**UCLA Graduate Students Association Forum**

**Meeting Minutes**

**☒ Regular Meeting ☐ Special Meeting**

**5:30pm, Wednesday, January 25, 2017**

**Global Viewpoint Lounge, Ackerman Student Union**

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting is called to order at 5:40

1. **Approval of Meeting Agenda**

Ioan Istrate moves to approve the meeting agenda.

MPSC seconds.

Motion approved.

**III. Approval of Forum Schedule**

Ioan- February 15, March 8 forums. Spring quarter April 19, May 10, May 31.

I look to approve the forum schedule for the rest of the year.

Motions seconded.

Motion passes unanimously.

**IV. USAC President Introduction**

Danny Seigel( USAC President)l : I would like to thank Ioan for letting me come and speak today, and more importantly thank Michael for his guidance and partnership throughout this year. At the end of the day, whether it be fighting fee increases or sexual assault, I’m looking to continue cultivating the relationship between USAC and the GSA.

Ioan: Hopefully he will continue his fight as a graduate student at UCLA.

**V.** **Election Boards Announcement**

Anne Blackstock Bernstein: I am the elections commissioner for this year. I am here to form an elections board that will work to organize and oversee the election. There will be several meetings over the course of the next week.

I would like you to meet in the next couple of weeks, so if you could figure out in your councils who your representatives will be by next Wednesday that would be much appreciated.

Ioan: We will be in correspondence.

**VI. Officers Report**

Michael: I was very happy to work on an app for the UCLA van with Danny. I met with the Chancellor to get this approved. We have worked with UCLA transportation services and UCLA PD to revamp the evening night service. There was a tragic outcome in which several students were waiting outside of a sorority house and while they were waiting they were assaulted at gunpoint.

Students who are waiting for a van to come late at night are more vulnerable than those who are moving.

In the Spring the evening van service will be implemented through the app. So now on the app, you can request a ride from the selected stops around campus and work much like UBER pool. The Administration pledged to expand the van fleet in both number and size of vehicle. They will be extending the van service until midnight. We hope that that is a good practical solution for students who are not able to park where they study and work.

In separate meeting with Parking Services, we at last were able to make considerable headway for Math & Physical Sciences and other graduate students by conducting a lottery for students that any students that work now lot 2 & 9. There are 30 spots available.

This issue was brought up at the as a result of the construction of the Luskin Conference Center. They have also urged Departments to look to allocate parking spots to graduate students instead of simply for the staff allocations as has been the precedent. This is at the discretion of each individual department.

Parking Services said that when they gave the allocations to graduates they would not be in jeopardy. Thanks to Drake Smith and

Ian Coley: It sounds like they will want to remove parking spaces for graduate students if they needed to right?

Michael: My hope is that this conversation swayed them from looking at the graduate student population as the lowest priority. I cannot promise they won’t make that decision in the future. I would urge them not to remove graduate parking allocations which would put us back in this same situation.

They also said they would work with graduate students to use other forms of transportations. The Bruin Commuter Club as presently constructed primarily gives these incentives to faculty and staff. Parking Services will work with me to begin this process. I want to thank MPSC and Biological Sciences for this help.

Also please check out the website for Bruins Against Sexual Harassment- it has a lot of valuable resources and information.

Lindy Comstock: It needs to be now that this is an issue that needs to be discussed.

MIchael: As for the KREC solution, 1800 graduate students have taken the vouchers for LA Fitness. Most of the students I have talk to are happy with this temporary solution.

Ian: One of my constituents said someone from LA Fitness told them that they had to use the gym at least 8 times a month.

Michael: I have also heard that. Mick DeLuca told me that that was not the case. As best I can tell that is an effort to urge students to use the passes rather than waste them.

Drake Smith: Some people were confused on that front, I spoke with an LA Fitness Rep and they said that was not the case.

Michael: They seem to want to put out the message that they want people to use the facilities. The university puts out the message that the passes are a lot of money and they should use it. Contrary to what they are saying, if you want to use LA Fitness , you can use LA Fitness.

Michael: For the first time in many years we have a google drive that has cabinet and stipended appointments self evaluations. Ioan, can give his update now.

Ioan: Since last quarter most of my work deals with daily operations of requisition forms. Everything is pretty in line. I will also help to facilitate the upcoming elections. I think there are several ways that we can expedite the process in the future.

Ian: The forum minutes are not online, however.

Alex: I will make sure to check to see where they are posted.

Ioan: I will make sure to update the minutes’ posting.

Ian: It also seems like that budget and cabinet minutes are not online.

Michael: The budget that is getting posted on the website , but it only makes sense, for people who are very familiar with those processes. I think that Alex and Ioan might want to post a more legible budget.

Ioan: We can probably reorganize the files to make it more user friendly.

Ian: It looks like we are using the logo when Royce Hall is incorrectly modelled.

Ioan: We can discuss what is to be done.

Alex: We will definitely look into it and make sure that it is a logo that forum approves of.

Tess Armstrong: Currently I am working to get TA figures from Grad Division to address the situation of Graduate students. They also put in a plan that they’re to be examined by GSA. They have plans to limit out of state enrollment to 20% instead of 22% which is it right now.

Tuition was raised to cover inflation, however it was not raised on a majority of student.

The enrollment changes that had been affecting the UCs because we have been operating at entire capacity. The Academic Senate if you have question to Robin Garrell, so that we can make sure to follow as soon as possible.

I received an email from a woman, Jordana James, from Women in Graduate Schools, and look for outreach for women in science. We can send the flyer out if people are interested.

Andres Schneider: Unfortunately, due to extreme circumstances I was unable to attend forum last quarter. I have been involved with UCSA for many years by seeing how the graduate student professional movement developed. In my opinion it i has been working very well .There is something interesting that is going on in our organization. The President of the UCSA is a graduate student, I think that is the first that this has happened, that made a big symbolic difference. Michael and Parshan have been engaged in many conversation and the plans for moving forward.

There is a coalition that gathers 14 universities together (SAGE). They meet twice a year, this year it doesn’t seem to be very optimistic. Every single major office is in shock. I was in charge of the immigration staff. The idea is to gather in Washington D.C. in March.

The third thing I wanted to bring to forum. Grad Division, is trying to do postdoc that are more flexible for 3 - 4 months. They continue to offer post docs appointments with lecture appointments, which can again can provide some flexibility.

Lindy: So they are redefining the terms of the post docs?

Andres: There are no new funds. It is just a new contract possibility.

Lindy: Why are they combining postdocs & lecturers?

Elizabeth Mills: They are some graduate students in the department has allowed some to be able to figure out if they want to do research or lecturers.

Lindy: So if you want to teach than you’d have to be teaching postdoc.

Elizabeth Mills: So this might be able to respect the time that they are giving to the department.

Andres: My understanding is that there are several ways the post doc is structure. The other one is mixed the position.

Elizabeth Mills: Who pays the post docs? Your money comes from a PI or a grant. Rather than a lecturer who are paid by the department.

Andres: So basically the usual fund external grant or award. Sometimes it can be donor funds or resources.

Elizabeth: It is very different if it comes from the department or a PI.

Andres: Any other questions.

Ioan: With no further questions we move to the final items on our agenda.

**V: Motions for forum catering.**

Michael: The account that we used for forum food ran out so we would ask to use $2,000 of surplus for food.

Ian: Where is this number coming from?

Michael: Most of the years we created this fund to allocate funds as needs arise. Hopefully I can provide access to South Campus printing allocation. It is the only big remaining expenditure.

Michael: That last year the catering orders were set at a 40 person price point to a 30 person price point.

Motions.

Passes Unanimously

Ioan: Patrick Adler was unable to make it this year. Our final presentation is from Anderson.

**VI. Challenge for Charity**

Emma Drysdale : I am co- president of Challenge for Charity and we are having a casino night through Anderson. It our biggest event of the year. All of the funds go to Youth achievement, Special Olympics, and financial management. We usually keep it to Anderson students, but we want to open it up to other grad students. If you could invite people that would be awesome.

**6:38PM meeting adjourned.**

**Respectfully submitted: Signature Secretary Date**