

FINAL

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday November 3, 2009
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Tressel, Geller

GUESTS: Vice Provost Judith Smith, Sarah Ravani, Jennifer Wang, Coreen Weintraub, Jasmine Graves, Samantha
Schaefer, Argie Mina, Saif Ansari

I. A. Call to Order

- Internal Vice President Bawa called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

-Banani asked to add a Special Presentation by OSAC Chair Argie Mina, and OSAC Allocation Revisions under New Business.

-Faelnar asked to strike the Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant report.

-Tep asked to strike the Academic Affairs Mini-Grant fund report.

-Mullins added an Undie Run Revitalization plan as a special presentation.

- Tengco moved and Nguyen 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

A. *10/27/2009

-Bawa asked to remove the proxy report from the EVP Travel Grants.

- Nguyen moved and Mullins seconded to approve the minutes for October 27, 2009, as amended

- Flores called for Acclamation. Flores asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation.

There being none, the minutes were approved, as amended.

IV. Public Comments

Coreen Straub—CALPIRG

This week CALPIRG is working on gaining student pledges to the organization. Straub said that the organization used to be funded by a democratically self-assessed fee. In the past, all students paid the fee as a part of registration fees. Straub said that the organization was run off of campus in 1990 by a special interest group. To make enough money to stay afloat, CALPIRG must enroll 15% of the campus to pledge \$5 per year. The goal of the organization is to reach 1,000 pledges by Thursday November 5, currently there are 500 students who have pledged. Straub thanked council for their time.

V. Special Presentations

A. Judith Smith, Vice Provost—WASC Reaccreditation

- Smith attended the meeting to discuss the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) Reaccreditations process that is mandated by the Federal Government every 10 years. Smith said that although every school is reaccredited every 10 years, the process takes about 4-5 years to complete. If UCLA does not reach reaccreditations, all Federal Funds for students will be cut. Currently UCLA is in the third stage of the process: Educational Effectiveness Review. This stage of the process consists of 4 essays presented over a two year period, as written by faculty members across campus. Smith mentioned that there will be a site visit in February. Smith said that state support for the campus has dwindled since the campus began stage three. Smith reviewed a series of attachments with the council, all highlighting the process that faculty departments go through to present proposed curriculum. All departments that have been asked to meet the 45 Challenge have done so.
- Nelson asked if the minimum amount of units is 45.
- Smith said that the Senate mandates 36 units, but the Challenge 45 is setting an expectation.
- Bawa asked if other majors will be affected by this new expectation.
- Smith said that when these policies are approved by the Undergraduate Council, an effective date will be set. If students are enrolled prior to that date, they will not be forced to meet the new unit minimum. However, they will be allowed to take additional classes as they see fit.
- Bawa asked if there is any forecast to cut any cultural majors or centers.
- Smith said that there are no plans at all to cancel any of these majors. She did say that this is particularly beneficial for Interdisciplinary majors such as Political Science which requires students to take four Upper Division Courses in another field. Smith said that cultural major courses are quite impacted, and this new idea could alleviate some pressure from these majors.
- Flores said that the idea is not to mandate Challenge 45, but to bring academic major departments a challenge to make majors more accessible.
- Smith said that in order to receive temporary funding, faculty departments will at least need to make an attempt.
- Flores asked if this has already been suggested.
- Smith said that faculty is required now to at least look at this new plan.
- Mullins asked if lowering requirements will lower the rigorous reputation that UCLA upholds.
- Smith said that some of the other schools with great reputations keep their standing because they teach classes that they see as necessary for a degree.
- Nguyen asked which majors are particularly being targeted.
- Smith said that she will send the information to Flores to distribute to council.
- Nguyen asked if reducing funding for these courses will reduce funding for Teaching Assistants.
- Smith said that the work load will maximize the amount of professors, but it might reduce the amount of lecturers.
- Bawa asked if the maximum unit cap of 216 might be reduced, as many students will see the reduced amount of required class as an open window for a double major.
- Smith said that conversation has occurred where a reduction to 200 units has been mentioned.
- Bawa asked if requirements to enter a major are also going to be changed.
- Smith said that the administration is currently looking at departments to make that decision.
- Williams asked if the minimum amount of units (180) required to graduate will also be reduced.
- Smith said that the administration anticipates more students choosing to make use of more AP units from High School. She said that she believes requiring fewer units will sharpen programs, and enhance the academic rigor of this university.
- Tep asked whether or not Challenge 45 was primarily financially driven.
- Smith said the most common comments received are that there are too many requirements, and that there needs to be certain coherence to academic majors. These conversations have served as motivation to develop the Challenge 45 plan.
- Flores said that the conversation does not end at the table. She invited council members with concerns to form a committee to discuss the WASC Reaccreditation.
- Smith also mentioned that faculty in the past designed a Capstone model. She said that the percent reflects what the administration hopes students have experienced under the model. Currently there are 36 majors that required a Capstone seminar. Each year, the administration hopes to add another 20 majors to the list. Smith said that the Capstone option is to enhance the academic experience of every student. She did say

that it unfortunately seems impossible to have every major offer a Capstone seminar or program. Chicano and Chicano Studies have presented a Capstone option as a part of major reform.

-Farmer asked what the difference between a 199 Research course and a Capstone seminar is.

-Smith said that in a seminar, each student would be required to work on a final paper on their own. She said that Essay C highlights the Capstone Initiative. The last section of the attachment, Essay D, focuses on UCLA's Education Technology Initiatives. Currently there is a BruinCast program which allows faculty to post online video of their courses, if they so choose. Administration distributed a survey to get a better idea of how students made use of BruinCast, and how having the program affected their attendance. Smith said that BruinCast gives students a choice, and it also increases the maximum number of students who may enroll in a class. She said that this is not an effort to replace faculty, but more of an attempt to allow more students to enroll in classes that are required, or even desired. At this point, BruinCast serves roughly 50 to 60 courses per quarter, which is the current capacity of the system. The UC Office of the President is currently examining the feasibility of providing additional online instruction to promote inter-campus cost savings. The campus plans to experiment, beginning in Spring Quarter, with the concept of "e-sections" which would permit students to access lectures from laptops at almost any location, and leave physical attendance as an optional activity. Smith said that the Chancellor has been very hesitant to invest more money in increasing the size of classrooms, and feels that this plan might be the best for the university at this time. She invited council to express any concerns either directly with her, or through writing with the steering committee. Smith will contact Flores sometime during February to invite council to express concerns with the committee directly.

V. Special Presentations

-Banani moved and Mullins seconded to table a special presentation by OSAC Chair, Argie Mina after the Undie Run Presentation.

Mullins & Huddy—Undie Run Revitalization Plan

-Mullins said that he, Huddy, and Tengco have worked together to form a plan to revitalize the Undie Run. The Undie Run was founded in 2002 by 13 undergraduates as a way for students to release stress during finals week. The original route circled the Westwood Village Apartments. Over the years, on multiple occasions, administrators have rerouted the event to occur on campus to better ensure student safety. In the most recent occurrence Undie Run brought in over 10,000 participants, many of whom were not UCLA students. UCPD and Administrators cancelled the event in July 2009. Mullins said that history has showed that if the event is cancelled permanently, students will most likely take the event into their own hands, possibly bringing a route back to the apartments.

-Huddy presented council with a collection of quotes in favor of re-establishing the event, to provide some student perspective in the matter.

-Huddy and Mullins presented three recommendations to improve the event: 1) Create and enforce a ticketing system, 2) develop a variable timing system, and 3) develop the run into a charitable event. Mullins said that a ticketing system would be the best way of limiting the event to UCLA students, as tickets could easily be distributed through online channels or through the UCLA ticket office. They also suggested seasonal underwear, which could set the stage for attaining sponsorship for the event. Mullins said that the route for Undie Run is debatable, and that the two are open to any suggestions. He said that with construction that will be taking place in Pauley Pavilion, Bruin Walk will not be accessible to students. He and Huddy are currently considering the logistics of the event, and he said that USAC should play a significant role in the route planning.

-Huddy said that an important aspect is to create a system which would communicate variable time changes with students through electronic means. He suggested raising the parking rates on campus during the time of the event, which would more than likely turn non-UCLA students away. Huddy said that the idea is to take the event and turn it into a clothing drive to donate to charitable causes. He said that a beloved campus tradition has been cancelled due to safety concerns. There is a high possibility that this action will endanger students more, and the hope is to implement a plan to take Undie Run as it was held during the past, and develop it into a True Bruin Tradition.

-Huddy said that many students have expressed their plans to hold informal runs throughout campus and the Westwood area, and Bob Naples has stated that this event will be cancelled entirely if students do so.

- Mullins said that there is always room for compromise and improvement. He feels that it is important to inform students that their safety will be at risk if they participate in any informal events.
- Flores commended the presentation, and thanked Mullins and Huddy for their time.
- Farmer said that construction on the hill will affect the route plans being considered.
- Nguyen asked how they plan to combat the amount of drinking. He asked how intoxicated students will be dealt with.
- Huddy said that they are not trying to make this a University event, but instead develop more of a plan of tact. He said that discipline will be covered by UCPD, and their discretion will be respected.
- Williams said he has similar concerns from the beginning with presenting a proposal, but not assuming responsibility. He said that this plan could possibly risk the insurance liability of sponsoring this event.
- Mullins said that he believes that there is really not a way to hold this event without having some type of sponsorship. He believes that a benefit of holding the event with ticketing is that the attendance will be regulated.
- Huddy said that he asks for the help of council to spread the word to students to not act rashly during this upcoming fall finals week.
- Tep said that she has concerns with opening the door to sponsors such as Playboy, which she said are demeaning to women.
- Mullins thanked Tep for her perspective, and stated that he really appreciates her feedback.
- Lin said that the best way to control an event is to isolate it into a certain area. She said that there are many logistical issues such as the venue, security, wrist banding, and other general costs. She also said that there are on-campus noise regulations that need to be respected.
- Flores said that she appreciated Huddy mentioning the fact that the possibility of many students showing up for an impromptu event, and expressed concern with the idea of LAPD coming to campus to regulate the event. She asked council to send any recommendations to Huddy and Mullins. Mullins said at this point, it is important for council to send the message to students that USAC is working on this issue.

OSAC Presentation—Argie Mina

- Mina said that OSAC completed allocations during the spring, but there has been some confusion with the Guidelines. The guidelines allowed for the misinterpretation that USAC offices are exempt from CSC organizations. He said that Section 6 of the guidelines currently gives the impression that all USAC officers will receive an office space, but Section 5 states that all groups will be required to apply. An amendment is being proposed to the current office allocations. Unicamp was initially allocated about 104 square feet, but offered to share 20 square feet with DNLC. Samahang Filipino and the Asian Pacific Coalition will be sharing 15 square feet each with the CHAMPS Organization. Mina said that if the proposed shared distribution goes well for this year, OSAC hopes to continue the plan for an additional year, completing the two year allocation. Mina said that this plan will be temporary, but will create a way to fix issues at hand.
- Banani yielded the floor to recognize Jennifer Wang from CHAMPS.
- Wang asked if there is a way to prevent the same issue from reoccurring in the future.
- Flores said that the guidelines and formulas used to score organizations will be a prime focus of the USAC this year. She said that because allocations have been made for two years, the focus is to make sure that the formula will allow groups to have sufficient space for their organizations.
- Mina said that OSAC is also looking into additional measures, such as surveys to obtain student voice in the matter. OSAC is also considering creating petitions for groups to express concerns with office space allocations.
- Mullins asked if there is some sort of protocol to ensure that this process is done in writing.
- Flores said that the time to propose formal language will be when the motion is voted on during the New Business section of the agenda. She suggested that Mina type up a formal motion as a non-partisan, non-voting member of USAC.
- Mina asked if it is necessary to propose the motion in formal writing.
- Flores said that the motion will need to explicitly state that the approval only stands for one academic year. She thanked Mina for his time, and reminded him of her high recommendation to propose a formal written motion, for the record.

VI. Appointments

A. Jasmine Graves – Student Conduct Committee

-Bawa moved and Mullins seconded to table the approval of Graves until her arrival.

-Bawa said that Graves received a unanimous recommendation. She said that Graves offered compelling reasons for wanting to be in committee, and expressed responses well in an excellent interview.

-Bawa moved and Farmer seconded to approve Graves to the Student Conduct Committee.

-Tep asked how Graves will speak as a student representative in regards to revisions to the Student Conduct Code.

-Graves said that she has not seen the revisions, but she will be able to approach administration to hold them accountable to make student code information better available to student groups on campus.

-Bawa asked Graves to explain her interest in the committee.

-Graves said that there were a significant amount of reports of racial discrimination on campus last year. She expressed her opinion that administrators did not respond adequately to these attacks. She said that the conduct code previously did not allow a space to combat groups that are racially discriminatory. Her inspiration is to make sure that all students are treated fairly and enjoy the safety on campus, equally.

-Nguyen moved and Faelnar seconded to call the motion to approve Graves to the Student Conduct Committee to question.

-Graves was unanimously approved to the Student Conduct Committee with a total of 12 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

VII. Fund Allocations

A. Academic Success Referendum Fund

-Tep said this week an honorarium of \$1,000 was allocated to the Asian Pacific Coalition, to fund the *Buildin' Bridges and Stirrin' Waters: Women of Color Feminism and Activism book festival*.

B. Academic Affairs Mini-Grant

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

C. Travel Grants

-Li said that \$7449.29 for the EVP Travel Grant was requested; of that, a total of \$ 1394.18 was allocated. Those groups requesting funds were China Care Bruin, Habitat for Humanity, UCLA Chemical Engineering to attend the American Institute for Chemical Engineers National Conference, and the Asian Pacific Coalition.

D. Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant

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

E. *Contingency Allocations

-Tan said that a total of \$11,255.84 was requested from Contingency this week; of that, a total of \$4955.64 is recommended for allocation for this week. The groups requesting funding were the Community Service Commission, the Cultural Affairs Commission, Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity, General Representative 1, the UCLA American Institute of Chemical Engineers, the Undergraduate Business Society, Samahang Pilipino, the USAC Office of the President, FORGE Action Network for Real Refuge, and the Afrikan Student Union.

-Mullins moved and Bawa seconded to approve the Contingency Allocations as presented by Tan.

-Mullins asked to remove his motion, as presented. Flores reminded him that the motion became a property of the body after Bawa seconded, and would need to be removed by a recognized objection.

-There were three objections, which did not meet the 2/3 required to recognize the objection. The motion went to the floor for a council vote.

-The contingency allocations for \$4955.64 were approved with a total of 10 in favor, 2 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President – Cinthia Flores

Flores said that she met with Janina Montero about the Deferred Payment plan, and currently the plan is to establish the program by winter of 2010. Bawa reminded council that the USAC Meet and Greet will be held tomorrow, November 4th in Covell Commons. The purpose is to make the council as accessible and transparent as possible to all residents living on the hill.

Internal Vice President – Shahida Bawa

-Bawa said that her office is cosponsoring a diversity discussion series, beginning next week with Discrimination in Islam: The Missing Piece. The first event of the series will consist of a discussion of the Muslim community. The discussion is being co-programmed with Cultural Affairs. Her office is also working on renovating the space for the non-denominational prayer room. She is also working on securing women's circuit room gym hours, as well as customized hours for the North Pool. She is holding a kick-off event 10th week of this quarter. She also hopes to finalize a plan for both winter and spring quarters by that time. There will be a Student Risk Education committee meeting on Friday.

External Vice President- Susan Li

-Li said that she was in Chicago over the past week for Showdown Chicago: A three-day event. Li is now organizing for the 21st Students of Color Conference, scheduled to be held at UC San Diego. She will be attending the event over the weekend of November 13th-15th, and hopes to have significant information to share with the council upon her return. Li has also been meeting with representatives from labor unions to work on UCLA student involvement in the labor movement.

Academic Affairs Commissioner—Layhannara Tep

-Tep said that her mid-quarter staff retreat was held over the past weekend, where her staff worked on staff development and further campaign development. Tep has been collaborating with the Campus Retention Committee to plan a course relevant to current issues in Higher Education. The class addresses issues in Student Retention, with a focus on National, State, and Campus Policies that impact Higher Education. The course will explore the context under which policies are formed, how policies are formed, the impacts of policies on underrepresented communities as well as the resulting student movements that have led to alternative models for Education. The class will also discuss the concept of public v. private, including the privatization of the UC System and the Impacts of the budget crisis on academic quality. The class is officially on registrar and it is listed as a multivariable course, M118 Student Retention and Outreach.

-Tep also presented the appointment of Saif Ansari to the Committee on Research as a USAC consent item. She said that Ansari has extensive experience in research. He has completed a departmental honors 199 research project on Ethics and Philosophy, and is also involved with Professor Arisaka's research in Physics, Dark Matter XENON100 project. Ansari won the Vice Provost Recognition Award for Research in 2009.

- Tep moved and Bawa seconded to consent the appointment of Ansari to Academic Research Committee
-Council voted unanimously to consent the approval of Ansari to the Committee on Research, with a total of 12 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

Community Service Commissioner—Farhan Banani

-Banani said that CSC is holding the biggest event of fall, Community Service Day. The event will be held on November 14, and will begin at 8AM. He asked council to spread the word to increase attendance. He said that there has been a very long planning process behind the event, and that he is really looking forward to serving the community.

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

X. New Business

OSAC Allocation Revisions

-Banani moved and Mullins seconded to approve the following amendment to the office space allocations:

For the 2009-2010 Academic Year, allowing Unicamp to share twenty square feet of its allocated office space in Kerckhoff 411 with VNLC, and allowing Samahang Pilipino and the Asian Pacific Coalition to share thirty square feet of their office space in Kerckhoff 412 with CHAMPs.

-Bawa said that she does have concerns because representatives from the Asian Pacific Coalition attended the meeting last week, voicing concerns with the safety and security of their respective office.

-Flores yielded the floor to Patty Zimmerman.

-Zimmerman said that maintenance has fixed the lock problems with Kerckhoff 412, and asked that council inform Student Support Services if any other problems arise.

-Tep moved and Farmer seconded to call the motion to question.

-The motion was unanimously approved with a total of 12 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

Flores Night Powell Surplus Donation

-Farmer moved and Tep seconded to approve an allocation of \$25,000 from USAC surplus to subsidize cost for Night Powell for the 2009-2010 academic year with the understanding that it will be used as needed and any money not utilized will return to USAC surplus.

-Flores said that funding for Night Powell has been secured, and that Night Powell was re-established on Monday of sixth week. After this allocation, council would have a \$342,814.15 remaining surplus for the remainder of the year.

-Nelson asked if anyone has considered the possible future expenditures for the council.

-Flores said that she has roughly calculated the cost of contributing to events that USAC sponsors. She said that the motion is specifically designed to make certain that any unused funds will be given back to USAC Surplus. She said that she is very comfortable with the amount that will remain.

-Huddy asked what role USAC would play in contributing to Night Powell in the future.

-Flores said that she is working on addressing the particular issue, and to develop a sustainable way to fund Night Powell for the university. She said that importance of Night Powell has been brought to light, and conversation has been developed because of the possibility of this allocation.

-Huddy asked if this contribution would allow for the reinstatement of night CLICC lab facilities.

-Flores said that the full cost would reinstate Night Powell in its entirety.

-Tan said this allocation would present some relatively small reverberations for Capital Contingency and the Contingency Fund in general, mentioning that the potential amount does not present him with too much concern.

-Bawa commended the work of the USAC officers who met with Chancellor Block to devise this plan to bring back Night Powell. She said that she is very proud of the work done, and appreciates the hard work.

-Tengco said that it is important to not set a precedent of having the administration constantly turn to USAC to donate funds to uphold Night Powell.

-Farmer moved and Li seconded to call to question.

-Council voted unanimously to approve the allocation of 25,000 to the reinstatement of Night Powell.

XI. Announcements

-Tan said that he is working to establish an individual page in the BruinLife yearbook for each respective office. He said that there is also a USAC page, and presented council with the idea of taking a picture.

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- Li said that there is a call for White Liners to attend Regent's meetings. There a lobby visits taking place this week, and an organizing event held this Friday.
- Tengco said that tomorrow is the one year anniversary of the passage of Proposition 8, a speak out event will be held on Meyerhoff Park's lawn tomorrow at noon to remember the vote. The TOMs event is taking place on Saturday November 7 from 11:30AM until 3:00PM; Hanson will be in attendance at the event. The Downtown LA Arts Walk is taking place, and reminded council to sign up quickly because spots are quickly filling up.
- Zimmerman thanked council for their patience with the website issues that student support services had been facing. TGIF applications will be due Tuesday of week 9.
- Farmer said that the Winter Textbook scholarship application is currently open.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Mullins moved and Banani seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:51PM.
- Flores called for Acclamation. Flores asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 9:51p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Casillas
USAC Minutes Taker
2009-2010