

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION  
COUNCILTuesday March 4, 2008  
417 Kerckhoff Hall  
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chang, Chibnick, Iberti, Jang, Lyon, McLaren, Melgar, Mossahebfar, Nelson, Pham,  
Rose, Sandler, Shaw, Sobhani, Tressel, Tuttle, Weintraub, Williams

ABSENT: Colosimo, Tanjuaquio

GUESTS: Mac Tan Fernandez, Kathleen Hsu, Sarah Jo, Boris Lipkin, William Weiss

I. A. Call to Order

- Rose called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The Attendance sheet was passed around.*

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Shaw added Education for Sustainable Living Program in front of TGIF in Special Presentations.
- Pham added his officer report.
- Rose called for Acclamation. Rose asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Agenda was approved, as amended, by Acclamation.

III. Approval of the Minutes

**January 22, 2008**

- Rose called for Acclamation. Rose asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Minutes of January 22, 2008 were approved, as amended, by Acclamation.

**February 12, 2008**

- Melgar said the guest's name is spelled Chawla.
- Rose called for Acclamation. Rose asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Minutes of February 12, 2008 were approved, as amended, by Acclamation.

**February 19, 2008**

- Melgar said the campaign name is It's Raining Debt, not Training Debt.
- Shaw said the radio station mentioned under Announcements is KPFK, not NPFK
- Sobhani said the name of the fund mentioned in New Business is Programming Contingency Fund, not just Contingency Fund.

- Rose called for Acclamation. Rose asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Minutes of February 19, 2008 were approved, as amended, by Acclamation.

IV. Public Comments

*There were no Public Comments.*

V. Special Presentations

**Education for Sustainable Living**

- E3 gave a presentation on Education for Sustainable Living, and describe the nature of the class. It is a one unit class, Environment 185, that meets Wednesdays 3:00pm to 5:00pm, with a three unit option that involves faculty research on campus and sustainable living projects. They also asked USAC for any help in student outreach, and if there is any way they can help publicizing the new class.
- Nelson asked what the course literature is. Some of it involves chapters from *Cradle to Cradle*, but there is also a variety of other literature compiled for the course.

**The Green Initiative Fund**

- Rose said The Green Initiative Fund (TGIF) will be an action item next week.
- TGIF is a way for UCLA to go above and beyond its current environmental initiative and regulations. Other UC campuses have already implemented such programs, such as Berkeley's Greenhouse and Garden Project, sustainable research at UCSB, and UCSC being completely carbon neutral. It would comprise of a grant making committee, staffed by faculty, staff, and students, along with a grant coordinator employed by ASUCLA who would act as an auditor. The money for the fund would come from a rise in student fees, and a third of the money profited would be transferred back into financial aid. The fund would be in operation for ten years, or longer if extended.
- Iberti asked how much student fees rose elsewhere for their programs. Berkeley's fees rose \$5 a semester.
- Iberti asked what the requirements are for a student to be on the grant committee. The only restraint is for the student to be full-time. Iberti said USAC has a GPA requirement to ensure that students are academically involved and aware, and it is something that should be considered.
- Mossahebfar asked who will be managing the fund. Technically it is under SGA, but the grant coordinator is employed under ASUCLA.
- Mossahebfar said she can see a lot of problems with proposing another fee increase at a time where fees are a big issue. They responded that, while fees are a big issue on campus, UCLA should meet their sustainability standards.
- Weintraub asked if this sort of plan had ever been rejected at other campuses. It is currently in progress at Davis and Irvine, but there is not news of it getting rejected anywhere.
- Weintraub asked what will happen to the money at the end of the ten years. The money rolls over annually, so any surplus will stay in the fund. Projects that will end up paying for themselves in the long run will be given priority, but if no money comes in after a while, TGIF will turn into a mini-fund for USAC's use until it runs out.
- Melgar asked if summer fees would also be increased as a result of TGIF. Summer fees would increase as a result. Melgar said it should probably be negotiated to a lesser extend because summer school tends to have a much smaller population of students as opposed to the regular school year.
- Sandler asked how the grant committee would go about evaluating and distributing funds. Proposals should also look for outside sources of funding, but those that allow for an investment that will save the school money will be given strongest priority.

- Williams said that since students are taxing themselves, the fund should be watched over by SGA and be kept under tight control. Also, they should strongly consider reducing the summer fees.
- Tuttle said he was concerned that the faculty involved with the grant committee have to hold some kind of ecosystem degree. He continued by mentioning they should strike that clause, thereby increasing the pool of talent that could be drawn for such a committee.
- Tuttle said they should define what they determine by success, so they can have an accurate model on which they can measure their goals while protecting themselves from any sort of opposition.
- Jang asked what sort of size and scope they have in mind for the projects. The projects themselves are very open ended and can be a variety of things.
- Another question raised were the term limits for the grants. The grant committee would negotiate the life of each grant on an individual basis and the grant coordinator would be in charge of ensuring proper usage of the funds.
- Tuttle asked how multi-year grants to student groups could work efficiently if there is a turnover in student leadership almost every year. The grant would not be given out all at one time, and the grant coordinator would ensure that the project is running smoothly or still warrants funding.
- Williams recommended that TGIF be placed in ASUCLA funding so there is oversight for money spent and to allow for accounting continuity.
- Shaw said, while the grant coordinator should be putting in annual reports, so should the grant committee.
- Rose said TGIF is a good idea, but he is concerned that this may turn into a slush fund, especially since corruption has happened before. Also he is worried that the increase in student fees may be a little too high, especially since UCLA is noted for paying the lowest fees.

#### VI. Appointments

*There were no Appointments this week.*

#### VII. Fund Allocations

- Sobhani said that there were 4 Contingency Requests submitted this week, totaling \$7109.08. He said he was recommending total allocations of \$1366.66.
- Sobhani moved and Mossahebfar seconded to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations.- Rose called for Acclamation. Rose asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations were approved by Acclamation.

#### VIII. Officer and Member Reports

##### President – Gabe Rose

Rose said there have been no applications for Election Board Chair, but there is some interest.

*Tuttle told Rose to triple the stipend amount and to contact various honors societies and student affairs persons.*

*Jang mentioned that J-Board members should be considered. Rose said it would be unethical.*

*Shaw asked Rose if he will have an appointment by next week. Rose said he will.*

Rose said his office has also been working on the town hall meeting on the Hill and his office preparing for a big publicity push.

##### Internal Vice President – Dianne Tanjuaquio

Rose read Tanjuaquio's report for her. Tanjuaquio's office had a meeting with Campus Safety Alliance, and her office is also working with Panhellenic to extend the hours of

the campus van service hours. Her office is also working with the Brady Campaign on a Virginia Tech memorial service, and her office is currently working with Weintraub's and Rose's office for a panel with faculty on university politics.

**External Vice President – Jesse Melgar**

Melgar said that despite a couple flakes, the UCSA conference went really well.

**Student Welfare Commissioner – Jonathan Pham**

Pham said that today his office is holding a campus nutrition workshop in the Hedrick where students can learn to make some simple dishes. Also 7:00pm to 10:00pm tomorrow is RollAIDS, and Run/Walk is April 13<sup>th</sup> at UCLA. It is about \$10, and registration starts at 6:30am and the race starts at 8:30am.

**General Representative 3 – Matt Sandler**

Sandler said his office is having a forum with members of the entertainment industry tomorrow in Humanities A65 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Auditions were also held for the Pop Musician Showcase, with 20 total trying out and 7 being chosen to perform next Wednesday from 7:00pm to 10:00pm in the Kerckhoff Grand Salon.

*Iberty said there were some of his flyers posted on doors and posts were not following within the proper legal boundaries for flyerage.*

IX. New Business

**A. Fair Trade Resolution**

- Rahim Kurwa spoke in support of the Fair Trade Resolution, and brought to the attention of the board that both Berkeley and UCSC have already established Fair Trade coffee and products on their campuses. They also did a promotional campaign with ASUCLA, and although the information garnered is not completely scientific, they feel it supports that many UCLA students would prefer Fair Trade. Kurwa also asked the council if they could express support for Fair Trade as the default option for coffee.
- Shaw moved and Chang seconded to approve the Fair Trade Resolution.
- Weintraub said she did not like the wording in the clause fourth from the bottom of the first page. A formal measure of students in support of Fair Trade should first be taken before saying a plurality of students would prefer it. Also, in the clause third from the bottom of the first page, using the word "better" to describe coffee production seems subjective.
- Nelson said evidence must first be provided before putting a statement such as "plurality" into a resolution.
- Williams said ASUCLA lowered the price of Fair Trade coffee twenty-five cents during the promotion, so that would have had some kind of effect on the demand of coffee during the promotion.
- Weintraub offered a friendly amendment striking "better and" from the third clause from the bottom of the first page. There were no objections.
- Mossahebfar asked about the percent increase in the price of Fair Trade coffee. Williams said the Fair Trade coffee price increases would be six, eight, and eleven cents for each different size.
- Sobhani moved and Sandler seconded to strike the fourth clause from the bottom of the first page.
- Rose called for Acclamation. Rose asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the fourth clause from the bottom of the first page was struck from the Resolution.
- Sandler offered a friendly amendment striking "these" from the third clause from the bottom of the first page. There were no objections.

- Tressel moved and Pham seconded to strike from the last clause of the resolution "reflecting the will of the student body."
- Shaw offered a friendly amendment including "as representatives of the student body," after "Undergraduate Students Association Council." There were no objections.
- Rose called for Acclamation. Rose asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, "reflecting the will of the student body" was struck from the last clause of the resolution.
- Mossahebfar asked why Fair Trade was turning into the default and not an option. Kurwa said it is an option that no one utilizes.
- Council approved the Fair Trade Resolution with a vote of 8-0-1.

X. Old Business

A. Bylaws VI.C.4.a.vii and VI.C.4.b.iii

- Rose said they do not have quorum, so any changes to the USAC Bylaws can not be made.
- Bylaws VI.C.4.a.vii and VI.C.4.b.iii were tabled.

XI. Announcements

*There were no Announcements this week.*

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The attendance sheet was passed around.*

XIII. Adjournment

- Mossahebfar moved and Jang seconded to adjourn.
- Rose called for Acclamation. Rose asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58pm p.m. by Acclamation.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas King  
USAC Minutes Taker