



University of California at Los Angeles  
316 Kerckhoff Hall, 308 Westwood Boulevard, Los Angeles California 90024

February 16, 2005

To: GSA Forum

From: Jared Fox, GSA President

Re: Officer Report

This letter is intended to highlight a few of the key developments relating to my position since my last report to Forum.

I sent out an email to all graduate and professional students giving an overview of GSA's big events for this quarter, especially highlighting the GSRC Open House on the 24<sup>th</sup>.

At the ASUCLA Entities Committee, we examined the updates to the ASUCLA S.A.F.E. Referendum due to further consultation with Vice Chancellors Janina Montero and Steve Olsen. We discussed the involvement that the ASUCLA Entities would have in the marketing campaign for the referendum.

After 3 months of trying to setup a meeting with Housing Director Mike Foraker, the meeting has been set for March 7<sup>th</sup>. I will be taking a collection of graduate students who live in the Weyburn Terrace housing so that they will be able to voice their concerns directly to Mr. Foraker. I would like to thank Graduate Division for stepping in to expedite the meeting setup process. Representatives from Graduate Division will also attend. Probably by now, all of you have heard of the problems with the new Weyburn Terrace facilities. At our request, Graduate Division also provided us with survey data last year from the new residents to provide us with more evidence of the problems at hand. The recent Daily Bruin series of articles also provided us with further material for the upcoming meeting.

I have been working with our Director of Elections, Golnaz Tabibnia, to bring our elections practices in full alignment with the GSA Bylaws. Holding the elections online with MyUCLA has been a great success, allowing great convenience for graduate student voters and the Elections Board in addition to rapid tabulation of the results. Unfortunately, there are some limitations to what information MyUCLA can provide as part of our results. In the event that more than 2 candidates are running for a particular office, our Bylaws require a specific algorithm known as Instant Runoff Voting to be utilized to determine the winner. We have been working with MyUCLA to ensure that we



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receive data that will enable us to be in compliance with the Bylaws. Once this has been settled, GSA will need to produce a computer program that will tabulate these results according to the specifications of the Bylaws. Since I am intimately acquainted with the details and also most qualified to author a requirements document, it will probably rest on my shoulders to complete the requirements document. I may also need to write this program, but we could also try to hire a graduate student to complete it for us. A decision on this matter will be forthcoming once we receive more information from MyUCLA. Although it is possible that such a program will not be needed this year (if no more than 2 candidates will run for each office), it is much better to be prepared for this possibility than to scramble at the last minute to produce the program and sufficiently test its functionality.

I hired a new Webmaster to maintain the GSA Website, Heather Wozniak. I am very pleased to delegate this responsibility since the requirements of my other tasks do not afford me enough time to attend to this task as well. Additionally, it is unlikely that all future Presidents will have the necessary skills to administer a website. Heather does not have the technical background to administer the actual GSA Webserver, so I continue to look for someone to take over this responsibility. In the mean time I am continuing to configure and test the new webserver so that it will be ready replace the old and ailing server, hopefully during Spring Break. My end goal is to institutionalize these positions to take care of GSA's technical needs so that these functions will always be attended to in future years.

The annual GSA Appreciation Banquet will take place at Westwood Brewing Company on Wednesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 6-9PM. All Council Officers, Forum Representatives, GSA Appointees (stipended and non-stipended) are invited to attend and bring a guest. Also invited will be various members of the UCLA Administration and staff, Graduate Division and ASUCLA. Free food will be provided for all attendees. The first 50 attendees will receive a complimentary drink as well. The Appreciation Banquet is provides an opportunity for GSA to show appreciation and gratitude for many people who work to improve the lives of graduate and professional students at UCLA.

Please feel free to speak with me if you have any questions about this report or need further details on any issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jared Fox  
GSA President 2004-05