



**Council Meeting Minutes
Commons 367
10/7/09**

1. Call to order at: 6:10 pm
 - i. Present: Sean, Gary, Jenni, Arash, Grace, Lisa
 - ii. Absent: All others

2. Approval of Appointed Officers –
 - Secretary/Webmaster (Sean Boyle)
 - AAO CHASS (Vanessa Miller)
 - AAO CNAS (Jennifer Wright)
 - AAO BioMed (Evita Limon)
 - Conf. Trav. Grant (Rebecca Lybrand)
 1. Yes- All
 2. No- None
 3. Abstentions - None

3. Officer Reports
 - i. **President** (Gary Coyne)
 - Introduction of GSA and what it does. The list of future meetings was presented. All meetings will be on the first Wednesday of the month. The Nov and Dec meetings will be in room 365. Everyone involved in the council must sign up for at least one committee. If you know anyone else who might be interested please have them contact us to have them included. We have a small rollover from last year that we need to determine what to do with. We can go over this during the budget portion of our meeting. Gary had a meeting with the president of the UC. This was ultimately a disappointing meeting that felt like a photo op. One thing he did say was that there is a possibility the fee increase for grads will be less than undergrads in future years. The administration is also taking the swine flu epidemic seriously. If you feel sick please stay home.

- ii. **Executive Vice President** (Lisa Geribaldi)
 - The UC student association is the largest in the nation. They are looking for two representatives to travel and get involved in this group. Every year we renegotiate our health insurance. All UCs are hoping to band together to combined health insurance efforts. This will allow us to see hospitals from other UCs and will also help out for receiving care abroad. We would like to collect testimonials. The first round of these was very useful. If you are interested in providing a testimonial please help out. If interested please contact Josh Knapp. He has been in contact with all committees and is currently involved in looking through the 4 bids that have been made by companies. We encourage students to go to the students of color conference. If you are interested please contact Lisa. Information is available online. The Legislative liaison and campus organizing director positions really needs to be filled and it is a very interesting position that makes a difference. These positions are paid positions.

- iii. **Vice President of Academic Affairs** (Jenni Deveau)
 - Jenni is available during her office hours. Please stop by and say hello. If you are from the school of education or management please come talk to us. We are also looking to fill the remaining positions in the GSA.

- iv. **Public Relations Officer** (Grace Chieh)
 - This year's welcome party for the incoming first years went really well. We will also be having our first grad bash on October 15th at 6pm at the Gettaway. There are openings still available for the social committee. Please sign up!

- v. **GSHIP Chair** (Josh Knapp)
 - Not in attendance.

- vi. **Finance Officer** (Arash Adami)
 - Going to be going into the budget later on today, so not much to go into.

- vii. **Conference Travel Grant Chair** (Rebecca Lybrand)
 - Not in attendance

- viii. **Webmaster/Secretary** (Sean Boyle)
 - Please send information for the website calendar. I would like to get it up and going again this year.

- ix. **Legislative Liason** (Lisa Geribaldi)
 - EVP now

4. Informational Budget Updates

- i. The state and UC budgets are not good. The UCs were greatly shorted by this year's budget. This greatly affects the TA positions and professor teaching positions. We are roughly 30 million short for this academic year. We have had to come up with extra money from various sources. There are many groups getting together to take action on this subject. This is a very crucial time for the educational future of UC.

5. GSA Budget, Fiscal Year 2009-2010

- i. The GSA is funded through student fees. The breakdown comes out to about \$20 dollars per student. Roughly half of this goes directly back into travel grants. The other half is spent on social events, office supplies, stipends for officers, etc.
- ii. Arash's budget presentation – The budget has been revamped from last year. The budget is based upon mini GSAs and the number of students. More students means more money. He provided a breakdown of the information that is available on the GSA budget. We hope to end up with a positive final yearly surplus of roughly \$200. We do have a surplus that we need to slowly break into. If we do not begin using this money the administration may reduce our income in future years. There are several things we have considered for this money. Michele is working very hard for us and she has requested a student assistant for next year. We will likely allocate it for several years and then push for reg fees to cover it. This would be open to any student on campus. We have informational handouts available. We would also like to purchase new computers for the offices. The ones we have are ancient. We could also pump some of this into the travel grant. We do not need to approve these items in this council meeting. We will likely propose this next month.
 - Yes - All
 - No- None
 - Abstains – None

6. Conferences

- i. South East Asia Conference – The program is requesting funding for a conference that occurred on Oct 2-3rd. \$2000 dollars was collected from The Southeast Asia program, religious studies department, and the deans office of the collage of humanities arts and social sciences. The total amount spent was \$3,319.89. There is a shortage of \$1,319.89 that is being requested from the GSA. Much of this money was from graduate student pockets. They are waiting to be reimbursed, which this money would provide.
 - Yes – All but 1

- No – None
 - Abstain - One
- ii. Hispanic Conference –The Hispanic studies conference is requesting for \$600 from the gsa for it's annual conference. A handout was provided at the meeting. There are three departments from UCR that are involved (History, Ethnomusicology and religious studies). They will be advertising through many mailing lists and word of mouth. The GSA will be assisting with payments for food, room setup fee, and printing costs. Mini GSA funds will be used as well to assist with costs. The money requested is less than a quarter of the entire budget. This is a very interdepartmental event and they are very excited about the conference.
- Yes - All
 - No – None
 - Abstain - None

7. Approval of Committee Appointments

- Yes- All but 1
- No- None
- Abstains - One

8. Public Forum

- i. We will be having a special election for the executive vice president in November. Lisa will be leaving us to do field work in Fiji. Please contact Lisa if you are interested.
- ii. The music GSA would like to play soccer against another GSA. They are thinking about having a game late in November. Please let them know if interested.
- iii. Last year we had a toy drive, which will be started again in the next month. Please contact Evita if interested. There will also be a Christmas party for the delivery of these presents which everyone is invited to.
- iv. The Asian pacific student program is working to raise funds to help out with the disasters that have recently occurred there.

9. Adjournment – 7:22 Ended