UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
COUNCIL

Tuesday January 29, 2008
417 Kerckhoff Hall
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Chang, Chibnick, Iberti, Jang, Lyon, McLaren, Melgar, Mossahebifar, Nelson, Pham, Rose, Sandler, Sobhani, Tanjuaquito, Tressel, Tuttle, Weintraub

ABSENT: Colosimo, Shaw, Williams

GUESTS: Kathleen Hsu, Sarah Jo, Jenn Lorch, Marissa Minna Lee, Navid Pour-Ghasemi, Brittani Yriarte

I. A. Call to Order

- Rose called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The Attendance sheet was passed around.

II. Approval of the Agenda

- Tanjuaquito added the Student Health Advisory Committee to Special Presentations.
- Weintraub moved the Judicial Board appointment to the top of Appointments.
- Rose removed Community Activities Committee from Appointments.
- 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

There were no Minutes this week.

IV. Public Comments

- Nick de Ocampo of Samahang Pilipino said he had spoken to members of the ASUCLA Board of Directors about his organization's concerns about recent USAC actions. He said that Samahang members were especially concerned about the loan of $80,000 provided to the President's office to put on a concert in Pauley Pavilion. He said they feel that their legitimacy, along with other student groups, was attacked by giving preference to the President's Office and for decreasing the opportunity for funds to be provided for programs the groups wanted to hold.

V. Special Presentations

Student Health Advisory Committee (SHAC)

- Marissa Minna Lee and Navid Pour-Ghasemi of the Student Health Advisory Committee gave a presentation on their current successes and future goals for SHAC. They said that SHAC had chosen a new insurance provider, United Health Care, which can provide better student health services. In addition, SHAC is currently in
the process of improving and updating the Ashe Center’s website to make it more accessible. They said they are currently in the process of constructing a new SHIP agreement and would like USAC to help in getting student input on what their needs are.
- Mossahebfar said SHAC should work on making referrals to outside practitioners easier for students to obtain.
- Lyon said the new website should clarify the benefits students get with SHIP.
- A discussion concerning the rising cost of birth control followed. The SHAC representatives said Ashe is trying to get better prices, and will balance their stocks with generic or name-brand products, depending on which is cheaper. SHAC also wants students to look to outside pharmacies for birth control and to use birth control provided by Planned Parenthood, at least until the price crisis can be dealt with. They also asked USAC to let UCLA’s health care administrators know that the rising cost of birth control is a major issue on campus.

VI. Appointments

Judicial Board – Brittani Yriarte
- Tanjuaquio said Yriarte was recommended with a vote of 2-0-0.
- Tanjuaquio moved and Mossahebfar seconded to approve the Appointment of Brittani Yriarte to the Judicial Board.
- Tuttle asked Yriarte if she understands that, if she shows any lack of integrity in her role as a Judicial Board member, this will be remembered for an extensive period of time. Yriarte answered that she does realize that any lapse of integrity on her part would result in a memorable tarnished record.
- Tuttle asked Yriarte if she was involved with any partisan organization on campus that might be in conflict with her position on the Judicial Board, or if there was anything that USAC should know about her with respect to her position on J-Board. Yriarte said she was not involved in any sort of organization, and said she was willing to answer any questions that Council members would like to ask her.
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Brittani Yriarte to the Judicial Board with a vote of 10-0-0.

CRC – Jeremiah Garcia
- Weintraub moved and Melgar seconded to approve the Appointment of Jeremiah Garcia to the Campus Retention Committee (CRC).
- Council voted to approve the Appointment of Jeremiah Garcia to the Campus Retention Committee (CRC) with a vote of 10-0-0.

VII. Fund Allocations

- Sobhani said that there were two Contingency Requests submitted this week, totaling $4209.00. He said he was recommending total allocations of $1321.00.
- Mossahebfar moved and Sandler seconded to approve the Contingency Fund Allocation Recommendations of the Finance Committee Chairperson.
- Iberti asked why there was more money going out this week to fewer groups. Sobhani said it was a combination of the strength of the applications and the number of applicants per week. He also said the application is the biggest part, not budgeting. Sobhani said that there is money set aside for a rainy day if there is an increase in strong applications for funding.
- Council approved the Funding Allocations, as submitted, with a vote of 10-0-0.
VIII. Officer and Member Reports

Internal Vice President – Dianne Tanujaquio
Tanujaquio said her office has been working on promoting the dining meal coupons, and there has been a thirty cent increase on the value of each coupon. Also, next week is “Double Your Coupon Week” for residents on the Hill. Next Thursday will be Focus the Nation, and everyone should stop by for one of the events.

External Vice President – Jesse Melgar
Melgar said his office has appointed Brandon Harrison to serve as Legislative Liaison to UCSA, and has appointed Greg Cendana to work on campus organizing. He said the UCSA Campus Lobbying Conference Application is available, and he really wants to stress outreach to students to participate. He said he hopes to get 50 applications in by next week. Also, he said that the USSA application is out, and he wants to see more student involvement with it. However, his office budget will be able to pay the expenses for only 15 people to attend. Melgar ended his report by saying that his office is sponsoring a week-long event called Election Invasion Week, with the focus being primarily on voter education and getting students to the polls to vote next week.

General Representative – Michelle Lyon
Lyon said her office is cosponsoring multiple community service programs with Chang's office. Next Wednesday and Thursday will have informational and workshop sessions. Two will be in Ackerman Union and two will be on the Hill.

Administrative Representatives – Dr Berky Nelson
Nelson asked if there is going to be an SFAC appointment from the council. Rose replied it will probably be done next week. Nelson said he raised the question because SFAC is scheduled to meet next week.

IX. Old Business

There was no Old Business this week.

X. New Business

There was no New Business this week.

XI. Announcements

- Weintraub said next Thursday there is an event on the Hill regarding education about urban planning. She said it will be an informational session, and that everyone who attends will have a chance to urban planning graduate students and get the inside scoop.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Mossahebfar moved and Lyon 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 8:02 p.m. by Acclamation.
XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,

Thomas King
USAC Minutes Taker