

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL

Tuesday October 26, 2010  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Jasmine Hill, Stephanie Lucas, Cris Santos, Matt Spring, Emily Resnick, Gatsby Miller, Suza Khy, Charles Ma, Jamie Yao, Kinnery Shah, Linda Phi, Bob Williams, Dr. Deb Geller, Katrina Dimacali, Willard Tressel, Isaac Rose

ABSENT: Patty Zimmerman, Rustom Birdie, JC De Vera, Dr. Berky Nelson,

GUESTS:

I. A. Call to Order

- Hill called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

- De Vera moved and Phi seconded to approve the agenda, as amended.

- Hill called for Acclamation. Hill 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. \*10/19/10

-Spring said that Shulman was the proxy for De Vera. Under the President's report, it is the EVC funding report.

-Spring moved and De Vera seconded to approve the minutes for October 19<sup>th</sup>, as amended.

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

IV. Public Comments

**Benjamin**

He talked about representing the UCLA alum concerning the Islamic studies resolution. He talked about the resolution that was to be approved at the meeting. He talked about how he empathized with peers and asked council to support the reestablishment of the Islamic Department. He talked about how the department was the oldest here and on how students should be able to talk about their culture.

**Muslim Student Association Representative**

He said that this was a student issue rather than a Muslim student issue. He talked about how this resolution enforced UCLA's promise of diversity. He said that he as well as the embassy is in support of this resolution.

V. Special Presentations

**Save Islamic Studies at UCLA**

She talked about how there are no undergraduates courses are pertaining to Islam because they are wiped from the curriculum. She talked about how there is a request for more classes. There is an undergraduate component as well as a graduate component. She talked about how there concerns and interests surrounding Islamic studies. She said that they were unable to offer Islamic courses because there was nobody available to teach. She said that the general climate on campus has been hostile. She said that there should be a form of

discussion that should be taking place. She said that no graduates have been consulted and about the changes in the program. She further spoke on the importance of an academic perspective on this issue. An increase in classes and education would mitigate some of the alienation and misunderstanding surrounding the campus. She talked about the complaints from the community, which is why they are pushing for more classes to be made available. She talked about how some students have been alienated and why it is important to address student needs. She said that it is important to see what students would like to learn. She talked about how classes would provide for an avenue to file for their concerns.

-Williams asked what changed from last year until now.

-She said that before, there were problems in the program and concerns of whether or not they supported their students in the program. She talked about MILK, which was an interdepartmental program. She talked about how there were internal programs at the graduate level. They were not able to offer certain courses. There is no major or minor offered at this point.

-Williams asked what needs to happen.

-She said that this is the only platform on the West coast that offered Islamic studies or courses. She said that they would like representatives from the undergraduates and the Muslim community on campus.

-Williams asked who the decision makers are.

-She said that at the graduate level, it is the Graduate council. Judy Smith is also a decision maker.

### **Tiffany Garnet- Bruin Resource Center**

Hill said that she asked her questions, which Garnet will address in her presentation.

-Garnet said that they are located in the Student Activities Center. They are a combination of what was the student health development education office. Some of their services were shifted to the counseling center. She talked about how even the most capable students could feel confused or out of place. Garnet presented the mission, which was to promote lifelong learning, wellbeing, and development of the whole student. She talked about how they provide students with life skills to succeed academically on campus. She also talked about how they wanted to work collaboratively with students on campus.

-The Bruin Resource Center is new, which opened fall 2009. The center is designed to help student's access resources. The center is open to all undergraduate students in order to ease the transition to UCLA.

-Garnet presented what they do, which includes the following: bureaucracy busting, population "point persons," peer support networks, academic courses, as well as paid student internships. They looked at point persons such as AB 540 students, former foster youth, parenting students, transfer students, and veterans. She talked about the peer support networks, which allowed people to access mentors. Academic courses that the Bruin Resource Center was presented. One class was the Life Skills for College Students class, which advances student's knowledge of theory and research on the developmental issues and challenges confronting college students. Another course close up presented was the intergroup dialogue, which brought students together from different spectrums. Garnet talked about population-group programs, such as for former foster youth, parenting students, veteran's resource office, AB 540 students, and transfer students.

-Health Education programs are offered, such as AlcoholEdu online education program. She talked about the policy and campus level initiatives, such as the eating and activities task force, drug-free schools committee, transfer collaborative, and intergroup relations program.

-Garnet talked about the student learning outcomes, which wanted to help students develop and use healthy strategies to enhance wellbeing, cultivate positive emotions, reduce distress, etc.

-Garnet said that budget cuts have affected them through anecdotes of students. She said that often there are students with difficulties on obtaining enough food to eat. If students are in need of assistance, they can receive a food voucher. She said that there is an economic response team, which also includes the student affairs office, financial aid office, etc. She said that whenever there is a student in crisis, they can contact one of these resources. They also work with a religious organization on campus, which partners with the Meals on Wheels program. They deliver food on certain days and snacks everyday.

-Garnet talked about combating affordability issues, such as students who may not have the luxury of going back home. She said that they have been working with housing to allow students to move in early.

-Garnet talked about research and community service. There are student groups called guardian scholars and higher education summit. These groups provide mentors and work with high schools.

-Garnet talked about creating inclusive environments. She talked about the check box Bruin project, which was designed to shape the perspectives of student's on campus. The project looked at social identities, which allows students to see differences and similarities between students. She said that the project was open to all of UCLA. The project was designed to promote a diverse campus. The project is set out to eventually be

located in the SAC. Students were asked to respond to “Who are you?” She said that there are looking to add to the display. She said that they may receive more information on the website  
 -Miller asked how council may support the Bruin Resource Center  
 -Garnet said that they have a continuing partnership with people such as Spring. She said that they could assist by directing students to the Bruin Resource Center.  
 -Hill thanked Garnet for the presentation.

### **Melissa Samson- On Campus Housing Council IVP**

Samson talked about the dynamics of the hill in a Powerpoint presentation. She provided a flow chart of the various entities on campus. The flow chart mapped out where USAC, NACURH, OCHC, the Residence Hall Association, and the Floor/building government. NACURH is a national association. The external vice presidents of the floors receive information about on the hill and report it back to the residents. Samson said that ideally, this way all residents receive all information. Samson presented what student leader positions sit on each board/committee. Various positions include Control Program Funding, Dining and Environment, Policy Review Board, On Campus Housing Council, President’s Council, etc. She presented a flyer from the OCHC website and urged the council to view the website. She said that they have 9 executive board members along with 14 external vice presidents. The OCHC puts on large-scale events such as Casino Night, Resident Runway, etc. She said that the policy review board brings concerns to the attention of administrators. She said that the minutes of those meetings are on the OCHC website. The resident’s association meetings and times were presented. For non-co sponsored ORL programs, there are certain requirements on the flyers. The flyers are located in the lobby area of every building. Samson presented the guidelines for working with outside organizations. The document also deals with logistical matters. Samson said that on the hill, a co-intentional relationship is ensured. There is a funding proposal form that she said was easy to fill out. Samson said that in terms of contacting ORL, Samson is the main contact for the OCHC. She presented the hill council website. She said that the website has information on association meetings as well as upcoming events. Samson encouraged the council to email her any questions they have. Samson said that she would like to have a USAC update that she could give to OCHC.

-Spring said that they’re creating a USAC newsletter every month and that they could give that to her monthly

-Yao asked what the best way to outreach to residents on the hill was. She said that if they have enough people, they could go to the house meetings. Samson said that she could email the student leaders to tell people on their Monday meetings. She said that they need to contact OCHC about a week in advance.

-Yao asked if there was a compiled list of all of the meetings

-Samson said that she would email the council the Powerpoint presentation.

## VI. Appointments

*There were no appointments this week.*

## VII. Fund Allocations

### A. Academic Success Referendum Fund

There was no business for 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

-Santos said that funding was applied for \$500 and they are providing \$475. Santos said that the travel grant is broken up into different percentages. The history of the students who want to attend the event, how they will distribute what was learned, materials and documentation, and a statement of need are taken into account. Santos said that there were concerns about if they should allocate a larger weight to how they were going to bring information back on campus. He said that having students bring back information to campus was important

-Model UN asked for \$750 and they are docking some funds because of documentation issues

-Chi Epsilon was granted funding.

-IDEAS at UCLA requested \$750 and they were granted \$735. They had good documentation, with some concerns on how they were going to spread their information

**D. Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant**

There was no business for the Cultural Affairs Mini Grant.

**E. \*Contingency Allocations**

Spring moved to approve the contingency allocations. Miller seconded.

-Spring asked Rose to forward out the allocations. He said that they received a sample funding document.

-Rose asked for clarification on what was sent out.

-Rose said that the applications range and that there were problems with documentation. He said that they still receive applications without documentation.

-Hill said that they should have a sample of what documentation looks like.

-Spring said Rose could use his previous application as a sample for the website.

De Vera called to question the contingency allocations.

De Vera called to question the contingency allocations. Shah seconded. With a vote of 11-0-0, the contingency allocation with the amendment was approved.

**VIII. Officer and Member Reports**

**President – Jasmine Hill**

-Hill said that there would be another opportunity table. She said that she was meeting a representative from SHAC, and that she hopes to report back on the insurance policy.

-Hill asked for a follow up on the meeting with the chancellor.

-Dr. Geller said that they were wondering this as well.

-Hill said that she had a meeting with the vice chancellor regarding the daily permit for students while working to create discounts on that arena.

-Phi asked when she was meeting with SHAC

-Hill said that she is meeting this Friday at 2.

**Internal Vice President – Stephanie Lucas**

-Lucas said that the How-To guide is done.

-The test bank presentation was presented to the OCHC. There was a fellowship meeting last Wednesday. There are about 40 fellows.

-Lucas said that there was a transparency meeting with Rose regarding funding. She said that they are breaking down who is receiving funding and who isn't.

-Hill asked about clarification on what kind of accountability they were trying to create

-Lucas said that there isn't a follow up with how funds are used, such as with the academic affairs mini-grant.

Lucas said that this is also a good learning tool for future programming.

**External Vice President--Chris Santos**

-Santos said that UCSA is having a meeting with president Yudolf concerning the fee increase and the priorities of the UC system. He said that since the meeting was last minute, only the executive officers of UCSA are going to meet with him.

-Santos said that the student regent said that they are looking at a 10% increase that they want to pass. Santos said that now that they have all of this information, they will look to see what further steps to take.

-Santos said that they would work on messaging and the action in response to this. Santos said that it is important that these matters are treated seriously. He said that messaging and tactics are important in pushing for solutions.

-Santos said that they are still looking for transportation to the regent's meeting. He said that they decided that they will only attend Wednesday and Thursday, November 17-18. Santos said that they will attend the meeting when the vote takes place.

-Santos said that they won two statewide contests for voter registration efforts. They used the most tactics and broke the most rage efforts.

-Hill asked if she should send questions she wants to be asked at the UC regents meeting.

-Santos said that the council should email them and CC him.

-Tressel asked for clarification about the 10% increase

- Santos said that even the student regent is unsure.
- Tressel asked if the tuition would exceed \$11,000
- Santos said it would, or at least close to \$11,000

**Academic Affairs Commissioner--Suza Khy**

- Khy said that in the Senate they had been discussing the post-graduate plans. She talked about how each faculty member would have to contribute to the benefits plan. Khy said that this plan was supported and endorsed by President Yudolf.
- Khy said that they are continuing to work on the diversity task force. They are looking at the proposal from the past and drafting a new one. They are working on the logistics of the textbook loan program. They are looking to get locked bookshelves. Khy said that they are looking at capital contingency.
- Khy said that there is going to be a post-graduate fair in Ackerman, from law schools to public health. It is from 11-3 on the second floor of Ackerman Grand Ballroom.

**Administrative Representative- Dr. Geller**

- Dr. Geller said that they are getting ready to revise the student conduct code, with changes to take place next July. She said that they are doing a broad review and that if they have something to revise, they are to let her know. They will put it together and come up with a proposal in January. She said that places they are interested in input include: good language that bridges the chasm between freedom of speech and discriminatory/hateful speech, strong feelings if attorneys add anything to the process (especially in terms of academic misconduct), if there are behaviors that aren't consistent with the campus values, on the appropriateness of websites that allow students to share course notes or websites in which students bet on their grades, cyber bullying, etc. She said that she could arrange for deans to come in and answer questions they may have. She said that they want the input from students, staff, alumni, etc. Dr. Geller said that she wanted to ensure that the code was consistent with the values on campus.

IX. Old Business

*There was no new business this week.*

X. New Business

Resolution to Save Islamic Studies at UCLA

- Khy mentioned the two public comments. She said that the removal of the staff member was detrimental to the Islamic Studies department. She said that the program would benefit graduates as well as undergraduates. Khy read the resolution as follows:

*Resolution In Support of Islamic Studies at UCLA*

Presented: October 26, 2010 to the Undergraduate Student Association Council of the University of California  
Los Angeles

Whereas, UCLA has been a leader in Islamic Studies, hosting one of the nation's oldest and most premier Islamic Studies Program, founded in 1957. (1)

Whereas, UCLA has the only such program on the West coast, and at a public university. (2)

Whereas, UCLA has one of the world's largest collections of Islamic texts, numbering in excess of 350,000. (3)

Whereas, the Islamic Studies Program has contributed to the academic richness of the university with groundbreaking research, world-renowned scholarly publications, and noteworthy alumni. (4)

Whereas, the Chair, Dr. KhaledAbou El Fadl, has received 50 to 80 emails per year from interested prospective students. (5)

Whereas, the attache to L.A. mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, at a meeting with Dr. KhaledAbou ElFadl, stated the importance of Islamic Studies at UCLA to foreign dignitaries who visit Los Angeles. (5)

Whereas, other universities, like Stanford and McGill University, recognize the importance of this academic field,

and are thus opening Islamic Studies programs and departments. (5)

Whereas, Islamic Studies programs throughout the United States suffer a disconnect with public opinion and US policy decisions. (6)

Whereas, less than one quarter of faculty in Islamic Studies departments nation-wide are Muslim. (6)

Whereas, UCLA Muslim students have had a history of active engagement in issues of social justice and representation, alongside the organization of various community service projects. (7)

Whereas, due to misinformation, America is experiencing a rise of Islamophobia, manifested by ignorance and fear about Islam. (8)

Whereas, there has been an increase in harassment against Muslims on campus, especially of women wearing the hijab. Within the first ten days of Fall Quarter 2010 there had been 11 reported hate incidents. (9)

Whereas, there have been no undergraduate Islamic courses offered this quarter (Fall 2010) that would provide students with an academic education about Islam. (10)

Whereas, the loss of the Islamic Studies Program deprives the UCLA community of resources to study Islam, both in regards to culture and religion, and threatens the academic well-being and success of the Muslim community on campus alongside the commitment to diverse academia. (11)

Whereas, Chancellor Block dedicated this year to be the Year of Ethnic Studies to commemorate and support cultural and ethnic diversity on campus. (12)

Whereas, this year marks 40 years of Ethnic Studies at UCLA, standing as a testament to UCLA's commitment to diversity: the fifth hallmark of UCLA. (13)

Let it be resolved, that the Undergraduate Student Association Council supports the Student Association's demand for the immediate re-opening of admissions to the Islamic Studies Program, with full representation and accountability to students and the respective community.

Let it further be resolved that the Undergraduate Student Association Council urges the University of California Los Angeles to hire two new tenured faculty members, offer undergraduate courses within the Islamic Studies Program, and begin the process of departmentalization for Undergraduate Islamic Studies.

Let it be finally resolved, that the Undergraduate Student Association Council urges the University of California, Los Angeles to financially support and promote all the Ethnic Studies Interdepartmental Programs, Departments, and Centers at UCLA.

Sponsored by:

Jasmine Hill- USAC President

Cris Santos- USAC External Vice President

Suza Khy- USAC Academic Affairs Commissioner

References:

(1) UCLA International Institute. 21 October 2010 <<http://www.international.ucla.edu/idps/islamicstudies/>>

(2) James, Adil. "UCLA to Close Islamic Studies?" The Muslim Observer. 2 November 2009. 21 October 2010. <<http://muslimmedianetwork.com/mmn/?p=5265>>

(3) UCLA International Institute. 21 October 2010 <<http://www.international.ucla.edu/idps/islamicstudies/>>

(4) MESA. 21 October 2010. <<http://fp.arizona.edu/mesassoc/board.htm>>

- (5) Dr. KhaledAbou El Fadl; <<http://www.dailybruin.com/index.php/multimedia/37581>>
- (6) “The State of Islamic Studies in American Universities”. International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT). December 2007. Web. Page 2,6. 21 October 2010. (PDF)
- (7) Muslim Student Association. 21October 2010. <<http://msabruins.com/about/>>
- (8) “NYC teens charged with anti-Muslim hate crime.” USA Today. 11 October 2012. 21 October 2010. <[http://www.usatoday.com/news/religion/2010-10-11-muslim-hate-nyc\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/news/religion/2010-10-11-muslim-hate-nyc_N.htm)>  
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- Tracy, Ryan. “What to Make of Anti-Muslim Hate Crimes”. Newsweek. 27 August 2010. 21 October 2010. <<http://www.newsweek.com/blogs/the-gaggle/2010/08/26/what-to-make-of-anti-muslim-hate-crimes.html>>
- (9)<http://www.dailybruin.com/index.php/article/2002/09/muslims-still-unfairly-targeted>
- (10) UCLA Registrar. 21 October 2010. <<http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/>>
- (11) [http://education.change.org/blog/view/ucla\\_students\\_rally\\_to\\_save\\_islamic\\_studies\\_program](http://education.change.org/blog/view/ucla_students_rally_to_save_islamic_studies_program)
- (12) Forty Years of Ethnic Studies at UCLA. 21 October 2010. <<http://www.ethnicstudies40th.ucla.edu/>>
- (13) “UCLA Institutional Proposal to the Western Association of Schools and Colleges.” UCLA Reaccreditation by WASC. 12 May 2006. Web. Page 3. 21 October 2010. (PDF)

-Khy moved to support the resolution in support of Islamic Studies at UCLA. De Vera seconded.  
 -Ma said that Santos is spelled wrong.  
 -Santos said that his name is spelled correctly  
 -Miller said that they should change “program” to programs” in the first “Whereas.” and that there should be an accent over the e. The footnote 7 should be edited. Miller asked if it should read a hajab or Hajab.  
 -Spring moved to switch the order of the last two “Whereas” statements. De Vera seconded.  
 -Miller said that in the first “Let it be resolved,” they needed clarification  
 -Hill said that they should refer to the coalition.  
 -Hill said that as a friendly amendment, undergraduate student should be changed to students.  
 -Khy said that they wanted to be inclusive of those who signed the petition. She read the revised document, which included those who signed the petition in support of the resolution.  
 -Khy made a motion to replace the first “let it be resolved.” Spring seconded.  
 - Yao made a friendly amendment to put a space between Suza and Khy  
 -Miller said that there is an extra space between portions of names on the resolution.  
 -Yao said that they should add a comma after “University of California” to remain consistent. This is in the second to last let it be resolved and in the final let it be resolved.  
 -Resnick said in footnote 7, there should be a space between October and 21.  
 -Hill said that the first time, to spell out University of California, Los Angeles and from then on to replace it as “UCLA.”  
 -Phi asked if coast in “west coast” is capitalized.  
 -Spring said to make the W in “west” lowercase in the second “Whereas.”  
 -Khy moved to amend the portion as stated. “Whereas.... “(second whereas)  
 -Spring seconded.  
 -Santos called to question the resolution as amended. Ma seconded.  
 -Khy read the updated resolution.  
 -Hill said that at the last “Let it be resolved,” it should read UCLA.  
-Santos moved to approve the resolution in support of Islamic Studies. Shah seconded.  
 The resolution reads as follows:

### Resolution In Support of Islamic Studies at UCLA

Presented: October 26, 2010 to the Undergraduate Student Association Council of the University of California  
Los Angeles

Whereas, University of California Los Angeles has been a leader in Islamic Studies, hosting one of the nation's oldest and most premier Islamic Studies Program, founded in 1957. (1)

Whereas, UCLA has the only such programs on the west coast, and at a public university. (2)

Whereas, UCLA has one of the world's largest collections of Islamic texts, numbering in excess of 350,000. (3)

Whereas, the Islamic Studies Program has contributed to the academic richness of the university with groundbreaking research, world-renowned scholarly publications, and noteworthy alumni. (4)

Whereas, the Chair, Dr. Khaled Abou El Fadl, has received 50 to 80 emails per year from interested prospective students. (5)

Whereas, the attache to L.A. mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, at a meeting with Dr. Khaled Abou El Fadl, stated the importance of Islamic Studies at UCLA to foreign dignitaries who visit Los Angeles. (5)

Whereas, other universities, like Stanford and McGill University, recognize the importance of this academic field, and are thus opening Islamic Studies programs and departments. (5)

Whereas, Islamic Studies programs throughout the United States suffer a disconnect with public opinion and US policy decisions. (6)

Whereas, less than one quarter of faculty in Islamic Studies departments nation-wide are Muslim. (6)

Whereas, UCLA Muslim students have had a history of active engagement in issues of social justice and representation, alongside the organization of various community service projects. (7)

Whereas, due to misinformation, America is experiencing a rise of Islamophobia, manifested by ignorance and fear about Islam. (8)

Whereas, there has been an increase in harassment against Muslims on campus, especially of women wearing the hijab. Within the first ten days of Fall Quarter 2010 there had been 11 reported hate incidents. (9)

Whereas, there have been no undergraduate Islamic courses offered this quarter (Fall 2010) that would provide students with an academic education about Islam. (10)

Whereas, the loss of the Islamic Studies Program deprives the UCLA community of resources to study Islam, both in regards to culture and religion, and threatens the academic well-being and success of the UCLA community on campus alongside the commitment to diverse academia. (11)

Whereas, this year marks 40 years of Ethnic Studies at UCLA, standing as a testament to UCLA's commitment to diversity: the fifth hallmark of UCLA. (12)

Whereas, Chancellor Block dedicated this year to be the Year of Ethnic Studies to commemorate and support cultural and ethnic diversity on campus. (13)

Let it be resolved, that the Undergraduate Student Association Council supports the undergraduate students as well as the over 3800 signatories of the petition in their demand for the immediate re-opening of admissions to the Islamic Studies Program, with full representation and accountability to students and the respective community. Let it be resolved, that the Undergraduate Student Association Council supports the Student Association's demand for the immediate re-opening of admissions to the Islamic Studies Program, with full representation and accountability to students and the respective community.



Let it further be resolved that the Undergraduate Student Association Council urges UCLA to hire two new tenured faculty members, offer undergraduate courses within the Islamic Studies Program, and begin the process of departmentalization for Undergraduate Islamic Studies.

Let it be finally resolved, that the Undergraduate Student Association Council urges the UCLA to financially support and promote all the Ethnic Studies Interdepartmental Programs, Departments, and Centers at UCLA.

Sponsored by:

Jasmine Hill- USAC President

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Suza Khy- USAC Academic Affairs Commissioner

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(2) James, Adil. "UCLA to Close Islamic Studies?" *The Muslim Observer*. 2 November 2009. 21 October 2010. <<http://muslimmedianetwork.com/mmn/?p=5265>>

(3) UCLA International Institute. 21 October 2010 <<http://www.international.ucla.edu/idps/islamicstudies/>>

(4) MESA. 21 October 2010. <<http://fp.arizona.edu/mesassoc/board.htm>>

(5) Dr. Khaled Abou El Fadl; <<http://www.dailybruin.com/index.php/multimedia/37581>>

(6) "The State of Islamic Studies in American Universities". International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT). December 2007. Web. Page 2,6. 21 October 2010. (PDF)

(7) Muslim Student Association. 21 October 2010.<<http://msabruins.com/about/>>

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(9) <http://www.dailybruin.com/index.php/article/2002/09/muslims-still-unfairly-targeted>

(10) UCLA Registrar. 21 October 2010. <<http://www.registrar.ucla.edu/>>

(11) [http://education.change.org/blog/view/ucla\\_students\\_rally\\_to\\_save\\_islamic\\_studies\\_program](http://education.change.org/blog/view/ucla_students_rally_to_save_islamic_studies_program)

(12) Forty Years of Ethnic Studies at UCLA. 21 October 2010. <<http://www.ethnicstudies40th.ucla.edu/>>

(13) "UCLA Institutional Proposal to the Western Association of Schools and Colleges." UCLA Reaccreditation by WASC. 12 May 2006. Web. Page 3. 21 October 2010. (PDF)

-Spring moved to place this in the Daily Bruin as a 1/3-page ad next week. Miller seconded.

-Santos asked if they are sticking to a 1/3 page from now on.

-Hill said that this is an item of discussion but there can be discussion for more or less space.

-Miller said that a 1/3 page would be fitting in this situation

-De Vera asked where the funding comes from.

-Hill said contingency.

-Yao asked if they were to use notification funds or contingency.

- Hill said you only use notification funds for advertising that funding is available.
- Spring called to question for approving a 1/3 ad in the Daily Bruin. Miller seconded. With a vote of 11-0-0, the movement to approve contingency for placing in the ad in the Daily Bruin was approved.

### **Jasmine Hill- Presentation on Student Affordability**

- Hill presented a Powerpoint on student affordability. She presented outcomes: to paint a picture of the student experience, to create new ideas to serve needs, and to pinpoint the next steps.
- The first question prompted, "What are students experiencing?" in terms of student affordability.
- Santos said that he thinks that the main issue is that students are facing fee increases and not seeing any real results for where that money is going to. Santos said these fees are going to be raised again, yet the same conditions in terms of class sizes and lack of classes are still prominent.
- De Vera said that some students aren't able to access the available resources that allow them to attend an institution of higher education, such as undocumented students
- Shah said that people try to take on jobs and still try to attend school.
- Miller said that fees have gone up over \$4000 since most of them started attending school. Miller said that \$1000 is a ridiculous amount of inflation.
- De Vera said that it detracts aspects of student lives. He said that working takes the time commitment away from other extracurricular activities. This takes away from different aspects of student life
- Khy said that working and worrying about finances is a huge retention program. She said that these problems affect not only their wallets but also their academic lives
- De Vera said that from a presentation at CAPs, he learned that a lot of students come in because they are scared of these financial issues. Financial problems negatively affect health and wellness
- Santos said that the psychological aspects of these fees have not really been explored. Santos said that at the rally, the US is number one of the enrollment of students but the US is not even one of the top 3 in producing college graduates.
- Phi said that some students waive their insurance and aren't able to utilize CAPs because they don't have the finances
- Yao said that from a community service standpoint, directors do their services for free. She said that they are limited in the number of directors and that some people have to drop their community service experiences in order to work another job
- Hill highlighted that Yao provided a community service standpoint. She said that they all have a specific role in expressing their concerns with these issues.
- Hill presented the question, "What would we ideally like to see?" in terms of student affordability.
- Spring said that a tangible solution in the future would be to stop the increases in fees. This could come from organizing in response to the next potential fee increase.
- Lucas said that one of the most important things would be visibility of resources that surround this issue. She said that making students more aware of resources is an immediate goal.
- Williams said that he would like to be more involved in this process. He said that the campus doesn't want to reach out to the students enough. He said that if they get together, both parties could figure out possible solutions.
- Miller said that this is a good point and that students are only involved in fees to a limited extent. Miller said that students usually bear it and adjust finances.
- Phi said that a long-term goal would be for all students that waive SHIP would have the same benefits of those students that have SHIP. Everyone would have the same services.
- Khy said that they should not only look at the issue at the UCLA level but also at the state level. She asked how students can engage and better the economy, since students aren't the only ones affected by these overall issues.
- Santos said often, students feel like they need to know what's going on to figure out solutions. Santos said that they could provide as many solutions as they want, but making long term reforms would have more of an influence. He said that the way that the UC Regents act is not democratic. He said that before they can ask the state to reform itself, they should lead by example and reform as well.
- Resnick said that student engagement would allow for more awareness of the issue. She asked for a way to predict when fee increases would happen.
- Miller said that he would like to see more involvement. He said that ideally, there should be a 100% UCLA voter turnout.
- Hill asked, "What are some of the obstacles from reaching the ideal?"

-Shah said that an obstacle is that the general student body lacks knowledge of the structure. She said that regents are appointed by politicians and understanding the interconnectedness would help for students to vote and address these issues.

-Miller talked about student empathy.

-Tressel said that Prop 25 is a great way that could address needs. Tressel said that getting students out there and engaged in the issues would make a difference.

-Santos said that he wanted to have a newsletter to address these issues. He said that they could have a newsletter about the structure of the regents and could encompass UCSA and how they're run.

-Tressel suggested that student leaders get out in public and be vocal about these important issues. Grab the attention of the students, for example, out on Bruin Plaza Mario Savio of Berkeley's Free Speech Movement did much the same type of thing.

-Spring said that they could utilize the Ask USAC desk to have regular conversations with students. Spring said that in terms of lobbying, they could have members of their staff go to these. This would help develop relations with local legislatures. This would show them that students aren't reactionary in terms of a fee increase.

-Ma said that they could reach out to parents, since they could be more politically inclined and that they have more resources.

-Santos said that this weekend is parent's weekend. He said that on November 2 there will be voter guides and tables on each of the propositions visible on campus. He said that they are also talking about the revenue propositions. Santos said that information about oil companies is becoming more visible. Prop 23 would be a step back and would allow oil companies dictate what California does. Santos said that they will present information on the candidates of governors, with many people ex-afficio regents who can come when they want but can also vote.

-Santos said that the governor doesn't attend a lot, but some members tend to show up when the regents vote. Santos said that Spring planned to get the superintendent out on Thursday, which is a good opportunity.

-Hill pointed to November, when the fees could possibly be increased. She said that from an active standpoint, there is an element where the regents in their role are making a decision assuming that students will act as a sponge for the increases in fees. Hill said that they are in the position to make students known of what is being experienced by students.

-Williams said that there are opportunities to address these issues in future meetings.

-Santos said that he feels like that they have been talking so much with the regents and they still keep making decisions. He said that students should be aware of the connection between the legislature and the regents. Santos said that there's a reason why the 18 people chosen are chosen. Santos said that it doesn't make sense that the regents blame the state, because they were appointed by the state.

-Tressel suggested that they follow the money. He commented that some Regents are supportive of keeping the UC system strong. He said that California's Legislators control the purse strings. He suggested that students lobby their elected officials in Sacramento.

-Spring asked about lobbying in Sacramento.

-Santos said that the decision lies with the regents, and they need to continue to apply pressure because while some advocate for students, others simply attend the regents meeting. The chair of the regents meeting used to work for finances. Santos said that they need to find a balance between pressuring the state and applying pressure to the regents.

-Dr. Geller said that it is offensive of how discrete the talks are of the fee increases. She said that there wasn't public discourse or acknowledgment, making it seem like they are trying to sneak the fee increases in. She said that just because they were donors of the governor who appointed them, doesn't mean that they have any favor with the current governor. She said that on this campus, they have information on which regents are influential. She said that there are individuals on campus who can help them be heard. Dr. Geller said that the regents should know about the financial difficulties people are having. She said that people have to be heard because if not, nobody else will speak up for you. Dr. Geller said that advocates should understand the impact on students. She said that they should figure out who can speak up for them.

-Hill said that the council was able to set the stage of what was going on and on what should happen with the legislature. She asked the council who was interested in furthering these conversations.

#### XI. Announcements

-Spring said that one of the candidates for state superintendent is coming Thursday at 6:30. There will be discussions on higher education. He served as a former state senator who is opposed to any fee increases.

- Phi said that tomorrow from 6-7 is Yoga Under the Stars in Sunset Rec. Thursday is Mental Health Jeopardy in Bruinwalk around noon.
- De Vera said that they are to let student groups know that TGIF is due this Friday.
- Santos said that if they have any questions to be asked to the UC president, they are to contact the director and CC himself.
- Resnick said that there will be a Halloween event and a flash mob this week.
- Yao said that CSC is sending out their first newsletter about service concerning issues in the community. She urged council to send in articles. Community Service Day will be November 20<sup>th</sup>. The deadline to submit articles for the newsletter is Friday, November 5.
- Miller said that he had a meeting concerning a building in Westwood that would be able to house low-income students. The building was approved for low-income student housing. The apartment is on Strathmore and Levering. They will start construction on that soon.
- Spring said that they are to submit blurbs for the USAC newsletter by Thursday at 5pm.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The attendance sheet was passed around.*

XIII. Adjournment

- Miller moved and Spring seconded to adjourn the meeting.
- Hill called for Acclamation. Hill asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Dimacali  
USAC Minutes Taker  
2010-2011