle of students. She said that students are not benefited by the allocation of carpet and locknetics funding.

-Huddy asked what the average amount of money spent on textbooks per quarter is for students. Farmer said that CALPIRG has assembled an average amount spent on textbooks per year.

-Farmer said that there is no other way to ensure that students are being directly benefited other than this program.

-Tengco said that the amount should not be compromised. He said that \$50,000 is a reasonable amount to fund this scholarship. Tengco moved to call to question, but Huddy and Mullins objected. Objection not reached with a vote of 7 in favor of the call to question, 3 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

-The motion to allocate \$50,000 to the Textbook Scholarship fund from Surplus Contingency Fund passed with a total of 7 in favor, 2 in opposition, and 1 abstention.

-Nelson wished to commend the council on the discussion held.

EduBudget.com

-Farmer moved and Tep seconded to approve EduBudget.com as a USAC sponsored initiative in partnership with Cal Chan, webmaster.

-Tep asked what a USAC sponsorship entails.

-Farmer said that a USAC sponsorship will state that EduBudget is supported by USAC. It will also state that USAC supports the use of this program by the university.

-Bawa moved and Tengco seconded to call to question.

-The motion to approve EduBudget.com as a USAC sponsored initiative passed with a total of 8 in favor, 1 in opposition, and 1 abstention.

Contingency Funding for Food Guideline Changes

-Bawa proposed the following guideline changes:

MAXIMUM RATES FOR MEALS AND LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

The maximum per-person expenditures for meals and light refreshments furnished by the Undergraduate Student Association may not exceed the following amounts:

Breakfast: \$10.00
Lunch: \$20.00 (Reimbursement for a brunch may be made using the lunch rate.)
Dinner: \$30.00
Light refreshments: \$5.00

The reimbursement for a buffet reception cannot exceed the applicable meal rate associated with the type of buffet, i.e., breakfast, lunch, or dinner.

The maximum per-person expenditures listed above include the cost of the food and beverages, labor, sales tax, delivery charges, and other service fees.

If a reception before a meal includes beverages and hors d'oeuvres, the combined charges for the reception and the meal should be treated as a single meal for purposes of calculating per person costs.

The costs of room rental, room setup fees, etc., are not included in the per-person costs unless those costs cannot be separated by the vendor.

In addition, should funds be awarded to any RCO for food, it is important that the RCO comply with the UCLA Student Alcohol Policy, which prohibits the use of University/ASUCLA funds for the purchase of alcoholic beverages served at RCO events.

-Bawa said that these guideline changes proposed will not be voted upon at this particular meeting, but she and Tan wished to bring them to the attention of the council for an upcoming approval.

-Flores allowed a ten minute discussion period beginning at 9:39PM.

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-Mullins said that it would be wise to form a committee to analyze the changes. He yielded the floor to Huddy.

-Huddy said that the Surplus Contingency fund was at \$126,000 before the \$50,000 allocation to the textbook scholarships. He said that the proposed changes do not benefit a majority of the population at UCLA.

XI. Announcements

Patty Zimmerman

Zimmerman said that the server for USAC has been having technical problems, so it is being removed completely. She said that USAC sites hosted under the server will be copied to the new server. She said that changes made to sites on the old server might not appear if they are made during the transitional period. Zimmerman said that that the period of transition is between September 11th and 15th, and she recommended backing up all data to those who plan to make changes during that period.

-Faelnar said that the movie for Bruin Bash is Law Abiding Citizen, starring Jamie Foxx and Gerard Butler. She also said that Shakira will be filming a music video at Royce Hall next week.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Banani moved and Tep 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 9:54p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Casillas
USAC Minutes Taker
2009-2010