

**UCLA Graduate Students Association (GSA)
Forum Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 4, 2002
417 Kerckhoff Hall, 5:00pm**

Members Present, Alissa Marquez (A&A), Eric Eidlin (A&A), Haig Housepian (BSC), Grace Chang (BSC), Catherine Fountain (Hum.), Claire Gallou (Hum.), Seth Hornstein (MPSC), Fiona Galvin (SSC), Joi Spencer (Edu.), Mike Cohn (Admin.), Caer McCabe (MPSC), Marie Parkes (MPSC), Francisco Herrera (Edu.), Christopher Bates (SSC), Jacqueline Loza (SSC), Paulette Fonches (SHAC/Eng.), Dorothy Kim (GSA), Hanish Rathod (GSA), Meredith Numan (GSA), Charles Harless (GSA), Dennis Tyler (GSA), Dorothy Augustyniak (Daily Bruin).

- The meeting was called to order at 5:10p.m.
- The meeting started without quorum.

- I. Adoption of Consent Calendar and Orders of the Day.
Motion could not be approved because there wasn't quorum.
- II. Approval of the minutes from November 6, 2002.
Motion could not be approved because there wasn't quorum.

- III. Officer's Report- Charles Harless, President
Charles again presented a proposal for the modification for the GSA codes that he asked the forum to look over at the last meeting. He wants the forum members to vote on this proposal, a proposal that puts down in the records that non-voting ex-officio members are official.

Motion could not be approve because there wasn't quorum.

Charles stated that he will have the officer's discretionary fund report at the next meeting a document that Engineering requested.

Q&A

- Richard requested that Charles not get the discretionary fund report together since none of the engineering delegates bothered to attend the forum meeting. Charles responded I guess we can go back and remove the proposal.

Charles explained that all of the forum members will receive an ASUCLA discount of 20%. Some of the individuals that are entitled to this discount are not on the list, so be sure to let Charles know if your name is not on the list. For the people whose names are on the list they can pick up there cards at 219 Kerckhoff Hall.

Charles stated that there is a new web server up because we had a virus on the previous one. He also stated that some of the accounts are not on the web server, and that he would send more information to the council presidents about the new web server.

Q&A

- Haig asked if all the contents that were on the old web server going to be transferred to the new one. Charles responded yes.

Charles announced that on April 5, 2003 UCLA will be hosting the 2003 Southern California Forum entitled Diversity in Graduate Education, and he wanted to know if any graduate students are will to volunteer at the forum. If there is please let Charles know. Charles also announced that UCLA has broke ground on the southwest housing complex for graduate students, and that the graduate division would like input from GSA on polices and conditions dealing with housing so he was wondering if there were any volunteers to sit on a housing committee.

The meeting has just arrived at quorum

Motion to approve the Adoption of Consent and Order of the Day, the minutes from the November 6, 2002 meeting, and the proposal for modification of the GSA codes- 1: Fiona 2: Marie. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

Discussion to remove the budget resolution

Motion to remove the budget resolution- 1: Fiona

Q&A

- Haig asked if we remove this from the directive to the officers does it have to be voted on like a special case from now on. Richard answered yes I would think so.
- Marie stated there is always a question about what the discretionary funding is being used for. It would not be readily assessable unless it is presented at forum.
- Charles made it clear that this was the officer's discretionary funds not the students.
- Fiona asked what are the amounts for the discretionary funds. Charles answered by saying that the officers received 1,000 dollars each, forum received 5,000 dollars, and the cabinet receives 10,000 dollars.
- Fiona stated that the discretionary funds are not a good and meaningful thing to discuss at forum.
- Caer stated that it would be an interesting thing to know.
- Haig asked if we could review the budget on quarterly bases. Charles stated that by the time we see or review the reports the money has already been spent.
- Mike asked does the GSA get the budget monthly. Charles answered quarterly.
- Dorothy asked if we still had a motion.

Motion to remove the budget resolution- 1: Richard 2: Fiona. 5 people abstained and 2 people votes against the resolution.

Charles presented Campaign GSA, which is a multi-level publicity and outreach campaign. A way of making people aware of GSA. Charles discussed creating a GSA logo and motto in addition to launching a publicity campaign.

Charles mentioned that every quarter GSA has a dinner with the administration and that the first one will be held tomorrow night and that he would like to include all of the council presidents. Charles also mentioned that town hall meetings would start with next quarter, where students could ask questions about housing, parking, etc. He stated that in the past the Chancellor was the person that held the town hall meetings. He asked that since emails are the primary mode of communication is there a way for us to form an online community, a way that we could reach out to the incoming graduate students? Charles stated that graduate students are unique and that we have to make the university know that.

Charles handed out a set of GSA codes to each member of forum with changes to several of the codes. He told the forum members to take the codes and see what people think about them and then come to Charles with your ideas. (The changes are written in bold).

IV. Officer's Report- Dorothy Kim, Internal Vice President

Dorothy told forum that the office would be open next week and that she wanted the forum members to take the information they receive back to there president and treasures. Dorothy stated that if anybody wanted anything on the agenda they should email it to her.

- Charles stated that it is the responsibility of the forum delegates to take the information that they receive at forum back to there council presidents.

V. Officer's Report- Hanish Rathod, External Vice President

Hanish thanks forum for voting on the budget. Then he presents forum with a copy of an article written by Christopher Neal, the vice chair of UCSA. Hanish said that he was offended by the article because it stated that "the positions have been traditional held by graduate students who have more time and flexibility in their schedules." He said that he is criticizing the article because the facts are false and that he was coming to the council for guidance with the UCSA issue. He asked the council what they wanted him to do.

Q&A

- Haig asked are you asking us to give you direction, because they are two different things and we have already stated how we feel about the budget and nothing has developed that would change our position so far. Hanish

answered it is not an internal campus relation, but I'm bringing it up because he is the vice chair.

- Hanish stated that the only people we have heard from are the two people that are on this campus.
- Marie said she does not see where the article is attacking graduate students. Haig answered that it sees graduate students as being how Neal sees.
- Fiona asked if other councils approved the UCSA budget and that she agreed with Haig about the article. Charles answered yes.
- Hanish asked the council if they want to respond to Chris's article.
- Marie asked that if 2/3 schools don't pass the budget, aren't they going to be forced to change it. Hanish answered that it's actually 1/3 and they would be forced to revise the budget.
- Haig asked Hanish are you asking for our permission to go to other schools. Hanish answered I'm asking if you want me to do anything.
- Marie things we should leave things as is.

Hanish said that he has tried to talk with Chris about the issues but he could not because Chris blew him off. Richard stated that Chris was being very immature and that this is a problem.

- Fiona request that we form committees to deal with the problems
- Haig asked do we have somebody that could go to UCSA to voice our opinions. Charles answered Hanish.
- Caer asked are we blowing this a little bit out of proportion. Haig answered we're just saying that we want things to be clear.
- Haig asked Hanish if he could ask UCSA to clarify there position.

VI. Report form SHAC- Paulette Fonches

Dorothy opened by saying that GSA wants all stipend committees to report to them, and then she asks Paulette how things are going. Paulette answered by saying that there are eight new members on the committee this year and that the Daily Burin printed a negative article towards the Ashe center but agreed to write a correction. She also agreed to do an online poll asking students how they feel about having town hall meetings at student health. Paulette told the forum members that the Ashe center gives out different things to students and polls them while they are there. She said that there is going to be a 20% budget cut and that some people are going to be fired. Paulette asked forum if they want to have a meeting with SHAC.

Q&A

- Haig asked how many councils have discussed the issue of insurance. Charles answered not many.
- Marie said that her council did a survey last year about the Ashe center.
- Haig said that every council should do surveys on there councils.

SHAC minutes from last year are on the web.

In last year's election, we rated the quality of health care and the ratings were pretty high.

- Charles asked how much power does SHAC have. Paulette answered I don't think we have that much power.

VII. Introductions- Dennis Tyler, Vice President of Academic Affairs, and Melanie Ho, Director of Elections.

Melanie tells all the members of forum that she is a first year English student and that she is very glad to be apart of GSA. She said that she was thinking about having the elections from April 16-27 and that she would like to recycle all the old ballots. Then Charles said that it would be great if they could get two people to run for every office.

Q&A

- Haig asked is there is a date set for the election board. Melanie responded mid-winter quarter.
- Fiona stated that if a person is on the election board they can not run for office.

Dennis tells the forum members that he is also a first year English student and that he works with the Academic Senate and that some of the spots are still open. He also mentioned that he is working on the Bill of Rights and the issues concerning incompletes.

Q&A

- Seth asked are the positions filled by graduate students and explain. Dennis answered no. Fiona also responded by saying that the information is all on the web.

Note: Charles is responsible for some of the other committees on campus dealing with GSA.

VIII. Cabinet Report- Meredith Numan, Director of Publications.

Meredith introduced herself and then mentioned that her job is to sign off funding for publications. She also mentioned that a certain percent of graduate students use in the publication money and that this year she received more money for publications. Meredith said that she extended the deadline from 12-31-02 to 1-17-03. Then she announced that there is a new campus wide publishing workshop for graduate students and that it would be good for the forum members to go back to their councils and discuss what kind of publication workshop they would like to have. She also mentioned that the GSA publication program is the largest publication program in the country.

IX. Announcements

Have fun and remember that the next meeting is January 22 in A201.

X. Adjournment

Caer moved for the forum meeting to be adjourned. Marie seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.