

FINAL

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday October 6, 2009
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Huddy, Tressel

GUESTS: Aaron Farber (Proxy for Huddy), Haseeb Bajwa, Michael Kelso, Sean Carroll

A. Call to Order

-Flores called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Lin and Faelnar asked to add funding for the Enormous Activities Fair as an action item.
- Bawa added Contingency Allocations as an action item.
- Tep asked to strike the Academic Affairs Mini-grant and the Academic Success Referendum Fund.
- Faelnar asked to strike the Cultural Affairs Mini-grant.
- Li asked to strike the EVP travel grant.
- Tengco moved and Tep 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 by Acclamation.

III. Approval of the Minutes

A. 9/29/2009*

- Geller was absent at the meeting.
- Bawa moved and Mullins seconded to approve the minutes.
- Flores called for Acclamation. Flores asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the minutes were approved by Acclamation.

IV. Public Comments

Sean Carroll –CALPIRG

Carroll has been a staff member for CALPIRG for three years. He said that he hopes to keep USAC updated about CALPIRG affairs. There is a national day of service tomorrow to raise support for the Pell Grant—the day will consist of students making phone calls to legislators. The organization will also be on Bruin Walk from 11-2 on Wednesday October 7th making telephone calls. The hope of the organization is to pass the first law on Global Warming emissions. They are also working on health care reform, as well as protecting the oceans. There is going to be a kick off-meeting October 13, and he invited council to come to promote programs and participate in event planning. Carroll will send council an email to share contact information. His goal is to always have a CALPIRG staff member present at council meetings to promote working together.

Michael Kelso- Judicial Board

Kelso announced that the Judicial Board will be holding office hours, Monday and Wednesday from 11-12 and on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1-2. Kelso invited council to stop by the office hours to get updates from the Judicial Board directly.

V. Special Presentations

There were no special presentations this week.

VI. Appointments

A. Haseeb Bajwa- Judicial Board

-Bawa moved and Faelnar seconded to table the appointment approval of Bajwa until the end of the meeting, because he was not present.

AT THE END OF THE MEETING

-Bawa said that Bajwa received a unanimous recommendation from ARC, citing his extensive debate experience. She also said that he offers conservative checks and balances. Bawa moved and Mullins seconded to approve Bajwa to the Judicial Board.

-Nelson asked if Bajwa has affiliations with student parties or organizations on campus.

-Bajwa has been active with a community project last year.

-Nelson asked if he can be fair and objective.

-Bajwa said that he will do best to be impartial, and if he feels that he is being biased he will choose to abstain from voting.

-Mullins asked Bajwa to explain his familiarity with Judicial Board.

-Bajwa explained his understanding of the framework of the Judicial Board, delving into the Court of hearing, Court of Appeal, Board of Election Review.

-Bawa moved and Tep seconded to call to question. There were no objections.

-Bajwa was unanimously approved to the Judicial Board with a total of 11 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

VII. Fund Allocations

A. Contingency Allocations

-Tan said that a total of \$2363.29 was requested from Contingency this week and that of that, a total of \$1293.29 is recommended for allocation for this week. The requesting organizations were: Bruin Feminists for Equality, Muslim Student Association (MSA), Samahang Pilipino, General Representative 1 office,

-Bawa moved and Mullins seconded to approve the Contingency Allocations.

-Geller asked how many students plan to attend the MSA banquet.

-Tan said that although the application requires that applicants list the number of estimated attendees, MSA did not make an estimate.

-Bawa moved and Mullins seconded to call to question.

-The council voted to approve the Contingency Allocations with a vote of 11 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

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 she and a team of students met with Chancellor Block and received significant answers that they were looking for. Flores said that she received an approximate estimate of the cost to maintain Night Powell from the administration. Over the past weekend, her office held a retreat and they discussed how to incorporate USAC goals. She met with Yudof and some of the key topics discussed were the fee hikes diversity, and student advocacy. Yudof said that more than 2,000 more layoffs would be necessary if the proposed fee hikes were not put into effect. Flores said that it appears the Yudof has taken a very pro-fee stance and she feels that it will be necessary to hold additional meetings to come up with other ideas. One of the last topics discussed with Yudof was whether or not to coordinate advocacy efforts. Student leaders advised him that the EVP makes advocacy trips on a local, state, and national level. These issues will continue to be discussed at the UC Regent's meeting. She said that throughout the meeting there was a sense of urgency because students felt that there were actions that could have been taken to address the pressing student concerns. There was a press conference today to cover the Yudof meeting. Flores added that she has been working extensively to restore student services, and has received verbal commitment to receive some sort of funding to maintain Night Powell. Her office is also working to use the online support system to create an online petition which can be signed electronically---if and when there is not funding received for Night Powell.

-Farmer asked if the percentage increase for student fees is the same for state, out of state, and international student fee increases.

-Flores said that it is.

Internal Vice President – Shahida Bawa

Bawa said that Live Strong day was held last Friday. Participants handed out Live Strong bracelets and created cards through the survivorship center to deliver to patients. She said that this upcoming Thursday the Muslim Student Association is holding their welcome dinner. She will be speaking about community service and why it is important on campus. There will be dinner Thursday 6pm in Ackerman Grand Ballroom.

External Vice President- Susan Li

Li returned from the USSA in Washington D.C. yesterday. Her staff members will be at the council meeting next week to make presentations. Her officer has been working to increase Pell Grants. She met with Chancellor Block yesterday with Tep and others. Block said that he cannot oppose fee increases. Li feels that this is a sign of an uphill battle to be faced. He does not wish to commit to a town hall meeting to avoid being put in an awkward situation.

Academic Affairs Commissioner—Layhannara Tep

-Tep moved and Tengco seconded to consent the approval of Matthew Weiner to the Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics, and Layhearn Tep and Jasmine Beard to the Council on Planning and Budget.
-Council voted unanimously to consent the approval of Weiner, Tep, and Beard to their respected positions.

- Tep said that she was at the meeting this morning with Chancellor Block and she found his responses disheartening. She looked to him to be an advocate by freezing fee hikes, but he simply said that students do not understand that fee hikes will be beneficial in the long run. Tep and Li will present Block with a Town Hall proposal and if he likes it, he will agree to participate in a Town Hall meeting.
- Farmer asked if Block stated that he will not vote against the fee increase.
- Tep said that he does not necessarily oppose the fee hikes, but did not say that he will vote in favor of the increase.

Administrative Representative—Nelson & Geller

-Nelson said that he had the opportunity to meet with a representative from the national Singapore University who has visited Penn, Virginia Tech, and UCLA. His job was to see what US university administrations did to deal with student affairs. He said that at his home university there are only about 80 members of administration, compared with over 500 here at UCLA. He said that UCLA teaches students on a very wide level which he contrasted to the very narrow scope of Singapore University which he said educates students with the intention of getting them into a particular job.

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business at this meeting.

X. New Business

Faelnar and Lin---Enormous Activities Fair*

-Faelnar said that she and Lin realized some discrepancies with funding for the Enormous Activities Fair, and have also come up with some recommendations for the running the event in upcoming years. The first recommendation: The event is currently a CEC and CAC co-sponsored event. The President's office co-sponsored previous years. Lin and Faelnar recommended that the event be an IVP event. To cover the discrepancy, Faelnar said that they are requesting a \$10,000 funding from USAC.

-Lin passed a printed event estimate for council to review. She said that the commissions ran into unexpected costs. There is not a digital projector in Ackerman, and they had to rent one for \$3,000.00. She said that this year brought the largest audience for a movie in the history of Bruin Bash, and that the event was a great success. Faelnar and Lin are currently working with Champawat to add a digital projector ASUCLA's five-year plan.

-Faelnar moved and Tep seconded to allocate \$10,000.00 from USAC surplus to fund the remainder of the cost for Bruin Bash.

-Nguyen asked if there was an event being held in Melnitz Hall on the night of Bruin Bash.

-Lin said that there was no event that evening, but that they usually do have better films to offer because they possess a digital projector.

-Mullins asked when the money is due to the Events Office.

-Lin said that the Campus Events Commission has already paid the Events Office the full price.

-Nguyen asked Lin to elaborate on the overall costs of the Enormous Activities Fair.

-Lin said that most of the cost came from tables due to the increase in student groups. In 2008, there were about 300 groups at the fair, compared with 500 in 2009.

-Geller asked if Lin and Faelnar had considered applying for some funding from Student Risk and Education Committee.

-Lin said that she will look into applying for the funds from the committee.

-Nguyen moved and Wu seconded to call to question.

-Council unanimously voted to allocate \$10,000.00 to cover expenses for Bruin Bash activities with a vote of 11-0-0.

XI. Announcements

-Bawa reminded council to attend the MSA banquet.

-Tengco said that next week is National Coming Out week. There will be a program on Wednesday.

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-Wu said that SWC will be holding a recruitment drive.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Mullins 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 7:49p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Casillas
USAC Minutes Taker
2009-2010