

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCIL

Tuesday, September 20, 2011  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Emily Resnick, Kristina Sidrak, Joelle Gamble, Daniel Soto, Jamie Yao, David Bocarsly, Laureen Lazarovici, Andrea Hester, Kinnery Shah, Dan Chikanov, Ronald Arruejo, Raquel Saxe, Matt Abulara, Jason Smith, Tamir Sholklapper, Michael Starr, Dr. Deb Geller, Dr. Berky Nelson, Patty Zimmerman, Bob Williams, Roy Champawat, Katrina Dimacali

ABSENT:

GUESTS:

I. Call to Order

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

A. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The attendance sheet was passed around.*

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Gamble moved to strike travel grant.
- Arruejo moved to strike capital contingency.
- Shah moved to strike cultural affairs.
- Smith moved to add a discussion about volunteer day.
- Saxe moved to strike academic affairs grant.
- Saxe moved to add the minutes to the agenda.
- Motion to approve the agenda by Saxe.
- Smith moved to approve the consent items for the presidential appointments over the summer.
- Hested moved to approve the agenda. Starr seconded.
- Resnick called for Acclamation. There being none, the agenda was approved, as amended.

III. Approval of the Minutes

\*August 23, 2011

- Starr moved to approve the minutes. Sidrak seconded.
- Resnick called for Acclamation. There being none, the agenda was approved, as amended.

IV. Public Comments

V. Special Presentations

A. Campus Climate Initiative with the Museum of Tolerance- Rabbi Aron Hier and Dr. Balache

- Hier said they are working with the community to discuss the campus climate. He said it is an honor to be here. He thanked Resnick and Sidrak.
- Dr. Balache welcomed everyone to the museum of tolerance. She talked about the Simon

Wiesenthal center. She talked about a story about the holocaust and how the center came about. She said that he dedicated himself to justice against crimes. This started a new era of a lone voice that said that there were crimes against humanity. She said his office is in the Museum of Tolerance in Vienna. In 1993 the museum was opened. The museum was set out to cover issues relatable today. They are located on Pico Blvd. in west LA.

-Hier said that they make documentaries and won 2 Oscars. They tried to tackle issues that students face. They began with films informing about hate speech, intolerance, etc. They were trying to organically meet their mission more and more.

-Dr. Balache said that they got a grant from the Jewish community of LA. When they met with campus officials, they told them to bring something to campus. They received a grant. They were charged to create a mobile aspect of the museum of Tolerance. They want to start a social media campaign and bring this to campuses. She talked about hate speech, acts of prejudice, etc. They see this as a universal issue. Things have happened to many campuses across the country where they started to talk about boundaries. She said that they couldn't stop hate speech through the law. She said that they could do more.

-Hier asked if there is a representative on the campus climate committee. He asked if USAC has any representatives in the committee. He said when Yudolf formed these committees; they knew that they needed to do something. He said that a big issue at UCLA is animal rights. They want to bring a mobile museum here. He said that orientation should include how to treat people with mutual respect.

-Dr. Balache said their style is to create dialogue. She said that they would give them a sense of how they work. She showed them the doors that were labeled prejudice and unprejudiced. She said they wanted to put a spotlight on racism and bigotry. She said that how people work through that is different for every person. She said they have a variety of exhibits. She talked about the diner where you watch the escalation of a conflict. She said they could analyze the situation. She said that people vote their opinion, which leads to a dialogue. She said they have professional facilitators. She said that they would create a trigger piece film and bring a mobile voting system so they could replicate the voting. She talked about the other interactive exhibits. She talked about the history of diversity exhibit. She talked about an exhibit that told a story about Latino families and how they were desegregated in southern California. She said that they fought against segregated schools in California. She said this story pre-dated Brown v. Board. She said that they have Freedom Sisters. She said that they could look at their website. Freedom Sisters is an exhibit about women fighting, sometimes within the movement. The museum also has special events. They could also do video conferencing in New York. She said they have curriculum on hate crime, ethics, racial profiling, leadership training, etc. They used to have a teacher's training program. They were working with real people in the real world. She presented types of workshops they could bring to campus. She asked what they would want to see them do. She asked how they could partner with them.

-Hier said that this is another tool in the campus's arsenal. He said that the biggest elephant in the room is what you could say and how could you say it.

-Saxe said their initiatives sound like those that align with ADL.

- Dr. Balache said that they are in contact with them and work with some of their dialogue facilitators.

-Saxe said they should reach out to student organizations. She said that there are a lot of campus climate groups and most of their offices touch upon something on the campus. She said that Hillel provided an internship about civil discourse. She said that they would provide great resources with them.

-Hier said that if USAC has a way to put them in focus groups, they would like to give out questionnaires.

-Gamble asked how large are the workshop modules

-Dr. Balache said it could hold up to 150 people.

-Gamble asked if they would be adapting it to their campus

-Dr. Balache said they would have their own hand held unit and be tabulated onto a bar chart. She said that they could ask questions as well. She said they could get their input but adapt it on the spot

-Hier said that they could specialize their PowerPoint to their campus

-Smith asked if the title is Museum of Tolerance. He said that tolerance doesn't teach acceptance. He said that acceptance should be the mission and not just tolerance. He said that tolerance is not truly accepted.

-Dr. Balache said that 30-40% bring up the word tolerance. She said that the language is politically and socially constructed. She said that tolerance has many denotations and acceptance is one of the connotations. She said it was defined with the United Nations as creating the threshold for peace. She said the notion of creating institutionalized processes for people to get along has many meanings. She said that they define it as a commitment to respect human dignity. She said that this is a rich discussion to have.

-Hier said that when it comes to campus, it would have a new name.

-Smith asked if they have partnerships or affiliations with efforts trying to stop the homicides of homosexuals in Uganda. He said that he didn't see anything that captured the queer movement, where they had a lot of hate crimes. He said that as the only queer identified person, this was one of the things that really hit home for him.

-Dr. Balache said one of their speakers was almost beaten by a white supremacist. He said that 25 years later, they met at the museum of tolerance. The white supremacist was reformed. She said that they have this personal testimony at least once a month. She said that they bring GLIDE in. She said that in an hour and a half, people are able to view the issues in a different way. She said they have a program where teen jurors have to go through the GLIDE program. She said that facing genocide of homosexuals in Uganda, they don't yet have a campaign on that. She said that they would bring this to the attention to her colleagues. Hier said that they also worked against the hate crimes that struck the UC campuses

-Smith asked how that concluded

-Hier said it is about building an alliance and making sure that everyone has equal rights

-Sidrak said that it would be beneficial if they created an exhibition. She likes the museum because it is interactive.

-Hier said that they would like to get a project with better answers

-Starr said he tries to reach out to the hill, etc. He said that if they put on a speech on campus, it might not gain the desired audience

-Dr. Balache said that they aren't targeting the key haters. They want to focus on the bystanders, since people don't know what to do or what resources to go to. She said that the rest of them could do more. She said that people forget. She asked if they were doing what they could to help the targeted community.

-Hier said that this was an important point

-Dr. Geller asked if they talked to the Bruin resource center. She said that this would be an appropriate avenue.

-Smith asked what they know about UCLA, especially concerning diversity

-Dr. Balache said they've worked with people from UCLA since 1993. She said that they were partners with Sandra X. She said that they worked with Dr. Berky Nelson. She said that there are a lot of perspectives on this history.

-Hier said that this initiative is paid for. He said that they got a grant for them to do this.

-Saxe said that she understands the focus on the bystander but when people come voluntarily to the workshop, it's usually a person who knows a little more about the issue. She said that the hill and Greek life could be areas to target students. They could bring together groups with opposing viewpoints. It would be interesting to see a workshop that wouldn't usually bring people together.

-Hier said that the Irvine 11 case is going into deliberation right now. He said that they are

learning something everyday.

-Saxe said that there are people where animal rights are a big issue. She said that Smith brought up a good point. a lot of people are passionate about the queer movement, the Arab movement, etc.

-Hier said that people are going around the important issues. He said he is looking forward to having these discussions.

-Smith talked about the exhibition about the women of color. He said that this is a great idea. He asked about their partnerships. He asked if they have any partnerships with these organizations

-Dr. Balache said they have a partnership with the AACP. She said that they have a partnership with Courage, which was created and prompted other exhibits. She said that they are working with the brotherhood crusade. She said that they are one of the first female bishops to come in to do a special program with them. She said that there are too many contacts to mention. She said that they are working with people to bring kids to the exhibit. She said they have prominent African Americans in the city. She said that they have local freedom sisters who were chosen to be freedom sisters of LA. She said that they are a special committee t them. She said that two of the freedom sisters were here for the opening of the exhibit.

-Hier said they on the brink of something exciting.

-Dr. Balache said that they would love to hear more about some of the barriers they had come across. She said they see this as a community based partner for already existing initiatives. She said they would like to help with the momentum to continue moving forward.

-Hier said that they want their input.

-Resnick thanked them for coming in

-Soto asked if they could get that specific presentation

-Zimmerman said that they would save it and email it out

## VI. Appointments

A. \*Adam Swart for Transportation Services Advisory Board

## 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**

*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**

-Starr moved to approve contingency. Hester seconded

-Arruejo said the only changes would be moving to the 5 point scale. Arruejo said that if there are questions to please ask.

-Smith asked about the two signatures

-Arruejo said that that is because some people are transitioning. He is giving a 2-3 week transition period.

-With a unanimous vote, contingency was approved.

## VIII. Officer and Member Reports

### **President - Emily Resnick**

Resnick said thank you to Shah and Soto for all of their hard work. She said that they did an amazing job. She said thank you to those who went to the new student convocation. She said that any opportunity to present the council is awesome. She said she had a great time at volunteer time. She said that they will be approached for many things and that they don't have to do everything. She said that they should let people know ASAP if they can't make commitments. She said that people didn't know stipulations and reminded everyone to be accountable. She asked who was going to the student governance conference in the morning. Resnick said that she would talk about all of them. She passed out a piece of paper where they could write down their initiatives, ideals, or goals. Resnick said that they could email her as well.

-Smith said that she could look at the minutes from the retreat as well.

-Chikanov asked what time the student governance was

-Resnick said it is 8:30-1pm in front of Bradley. -Resnick said that USAC would be at Bruin Fest. This is a cool way for USAC to be accessible and visible. If anyone is available 7-9 to set up, they should let her know. She said Friday was her first UCLA Alumni association meeting. She said that this is a wonderful network to alumni. She said that this has been the week of USAC visibility. She said they spoke to Greek presidents about funding. She said they spoke to residents of Hedrick and to the tour guides at their orientation. She said that it is great to represent USAC at any different stance. She encouraged them to speak about USAC. She passed out UASC brochures, so they could use them for any USAC events. The brochures would be at the president's office. She said she hopes they will use them.

### **Internal Vice President - Kristina Sidrak**

Sidrak said the fellowship application went on the USAC website. They are working on recruitment and selection. They are working on the how-to guide and the funding calendar. They have been working with Zimmerman on the SOOF supply list, which they will be promoting soon.

### **External Vice President-- Joelle Gamble**

Gamble said this week she is meeting with unions and meeting in Berkeley. She said that they are doing coalition building. She said that they would meet with Bruin Lobby Core and they are planning to meet with the regents. She said that USC tuitions would be rising if the legislation passes. She said that they would like them to rely on something besides student fees. She said BLC is starting lobby certifications soon. She said that they registered 200 students to vote and handed out forms at volunteer day. She said they could hopefully increase the number of registered voters.

-Sidrak said she got a lot of questions at EAF. She asked what is the grassroots program they offer

-Gamble said Bruin Lobby Core schedules visits with congress so they could lobby. People in the internship would train students how to organize students. They would have them help run the state campaigns. She said she could type something to make it clearer.

-Smith asked what to do with the voter registration forms

-Gamble said they would follow up with everyone

-Resnick asked if they had extras. She said she could pass them out at meetings.

### **Academic Affairs Commissioner--Raquel Saxe**

Saxe said the student writing center is opening in the fall. She said this would be the same as the service that Covell was offering. She said the budget was cut because the professor is dropping a course to direct it. She said they were asked to do a better job of promoting it. She said that people weren't aware when it came back. She asked if RA's knew about it. She said that it is important that students know it exists so that it could be funded over the next two years. She said that it is an amazing resource. She said that she met about Global Leadership Connection. She said they scheduled dates for winter quarter. They have another appointment they were approached about. She said that this is an important committee. She said that this is a big issue for UC schools. She said they are appointing someone for the GE governance committee. She said that the loan library has a home in the SAC. She said that money from surplus is also going to the loan library. She said that this should be seen as a USAC project. She said dining menus are going onto the mobile app. She said there are a lot of new features. She said that it functions on any Smartphone. She said herself or Sidrak could answer any question about the app.

#### **Student Support Services- Patty Zimmerman**

Zimmerman said the green initiative fund is expanding this year. They would be the first TGIF with a mini fund. She said the committee approved a mini fund with amounts of \$500 or less. She said they kept the same deadlines as Waiverpool. She said that the application is due on the 7th. She said it's different because Waiverpool just applies for that month

-Sidrak asked if it was an online application or paper application

-Zimmerman said that it is online and it could be emailed. She said that USAC made it happen. She passed out flyers. She said that it is also posted on the website.

-She said they didn't email the powerpoint yet. She said they would take out the key slides out and make it smaller.

#### **Alumni Representative- Laureen Lazarovici**

Lazarovici said that when they are part of a great initiative, they should take credit for what they've done because that's how they will win support and credibility. She said that she was just having a conversation with someone starting the MSW program. She said that she has a resource on how to say no tactfully. She said that they shouldn't take on more than they want to.

### **IX. Old Business**

*There was no Old Business this week.*

### **X. New Business**

#### **A. Volunteer Day**

-Sidrak asked if Smith could debrief them about what was educational or if that happened this year

-Smith said that this year, the one big improvement was that they want to sites that CSC goes to.

-Yao said no

-Smith said that this was what he was told and that they said CSC provided locations to go to

-Yao said she misunderstood. She said yes, they contributed to the sites.

-Smith said they went to the site with the most publicity, which was the elementary school. He said that the assembly speaker John Perez was there. He said that he sat around watching people paint and volunteer. He said that he felt like his residence, they didn't get anything from Volunteer Day. He said that for him, volunteers could be helpful with campus climate issues. He

said that it missed the education aspect. He said that volunteering is giving and receiving. He said that when his residents went to the west LA community but didn't know what their situations were like, it was disrespectful and they didn't get in touch with what they could get from it. Smith said that some people said that it was a come and go situation, . Smith said that as a person that respects volunteerism, education is very important and getting to know the community you're helping in is very important. He said that his feedback is to visit local or small businesses to meet the people. He said that they were close to the children. He said that they could walk around and talk to regular people on the street. He said that if they should be volunteers, they should learn something new about a person that they've never met before. He said that this would help students get a better worldview

-Zimmerman said they could paint with the children

-Smith said that they should get a chance to talk with local businesses

-Dr. Geller said that education could happen on the bus on the way to the site

-Bocarsly said that he went to volunteer day. He said that from his experience, they were in contact with the people from the volunteer center. He said that a lot of things that were going on included a presentation to the students and they got a presentation from the CEO. He said that people really got a feel for the community. He said he was able to have good conversations with some of the workers there. He said that they felt like they made a difference. He asked if they would lose the connection to the actual volunteers

-Dr. Geller said that the people that went to his site are more willing to do service. This should be used as an example for service. She said that they could look at how the project makes a difference. She said that they could reach out in advance to site leaders so they could have someone on the bus to do the briefing. She said that someone should be designated to ride along for education purposes.

-Bocarsly said that not everyone had the same experience. He said that they were making steps in the right direction.

-Starr said that he knows that it's hard to find. He said that it's hard to get people who have to learn about the community. He said that they hope to inspire at least some people.

-Yao said all the points brought up are great. She said she would talk about the strides they made at this volunteer day. She said they saw a lack of education. She said that they wanted to educate them through different means, such as a welcome message from someone from the site. She said a person from that organization would know the most information to communicate effectively to incoming students. She talked about a student liaison. The position would communicate why they were here and some of the community needs and how their work would further their mission of the organization. They also noticed that the community service projects were sites of CSC. She said that if a student wanted to commit to a site it made sense to have sites that UCLA regularly went to. She said that they chose sites based on a nomination process. She said they chose the site based on need and where UCLA students could help. She said the service liaison is a step in the right decision, but they could improve immensely. There was no formal training process. She said that if they recruit people earlier, they could make the process better. She said that this would make the position more meaningful. She said with site nominations, this was a great idea but they did not get as many nominations that they would've hoped for. They would like to increase visibility.

-Shah said there would always be issues with volunteer day. She said that it is a surface level approach to getting people involved in service. She said that there are so many people that do community service and the liaisons could be people that already do this work. She said that they could create a bubble of what they are trying to promote. She said having these connect to the organizations on the campus is important. She said that they could talk about what students are doing personally. She said having those conversations on the buses is easy for students to connect to. She said if they connect them to what UCLA already has, people could see what they have to offer

-Saxe agreed with Shah and said that they could give specific points to Yao. She said that having a mini community service fair when they get back could be helpful. She said that they could make connections directly with the students. She said that a lot of these personal experiences were at schools. She said that some sites had very negative experiences. She said that some sites weren't able to meet people.

-Resnick said she could send these notes to the volunteer center

-Starr said that since there are a lot of people at volunteer day, it can hopefully inspire others

-Resnick said that this is the nation's largest volunteer project. She said that it can only get better and that it is a very new thing. She said that even though students only painted, it would have taken the staff  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a year to do that.

-Shah said that there is potential in that concept. She said that she just has issues with the concept as it is right now. She said that it is an important factor in what volunteering is. She said that having students go to the site and explore and debrief would be very valuable as well. She said that they should see what students took away from it as well.

-Resnick said thank you to Smith for bringing it up

-Lazarovici said a lot of groups struggle with this idea of one day of volunteering. She said a lot of these discussions are had. She said it might be valuable to see how other groups to the same one-day thing have with those experiences. She said it sounds like there is a range of experiences.

-Yao said they are limited with one day. She said CSC is trying to focus on education and raising awareness on issues. She said that they could make the volunteer day more meaningful. She said she likes the idea of connecting to UCLA groups, since this is when they would be able to build a relationship with the community. She said that all projects interview the community. She said she spoke with someone and how they could have someone host a diversity tour. She said they talked about Watts and how it has an infamous history with it. She said allowing students to understand could be very beneficial.

-Gamble said that LA has a history of struggle, culture and community. She said that they could have people from the projects or the community help have those conversations with students.

-Sidrak asked if there is a feedback process.

-Yao said she doesn't know about that. She said that they could reach out to the service liaisons. She said that they could gauge how they feel. She said that she would bring that back.

-Chikanov said that he asked questions to people

-Yao said that some people might not be as upfront with their concerns

-Resnick asked what would happen with the videos Yao said they would go on the website

-Resnick said they could have a page of feedback. She said that they could start recruitment as early as spring, while students are still on campus and engaged. She said that she would wait to send the notes to the volunteer center if people had more feedback

## B. Approval of Summer Appointments\*

-Arruejo asked if they're doing a consent item

-Zimmerman said that appointments don't start until fall. It gives a buffer zone for some positions to reappoint those positions.

-Dr. Geller said that some students don't have the chance to come and be present and give reactions. She said that once school is started, they affirm their commitment to the same students

-Arruejo asked if this was in the bylaws.

-Zimmerman said summer appointments are always reaffirmed. She said that people might have additional opinions or questions

-Smith asked if they could gauge how these appointments are going about their duties, what they learned, etc. He said he is a little apprehensive because he isn't sure what work they were doing.

-Zimmerman said that there are 2 types. She said that they had presentations made from some of the appointments on a quarterly basis. She said that this is a responsibility of all appointments.

She said that in regards to having details right now, they were trying to get ahead of the game so



that they could give out funding.

-Smith asked if these evaluations are available to all council members

-Zimmerman said the IVP could email them out

-Arruejo asked if it was supposed to be the president or IVP.

-Zimmerman said it is usually the IVP since they have the contacts

-Resnick said that she would email appointments to make a presentation

-Sidrak said they appoint these people to carry out what they believe in. She said they are supposed to inform them on what they were doing. She said that they could do an end up the quarter updated.

-Starr moved to approve the appointments as a consent item. Hester seconded. There were no objections.

#### XI. Announcements

-Chikanov asked about the payment policies and its changes. He said next Saturday is a walk for mental illness. He said they will leave UCLA at 8:30 and arrive at 9:30. It will start at 10 and will last until however long it takes to walk. He said that he would send out an email.

-Starr said today they started online reservations for Wooden. Week 1 is available now and the deadline is tomorrow.

-Zimmerman said that they should put that information on the a-level events office

-CSC had fall trainings today. She thanked Dr. Geller and Zimmerman. She said they had a better turnout than expected

-Hester said that some people were asking where they could pick up books. She said that they are in the process of moving but the new location is in the SAC

-Saxe talked about the opening of the student rec center

-Zimmerman said they could put that information on the USAC website.

#### XII. Signing of the attendance sheet.

*The attendance sheet was passed around.*

#### XIII. Adjournment

- Starr moved and Starr Bocarsly to 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 8:55 p.m. by Acclamation.

#### XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,  
Katrina Dimacali  
USAC Minutes Taker  
2011-2012