

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL

Tuesday February 8, 2011  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT:

GUESTS: Farzad Mashkood

I. A. Call to Order

- Hill called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The attendance sheet was passed around.*

II. Approval of the Agenda

-Miller moved to strike both special presentations from the agenda. Santos seconded.

-Khy moved to strike ASRF Mini-fund.

-Miller asked if they moved to strike both academic affairs.

-Hill said both.

-Shah moved to strike cultural affairs

-Santos moved to strike the EVP travel grant

-Spring moved to approve the agenda. De Vera seconded. The agenda was approved, 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. \*2/1/11

-De Vera said that his petition is for gender neutral facilities.

-Dr. Geller said she wasn't present at the last meeting

-Santos said he was present at the last meeting

-Spring moved to approve the minutes from February 1, 2011. Shah seconded. The minutes were approved as amended.

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

IV. Public Comments

*There were no public comments this week.*

V. Special Presentations

*There were no special presentations this week.*

VI. Appointments

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 the Travel Grant is allocating \$500 to the Watt's Tutorial Program. Santos said that the way they provide their service is very innovative, which leads to high success within what they do. They are providing \$475 for the community trip to Fresno for the Vietnamese Student Union. He said that it is specific in terms of what they want to accomplish through their field trip.

**D. Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant****E. \*Contingency Allocations**

De Vera moved to approve this week's contingency allocations. Phi seconded.

-Rose said that they had a very busy week. He said that overall, the applications were good. They are recommending \$8000 this week.

-Resnick asked about the email that she sent. She said that under the contingency allocations, there was a spot where they applied for the renting of a projector and a screen and asked if they could still get funding for that.

-Hill asked if he could pass around the contingency allocations around.

-Rose said that this was an oversight.

-Hill asked how much that line item was for.

-Resnick said that it was for \$224.

-Rose said this was item number 5.

-Hill asked if the event is held off campus

-Resnick said that this is for the last home game for the year. She said that the CEC would show a movie at Drake. They are doing this event at the Den.

-Hill said that an amendment to contingency had to exist.

-Miller moved to amend the Gen. Rep. 2 allocation from \$996 to \$996 plus the cost for the rental of the projector. Phi seconded.

-De Vera called to question the amendment to contingency. Khy seconded.

-With a vote of 11-0-0, the allocations were amended.

-Rose said that with this change, they would have \$91,500 left. He commended the IVP for reaching out to groups. They had 21 applications, which is usually unseen for winter quarter.

-Spring asked what the typical allocations for airfare were in regards to MUN.

-Rose said that they based it on the fact that to go to Stanford, they took vans instead. He said this week's allocation was based on what other groups were given to travel.

-Miller called to question the contingency allocations for this week. Santos seconded. With a vote of 12-0-0, the contingency allocations for this week were approved as approved.

-Santos moved to change the agenda to include the travel grant on the agenda.

-Phi called to question to amend the agenda to include the travel grant. Santos moved to amend the agenda. Spring seconded. With a vote of 11-0-1, the travel grant was added to the agenda.

**VI. Capital Contingency (listen to this part over)**

-Afrikan Student Union asked for funding for a new keyboard and mouse because theirs was stolen.

-Gen rep 3 requested money for furniture in their office.

-CSC asked for money for furniture for their office. He said that the application didn't show specific needs. He said that the application just said that the furniture was outdated and didn't show how the cabinet was broken or why the chair needed to be replaced.

-Spring moved to approve capital contingency. Phi seconded.

-Yao said that they emphasized funding for 23 different service groups. She said that this was why the application requested the amount they did. She asked if they could retract their application and reapply with the recommendations.

-Rose said that would be acceptable.

-Miller moved to remove the community service application for reapplication. De Vera seconded. With a vote of 12-0-0, the application was removed from capital contingency.

- Khy asked if the 23 different groups could apply for capital contingency.
- Rose said that that whatever student group is under that office could apply. He said that it wasn't communicated why the entire application asked for a complete refurbishment of the entire office. He said he would be happy to talk with her.
- Hill asked what the precedents were for groups applying for which spaces.
- Zimmerman said she had what groups OSAC wise were in each office. There are other groups that are extensions of the CSC. She could get the council lists of which groups are where.
- Phi asked if the list includes when they need to reapply for space.
- Zimmerman said that as student government, they don't need to renew their space. She said that they need to reapply and there will be a lot of flyering to let people know when applications are in. She said that this was an OSAC year.
- Spring called to question capital contingency as amended. Phi seconded. With a vote of 12-0-0, capital contingency was approved as amended.

#### VIII. Officer and Member Reports

##### **President – Jasmine Hill**

- Hill said that she recommended moving to the IVP update so she could set up her report.
- Miller moved to table the president's report until the computer works. De Vera seconded
- Hill said that last week, everyone received a letter to themselves. She said that it hopefully reminded the council of their earlier self. She asked, "Where are we now?" Hill talked about outcomes.
- Hill presented a segment of the constitution of USAC.
- Hill said that this is in the preamble, which lays out what their charge is. She talked about their overall goals, which were to advocate for affordability, promote a holistic education, create diverse, unified, and safe student spaces, and to encourage student empowerment. Hill talked about how they wanted to fulfill a three-prong mission. She talked about how they realized their time was short, so they encouraged students to continue the conversations they have in this space.
- Hill talked about the funding study group. They proposed that they incentives that the BOD presents sustainable products. She talked about the IVP office which started the evaluation process for student group funds. She talked about how they created a list of issues for the group to continue to discuss. They also made recommendations. The recommendations included: restarting CSP orientations for new student groups and for USA/BOD to emphasize allocations should be \$500+. The next meeting would be Friday at 3:30, week 8. Hill said that they want to contact groups that don't utilize their funding. Hill said that according to SGA, this is a rampant issue. Hill said that a lot of the funds they issue aren't even touched.
- Hill talked about highlights about accomplishments thus far. These included resolutions, such as Wooden, USAC goals, A.I, Islamic Studies, Prop 8, and DREAM Act. They had presentations from relevant campus groups and entities. They completed the Wooden 100, etc.
- Hill talked about recommendations that they've implemented so far. This included the campus wide emails, USAC mixer, Ask USAC desk, USAC Rollout, utilize and update the website regularly, the USAC newsletter, etc.
- Hill talked about recommendations that they didn't do, such as coordinating communication with at least 2 other offices, positions like FSC, Gen Reps, IVP, SWC, and AAC reporting on needs of specific populations, pushing USAC at regular events, working together to communicate to parents on fee increase issue, and regrouping after the last fee increase to determine the future for students and use Bruin Lobby Corps. Hill said that she tried to make a speech to parents regarding the fee increase but further conversations hadn't happened. Hill asked if anyone had any comments on these.
- Santos said that on the Bruin Lobby Corps point, they are going to present to council on what they could do or take advantage of this opportunity. Santos said that they are a historic organization that led to other organizations on other campuses to emerge. He said that it began other student led lobby organizations.
- Hill said that they accomplished a lot. She said that it seemed like their focus was on visibility. Hill said that they were able to make leaps and bounds. She said that the council is set up to carry out the work from there. She talked about challenges. She posed the questions: What kinds of obstacles or unexpected challenge have we faced in accomplishing this goal? If our charge is to serve student needs, how well are we meeting that charge?

- De Vera said that there is room for improvement. He said that there should be more consistent updates from council members. He said that the IVP office could present on what's happening with student groups or from the SWC what was happening on campus. He said that these updates could pertain to what was happening in their offices.
- Ma said that in terms of representing student needs, they are doing this well in terms of the fee increases. He said that in terms of what students can see, challenges are that there are some circumstances that are bigger than they can control.
- Lucas said to reiterate what Ma said was that they saw that they need to face student needs. They are talking to students and finding out what they need, but there is a problem with the execution of this. She said that the council should push for the council message rather than for individual goals.
- Hill said it sounds like all of them are collecting information about what is going on.
- Shah said that it's hard to evaluate this when there is no system to know whether their events are meeting student needs.
- Miller said that evaluations of everything they fund would take work, but they also have the capacity to give out a great deal of funds and that they could give out evaluations. Miller said that they could have a mandatory evaluation system, which could be a great way to get feedback.
- Zimmerman said that BOD and other groups give evals. She said that the evals could be posted online so that people could see how events did. This would be a win-win so that student groups could get more exposure as well.
- Hill said that Shah was speaking to events that they hold. She asked what they could gain from this
- Shah said that there are some events that they might have not have had or events that they had that went well but they wouldn't know. She said there is no form of consistent feedback. She said that they could have a USAC survey. It could consist of what they learn, etc. By having a consistent USAC survey, people could see that they are all from USAC.
- Spring said that they could utilize their appointments. He said that they could have their reports up online in terms of what they're doing. He asked if it was possible to do a USAC assessment survey so that USAC could assess their needs.
- Hill said that it looks like they want to collect information and assess it from there.
- Williams said that the question is how they are represented to the committees, chancellor, etc. He asked how to convey that they are important to the student body. He asked himself how he could reach out to the customer. He said that he didn't know the answer. Williams said that if they took a survey of the council, they would be surprised of how many people don't think they represent them
- Yao said that in the campus climate survey, she found that people like talking about their issues. She talked about utilizing the USAC table to make a more personal connection.
- Hill said that by going to student groups, they were able to see what students didn't like about USAC. She said that they had something related to everything. Hill said that they gave out t-shirts if they could answer questions. They gave out reference sheets. They asked the students where student government was and what USAC had done for them. She said that they do a great job at advertising the events they do, but the challenge was how to tell people they were meeting with the academic senate. Hill talked about the next steps, which included: implementing and continuing to discuss recommendations for funding processes, facilitating discussion on creating diversity, unity, and safe open spaces as well as holistic education, reporting on the implementation of surplus funding projects of Spring quarter, etc. She asked if there were any other recommendations people had.
- Phi asked if it was possible for copies of the evaluations could be made to be given to people.
- Hill said that in evals, people could communicate a lot of values
- Shah talked about the DREAM act postcards and how they could provide information as well as leaving their input as well.
- Hill asked how else they could make this process better.
- Khy said that they could look at SAIRO. She talked about using what was already worked on, such as the campus climate survey.
- Spring asked if they could evaluate what they accomplished.
- Ma said that he liked the t-shirt idea. He said that they want to reach people who they haven't reached. He said that the surveys were a good idea.
- Hill asked what the purpose of the officer report was. She said that it is deliberate on who gets an officer report. She said that each officer that gets a report represents a group. She said that they could provide a need assessment, so that they could make an attempt to set an example and to bring a more concerted effort

to what's going on. She said that people should be engaged and from there ask questions. She also said that she feels like USAC needs a publicity committee. She said that they could possibly have DESMA students who help flyer. She said that they could create a small budget for them.

-Spring asked what officers or council thinks about what they have implemented so far and how they could approve them.

-Hill asked if they could get the USAC newsletter in color.

-Spring said that that it would cost more money but they could.

-Hill asked if they could get the USAC newsletter in the Daily Bruin.

-Spring said that it would cost a lot more money but they could.

-Zimmerman said that she could put the USAC newsletter online.

-Spring said that he could send her the PDF file.

-Williams said that they also have the screens in the food court where they could put USAC information as well as in the elevators.

-Zimmerman said that she liked the comment about working together as committee members. She said that a lot of times, the offices work on similar things. She said that the workshop they had today was huge because offices work together as well as other events, such as Wooden Day.

-Hill said that people still talk about Wooden Day.

-Tressel asked what happened with the videos that they talked about.

-Hill asked if they could get a featurette before movie sneaks or poetry nights.

-Ma said that if they make something, they could put it in.

-Shah said that they couldn't afford a projector every time. She said that she could come up with a script for the directors so that they could talk about USAC.

-Miller said visibility should be worked on. He said that they should still continue on the path that they were on while increasing visibility.

-Hill said that she will review the comments. She said that it sounds like people want to work on visibility and collaboration. They could use survey information that they already have, use evaluation cards, putting the USAC letter online, etc. She said that there are little things that they could do to make a difference.

#### **Internal Vice President- Stephanie Lucas**

Lucas said Strathmore Saferides started last Thursday and Friday. 100 students used it and they had to show their ID card. Highest density times were 10-10:30 and 1:00-1:30. There were incidents at gunpoint that ran during these times, so it was good that the shuttles were available. Lucas said that the How-To workshop next Wednesday focused on BOD. Student Group Expo is next Wednesday. She has a meeting with Ken Heller and they need to have a meeting on how to reformat the next format of the How-To Guide. She said that when there are articles online in the Daily Bruin and if anyone wants to address a program or council member, that they say it to her to make USAC visibility professional.

-Dr. Geller asked if they were able to convince Transportation to use their own drivers for the Saferide program.

-Lucas said if they used their own drivers, they would go over the allotted hours they are allowed to work.

-Dr. Geller asked what the back up was.

-Lucas said that there's another contractor as a backup. They already have the funds for the backup but they've never had someone not show up.

#### **External Vice President--Chris Santos**

Santos said that for the State Affairs component, they have the DREAM act campaign. They have 800 post cards from less than a week. Their goal is 3,000 postcards. He said that they would most likely surpass their goal for DREAM act postcards. They have already started registering voters for the upcoming local elections, which is something they want to do to increase their visibility in the local community. They will start lobby visits soon. They had been doing lobby visits every week. The deadline for applying for conferences was last Friday. They look forward to this as well. Santos said that they will hopefully meet with vice chancellor Jaina Montero. He said that they would talk about the possible institutionalization of the voter registration component. He said that with the upcoming presidential elections coming up, they would hopefully be able to register a record number of students.

-Hill asked what the institutionalization would look like.

-Santos said that they would model it after how UCSB does it. They have support from the administration including the chancellor. They have legitimacy with the chancellor as well as an agreement with housing. Santos said that they waste a lot of time figuring out information with housing, whereas in UCSB they get a list of everything that is happening week 1. They have 7,000 voters by week 1 or 2. Santos said that they want to see a strong partnership between administration, housing, Community Programs, and all of the other organizations on campus. This would allow them to register voters rather than spend so much time on logistics.

-Tressel asked if they have a program where they can register as an incoming freshman

-Santos said that the closest thing to this is UCSB. He said that even so, their approach is a little outdated. He said that he would look into that

#### **Academic Affairs Commissioner--Suza Khy**

Khy said that Olson is in charge of looking at funding for our school. They hope to have a budget update by the end of this week. UCLA will probably be experiencing a \$46 million dollar cut. They don't know how this will look as of now. He is supposed to have a budget update by the end of this week. With that, they have a record high of summer enrollment at UCLA this year. This is partly because students are trying to complete their degree more quickly. There is a projected \$11.4 million revenue, which will go to the departments. Departments usually use this to raise money. Khy said that they are also working on the foreign language exams proposal. She said that the exam costs \$24. They are developing an online version of the exam. They are working with the departments around campus for access and affordability for students. This Thursday, herself and Hill are going to the review of the general education of arts and humanities. Every two years, each foundation reviews itself. They are invited to the student review this Thursday. She said that if anyone has ever taken a class under the arts GE, they are invited to attend as well.

-Hill asked if they would still have people take the exam in a centralized location.

-Khy said that she's not sure, but she would ask.

-Spring said that in the Daily Bruin, that there is a \$55 million reserve from the state last year. He asked where this money was coming from.

-Khy said that in terms of the budget cuts last year, the UC was very cautious where they spent money. She said that she was not sure where it is from.

-Santos said that it's part of the return of funding they received last year. They had over \$300 million returned. Instead of spending the money, UCLA put it in the reserve.

#### **Bob Williams- Administrative Representative**

Williams said that they would be getting a new projector.

#### IX. Old Business

There was no old business this week.

#### X. New Business

There was no new business this week.

#### XI. Announcements

-Spring said that tomorrow would be Take it to the Hill office hours from 4-7

-De Vera said that they had a great sustainability workshop. He has meetings with different advisory boards so he will most likely have a report next week

-Zimmerman said that they had 23 TGIF hearings today. She told people to raise their hand if they heard of TGIF, where most of the audience heard of it already. She should have an allocation presentation next week. Zimmerman thanked the council for their help with outreaching. Zimmerman said that she would keep council updated

-Miller said that on Thursday, they are working with ORL to show "The Sassy Gay Guy" on the hill. He would also be speaking to LGBT issues. He said that his office and ORL would be there. He said that if any council members wanted to come, they could come and work

-Shah said that this month is hip hop appreciation month. Thursday would be a fashion show. Tomorrow would be the Word on Wednesday. Next Wednesday, they would look at the intersection of Islam and hip hop. Thursday they have workshops, such as graffiti, hip hop, and beat boxing. They would have a J. Cole

concert. Reservation is Tuesday at 11:59pm. She said that the link would be on the USAC website and their website. The first 1500 people would have a reserve spot. Doors open at 7 and the event would start at 8. Feb. 27 would be a diversity tour to the international farmer's market. They would possibly add a history of hip hop event as well.

-Resnick said that they are planning the last basketball campout as well. They are providing incentives for this. She said that they already have around 500 people attending.

-Hill said that administration officially commissioned a finance committee for the Westwood subway association. Hill said that they are invited to this. She said that she has been working with the Daily Bruin reporter. They will look at the options to have a common application so that it would be easier to apply.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The attendance sheet was passed around.*

XIII. Adjournment

- Miller moved and Resnick 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 8:18p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Dimacali  
USAC Minutes Taker  
2010-2011