

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday March 9, 2010
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Lin, Banani, Geller

GUESTS: Lisa Koerbling, Renee Fortier, Sarah Ravani, Shoshee Jan.

I. A. Call to Order

- Flores called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Flores added the approval of the BOD Funding Allocations.
- Li asked to remove the report for the EVP Travel Grants.
- Tan added an officer report.
- Tep asked to strike the Academic Affairs Mini Grant.
- Faelnar asked to strike the Cultural Affairs Mini Grant
- Faelnar 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, as amended.

III. Approval of the Minutes

A. *3/2/2010

- Mullins moved and Faelnar seconded to approve the minutes for March 2, 2010, 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

There were no public comments made this week.

V. Special Presentations

A. Parking Fee Consultation—Renee Fortier and Lisa Koerbling

- Renee Fortier is the current Director of Transportation for the university, and Lisa Koerbling is the Associate Director of Parking and Finance.
- Koerbling said that the rate of employees who drives to campus has been reduced from 69% in 1990, to 53% in 2009 (compared to 74% in Los Angeles overall). This spring, the Transportation Department will be measuring the Average Vehicle Ridership (AVR), as mandated by the Air Quality Management District. The goal set by the district is an AVR of 1.5, and currently the University is at 1.67. However, the

combined campus AVR, including students, is 2.90. Koerbling also mentioned that the campus traffic cordon country has declined steadily for the past six years, from 121,000 to 108,000 daily vehicle trips.

-Fortier said that the parking demand of the university has also steadily decreased over the past six years, adding that there has not been a waitlist for student parking since Fall of 2004. She said that UCLA is committed to alternative transportation to continue to control parking demand and vehicle trips; the Transportation Department does not anticipate adding any additional parking spaces to the university for the next ten years.

-Koerbling discussed some of the financial impacts that cuts in the budget have had on parking. There has been a deferral of the planned 2009-10 fee increase, as well as structural repairs to parking structures. She also mentioned that the department is dealing with a \$200,000 increase in UCPD recharge, a \$1,000,000 increase in ground rent. The department has also noted a \$1,100,000 drop in permit sales, and a \$440,000 reduction in profits seen from daily sales and courtesy parking passes. Some of the measures taken to mitigate impacts on parking permit fees on behalf of Parking Services include \$300,000 in parking staff salary and expense savings, a reduction of \$140,000 in the Bruin Park Plus maintenance contract, as well as deferred discretionary major maintenance. Some of the measures taken to mitigate impacts on parking permit fees on behalf of TDM include aggressive expense management, a \$700,000 cut in staff salary and expenses, \$150,000 in fuel expense savings, and a renewed emphasis on less expensive programs, including carpooling, biking, and walking. She also mentioned that a new \$3.00 Disabled Placard visitor parking fee was implemented on January 4, 2010; the aim of this new fee is to see potential revenues of about \$500,000 annually. Some of the anticipated impacts for 2010-2011 include a continuation of the \$1,000,000 temporary ground rent increase, a parking deck repair that will cost an anticipated \$2.5 Million. Fare increases will be increased by 20% on the Metro and CCB, by 29% on LADOT, and up to 40% on BBB; Koerbling said these fare increases should produce both parking subsidies and increase the number of UCLA user passes. The TDM expects to see a subsidy from \$7.3 to \$7.8 Million.

-Fortier mentioned that conversations have included the notion of providing a referendum on the ballot during the spring elections. The referendum would provide that all students' fees would include an allocation that would go towards the transportation program at the university. She said that the referendum is not necessarily recommended or endorsed by the TDM or Parking Services; she was simply fulfilling her obligation to the individuals who shared the idea in the consultation process—adding that various organizations have been engaged in the process, including USAC.

-Bawa asked to explain the need for a student referendum.

-Fortier said that the committee does not particularly see a need, but mentioned that there is a belief that if all students pay more, bus riding will increase.

-Huddy asked if there has been any consideration to expand the parking product line, noting the possibility of selling discounted parking for students on the evenings before street cleaning dates.

-Fortier felt that Huddy provided an interesting idea, and said that she will share the idea in the consultation process.

-Koerbling said that it would be valuable to consider the idea.

-Williams asked where the idea of a student referendum was developed.

-Fortier responded that faculty came to TDM to propose the idea, although neither she nor Koerbling believe the idea is the most appropriate.

-The parking fee plan is to increase parking permit prices gradually over the next two years, including an increase from \$10.00 to \$11.00 for daily parking permits. Koerbling and Fortier thanked council for allowing the pair to present at the meeting.

VI. Appointments

There were no appointments to be made at this meeting.

VII. Fund Allocations

A. Academic Success Referendum Fund

-Tep said that Leslie Chanthaphasouk received an allocation of \$383.00 from the Academic Success Referendum Fund.

B. Academic Affairs Mini-Grant

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

C. EVP Travel Grant

There was no business for the EVP Travel Grant 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 \$6579.35 was requested from Contingency this week; of that, a total of \$2909.00 is recommended for allocation for this week. The groups requesting funding were the Hindu Students Association, Future Business Leaders of America (Phi Beta Lambda), Bruin Republicans, Student Transfer Opportunity and Mentorship Program (STOMP), Lambda Theta Nu Sorority, Inc., Theta Kappa Phi, Baha'i Association at UCLA, Bruin Consulting, and Financial Supports Commission.

-Nguyen asked why Theta Kappa Phi's application was received late.

-Tan said that two Greek groups essentially sent the same application, and added that he penalized the allocations for being late and tardy. He said that he gave the groups the benefit of the doubt, adding that copying an application is grounds for disqualification.

-Tengco moved and Faelnar 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 \$2909.00 were approved, as amended.

F. Spring BOD Allocations*—Chris Grays, Budget Review Director

-Grays presented council with an updated spreadsheet highlighting all of the recommended BOD allocations for the upcoming quarter. He said that a total of 77 groups applied for allocations from the USA/BOD Programming Fund, and 73 groups received funding.

-Nelson asked if there has been any communication with the groups who did not schedule hearing dates.

-Grays said that he has been unable to contact any of the group representatives.

-Nguyen asked why certain groups received such high allocations, namely the Afrikan Student Union and the American Indian Student Association.

-Grays said that the organizations are putting on very large-scale events, and the amounts that each group applied for were very close to the amount eligible to be applied for. He said that the ASU received a high allocation mainly because of travel related reasons associated with their program. The more expensive element of the American Indian Student Association was facility based costs.

-Faelnar asked Grays to edit the spreadsheet to reflect that the CAC "rescinded" their application.

-Bawa moved and Mullins seconded to approve the BOD Allocations for spring of 2010.

-The council voted to approve the spring BOD allocations with a total of 9 in favor, 0 in opposition, and 1 abstention.

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

Flores said she will be attending the Bruin Democrats fundraising event this week, and invited council members to attend. Her office is hosting a Sustainability summit, scheduled for May 5th. She is also planning to host a Labor and Workplace Social Justice Job Fair on April 13th. She asked council members needing parking space allocations to sent requests directly to her through e-mail. She also mentioned that USAC has priority for programming in Bruin Plaza, and to forward any requests to recommend the space to her soon. Her office will be now be co-hosting the Dodge ball tournament during the first week of Spring Quarter, the event is a fundraiser for Haiti Earthquake relief. The registration process for groups can be handled through the UCLA CALPIRG website: www.calpirgstudents.org/ucla.

Internal Vice President – Shahida Bawa

Bawa said that her office is working on a program-filled agenda for spring quarter. She reminded council that “Enough is Enough” will be taking place during 5th week, and BruINTENT will be during 3rd week. She is also working to plan events aimed at establishing dialogue in response to various events that have taken place across the country.

External Vice President- Susan Li

Li said that the California State Assembly Majority Leader Alberto Torrico rally was held last week, with the intentions of raising support for AB656. She said the events that occurred on March 5th on campus were very civil, especially in relation to other campuses. Her office bussed students to downtown over the weekend to join various representatives from other campuses, as well as labor unions, for a rally. This week, the focus of her office is to finalize all planning for the USSA Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. (LegCon), where students representing UCLA will be lobbying over Spring Break. Her office received 4,000 voter registration cards, and is preparing for a large-scale voter registration drive next quarter.

Academic Affairs Commissioner—Layhannara Tep

The Covell Writing event, featuring a presentation by the Writing Success Program, is being held tomorrow evening in the Covell West room. Students will be able to spend up to twenty minutes with individual writing tutors, and will receive tips and ideas on how to score well on academic papers.

Dr. Berky Nelson-Administrative Representative

Nelson thanked and congratulated students for holding successful, safe, and civilized rally events on March 4th. He said that the administration is very pleased with how students handled themselves.

Tan

- Tan will be increasing the weekly cap for contingency. He is not completely certain what the amount will be, but he feels that the individual group cap might be raised anywhere from \$2,000 to \$3,000, as compared to \$1,000. He will be providing more concrete numbers after final calculations and spreadsheets are completed. He also said that the council might also see a weekly cap of \$10,000.00.
- Tengco asked if the retreat cap will still be \$450.00.
- Tan said that the cap would remain as is, because retreats are not specific to the spring quarter, as some large-scale events are.

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

X. New Business

There was no New Business this week.

XI. Announcements

- Tan will be increasing video and photography production, and offered services of his on campus production group if council members would like assistance.
- The General Representative 1 Office is hosting a clothes drive in Dykstra Residence Hall. All clothing will be donated to the Out of the Closet thrift store. He asked council to spread the word.
- Nguyen said that his office is co-programming the “Meal Swipes for the Homeless” program this week.

-Zimmerman said that 18 applications were received by the TGIF committee, including some on behalf of USAC offices. The allocations will be finalized and presented 2nd week of next quarter, after the hearings are completed.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Mullins moved and Li 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 7:49p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Joseph Casillas
USAC Minutes Taker
2009-2010