

**Graduate Students Association
Cabinet Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2007 6:00 PM**

Members Present: Monica Sanchez (President), Mac Marston (Vice President Internal), Cindy Mosqueda (Vice President External), Janet Cummings Link (Vice President Academic), Arpi Siyahian (Director of Discretionary Funding), Nurit Dragitza Katz (Director of Environmental Coalition), Amanda Parham (Director of Communications), John Paul Slifko (Director of Elections), Oiyen Anita Poon (Legislative Liaison and Researcher), Nanthia Suthana (Director of Publications), Jerry Mann (ASUCLA Representative), Shazrae Mian (Staff)

Member(s) Absent: Erica Saenz (Director of Community Service), Na'Shaun Neal (Director of Campus Organizing), Justin Wolske (Director of Graduate Student Events), Amy Adrion (Director of Melnitz Movies)

I. Call To Order 7:15 PM, location: LGBT Center

II. Tom Burdon made a presentation prior to the cabinet meeting.

III. Monica Sanchez, President

- a. Monica passed out a written report by Erica regarding upcoming events.
- b. Monica, Oiyen, and Cindy just returned from the UC Regents Conference.
- c. Monica has been working with John regarding upcoming elections. In order to get information out about positions we should have a forum regarding issues that are important to graduate students including external affairs. This forum will be linked with GSA elections by having a forum on education policy, in specific – graduate students fee raise. There is a lot of confusion about these fees and impact that students have on these fees. In forum, we will inform them of different proposals regarding fees for professional and other graduate schools. Monica has invited Regent Designate, Ben Allen, from UC Berkeley to talk about different fees. Also, one of us who attended Lobby Day will present information. John added that this forum will also serve as candidate outreach.
- d. Amanda drafted a letter for the forum. The details and the date are not planned. Monica would like to hold this forum April 5th. John will soon be sending out an email to the GSA community regarding the upcoming forum on external affairs and election positions in general.
- e. Monica will be attending a meeting for the Students Regents applicants. The applicants will be interviewed soon.
- f. Monica is working with the WASQ committee regarding the graduate student diversity team. The Chancellor's committee on Diversity has been inactive this year. Monica will be working with Mera from the Committee of Ethics for graduate student level updates.
- g. My.Ucla was not paid last for our elections. So we received a bill saying we owe My.Ucla \$2000.00. Jerry added that money in the last year's election budget was not set aside for this payment. We have an accounting mechanism that allows us to deal with both income and expenses related to prior periods. We will pay this bill against the account. The payment of the bill will not impact this year's budget. Also, budget which was not used the previous year becomes part of the GSA surplus and is re-allocated under GSA the next year. Therefore, any money left over from elections for last year, has been re-allocated already.

IV. Mac Marston, Vice President Internal

- a. Mac asked cabinet if anyone needs to present in forum next week.

V. John Paul Slifko, Director of Elections

- a. North campus and south campus lunches have been scheduled so that all councils can become more involved with elections. Candidates from both campuses will be allowed to come and speak.
- b. John passed out the proposed elections budget. We have \$800.00 for a GSA policy forum which is a lot of money for one forum. The ULCA School of Public Affairs has given us a free room depending on the date we pick. Under the budget there is also, \$500.00 to be given to whichever council that comes up with highest percentage of student voting. Janet added that since candidates from different parts of campus might not have free lunch hours, we should instead arrange a lunch and dinner. Therefore, it was decided that a lunch event and dinner event will be held
- c. The Elections Board has met regarding the budget and will present it at forum.
- d. John passed around the draft letter for graduate students informing them of elections. The letter will go out as soon as the website is updated with the proper forms. Mac added that two separate emails are usually sent – one is sent weeks in advance regarding elections in general and the second one a few days prior to elections reminding students to vote.

VI. Amanda Parham, Director of Communications

- a. The newsletter is on the website already. The newsletter announces the logo deadline which is April 6th. Amanda is not accepting any logo designs electronically yet. She plans on bringing the logos to the cabinet and narrow it down to top three or five. The top choices will then be presented at forum as well.
- b. The student spotlight part of the newsletter is still open, so if you have any recommendations please inform Amanda soon.
- c. Monica added that she would like Amanda to work with Anthony Peshki from Daily Bruin regarding GSA logo design, elections, and forum. Also, once the Writing Center's director is hired, we would like to have an open-house and Anthony would like to write a piece on the writing center. So we should announce the new director in the newsletters for spring, as well.

VII. Oiyen A. Poon, Legislative Liaison and Researcher

- a. We just got back from Lobby Conference in Sacramento. We had the biggest delegation of all graduate associations. Cindy wanted to mention that she presented a workshop on Loan Repayments Assisted Workplans and spoke at a featured lunch panel on student viewpoints on climate on campus, political, affordability, and access issues.
- b. Oiyen facilitated two lobby clinic sessions in preparation for lobbying at the capital. We had the biggest group combined with the undergrad. Once at the capital we broke up into smaller groups and spoke to every assembly member and senator. For most we spoke to the chiefs of staff and education consultants. The issue we were lobbying on was a fee-freeze. The outlook seems sketchy because we got mixed messages. The reason for varying opinions is because the legislative office's budget/revenue report is different from the governor's.
- c. There is a bill which will be introduced in the next few weeks which will create a predictable and affordable fee increase plan. Also, academic prep is on the table like it is every year. The governor's revised budget will come out on May 1st. By the end of May or early June the Big Five – including the Governor, majority and minority leaders in the assembly, and the majority and minority leaders in senate meet and come out with a budget that everyone can vote for.
- d. In response to Mac's question, Oiyen added that the regents meeting will be held on March 14th and 15th. People will need to sign up to white line. They will be voting for fees at this meeting.
- e. Yesterday, Cindy met with SFAC and Jose Aguilar regarding registration fees which goes to student services.

VIII. Nurit Dragitza Katz, Director of Environmental Coalition

- a. We had over 100 people attend our previous event on global energy.
- b. Also, last night we had over 125 people attend Networking for Sustainability. It was a good mix of students and professionals which is good for networking for students.

IX. Janet Cummings Link, Vice President Academic

- a. Motion to approve budget of \$1958.51 for the Appreciation Banquet
 - i. Monica
 - ii. Mac
 - iii. Approved with unanimous consent

X. Erica Saenz, Director of Community Service – written report presented.

- a. The Community Service Commission held its quarterly meeting on Tuesday, February 13, 2007. The Commission debriefed on past fall quarter events and discussed future community service projects.
- b. The Commission decided to move forward with sponsoring or co-sponsoring a book drive event to benefit the Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Detention Facility with YALSA@UCLA (the Young Adult Library Services Association) and with the ALA (American Library Association) during the winter quarter.
- c. Last week, the library group contacted me and asked that we reschedule the book drive event for the spring quarter sometime after mid-April. The Commission agreed and quickly moved to find another community service project for the winter quarter.
- d. The Commission decided to work on an event with AIDS Project LA. We will be filling the remaining 14 volunteer positions they need on March 14, 2007. Once, I confirmed all the details with the AIDS Project LA project manager, I moved to draft the Call for Volunteers email attached.
- e. Mac, can you please add me to the agenda for next week's Forum meeting? I will be providing information about the AIDS Project LA event and recruiting for volunteer positions that may still be open at that time.
- f. I think that does it for me. Please email me with questions or concerns. Sorry to have to miss the training/meeting this afternoon. I changed my office hours to 12-2pm today instead of 3-5pm because I have a makeup class from 3-6pm and then I'll be participating on a panel for the USAC Academic Affairs Commission from 6-8pm.

XI. Adjournment 8:00PM