

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday, May 24, 2011

417 Kerckhoff Hall

7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Emily Resnick, Kristina Sidrak, Joelle Gamble, Raquel Saxe, Daniel Soto, Jamie Yao, Kinnery Shah, Michael Starr, Andrea Hester, Tamir Sholklapper, David Bocarsly, Dan Chikanov, Jason Smith, Bob Williams, Dr. Deb Geller, Dr. Berky Nelson, Willard Tressel, Patty Zimmerman, Isaac Rose, Katrina Dimacali

ABSENT:

GUESTS: Nadia Shamant, Keem Sulai, Bayanason Sheinen, Haidar Anwar, Kutibh Chihibi, Nader Nasr, Nannina Casillas, Sarah Budogli, Omar Elkabti, JC De Vera, Kelly Zhou, Kenyata McLeon, Mikaila Saelina, Kaitlyn Foster

I. A. Call to Order

- Resnick called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

-Shah moved to strike cultural affairs mini grant, ASRF, and academic affairs mini grant

-Gamble moved to strike travel grant.

-Arruejo moved to strike capital contingency.

- Soto moved and Hester seconded to approve the agenda, as amended.

-- Council voted to approve with a unanimous vote. Resnick called for Acclamation. Resnick asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the agenda was approved, as amended.

III. Approval of the Minutes

5/17/11

- Hester moved and Sidrak seconded to approve the agenda, as amended.

-- Resnick called for Acclamation. Resnick asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the minutes were approved, as amended.

IV. Public Comments

Nader Nasr-

Naser talked about the resolution that was put forth. He said that the government represents the entity of the larger society and formulates standards. He talked about history and past movements, such as the Civil Rights movement. He said that they needed the government's help to make strides. He said that this is what a true democracy is. He said that at UCLA, we represent the most intellectual group of people the nation has to offer. He said they could define the direction that the country should take. He said that this is why it is important that this is passed

Nannina Casillas-

Casillas said she is advocating the resolution because it has been disheartening. She talked about the intense political climate and the physical aggression. She said it is intellectually simulating to advocate for her needs and for women in general. She said that people should be there to advocate for a safe campus climate.

Public Comment-

He said that the resolution will help achieve concrete change and a GE requirement founded in the

principals of community, He said that this could be an action item.

Kenyata McLeon

She said that she is in support of the resolution and how it speaks to campus climate. She said that as leaders, the council has a big responsibility to the community and that they have a lot of power. She said that they should push for something better and to be progressive. She said that they should use the resolution to push for a better campus climate. She said that she would like to stress being an advocate for different student groups. She said that people should know the different organizations and their different needs. She talked about how groups face hate when they should face acceptance. She said that they should support the resolution and that a GE requirement would force people in an academic way to learn more about other cultures. She said that this is something that current curriculums don't do.

Mikaila Saelina

She talked about Islamophobia and how it doesn't effect only people who are Islamic. She said she is in support of the resolution. She said that she hopes that they stay true to their word and that this is a problem that a lot of students face, no matter where they come from. She said that she hopes that they don't take campus climate as something to put on the back burner. She said that she would be here next year. As a student activist, she said she hopes they appreciate her keeping them accountable.

Kaitlyn Foster

Caitlyn announced their culture night in Sproul this Friday from the LGBTQ community.

V. Special Presentations

On Campus Housing Council

Cristinasaid she would be the new EVP. She said that in the past, there has been confusion about programs on the hill. She said that if they have questions, to email her at cri098@gmail.com. She asked if they had questions.

-Sidrak asked about the policies and steps to go to OCHC to get programs approved.

-Hester said that in terms of flyering, Cristina would be the main point person. They are working on an ORL how-to guide.

-Cristina said it should be on the website.

-Resnick said that last year, her office reached out to the IVP and they were big components to why the Farmer's Market happened. She said that she will be an asset.

-Gamble asked if it was best to contact her rather than the IVP

-Cristina said yes. She said it is the same position renamed. She thanked the council for all the work they were doing.

VI. Appointments

There were no appointments this week.

VII. Fund Allocations

There were no fund allocations this week.

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

There was no business for the EVP Travel grant this week.

D. Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant

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

E. *Contingency Allocations

Arruejo said contingency was simple. He said that there was only one allocation for the Nigerian Student Association.

-Sidrak moved to approve contingency for this week. Starr seconded.

-Yao called to question the contingency allocations for this week. Starr seconded. With a vote of 9-0-0, the contingency allocations for this week were approved.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President – Emily Resnick

Resnick said she is looking forward to her one on ones with council members. She said that she looks forward to future plans. She said she is meeting with UCLA orientation to discuss the USAC video. Resnick said she is excited for their big screen debut. Resnick said thank you to for submitting preferences. She announced the following:

ARC: Kristina, Chik, Joelle

BRC: Fall: Soto, Andi, Jason

W: Kinnery, Jamie, David

S: Tamir Raquel, David

CRC: Tamir, Jamie, Raquel, Michael, Andi.

-Arruejo asked if he was still on ARC

-Resnick said yes. She passed around a sheet for shifts for the student group orientation. She said there is also one on a google doc. Resnick said she had an E-code meeting this past Friday. They worked on analyzing the E-code cheat sheet, which is important since not everyone will read the bylaws. She said that for the smoothest transition, the appointees will be going over that. Resnick said thank you to Zimmerman for installation. She said congratulations for being council members. She said thank you for the ticket offers. She thanked Arruejo for the Robert's Rules cheat sheets. She said that everyone is doing a wonderful job with Robert's Rules. She said she emailed everyone to see who would be there for summer. She said that they would talk about if they would have meetings over summer. She said that they should keep in mind how often they would want to have council meetings. She said next Tuesday is her acapella group's final performance. She said the concert is at 6:30 at the Kerckhoff Grand Salon. She said she would be there around 8pm. She said this would be one of the only meetings she would miss.

Internal Vice President – Kristina Sidrak

Sidrak said that Strathmore Saferides were continuing. She said that the council should fill out the summer retreat google doc. She said the best time would be closer to September. She said sorry about that. She said that she would like most of them present at that. She will keep them updated.

-Resnick said Starr and herself said that they were offered a cool idea for a retreat and they could participate in the ropes course. They would help plan that out.

-Zimmerman said they should add the administrative representatives because they attend the beginning portion. She said that they would like to be involved as well

-Sidrak asked if the dinner was traditional

-Dr. Geller said it could be Friday or Saturday night.

-Sidrak said she has been working on the appointments and they hope to have them done over the summer. She talked about the ones that are the most time sensitive. She said they hope to have BOD and FiCom solidified. She said she met with Ken Heller about coprogramming, platforms, and online forums through OrgSync. They talked about pooling together administrative to discuss IT improvements and other technological inquiries. They talked about a new interactive software for the how-to guide.

External Vice President-- Joelle Gamble

Gamble said they made 180 calls to the appropriations committee. She said that last Friday, they were able to get UCLA students to a senator about the DREAM Act. She said they are organizing students to go to a ___ meeting. She said that the new student regent was appointed. 26:00 Gamble said he has a background on education. Gable said Yudof talked about a potential 32% fee increase. There was a 6.6 billion dollar windfall and a lot of it went to K-12 and not a lot went to CSUs and UCs.

Administrative Representative—Dr. Deb Geller

Dr. Geller said the final candidate for the LGBT center would be free tomorrow from 4-5. His name is Gabe Javier. He is the assistant director for the Spectrum Center.

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

X. New Business

Resolution that recognizes UCLA against Islamophobia

-Starr moved to approve the resolution. Shah seconded.

-Shah said that MSA touched upon the resolution. She said that the increase in attacks on this campus happened last year. She said that people were forced to leave a Delta flight because people were uncomfortable. She said that Islamophobia was important to bring to the table. UCSB just passed a resolution similar to this. This kind of resolution is being attempted at all UC's.

-Shah read the resolution as follows:

Recognizing that UCLA is a "UC Against Islamophobia"

Proposed by The Muslim Students Association, 2011

Whereas, Islamophobia is defined as ideologies, beliefs, and actions that perpetuate inaccurate and xenophobic views toward the culture and practice of Islam and the personification of its followers, such as being seen as monolithic, seen as a separate and 'other' culture that does not share common values, seen as inferior to the West, seen as violent, aggressive, and supportive of terrorism, seen as sexist and oppressive of women, seen as a political ideology used for political advantage, anti Muslim hostility, and exclusionary or discriminatory practices against Muslims from mainstream society; and

Whereas, Since the attacks of September 11, 2001, Muslims, people of Middle Eastern descent, and even those mistaken as such, have increasingly become targets of hate and bigotry in our nation and around the world (1); and

Whereas, The effects of such Islamophobia have been seen by the recent removal of three respected religious figures from airline flights as a result of passengers being uncomfortable with having Muslims on board (2)(3); and

Whereas, There has been an increase in harassment against Muslims on campus, including of women wearing the hijab, with 11 reported hate incidents in this past school year 2010-2011 including the de-scarfing of a Muslim woman on campus by an agitator who proceeded to call her a 'terrorist', and a 'n*gg*r who will never go to heaven' and in another incident a man threatened a group of Muslims on bruinwalk when he said 'You will all end up like the Native Americans' (4); and

Whereas, On Wednesday May 11th controversial speaker David Horowitz made false allegations on campus against the Muslim Students Association and the Afrikan Student Union, and further instilled hate against Muslims by stating that "Islam is a sick, sick culture" (5)(6); and

Whereas, UCLA Muslim students have had a history of active engagement in issues of social justice and representation, through various community service projects which provide health-care, educational assistance, and mentorship to under-served communities in the Los Angeles area since 1988 (7); and

Whereas, Our campus and institutions of higher learning should be havens of tolerance and acceptance,

where acts of hate based on religion, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, or class, are condemned by the administration and other members of the campus community as supported and defined by the UCLA Principles of Community; and

Whereas, The UCLA undergraduate student body passed a student advisory vote initiative in the 2011 Spring elections that calls for a replacement in the current general education requirement to integrate diversity into the general education curriculum (8); and

Whereas, These past few weeks, a group of UC students under the supervision of Professor Bruce Bimber at the University of California Santa Barbara, collectively founded the UC Against Islamophobia site to represent UC solidarity against acts of hate towards Muslims, people of Middle Eastern descent, those mistaken as such, on our campuses and in our communities (9); and

Whereas, The UC Against Islamophobia site serves as an avenue for discussion, education, and awareness regarding the acts of hate toward Muslim identifying individuals or groups and those mistaken as such, and engages in discussion through open dialogue by allowing participants to post videos, articles, thoughts, opinions, and stories, regardless of the poster's political, religious, ethnic identity; and

Let it be resolved, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council supports the efforts of the UC Against Islamophobia web page, and will not tolerate acts of Islamophobia, or any form of hatred based on religion, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, ability, or class, in our campus community.

Let it be resolved, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council encourages the student body to be conscious of unintended effects that their words and actions may have on others, and to become active allies of marginalized students.

Let it be resolved, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council does not tolerate or accept the behaviors of students, staff, faculty, or administration that infringe upon the safety of another person and/or develop a hostile and unsafe environment.

Let it be resolved, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council supports the efforts of the present work-group between students and respective faculty, in creating a series of general education Introduction to Islam courses, to help foster a better understanding of the religion of Islam and American-Muslim identity.

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

Let it be finally resolved, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council urges the Academic Senate and faculty to support incorporating a general education requirement grounded in the UCLA Principles of Community. (10)

Sponsored by:

Emily Resnick, USAC President

Kinnery Shah, USAC Cultural Affairs Commissioner

Jamie Yao, USAC Community Service Commissioner

References:

- (1) http://www.dailybruin.com/index.php/article/2010/08/promote_community_instead_of_prejudice
- (2) <http://www.cnn.com/2011/TRAVEL/05/07/muslims.kicked.off.plane/index.html?hpt=T2>
- (3) http://www.wfae.org/wfae/1_87_115.cfm?action=display&id=7297

- (4) http://www.dailybruin.com/index.php/article/2011/04/overcoming_islamophobia_on_campus
- (5) (Link the DB opinion piece about David Horowitz here - Tuesday)
- (6) David Horowitz at 36:00 calls "Islam a sick, sick culture":
<https://docs.google.com/leaf?id=0B2KNsGzsoC7QMDRiNjhlM2ItOTg4OS00NGRjLWIwNDMtM2Q0M2ZmZTkxOGJi&hl=en&authkey=CJOHvN4K>
More comments: 30:25, 31:25-31:32
- (7) http://msabruins.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=61&Itemid=63
- (8)
http://www.dailybruin.com/index.php/article/2011/05/majority_of_students_favor_proposal_to_create_ge_diversity_requirement_in_cue_initiative_advisory_vo
- (9) <https://www.facebook.com/pages/UC-Against-Islamophobia/170198249702653>
- (10) http://www.diversity.ucla.edu/strategicplan/docs/Principles_of_Community.pdf

-Resnick said that if there are changes, she would call on you. She asked Shah to take notes. She said that if there are friendly amendments or words that should be changed to bring them up. She said at the third whereas, it should read "health care" not "heath care."

-Shah asked if Yao had something to add.

-Yao said she would like to add citizenship class, which is the 6th up whereas from the bottom and the whereas on campus...and higher learning.

-Starr said on the bottom of the page, there should be a period.

-Arruejo said on the fourth paragraph, Bruin Walk should be two words. On the 8th paragraph, the words "General Education Requirements" should all be capitalized.

-Yao moved to amend the resolution so it adds citizenship class to the two statements that she mentioned previously. Shah seconded.

-Shah called to question the resolution as amendment.

-With a vote of 10-0-0, the Resolution Recognizing that UCLA is a "UC Against Islamophobia" was approved

-Starr approved a 1/3 Daily Bruin ad. Smith seconded.

-Gamble called to question the Daily Bruin ad. There were no objections. With a vote of 10-0-0, the 1/3 Daily Bruin ad was approved.

-Dr. Geller said someone should be assigned to make sure the ad happens.

-Shah said she could do it.

-Zimmerman said that when they do an ad, the funding comes from contingency.

-Arruejo said this would come out of summer contingency. There is around \$6500.

-Gamble asked how much an ad is.

-Arruejo said \$340

-Sholklapper asked when it would come out

-Shah said as soon as possible.

-Shah read the resolution as amended:

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(3) http://www.wfae.org/wfae/1_87_115.cfm?action=display&id=7297

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ZTkxOGJi&hl=en&authkey=CJOHvN4K

More comments: 30:25, 31:25-31:32

(7) http://msabruins.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=61&Itemid=63

(8)

http://www.dailybruin.com/index.php/article/2011/05/majority_of_students_favor_proposal_to_create_ge_diversity_requirement_in_cue_initiative_advisory_vo

(9) <https://www.facebook.com/pages/UC-Against-Islamophobia/170198249702653>

(10) http://www.diversity.ucla.edu/strategicplan/docs/Principles_of_Community.pdf

-Resnick thanked Shah and congratulated council on their first passed resolution

-Sidrak said that they are getting rid of a desk, small bookshelf, etc. She said that if any posters in her office belong to them, to email her.

-Zimmerman said to email her their signatories so she can update them on OrgSync. She said that USAC is able to fill this out before October since they are active over summer. She said to take advantage of the freshmen and transfer orientations to promote ASUCLA benefits you. She said that they always have active incoming classes.

-Shoklapper passed out SWC's Total Wellness magazines. He said that they try to produce two per quarter.

XII. Signing of the attendance sheet.

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Smith moved and seconded to Gamble adjourn the meeting.

-Resnick called for Acclamation. Resnick asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,
Katrina Dimacali
USAC Minutes Taker
2011-2012