Graduate Students' Association (GSA)
Assembly Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, November 04, 2003.
Posted 11/11/03

Start time: 5:40 p.m.

Willie Brown

Brief overview of housing programs. See handouts. Housing Services (HS) has been trying to provide adequate spacing for Graduate students. Embarking on the housing master plan for 2005-2006. Set Aside Program: they set aside 5% for paying for housing in advance. Goal: to not have a rate increase at all. HS is trying to find a compromise which addresses the diverse needs of the campus community. Questions posed:

Sam-Do you know why there are so many different rates for different areas?

- Look at handout. A lot has to do with when the other campuses took on the debts.

Russell-Doesn't the University already own the land that they're building on? How do we make up for the 70% (land value comprises 70% of the local housing costs)?

-We pay for the land lease fee. When you pay for fee increases, you're paying for the staffing and for any other events the University wants to use the money for.

Sarah- Is there any possibility the San Clemente building will not proceed due to protests?

-Still needs to be discussed. The main problem is the parking structure.

Sarah- Is there anyone conveying that we will need this housing?

-No, we are all well aware that we need the housing.

Edward- Have there been any (re)design changes?

- None that we can speak of right now.

Matt- The best person to talk to for more information about this would be Jess (jessbarrie@hotmail.com).

1. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve agenda-Matthew Allen
Second-Sam Fleischman
Unanimous

2. **Approval of minutes from October meeting**

Motion to approval minutes-Jess Barrie
Second-Matthew Allen
Unanimous

3. **Officer Reports: (Appendix 1)**

Matt Andrews-31 reps; want it to be 45-50. We are making voting cards for official reps. We want to get the agenda to you all sooner so that you can send us emails. Get on the Announcement list serve.

Office reports:

Sarah Kritz- stats: 3003 graduates now 27% increase in 5 yrs. 14.4% of UCSB are graduate students. More graduate student summer increase. Be aware of the fee increases that you vote for. Even though you don't pay for them someone else does. We are working with BARC to make sure all fees are paid for.

Jess Barrie- GSHIP met for the first time last Friday. We have option to stay with same underwriter later on in March. This could save us from going through the same process again. John Hajda wrote a proposal that was awarded a $3 000 grant, to be used for increasing career-enhancement books (all targeted at graduate students entering the job market) at the Career and Counseling Services. Email me (jessbarrie@hotmail.com). This money came from ESCOT. We must be involved in determining how the funds are spent. Also, Dargans this Friday.

Russell Knight- Two committees that still need to be filled. The Lounge is not staffed (at the front desk) on Mondays. 9-11 and 3-5 for the rest of the days. Contact me (knight@umail.ucsb.edu) if you want to rent out the lounge.

Jess Barrie- It is really important for there to be the same amount of attendance Friday because Dargans will be meeting us halfway with the expenses.

Alison Borek- Upcoming: UCSA Board meeting-Student of Color conference at UCSD. Let me know if you want to go.

Alison spoke of the 20% UC budget cuts for the 2004-2005 academic year, leading to a 50-100% fee hike. The state is trying to prioritize undergraduate education. TAships will be cut back, with increasing numbers of students per TA. Diversity of graduate student on this campus is at risk because of this increase (e.g., pricing out low-and middle-income prospective graduate students). Also discussed regent Moore's concern regarding the comprehensive review, specifically at UC Berkeley. Also, there will be a rally at UCLA on Nov 19, from 8:30-10:30am). Transportation via vans is available (email me at vp-external-affairs@gsa.ucsb.edu). This is the only regents meeting in LA, and will be the last SoCal Regents meeting before next year's budget is signed in January. Governor Schwarznegger will most likely be there.

Nadia Talhouk- We now have yellow vote cards. Anytime you vote for something, make a motion, or second, raise your card. We still need everyone's petitions and email information, so that you can be added to the assembly list serve. Please contact me (nadia@umail.ucsb.edu) for any suggestions of GSA outings, like last year's wine tasting and hiking trips.

Sam Fleischman- We are within our budget. We seek to increase our co-sponsorship funds by 25%. We should develop a finance committee to prioritize funding.

Edward Collins- Good job everyone for getting your committee positions filled. The execs really do need to get the committee rep information.

Matt Andrews- We have IVPAC representatives who give us suggestions on what to do for the living situations. Thanks to GSA officers for attending meetings. Also, thanks to Karen Blair, who sent out massive email.

4. **Announcements**

a. Graduate Division

John Hjda- I hired one peer advisor

Krista-graduate funding peer advisor. Is available at Counseling and Career Services to inform grad students of fellowships and how to search for funding. fundingpeer@graddiv.ucsb.edu.

b. Student Affairs

Carolyn Buford-Our Halloween flyer was offensive to many students. The framing of the message will be reconsidered. Second, if you have any suggestions on IV safety let us know. There is a meeting next Monday at 10 at Office of Student Life.

5. **Information Items**

a. Family Literacy Program through CAB: James Tu (Appendix II)

James Tu- Volunteer opportunities are available. Look at flyers. We need people who would enjoy working with kids from kindergarten to junior high of schools from IV, Goleta, and Santa Barbara. We send tutors out 1-2 hours per week. We provide books. Biggest demand are bilingual volunteers. Email: to-j@sa.ucsb.edu. James gave Frisbees, shirts. Left flyers of Family Literacy Program and CAB information.

b. GSHIP: Cindy Bowers- Director of Student Health.

Bowers-c@sa.ucsb.edu. I am the person with "scissors" to cut the red tape. We have a one-year GSHIP contract. Voting cannot wait till march; it must occur either next meeting or January's at the latest. We are expecting10-15% increases in the cost of medical care over the next several years. We are exploring ways to get insurance prices down or at least keep insurance cost at same. If we go with the "As Is" plan we do have the option of still changing things.

Q: Do you think we should go with the 'As Is' plan?

A: Yes.

Q: **Sam Fleischman:** Vision?

A: We had no vision. We can add on if we keep it the same plan.

c. GOLD, BARC, Registrar and Financial Aid (December 2, 5:30)

d. Committee Reports (Appendix III)

Matt Andrews-If you see any mistakes on our committee reports, please let us know.

Sarah Kritz- None of my stuff was posted, so please look online

Jing Xu-Spoke on academic freedom, library usage, restrictions on usage for foreign students as a result of recent legislature. Email me at jingx@physics.ucsb.edu before Nov 17.

6. **Action Items**

a. Action Agenda Items(Appendix IV)

i. Housing, Outreach, Funding

Matt Andrews-Funding; they want us to give us more money but need to give us more options. Housing-we have both on and off campus. Have to work with community members to better off campus housing. Want to increase our diversity. Feel that University needs to help us with this.
Jess Barrie- We need to have action agenda items with feasible goals. We need to vote on these three items.
Russell Knight- Not in any particular order
Motion- Karen Blair
Second- Matthew Allen
Unanimous

b. UCSA Budget and Action Agenda (Appendix V)

Matt- We need to approve this. Look at agenda.
Motion-Elizabeth
Second-Sottria
unanimous

c. Bylaws: Updates and changes to bylaws are posted.

Motion -Jess
Second-Matthew Allen
unanimous

d. Approval of Committee Appointments

Jess-Move to approve
Second - Allen
Russ-Two people are needed for the Parking Committee, and for the Student Resource Committee
Move to go on-Jess Barrie
Second-Alison Borek

e. Approval of Stipend for outgoing VP-Communications and Records

Jess: Motion to table Mark being compensation for webpage for next month's meeting (7 weeks)
Second-Matthew Allen
Unanimous
Russ- Motion to move on
Second-Matthew Allen
Unanimous

f. Approval of Funding Requests

Sam Fleischman- lecture on cultural landscaping is Nov 8. is requesting $300. I recommend giving $100.
Elizabeth- Cultural landscaping as a way of preserving valuable property. Cosponsored by alternative transportation tasks and another group.
Edward Collins-We need to earmark the funds for audiovisual instead of using money for publicizing purposes.
Russ Knight- Why didn't you come to us last meeting.
Elizabeth-Didn't know.

George Fujii-We won't have enough for other conferences to come.
Christine- What do we have?
Sam-$2400.
Andrea-What do we have for quarter?
Alision Borek-$800.
Edward Collins- Good program.
Jess Barrie- Motion to give $100
Second-Erin Maloni
Unanimous

7. **Discussion Items:**
   a. **Budget/Funding committee**

   Edward Collins- There is no real place to put San Clemente. The place they have for it right now is one of the best locations.
   Nadia Talhouk- About 2% of playing field will be lost. Lots of misinformation out there.
   Russ Knight- If you know someone really concerned, especially undergrads, invite them to committee meetings.
   Matt Andrews- For next meeting proposed a committee to help with a number of funding issues. Jonathan Peal earmarked for more annul funding. Talk to sam.

   b. **Resolution for Green Buildings**

   Matt Andrews- Want for next meeting to adopt a green building
   Allison Borek- They have voted for it, we need to force them to do it.
   Matt Andrews- Need to push for them.
   Edward Collins- We have been pushing for them. But we do need to keep on pushing.

8. **Vox Populi**

Karen Blair- We funded the bio/gio Chili Cookoff. Have flyers to post. 4:44 pm Fri, Nov 21st at courtyard between Webb Hall and Noble Hall. Also, on Nov 17 at noon-2 at state room at UCEN, Roselyn Reid will be the speaker. WISE (Women In Science and Engineering) mentoring program for undergrads on Nov 14 at noon at harbor for freshmen/sophmores transferring into the science fields. Wed, Nov 19 at the Harbor for undergrads for thinking of applying or are applying to graduate school. For more information, email parker@lifesci.ucsb.edu or look at our website as well.

Sarah Kritz- Wine information.

Jess Barrie- Please read through for the feasible actions we want to do.

Russ Knight- Pay attention to donation tin on top of refrigerator.

GROW-sponsored by undergrads. Open to graduates. Learning program on collaborating on organizational items. Event is this weekend. Free.

9. **Adjourn**

Move-Alison
Second-Sarah