Resolution in Support of Continued FlyAway Service Between LAX and Westwood

WHEREAS, issues of affordability on UC campuses are at a critical point, as UCLA students have seen their tuition increase by more than 50 percent in the last four years, and; (1)

WHEREAS, constantly decreasing state support for the University of California has resulted in a possible $1 billion budget cut, causing President Yudof to consider a 32 percent midyear tuition increase for the 2011-2012 year, and; (2)

WHEREAS, increasing tuition has been coupled with decreasing student services, leaving students with fewer affordable opportunities to receive academic, financial, health and transportation assistance, and;

WHEREAS, affordable transportation to and from Los Angeles International Airport is an essential resource to the students of UCLA, and;

WHEREAS, FlyAway service provides the most affordable transportation option from UCLA to LAX, for which a trip by city bus can take as much as two hours, and;

WHEREAS, there are extremely limited alternative transportation options available, with shared ride van services costing $20-$24 and cab fares costing $40-$50, and; (3) (4)

WHEREAS, the FlyAway served more than 110,000 passengers in the last year, keeping more than 94,000 vehicles off the streets of Los Angeles, and; (5)

WHEREAS, the service is of particular importance to students during periods of heavy use on weekends, around holidays, and school vacations.

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the Undergraduate Students Association Council recognizes that the issue of university affordability is affected, not only by direct increases in tuition, but also by the availability of affordable transportation and related-services.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Undergraduate Students Association Council of the University of California, Los Angeles urges the Los Angeles World Airports Board of Airport Commissioners to maintain FlyAway service to Westwood.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Undergraduate Students Association Council recognizes that the Westwood Flyaway service is not running at a profitable level and is prepared to work with local officials to find a reasonable solution that benefits students.

LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED THAT the Undergraduate Students Association Council believes that service must be maintained at a minimum during peak use periods on weekends and school vacations, even if midweek service must be cut and fares must be incrementally increased.
References:
(1) University of California, Office of the President. <http://budget.ucop.edu/fees/>
(5) Board of Airport Commissioners Meeting Presentation. May 16th, 2011.  