

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday March 1, 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

-Khy moved to strike her presentation

-Spring changed OCHC to an action item

-Zimmerman said they might not need to vote. She said they updated the application slightly and they are not changing their guidelines.

-Shah said there are no updates for cultural affairs mini-grant.

- 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. *February 22, 2011

-Birdie moved to approve the minutes. Resnick seconded.

- Hill called for Acclamation. Hill asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the minutes from February 22, 2011 was approved, as amended.

-Birdie said that he has to leave the meeting early. He will email any updates to the council.

IV. Public Comments

There were no public comments this week.

V. Special Presentations

A. Angela Wong and Diego Sepulveda- Community Activities Committee

-Sepulveda talked about the services they offer.

-Wong talked about the board. Each member has 8 groups to work with.

-Sepulveda said that he wanted to talk about his experiences on the board. He said that it is a humbling experience. He talked about working with Mobile Clinic, where they provide hypertension screenings to a community in need. He said it's their role to provide an opportunity to work with community partners. He talked about a woman who had an ear infection and how the Mobile Clinic provided resources to help them.

- Wong talked about working with incarcerated youth. She said that it was great that mentors were able to work with the youth. After they get out of camp, they hope to have a future for themselves. The people they were helping were former gang members. The camp allowed volunteers to listen and work with them.
- Sepulveda said one of the issues they face is that one of their community members left. He said that 8 organizations wouldn't have the support they need, which brings up the question of who will follow up and evaluate them. He said that appointing someone wouldn't be too late.
- Wong talked about holding their board members accountable.
- Sepulveda talked about keeping their board members accountable to a total of 16 visits. He said that the organizations need support and constant communication.
- Wong said they received 70 applications for their fund. They received 16 mini-fund applications. Overall, they allocated \$13,311.98 for winter quarter. In general, they allocated \$493,539.55.
- Sepulveda said that the money provides them the opportunity to receive services and have a better life. Through this money they are able to provide these resources. He said that when he was appointed, he had no experience with funding. He said that sitting on the committee taught him a lot. He said that they are consistent with the things that they are doing. He thanked council for providing him with that opportunity.
- Hill asked if all applications have to submit 8 copies.
- Wong said that it is a process since each board member gets a copy. She said that she knows it is a waste of paper sometimes, but they could work on it.
- Sepulveda said that there is a cost associated with it, so they have to work through those details.
- Hill thanked them for sharing their stories. She said it sounds like they are doing an excellent job and she appreciates their work.

VI. Appointments

VII. Fund Allocations

A. Academic Success Referendum Fund

-Khy said that an individual applied for a conference called Educating Lives with Purpose. Some of the workshops include higher education and alternative advocacy. She will bring in what she learns from the workshops. She requested \$834.75. She was allocated a full amount given a strong application and a strong purpose.

B. Academic Affairs Mini-Grant

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

C. EVP Travel Grant

-Santos said they had MEChA apply to go to their annual conference in Wisconsin. They were allocated \$450.00 out of the maximum of \$500. They showed history and how they would bring it back to their community. He said that the application was good.

-Raza applied for their conference and were allocated \$350.00 out of a max of \$500.00. The conference is being used as a leadership tool to better train UCLA students to empower high school students. The College Board also hosts it. He said that students would learn a lot. They recommended that they put more emphasis on undergraduates

-VSU applied for Educating Lives with Purpose They didn't receive the full award because the application did not stress group participation, however they did have a good way of bringing it back to the UCLA community in terms of improving accessibility and retention of undergraduate students.

-Dr. Geller asked if he knew the names of who was traveling to Philadelphia.

-Santos said that he could send it to her.

D. Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant

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

E. *Contingency Allocations

-De Vera moved to approve contingency allocations. Spring seconded.

-A total of \$229.06 was requested from contingency of that, a total of \$229.06 is recommended for allocation for this week.

-Rose said that this was sent out on Saturday. They currently have \$78,925.69.

-De Vera called to question the contingency allocations. Birdie seconded. With a vote of 11-0-0, contingency allocations were approved.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President – Jasmine Hill

-Hill wanted to know if they are letting students know about capital contingency.

-Zimmerman thanked her for the reminder. She said that she would put a sign on their doors.

-Hill said Friday at 3:30 would be a funding study group meeting. She said that she would be sending out a campus wide email. If the council has anything to put on it, they should email her by Friday this week.

-Hill said a concern about the subsidy cost would increase to fifty cents. She said that she would be working with De Vera to see why this is happening, since the campus strongly advocates for affordable transportation. She said there would probably be a Daily Bruin article on that soon.

-Birdie asked if the subsidy is provided by the city

-De Vera said it is provided by UCLA. They allocate part of their income to that subsidy. He said that it is rising because different transportation services are increasing their price as well.

-Hill said that they want to talk about this and see how they can make it stay affordable

Internal Vice President – Stephanie Lucas

Lucas said the OSAC chair couldn't be there until 8pm.

-Lucas said tomorrow is the last How-To workshop of the quarter in Ackerman second floor lounge focused on contingency. She said that she met with Joseph from the student commencement committee. Joseph said that they are looking to publicize it now. Lucas said that if they know anyone who would like to be a speaker or would like to be on the committee to let her know. They are looking for two student representatives. She said that she would be meeting with Ken Heller on mobile transportation. This is the last week of Saferides until first week of next quarter. Lucas said she emailed CRC and they are looking to have a meeting 10th or 1st week. If any council members would like to participate, they should let her know

-Zimmerman asked her to email her the date when they go over the USAC bylaws.

-Dr. Geller asked if there was an update on the Farmer's Market.

-Hill said that this event is by Resnick.

External Vice President--Chris Santos

-Hill said that some student run conferences aren't good, but the student lobby conference went well. She said that Santos had a presentation tonight.

-Santos He said that the local affairs component would be flyering for the student voter guide for the municipal elections. He passed out the student voter guide. The deadline for registration already passed. Santos said it goes over some of the elections.

-Santos made a PowerPoint presentation about the Student Lobby Conference. They left on Friday and came back on Tuesday at 1am. The students seemed to love the conference. They took about 62 students to the conference. The conference was two days long with a lobby day on Monday. They went over trainings on how to lobby, mock lobby visits, etc. They learned about all the issues. Presentations from UCLA included the CA DREAM Act and Human Rights presentations. They had the best presentation at the conference and had the most DREAM Act postcards signed. They had one of their students speak at the press conference and had three students go on VIP visits.

-UCLA had 24 visits, with 6 in the Senate and 18 in the Assembly. They talked about the CA Budget, tax extensions, and CA DREAM Act. The governor seems to be willing to sign the institutional aid bill. They got reassurance that the governor would sign both bills. They were not able to get a meeting with him on person since he had an emergency with one of the districts in CA. The budget was a tough thing to lobby. One of their asks was for legislatures to put tax extensions on the ballot. He said that cuts to higher education could raise as well as fee increases. People are worried about this. However, they got reassurance that they would not put tax extensions on the ballot. They let them know to lobby the republicans on doing this as well. Santos said the budget cut for higher

education of \$500 billion is final, but they are willing to work on the language with students. He said that if there were no fee increases, they would make cuts to services. He said that he wanted to make them realize that they do not agree with cuts that take from services to students. Students liked this part the most. Some students went on two lobby visits and some got to meet with legislature. Santos said that he went on a visit with the speaker and they went on visits with Block. They marched and had a press conference, which was an empowering sight. They had the chair of the higher education committee to speak at the press conference as well as Senator Yee and other supporter of higher education. Up next, they have voter registration for the June election. This will be regardless if tax extensions are put onto the ballot or not. They will continue in-district lobby efforts plus video. They will have a CA budget week of action to encourage students to lobby, register to vote, and get engaged. This will include Can You Hear Us Now, which will include entertainment as well as educational resources on April 14. They will ask the chancellor to speak at the press conference in support of the CA DREAM Act. Santos said that he was in support of the act through press releases and statements, but they would like for him to be a champion for it and encourage people to sign both bills.

-Hill thanked Santos for the presentation.

Academic Affairs Commissioner--Suza Khy

Khy said that Monday they had a workgroup that looked at how to incorporate diversity into the curriculum. They are finalizing the definition. She said that they are hoping to have it on the ballot by fall to have the faculty vote. In her office, they are hosting an Ethnic Studies symposium on Monday, March 7 in Ackerman Grand Ballroom. They would address the state of ethnic studies at UCLA. Khy said that they would talk about cuts in other places to their Asian American studies program. Next week, Reagent George Keffer would be coming to UCLA. They will be holding a session next Monday.

Community Service Commissioner—Jamie Yao

-Yao said that she would be doing an officer report to talk about what the CSC has been working on. CSC's dual role is in the community and on the campus. They have 23 different community service projects, which do everything from tutoring students to going to a juvenile camp, to people who help low-income families with their taxes. Besides providing resources to the community, they have an on campus component. They seek to engage students in community service. They would like to connect the two components by looking at the issues they are probing into. They decided that a lot of their programs are direct service. Their goals include: social awareness and education, collaboration, and visibility. The opportunities CSC offers includes Social awareness includes Alternative Spring Break, E-newsletter, Issues Awareness Week, and a Community Assessment. She said the E-newsletter is to promote the community service projects and educate others. Issues Awareness Week is named after their goal. It would be a series of days, where each day focuses on one type of issue. They are continually working on a community assessment, which allows projects to understand communities better. The assessment's emphasis is the demographics section. They ask questions about to community members and realize how they can adapt their projects so that their work is more relevant. Collaboration is one of the things they are also working on. Community service collaborations allow them to work with other communities. Youth from two communities can meet each other and meet people from diverse backgrounds. She talked about Nonprofit Networking Night. There was a high level of student interest for this event. This speaks to the fact that students want to be engaged even after their UCLA career. She said that she wanted students to get together and discuss the issues they're seeing in their communities. She talked about collaboration within USAC, such as with SWC, Facilities Commission, Gen. Rep. 3, etc. They also work with other community service groups at UCLA, such as the UCLA Volunteer Center, Center for Community Learning, the Community Programs Office Student Organization, and independent groups. ORL has been a great collaborator as well. They hope to have a class that is dedicated to the alternative spring break as they collaborate with the Center of Community Learning. They have also worked with the Office of Residential Life. Other groups at UCLA they work with include UCLA Nursing, E3, Team HBV, and performance groups. She talked about other collaborations they've done, such as with AIDS Ambassadors, etc. She talked about visibility. This includes green balloons, branding, and unification in promotion. They are trying to connect their visibility with USAC and be part of USAC more than in previous years. She said that they were able to get projects help increase their visibility on flyers, etc. She posed the question: What is the value of community service organizations to UCLA students? Yao brought up why students join and why students stay. She said that the leader of Project BRITE said that students join because they find a personal connection with the work that they are doing. There's the other group that hasn't been exposed to these issues but they are interested in getting involved. They hope to change perspectives completely. Other organizations say that students join because it's something to do. After they join and

they get to work with students, they are able to understand that there are issues involved. She said that it's changing student's perspective and shedding a different light in their lives. She said community service also develops leaders and future professionals. She said that once students go to sites, they don't see the patients as cases but rather people as people. Yao posed the question of how community service organizations are messaging to UCLA at large. She said that directors are changing how they promote their service by focusing on issues. She said that she would follow up later.

-Tressel congratulated her and said he was fired up about community service.

-Hill said she sees CSC as one of the most vital parts of this council. She said that her role is on campus, off campus, and in informing the UCLA community and administration about what's happening in Los Angeles. Hill said that she has the vantage point in informing students. She said that she is excited as well.

-Santos said that he appreciates the focus being on doing community service with a purpose. He said that coming from a community where services are targeted; it is appreciated when people come with a consciousness of the issues.

-Yao said that one of their focuses is with social awareness

-Phi said that she loves working with her. She said that if she needs any of the council's help, to let them know.

Administrative Representative- Dr. Geller

-She said that they are all involved in breakfast with the chancellor. The chancellor would like to be updated on accomplishments of the council and individual offices, be advised on what they plan to do with the rest of their term, and to hear about their experience at UCLA. They will be meeting in the lobby outside of De Neve dining hall. Breakfast will be 8-9 and they will be meeting in one of the private dining rooms.

-Hill said today was the last day of the pseudo interviews for the associate dean for campus climate. She asked what the timeline is on that

-Dr. Geller said she doesn't know. She said that if they don't get feedback before the 9th, it will have to be put on hold until the end of March to start doing reference checking. She said they hope to have an offer out by the end of March.

Administrative Representative- Dr. Nelson

-NBC is looking to find out if there are any organizations dealing with the democracy in Libya. He said if they are aware of anything like this to let him know so he could get them an interview.

Student Government Support Services- Zimmerman

-Zimmerman said that this year, May 22 is the date for installations, which is the change from old council to new council. She asked Santos to add this to the calendar.

IX. Old Business

-Hill said that this is an item for approval.

X. New Business

a. OSAC Application Recommendations- Tran

-Hill said that Tran hopes to hold a town hall. She asked if there were any comments about topical information

-Zimmerman said that they have reserved the Viewpoint Conference Rooms.

-Hill said that looking at the last application and this application, it was unclear of what was changed

-Zimmerman said that it includes small changes. Questions were reworded for clarity. Some titles were changed and questions were grouped in a more understandable way. She asked Tran to send a markup version to see what was changed.

-Hill asked if there were any other questions.

-Tran said that she meant to send a mark up version but she wrote over the marked up version. She said that she felt like the application from 08-09 didn't have a good flow. To make the process more efficient, they reworded a lot of things, such as the statement of purpose. They included general goals and objectives. Then they would move into the structure of the organization. The application used to read description of the organization to structure of the organization. They changed engagement of students to engagement of the campus community to ensure it was all encompassing. She said that they removed the statement of campus value. They reformatted the campus and put it other engagement in campus community. The additional question they had this year was a miscellaneous question was if they had any problems with a particular organization. This addressed any

problems organizations had with each other. She said a lot of the changes had to do with wording and making them more concise.

-Hill asked what the page total was for an office application.

-Tran said that there would be 3 pages of questions alone.

-Hill said that Tran sent out her timeline and that she is moving forward with the audits. If there are questions, it is important to bring them up now.

-Tran said that she is here to hear out concerns. They are on a strict timeline. If they have any questions, concerns, or recommendations they are open

-Zimmerman said that as USAC, they do not need to reapply to stay in their space. She said that if they are interested in moving their office to a new location, they should fill out the application so they could see why they are moving and what they could do to best fit their needs.

-Hill asked if community service related groups had to apply

-Zimmerman said that there are 5 core CSC offices and other groups under CSC that do not have offices. For those 5 core offices that are the CSC hub on the 4th floor, they don't need to reapply. The two groups that are in peripheral offices should fill out an application if they are interested in moving for their current locations. If they are looking to become an office, they need to fill out an application. This would be best for OSAC and CSC.

-Tran said that they want to stick to the process so that everything was documented.

-Tressel said that is important to review the document and promptly get comments back to the OSAC chair. Tressel noted that this issue was arguably the most contentious issue faced by USAC from 2007 to 2009.

-Tran said that she sent out three copies of what they were doing. The first page is the audit schedules. All committee members are delegated audits. Behind it is the evaluation form so that they could see how they viewed office spaces. The other two attached pages are Daily Bruin ads that will be running this week.

-Dr. Geller said that she is concerned about the last question of having a group that they may have a conflict with. She said that she hopes there is an appropriate response to this question. She said that if they are aware of groups that don't feel safe, they owe it to those groups to work with them

-Tran said that if she sees this as a growing thing, she could work on it. Their first priority is confidentiality

-Spring asked about the weighing of the questions

-Tran said that they could update the scoring rubric and send it out. The weighing refers to the OSAC guidelines. The weighing follows the percentages

-De Vera commended Tran on the revised application. He said that it is good that she is on top of things, such as with the town hall and that the applications are out earlier.

-Yao asked if committees would be cognizant on what spaces are being used all the times or storage space

-Tran said that they encourage people to be present at appointments or audits. She said that it was difficult to contact people. This does not directly affect the score of the application. It is slightly objective since they evaluate the way objects are based on what they see. She said that if there are concerns based on what things they have out they should let her know.

-Phi asked if there are any other places for storage

-Tran said that lockers are taken up. She said that as of now, it doesn't look like there are any other spaces

-Phi asked if they had to apply for storage spaces

-Tran said that they apply for lockers and mailboxes

-Zimmerman said that if a group doesn't have an office, they might have a locker or mailbox. She said that usually groups don't get both. She said that they want to make sure that spaces aren't just a dumping ground for stuff. She said that they are doing a great job.

-Hill said that she has endorsement from the council and thanked her for her work.

A. *Election Code Changes for General Representatives

Santos moved to approve the election code changes for the general representatives. Phi seconded.

-Hill said they postponed it because some people wanted to go back to research the changes and what effects they would have. She said that with this vote, they could change this aspect with 2/3 approvals.

-Santos said that he moved to postpone it because he wanted to analyze this issue more carefully. He said what struck him was a workshop at the conference talking about the history of minorities in government and different ways that minorities have struggled and tried to reach positions of power. He said that he hasn't seen this system in effect since it has only been implemented for a couple of year. He said that it holds value to it.

-Shah said that personally, her concern with STV is that it's too confusing. She said that they already have a hard time getting voters out. She said that the idea of ranking is a confusing concept. She said that she is weary of continuing with the STV system.

-Zimmerman said that she found that in spring 2007 it was changed. She found documentation they passed out on why they passed STV. She said it was confusing for her as well. She passed out the documentation.

-Hill asked Dr. Nelson about the thought process was back then.

-Dr. Nelson said that there was a sense that slates would have candidates run and whoever was on the victorious side would be dominant. There was a feeling like students wouldn't be well represented. He said that if a student ran on a slate that wasn't necessarily a winning slate, they would look at who finished 3rd or 4th so they could look at someone who would not have normally been elected. If there were not enough votes, there would be a runoff. They would make decisions based on who was left. Dr. Nelson said that the presenters had a skewed view of what was happening today. He said that when changes occur, they go back to the time they were here. Dr. Nelson said that it explains why STV came about.

-Hill said that she understands. She said the negative is that who you vote for is not who wins. She said that it strongly stands for having students who are representative and gives independents the chance to win if there are strongholds on different slates. She said that there are slates and independents that run today

-Spring said that when he first came in, he was confused about the ranking system. He thinks that there is a lack of voter education and he hopes that the E-board takes it upon them to educate others. He hopes for a neutral stance on general representatives. He thinks the role of USAC is to make sure the process is equitable and to make sure student's voices are recognized at the table.

-Tressel stated that there are good arguments for both the STV and Plurality systems. He did note that the Plurality system has worked in the United States for over 200 years and that there is something to be said for that. Tressel stated that STV was adopted in Oakland and the recent mayoral race should be analyzed. Under STV, the biggest vote getter was ultimately defeated. The result was controversial and speaks to confusion regarding the STV process. Reading from the SFGATE, he said that 1 out of every 10 Oakland voters showed signs of confusion about the voting system. He acknowledged that neither system is perfect but that an analysis of the Oakland race should be made because it could serve as a case study of STV.

-Hill said that you are facing a process that is highly confusing. She asked what ranking really means. Hill said that it sounds like there has to be a better way to educate voters.

-Resnick said that when she did research, she found that plurality tends to favor a one party system. She said that there is a benefit of having diversity in the gen. rep. office. She said that there is a benefit from having students from different reaches of campus. She said that if students can be educated, it would be good if students knew about the mechanisms behind it

-Santos said that the Oakland case struck him as well. He said that there are key differences between that and what they have here. They are talking about the STV as it pertains to an office with three slots as opposed to one mayor's office. He said that in reality, they have a two slate system.

-De Vera said that given that the proposed change that the code doesn't recognize slates, they have to come to the reality that slates do exist. He said that gen. rep. positions should reach out to the broad needs of campus. To ensure a chance of representation, he feels like STV would best represent the student body. He called to question. Spring seconded. There were no objections. With a vote of 0-8-2, the change to the election code change concerning changing STV was not approved.

-Santos thanked Ahrens for bringing up an issue that has pros and cons. He said that eventually, it might not be the same system for UCLA.

XI. Announcements

-Dr. Geller asked about the BOD applications. She asked if these were confirmed for next week's meeting.

-Zimmerman said that there were a lot of BOD applications turned in and they might have more than one week of hearings. She said that she would follow up with him.

-Spring said they begin tomorrow.

-Zimmerman said that she'd work with him to see if they could work around this. She said that they could look at working on it first week.

-Yao said tomorrow is Spread the Word to End the Word. They are looking to end the r-word. They are looking to raise awareness of this

-Resnick said that she received an email that they have a yellow/green light. They are working with OCHC and the hill for dates. It will most likely be early next quarter. She talked about the flashmob and the rest of mental health week. She said that Thursday at 6pm, her acapella group has a concert

-Phi said that today is the last day to sign up for QPR certification (question, persuade, and refer). You learn tools to refer someone to get professional help and identify signs of suicide or depression. She said that if any council or staff is interested to let her know with the names or student ID numbers.

-Zimmerman said she was given out UCLA Temperature flyers. She said that during 10th week starting Wednesday is 24-hour study lounge. This is a good opportunity to access the building. Hill was working on the fund finder, which is a drop down menu to see what application would be best to fund applications. She said that SGA needs its own site to streamline things as easy as possible for students. She said that this would be a one-stop shop for students. She thanked Hill for getting this going and that this will come together.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- De Vera 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 8:45 p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Dimacali
USAC Minutes Taker
2010-2011