

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday, November 15, 2011
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT: Joelle Gamble, Dr. Berky Nelson

GUESTS: Melissa Truong, Maria Mendoza, Roman Nguyen, Angelica Arunarsiraka, Dora Vanie

I. A. Call to Order

- Resnick called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

-Arruejo moved to strike finance committee chair from officer report

-Saxe moved to strike both Academic affairs grants

- Bocarsly moved and Starr 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 agenda was approved, as amended.

III. Approval of the Minutes

A. *11/8/11

- Bocarsly moved and Starr seconded to approve the minutes for November 8, 2011, 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

There were no public comments made this week.

-Zimmerman reminded the council that the anthro class is filming the meeting for their class project in case they didn't hear the announcement earlier in the meeting.

V. Special Presentations

A. Writing Success Program (WSP) by Sahra Nguyen

Nguyen introduced herself. She said thank you for having them. She talked about what they're about and

what makes them unique. She said the writing success program is the first and only student initiated student funding writing support program. She said it was created 2002. She said the fees were won in referendums. She said in 2001, WSP was a service in the CPO. She said the CPO works with students to support their holistic needs. She talked about Janet Brown, who was hired to bring in diverse views to the CPO. She said they have grown to encompass all types of student views. She said often, CPO could get stuck in racial and ethnic cultural boundaries. Brown challenged what it meant to be a human being. Brown majored in philosophy and went to law school. She said Brown worked with student's writing and developing their own voice through writing. She said in the CPO, there was a huge need for writing support. She said since it got funded, it had been in session. The anniversary of the WSP is coming up. Nguyen said she worked under Brown for 2 years. Brown passed away unexpectedly. From 2009-2010 there was no full time director. After, a director came back and re-stabilized WSP. It is different from the writing center and other resources because they will only work with you in the proofreading stage if they came in the beginning. She said a lot of things make them unique, such as their history. She said they have a history where they were born out of activism, meaning they will always be there. She said their core values make them stand out. Nguyen went through their core values. She said that often students come in and are stifled from their creative thinking. Brown wanted to stress holistic thinking. Another value had to do with helping students find their voice. Nguyen talked about how they encourage listening. She said the number one issue is confidence in their writing. Nguyen said one of their values is to practice compassion. Nguyen said some students are insecure about their writing, which reflects on them. This is why they hope to build confident individuals, inspire creativity, strengthen their courage, etc. Nguyen said in a session with a student, she would ask what things mean. Nguyen said that the student got teary eyed. Nguyen said she knew that it wasn't about writing. Nguyen said this is an underlying issue in a lot of students. The student talked about how she was doing and after she felt better about herself. Nguyen said their services are more about fixing proofreading but fostering self-empowerment. Their mission is to support the student retention center's goal in retaining good grades and graduating. The goals contribute to holistic goals. They work with anything related to writing. They work to build confidence and make students effective in communications. They hope to bring out a student's own voice. They hope to make students in a more compassionate way and create a confident understanding of self by encouraging them in the proactive pursuit of their goals and dreams. Nguyen said that this process was fostered through writing. She said that this is their ultimate goal. She said that she talked about Brown because she was at the beginning of it all. Nguyen said that everything was based on what she did. Nguyen said that Brown was great at working with students. Nguyen said they provide one-on-one sessions with students. Once they have a pre-writing session, they may work on revisions. Toward the end, they look at grammar. They have two programs a quarter and they are happy to put on writing workshops. In January, they are having a 10-year anniversary on January 31st at the LATC. She said if they would like to be involved to let her know. She said she would like to start a speaker series. They would also like to create a board of directors. They hope to include faculty, staff, and students to create another tier of guidance. She said they are open to more ideas. She said this is the first time they made a USAC presentation. She said they came out of student voices and she would like to strengthen the student connection.

-Soto asked how many students are involved

-Nguyen said they have 4 tutors, 5 staff, and 1 volunteer.

-Arruejo asked how many students/sessions they have per quarter

-Nguyen said they have 350 and over 1000 a year. She said they put their schedules every Wednesday and their schedules are filled by the end of the day.

-Dr. Geller said they should all look at her blog. She said if there is no specific project at the time, they may learn from her experience and from the experience from other students. She said this way, they could reach out to a larger number of students

-Nguyen said in fall 2010, she started a blog since they realized they couldn't see students one on one. Now they have over 40,000 views and they get over 800 views a week. She said they update their blog everyday. She said they have a themed writing, writing tips, words of the day, current events, questions of the week, free speech Friday, etc. She gives her staff reading 3 times a quarter. The staff writes

summaries to put on the blog. She said that they wanted to create a greater culture of literacy. She said she would send the link to all of them

-Resnick said her passion is contagious and inspiring. She said that Janet Brown would be proud. She said she would spread the word.

-Nguyen thanked all of them for their time.

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

-Sidrak moved to strike travel grants. Starr seconded.

D. Cultural Affairs Mini-Grant

-Shah sent out the allocations. They had three allocations in the past 2 weeks. They allocated funds for the second annual poetry jam, \$300 to gen rep 3, and Native American heritage week happened last week and got \$600.

-Saxe asked if all grants only have honorarium and facility costs

-Shah said yes. She said they changed it this year. She said there were requests of things they didn't necessarily want to fund. She said honorarium and facility costs were the only things they fund. She said in terms of documentation it is now easier to prove what is needed.

E. *Contingency Allocations

-Hester moved to approve contingency allocations. Chikanov seconded.

-Arruejo said a total of **\$4,452.86 was requested from contingency** of that, a total of **\$508.00 is recommended for allocation** for this week.

There is a total of **\$17,495.55** left in the Contingency Programming Fund.

Arruejo said they are not limiting food to 10% of their allocation.

-Sidrak asked if they moving more out of capital into contingency would make a difference

-Zimmerman said it would be about \$50,000 in surplus. \$22,500 would go to USA/BOD funding. \$6000 would go to capital contingency and \$22,500 to regular contingency. She said they could take some from capital contingency to split it between the contingencies but they would have to change the bylaw for this year and then change it back

-Arruejo said he moved some of his allocations to programming

-Zimmerman said it might be something they don't have to update bylaws for then

-Resnick said that they were able to allocate a lot of funding to students. She said they could see how these smaller allocations could not deter students from applying in the future. Resnick said think about ways. She said Arruejo is doing what he can to have funding for the entire year. She said they want to make sure students get the most funding possible.

-Bocarsly asked how long they would use the 80% cut

-Arruejo said until May 31. He said he allocated \$90,000 over 5 weeks. He said that \$90,000 doesn't include winter. Arruejo said previously, they got more. He said he was being conservative already. He said he didn't know there would be such a decrease in funding. This is unprecedented. More students are

applying for SOOF. Groups now don't have out of pocket money. He said himself and Nguyen must keep the funding open throughout the entire year. He said if anything, he would like to cut food. He said he doesn't see any group getting more than \$10 unless they just ask for food

-Zimmerman said she would like to explain why surplus is significantly less than before. She said when groups get money, not everyone uses it all. She said they made it a point on how to get the money out, closed accounts that aren't being used, and gave out money for food. She said their goal was to spend all of their money. She said it's difficult because they got less money, but it shows that they are doing good things and they are definitely getting money back to students. She said they're hitting the point where they allocated a lot. She said they could close accounts, point students to other resources; tell them about the assistant vice chancellor fund, etc. She said there are other resources out there.

-Starr talked about allocating \$1 for food.

-Saxe said that a lot of sources for funding are under utilized. She asked if it was possible to write a few sentences about how the expected surplus is lower than anticipated so these numbers are lower. She asked if they could include a list of other funding sources. She said that \$1 doesn't make sense. She said if they can redirect people to other funding sources, they could possibly change it.

-Shah asked if they could utilize OrgSync so some people may not have time to apply for other sources.

-Resnick said they could see what students put as their most important line item and they could possibly see if they could allocate more.

-Sholklapper said they could add to the comments to make it more uniform.

-Arruejo said from now on he would list what items they prioritize in the order they ask for. He said they would put what they prioritize first

-Bocarsly said he is still struggling with the situation. He said no group got over \$100. He said this money is not enough to fund almost any event. He said the question is thinking to next year in the way they allocate surplus. He said they don't want to give more money to fall and less to winter and spring. He said he feels like there is something they could do for the future

-Shah asked if there was a way to restrict groups to only apply once per quarter or to a limited amount of times

-Arruejo said they talked about it in finance committee. He said it groups are doing things for the UCLA community; it's not up to them to limit them to one or two events. He said this could be limited if USAC wants them to. He said they didn't want to penalize groups that were doing a lot. He suggested having a dollar amount cap/

-Starr asked about some of the line items and if they are programs

-Arruejo said sometimes the names of the events are actually programs.

-Starr asked if the events are offered to anyone at UCLA

-Arruejo said they give preference to events to all. The only events not opened to all are retreats. He said if they are going on a trip, they already allocate less since it is off campus and can apply to the travel grant.

-Starr asked what the Thanksgiving potluck is

-Sholklapper said it is a general meeting for SWC. This includes 250 general members. He asked if preference is given to the amount of students attending

-Arruejo said yes. He said there is not set formula. He said attendance is part of it but they know from the narrative and past events as well. They know if it is going to be a big or a small event. He said there are a variety of factors.

-Bocarsly said they should consider what Shah said about limiting the amounts. He said if this continues, they wouldn't be able to do any of their events.

-Shah asked how utilized the ABC fund is

-Dr. Geller said people know about the risk management fund. The cultural and diversity fund is surprisingly underutilized. She said it most programs can fit there. She said surprisingly not a lot is coming and there are still a lot of funds there. She said the ABC fund is the only one she has that will cover food, supplies, Daily Bruin/other ASUCLA advertising. She said it wouldn't go toward travel, honorarium, or other off campus programs. She said the ABC fund is the last place they go. She said they

are getting a lot of applications from people with no funding because they don't meet the criteria. She said after contingency results, they could direct people to the ABC fund because they could see what more they could do. She said her concern is that she doesn't know what else would fund food. She said they only do a matching of funds. She said she has similar concerns about what was expressed. She said some programs may be open to the public but may not be marketed that way. She said this is a struggle they have doing allocations. She said they consider if an event has a capacity for a large crowd. She mentioned one of the line item and questioned how many people they could actually have the capacity for. She said she struggles with the differences in venues. She said she struggled with groups that co-program and turn in two applications. She said sometimes they would get more funding. She said she doesn't have the answer since they have a lot of need and not enough funding. She said the limits on food concern her since food is used to get a lot of students out. She said she doesn't know if limiting the amount of times of getting funding or the amount is the solution. She said that if everything were too small, they wouldn't be able to put out their events. She understands that there is a great dependence of surplus. She said last spring a lot of funds were allocated. She said they enabled a lot of great programming in the past. She said if they keep good practices up, they could anticipate less funding in the future. She said if these practices stay, they would continue to have small amounts of funding

-Resnick asked if Arruejo could take some of these comments to the finance committee. She talked about limiting the amount of events. She asked if the finance committee could take into account how many times a group has had an event

-Bocarsly said they should make some changes now. He said they should take a stronger stance on this. He said his vote is to limit the groups to only applying only once a quarter

-Starr said he agrees. He said that this week, allocations are very small.

-Smith asked if this also encompasses their own offices

-Resnick said yes

-Hester asked if they don't make a change so this doesn't happen again, people's perception of contingency will revert to how it was. She said this would negatively effect their perception of USAC

-Saxe said the problem is that there are under utilized funds. She said she strikes her grant every week. She said it is important that food was brought up. She said they need to sell better what they have rather than limiting groups. She said some groups would find ways to go around it. She said that she wants to see how they could better utilize what's out there, such as a common application. She said some of the events applied for in contingency could come from other sources of funding.

-Bocarsly said that could go hand in hand with limiting how many times groups apply.

-Shah said these things could go hand in hand. She said they could limit the groups to applying twice or saying that they could get a certain amount of money. She said student groups already have to be resourceful. She said that groups would have to look elsewhere. She said that she doesn't know how helpful her grant would be, but other resources are available. She said if they limit them, they could move in the direction of other sources. She said maybe it means that student groups could put more emphasis on larger events. She said being aware of limitations would direct more energy toward large events.

-Zimmerman said they could let people know about the green initiative mini-fund. She said that a lot of groups have sustainable aspects to their program. She said it's a newer fund.

-Yao said she agrees that 2 may be a good compromise since it would be reasonable. She said it would hurt the least amount of groups. She said that food is an important aspect of allocations. She said she liked the idea of having groups tell us what the priority is

-Resnick said she likes these ideas. She said the compromise is appreciated. She asked if co-programming would count as one event

-Sidrak said the vice chair in the finance committee has been working on looking at the USAC funds and their commonalities to see if they could put together a common application. She said they could move away from so much dependence on contingency. She said for groups that have smaller events they still should be able to fund them.

-Arruejo said 1 out of 5 applications are referred to other sources of funding. He said they tell them early so there is enough time to apply for other sources. He said that there are barriers to the other sources of

funding. He always directs groups to the USAC website. He said he is in his office at least 1-5 hours a day. He said that he gets texts and emails about funding. He said he knows that food is important. He said UCLA is special in this way. He said UCLA is one of the very few that can give this much funding. He said that limiting groups is up to council. He said that he is 50-50 about that. He said that he allocates funding every week. He said for priority, they allocate based on need. He said a lot of these things are things they have been trying to do. He said there is only so much they can do. He said that it is not up to the finance committee. He said they are constantly emailing other groups. He said that he couldn't prevent other groups who have the diligence. He said this is what has to be done. He recommended cutting all allocations by 80% and having food for 10%. He said he knows food-increasing attendance. He said that there are some groups that just work with food. He said that some events don't need funding for food. He said that he realizes that some groups won't use it. He said he sends emails before closing accounts. He said they have done more as a finance committee than previous years. There have been more student groups applying. He said there are barriers those students groups have to get through. He said some groups put many hours into an application and they can't say they could only fund twice a quarter.

-Resnick said that they know that this year's FiCom has stepped up an unreal amount. She said a lot of these things are just their way of trying to understand and ensuring that student programs could be successful. Resnick asked if what is prioritized could be taken into account

-Starr said he knows that Arruejo is passionate about this. He said this is just a situation that is not good. He said that these groups should be able to apply as much as they want.

-Resnick said it's hard because they are about to allocate BOD. She said this is a reminder that SOOF, SGOF, and BOD should be the most utilized. She said all of these ideas are trying to make sure they make the best events possible

-Bocarsly said they all appreciate Arruejo's efforts. He said he hopes nothing is taken personally. He said it's hard but they need to make sacrifices. He said that they need to choose one thing they need to cut. He said that they should decide what to do now and stick with it.

-Resnick said she agrees. She asked if anyone would like to speak against the two events per quarter

-Sidrak asked if the two would keep with the 80% cuts

-Bocarsly said if this is the case, they could assume how many applications they would get

-Zimmerman said that looking at the allocations, one group has already applied 3 times this week

-Arruejo said if they go with the two groups there would be no allocations this week

-Resnick said this would be in place winter quarter. She said they should hold off on an OrgSync letter until they know the exact numbers.

-Zimmerman said \$90,000 is shocking. She said that this should be a cover up money. She said that this should only help with the little they need. She said contingency isn't meant to fund full events. She said she doesn't know how everyone wanted to vote on limiting groups. She said they could map out how much per week they could use.

-Arruejo said it was done before. He said that he didn't want to make a limit per week but rather make one change. He said they could change it once.

-Resnick said it should be set and consistent

-Zimmerman said if they make changes, maybe 80% shouldn't be cut this week. She said that that if changes are going to be made, they might want to think about what they're allocating this week

-Bocarsly said that they could make the change for winter quarter and change the allocation for this week. He said he thinks they should change the numbers.

-Saxe said they still didn't answer the co-programming question. She said that people should see this as a last effort. She said that two events is better but still drastic. She said that she doesn't want to vote on the decision right now, especially if it's changing bylaws.

-Shah said this is something that should be talked about. She said they could think about it and talk to Arruejo. She said the only difficulty would be this week's allocations

-Starr asked if they could move food to a different allocation

-Sidrak said if they allocated more, they would get more for food

-Bocarsly said that he is okay with waiting for a bigger decision next week. He said that he is not okay

with approving an 80% decrease for this week

-Resnick said it would not be fair to make a cut blindly. She said that it would be difficult to come up with a number now. She said that if possible, they could hold off a week. She said a letter pointing to other funding would be appreciated

-Sholklapper said they could set a number for this week since they know that they would be cutting in the future.

-Resnick said if they decide on a number for the rest of the quarter they could tackle contingency

-Sidrak said that they need to do something for this week. She said they couldn't wait to approve these. She said they could negotiate a percentage now. She said the broader percentage could be decided later

-Zimmerman said it would be great to look at all the numbers and resources they have. She said that she could work to see how many groups apply, how much they apply for, etc. She said some groups might have applied more than 10 times. She said this is something to look at. She said 2 might be a limiting number. She said they could look at what could still function. She said it takes at least 2 weeks to plan an event. She said she could assist with that. She said they do have the numbers for 50% that was sent out earlier.

-Smith said they need to fund something. He said a lot of these organizations are going to need it. He asked about the funding study and if it has been utilized.

-Resnick said Nguyen is the head of the funding study group. She said this is a wonderful idea

-Arruejo said the difference between the 50% and 20% is that food is only 10%.

-Lazarovici asked if there was a motion on the table and if there needs to be a vote on that motion until an alternative could be made

-Dr. Geller said it could be amended

-Zimmerman said they could amend it with a second and a call to order.

-Saxe agrees with Zimmerman's point. She said they should take into consideration what events they are applying for. She said they should pay attention to where that is going. She amended contingency to the original 50% allocation and suggested that next week they have a proposal on how they would deal with this for the rest of the year.

-Bocarsly asked where this would be discussed.

-Zimmerman said it would be new business

-Bocarsly asked if they should work on it over the week or they will discuss it there

-Resnick said they should call together the funding study group and it could be open to the rest of the council. She said before council meeting they could come up with a few different proposals.

-Arruejo said they could always have another meeting this week instead of waiting one week from now

-Resnick said the idea they are proposing is for winter quarter

-Arruejo said they could have another meeting if 7 of them agree. He said do it for the rest of the quarters. He said funding would be done by spring quarter if it is 50%.

-Resnick said it would be 50% with a stipulation with the number of times they could apply. She said that is the idea and hopefully it wouldn't run out

-Bocarsly said that people are funding for next quarter next week. He said this is something they should warn people of now.

-Zimmerman said that the date of when they apply matters. She said the date of when they apply would be what counts

-Bocarsly asked for clarification

-Zimmerman said it should start week 1. She said it would eventually make sense. She said it should be by application, not event date

-Resnick said this is the first week this has happened. She said the conversation should steer away from this until next week

-Sholklapper asked about the 50% allocation. He said that the amounts are different

-Arruejo said there was an error in SGA and they missed \$10,000. He said he is going off of the official budget report.

-Saxe said since only one event is happening before council meeting, maybe they could just table this

until next council

-Bocarsly said there is no retroactive funding

-Arruejo said that they could suspend that if there are no objections. He said that they could suspend the rules as long as they are within the guidelines of what they are there to do.

-Resnick said they should present a united front for the rest of the year. She said that this might be a good idea

-Zimmerman said she sees both perspectives. She said if there were a 50% deduction, it would be hard to find this out prior to the event. She said if they haven't spent money yet, they are assuming these events are taking place.

-Shah asked if they have a projected date of when they will get a finalization of surplus.

-Zimmerman said this is pretty much the final number. She said Debbie just got back. She said she wants to go through it. She said they have a rounded number for them. She said it is pretty much finalized. She said they rounded down in case there were discrepancies. She said she doesn't see it changing more than \$5,000. She said if anything it would go up.

-Bocarsly said they are decided on if they should get rid of the retroactive funding rule.

-Zimmerman said retroactive funding would only affect Sholklapper's event. She said they never want to urge people to spend money they don't have.

-Bocarsly said he doesn't know if they should wait until next week

-Dr. Geller said the Thanksgiving dinner is on Thanksgiving for people that can't go home.

-Arruejo said this is right

-Dr. Geller said that they might still need to cut back on their program. She said that she is hesitant to put off allocations. She said they have been rolling up unused funds and reallocated them. She asked if there were unused funds that they could reallocate.

-Arruejo said he assumes that they would be closing out accounts in fall. He said he assumes that they are getting \$20,000 back. He said if he doesn't, they would cut a larger percentage.

-Bocarsly asked if they close accounts if it would take away from surplus. He said this is not taking into account money from the accounts they close.

-Arruejo said yes. He said he would advise Nguyen to close out his accounts. He said in previous years, they never had to close out accounts.

-Bocarsly said the surplus funding is not the total amount in comparison to previous years. He said that they didn't include closed out funds going back in.

-Zimmerman said by closing out accounts, the surplus next year would be even smaller. She said they want to spend the money they receive. She said it goes back to contingency, not surplus.

-Bocarsly said they are getting more money from different places.

-Zimmerman said yes

-Bocarsly said they are getting a little more money than that

-Zimmerman said more money would flow back unto contingency and there are unused funds

-Arruejo said he is assuming they are closing accounts and they are already assuming they are closing the accounts

-Resnick said they are calling a funding study group soon. She said they should steer their conversation toward what they should do this week.

-Starr said they could come to a decision next week. He said that they should tell the groups soon how much they are going to be allocated

-Smith said he agrees with the 50% as well since this is a gradual step to what they are going to do in the future

-Sholklapper said the amount giving would be a lot with the 50%. He asked Arruejo if this would make too much of a dent on the rest of the year

-Arruejo said he would rather decrease the amount more than 50%. He said he doesn't know if they want the intermediate step of 50%. He said they should cut at least 60% if they want to allocate now. He said they are keeping into account there is a 10% limit for food. He said they could cut 10% of the 50% instead. He said they should start at a 60% reduction.

- Bocarsly said they should cut 10% off the 50%.
- Starr agreed
- Dr. Geller said with the \$500 allocated, they would have about \$17,000. They are anticipating getting \$40,000 after surplus. She said if they had \$55,000 for two quarters, they would have more than \$25,000 for a quarter and more than \$3000 on average per week.
- Resnick said this is very helpful
- Zimmerman said some weeks they would receive more allocations than others. She said it's a lot lower than they had; they still have a good amount of money to give out. She said that there is a good amount of funding to go around. She said they gave out a lot.
- Starr said they couldn't expect money from closing accounts
- Saxe said this is a small week. She said they should take that into consideration
- Resnick said account closing would hopefully be like something they see in the past
- Bocarsly said that some accounts are going through the rest of the year. He proposed to stay with the 50% for this week.
- Sholkapper said they need to make a decision and see where they stand for the rest of the year. He said they could send a notification to everyone and let everyone know that contingency is not as high as it has been.
- Bocarsly said they should wait until their decisions are made before they send out a mass message.
- Resnick said that could be a step too. She said they could send out exact numbers.
- Bocarsly called to question the 50%.
- Dr. Geller said they are proposing an amendment and calling to question the amendment.
- Arruejo said he prefers 60% but 50% is not too bad. He said they have to go off of something.
- Resnick said they would let them know when the meeting for the funding study group is. She said this is something all members of the council should have input on
- Bocarsly moved to amend this week's allocation to the 50%. Saxe seconded.
- Bocarsly called to question the amended allocation. Saxe seconded. There were no objections.
- Dr. Geller said they are voting on the amendment, which would change the motion. Then they would vote again to approve it.
- Zimmerman said they are calling to question to change the motion. They only call to question if there is discussion.
- Bocarsly called to question on approving the amendment. Starr seconded.
- With a vote of 12-0-0, the amendment was approved.
- Bocarsly called to question the amended contingency. Soto seconded. There were no objections. With a vote of 11-0-1, this week's contingency was approved.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President - Emily Resnick

Resnick said thank to everyone who attended the mixer. She said this was the first of many all-council events. She said shirts would hopefully be here at the end of winter quarter. She said last year, Mikaela was not at the BOD presentation.

- Zimmerman said they might need to go into executive session.
- Saxe moved to go into an executive session to discuss personal matters. Sholkapper seconded.
- Resnick said they discussed that a member is no longer on the board.
- Resnick said the regents meeting for tomorrow were cancelled due to possible violence. She said they are voicing their concerns tomorrow at 3. She said they shouldn't have cancelled the meeting. She said she was able to have one-on-ones with everyone last week. She said it is important that council members work together toward initiatives. Resnick said this year is going to be amazing. She said she had a meeting with the editor of the Daily Bruin. She said he was receptive and would like to meet all of them.

She said they might not be interviewed over email. She said this is something they are communicating to staff. They are only going to be interviewed through the phone or in person. She said to ask for quotes to be read back. She said they wouldn't be emailed.

-Sidrak asked if there are mistakes in the quotes, which they won't have to change what they wrote.

-Resnick said if there is a significant change, they can change it but it is up to the interviewer's discretion. She told them to contact James. She said they are working on different ways to improve the relationship between USAC and the Daily Bruin. She said she is excited and this will hopefully be a step in the right direction. There is an opening with the meeting with Provos Pitz. She asked if anyone was interested in attending. She said to let her know as soon as possible. She said there would be snacks. She said Gamble is not here. She said to read her letter. She said it is important to focus on the big picture.

Internal Vice President - Kristina Sidrak

Sidrak said the mobile app contest has a flyer and USAC is an official sponsor. She said they want to spread the word. She said SSR continues this week. She talked about the luncheon with the center of student programming. They would like the new advisor to be there. She said most people would have finals. She said they would aim for Friday of first week. She asked who could make Friday of tenth week. She said they would postpone. The museum of tolerance asked for a group to discuss campus climate. She said it could be council or members of their office. She said they would aim for early first week of winter. She said they have their first ally week meeting tomorrow night. Their first safety alliance meeting will be soon. The how to guide is up.

-Shah said Gamble sent out a letter.

Academic Affairs Commissioner--Raquel Saxe

-Saxe said they are revamping their funding. They can now apply on OrgSync. They are moving in a direction to make the application as simple as possible. They had the social entrepreneurship event and the positivity conference. She said the conference brought a different perspective to campus. They are working on the stress free day for finals. They wanted to bring their attention to the video put out by the EVP office. She said there is a lot of attention brought to Covell. She said they were working hard to bring back the services. She said almost each of the departments is brought back. There is still science and writing tutoring available. She said she would be speaking to Gamble about that. She said that if things were centralized, that would be ideal. She said they are working on a networking night in winter quarter. It is specific to the entertainment field. She said they want students to be able to network and prepare for a profession in health, graduate schools, and internship opportunities. She said they would meet with people from different sectors. She said if they have ideas to let her know. She said the vote on the new GE was delayed to January. They are continuing to meet with faculty and working on putting together more informational materials. She said they had an academic senate executive board meeting this week. She said they brought up issues that have come up across the system. They talked about the salary increase. The chancellor decided to pick up funds for this year. The faculty does not want to see student fees increase. She said the UCLA perspective is that we are in a different position than other UC's and this wouldn't necessarily benefit our faculty that it would be negative to the campus and our students. She said they want to ensure that the academic senate is heard on a system wide level. She said she knows that UCLA salaries are higher than other campus's because of their location.

-Zimmerman said she is the proxy for the director for ASRF.

-Saxe said communication would be through email

-Smith asked who funds the undergraduate writing center

-Saxe said this is going to a vote on Thursday. They might use the emergency fund. They hope to get private funding or set up an endowment. She said for the most part, undergraduate reps find significance in the undergraduate writing center. The services are what was offered in Covell and are still overbooked. They are still offering more time slots. She said they are working to bring them to the hill for nighttime hours. There was an issue last year where it was a part of the academic core. She said it should be a service to be funded through SFAC. She said it would hopefully be approved for funding this week.

-Smith asked why Covell couldn't go into the emergency fund.

-Saxe said part of the issue is if it is an academic or student service. She said by decentralizing it, they are cutting costs significantly. By moving it into the writing programs department, it is a lower cost since it is facilitated by something that already exists. She said the number they are asking for is a lot lower. She said SFAC has so many things they have to fund. Asking student fees to fund Covell probably wouldn't have been possible. They hope to pull from the departments as well to support these programs. They hope to put together information that shows where all of the tutoring is, since it is confusing. This will be on the academic services map.

Alumni Representative- Lauren Lazarovici

Lazarovici says she sees people who cannot put a sentence together. She said the need for good writing is really out there. She said any resources put into that is really important. She said the conversation of funding is going into every government in the nation. She said everyone is trying to do more for less. She said that they are all elected officials. She said there is that push and pull with priorities. She said not every group would be able to sustain themselves. She said not to get used to people reading back quotes. She said enjoy it while it lasts.

-Saxe said at WSP, it is sometimes hard to understand the difference. She said they hope to get representative s on the oversight committee to get a formal way to differentiate the two and direct people to one or the other.

Administrative Representative- Dr. Debra Geller

-Dr. Geller said they are not getting the crowd support that the basketball games. She said they should encourage people to go out to support the team. Dr. Nelson sent his apologies for being at the meeting. She said as games happen, Dr. Nelson would have to be at games instead of here.

-Resnick said our team is good this year. Presidential interns are planning more ideas to get people to the game

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

X. New Business

A. *Winter USA/BOD Programming Fund Allocation

Shah moved to approve winter BOD allocations. Bocarsly seconded.

-Nguyen passed out the allocations. He said they had 45 groups apply this quarter. For the whole school year without surplus, they had \$276,304.00 for the whole year. Fall they allocated 18%, winter they're planning to allocate 32%. Spring quarter they expect to allocate 50%. They usually get twice as many people apply Spring quarter. Allocations would be exactly the same as in fall quarter. He said that he has one concern. He pointed out the pediatric aids coalition. He passed out the bylaws.

-Zimmerman said this is an explanation on how things work when people are selling tickets

-Nguyen said they require \$250 fee. He said in the bylaws, they must pay back their programming fund. He recommended delaying allocations to next week since Dance Marathon has to pay it back

-Starr asked if this happened in the past

-Zimmerman said she doesn't work as closely with BOD. She said in the past, they don't know how strictly it was enforced. She said before, they weren't as tight. She said they want to be aware that they are following their own guidelines. She said it should have been enforced

-Shah asked when they have to pay it back and how necessary it is that they have the \$10,000 up front. She said that is \$10,000 that they could allocate to other groups

-Zimmerman said this is why they are suggesting waiting a week so they could discuss this with Dance Marathon. She said since Dance Marathon is through SWC, they are part of ASUCLA. They are similar to Jazz Reggae. She said there is liability to this. She said this is something they could work with the

group. She said she doesn't want to make promises. She said if they would ask them to return it February 24 to reallocate it for spring allocations. She said this is what they have in donations and all of their expenses. She said they shouldn't make money from student funds

- Resnick if it matters if the funds are for operational funds
- Zimmerman said that they know that not all of the money is going back to the donations. She said even though these bills are for facilities, they have to pay their bills
- Bocarsly said from his understanding, they are getting money and they pay back a percentage that the council decides. He said this was what was done in the past. The percentage in the past was said to be 0%
- Zimmerman said in regards to that, it's supposed to act in the opposite direction. They should have to pay back more if they made more. She said they wouldn't charge 5% on top of the donations. She said this is just a reminder. She said if they want to suspend the guideline it is up to them. She said they are a non-profit organization.
- Shah agreed. She said out of \$400,000, they could still support the facilities cost, especially given the situation this year. She said they should keep this in mind. She said if they can convince them not to take the \$10,000, it could be better utilized.
- Starr said they should donate. He said they raised about \$11,000. He said DM spends a lot to put it on. He said that it is a prominent part of campus and seed money is an event like this needs.
- Resnick said this is an option to be brought up
- Bocarsly asked if all of the money has to go back to the charity
- Zimmerman said this couldn't happen
- Bocarsly said they needed the donations
- Zimmerman said the bylaws for BOD say that if you charge students to attend, even if a charity, you have to pay it back. She said the more money they raise, the more they can give away.
- Resnick asked if council or BRD votes this upon.
- Zimmerman said she wasn't sure. She said she doesn't have a definite answer.
- Dr. Geller asked how they collect the funds that are going to the donation.
- Bocarsly said it's through the website.
- Starr said checks are to pediatric aids coalition
- Dr. Geller asked if they get tax credit
- Resnick said yes
- Zimmerman said big donations need the tax ID number
- Starr asked if they are the only non-profit
- Sholklapper said yes
- Shah said they could go to them and see if they need it and if they do they could see if the \$10,000 would go into the next allocation. She asked how BRD feels about that.
- Resnick said a lot of it is discussed with the group.
- Nguyen said he recommended tabling it
- Zimmerman said she is an advocate for DM and a part of ASUCLA. She said they find loopholes for everything. She said they hang their posters and don't charge them for some services. She said they do a lot to support it as an association. She said they need to remember that this is student fee money as a whole, not USAC money. She said if USAC wants to give them something else, they could.
- Starr said he couldn't express the need to seed money. He said that they could take about \$10,000 out and not allocate it to DM and then allocate it to the rest of the groups.
- Nguyen said that works
- Zimmerman asked if they all think it makes sense that they should pay it back
- Resnick said thank you for relaying that message
- Shah asked if there was a way to limit the amount of time someone could get honorarium. She said some groups were getting the same amount of money. She asked if they could cap how much honorarium groups could get.
- Zimmerman said as a funding committee, they could make executive decisions if there was one particular group. She said they could also make exceptions the other way. She said there is a little bit of

grey

- Dr. Geller said they know the rules for registering an organization and funding. She said that if they have the same people teaching week after week, they could do something.
- Shah asked what this would be done through
- Zimmerman said this is something they could make as a committee.
- Arruejo asked for clarification
- Zimmerman said they could call up questions and choose to fund or not to fund
- Shah said this could be something that the funding study group to explore. She said there should be some kind of cap per quarter. She said they shouldn't bring the same people back unless there is significant justification. She said it shouldn't be open ended.
- Dr. Geller said this might be a situation where a group is misrepresenting themselves. She said committees doing analysis have the right to ask questions and see what seems like the best use of funds.
- Smith moved to table BOD allocations to next week. Chikanov seconded.
- Bocarsly asked about calling to question
- Resnick said since these are in winter quarter, these could be held off on. She thanked Nguyen for bringing this up early.
- Sidrak thanked him for adding the comment section.
- Starr moved to table BOD allocations until next week. Sholklapper seconded.
- Nguyen asked the funding chairs to email them
- Arruejo said only one of the chairs from USAC is voting but everyone is invited. Arruejo said the chair chooses only one of the four.
- Bocarsly asked about the USAC positions
- Arruejo said it is on the funding study group. There are multiple people that could be on that one seat.

XI. Announcements

- Arruejo said he has his full committee of voting members. They are looking for first years or third year transfers. They have applications until Dec. 1.
- Sholklapper said that tomorrow is an event called AIDS day. There will be a large interactive board. There will be speakers, etc.
- Chikanov said thank you to council. He said next week would be free tune-ups for bikes. They will bring up the bike resolution. It will happen Monday and Tuesday of next week. He said they are having yoga under the sunset. He told them all to come out
- Hester said the last GRE workshop is tomorrow, called how to write a personal statement. She said this would be tomorrow 6-7 in Haines A25.
- Bocarsly said Westwood live is Thursday 6-11.
- Zimmerman said the ASUCLA events fund is due Dec. 2 for January. She said to think ahead.
- Shah said art gallery is visions in Los Angeles. The last word on Wednesday for the quarter is tomorrow.
- Smith said the transfer awareness day turned out well. He said they are going to try to work on reformatting the enormous activities fair so transfers could have their own section.

XII. Signing of the attendance sheet.

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Bocarsly moved and Yao seconded 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 8:35 p.m. by Acclamation.

FINAL

Approved: November 22, 2011

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,
Katrina Dimacali
USAC Minutes Taker
2011-2012