

FINALIZED

July 26, 2016

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

Kerckhoff Hall 417

July 12, 2016

7:00 PM

PRESENT: Danny Siegel, Sabrina Zeigler, Ashly Mohankumar, Jordan Dang, Zack Dameron, Amy Shao, Sandra Rhee, Kevin Yu, Stephanie Wong, Ariel Rafalian

ABSENT: Rafael Sands, Zoe Borden, Ruchit Majmudar, Inan Chowdhury, Divya Sharma

I. Call to Order

-Siegel calls the meeting to order at 7:04pm

A. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet is passed around

II. Approval of the Agenda for July 12, 2016

-Shao moves to strike the ARC fund.

-Wong moves to strike Student Wellness Programming Fund.

-Mohankumar moves to strike ASRF fund.

-Zeigler moves to strike EVP Bruin Defenders.

-Dameron moves to approve the agenda. Zeigler seconds.

7-0-0 the agenda has been approved.

III. Approval of the Minutes from June 7, 2016

-Dameron moves to approve the minutes. Zeigler seconds.

7-0-0 the minutes have been approved.

III. Public Comments

-Raj is speaking on behalf of Regina regarding Gabrielle Sheer and says she has great experience for this position and is extremely qualified.

-Raj is an appointment structure and says that Gabrielle is knowledgeable about food security and was thorough with her interview.

-Sunjeet is speaking on behalf of Gabrielle also and says she spoke eloquently about the food on campus regarding security and nutrition.

-Gabrielle has a very sophisticated co-op and she knows what it means to have secure food, she already gave out subsidized foods.

V. Special Presentations

A. GSA Presentation on Teacher Assistant Allocations and Possible Solutions

-Lindy Comstock and Tess Armstrong are presenting and want the undergraduate position on this while explaining their thoughts for a solution.

-We need a qualified TA to teach the sections here on campus and that is the issue.

-Certain issues here have led to larger GE courses that require TA's to do hands on teaching in small sections.

- There are insufficient TA's in certain departments and this is important for our profession since many of the TA's will plan to be teachers.
- There is a focus at UCLA on how many undergraduates you can teach, rather than an extra layer of education.
- If there are not an appropriate number of TA's to teach then classes can be shortened or cut.
- It is difficult to find someone capable to teach and the larger the class size causes fewer hands on attention for the student.
- Many graduate students also dropout that causes less TA's.
- Solutions are: an increase in graduate student enrollment, TA marketplace, undergraduate TA's and paired teaching.
- A TA marketplace is believed to truly help by allowing a balance for UCLA as a whole and the professional students will have more experience to teach.
- Specialized training might still have an imbalance, which is worrisome.
- Having undergraduates TA can help them gain experience, but it is also a risk because graduate students feel exploited at times and that can cause undergraduates to feel the same also.
- Being a TA means they need to provide more than what they have learned in class.
- Increasing graduate student enrollment will address the imbalance in the UG/GS ratio.
- Undergraduates could earn lower salaries since graduates already have this happening to them.
- Paired teaching is something we should look into having on reserve, undergraduates can have a great opportunity working with graduates.
- Interested in addressing the larger issues like structural ratio of teaching and it would be great to reduce a cap on how much a graduate can TA and to prevent the sections from getting larger.
- Mohankumar says in terms of surveying, what exactly what you want from USAC because Mohankumar feels she can help since she is an Academic Affairs Commissioner.
- Comstock is looking for information to counsel presidents and work progressively on this over the course of this year. We would like for USAC to consider their position and report back to administration that undergraduates are interested to join this movement.
- In terms of a survey Comstock would love to have this implemented by the end of Fall quarter.
- Comstock would basically want a joint position and a schedule to work towards this survey.
- Seigel says he had a chance to sit with GSA president Michael and says he is very supportive on this issue and to have a survey.
- Zeigler will send out Comstock's email to work forward together on this.

VI. Appointments

- Geller makes a point of telling the council to truly delve deeper into the candidates and continue to ask questions.

- Geller also pleads that the board needs to look at who is truly qualified and committed right now rather than picking someone to fill the spot.
- Geller says to not abstain from voting just because you do not want to say no, but you really feel like saying no and do not pick someone simply because they know them personally.

A. Student Initiated Outreach Committee*

The purpose of the Student Initiated Outreach Committee (SIOC) is to increase the eligibility of educationally disadvantaged students to the University of California, particularly UCLA. UCLA students who have initiated outreach projects to a school which has low academic performance school-wide and high attrition rates may apply for funding from the SIOC to support their projects. The SIOC ensures that the projects adhere to SIOC Guidelines, evaluates the projects and their proposals, allocates funds as appropriate, and oversees the funding process. SIOC holds weekly meetings (including Summer), plus at least one funding hearing per Quarter, Fall through Spring. In addition to attending meetings and participating in proposal hearings and deliberations, committee members must serve on at least one standing committee of the SIOC. One year term, July 1-June 20. The USAC Academic Affairs Commissioner serves Ex-Officio, or may appoint someone to serve in her/his place. One undergraduate member, appointed by the USAC President.

Website for Further Information:

<http://apexwebsite.com/uclacpo/StudentInitiatedAccessCenter.php>

i. Susan Martinez

- Zeigler says that ARC did not interview for this position.
- Siegel says the applicant is not here tonight, but did try to provide enough information to help make a decision.
- Zeigler moves to approve Susan Martinez as a member of SIOC.
- Dameron seconds.
- Geller asks if anyone interviewed Susan, Siegel says his appointment directors did.
- Siegel was not aware there was a mandated interview.
- Zeigler says it is recommended, but not mandatory.
- Patty says SIOC is not under the consent; it is under the council approval.
- Patty says that they must come out and instead just move this to the consent section of your bylaws.
- Zeigler says that ARC still has to interview in this case.
- Patty says to make an announcement today to make bylaw changes to the next council meeting and vote on the bylaw changes.
- Dameron says it is stated that USAC needs to approve the bylaws and Siegel says that she must come in for an interview even though she will not receive a stipend.
- Zeigler moves to table Susan Martinez as SIOC to next week.
- Rhee seconds.
- 8-0-0 vote this appointment has been tabled.

B. Campus Food Security Chair*

Serves to meet the needs of student body of UCLA regarding food on campus. It is selected by the undergraduate council president and undergraduate student body. The position does receive a stipend and the appointees will work closely with food security work group.

i. Gabrielle Sheer

- Zeigler says that ARC could only do a phone interview because of scheduling conflict.
- ARC did a 0-0-3 vote because they felt there was a lack of experience needed for students struggling for food, she has plenty of knowledge on campus, but not off campus.
- Sheer says she was a member of the Student Food Collective and worked closely with Regina.
- Sheer went bi-weekly to the Farmer's market to help students purchase food at a good wholesale price.
- Gabby says she plans to make other organizations interested.
- Dameron says this is a new position from last year, what are some concrete goals you have for the upcoming year to get it running?
- Sheer says they will continue the Food Buying club and have students order foods online and they go to Farmer's market and give to students for wholesale prices.
- Sheer says having the new space will help students have the food more accessible to pick up in Kerkhoff.
- Sheer says the space will help have multiple organizations having their information there like the Food Closet, Global Food Security, etc.
- Sheer also wants to provide help regarding how to cook with leftovers for students.
- Sheer says 23% of people in 2015 said yes they have food to eat, but it is not fulfilling financially, culturally appropriate or nourishing.
- Zeigler asks what food security means to you and what different levels?
- Sheer says food security is that you have access, affordable to food and people in their ideal situation will be able to attain that themselves.
- Sheer says many students will not have access to this because of school or housing security which go hand in hand with food security, and students will skip one meal a day to pay for their books.
- Sheer says over the past 2 years she has been involved with these issues and she is a food studies minor where she learned about access to food and how that operates in California. Sheer is currently in the food justice class and every week they talk about issues like food policy, environmental issues with food and works weekly in Los Angeles for internships and how it affects UCLA.
- Dang moves to approve Sheer as Campus Food Security Chair.
- Mohankumar seconds.
- Zeigler says that ARC did note that they did not want to write her off completely, but they just felt that she did have experience for struggling students.

- Zeigler also says that what she saw here that Sheer did expand significantly on every question asked today.
 - Zeigler also states that she has had a lot of people reach out to her that have given positive comments about her for this position. Although ARC said no, the people who have reached out say otherwise.
 - Shao says the interview itself spoke volumes to her and she could help develop what is new.
 - Dang says that Sheer's work ethic is great and she works hard for her committee.
 - Wong says that Sheer has proved otherwise today and is qualified for this position.
- 8-0-0 vote Gabrielle Sheer has been approved as the Campus Food Security Chair.

C. Media and Publicity*

i. Sara Zaghi

- Siegel asks Patty to clarify the stipend situation for this position and tabling it.
- Siegel offers to table this until next week.
- Patty says it is in the bylaws but as a Communications Director.
- Shao says that she would like an on-council interview and says her resume is impressive, but wants to see how she vouches for herself and how passionate she is for the position.
- Dameron moves to table the appointment for Communications Director until our next council member.
- Mohankumar seconds.
- 8-0-0 vote we will table this until July 26.

VII. Officer and Member Reports

A. President

- Siegel's main priorities over summer were to connect with many offices on campus to have connections to other council members and student groups and administrators.
- Siegel met with Pete Angeles to talk about affordable housing on the hill and housing in Westwood and what landlords consider when building apartments.
- Siegel say down with Julia Sina and wanted to help students gain experience outside campus like jobs and internships.
- Last week was the first summer in the union and several offices signed up to be here this summer, so each office should sit at their tables and engage students with their positions.
- Siegel sat with Pat Turner to go over USAC and students on affecting their academic success and advocating dead days before finals.
- Siegel called the Chancellor to review all safety protocol at UCLA due to the passing of Professor Klug and enabled the task force last week.
- Siegel says that they will be meeting all throughout the summer and will revisit safety mechanisms.
- Siegel would like everyone's input on safety issues here on campus within this week for the task force.

-Siegel says we are planning the council retreats and will be bringing light on issues at UCLA.

-Siegel sat down with Raja who is the director of the LGBT center and would like us to be strong allies for this community and send ideas for training with LGBT center.

-Siegel is trying to meet with various election campaigns and spoke with people from Hillary Clinton's campaign to help us vote.

B. Internal Vice President

-Zeigler says she will be reaching out to everyone regarding internships.

-She apologizes for late emails because she is working up in Lake Arrowhead this summer.

-Zeigler will be emailing everyone with how his or her internships are working this year.

C. External Vice President

-Sands substitute said they have been organizing this year's summit in their 2 year campaign and applications are open until next Monday.

D. Academic Affairs Commissioner

-Mohankumar says she has been talking with her chiefs of staff for next year and has set up meetings this week regarding counselors coming to campus to advise students.

-Mohankumar had another meeting with Eric Wells who is a committee analyst to go over the academic plans presented to USAC for approval and some will be serving as academic appointments for upcoming year.

E. Administrative Representatives

-Geller says that Christine moved back to Humboldt for a great opportunity and sends regrets that she could not share that information for you personally.

-Geller says by next meeting or the meeting after there will be a new representative for that.

-Geller says that before deciding to hold retreats think about the student alcohol policy, so there can be no alcohol at USAC retreats.

-Patty says that in your packets it is important to have a walk through of where you will be staying on your retreats → make sure to take photos before and after when going to retreats to not be held liable for items that you did not damage.

VIII. Funding Allocations

A. Contingency Programming*

-Yu says only 4 organizations applied.

-Total required \$10,452.63.

-Total requested \$4,406.39.

-The finance committee recommends \$1,224.

-Rafalian moves to approve the Contingency programming allocation for \$1,224.

-Mohankumar seconds.

8-0-0 the contingency programming allocation has been approved.

X. Old Business

XI. New Business

A. Approval of the 2016-2017 USA Budget

-Zeigler moves to approve the 2016-2017 USA Budget.

-Mohankumar seconds.

-Champawat says that the document at top is income and bottom area is the outflow and they are in sync with each other.

-The oldest fee is the membership fee and it is flexible - can be applied to any of your expenses.

-Champawat says the voters are what will govern situations regarding budget.

-A lot of money was approved by voters for authorized functions and clearly called out here in an orderly way and these monies are all part of the student association funding.

-Remainder is from SOOF and ESCOF.

-You have to stick with the guidance of the voters, but can give input and discuss/change on some budgets.

-Dameron asks if the money goes to fund stipends for that committee?

-Patty says yes because we are having 2 years for minimum wage.

-Yu asks where the other income is derived from?

-Champawat says that monies do not derive from your student fees.

-Surplus Withdrawal was a remainder that is unexpended funds and listed separately from mandatory student fees.

-Siegel says that our budget increased by almost 50% with the 4 referenda and it is our responsibility to distribute these fees and hold ourselves accountable that is going to everything that was needed/listed.

-Siegel says creating a council committee to go over each budget and how to handle all of the influx of this cash in a responsible way.

-Ziegler says that the USA secretary broke down this budget and wants to eliminate that stipend for that budget or decrease that amount instead.

-Dameron asks if Siegel plans to utilize that.

-Champawat says that it was not press secretary. It used to be a career position, but now it is a student position.

-Siegel asks if this money is allocated to USAC.

-Champawat says that it is presidential staff stipend to the payroll system.

-Zeigler says that last year it was not utilized for the necessity of this and there are no other chiefs of staff that are budgeted through this staff.

-Patty says it will be split 80-20 ESCOF will be the 20.

-Siegel says there should be a level of fairness to all of the chiefs of staff and some of the offices already receive stipends and our chiefs put in an incredible amount of work into our offices.

-Siegel says that these stipends will help them be more supportive of USAC.

-Shao says she sees the strength of using that for chief of staff, but many students will be running a whole organization and will not receive any payment for it.

- Shao says many students carry on a second job and pay rent while holding this title for no payment at all.
- Shao says if USAC will not be using it, then the students should.
- Siegel says that contingency has doubled this year and will continue to.
- Siegel says we need to consider the contingencies increasing and how much these other pools for students are increasing already.
- Dameron asks if we know SOOF is overly applied to and 60% of allocated money was to GenRecs and such, and USAC could use that for themselves to support all of the students.
- Dameron says last year SOOF had \$35,000 and now \$18,000, which demonstrates that USAC has cut this budget. SOOF funds things that the contingency does not fund.
- Siegel says how we want to go about USA secretary.
- Champawat says this body is elected to represent 29,000 undergrad students and wise investments are dire to be effective for your groups. Making investments to make you more effective as can be is what you need to consider.
- Staff that supports your offices could be considered good stewardship for the entire USAC body.
- Rhee says that she thinks 20% to ESCOF and 60% in that will be used for stipends is reasonable.
- Siegel says ESCOF is a small fund already and we can go over that later, but it most equitable to do it this way.
- Patty says the cap is very high on how much money is given and changing the cap to \$500 might work better.
- Siegel says that the amount that student groups apply for is so high, so it would beneficial to get most funds to students to totally remove SOOF this year.
- Champawat says that is very useful to think about and that your membership fee is not index to inflation. As inflation increases it will shrink SOOF.
- Shao wants to hear Yu.
- Yu says combining them together should be discussed further. Many student leaders do not know how to access their funds which causes issues and I would like to teach that.
- Siegel says to make funding easier for students would be ideal.
- Yu says do not put them together, but simplifying application would be better because SOOF does help without contingency as well.
- Geller says there are differences in how SOOF can be used compared to contingency, SOOF does not cover stipends and considering eliminating SOOF needs to be a big picture of criteria and how all of the funds can be used. If getting rid of SOOF you need to add flexibility of other funds.
- Geller says to consider the council discretionary which is at \$16,000 and that is high.
- Champawat says that SOOF is a funding source for stipends while contingency does not allow it. Inflation is eating that money away.
- Champawat says to review options and save for later.
- Rhee agrees with Champawat because it is a hard decision to make right now and to reevaluate our options.

- Ziegler moves to amend the USA Budget for \$10,000 to \$26,000.
- Rafalian seconds.
- Siegel says he is intrigued to create a universal funding app for easy access for students to gain their money.
- Zeigler says the idea of making a universal app is an idea that has been around but no one has taken the initiative to do so.
- Siegel says that given ESCOF and SOOF right now, all of the offices that receive ESCOF and amounts from referenda and taking those offices and redistributing those to only ESCOF.
- Zeigler likes that idea.
- Mohankumar says that this will be a great thing for offices that do not receive funding.
- Mohankumar proposes amending all of the offices that receive ESCOF and amounts from referenda and taking those offices and redistributing those to only ESCOF.
- Dameron seconds.
- Siegel asks if this is a bylaw change.
- Champawat says you can vote later for this bylaw change.
- Siegel says ESCOF does not get fully utilized every year because we do not use it for programming which we should consider.
- Zeigler wants to know if there will be a funding body specifically or stipend amounts?
- It can be after the fact.
- Champawat says you can make that decision when writing out to your procedures.
- Siegel would like to establish this committee and go through each fund listed on this to help them know how these funds are used and dispersed.
- Zeigler wants to know for the election board fund changes?
- Siegel says that we reduced it last year and they did better and the cost of MyUCLA so we should not touching that budget depending on the cost of MyUCLA going up.
- Zeigler moves to approve the 2016-2017 budget as amended.
- Mohankumar seconds.
- 8-0-0 vote the 2016-2017 budget has been approved.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

XIII. Adjournment

- Dameron moves to adjourn this meeting at 9:05pm.
- Rhee seconds.
- 8-0-0 the meeting has been adjourned.

IX. Good and Welfare

* Indicates Action

Item

Indicates Consent

Item

@ Indicates

Executive Session Item