

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL
Tuesday, November 20, 2012
417 Kerckhoff Hall

PRESENT: David Bocarsly, Lana Habib El-Farra, Andrea Hester, Carly Yoshida, Kim Davis, Anees Hasnain, Taylor Mason, Stephen Kraman, Sahil Seth, Cassarah Chu, Jan Tacinco, Michael Starr, Yasar Mohebi, Dr. Berky Nelson, Laureen Lazarovici, Bob Williams, Roy Champawat, Patty Zimmerman, Cynthia Jasso, Katrina Dimacali

ABSENT: Dr. Deb Geller

GUESTS: Ronald Arruejo, Kristen Taketa, Jonathan Waxer, Sean Carroll, Madison Murphy, Tamir Sholkapper, Steven Pham, Miriam Eshagian, Garima Verma, Jenny Nguyen

I. A. Call to Order

- *Bocarsly 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

-Kraman moved to add a discussion on winter break
-Mohebi moved to strike the cultural affairs mini fund and the travel and advocacy grants
-Jasso said winter break might be an action item

- Seth moved and Kraman seconded to approve the agenda, as amended.
- Bocarsly called for Acclamation. Bocarsly 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. *11/13/12

-Starr moved to approve the minutes
-Seth moved to approve tabling the minutes
-Kraman moved to table the minutes until after public comment
-Starr said he wasn't there
-Chu said she was there once
- Seth moved and Kraman seconded to approve the minutes for November 13th, 2012.
- Bocarsly called for Acclamation. Bocarsly asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the minutes were approved.

IV. Public Comments

He talked about the bail introduced in 2009 and they couldn't get it voted on. He talked about the grassroots movement. He said that the ban was passed throughout cities and

they passed phone calls throughout the election. He said that in two years, nothing changed. The grassroots organizing changed. They focus on clean energy and working on putting a million solar panels on rooftops. He passed out flyers if people were interested. This would be coming up December 2nd. He said thank you for hearing about it

-Dr. Nelson asked how many positions there were

-He said they would hire about 5

-Dr. Nelson asked what major they were looking at

-He said they're not just looking for environmentalists. He said they are looking for people with good leadership experience.

John Waxer- Student Advocate

He talked about where the student advocate is now. He said it was valuable to have a resource that isn't redundant. He said he met with a lot of administration. He said through discussion they were able to decide what they want to focus their attention on. He said if someone has to write a petition or appeal, a student advocate could personally help him or her. He said in the area of academics, there is a lot of room where he could be of personal assistance to students. He said an area they are lacking is having educated representatives on the conduct committee. He said the student advocate could be one of the major representatives going through the conduct committee review. He said it usually deals with issues of plagiarism or improper citation. He said a lot of times the representatives they choose are not very educated on the process. He said the dean of students is able to advertise in the student conduct committee as well. He said Dr. Geller said she could direct people to the student conduct office as well. He said this is really beneficial to students. He said he would like to focus on advertisements as well. He said he hasn't been actively advertising but there is an obvious want and need for help.

Ron Arruejo- Former Finance Committee Chair

Arruejo said he was able to take his skills and expertise on the committee for review in Indiana where they allocate student fees and hear proposals. He said they might not do the same thing next year but they might. He said they would do great now and in the future.

CPC Committee (Steven Pham, Miriam Eshaghian, Ganima Verma, Jenny Nguyen) - Campus Programs Committee

-She said they have given out around \$50,000

-He talked about hearings

-She talked about the standards they developed to ensure fair allocation of funding.

-She talked about the committee

-He said so far they have funded every group so far

Jason Smith- Former General Representative

Smith introduced himself and his friend to the council.

V. Special Presentations

There were no special presentations this week.

VI. Appointments

There were no appointments this week.

VII. Fund Allocations

A. *Contingency Allocations

-Starr moved to approve the minutes. Seth seconded.

-The total required was \$44801.87. The contingency balance is \$38,737.75. The total requested was \$7,658.42. The total recommended was \$3,950.02.

-Hasnain asked about the social dance club-receiving honorarium

-Jasso said the group said they would pay for the band.

-Seth asked if that was in their application

-Starr called to question contingency allocations. Seth seconded. With a vote of 11-0-0, the contingency for this week was approved.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President – David Bocarsly

-Bocarsly said thank you for participation in the past presidents leadership forum. He said the people who presented had a lot of great things to say. He said hopefully they could have a forum like that again. He said they had the student body president reunion last night. He thanked Champawat and Zimmerman. He said he has a lot of past president contact information. He said he met with the E-board chair. He said they should meet with her if they'd like as well. His interns would come to their office if they got their availabilities. He said many of them have probably seen the top 25 dangerous colleges in America and UCLA was ranked number 1. He said they were the most dangerous college in America and he emailed Greenstein. He said the reasoning is because of skewed information. UCPD has jurisdiction over crime and local areas. He said they are very good at reporting crime in the community. He said they go a great job at reporting crime and the numbers used were very skewed. He said Business Insider used information from UCPD as a whole. Berkeley was number 3 and USC wasn't on there. He said Greenstein said UCPD serves other areas, such as clinics, off-campus housing, etc. He said this is mis-information and articles have been written that this was an inaccurate presentation of data. He said they do in fact have a safer campus than represented in this data.

-Jasso asked if someone would do something

-Bocarsly said Greenstein is working with media relations to work on it. He said other schools are working to address the situation as well

-Lazarovici said UCLA parents have their own Facebook page. She said their parents are keeping an eye on them.

-Bocarsly said they could send them all this information.

-Lazarovici said it is an official UCLA channel

-Dr. Nelson asked if the police will break this down and asked if they would keep the data all together.

-Bocarsly said he could talk to Greenstein and present new data

-Dr. Nelson said they have what is going on campus and what is going on elsewhere. He said that would show how the safe is here and how the police are really on the job where there is a UCLA establishment

-Bocarsly said Greenstein said UCLA is good at reporting crimes. He said they are good at the interactions with UCPD. They have a great report rate. He said if they have any other questions to let him know

-Tancinco asked if his interns would go to their offices

-Bocarsly said in his internship they do an intensive quarter where they are put into offices. He said interns would work with them to see if there is work to be done in their offices. He said every office would have their own unique way of involving them

Internal Vice President – Andrea Hester

Hester said she would work with CSP on their CSP workshops. She said they are a great resource. She said a few items include inclusion, how to make proposals, etc. She said if they have ideas for winter quarter to please send them her way. She talked about the international comedy show in January 18th from 8-10pm. She said she wasn't sure how to ask for funding and said she wanted to throw that out there. She said they were programming with Dashew, ORL, and OCHC. She said it is different than surplus this year.

-Jasso said she could apply for up to \$400 and to turn in the application before December 27th.

-Hester said if they have any suggestions to please email UCLA apartments fair

-Hasnain said they could ask CAPS to come as well to talk about dealing with certain types of roommates.

-Hester said that is great. She said she wouldn't be there December 4th but Avi will be the proxy

External Vice President- Lana El-Farra

El-Farra said they had the day of action and collected 250 postcards. She said they were delivering those. She said these are in support of two pieces of legislation. She said they would have a follow up day next Thursday. She said they center on student loan debt. She said they would have students discuss. She said it would be advertised tonight. She said it would be 9th week next week. She said they would have the 2nd USSA board meeting. She said there was two incidents that involved students that were hate crimes. She said she approached the students in talking about bringing it to the table. She said they had the game on Saturday. She said as she was walking out she saw a friend of hers crying. She said her friend was getting ready to leave and someone had her water bottle. She said a guy started waving a pom pom in her face and there was a back and forth dealing with verbal abuse. She talked about the disrespect that happened when he took down her scarf. She said that when flyering, another incident happened in which there was verbal abuse. El-Farra said this is not okay to happen on campus. She said that her friend filed a report.

-Dr. Nelson asked if there were any names of the people

-El-Farra said there were no names and they let the guy walk away

-Dr. Nelson asked where it was

-El-Farra said it was where student seating was, probably section 8

-Dr. Nelson asked if the girl would be at the game Saturday. He said the Rose Bowl is university property when they are there. He said they need to identify who it was.

-El-Farra said she didn't remember exactly what they looked like

-Bocarsly said thank you for bringing this forward and Dr. Nelson has been working games for years

-Dr. Nelson said he could help them identify them

-Hasnain said that there are inherent problems and she encouraged people to think about the populations that usually don't speak up. She said this isn't the first time that this community has been attacked. She said when a similar attack is made to a similar social identity; there is usually a verbal apology and that is something that rarely happens for this community. She said this happens frequently

-Jasso said she heard about a situation at CPC hearings. She said she heard about it during BOD hearings. She said to ensure they hold everyone accountable to being fair and unbiased. She said she has addressed the funding situations and discussed the people part of it. She said it happens even here and said to be cognizant of this.

Academic Affairs Commissioner— Kim Davis

Bocarsly said Davis sent out her report.

Finance Committee Chair- Cynthia Jasso

Jasso said every quarter she is supposed to have an officer report. She said Arruejo discussed what the finance committee does on a regular basis. She said she wanted to talk

about data and brought some other points. She said she would talk about what she's done and fun facts. She said the main purpose is to see statistics and data. She said they would get a more contextualized idea of the committee. She said she emailed the PowerPoint presentation to them. She said she really wanted to add a dimension this year. She said she wanted to proactively engage the student body. She said that they are a resource. She said they are a group for student groups to foster their leadership potential. She said the goals are to streamline funds promote fiscal literacy, make internal adjustments, build strong relationships with SGA, accessibility, and data analysis. She said the long-term goal is to have a requisition database. She said they are revolutionizing student services. She said they can't add more work on an office that is already understaffed. She said they are constantly working with a lot of students. She said they have a similar structure to SGA's and she would like to consolidate the req process. She talked about the resource production. She talked about requisition 101, funding sources 101, the blog, funding workshops, youcanbookme, and the fall funding calendar, the matrix makeover, and the new PowerPoint presentations on the USAC website. She said she has met up with funding chairs to discuss their funds as well as cooperation's. She said she has talked to the Daily Bruin 4 times. She talked about weekly office hours and the funding focus group. She said they are trying to reevaluate if SOOF is efficient. She said they could create a more streamlined system that students want. She said with her data, she was able to determine that 41.78% of the sample group used the line item of retreats and conferences. She said understanding SOOF would be beneficial. She said this is something she wanted them to start thinking about. She said up to week 7, they have received 92 applications. 20 of those applications come from USAC offices. She said on average, they receive 11.5 applications per week. She said last year, they received an average of 11.75 applications per week. She said Rose sends his wishes. She said they are allocating 27% less than last year. This is important because they want to make sure they meet that 33% cutoff

-Bocarsly asked what the 27% was

-Jasso said that is general

-Bocarsly asked for clarification

-Jasso said this is compared to last year. She said they need to meet that 33%. She said it is about not relying on surplus and not relying on those numbers. She said week 2 is their peak time. She said they also saw that trend in 2011. She said in 2010 it wasn't like that. She said this is when people apply for retreats. She said they started with \$71,915. Last year they started with a net budget of \$68,837.00. She said week 2 is the most popular week. She said she is noticing that week 5 there are no events and everyone usually has midterms. She said funding presentations should be done before week 2 so that they are ready to apply for contingency. She said in winter quarter they received 10.9 applications and they allocated \$53,624.93. She said in spring, they received 24.62 applications and allocated \$90,424. She said they really try to make sure they have enough funds for spring quarter. She thanked them.

-Bocarsly asked if those were common trends for the past years

-Jasso said yes. She said she will continue these trends. She said they will continue creating some form of analysis so that they are better informed how to allocate their funds. She said she would scrutinize her data more and see what they allocate in proportion to the weeks. She said this might be a little harder. She said she is a research assistant and she knows Excel like the back of her hand. She said she is open to questions they might have and she hopes that they all can trust her to make sure that funding is the most accessible to her. She thanked the council.

Alumni Representatives- Laureen Lazarovici

Lazarovici said she was at the former USAC presidents' event. She said she hopes to come to future events if it continues. She said she was most excited to see the president from her year. She said the president said she hadn't changed a bit. She said the former president said a lot of interesting things. She said she was on the Daily Bruin. She said that the former USAC president went to Harvard law and gained a lot of knowledge and experience. She said sometimes the context of a relationship at one time prevents you from seeing the full person. She said there might have been parts of him that she didn't see that had to do with the roles they played. She said one challenge the former president posed was to ask the question of where people cross boundaries with each other and where can you learn where there are successes. She said that is a useful question to ask in terms of campus climate issues. She said he talked about sharing stories that defy stereotypes. She said one of the student body presidents learned about how to run a meeting, which comes handy later in life. She said they learned how to keep people on track and how to bring a conversation to a close. She said these are important skills they are fortunate to be learning. She said there was a couple there. She said Johnson was student body president and his wife was the women's rep. She said at a time in student government history, there was a men's rep and women's rep. She said that's the way their campus was arranged. She said the former women's rep talked about how they would be figuring out how to get along. She said there are the same issues going on now as before. She said these issues would continue not just at UCLA but even the places they would work at. She said they've signed up for a lifelong commitment of how to get along. She talked about continuity and building relationships over time. She said bringing in freshmen early would groom them for being in committees in USAC in the future. She said there is a tendency to try to reinvent the wheel. She said this is a way for them to pass the wisdom along. She said there was advice to have a council historian. She said it would be great to have data from the past and to let the students in the future know how their government was structured. She said in the past alumni representatives had a vote. She said that would be fascinating. She said they talked about their cohort now and people decades before that who were still doing the same kind of work, such as activism and service. She talked about sustaining themselves for a lifetime of service and what they need to do to sustain them for the long haul without burning out. She said they need to learn how to keep motivated so they could do this for many years.

Administrative Representative- Dr. Berky Nelson

Dr. Nelson said all of them would be problem solvers. He said something lacking in the federal government is that people are advocating for or against positions but nobody is solving the problem. He said that all of them should realize that people will look to them. He said it can be arduous but nevertheless, they are already on the treadmill. He said when they are given the intellect to solve problems to embrace it to solve the challenge. He said that is often what student body presidents will do.

IX. Old Business

There was no old business this week.

X. New Business

A. Winter Break Meetings

-Bocarsly said this is an issue because they needed to approve funding. He proposed doing

an online vote and suspending the bylaws for that. He said there were people that were uncomfortable with that

-El-Farra asked how meetings would work

-Bocarsly said they would probably not get quorum over winter break. He said they should look into having some alternative for that.

-El-Farra said she has no strong preference either way. She said for UCSA they do a Google hangout. She said some people can be on chat and some people are on video. She said they could work it out prior.

-Bocarsly said that is like a group skype.

-Jasso said Outlook emails could have a vote feature that sends a preference to the person who created the poll. She said they could give a frame of time people could have.

-Bocarsly said it would be good to have a transparent vote. He said they could do an email as well.

-Jasso said one time would be enough. She said mid-winter break would be good.

-Bocarsly said people would apply the week after finals.

-Seth said they could use Google Docs. He said they could publicly see votes

-Chu said she likes the idea of video chat. She said every week there is a question or two about the allocations. She said she doesn't know if people are emailing comments. She said they could set up a day and time and vote via chat

-Bocarsly said they could do a one-day comment period and a one-day vote period. He said they voted via email for ASRF last year

-Mohebi asked how they were doing paper applications

-Jasso said she will be back once or twice a week to pick up applications. She said their committee will meet winter break.

-Bocarsly said they could bring this up at the last meeting.

XI. Announcements

-El-Farra said there was a lot about surplus funding in the Daily Bruin. She said they are coming in with different ideas next week. She said a lot of students will watch this closely

-Jasso said think about their funds they are a part of. She said to make sure they know that whatever they pull is less money that comes to their programming funds. She said she is always going to be an advocate for student orgs. She said the all-USAC funding workshop is week 3. She said the application for the alternate position for the finance committee is due December 7th. She said she sent the information to ORL. She said the funding study group will take place Monday December 3rd in the communal office space. She said to email her if there are topics of discussion they want to include.

-Hasnain said they put on an alternative spring break every year. The info session will be next Tuesday before council meeting. She said she can get them the information. The non-profit networking night is tentatively February 12th. She said if they are interested in co-programming to please let her know.

-Seth said there was a theme of promoting fiscal responsibility. He said when coming forward to coming to council keep that in mind. He said that is student money and if they do something to think about if it has implications for the student body and can be sponsored by USAC as whole

-Bocarsly said to reach out to him as well

-Tancinco mentioned the article and seeing what students want over polls. She said she has a poll section of what students want to see. She said she can add a question to see what the students want them to spend money on

-Bocarsly said he reached out to him saying that the money they don't spend goes back to student groups as well

- Jasso said capital contingency opens up winter quarter. She said to keep in mind the timeliness of the matter. She said to get it done ASAP
- Seth said it is important to have student input. He said it could possibly produce skewed information since a small portion of students would be engaged in the poll. He said they have a great knowledge of how surplus funding works. He said there was misrepresentation in the article.
- Bocarsly said they wouldn't open up an application for funding but the suggestion would be to have students give them more suggestions. He said it would give them more ideas
- Hasnain said there have been other universities who have brilliantly set aside a pool of money and students submit proposals. She said they heavily advertise it and it has been extremely beneficial for the student body. She said this could establish some sort of trust between the and students
- Jasso said to not reinvent the wheel. She said not to try to create a funding source. She said to consider the way they would structure this
- Bocarsly said this is a great idea to reach out.
- Seth said it wouldn't be a vote of what students want to see but rather a comment pool

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Starr moved and Yoshida seconded to adjourn the meeting.

- Bocarsly called for Acclamation. Bocarsly asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Dimacali
USAC Minutes Taker

2012-2013