UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

Tuesday, January 17, 2012
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

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

ABSENT:

GUESTS:      Melissa Truong, Maryssa Hall, Bhavna Mukundan

I.           A.  Call to Order
- Resnick called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

B.  Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

II.         Approval of the Agenda

-Shah moved to strike the cultural affairs mini-grant.
-Saxe moved to strike both academic affairs grants.
- Sidrak moved and Saxe 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.   *1/10/12
- Smith will email a correction to the minutes.
- Sidrak moved and Chikanov seconded to approve the minutes for January 10, 2012, 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 this week.

V.         Special Presentations
A. Nancy Greenstein, Director of Police Community Services
Greenstein introduced herself. She said she appreciates the opportunity to come and present. She said based on the fall, there will probably a lot of student activism. She said she could talk about concerns with police and how they could work together. She said input is critical and she would bring any information back to the department. She said that there were no murders and 12 rapes. Six rapes occurred on campus or a building off campus. Three happened where they don’t know
the offender and they were off campus. She said they want to help students. She said they have one unknown offender at a fraternity. There were two where people were at parties. She said their message is always to watch out for friends and people who have been drinking. There were twelve robberies, cell phones mostly. This happens usually when people have headsets on. She reminded them to be aware of their surroundings and to call them. There were 20 aggravated assaults. She said sometimes it had to do with employees and rarely were injuries serious. There were 184 burglaries. This is when someone breaks in. She said they had 624 cases of people taking an object or breaking in. There were 120 cases of breaking into cars. She asked if they had any questions of topics.

-Hester asked what they should do to prevent these things from happening.

-Greenstein said pay attention to their objects. She said they have a program where they would use computer software in case a computer gets stolen.

-Smith said he’s come from organizations on campus where constituency was racial profiling on the UC campus. He asked about racial profiling training and sensitivity training. He said people still feel like they are being racially profiled. He said he doesn’t want to speak for everyone. He said he doesn’t feel like this is personally right. He said he feels the unsafe when he is being policed by UCPD.

-Greenstein asked if he had conversations with the police in the fall

-Smith said no, but he has worked with organizations, specifically some that dealt with black males

-Greenstein said they worked with ASU. She said that it isn’t consistent. She said she personally feels this is a viable approach. She said a year and a half ago they worked on doing more training. She said Dr. Nelson was working with them. She said they had a committee where all police departments had training. She said they took that training in December with all current staff. She said they were going to build out that module and Dr. Nelson was going to come out to teach. She said they would create ongoing forums to talk about things. She said they would like to have groups come and talk about how they feel working with them. The officers would also speak on what they do. They do some focus groups, but they need to do more of those. She said they learned a lot about the sensitivities of students. She said the other issue is that some people don’t know the full situations. She said the commitment is really there.

-Dr. Nelson said he related some of the experiences he had when he was in school. He said people don’t say why they are doing what they are doing. He said receptivity was positive because they needed to know how non-officers feel. He said that he related one situation when there was a fraternity that had pledges looking at bricks. There was no hazing, but they were leaded to a party. Guns were drawn and they were intimidated. After an hour, students were asked to show their ID. He said people complained about this. He said there is sensitivity to that and it applies to all students. He said police could go a long way by saying thank you. He said police themselves initiated these sensitivity trainings. He said there was a difference between the police here and LAPD.

-Greenstein said she is happy to be contacted, put groups together, etc. She said she wanted to make sure that the officers, students, and community are a team. She said the only way they could learn from it is if they are a team.

-Dr. Nelson said in terms of police forces, they have not had a Davis, Irvine, or similar problems similar to those of other campuses. He said there might be police out there that would do the unexplainable, and in those cases they should be reported. He said the police here are doing the best they can.

-Gamble mentioned the 14 students arrested last quarter. She asked if UCPD was involved

-Greenstein said once they issue a citation, it is out of their hands. She said they were used to an office conference, but they treated everyone the same if in the demonstrations. She said there is nothing they could do in terms of the university.

-Sidrak asked for clarification about the locking of arms in proactive obstruction line in the
resolution. She asked if linking arms is protecting someone who should be arrested.
-Greenstein said passive resistance is the most difficult. She said linking arms does not make a
person actively resisting. If a police said they needed to stop linking arms and they chose not to
stop, that becomes active resistance because officers can’t move beyond. She said an example
would be when people lay down. She said if people are avoiding lawful order, they’ve become
active. She said people let them know if they want to be arrested. She said people that don’t want
to be arrested back off.
-Dr. Nelson said one of the concerns police have when people are linking arms is the concern is
that they can hurt their back helping someone else. He said everyone understood that a police
coming could mean arrest. It wouldn’t be resisting arrest in trying to force someone to do
something.
-Greenstein said they look at it here different from other agencies. She said sometimes it helps to
let people sit and work things out through conversation. She said there is a symbiotic relationship.
She said sometimes groups get arrested to get their point across or get TV time. She said over the
years, they’ve successfully done it with students. She said she’s also been on the other side of
activism. She said she could make changes on the inside. She said teaching sensitivity changes
things. She said when they get peer leaders, they’re going to hear it and work together so they
won’t be put in that situation.
-Resnick said thank you for coming. She thanked Sidrak and her for Strathmore Saferides. She
said this is an issue that some people can relate to. She asked if she could explain some late night
services
-Greenstein said they have escorts and the late night van service. She said they have a 35-year-old
program. She said they have applications and are working to have a more demand-oriented
program. They would try to do away with riding escorts. She said she hopes this year is a year of
growth.
-Gamble said in terms of UCPD hiring, where they come from
-Greenstein said UCPD has a diverse work force. The only area they are weak is in women. She
said they have other people who are pre-service. She said some people apply pre-serviced. They
have 4 laterals, people who come from LA and the sheriffs, and people that can go into any place
in a police job.
-Gamble said some investigations were taped. She asked about a student that did not have a tape.
-Greenstein said if a police taped something, they would be in violation of police. She said she
would ask police to bring tapes in. She said people could make complaints.
-Gamble asked about students who were help by police by didn’t do anything.
-Greenstein said there is more information in the working together pamphlets. She said the groups
they would try in the winter would be further worked with. She said she would ask people if they
were students. She said it is important for students to feel like this is their name too. She said on a
public street, people don’t really need an ID. On campus, there are polices. She said it is plan to
to always do that, and they may complain to a supervisor. She said a couple of people might have a
bad attitude. She said while this might not be a complaint, if they have enough situations they
should be reported. She said if there were anything to let them know, it would be distorted. She
said

B. USAC Roll Out- Smith and office
Smith talked about the USAC Roll Out and introduced people from his office.
-Charmane and Maryssa introduced themselves. They said that they want to get their council’s
offices involved and they need their support. There would be 6 tables and everyone would share
one. They would like representation from each office. She said they would like to all be on the
same page. They passed around a sign in sheet.
-Bocarsly asked about the meeting times
-She said they needed to sign up when to be there
-Saxe asked when it was
-Charmane said next week
-Smith asked if they were okay with meeting times
-Saxe said her retreat was coming up
-Sidrak asked if they could make it more interactive
-Charmane said they would like to have questions and prizes. They talked about getting a dj. She said it would be nice if everyone came up with something interactive.
-Smith said they might raffle out items from ASUCLA. He said if they had any connections to things to let them know.
-Charmane said to come by the office to turn things in
-Resnick said thank you for his or her presentation and she hopes that everyone takes part in this.

C. Debrief on Friday’s ASUCLA Services Committee Presentation
-Bocarsly said this is a debrief of the ASUCLA services committee presentation. He said they presented and had a long and informative discussion. He said they asked for $100,000, half for contingency and half for BOD. Then, GSA would be granted half of that
-Dr. Geller asked for clarification
-Bocarsly said it would be half in addition. He said they passed a statement.
-Saxe read the statement and approved their request.
-Bocarsly said they expected USAC to work so this wouldn’t happen again. He said to make sure they don’t face this again they have additions to the FiCom guidelines. They would talk about the specifics when it comes up. He said originally, they had a part of the statement where they expected them to commit to a referendum. They realized it wasn’t their place but they saw they would like a referendum. This was not a requirement but this is something they look forward to seeing them add in the future. Friday at 9am is the finance committee meeting. They will make a recommendation and it will go to a vote at the board of directors meeting.
-Smith said personally, he doesn’t agree with a referendum. He asked where they would go about implementing some of the suggestions they came up with. He said he would not support a referendum.
-Bocarsly said they proposed different suggestions and people were receptive to that.
-Smith said he asked Williams about financial literacy and going out to the LA community and creating potential relationships with people who could feed into their programming funds. He said if ASUCLA would like to help he would appreciate that. He said that he doesn’t feel like a referendum is in the best remedy.
-Williams said it is best not to confuse what conversations were had and the overall sentiment of the committee. What they chose to support is written in what they supported. He said some people said that they needed to recognize a long-term solution
-Saxe said the motion of a long-term solution wasn’t even voted on in the meeting. She said they would like them to change how they allocate funds. She said this would change the reliability on surplus. She said this is what they would talk about with the FiCom guidelines.
-Smith said he doesn’t care about what ASUCLA did or if there was pressure. He said he cares about the constant spending of funds. He said that he is not supporting a referendum
-Saxe said this issue does not have to do with a referendum.
-Yao said thanks to Saxe for the distinction. She said they brought up financial literacy and constant spending. She said she would like to propose a meeting outside of council or having this as a portion of new business.
-Dr. Nelson asked if there were responses to this
-Bocarsly said there was an article covering the situation. He said the ones that were written were accurate and informative. He said last quarter student groups were worried about how they were spending money. He said they have been working with them closely.
-Resnick said 9am on Friday is the meeting. She said there would be another meeting outside of
council as well.

VI. Appointments
A. *Bhavna Mukundan for Judicial Board (J-Board)
   -Bocarsly moved to approve Mukundan for judicial board. Chikanov seconded. Mukundan transferred from UCI. She has experience with MUN and Mock Trials. She had a vote of 3-0-0 approve.
   -Mukundan introduced herself as a 4th year. She transferred at the beginning of last year.
   -Resnick asked what made her want to apply for the position
   -Mukundan said she always wanted to be this position in UCI. She said since the position was open, she applied. She would like to go to law school.
   -Sidrak said from her past internships, what skills/trait she would bring to the judicial board.
   -Mukundan said she is the travel team director for MUN. She said they stimulate different UN committees. She said they come up with a resolution, which deals with making their own argument. From her internships, she worked with South Africa and examined the South Africa constitution. She said she would see what were going wrong and any loopholes.
   -Sholklapper asked if she looked at the bylaws
   -Mukundan said she had looked at it briefly
   -Sholklapper asked about her previous experience
   -Mukundan said she was an intern and worked in the anteater mentorship program
   -Sholklapper asked how her experience expanded from there
   -Mukundan said she wanted to be more involved. She said she really liked publicity and marketing. She said she was offered a position of publicity chair. She said she served as the head of an event of Larry King coming to UCI. She said she interacted with various offices.
   -Gamble asked what were distinctions between USAC and those of UCI
   -Mukundan said USAC has a lot of branches whereas ASUCI is easier to understand.
   -Hester said she mentioned that J-board is crucial. She asked how they could avoid some of the inherent difficulties that could arise. She asked how they could avoid problems now
   -Mukundan said she referred to UCI’s case where almost each candidate had a case filed against him or her. She said she doesn’t get the feeling this happens as much with USAC. She said they should work for candidates to see where grey areas may be.
   -Smith asked what was one of the most interesting cases that she faced at UCI
   -Mukundan said it was right before she found out she was transferring. She said that was interesting because almost every candidate had an allegation, where most cases were correct. A lot of candidates did not get disqualified. She said those running for president best exemplify this. They each took each other to judicial board.
   -Saxe said there were cases that were brought to J-board. She said J-board should remain impartial. She asked if she could remain impartial.
   -Mukundan said she is unbiased because she just transferred. She said she could provide an unbiased opinion
   -Sholklapper asked why she transferred
   -Mukundan said she got a regents scholarship and always wanted to go to UCLA
   -Starr called to question. Smith seconded. With a vote of 12-0-0, Mukundan was appointed to J-board.

B. *Kimberly Davis for Drug-Free Schools Committee
   -Bocarsly moved to table the debrief until after all appointments. Starr seconded.
   -Saxe moved to approve Davis for the Drug-Free Schools Committee
   -Sidrak said she is the finance director for swipes for homeless, part of the IVP office, etc. She is committed to working hard to ensure that UCLA is a place where students grow. She said she would like to help students with knowledge of drug abuse and alcohol. She had a vote of 2-0-1.
- Davis introduced herself. She is a 3rd year history major and a European history minor. She would like to be on this committee because she feels like UCLA should be a place where students are comfortable. She said they should have a vocal and prominent support system. She said she read a letter to students from March 2011, where around 44% of college students engage in dangerous drug and alcohol behavior. She said she could help the drug free schools committee in educating students and co-programming with groups such as SWC.
- Resnick said she had not heard of the committee before this appointment. She asked how she would make it more visible
- Davis said she would pair with already prominent groups on campus. She said people could use committees for co-programming. She said she could work with groups such as SWC or on the hill. She said they could talk to students about drugs and alcohol and about policies on campus.
- Sholklapper asked what she thought was the biggest reason making these decisions
- Davis said people go into college thinking that this is a new time and that it is okay to engage in these practices. She said she would like to let students know the effects and the consequences they could face.
- Sholklapper said the university does try to combat this. He asked if what is already in place is effective. He asked where it fails
- Davis said alcohol edu doesn’t have reinforcement or follow up. She said it could be taken seriously sometimes. She said she had some students don’t know about the different programs offered on campus. She said when she lived on the hill; RA’s didn’t have any programs on drugs or alcohol.
- Dr. Geller said the drugs for school committee only meets once per quarter. She asked if she would be available at the times the meetings would be
- Davis said she hasn’t, but she is flexible
- Bocarsly asked of a creative way to educate people on drug and alcohol abuse
- Davis said they could do a fair where there would be incentives. They could get the UCPD involved. She said having interactive ways would bring out a lot of students
- Sholklapper asked about making UCLA a tobacco free campus
- Davis said she feels strongly about this. She said they should have at least sections for smokers.
- Sholklapper asked if people feel like they have a stigma on them
- Davis said she would be open to talking to students.
- Bocarsly called to question the appointment of Davis. Sholklapper seconded. With a vote of 11-0-1, Davis was appointed to the committee.

C. *Yingfei Wu for Student Conduct Committee (SCC)
- Soto moved to approve Yingfei Wu for the student conduct committee
- Sidrak has been a volunteer tutoring incarcerated youth. She wants to ensure that students who have been charged should take responsibility for their actions. The recommendation is 3-0-0 approve.
- Wu said she is a 4th year neuroscience major. She said she is going for the appointment of the student conduct committee
- Resnick asked why she would like to be a part of this committee
- Wu said someone she knew from Golden Key told her about what she does. She said she was very interested in it. She said she was encouraged to apply. She read about the student conduct policy. She said she really wants to get this position because this is an interesting process that upholds the standards of UCLA and would help students learn about their past mistakes.
- Gamble asked if she read section 2.
- Wu said it is about the misconduct and the policies that could get them to a hearing. She mentioned academic dishonesty, assault, physical abuse, abusing drugs, computer misconduct, etc.
- Gamble said not many students on campus could answer a question like that.
- Gamble called to question. Bocarsly seconded. With a vote of 12-0-0, Wu was appointed for the
Student Conduct Committee for one year.
-Bocarsly asked why it is a one-year appointment
-Wu said yes. She said she could stay for summer but she wouldn’t be able to stay for more than that
-Zimmerman said they could be either 1 or 2 years.
-Dr. Geller said appointments are up to 3 years. She said it could be as little as the reminder of the year or someone could stay up to three years.
-Bocarsly asked who decides
-Dr. Geller said they could decide up front or decide at the end of their term.

VII. Fund Allocations

A. Academic Success Referendum Fund
There was no business for the Academic Success Referendum Fund this week.

B. Academic Affairs Mini-Grant
There was no business for the Academic Affairs Mini-Grant fund 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
-Bocarsly moved to approve contingency allocations. Hester seconded. Organizations/Commissions are requiring a total of $10,164.64 for their programs. A total of $6,724.38 was requested from contingency of that, a total of $1,319.50 is recommended for allocation for this week (at 50% reduction).

There is a total of $9,881.55 left in the Contingency Programming Fund.
-Bocarsly asked what the total was last year
-Arruejo said he wasn’t sure
-Resnick said they would make sure they don’t run out in these next few weeks.
-Bocarsly called to question. Starr seconded. With a vote of 12-0-0, contingency was approved this week.
-Arruejo asked if someone could make a motion to suspend the rules, since when it is below $10,000 they have to make a ⅓ advertisement. He said he would like to suspend the rules until surplus is announced. If it is less than $10,000 after surplus, then he will make an ad. He said students should have enough knowledge through the Daily Bruin of the low funding.
-Zimmerman said once USAC surplus is approved, that is when they have the finalized number. She said it might not be necessary. She said not a lot of people are aware of the rule. She said if they approve surplus this wouldn’t be necessary
-Resnick asked if they would see an exact number for surplus

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President- Emily Resnick
Resnick said their most pressing appointment is the E-board chair. They sent an update to the
webmaster. They recommended anyone to apply. This is required to be unbiased and fair. They play an integral role in elections. She said to continue to encourage people to apply. She said the council of president’s has a scheduled call with Lancing this Saturday morning. She is meeting with the Chancellor at the end of this month. She said she could let him know anything as well. They released applications for their wintership. She said they would like to get as many applications as possible. The power of one event is this Thursday. The theme is the power of one and what one person or group can do to effect change. She sent an email today about advertising on the rims of coffee cups. She said she emailed Williams as well. She said this is an informational meeting and they would work closely with ASUCLA. She said the meeting is next Wednesday at 1pm. She received an email about Bruin Day on April 14. They are requested to make a presentation to possible students. She said they would like to have a presentation about how students could be involved when they hopefully become Bruins. Rollout is Jan. 31 from 10-2. She reminded council to think of something interactive to do. She said the presidential interns are working with the internal vice presidents for a mixer. The president’s office will have their retreat this weekend. She will also send out a blurb from SAA. They will be advertising dinner for 12 strangers. She said today, they received another confirmation for their mayoral debate.

-Dr. Nelson asked how many candidates there would be
-Resnick said 10 or 12. She said the one who confirmed today said he was running two days ago.
-Gamble asked the date
-Resnick said April 27. She said if they are interested in planning, the event is still in its early stages.

**Internal Vice President- Kristina Sidrak**

Sidrak said tomorrow is their last campus safety alliance weekend. She said this Friday afternoon there is a Gmail stakeholders meeting. She said she emailed everyone about the Museum of Tolerance focus group. She said not everyone’s office is represented. She said they also outreached to ORL. The apartments fair is next Wednesday. She said the next day CSP is available is Friday February 10th at noon. Sidrak asked if council was interested. She said they could talk about campus climate, new student group registration policies, etc. This would be Friday, Feb. 10 around noon. She said that there would be a student’s networking night on week 8.

**External Vice President- Joelle Gamble**

Gamble said she is going to UCSF for the UCSA board meeting this weekend. She said she would send out updates. She said she would send out a link to council. She talked about the cal grant where they are raising the academic standard for students that are eligible. It would be 3.0-3.25 for current UC students. She said this is not an effective way for penalizing students. She said people might have lower grades because of other extenuating circumstances. She said bruin lobby core would be lobbying at that issue. The regents’ meeting is at UC Riverside. UCR students have come up with a proposal called fix UC. This would take 5% out of income for up to 20 years after you graduate. She said this is not the greatest idea because it doesn’t account for loans and wants to eliminate the Blue and Gold plan. She said there would be a proposal this Friday. She said her office is working with CEC for an event on Jan. 31. They are working with Bruin Republicans and Bruin Democrats. They are trying to bring in a wide spectrum of students.

**Academic Affairs Commissioner-Raquel Saxe**

Saxe said starting next week, they would have information on academic tutorial resources. When Covel closed, most services were brought back in a decentralized fashion. She said that they hope to update that next quarter. For the global leadership connection they connected 5 high schools. She said they sent out the math surveys about student math center services and they are starting to collect the data. They collected 348 surveys. She said people didn’t know the center existed.
said most students said that they would have preferred later hours. She said they are working with the math department for later hours. She sent out the services list for what they are working on. She said there is no point of her office creating new services but should rather advertise already existing services. She said the undergraduate writing center is on the hill. She said the career center and ORL are working on workshops. The writing success program’s 10-year anniversary event will be on January 31st after the USAC rollout. She said the executive board committee has been doing a lot of discussion about the Anderson business school’s self sustaining MBA program. She said there is a lot of talk about how this would affect the university. The accounting minor is strongly supported and if this becomes independent, they want to make sure the accounting minor is not negatively effected. She said there was a felony charge on a chemistry professor and the university is standing behind the professor. They are searching for a new vice provos to replace Larry Fitz. There was discussion on the vote of confidence about the UC Davis counselor. This should be had mid-February.

-Sidrak asked if they could include where certain majors could get printing.
-Saxe said she would look into it

Alumni Representative- Laureen Lazarovici
Lazarovici said that is a great resource that Greenstein was able to come in. She said her husband deals with activists and the police office. She said this is a role that people in this group could play. She said it takes a special mindset to be this bridge. She said if this appeals to them, Greenstein would be a great resource.

IX. Old Business

X. New Business
A. *USAC Surplus
-Resnick asked if anyone knew an exact number.
-Bocarsly moved to table this to next week. Starr seconded.

B. *Finance Committee Guidelines
-Smith moved to approve the finance committee guidelines. Starr seconded.
-Arruejo said BOD requested this. He read the changes in the guidelines.
-Bocarsly proposed a change.
-Resnick said to go into discussion
-Bocarsly said he talked to Champowat and Zimmerman. He said they think that there is a way to make the statement stronger and be stricter. He would change it to put a percentage on an event they could allocate. He said they were anticipating a big number in surplus and this would not happen again. A number they suggested was 33%.
-Arruejo said it would be too harsh to put 33%
-Bocarsly said he feels like they should raise it. The number came from the fact that there were always fewer applications in the fall. He said they would always be surplus. He said they are looking at lower numbers in the future. He recommended raising it to 40% of the allocations. He said they would have had a less drastic change
-Williams said the way it is written wouldn’t get across the finance committee or the board. He said he is advising them on what might get them $100,000. He said it had to be fixed to a finite number, since more groups could apply. He said they could end up in the same place. He said he is trying to do something that is clear enough to the board. He said they have always had some surplus. He said they have Bruin Bash to pull out of surplus. He said surplus would be a real
problem next year. He said that there needs to be something in place so that they don’t spend too much in fall quarter.
-Saxe asked if all of fall quarter would be more than 33%. She said they would get surplus ideas and numbers for November.
-Zimmerman said this is why they would want to keep the last line of wanting it to continue until they get a better number of surpluses. She said they became so dependent on the idea of surplus. She said if they have $100,000, they know they will have Bruin Bash. She said fall quarter is always the smallest pot of people applying
-Bocarsly said to move forward, the number of 33% is small and would propose 40%.
-Dr. Nelson said surplus has always been something that has been used to do certain things that were unanticipated. He said this would have to do with certain things that were not allocated for. He said it was never used for programming. He said it is astute to recognize that they can’t assess what surplus is going to be. He said if they thought in terms of surplus, in terms of what they could allocate in fall quarter, this might be what they think of it. He said this is how surplus was in the past. He said they might use more or might use less.
-Starr said they should go for what Williams is recommending
-Williams said the board is not going to understand their funding. He said usually they find out about surplus in April. He said he’s gotten it earlier, but they have been living off the surplus. He said after a while, surplus goes down. He said Arruejo could probably help predict a number, but whatever they do as to be simple and obvious. He said they way they are thinking about may be fine.
-Bocarsly asked what he thinks is an appropriate percentage
-Arruejo said they could put any percentage but he doesn’t see how the next FiCom would do. He said he would tell the next person a number to expect for surplus. He said the percentage would disadvantage groups fall quarter but they needed to think about students now but maybe not for next term. He said he would make it 50% to give leeway. He said 30% is too little.
-Williams said certain language would not get them $100,000. He said they take this very seriously. He said that kind of stuff puts them in the wrong direction. The board should be convinced that they would change their system. He said the way he looks at it, they should expect very little surplus next year. He said if they decide to do Bruin Bash, they would have no surplus next quarter. He said he hopes they realize these people are serious.
-Starr asked about what was done in the past.
-Bocarsly said there were fewer groups that applied next year.
-Starr said now they are only allocating 50% to everyone. He said if they did 40%, they would be allocating less than fall quarter.
-Bocarsly said what they were giving out would have been a 60% cut. They need to set a precedent. He said that they need to restrict an allocation restriction.
-Starr said the allocations are based on the assumption that they would get more. He said they would do a better service if they offer 50-60% year round. He said if they feel fine cutting 50%, there shouldn’t be a reason why they couldn’t cut the entire year.
-Bocarsly said to speak up if they would vote no
-Dr. Geller said in terms of budgeting, it is a bad idea to build a budget around assuming something would give them money. Surplus is the lottery and they really don’t know. Whatever they allocate is used, as it should be. To assume there is surplus puts them in deficit in the beginning. She said they know that in spring, they get really big programs. The groups that apply early get larger portions of what they request. Something would come up and there is a struggle every year. She said if they would take surplus around the picture, they would build a budget that assumes no surplus. They should look at it and see what their priorities are. She said it might be they set some money aside with a specific purpose. She said they might have a USAC program to celebrate something in winter. There may be a particular program they want to support. She said they should think about what could add to campus. She said they wouldn’t get in the same trouble
because it would be consistent. She said each year the FiCom chair gets more creative and provides more to campus. The better the FiCom is at their job, the less money would be left over. She said if each year they get a quality appointment for FiCom chair, each year they would not have surplus. She said this is something they really need to think about. She said there would be some things that would happen so late in the year that they wouldn’t be used. She said they have things like Bruin Bash, Homecoming, and scholarships. She said she is challenging them to see if it is ever good to count on surplus. She said they should do their budget on the assumption that there would be none.
-Resnick said if they raise it to 40%, this is a situation that USAC is in every year. She said perhaps a percent is a good route to take.
-Saxe said they understand Dr. Geller’s perspective. She said she also understands why they would like to maintain consistency. She said they wanted to try and speculate. She said it is important to realize that there will be a surplus and they will want to spend what they have. She said they are assuming that surplus is above $90,000. She said they are assuming that it is above $90,000 and that it would significantly trickle down into their programming fund. She said she would say 33% is a good decision. She said she understands the 40% as a cushion. She said by setting these percentages would say this means they were not consistent throughout the year.
-Bocarsly asked if he could amend the addition to the guidelines. It would read to say “not to exceed 33%...make more accurate judgment to maintain the fund throughout the year.” Starr seconded.
-Smith asked for Arruejo’s clarification
-Arruejo said if they want to assume to surplus, he would go with that one. He said it is impossible for FiCom to know how much is allocated per week to see what is allocated per quarter. He said they would set a hard cap on what contingency would be. He said it is such a difference from last year to this year. He said it is generally less. He said given a conversation and what USAC wants, it is best for student groups to get their money now and readjust how students get their funding next year.
-Sholkalpper said he agrees with it. He said they want to be as fair to as many groups as possible.
-Resnick said this tackles consistency. She said if the chair could enter the year knowing this would be helpful as well
-Yao said for the next year to have this guideline would be very helpful and for future years.
-Zimmerman said with having the percentage, the pot might grow and the percentage may stay the same. She said this is a good guideline change for that reason.
-Starr called to question. Bocarsly seconded.
-Smith asked for clarification
-Resnick said it would take into affect Fall 2012
-Smith asked what is the average percentage of contingency being spent
-Arruejo said fall is always less than winter less than spring.
-Zimmerman said the smallest percentage is always used in fall. She said it would go along with the theme that they needed more in winter or in spring. She said this is a good number to indicate that they are okay to allocate that much each time.
-Williams asked if they had a fixed amount for surplus and added it to what they are allocating, how much it would be.
-Arruejo said he usually allocated 30k, 50k, and 90k.
-Williams said they could go up 33%. He said it is speculation because they don’t know what surplus will be.
-Arruejo said if he knew it would be $100k, there wouldn’t have been so many reductions. He said he gave about half of what was expected of surplus
-Zimmerman said 30% is 37k
-Arruejo said he would need 25k
-Williams said if they had 100k every year and some went to programming added to what they
knew they would have every year and they allocated based on the pattern, if they would have 33% left.

-Arruejo said it would essentially be lower if he knew that was the amount. He said he was expecting between 80-100k. He said he would have never foreseen a drastic cut.

-Williams asked if he knew it would be 100k, if he would be comfortable with a 33% cut be okay.

-Arruejo said yes.

-Williams said he could predict surplus to be around 100k.

-Starr called to question the finance committee guidelines as amended. Saxe seconded. With a vote of 12-0-0 the amended guidelines were passed.

-Arruejo said since they didn’t know about the surplus, he asked council to move to suspend rules in article 6 concerning putting an ad in the daily bruin regarding surplus. Bocarsly seconded. There were no objections.

XI. Announcements

-Arruejo said finance committee workshop would be Thursday from 3-5. He said they sent out the email to USAC. He said there would be free food.

-Sholklapper said today was the first of two days of recruitment. He said tomorrow from 11-2 is their iron chef event, where they will work with the blood and platelet center so they could donate blood. He said they would have chicken and tofu as iron rich foods.

-Chikanov said thank you to those who sent out information about the resource fair. There were about 200 students.

-Bocarsly said thank you to everyone who came to the kickoff last week. He said on Friday, they are working on the Artist Art Hop. There would be UCLA bands there as well.

-Zimmerman said CS Mini fund is due soon. She said there are a lot of groups that do community service. The green initiative fund deadline is on Jan. 22. They also have the mini fund, due the first Friday of every month. January they had a smaller turnout so they hope for more in February.

-Starr asked if everyone could see Pauley on Friday on 3:30. He said he could send out another doodle.

-Hester said thank you for discussions on the textbook scholarship. It will be held during the end of the quarter. They would find out at the end of the quarter after 2 weeks.

-Smith said tonight was the death of my daughter art exhibit. He said to stop by the art gallery.

-Starr said Williams came through and the cups are bigger.

XII. Signing of the attendance sheet.

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

-Bocarsly moved and Starr 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 9:37 p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,
Katrina Dimacali
USAC Minutes Taker
2011-2012