

FINAL

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL

Tuesday November 24, 2009  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT:

GUESTS: Sarah Williamson, Sharon Miller, Ryan Krebs, Michael Fields, Sarah Ravani, Feven Girmay, Coreen  
Weintraub, Sarah Dobjensky, Tarik Takkesh, David Bocarsly, Kelly Osajuma, Jenna Le, Frania  
Mendoza, Kimberly Swain, Pablo Quintero, Max Miletich, Dennis Mabasa.

I. A. Call to Order

*- Flores called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.*

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The attendance sheet was passed around.*

II. Approval of the Agenda

-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.

-Mullins 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. \*11/17/2009

-Nguyen asked to correct the spelling of his last name, under Office Reports.

-Banani moved and Faelnar seconded to approve the minutes for November 17, 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

**Ryan Krebs—President of Student Government at Moorpark College**

Krebs announced the presence of the Moorpark College Council.

**Sarah Dobjensky—Higher Education campaign for CALPIRG**

Dobjensky coordinates the CALPIRG Higher Education campaign. She said that her committee has been working very hard, and said that this was a busy week for those working toward college affordability. She acknowledged the amount of students involved in the Regents budget vote process over the past week. She had the opportunity to meet with legislators who offered support. Dobjensky is also working to push the “What’s Your Plan?” campaign forward. This initiative is revolving around the Gubernatorial campaign to

give voters opportunities to ask for candidate plans to make student fees more affordable for all. Finally, her committee is also considering taking on a Higher Education Defense Act to present to state legislators.

**Coreen Weintraub—Oceans Campaign for CALPIRG**

Weintraub is continuing work on reaching a city-wide Styrofoam ban; she discussed the negative effects the Styrofoam has on the environment. The Oceans Campaign will be meeting with student leaders from various groups on campus, this upcoming Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00PM in Haines A28 to discuss the process. She invited council to attend, and thanked Flores and USAC for their time.

V. Special Presentations

*There were no Special Presentations this week.*

VI. Appointments

-Flores said that the sixth batch of appointees will be forwarded. These positions need to be filled as soon as possible. It is likely that council will vote on a number of appointees this upcoming week.

-Berky asked how successful ARC has been with locating E-Board applicants.

-Flores said this is a very important position and is working to get it filled.

VII. Fund Allocations

**A. Academic Success Referendum Fund**

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

**B. Academic Affairs Mini-Grant**

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

**C. Travel Grants**

*There were no Travel Grants this week.*

**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 \$5898.32 was requested from Contingency this week; of that, a total of \$1846.00 is recommended for allocation for this week. The groups requesting funding were the Ballroom Dance Club, Beta Alpha Psi, Cultural Affairs Commission, and World Vision Initiative at UCLA.

-Banani moved and Wu seconded to approve the Contingency Allocations as presented by Tan.

-Flores called for Acclamation. Flores asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Contingency Allocations recommending \$1846.00 were approved, as amended.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

**President – Cinthia Flores**

-Flores said her office is working with Institutionalized aid. She is reviewing a proposal sent to the regents three years ago to consider students not eligible for aid. She spoke with other leaders to push the proposal forward at the January meeting, and hopes for a finalized decision by March. A good number of students participated in the Chancellor's town hall yesterday. She said that all participants were very civil, and students mainly mentioned concerns about budget and affordability. She thanked Nelson and Geller for support. Flores is trying to secure a date for Speaker of the California State Assembly, Karen Bass, to visit the UCLA campus and discuss how to keep the state accountable when dealing with student affairs. Acknowledging the events surrounding the Regents meeting last week, Flore said that it is not only

important to recognize the record number of students, but also the use of police force. The President's office is working to foster an atmosphere where students can speak their voices without feeling threatened. She is working on a proposal to ban the use of tasers, first at UCLA and then at a UC level in general. She acknowledged the right of all students to protest and to voice opinions, and said that she is working diligently to allow for safe space for students. She is attending the University of California Commission on the Future on December 7<sup>th</sup>. She is working with Graduate Student Association President Jamal Madni to foster a cohesive proposal for the commission. Janina Montero is scheduled to attend the upcoming meeting to discuss UCLA budget and expenditures, as well as a preliminary look at the future of the UC budget. She reminded council that parking permits are available, and to send e-mails to claim a space.

**Internal Vice President – Shahida Bawa**

Bawa said that her office sponsored the Health Care Reform program last Thursday, the second day of the student protest. She said that the event had a relatively small turnout, but is still looking to keep up with programming. On Nov. 30, trainers will be holding a program targeted toward women in the Circuit Room of the Wooden Center from 7 to 8 p.m. Bawa also commended the efforts of Li and her office to facilitate the events at the UC Regents meeting last week. She added that that the event may have been one of the largest protests in the past decade. In light of some of the unfortunate events that happened, she will be continuing conversations with the Student Conduct Committee in the upcoming week.

**External Vice President- Susan Li**

-Li said that the UC Regent vote was approved by a committee on Wednesday and by the body as a whole on Thursday. Her office is now taking the steps to consider the effects on students. While there was police brutality, she does not want to make this a police versus student affair. She expressed that the actions of a number of police officers is not something that her office wishes to make wide-known. She acknowledged the wide-scale media attention, and thanked council for the efforts. The Campbell Hall occupation was not carried out by UCLA students. She said that many people are calling this protest the beginning of a wide-scale turnout. The next steps are to plan a march with Cal States and Community Colleges in March, and she is also working on plans for the Karen Bass speaking event. She is planning to speak with Rob Kadota of the Office of Residential Life to continue voter registration drives on the hill. She is attending The University of California Commission on the Future as well.

**Academic Affairs Commissioner—Layhannara Tep**

-Tep echoed compliments of Li's efforts to make the events surrounding the protest safe. She said the next step her office is taking is to brainstorm how to speak with students who have been affected directly, and also how to support them, adding that there are students who will be affected who are not receiving any aid. Her meeting with Judith Smith was rescheduled for next week, regarding the Challenge 45 proposal. She will also be meeting with Janina Montero.

**Dr. Berky Nelson-**

Nelson had the opportunity to see last week's events from many viewpoints. He commended the efforts of Farmer, Li, and Flores to ensure the safety of all participants. He said that the Tent City event was executed well, and that Li worked thoroughly to ensure that all non-UCLA attendees left the building. He said that the body should all be proud of efforts to keep the event as safe as possible. Nelson also acknowledged the many interpretations of the events that occurred, and added that this was one of the biggest events he has seen during his UCLA career. He reiterated the fact that students took over Campbell hall was unfortunate, but complimented the way council members handled the unplanned occupation.

IX. Old Business

*There was no Old Business this week.*

X. New Business

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*There was no New Business this week.*

XI. Announcements

- Wu said that World AIDS Day was a success, and that more activities are planned for tomorrow in Kaufman Hall. The Student Welfare Committee also has more events planned for next week.
- The textbook scholarship raffle will be taking place in Kerckhoff Hall tomorrow at 4PM.
- Nguyen said that there were close to 1,000 participants in the Bruin Bear Security force last night, and he invited council members to attend.
- Zimmerman thanked council for spreading the word about the TGIF fund, and said that the committee received 23 applicants.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The attendance sheet was passed around.*

XIII. Adjournment

- Banani moved and Mullins seconded to adjourn the meeting.
- Flores called for Acclamation. Flores asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Casillas  
USAC Minutes Taker  
2009-2010