

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCILTuesday December 8, 2009
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.PRESENT: Flores, Bawa, Wu, Farmer, Mullins, Banani, Tengco, Huddy, Tep, Geller, Nelson, Casillas, Tressel,
Zimmerman

ABSENT: Nguyen, Li, Lin, Faelnar, Tan,

GUESTS: Sarah Schaeffer

I. A. Call to Order

- Flores called to order the Committee of the Whole at 7:20PM, allowing room for all discussion items but not action items.

-Flores called for a recess at 7:35PM to await the arrival of one final council member, in order to reach quorum.

-Flores officially called the meeting to order at 7:39PM.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

-Farmer moved and Wu 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. *12/1/2009

-Tengco moved and Wu seconded to approve the minutes for December 1, 2009, as presented

- 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

There were no Public Comments at this meeting.

V. Special Presentations

There were no Special Presentations this week.

VI. Appointments

There were no appointments to approve at this meeting.

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

-Flores said that a total of \$1079.00 was requested from Contingency this week; of that, Tan recommended a total of \$400.00 for allocation for this week. The group requesting funding was the Latin American Student Association.

-Tengco moved and Tep 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 \$400.00 were approved, as amended.

F. *BOD Winter Allocations—Chris Grays

-Grays said that a total of thirty groups submitted applications for BOD Winter Funding Allocations. He distributed the spreadsheet outlining all allocations with council.

-Bawa moved and Farmer seconded to approve the BOD Winter Allocations.

-Nelson asked about the status of groups who failed to report to hearings.

-Grays said that he repeatedly attempted to contact these groups, and because they failed to attend scheduled hearing times, their applications were not considered further.

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

-Council voted unanimously to approve the Winter Quarter BOD Allocations with a vote of 8 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 0 abstentions.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports**President – Cinthia Flores**

-Flores has is continuing efforts with Janina Montero to secure a manual for the deferred payment plan. She will meet tomorrow with Farmer and others with Janina Montero to solidify plans for the program. This program would give a certain amount of students an option of deferred payment. Flores also attended the University of California Commission on the Future this past weekend, and cited discussions of the shape and size of the UC system, as well as the possibility of enrollment cuts. Flores said that the only problematic issue was that audience members were not able to participate. Karen Bass will be speaking on January 16th, but Flores has still not secured the logistics behind the discussion. She is waiting until Governor Schwarzenegger introduces his first version of the state budget to allow Bass time to gain a deeper understanding of all proposed items. She said that planners are also opening up the discussion to several other members of the state assembly, and she is working to decide how students will participate.

Internal Vice President – Shahida Bawa

-Bawa said that she met with Deb Geller two weeks ago to discuss the Student Code of Conduct. She said that some of the more highly contentious issues involve having lawyers present in cases of academic honesty. The issue will not be a part of this year's renegotiated code. If council has any other requests or inquiries, Bawa will serve as liaison between the conduct committee. She said that committee is outreaching for student voice regarding hate-related issues. She also met with the planning committee for commencement ceremonies. The committee is trying to establish traditions for singers, and is looking for requests for graduation keynote speakers. The singer and student speaker will be a part of the graduating class.

Academic Affairs Commissioner—Layhannara Tep

-Tep met with Judith Smith last week, and will meet again on Thursday to discuss the Challenge 45 proposal. She also discussed concerns raised regarding the International Development Studies major. The program has until June 2010 to review recommendations from the Undergraduate Council to lift the suspension in place. Suspensions of this sort have occurred in the past, but Smith said that it seems that the IDS department is putting a good effort to reshape the program. It is possible to keep the major as a part of the curriculum. Tep also discussed the possibility of gaining academic credit for specific leadership opportunities on campus. Tep also mentioned the possibility of Challenge 45 affecting the status of newer majors. She will have more updates at the next council meeting.

Willard Tressel—Alumni Representative

-Tressel said that it would be beneficial to have members of The Green Initiative Fund provide updates regarding the referendum.

-Zimmerman said that the first funding cycle was just completed, and the fund received 23 applications. The committee will meet next quarter during 1st and 2nd week, and will be bringing updates to council shortly thereafter.

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

X. New Business

A. Call to Action Resolution—Mullins and Huddy*

-Mullins moved and Huddy seconded to approve the following Call to Action Resolution, as presented:

WHEREAS, the State of California's irresponsible spending policies over the last decade have created a budget deficit of \$20.7B and an overall state debt of \$72B, creating the need for reductions in state spending on education,

WHEREAS, student fees have increased an astounding 40% over the last 5 years, a trend unseen in the entire history of the University of California education system,

WHEREAS, the root source of the University of California's funding issues lie with the spending policies of the California State Legislature, specifically the approval of consistent cuts to education funding over the last 10 years,

WHEREAS, the University of California Regents recently raised fees by 32% to preserve the quality of the University of California education, unfortunately increasing the burden upon every University of California student,

WHEREAS, effective January 2010 UC Tuition will be \$9,623 (Average of UC Campuses), compared to \$9,038 (Average of UC Campuses) in January of 2009,

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, the University of California, Los Angeles Undergraduate Student Association calls upon the undergraduate student body to direct their energies upon the State Capitol by writing their state legislators regarding state spending on education,

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, the University of California, Los Angeles Undergraduate Student Association urges the State Assembly and State Senate to reign in the state budget and re-establish higher education as a top fiscal priority,

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, the University of California, Los Angeles Undergraduate Student Association urges the State Assembly and State Senate to take a proactive and forward-looking approach to state spending on education in order to prevent another education funding crisis,

LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED, the University of California, Los Angeles Undergraduate Students Association stands in solidarity with all undergraduates in the State of California regarding their desire to bring about a constructive solution to the education funding crisis and calls upon them to direct their energies towards the State Legislature in the form of letters and phone calls.

-Bawa objected on the grounds that in order for a resolution to be heard, there must be three sponsors present. Under Article V Section A.5.b., the formal language states that “Resolutions must have at least three sponsors”.

-Huddy said that the line states that a resolution must have three sponsors, but the bylaws do not explicitly state that the three members need be present.

-Flores cited a circumstantial judgment call and said that as chairperson residing over ambiguously stated laws, she ruled to not recognize the Call to Action as an action item at this meeting.

B. Locknetics—Mullins and Tengco*

-Tengco believes it would be in the best interest of council, and the groups affected by faulty locks at the beginning of the quarter to allocate money to install Locknetics devices for those student groups.

-Tengco moved and Mullins seconded to allocate \$21,000 from USAC Surplus to install Locknetics on said offices, with the understanding that all unused funds be delivered back to USAC Surplus.

-Farmer asked when the updated budget for surplus will be presented.

-Flores said that the budget will be forwarded.

-Zimmerman said that the committee will be meeting and will have a complete report either week 1 or week 2 of winter quarter.

-Flores contacted Bernice Shaw, Chairperson of BOD, and the committee has stated that some funding might be received.

-Farmer moved and Tep seconded to call to question.

-Council voted unanimously to approve the allocation of \$21,000 to install Locknetics devices, with the understanding that all unused funds will be delivered back to the USAC Surplus fund.

XI. Announcements

-Tressel said that State Senator Dean Florez will be holding a fundraiser for his Lieutenant Governor campaign, scheduled for December 17th.

-Zimmerman said that Waiver Pool applications for January events are due this Friday. She also said that with the approval of the Locknetics allocation, she will be updating council as necessary about installation updates.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Mullins moved and Tengco 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 7:53p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Casillas
USAC Minutes Taker
2009-2010