

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday February 22, 2011
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, John Christian De Vera, Rustom Z. Birdie, Linda Phi, Isaac Rose, Dr. Debra Geller, Dr. Berky Nelson, Willard Tressel, Patricia Zimmerman, Bob Williams, Roy Champawat, Katrina Dimacali

ABSENT:

GUESTS:

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

-Santos moved to add a special presentation by the Bruin Lobby Core.

-Spring moved and De Vera 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

-2/15/11

-De Vera said that under special presentation, the presentation is under Be Green consulting. Under his officer report, it is the Transportation Services Advisory Board.

-Miller moved and Yao 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.

IV. Public Comments

There were no public comments this week.

V. Special Presentations

Online Requisition System Development- Champawat and Simmons

Champawat talked about the new REQ system. He talked about how the activities level has grown faster than support resources. He talked about the growth of student groups, many of them using SGA services. The group of communities has become larger, surpassing 900. The number of fees has grown over time. They are still in an effective regimen that ensures that they stick to accounting standards, though they are not technologically robust at this time. He presented a chart showing SGA growth since 2000. The amount of dollars has essentially doubled over the years. Champawat talked about how SGA will implement an online requisition system utilizing the Orgsync environment. He said that as they use Orgsync, they will create something more functional. The computer driven system will be more intuitive. The system will include online approvals and tracking. He talked about those on the signatory list. Signatories can log in and look at the paperwork that they need to look at. They will be able to effectively do their work. This will save processing time and allow more time for customer service. This holds the

prospect that other campus funding bodies could adapt the system. They said that OrgSync is the solution because it already exists as a portal to provide information to student groups and individuals. This project will take advantage of an existing treasury module. Reqs will be initiated through this newly enabled treasury module with built in step-by-step instructions. Champawat presented the current REQ process, which takes about 11 days. The Orgsync REQ process would take about 4 days and would be primarily done online. Champawat talked about implementation issues, such as: refining signatory list methodology, data flow from Orgsync to SGA's MIP system, and bringing the community to the new platform. Champawat said that they need to connect data flow. The community needs to understand the new platform. He asked the council if they had any questions or input.

-Spring asked if any other campuses adapted the OrgSync platform.

-Champawat said that OrgSync is not an old system. They have revised a system that fulfills that. Champawat said that this is a new front that they are going into to make the product more relevant. They are trying to make this workable and robust.

-Miller asked if he had a rough implementation timeline.

-Champawat said that they have a few issues, such as the signatory list. He said it is best to use trial test groups, with the primary rollout next fall. He said that from an accounting standpoint, they should start in the beginning of the year.

-Yao asked if the university commitment to OrgSync would be ending this year.

-Champawat said that as many things in the current budget environment need to be open, he would say that they have reason to believe that this would be something that could survive. He said that if it were to falter, the commitment that they are making is not substantial. He said that a lot of the work they did could be transferred to a different path. He said that they would find another platform.

-Santos asked whom the trial groups would consist of.

-Champawat said that they have not identified a group, but he is right that they should choose a group of an adequate size.

-Hill recommended that the community service projects, since they serve a diverse number of needs

-Williams asked why the administrators did not want to support OrgSync anymore

-Champawat said that it cost \$10-\$15k a year. He said that the amount of money is not insurmountable. He said that Heller is the driving force of OrgSync and he is aware that he needs to line up an ongoing finance method. He said that they won't commit to something so substantial that cannot be transferred to a different platform

-Miller said that his concern is that if OrgSync does not carry through, that they have a different method.

-Champawat said that the control system is separate. He said that there is a separate control of money. He said that if this platform falters, they just need a different contact for the accounting system. He said that this needs to be done cautiously since a number of the users are not schooled in accounting.

-Khy said she liked the idea of doing forms online. She asked if there would be a feedback/troubleshooting space for students to go to. Khy said that it was hard for students to get used to the process.

-Champawat asked if she meant a personal troubleshooting or online source.

-Khy said that she would like to see a personal troubleshooting source.

-Champawat said that he would like to implement this.

-Khy asked how often they would audit the system, such as yearly.

-Champawat asked if she was talking about the control of money.

-Khy said yes.

-Champawat said that there is an MIT based system. Student groups would be able to format with ease. The audit and control systems would continue to be rigorously audited. It would be thoroughly reviewed.

-Hill said that this is not where you get your money, but how to access it.

-Champawat said yes.

-Hill said that the council as a whole expressed that this is a great idea. She thanked him and the council for their questions. She would like to see a smaller implementation group, such as testing it on USAC. Hill said that as they talk about visibility, they would hate to have money flow be the thing that sets people off.

-Champawat said that they are taking that next step to make sure that they are with them.

Bruin Lobby Corp- Mona, Director of Bruin Lobby Core

-Mona introduced her staff: Thomas, Daniel, Jonathan, Kimberly, Jose, and Nicole

-Mona said that they are the official advocacy-lobbying wings of the External Vice Presidents office in USAC. She talked about lobbying. They do a face-to-face situation where they schedule a visit with legislation and share stories person to person. She said that this is the most effective way for them to get lobbying done. She said that within BLC, they are separated into components such as directors of research, directors of scheduling, liaisons, and various

externs/interns. She said that their directors of scheduling follow up with offices. They also continue relationships with them and pick out students for the visits. Liaisons work at the national, state, and local levels. She talked about the lobby certification program. This is the first year of the program. They would like to certify organizations. Their strategy consists of a backwards plan. They focus on their targets and identify their allies. In LA, often times legislatures are on their side of the issue. The second part of their visit includes the testimonial. Last year, they went to Sacramento and are widely recognized in LA. They have made lasting connections with legislators and staff. BLC was actively involved in lobbying for SAFRA, with it passing. They won in the Save Cal Grants campaign and with their lobbying got a victory in the CA budget. This year, they did a preliminary Sacramento visit. They made working relationships with the staff and made promises of writing to the regents. Since it was an election season, it was difficult to do lobby visits and worked hard on the VOTE! Campaign. They have Student Lobby Conference coming up this weekend. There are 65 people going and will be learning more about lobbying. The BLC objectives focus on the CA DREAM Act and the budget. They want to let legislatures know that they are in favor of the DREAM Act. They are looking at new revenue sources in regards to the budget. They aren't focusing on anything in the national level at this time. They meet every other Tuesday in the EVP office at 7. Everyone is welcome to lobby. This Friday there are two assembly members they can meet with.

-Hill thanked her for coming in. She said that she always recommends people to BLC, since it is a place where students can advocate. She asked what the asks are this conference.

-They said that they are asking for the DREAM Act. They don't have specific asks for the budget, since it is complicated. These are their two main campaigns. Holly Mitchell is newly elected. Their strategy is to ask Mitchell to champion the DREAM act.

-Birdie said that as a freshman, his first involvement was in Bru in Lobby Corp. He asked if the entire office has to be there to be certified and if those certified gets specific privileges

-Mona said that they want to see people who want to advocate for accessibility and affordability. It takes about an hour. They could go to lobby core visits whenever they want after being certified.

-Santos said that the more BLC is visible, the stronger relationships are built. He said that there are other opportunities as well. He received an email from Chicanos for Student Medicine. They would like to get certified so they could lobby on student health care. They will be able to lobby on their own through training. The training allows people to empower themselves.

-Birdie asked if the BLC works with people in the chancellor's office that also lobby. He asked if they have shared visits with people.

-Mona said that they tried communicating with them before. She said that out of the many lobby visits, she only encountered someone who thought they saw them before once. After this, she made the distinction between BLC and other groups.

-Santos said that they work with other groups in some sense, but their requests end up being different. They have respected each other boundaries. Santos said that they are getting help from other groups to get assistance to take more people to the conference.

-Spring asked what feedback they got from the state for alternative revenue for the state. He asked who it targets.

-Mona said that they have been trying to target their allies, especially in terms of the CA DREAM Act. She said in terms of budget, they are doing restructuring and re-strategizing to see how they can lobby people they haven't before.

-They said that reactions are ambiguous. They said that when they make suggestions, some legislatures direct them to swing votes. They seem to be supportive yet critical. They are going to do restructuring to see who the people they need to convince are.

-Hill thanked them for coming in.

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 the advocacy grant allocated \$176.99 for the CA DREAM Act Dreamers Event from IDEAS. They are working in conjunction with the EVP office. They are working with the advocacy grant by working with the DREAM Team LA. It should be a great event.

D. Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant

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

E. *Contingency Allocations

-Miller moved to approve contingency allocations for 2/22/11. Spring seconded.

-Hill said that the allocations have been coming later. She said that from a personal standpoint, people like to see what they are allocating money toward.

-Rose said that they have been streamlining the process to make it better for student groups. He said that student groups that turn it in on Monday will get an allocation by Friday. It is more convenient for student groups this way.

-Birdie asked when the committee meets.

-Rose said they meet Monday night. He said that they met with some groups today to make the allocations since the group couldn't make it Monday night

-Hill asked if there was something in the bylaws that stipulates the time

-Zimmerman said that they should be receiving the allocations by Friday at 5. She said that they could possibly meet Friday. She said that student groups should be turning in their applications 2 weeks prior to their event.

-Rose said that if they move it to Friday, they would have nothing to vote on tonight.

-Hill said that the goal is to correct mistakes if anything. She said that they could have a later conversation on that. She said that student groups are supposed to turn in applications 2 weeks in advance.

-Birdie said that he has an event, but he was going to turn in an application 2 weeks before his event on 9th week

-Zimmerman said that if they are going to have an event, they could turn in their application earlier if they have that opportunity.

-Miller said that on item 5, there was a mistake on the allocation.

-Rose said that there is a revised allocation sent out. He said that they could table approving these allocations to next week.

-Birdie asked if they would still accept applications tomorrow.

-Rose said that it has to be the Monday 2 weeks before the event.

-Zimmerman said that they can keep this as an action item. She said that they can still approve it tonight

-Miller said that he doesn't need it by Friday, but he would be uncomfortable getting it 10 minutes before the meeting.

-Rose said that they should table approving allocations if they are going by the bylaws.

-Hill said that they could decide from there what to do since student groups should know about the 2 week notice.

-Miller said to keep in mind that some of these events are happening this week.

-Miller asked why the Hooligan group was capped at \$1000.

-Rose said that they applied for BOD and other funds. The decision was based on the board.

-Phi asked why the Indonesian Bru in Student Association didn't receive money for gas

-Rose said that it was a retreat and that they also received funding for cab rental.

-Miller moved to approve the allocations this week with the understanding that next week they will follow the bylaws. Miller called to question. Phi seconded.

-Spring asked for clarification.

-Zimmerman said that they need a 2/3 vote. She said that for future reference, they would vote on action items in the beginning of the meeting.

-Hill said that they need 9 people to approve the contingency. With a vote of 12-0-0, the contingency allocations for this week were approved.

F. Capital Contingency

-Phi moved to approve capital contingency this week. Spring seconded.

-Rose said that there was an application for a printer. They didn't see that it was necessary for an expensive printer over an alternative choice. They looked online for other printers that were \$350. They will receive funding.

-Khy asked if the printer has the same features as the one requested.

-Rose said yes.

-Hill said that there is a trend that capital contingency is utilized by USA C offices. She asked if it was possible for them to make a flyer to make people aware of capital contingency.

-Spring called to question capital contingency for this week. Miller seconded. With a vote of 11-0-1, capital contingency was approved.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President – Jasmine Hill

Hill said that she went to Oakland to meet with Yudof. It was a successful meeting. They went asking for a student on the student advisory group, the UC to fully disclose their budget in a way that students can understand (now, there is a 168 narrative), and to continue communication between them and the president's council. He favored them. It still needs to go under a vote. He agreed to meet with the president's council three times a year. He was willing to continue the conversation with students. From her office, the community service scholarship was completed and they are undergoing the applications right now. Hill talked about the wide range of applications they received. Hill said that this week they will have to postpone the funding study group to week 9. Hill said that in conversations with Yao, she will be working to pull together an advisory group on community service to achieve holistic education. They will talk about how they can improve service initiatives. She would love to see UCLA adopting a community that has an elementary, middle, and high school in the area. They hope to achieve this through the service advisory group.

Internal Vice President – Stephanie Lucas

Lucas said last Thursday; they had the student group expo. They got a positive response and it was very successful. They had a BOD workshop last Wednesday with 20 groups and 25 groups that wanted more information. They outlined each part of the application on what they need to say that the BOD guidelines are unclear about. Lucas talked about meeting with different groups on the BOD application, which is due this Friday. For spring, they are looking at a sustainability forum. They would like to encourage restaurants in Westwood to follow through. They met with the Enough is Enough group. The group helps educate students on violence on campus. She is the funding director. They event will take place April 18-19. She will have the letter from the CS Mini by tonight.

-Zimmerman said that if people come up to you with BOD issues, to forward them her way.

External Vice President--Chris Santos

-Santos said that the deadline for the CA DREAM Act postcards is this Friday. They will turn them in to governor Brown himself. Santos said that they are excited to see his take on both versions of the DREAM Act. This Thursday will be the event on the DREAM Act. It will be in Royce 362 called the CA DREAM Act Decoded. It will feature assembly members. They have 1600 postcards signed. He said that they are getting ready for Leg. Con., the national conference.

-Hill asked what time students are leaving for SLC.

-Santos said that are leaving Friday at 5 in front of lot 4

Academic Affairs Commissioner--Suza Khy

Khy said that on the Islamic Studies Campaign, they are working on creating bylaw changes for each department program. Once those bylaws are approved, they will present a vote. The process has been longer than anticipated. It is a big step in opening the program. This Monday they will have the third general education requirement meeting. They hope to solidify definitions and work on the proposal to the

academic senate. They met with ways to work with transfer services and community service opportunities. They hope to incorporate this with the freshmen orientation.

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

X. New Business

A. *Ally Week- Miller

Miller said that he would like to talk about an event third week of spring quarter. They are co-programming with Gen. Rep. III, USAC SWC, ORL, UCLA LGBT Center, etc. This week celebrates the importance and power of an ally for all communities. He talked about how a majority of people at UCLA may not identify with being of the LGBT community. Monday they will start the Gay? Fine by me t-shirt sales. They will have performance art on Tuesday. Tuesday or Wednesday, they will have a sponsorship blood drive. Any man who has had sex with another man cannot donate blood in the United States. He said that it is not the Blood and Platelets decision. The drive would support donating blood and would make others aware of the issue. There would also be a movie screening on Wednesday. Thursday would be Ally Awards. There are people confirmed already. Friday will be the Day of Silence. He asked for funding and for input, involvement, and marketing. ORL has committed 1,500 shirts (about \$7,000). They are largely co-programmed. They are asking for \$1,500 from the discretionary fund. Miller said regardless of if they approve funding, everyone will receive shirts.

-Hill asked if someone would like to make a motion to approve \$1,500.

-Spring moved to approve \$1,500 for Ally Week from the discretionary fund

-Hill loved the idea of the blood drive. She said that this is an issue she felt strongly about. She said that when they want to include other communities, that certain groups of color are at high risk as well and may eventually not be able to donate.

-Spring said that he is concerned about the t-shirts being inclusive. He said that it could be somewhat disempowering. He said that the messaging could be refined in terms of the need to validation.

-Miller said that he appreciates him bringing that up. It says "gay" rather than an acronym. It is not limited to just UCLA. He said that it is a nationally recognized slogan, with "gay" recognizing a large range of students. He said that the issue of validation was brought up. He said that personally, he is brought to tears when he sees someone wearing the shirt that he would not expect. He said that it is more for him seeing the allies taking it upon themselves to wear the shirt. He said that it is a valid concern that he can discuss further.

-Hill asked what color the shirt will be

-Miller said that the shirt won't be red.

-Dr. Geller said that the dates are wrong.

-Miller said that there is a typo. This will be third week of spring quarter.

-Hill asked if he is applying to other funding sources.

-Miller said that they are applying for BOD for room costs, for supplies, etc. He said that some events will be on the hill to save money on costs. They will be applying to other sources.

-Khy asked if they looked at sponsorships from different entities. She said that Montero could possibly put in money. She asked if the LGBT center has funds that are more flexible.

-Miller said that the LGBT center budget is smaller. He said that he is looking at other sources. They are applying for CAC since this is educational. They are applying for AAC. He said that if there are other funding sources available, to let him know.

-Phi asked if there was anything in particular was preferred for the blood drive.

-Miller said that the SWC would be the experts when it comes to that.

-Hill said that in terms of the discretionary fund, this is eligible. She asked when the shirts would be given out.

-1000 shirts would be given out. Some will be given to ORL leaders. The rest would be given to the blood drive on the hill. They would have them as giveaways and through USAC.

-Phi asked if there was a restriction on buying t-shirts.

-Hill said no because this is surplus finding

- Resnick said that she is excited and good job on the event.
- Dr. Geller said that she would be proud to wear the shirt. She said that none of the funding pools administered by student affairs could be used to buy t-shirts.
- Hill said that they set aside \$13,000 for this funding.
- Spring said that they had \$17,000.
- Hill said that they approved \$400 for newsletters. This funding is to be used by the council.
- Zimmerman said that she has been working with SGA. She said that she could work with him to move forward.
- Spring moved to approve \$1,500 for ally week. Phi seconded. With a vote of 11-0-1, \$1,500 was approved.

B. *Resolution Against Proposed Cuts to Higher Education- Santos

- Santos moved to approve the resolution. They are asking for a 1/3 Daily Bruin ad for week 9.
- Spring seconded.
- Santos said that in terms of the resolution, there has been a trend of cuts starting from the state level and going to the national level. He said that they are coming from a year of a lot of support in part because of the protests in September and November. They saw increases in funding at the state level. They saw the passing of the SAFRA as well, which reinstated Pell Grants, as something the Federal government should institutionalize. He said that all these positive things through the voice of students happened. Santos said that a lot of momentum had died yet there are still budget cuts. Co-sponsors as well as other offices worked the resolution on. The resolution read as follows:

RESOLUTION AGAINST PROPOSED CUTS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Presented February 22, 2011

- WHEREAS, higher education is under attack at the state and national level through budget cuts and decreases in financial aid; and
- WHEREAS, the Republican leadership of the United States House of Representatives proposes to cut the maximum Pell Grant award by \$845, bringing it down to \$4,705 for the remainder of 2011¹; and
- WHEREAS, the House leadership is disproportionately targeting its cuts towards minority-serving institutions and the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant that benefits low-income undergraduates; and
- WHEREAS, President Obama's own budget proposal seeks to cut summer Pell Grants and subsidies for the interest rates of graduate student loans²; and
- WHEREAS, California's new Governor Jerry Brown has proposed a \$500 million cut to the University of California³; and
- WHEREAS, University of California student fees have increased from \$3,429 in 2000 to \$10,302 in 2010⁴; and
- WHEREAS, for the first time in the history of California, students at the University of California will contribute more money to their public higher education than the state; and
- WHEREAS, further budget cuts will adversely affect student services, academic programs, quality of instruction, and the autonomy of all departments, and could result in higher fee increases if tax cuts are not extended in June; and
- WHEREAS, past cuts have reduced the quality of instruction available at the University of California, Los Angeles by enlarging class sizes, decreasing classes offered, and relying increasingly on graduate teaching assistants and lecturers to provide instruction and guidance previously under the jurisdiction of professors; and
- WHEREAS, the leaders of California's public institutions of higher education including President Yudof suggested that they will not take an active stance against the budget cuts⁵; and

¹ usstudents.org

² http://money.cnn.com/2011/02/13/news/economy/obama_budget_pell_grants/index.htm

³ <http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/pdf/BudgetSummary/FullBudgetSummary.pdf>

⁴ http://www.ucop.edu/budget/fees/documents/history_fees.pdf

⁵ <http://blogs.sacbee.com/capitolalert/latest/2011/02/higher-education-leaders-not-f.html#ixzz1DKb2fTIn>

WHEREAS, this lack of involvement and spirit by the administrative leaders of the university sends a message of conformism and apathy to all students; and

WHEREAS, voters age 18-24 are the largest eligible non-voting bloc in the nation⁶; and

WHEREAS, faculty support would reinvigorate students in the struggle for affordable, accessible, and high-quality public higher education.

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council opposes all proposals to decrease funding to higher education and financial aid at any level of government.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that UCLA students renew their support for long-term revenue proposals and not just cuts as a solution to the budget crisis faced by the state of California.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that UCLA students will actively oppose further fee increases as a solution to the budget cuts being proposed.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that we strongly urge all professors to devote a portion of the first day of their lectures in spring quarter to teaching about the California budget crisis and the University of California budget crisis.

LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council will urge students to engage in the budget process through in-district lobby visits, letters to their elected representatives and by attending events such as the Can You Hear Us Now? Concert and Rally taking place in front of the Governor's downtown Los Angeles office on April.

Sponsors:

Cristopher Santos

USAC External Vice President

Suza Khy

USAC Academic Affairs Commissioner

Matt Spring

USAC General Representative 1

-Hill asked if there were any questions or comments to the amendment. She said that this is similar to something UCSB is doing. They will be delivering this to the governor at the Student Lobby Conference.

-Resnick said that this is a great opportunity. She said that in the Los Angeles office section, it should read "in April."

-Yao said that in the "Whereas voters ages" it could read "age." She said that the "LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that we strongly urge all professors to devote a portion of the first day of their lectures in spring quarter to teaching about the California budget crisis and the University of California budget crisis." Should be taken out because she sees the importance in lectures.

-Khy said that she would like to see this in lectures to show how much magnitude the budget cuts has. She said that it speaks a lot to what the university will shift around. Khy said that she would like to keep it there.

-Hill suggested that there can be a language that differentiates what they want to say.

-Miller said that in the "voters" section, in the last "Let it be resolved" that they also urge them to vote.

-Hill asked if they would like students to vote or specifically in the upcoming local elections.

-Miller said both. He would like to see something to the effect of voting in regards to all matters, specifically and importantly the upcoming election

-Hill said that they might want to create a "Let it be resolved" regarding the upcoming elections

-Dr. Geller said that the lecturers are the ones who are let go first because there isn't money left for them. She said that they don't want to imply that lecturers are there in place of the faculty.

-Hill said that if anyone had anything to say regarding the lecturer portion to make a comment.

-Khy suggested striking the lecturers and adding this to the professor's end. She moved to amend the resolution section to read as follows: WHEREAS, past cuts have reduced the quality of instruction available at the University of California, Los Angeles by enlarging class sizes, decreasing classes offered, and relying increasingly on graduate teaching assistants and lecturers to provide instruction and guidance previously under the jurisdiction of professors; and the layoffs of lecturers due to budget cuts. There was no second so the motion was lost.

-Santos proposed putting this earlier in the sentence. He moved to amend the motion to read: WHEREAS, past cuts have reduced the quality of instruction available at the University of California, Los Angeles by enlarging class

⁶ <http://www.census.gov/prod/2008pubs/p20-557.pdf>

sizes, decreasing classes offered, costing the layoff of faculty, and relying increasingly on graduate teaching assistants to provide instruction and guidance previously under the jurisdiction of professors.

-Tressel said that the lecturers are the first to go. The faculty are suffering increased burden to teach more and offer guidance.

-Hill said that the motion would read: WHEREAS, past cuts have reduced the quality of instruction available at the University of California, Los Angeles by enlarging class sizes, decreasing classes offered, causing the layoff of lecturers, and relying increasingly on graduate teaching assistants to provide instruction and guidance previously under the jurisdiction of professors. Yao seconded. There were no objections.

-Miller moved to amend the final paragraph to read: LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council will urge students to engage in the budget process through in-district lobby visits, voting in local, state and national elections, letters to their elected representatives, and by attending events such as the Can You Hear Us Now? Concert and Rally taking place in front of the Governor's downtown Los Angeles office in April. He wanted to add something to the effects of: "LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council urges students to vote in upcoming local elections as it concerns the California education budget, as well as other fees and cuts that affect students." Spring seconded. There were no objections.

-Santos asked if he could still get the email from Miller.

-Miller said he sent it.

-Zimmerman said that once it is finalized, she could post it on the website.

-Spring called to question the approval of the resolution and the insertion of a 1/3 ad in the Daily Bruin next week.

-The edited resolution read as follows:

RESOLUTION AGAINST PROPOSED CUTS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

Presented and passed unanimously by Council on Feb. 22, 2011.

WHEREAS, higher education is under attack at the state and national level through budget cuts and decreases in financial aid; and

WHEREAS, the Republican leadership of the United States House of Representatives proposes to cut the maximum Pell Grant award by \$845, bringing it down to \$4,705 for the remainder of 2011⁷; and

WHEREAS, the House leadership is disproportionately targeting its cuts towards minority-serving institutions and the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant that benefits low-income undergraduates; and

WHEREAS, President Obama's own budget proposal seeks to cut summer Pell Grants and subsidies for the interest rates of graduate student loans⁸; and

WHEREAS, California's new Governor Jerry Brown has proposed a \$500 million cut to the University of California⁹; and

WHEREAS, University of California student fees have increased from \$3,429 in 2000 to \$10,302 in 2010¹⁰; and

WHEREAS, for the first time in the history of California, students at the University of California will contribute more money to their public higher education than the state; and

WHEREAS, further budget cuts will adversely affect student services, academic programs, quality of instruction, and the autonomy of all departments, and could result in higher fee increases if tax cuts are not extended in June; and

WHEREAS, past cuts have reduced the quality of instruction available at the University of California, Los Angeles by enlarging class sizes, decreasing classes offered, causing the layoff of lecturers, and relying increasingly on graduate teaching assistants to provide instruction and guidance previously under the jurisdiction of professors; and

WHEREAS, the leaders of California's public institutions of higher education including President Yudof suggested that they will not take an active stance against the budget cuts¹¹; and

WHEREAS, this lack of involvement and spirit by the administrative leaders of the university sends a message of conformism and apathy to all students; and

⁷ usstudents.org

⁸ http://money.cnn.com/2011/02/13/news/economy/obama_budget_pell_grants/index.htm

⁹ <http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/pdf/BudgetSummary/FullBudgetSummary.pdf>

¹⁰ http://www.ucop.edu/budget/fees/documents/history_fees.pdf

¹¹ <http://blogs.sacbee.com/capitolalert/latest/2011/02/higher-education-leaders-not-f.html#ixzz1DKb2fTin>

WHEREAS, voters aged 18-24 are the largest eligible non-voting bloc in the nation¹²; and
 WHEREAS, faculty support would reinvigorate students in the struggle for affordable, accessible, and
 high-quality public higher education.

LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council opposes all proposals to
 decrease funding to higher education and financial aid at any level of government.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that UCLA students renew their support for long-term revenue
 proposals and not just cuts as a solution to the budget crisis faced by the state of California.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that UCLA students will actively oppose further fee increases as a
 solution to the budget cuts being proposed.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that we strongly urge all professors to devote a portion of the first day of their
 lectures in spring quarter to teaching about the California budget crisis and the University of California budget
 crisis.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council urges students to vote in
 upcoming local elections as it concerns the California education budget, as well as other fees and cuts that affect
 students.

LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council will urge
 students to engage in the budget process through in-district lobby visits, voting in local, state and national elections,
 letters to their elected representatives, and by attending events such as the Can You Hear Us Now? Concert and
 Rally taking place in front of the Governor's downtown Los Angeles office in April.

Sponsors:

Cristopher Santos
 USA C External Vice President

Matt Spring
 USA C General Representative 1

Suza Khy
 USA C Academic Affairs Commissioner

-Miller seconded.

-Zimmerman said that funding for the ad would come from contingency

-Rose asked how much it would cost

-Zimmerman said \$360

-Santos asked how to coordinate this

-Zimmerman said to coordinate with Rose

-Hill said there are no objections. With a vote of 12-0-0, the resolution was approved as amended as well as the 1/3
 page ad. She asked what the process is in terms of gaining support for this.

-Santos said that he got the idea from one of his staff members. Professors from WAC have used the first day to talk
 about this. In terms of moving forward, he will work with the Academic Senate. He said that he would provide them
 with materials on this.

-Hill said that they could identify particular departments and see which would find this issue more relevant than
 other departments.

C. Election Code Changes*

-Ma moved to amend the election code. Phi seconded.

-They are making a decision on the Single Transferable Vote, the general representative process, and a change in
 dates, and officially institutionalizing OCHC in the endorsement process. She recommended that someone breaks
 apart the question.

-Santos moved to break upon the question on covering the different components of the amendment. Birdie seconded.

¹² <http://www.census.gov/prod/2008pubs/p20-557.pdf>

- Hill said that one question would be plurality vs. single transferable vote. Another would be deleting email addresses. Another would be the OCHC in endorsement hearings. Another is the calendar. This makes for a total of 4 pieces. Hill said they should begin discussion on the OCHC.
- Miller said that as a former member of OCHC, this is a great idea. The line share lies with OCHC to see what their responsibility means to them. He said that it is necessary for them to be able to comment on elections.
- Birdie asked if they have their own endorsement hearing.
- Hill said that they would participate in the general endorsement hearing. They asked if they could endorse every year. They wouldn't have their own hearing.
- Birdie asked if groups choose to have their own endorsement hearings or if they have to participate in the general one.
- Ahrens absolutely and said they have always been able to do that.
- Miller moved to approve separately Single Transferable Vote to plurality, OCHC as recognized body, and changing the email for the election board as separate approval items. Ma seconded.
- Miller moved to approve OCHC as a recognized entity in the election bylaws. Birdie seconded.
- Hill asked if they covered everything they should have.
- Ahrens said yes. Under voting procedures, it says "the spring general election should have a period of two (3) days in duration." He said that it should stay at least 3 days. This is a simple typo.
- Hill said that this is an item for clarification on the calendar. Hill asked for someone to call to question if there were no concerns.
- Miller said that he would like to change the voting procedure to read "72 hours" as a minimum.
- Hill said that they will address this clarification when they get to the calendar.
- Khy asked if OCHC is composed of all students.
- Miller said that they are made up of an executive board and a representative from each building. The board is chosen by students, so theoretically it should be.
- Hill asked whom they would send. She said that they can't control whom they send.
- Yao called to question adding OCHC as an entity for endorsement hearings. Ma seconded. With a vote of 12-0-0, the addition of OCHC as an entity for endorsement hearings was approved.
- Santos moved to approve the change to the email requested by the election board. Spring seconded.
- They said that the email would be deleted since it was one that was used in the past.
- Miller said that he thought they were referring to pg. 22 subsection D.
- Ahrens said that they are changing the email address.
- Miller asked if this was a separate change from the 4 they decided to vote upon.
- Hill said that this is one of the things that are up to change.
- Santos said that they are only changing the email. He moved to strike the motion on the table. Spring seconded. This would be a friendly amendment
- Miller asked if they have to read the entire election code as amended.
- Hill said no.
- With no objections, the email change was approved to be made as a friendly amendment.
- Hill said that with the calendar, they should consider the dates when elections were happening and when individuals were allowed to vote. She said that in addition to the language that they use, these are things that have to be brought up.
- Miller said that in regards to the previously stated ambiguous comment, to change the minimum time of how long elections should last to read "72 hours." He said that they could hit three days but really only last 24 hours.
- Hill asked if this presents any changes.
- Ahrens said that they have to approve the calendar every year. He said that this is a substantive change. He said that they can't have the ballot open for 72 hours. There could possibly be a crash on the site, etc. He said that USA C has to approve the calendar each year.
- Miller would like to make an amendment to have the code read that it reads "3 full days." Ma seconded.
- Santos said that calendar is spelled incorrectly.
- Hill said that they are voting on the actual calendar
- Spring said that he would like to move to amend the calendar to begin Monday at 8pm as previously been in the past. De Vera seconded. There were no objections.
- Miller said that he likes that people could vote on Monday. He said when they were flyering it was difficult. It poses a point of confusion for people that are told to vote and have to wait. He said that they should flyer the same time as voting.
- Spring asked for clarification

- Miller said that leafleting should start around the same time. Miller said that it was confusing to be told to vote and not being able to do so.
- Spring said that he felt bombarded by flyers. He said that they should allow students time to gain more information. He feels like starting on the evening on Monday is important.
- Resnick said that if people are deterred from voting, they should steer clear away from that. She said that it is the most important that the most student's get their voice heard. She said that she doesn't mind the time of Monday at 8.
- Hill said that it doesn't make sense for them to vote before they know who is running.
- Miller said that previously, his vote was based on the descriptions online.
- Hill said that as discussion continues, there is a motion to amend to 8pm that was seconded with no objections.
- Santos said that their goal is to get as many students to vote smart and educated about what they're doing. He said that it is a problem when students are voting for the sake of voting. By pushing the start of voting to 8pm, it encourages students to think about everything that they're getting and to eventually make a decision by that night.
- Ma said that people who vote for the sake of voting would do it regardless if it is at night or day. He said that having it available when flyers are passed out makes it easier to get the message across
- Rose said that it's not the council's decision to decide who is an informed voter
- Miller said that what he may deem as an informed voter as may be different than someone else's perspective of an informed voter. He said that the more time people have to vote, the more people would be able to vote. He suggested moving it to noon. He said having most of Monday available is important
- Santos agreed that it is not their role to decide who is informed. He said that usually, candidates get to talk to the people before voters can vote.
- Miller said that campaigning begins the week prior. He said that it's not that students don't have these resources. He said that noon is a great compromise because people have the chance to meet candidates. He said that not a lot of people will be awake at 8am anyway.
- Hill said that noon is midday. She reminded the council of the motion.
- Miller made a friendly amendment to change the amendment to be 1pm. Santos seconded.
- De Vera asked if that would affect the ending time as well.
- Hill said to look back at the calendar. She said that as it stands, voting would begin Monday at 1pm, with leafleting from 9-5 each day. She said that it is not construed to an hourly time frame.
- Miller said that in support of the endorsement hearings, he thinks they are done with great intentions and done much more logically. Miller said that endorsements are dragged out for three days, which is painful to candidates and groups.
- Santos asked if everything is the same as last year besides the endorsement hearings
- Ahrens said no. He said that the program would be different since it is one day.
- Hill asked if, in terms of calendar, there are any other changes.
- Ahrens said no. He said that there is a room change for hearings.
- Miller called to question the election board calendar. Shah seconded.
- Resnick asked if they were approving the dates of everything. She said that Passover is the 18th and 19th. She asked if they could move the mandatory candidate orientation in case people couldn't make it because of the holiday.
- Ahrens said that he doesn't have a problem with that. The optional statement would then be due on Friday and they would have less time to prepare.
- Birdie asked for clarification
- Ahrens said that they would have to approve the calendar again next week. He said that they would have to approve the calendar next week.
- Miller asked if they were approving the rooms.
- Hill said no. The concern is if the rooms are available. She said that the current question at hand is if they are okay with giving candidates 2 days to prepare their statement instead of 3.
- Resnick moved to change the E-board calendar's candidate orientation to be on April 20 and endorsement orientation on April 21. Santos seconded.
- Zimmerman said that she will help him try to find a room.
- Miller called to question the election board calendar for 2011. Ma seconded. With a vote of 12-0-0, the election board calendar was approved.
- They asked for clarification with what was changed.
- Hill said they pushed everything back one day. The orientation is on the 20th and the endorsement orientation is on the 21st.
- Ahrens asked if they could clarify the dates.
- Hill said yes.

- Santos moved to table the motion regarding STV and plurality being utilized in certain spaces. He said that he is still trying to get input from people who have knowledge of STV and plurality to make the right decision.
- Miller asked if there is a certain amount of time MyUCLA would need to change the system.
- Ahrens said that it is not an essential item that they need to change. He said they need it before the election starts.
- Hill asked if there was a second. Ma seconded. There were no objections.
- Zimmerman asked for clarification for what was being approved.
- Hill said that they're in motion to change STV for plurality. This was suggested to be tabled until individual council members do more research.
- Miller said that out of respect for Ahrens and the council, he prefers that they vote on it tonight. He said that he would appreciate getting it done soon.
- Ahrens asked if there was anything he could do to explain it to the council.
- Santos said that from his end, he did a fantastic job. His concern is how STV works for different numbers of population. With that, he will be meeting with someone in the political science department and possibly staffers from the CA legislature. He said that he is welcome to be part of that conversation. He said that he sincerely apologizes. Santos said that he would like to make the right decision.
- Hill asked if they need to call to question the election code amendments.
- Zimmerman said that they could move to table the piece, second it, and after no objections they could call to question all of the amendments they voted for so far.
- Hill said that they voted by items as consent items.
- Miller asked if tabling required a vote from council.
- Hill said that there is no actual vote on tabling. The process of approving changes will be an actual vote
- Miller asked how they feel about that.
- Ahrens asked if anyone else needed more time.
- Hill said that she needs more time. She said that STV was only enacted at UCLA was a short period of time. She said that there only a couple of years they could look at. Her question is how this effects independent candidates.
- Ahrens asked for clarification with her concern.
- Hill said that she wanted to know about how it affected candidates without a slate.
- Ahrens said that if there is anything he could do, they could use him as a resource. He said that through what he was doing, he feels that independent candidates don't benefit from having a slate model. They don't reach a threshold and don't receive extra votes once a candidate reaches that threshold. The plurality system favors a two slate system. He said that they are talking about slates or a third-slate. He said that both voting systems don't help or hurt independent candidates to make a huge impact.
- Santos said for clarification, after looking at the system, due to the highly enflamed public comments last meeting, he would like to address the issue through research and further conversations.
- They said that they are looking at the elections on a party standpoint. He said that when looking at STV vs. plurality, plurality would be looking at parties. He said that they don't recognize parties in the rules
- Birdie said that just because they don't recognize slates, doesn't mean they don't exist. He said that a lot of people vote on party lines.
- Hill said there has been a motion to postpone until next week. She said that they don't have to go back and forth. They can approve the election board changes or rescind the motion to table.
- Miller said that Ahrens's job is to work from the framework as if that is the only thing that existed. The council's position works under the understanding that parties exist. Miller said that he agrees that they can't pretend they don't exist. He said that Ahrens is doing his job
- Hill said that these changes may not be applicable in the future.
- Spring called to question the election board changes to the election code. With a vote of 12-0-0, the code was approved.

XI. Announcements

- Santos said that the DREAM act event will have food and assembly members.
- Khy said that the March 2 FAFSA deadline is coming up.
- Shah said that J. Cole is tomorrow and farmer's market is Sunday
- Birdie said that he was emailed information on Pell Grants. He asked council to sign the petition
- Resnick said that their last basketball camp out is this Saturday. Next week is mental health awareness week.
- Spring will send an email about USAC Goes to You. He reminded the council to update the calendar for March. Tomorrow is Take it to the Hill with CAPS
- CEC networking night is next Thursday

-Miller said that if you are interested in ally week, to contact him. He said that if you are interested in funding for the arts and getting involved, there will be an arts funding board information night.

-Phi said that next week is mental health week. Next week, Wednesday, is the global volunteer week. There will be outside organizations and student groups come. They will be giving out opportunities for traveling abroad. There will be food

-Hill said that she ordered pens. She said that they will have conversations on the legacy they will leave on this campus. She asked if there was an update on last conversation

-Birdie said that he emailed J. Board. He emailed them and they said that there are 3-4 business days to wait to see if they will do further investigation. Birdie said that there are no grounds for investigation.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

-Santos moved and Shah 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 9:59p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Dimacali
USAC Minutes Taker
2010-2011