

UCLA Graduate Students Association Forum

Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting **Special Meeting**

6:30pm, Wednesday May 10, 2017

Global Viewpoint Lounge, Ackerman Student Union

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Meeting Agenda

Agenda approved.

III. Officers Report

Parshan Khosravi: I am going to be the External Vice President for 2017-18. We are looking to revamp the Internal and External vice president positions. I will be adding five new position next year including a Chief of Staff and Labor relations position.

Alex Fung: We are going to be pulling these funds from the staff salaries.

Alex Fung: I am going to be Vice President of Internal Affairs, we recognized that there is a lot more that we can do more locally for the campus administration. I will have four positions in my office, International Student Affairs director, Student Basic Needs Director, Graduate Campus Task Force Director, and a Chief-of- Staff position. Our office hours will be covered with \$13,000.

We also want to have a finance director who can meet you needs with requisition forms. We going to make one of our key platform, housing reform; examining initiatives such as Bruin Shelter, and advocate for Bruin Family initiative.

IV. Resolution- Discretionary Funding

Michael Skiles: We are out of funding in our discretionary funding, historically discretionary funding has been underfunded. The Publications director Stacey Meeker said that they have 20,000 in excess surplus. I move to transfer surplus from Publications to Discretionary. Right now I would like to transfer \$5,000 from Publications to Discretionary account for the rest of the year from the SFAC fund.

Ian Coley: Why is there so much surplus in publications?

Roy Champawat: We have a pretty large set of publications. I think it has been a somewhat difficult year for publications, it has been challenging one, they haven't allocated all of their funds.

Mike Cohn: Some of the publications are going online, so that makes less of a budgeted expense.

Ioan: I move to vote. All in favor?

Vote passes unanimously to approve discretionary funding budget transfer of \$5,000 from SFAC

Publications funds to Discretionary.

V. Approval of the 2017-18 Budget

Michael Skiles: We will be adding more to discretionary funding at the beginning, and we understand there will likely a lot of additional surplus. We will figure out how much Publications needs and move to give discretionary funding more money. Organizations will be apply to for \$1,000 instead of \$800, and student interest board will be able to apply for \$1,500.

Beyond that Graduate Student Resource Center, is not getting allocated at the front end. Christine Wilson, said that the student fees should fund the center, she is adamant about that. She has not been touching the \$1,000 dollar allocation. She asked us to not send money in that direction.

I allocated funds for the printer for the Biomed library. Ricoh met with the Biomed library yesterday. I put \$9,500 in the budget for now, but it won't be higher than that. This budget is operating off of anticipated surplus.

In general, we have been operating with 100,000 in surplus, as we can only spend 95% of our budget. As a result ,we tend to get surpluses in excess of 100,000 a year. We can budget conservatively \$25,000 for start out the year so we do not face the difficulties we did the past several years for academic council events.

Parshan is committed to the activities for Vice President External, and cutting \$1,000 from his stipend aid to fund discretionary funding, this is granting that request which is critical to the programming of his office.

Our stipend was an adjustment with inflation. We are increasing President, Internal, External by 5%, this is ultimately a substitute for Taships, it subtracts the external vice president with his additional income.

Events Directors would get \$1,200 instead of \$900 per quarter .

Motion to approve the budget.

Ian: Do we have an itemized list of salaries for these next positions?

Parshan: Chief of Staff will receive \$800 per quarter, rest of directors \$600, and Community liason \$400.

Erik Hanson: South Campus Printing, is the cost for installation and the \$9500 cost?

Michael Skiles: It covers the cost for the first four years.

S. Michelle Consiglio: Is there any way that this surplus could go back to the students our department fund us more?

Parshan: I take offense to that statement, it is as if we are not putting the money to good use.

Lindy: It might be useful to find out how this money could be best spent. It might be nice to look into.

Michael: Lot of our events have over 1,000 people in attendance, then this is a conversation that we should have in the fall.

Ian: We should do polling at events to expand the events that we do. I think that the money should be directed to more councils, that aren't specifically through the GSA because they are more in tune to graduate student needs.

I motion to postpone the budget voting until next forum.

Mike Cohn: We already have a motion on the table to pass the budget, you would have to amend the motion.

Michael Skiles: This is really a budget to carry this money through the summer for orientation.

Ian: I did not know that these new director positions would have \$18,000

Michael Leuchter: I don't see that recorded on the budget. The impression I got was that all of it was racked into the staff salaries.

Michael Skiles: They showed me that it was \$1404.00 if it is over that we can have discussion.

Ian: I am uncomfortable passing this budget at this time.

Darah Wilson: I have not been able to discuss/ read the budget, but I think if it is guided by the Mike Cohn and Roy Champawat, we should pass this budget as soon as possible.

Ioan motions to vote.

Motion seconded.

Budget passes 16-1.

VI. Presentation Diversity - Programs

Victoria Hathaway: I am going to talk to you about diversity programs and a graduate student in Education. We currently have 9 alumni diversity groups including Asian American, LGBTQ, American Indian, Black, Mixed alumni groups.

My role is to support the retention of diverse graduate students. The goal for diversity program to be instituted at the graduate level.

Ian: There are plenty in Women and STEM groups, that would certainly be needed.

Darah Wilson: I am school of Nursing; the Pan African Nursing Association, and the Nursing school in general is one of the most diverse program on campus.

VII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 6:43pm.