

GRADUATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

December 1, 2005

SUMMARY OF THE MEETING

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The meeting was called to order 5:30 p.m. It concluded the Fall Semester.

Presentation on Online Funding

Jimmy Kittiyachavalit, a senior at Cal, gave a presentation on the online application process he designed for the GA. People will have to log in using their CalNet authorization. This will replace the process of going to Anthony Hall to pick up the paperwork to fill out. Funding applications will be online, along with paper applications, but the GA will slowly phase into an online system. People will still have to turn in their receipts. This will make things easier for the Funding Committee and for GA staff.

Applications will be through the Grant Application link, for Grad Events I and II, Projects and Services, Student Activism, Community Service, Diversity Grant, and Educational Improvement Grants.

Before getting to the application, one must read information that was part of the application. People check to acknowledge they read it and are then given more instructions, and fill out the form. If something goes wrong, they'd get an error message and they could go back and correct the error. Once the form is saved a link is produced for the person filling out the application to send an e-mail to the person who needs to co-sign it. That person logs in to verify that the information was correct, and then signs off on it. Forms are not editable by the second person signing off on it and were only editable by the person who originally created it. After the second person signs it, the form is automatically submitted. The Funding Committee would have access to all the applications submitted through the system and could edit or write comments on the form.

The form will be on the GA Web site on Monday, December 5, and Delegates were requested to go to the site and test it, and do beta testing during the Winter Break.

A suggestion was made to bring up the cover sheet to read when filling out the form.

All this information would go to a spreadsheet that the Funding Committee could edit, add to, etc. It was up to the Committee as to what would be made public, or if an e-mail would simply be sent to each group. As for changes made by the Funding Committee, there could be a link showing actions the Funding Committee took.

The beta test period would be until January 5.

The GA expressed its appreciation to Mr. Kittiyachavalit for his efforts in this matter.

Summary of the Meeting (cont'd)

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Staff Reports

Ms. Hsueh, GA Manager/Advisor, announced three events for December. A Distinguished Lecture of Color will be held on December 9, sponsored by the GA, the GMSP Coordinator, and the Anthropology Society; the Grad Minority Outreach and Recruitment and Retention Project Coordinators were hosting a basketball tournament on December 10, between grads and undergrads, with a reception on December 11. These are the last of the fall.

For the Spring Semester, paper applications will be done in parallel with the online application process, and will be gradually decreased.

December 2, at 5 o'clock, was the last day receipts would be accepted for reimbursement.

The GA will have normal business hours until December 20 and. The GA will be closed from December 21 to January 9 and will open January 10.

In the report from the Funding Advisor and the Funding Committee, the Funding Committee met and went over funding applications. Round 4 activities will be from December 2-9. With no objection, the GA approved the recommendations of the Funding Committee, Round 4, \$3,019, and 4-A, \$5,900.

New Business

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The GA met in executive session to discuss autonomy and the RSF/YMCA.

Election of a GA Grad Council Representative

Nominations were taken for the Alternate position on the Grad Council, a campus committee made up of professors, administrators, three grad student reps, and an Alternate, which deals with all things related to grad-student life. By unanimous voice-vote, Pete Dillon, Chemistry, was elected. He was interested in advisee/advisor issues

New Business

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The Resolution to Amend the By-laws with An Environmental Sustainability Article was submitted to have a statement that the Graduate Assembly shall be environmentally sustainable and use 30% post-consumer recycled content paper. It would also form an Environmental Sustainability Committee.

Agendas and reports were already on 100% recycled paper. A concern was expressed about using recycled paper in printers, and damaging the fuser. In response, a group was pushing for use of recycled-content has tested different papers, and found certain brands perform with no additional jams or problems. The Berkeley campus was last of all UC campuses in the amount of recycled paper it purchases.

The Resolution will be reviewed by the Organization and Rules Committee.

The Resolution was approved by hand-vote 30-0-4. In addition to buying recycled paper and forming a committee, it would have the GA purchase environmentally preferable products (EPP) if the price was 10% of the non-preferable product; inform student groups of the EPP plan and encourage them to follow

Summary of the Meeting (cont'd)

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it; give the Funding Committee discretion on reimbursements items that do not meet the EPP plan; and create By-laws requiring the Graduate Assembly to be committed to environmental sustainability.

Report from the ASUC Representative to the GA

A great banquet was held that raised over \$16,000 for earthquake relief in South Asia. Also, the Judicial Council case involving the GA will be heard on Friday. The current Executive VP was suing last year's Senate for transferring money to the GA. The amount involved was about \$30,000.

The ASUC planned to have both online voting as well as polling booths. The number of on-campus polling locations would be reduced. The cost having elections entirely online was almost double what the Senate allocated last year for elections. Most student governments that have online elections rent out that function to private companies to organize the elections for the schools. It was cheaper to have voting online as well as on-campus than to have elections entirely online, because with fewer people voting online, the ASUC could operate that in-house.

Last year's Senate allocated \$45,000 for elections. The cost was reduced by cutting some on-campus voting locations. The main cost was for personnel and upkeep of the computers that are used, since the ASUC had to rent them.

Mr. Buenrostro, ASUC President, reported that the ASUC has been working very closely on different issues with the GA, including Lower Sproul redevelopment and the Class Pass referendum.

BearFACTS could not handle anything more than a simple up or down vote, which wouldn't be appropriate for the ASUC's ballot.

Security in ASUC elections was an issue. Delegates were encouraged to send e-mail suggestions to the ASUC President.

Lower Sproul redevelopment has been in the works since at least 1996. The idea was to take down Eshleman Hall and Lower Sproul and rebuild it to be a better, more vibrant area, with extended student services.

Ms. Odusanya said they would move into Reports.

GA Reports

For her report as External Affairs VP, Ms. Medina said the Regents approved a fee increase about two weeks ago, which would be about 10% for grads. That meant departments would admit fewer students and less financial aid would be given. Fee increases for professional students varied, ranging from \$1,500 for Law to \$200 for Public Policy.

The UC Student Association successfully lobbied the Regents to have Assembly Speaker Nuñez show up for a meeting to exercise his vote. He made an amendment promising to allocate any additional money UC received to go to buy back undergraduate fee increases. Students will campaign to get that implemented. There was also an amendment to freeze grad fees that only lost by three votes. Students will lobby their allies to get that passed.

Summary of the Meeting (cont'd)

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The three people in the External Affairs office will be gone next year, and this would be a good time for others to get the hang of how things work.

In the report from the Organization and Rules Committee, the Resolution on environmental sustainability had to be reviewed.

For his report from the Academic Affairs VP, Mr. Schechtman coordinate efforts on the RSF with the ASUC. The Class Pass and the Bear Transit referendum will come up for a vote in the spring. Lawrence Berkeley Lab buses will be merged with the campus bus shuttle system, which would almost double the frequency of campus buses, to start next year. There will also be some improved route changes. Also, a funding stream will provide money "next bus technology," allowing passengers to know when the next shuttle will arrive. The first implementation will be with Night Safety Shuttles.

In the report from the Diversity Committee, it just recently formed, and will focus on forming a network of different graduate groups on campus around issues of diversity and meeting with different groups that address these issues. Delegates were asked for their help in making these contacts.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

[End summary of the meeting.]

This regular meeting of the Graduate Assembly, concluding the Fall Semester, was called to order by Lola Odusanya at 5:30 p.m. in the ASUC Senate Chamber. Ms. Odusanya said she would like to welcome them to the fourth meeting of the Graduate Assembly.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

A motion to approve the agenda was made and seconded. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING PASSED WITH NO OBJECTION.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes from the November GA meeting was made and seconded. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 3, 2005 MEETING PASSED WITH NO OBJECTION.

Presentation on Online Funding Applications

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Odusanya call for any announcements.

Mr. Stagi said he would like to switch items B and C, under New Business. The motion was seconded and passed

with no objection.

PRESENTATION ON ONLINE FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Ms. Odusanya said the presentation that month was by Jimmy Kittiyachavalit. During her campaign, one of the major things she pushed for, and said she would do, was to move the funding process to an online system. She was extremely pleased to announce to the GA that halfway through her term, that has been achieved; and Mr. Kittiyachavalit was instrumental in doing that. He would give a brief presentation on the new online phone-in system. If people have questions, queries, or concerns, she would ask them to please voice them at that time, because Mr. Kittiyachavalit would also use that feedback to update the system.

Mr. Kittiyachavalit introduced himself and said he was a senior there and was graduating in May. He's been doing a little bit of work for the GA, which has been fun. What he was showing that evening was not yet complete. It was functional, and the styling and the look of the application will be worked on over the next couple of weeks. As of now, to log in, they need to use their CalNet authorization. Ms. Odusanya said that was actually a very important point. One concern was security and how to make sure that those who logged in to the system were actually students. They got access from CalNet folks on campus to use CalNet for the system. So people will have to log in every time they sign on to the system. If people have questions, she would ask them to please feel free to ask.

Mr. Kittiyachavalit said CalNet seemed to be extremely slow that evening and wasn't letting him log on.

Ms. Haynes asked if this would actually replace the process whereby people actually go to Anthony Hall and pick up the paperwork to fill out. Ms. Odusanya said that was correct. People will still have to turn in their receipts. Ms. Haynes asked if people could still do this in person. Ms. Odusanya said that next semester funding applications will be online, along with paper applications. However, the idea was to slowly phase into an online system. This will make the work easier for the Funding Committee and for GA staff as well.

Ms. Odusanya said the applications will be through the Grant Application link, for the new Grant application, for Grad Events I, Grad Events II, and Projects and Services, and for the Student Activism, Community Service, Diversity Grant, and Educational Improvement Grants.

Mr. Kittiyachavalit said that before one can get to the actual application form, they're forced to read information that generally comes with the application. So people have to go through the material being shown on the screen. That information was also linked up with other things people might need. All of the contact information that was currently contained on the application was still there, at the bottom.

Presentation on Online Funding Applications (cont'd)

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On the screen being shown, people check to acknowledge that they have read this and understand it. Ms. Odusanya said people have to say that you have read the application and that you understand all the details and all the information presented to them.

Mr. Kittiyachavalit said the screen showed the cover sheet that comes with the application. At the very bottom, people should click "yes," that they've read it. If they click "no" it will click them off. So when they click "yes," that they've read it, the program will give them more instructions, and they can go ahead and fill out the form, like they would with any other Web form. If something should go wrong they'd get an error message. Ms. Odusanya said if

that occurred, they should go back and correct the error.

For the next part, Mr. Kittiyachavalit said he would save the form for now. Once it's saved it produces a link that Delegates would e-mail to the second person who needs to co-sign the form. Ms. Odusanya said that each time they fill out the application, they need two people to sign off on it. So the way this would work usually was that after the form was filled out, it would go to the system which would send an e-mail to the second name they put on the form. That person would have to log in to verify that the information was correct, and then signs off on it.

Mr. Kittiyachavalit said that right now, if he clicked on the home page, he'd get back to the form he was just on, and they can continue to edit it until somebody signed it. Right now, the form was saying it was missing one signature. And in case it got lost, they could almost always copy and paste it back to them. Once it went to that link, it's signed, at which point the form would close, as displayed on the screen.

Mr. Kittiyachavalit said the screen showed a more complete form. Forms are not editable by the person who signs them the second time. A form was only editable by the person who originally created it. He just signed the form as a different person, so now it says "Please confirm the following information is correct and accurate." So the person would go through it, look at it, and then, at the bottom, sign it as a group representative, attesting that no funds shall be spent on alcohol, etc. When that is clicked, after the process, the screen shows the application was submitted. After the second person signs it, the form is automatically submitted.

Mr. Kittiyachavalit said there's an admin account for this entire system. If he were to log in as the admin, he could see the application as it was submitted. He was now working on automating a few other administrative tasks, like making sure numbers on the form add up properly and using a spreadsheet that would help the Funding Committee when it worked on the application.

Ms. Odusanya said the screen showed what the Funding Committee would see. The Committee would have access to all the applications submitted through the system. Mr. Kittiyachavalit said they'd be able to see every application. And if they want, they could edit or write comments on the application, or simply print it out on the spreadsheet form. So there were a lot of options.

Ms. Odusanya called for any questions as to how the system worked. This will be on the GA Web site on Monday, December 5, and they'd like Delegates to go to the site and test it. They want to have a beta testing round during the Winter Break. People could go to the site and put information on the forms, and that input would go to Mr. Kittiyachavalit and to the committee involved with this, to make sure there were no holes, and to plug any holes that are found.

Mr. Kittiyachavalit said Graduate Events had two applications that were basically the same. He would show them the Grants application. Again, there's a cover sheet they have to scroll down, and then click

Presentation on Online Funding Applications (cont'd)

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"yes," that they've read it. They would then be met with the same form, more or less, to fill out. This wasn't very exciting, since it was just a bunch of forms. There are links included on forms for help. The application shows how to fill out the chart properly, and at the end, it would be saved.

Mr. Kittiyachavalit said there were also other forms. The last form was for Projects and Services applications. Again, they click to say they've read it. This form had nothing special. The screen showed the application, which was a little different. The other neat, little thing he made sure would work in the way this was designed was to counter a standard compliant. Even if they were to go to the Web site with a screen reader, or any sort of Web browser, since not everybody was able to go through it with a graphical Web browser, the Web site should still look

pretty organized and rendered in some neat way. That is not always the case with other sites, because it took a lot more effort. The screen showed the Web site through a screen reader. The next screen showed what the form looked like with a screen reader. Ms. Odusanya called for any questions.

Mr. Buccitelli said that as somebody who does funding for four different student groups, he thought this online application system was awesome. When somebody who was not familiar with the whole process was filling out the form, he asked if there was a way to bring up the cover sheet so they could read it at the same time they're filling out the form. Mr. Kittiyachavalit said he hasn't done that, but it would be easy to add a link to do that, and he'd make a note on that. Mr. Buccitelli asked if this system would also have something for different branches, such as for the other end of things, after the application was submitted. Ms. Odusanya said that what the Funding Committee would see was the spreadsheet. All this information would go to a spreadsheet that the Committee could edit, add to, etc. It was up to the Committee as to what they make public, or if they just send an e-mail to each group. That would be up to Ms. Zahrt. The Delegate asked if the Funding Committee could then make changes. Mr. Kittiyachavalit said they could have a link that would show the details of the actions the Funding Committee took.

Mr. Harley asked if this could be downloaded when people were done filling out the form. Mr. Kittiyachavalit said that currently, it doesn't render as a .pdf file, but he would look into that. They could always download it and print it, although it would be html. A Delegate said they could also print it out in .pdf.

Ms. Hsueh asked how long the beta test period would be. Ms. Odusanya said it would be during the Winter Break, from Monday, December 5 to January 5. So she would ask Delegates to please take that time to beta test the system.

Ms. Odusanya called for any other questions for Mr. Kittiyachavalit. She said he's worked very hard on this and she would like the Assembly to really appreciate his efforts, so she would like to give him a round of applause. (Applause)

Ms. Odusanya said that before Mr. Kittiyachavalit officially finalized this, the GA needed a motion to approve his work as it stood. A motion was so made and seconded. **THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE WORK OF MR. KITTIYACHAVALIT ON ONLINE FUNDING APPLICATIONS PASSED WITH NO OBJECTION.** Ms. Odusanya said the work was wasn't complete until there was further editing.

Ms. Odusanya said that before they go on, she wanted to make a quick announcement about people staying for the meeting. She understood everyone had things they need to do and places they need to go

Staff Reports

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to. But she would ask them to please stay until 7:30, at the very earliest, she believed. She thought two hours a month was not too much to devote to their graduate student body. She would ask them to give the GA two hours a month, and she would try to stick to that time and be done by that time.

REPORTS

Staff Reports

Ms. Hsueh, GA Manager/Advisor, said this was the last Delegates meeting for the fall. Many things were happening,

and she prepared a sheet for people. She only prepared 20 copies, and had to say that by the time they finish the second report, they usually only have 15 left. She thought it was very important that everyone stay until 7:30.

Ms. Hsueh said there were three events for the month of December. The first will be held on December 9, next Friday. It's one of the Distinguished Lecture of Color series, and will be sponsored by the Graduate Assembly, the Graduate Minority Students Project Coordinator, and the Anthropology Society. They'll have a lecture from 3:00 to 5:00 in the Tilden Room. She would ask Delegates to please take a flier back to their departments and share the information about this. This was a wonderful series. The other two events in December will be fun. The Graduate Minority Outreach and Recruitment and Retention Project Coordinators were hosting a basketball tournament, to be held on Saturday, December 10, with a reception to be held on December 11. This will be a tournament between grads and undergrads. If Delegates have time, she would ask them to come and check it out. Those are the last three events they'll have for the fall.

In addition to that, Ms. Hsueh said they want to thank Mr. Kittiyachavalit for working so hard on the new online application process. It will be very convenient. However, as they all know, whenever a new application was started, it can be difficult. So they're still going to have their regular, paper applications available, and the two kinds of applications will be parallel. Hopefully, they'll have everybody adapt to the new system and will gradually decrease the paper applications that are submitted in person, and eventually everything will be automated. The Funding Committee will review applications online and award student groups online, so they know how much they'll get. But for the spring, they'll still do things the old fashioned way, with paper. Ms. Hsueh said that if groups want to know how much funding they've received, they should take one of the sheets. It states all the funding the GA has awarded up to that point.

Ms. Hsueh said she just wanted to make a note that Friday, December 2, at 5 o'clock, was the last day the GA would accept your receipts and then file people's reimbursements. If anybody there, or their departments, will have an event taking place prior to that deadline and they have not filed for a reimbursement, the deadline is tomorrow at 5 o'clock. If the event took place and they don't file by tomorrow at 5:00, the GA wouldn't be able to reimburse them. The Funding Advisor couldn't make it to the meeting that evening, but Ms. Hsueh said that Ms. Moore told her to make sure she told everybody that there would be no exceptions and no extensions. So tomorrow was the last day. She called for any questions.

Staff Reports (cont'd)

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A Delegate said that regarding submitting applications for funding, it was mentioned there was an e-mail, and he asked if that would include what was specifically requested. He asked if there was a way to duplicate copies, and said that having copies duplicated on file would be useful. Ms. Odusanya said they would have to go back to the form to review it, and they could print it out if they wanted to, and then they sign off on it at that point.

Ms. Hsueh said the last item to report was that the GA would open normal business hours until December 20. Starting December 21, until January 9, they'll be closed. People could send e-mails, but nobody will be in the office to process applications or answer questions. They'll open on January 10. This span was usually the time most people were gone from the campus. They're still deciding, when they open on January 10, whether, for that week, they'll open from 9:00 to 5:00 or for limited hours, 10:00 to 3:00. In the past, they usually did not have a lot of inquiries or students walking in during that time. So they might want to limit the time they're open from Tuesday the 10th, until Friday, from 10:00 to 3:00. And then starting January 17, they'd be open for normal business hours.

Ms. Odusanya called for a motion to approve Ms. Hsueh's report. It was so moved and seconded. THE MOTION

TO APPROVE THE REPORT FROM THE BUSINESS MANAGER PASSED WITH NO OBJECTION. Ms. Odusanya said Ms. Hsueh's report was approved.

Ms. Odusanya said that Ms. Zahrt would give Ms. Moore's Funding Advisor report. Ms. Zahrt said she would also give her report as Chair of the Funding Committee. Ms. Zahrt said the Funding Committee met on Monday and went over the funding applications. The allocations the Committee made were on the back of the green sheet that was distributed. As Ms. Hsueh stated already, there were no more fall funding deadlines, and the receipt deadline for all fall activities, including Projects and Services, was December 2. There would be no exceptions. So people should get their receipts in. Also Round 4 activities will have a window between December 2 and December 9, with December 9 the last time day to turn in those receipts. Ms. Zahrt that information was on the sheet. She said Ms. Moore listed funding deadlines for the spring, and included information on things the GA just talked about, such as applications being online. There was an error at the very bottom, under "Allocations." The top line, Grad Events Round 4, showed the amount awarded as \$3,000. The bottom line actually states the totals for Rounds 4 and 4-A. At the back of the sheet, Round 4-A, \$5,900 was actually awarded, not \$8,919.82. Ms. Zahrt said she just wanted to correct that, so that when they approve Ms. Moore's report, the GA would actually be approving the award of \$5,000 for Grad Events 4-A, and not \$8,919. The \$8,919 reflected the total of Rounds 4 and 4-A, just for Delegates' information. A motion to approve the report was made and seconded. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE REPORT FROM THE FUNDING ADVISOR, GRAD EVENTS ROUNDS 4 and 4-A, PASSED WITH NO OBJECTION.

NEW BUSINESS

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Ms. Odusanya the items under New Business were autonomy discussions and the RSF/YMCA discussion. However, she would like the discussion to be in executive session, and would call for a motion to move into executive session. That would mean that all non-official delegates would have to exit the room while the GA discussed those two items. It was so moved and seconded. A Delegate asked if that would include Alternates. Ms. Odusanya said that Alternates were official, so they could remain. The motion to

Executive Session on Autonomy Issues and on the RSF

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meet in executive session passed with no objection. Ms. Odusanya asked all who were not an official Delegate or Alternate to please exit the room. Ms. Odusanya said that executive session meant the discussion was restricted to GA Delegates and Officers. The discussion would not be recorded in the minutes. That was to encourage openness. The meeting entered into executive session.

Election of a GA Grad Council Representative

Back in open session, Ms. Odusanya said the next item was the election of a Grad Council representative to fill an opening. She asked if Mr. Allen or another thing representative could give a brief overview of the Grad Council. Ms. Perring said the Grad Council was a campus committee made up of professors and three grad student representatives. It deals with all things that were related to grad-student life. The biggest thing they've been thinking of working on, something they haven't made much progress on, was the mental health issue and advisee/advisor relationships. The Grad Council was trying to institutionalize review of research advisors by their grad students. They Grad Council meets once a month, and Grad Council reps also attend GA Executive Board meetings. In total, it's about six or seven hours of meetings a month.

Delegates indicating an interest in running for Grad Council representative were Pete Dillon and Loddi Hagar. Ms. Odusanya said this election was for the Alternate position. That meant they would only go when either Mr. Allen, Mr. Wolf, or Ms. Elnaggar couldn't attend.

Ms. Odusanya asked if Mr. Dillon could introduce himself and give a brief spiel as to why he wanted the position. Pete Dillon introduced himself and said this was his first semester at Cal, and he was in the Chemistry Department. He heard about the advisee/advisor relationship issue, which to him, in his brief period there so far, seemed to be very important. The resolution of such issues seemed very important. For instance, a couple of his first-year peers and friends were considering leaving at the end of the year because they have not found research groups; and one of his friends specifically attributed her trouble to miscommunication or inadequate help on the part of her first-year advisor. That's just a semester-long relationship, but he could already see that inadequate help on the part of a research advisor, or a disagreeable relationship between a mentee and his or her mentor or research advisor, could greatly affect somebody's experience as a grad student. So he was interested in seeing if he could help on that issue.

Ms. Odusanya called for any questions for Mr. Dillon. Ms. Levitan said that in light of all the other time commitments he may have next semester, she asked if he was prepared to really and truly attend, in particular, all the Executive Board meetings, which could be long and contentious, and which required a quorum. Ms. Odusanya said that this semester they've been quite reasonable. Ms. Levitan said Board meetings can be quite contentious. She asked if he was ready to make the time commitment, of six to seven hours of meetings a month, with meetings possibly running over. Ms. Odusanya said Board meetings go three hours. Mr. Dillon said he could commit to that.

Ms. Hagar said she actually hadn't officially been going to run for the Grad Council. Her ultimate career goal was to be in education advocacy, so she liked the idea of exploring different things that happening on campus and knowing what was going on, and having a better understanding of what the University in general was doing that would help her. But she thought that if Mr. Dillon was particularly excited about the issue of advisors and graduate student interaction, in this particular case she thought it made more

Election of a GA Grad Council Representative (cont'd)

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sense for somebody who was very specifically interested in that topic to hold the position than somebody generally interested in education. Ms. Hagar said it was her fault, and she had asked Ms. Odusanya to find out what her experience was on the Grad Council.

Mr. Allen said that if Ms. Hagar was dropping out, he asked if they could nominate her for the alternate position. Ms. Odusanya said that was the position they were electing at that time.

Ms. Odusanya asked Mr. Dillon to step out of the room for a discussion and a vote. A discussion was held off the record on his candidacy. THE MOTION TO APPROVE PETE DILLON AS ALTERNATE GA REPRESENTATIVE ON THE GRADUATE COUNCIL PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.

Ms. Odusanya asked for a motion to approve the election of Mr. Dillon as the new Grad Council alternate. It was so moved and seconded and passed with no objection.

Ms. Odusanya asked to have Mr. Dillon returned to the room, and said She would like to congratulate him. (Applause)

NEW BUSINESS

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The following Resolution was authored and sponsored by Gabriel Harley/Becca Jones (MSE):

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS WITH AN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ARTICLE

WHEREAS, the importance of supporting current work towards sustainability on campus being pursued by groups such as the Chancellors Advisory Committee on Sustainability (CACS), Berkeley ECo, Re-Use, Students for a Greener Berkeley, Green Architecture and Research Design; and

WHEREAS, in line with the Chancellor's recent funding allocation for CACS; and

WHEREAS, the Graduate Assembly's counterpart, the ASUC, already has an article written in the Constitution regarding the same subject (Article XIII); and

WHEREAS, equal quality recycled content paper at minimal increase in cost (<9% cost difference between 30% and virgin paper) is available; and

WHEREAS, the graduate student group Students for a Greener Berkeley is attempting to make purchasing of recycled content paper mandatory for UC Berkeley; and

WHEREAS, the Graduate Assembly currently oversees a large budget and may have significant environmental impact through purchasing decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Graduate Assembly should be a model for sustainability at UC Berkeley; and

Resolution to Amend the By-laws with an Environmental Sustainability Article (cont'd)

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RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS WITH AN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ARTICLE (cont'd)

WHEREAS, natural resources are already overdrawn and supporting sustainable practices will help reduce the demand for resources (such as virgin wood), thereby decreasing our ecological footprint:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Graduate Assembly be committed to buying minimum 30% post-consumer recycled content paper for office supplies, and 100% post-consumer recycled content paper for other paper products.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Graduate Assembly Finance Committee institute a program for the purchase of environmentally preferable products (EPP), such that the EPP will be purchased if the price of the product falls within 10% of the non-preferable product.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that student groups receiving funding from the GA be informed of the EPP plan and the paper purchasing requirements and be encouraged to follow it.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that reimbursements for paper with less than 30% recycled content or other items that do not meet the EPP plan are at the Funding Committee's discretion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a new GA committee, the GA Environmental Sustainability Committee, be

created to oversee these and other issues relating the GA and environmental sustainability.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the following By-law be created to require the Graduate Assembly to be committed to environmental sustainability:

ARTICLE XX - ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

SECTION 1: Purpose

The Graduate Assembly shall conserve and protect natural resources by adopting environmental sustainability as a policy.

SECTION 2: Policies

The adopted environmental sustainability policies shall include the following:

- A. All copying and printing paper purchased shall be of at least 30% post-consumer recycled content.
- B. All other paper purchases shall be of 100% recycled content paper, where possible.
- C. All Graduate Assembly purchases shall adhere to the following conditions, the purpose being to use more environmentally preferable products: An

Resolution to Amend the By-laws with an Environmental Sustainability Article (cont'd)

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RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS WITH AN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ARTICLE (cont'd)

environmentally preferable product (EPP) shall be purchased instead of a non-environmentally preferable product if its price falls within ten percent of the price of the non-environmentally preferable product.

- i. For the purposes of this Article, the phrase "environmentally preferable product" shall mean products that have a lesser or reduced effect on human health and the environment when compared with competing products that serve the same purpose. This comparison may consider raw materials acquisition, production, manufacturing, packaging, distribution, reuse, operation, maintenance, or disposal of the product.
- D. All student groups receiving funding from the Graduate Assembly shall be informed of the EPP purchasing policy and encouraged to follow it.

SECTION 3: Execution of Policies

The Environmental Sustainability Committee shall:

- A. Oversee the environmental sustainability policies each session.
- B. Work with the Finance Committee to make recommendations on funding allocation for

the Graduate Assembly based on the sustainability policy.

- C. Work with the Funding Committee to inform student groups about the EPP purchasing plan.
- D. Generate an annual ASUC report on environmental sustainability policy implementation.

The Finance Committee shall:

- A. Make recommendations on funding allocations for the Graduate Assembly based on the sustainability policy.

The Funding Committee shall:

- A. Inform student groups about the EPP purchasing plan.

Ms. Odusanya asked Mr. Harley or Ms. Jones to give a brief overview of the Resolution. Mr. Harley said the Resolution was included in the agenda packet. For those who were there last year, particularly at the May meeting, the GA had a nearly identical Resolution on the table. It wasn't passed at the time because it was at the end of the year and it couldn't be written into the books. So they were bringing the Resolution up again that evening. The gist was that they wanted to institute a statement that the Graduate Assembly shall be, in general, environmentally sustainable as a whole. Specifically, they would use 30%

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post-consumer recycled content paper. The new thing for this particular Resolution was that they'd form an Environmental Sustainability Committee, something that was already part of the ASUC. So the Resolution would just bring the GA up to speed with what the ASUC and the campus were doing to be more environmentally sustainable.

Ms. Odusanya asked people to please read the Resolution carefully because it would change their By-laws.

A Delegate asked about the status quo, and if there was anything in the books about this. Ms. Odusanya said there wasn't anything official. Mr. Harley said there have been steps taken with recycling, but nothing was on the books or in the By-laws.

Ms. Joshi said about three years ago, or so, a referendum was passed in student elections, that applied to the GA as well, that said the ASUC and the GA had to buy 30% post-consumer recycled paper. So that was supposed to be happening already, and that provision was in the ASUC Constitution. Mr. Harley said most of the provisions in the proposed By-law were copied from the ASUC's rules.

Mr. Cantor said that if these provisions were in the ASUC's By-laws, they were therefore in the GA's By-laws. Mr. Harley said the Resolution was a little bit different, however, and would create a GA committee on environmental sustainability, to oversee things. Mr. Cantor said he was just saying it wasn't necessary for this to be in the GA's By-laws. Also, while he hasn't had a chance to read the Resolution carefully, another function of the committee could be to try to maintain compliance for the ASUC itself, because the ASUC was bound by its own By-laws, and he was fairly sure the ASUC didn't follow them, in this case. The ASUC was very fond of enforcing its By-laws on the GA, and this would be a way for the GA to do that to the ASUC. Mr. Harley said that under the duties of the committee,

that function wasn't clearly, totally defined, but he could see that as being one of committee's activities. He noted that the ASUC that semester created an Office of Sustainability.

Ms. Haynes said that if all went well, and the GA was no longer part of the ASUC, the GA wouldn't be directed by the ASUC's By-laws. So in order to continue to have environmental sustainability in the GA's By-laws, they would need to pass this Resolution.

Ms. Zahrt said passing the bill would mean the GA would have a new committee, whose chair would be on the Executive Board. Ms. Odusanya said that was not necessarily the case. It would be like the GSI/GSR Committee, or the Grad Student Affairs Committee. Ms. Zahrt asked if it was clear at that moment who would be willing to meet as members of this Committee. In the past, the GA has kind of have determined who would lead committees and fill positions. Mr. Harley said that speaking for himself, he would be on the Committee and would be willing it. And there could be others as well.

A Delegate said the ASUC has a committee and the GA wanted its own committee. Mr. Harley said the ASUC had its own Office of Sustainability, which was new that semester. The Delegate asked if people felt there wasn't enough bureaucracy already. Mr. Harley said part of the Resolution would create a new direction, so that when the GA purchased things, if a similar, environmentally-friendly product was being sold within 10% of the product's price, that other purchase would be made instead. He didn't know how much that actually occurred in the ASUC. So as part of this, the Environmental Sustainability Committee in the GA would find out what the GA actually was buying, and it would make recommendations on what they could buy. That wasn't happening at this time, and there needs to be some way to do that. The Committee would also look into other things to change to be more kind to the environment.

Resolution to Amend the By-laws with an Environmental Sustainability Article (cont'd)

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Mr. Stagi said the cost element stood out for him, and he was glad to see a reconciliation between ideals and costs. He asked if there's been any quantification in terms of what the actual cost of this mandate would be for the GA at that point, just so Delegates know what they're planning for. Mr. Harley said he didn't know if the GA was currently buying 30% recycled-content paper. But if they're buying the cheapest they could buy, recycled-content paper could be 9% more. He didn't know how much they buy. As for the rest of the products, he didn't know how much they spend, but the Committee would make recommendations on things to buy that would be made through the Finance Committee. And it would be up to them on whether to spend that money. Mr. Stagi said they don't know, then, what they're mandating even though they actually, technically, would be bound by it. Mr. Harley said the maximum would be 10% more.

Mr. Fisher said the agendas and reports that were distributed were on 100% recycled paper. Also, he got reusable plates and forks for the food. That was just his own doing, and his own pattern of doing things. If there was a committee formed to do this, it could do a whole lot more than just one person could do.

Ms. Hsueh said the ASUC Auxiliary has been doing recycling and they were gearing up to do more. So what the GA wants to do is it has been lacking, but starting this spring, it was their target to do more. They want to recycle as much as possible. As for paper, the GA does buy recycled paper. However, she just recently encountered the fact that they have had a lot of problems with printers. She talked to the repair person, who said that if they use recycled paper, especially printed paper, with printing on the other side, that would damage their fuser. So that's something she really had to compare, considering that it could cost \$700 to repair a printer. They use paper that has already gone through one time, and they recycle it by printing on the other side, versus buying recycled paper. She thought there were costs involved that they would have to look at. If they use recycled paper and keep damaging the printer, they would have to see which way would come out on top. Mr. Harley said she brought up some good points, and those were points that have often been brought up. He was part of a group that was pushing for recycled-content paper all over campus. There are certain papers that have been tested, using many reams of 30% recycled paper, along with the

same tests being done with virgin paper, and the findings have found certain brands perform equally, with no additional jams or problems. So it may just be an issue of finding out which paper worked best. But this Committee would be responsible for that. Ms. Hsueh said that was great, and she'd be all for it.

Mr. Fisher said that to Ms. Hsueh, he's in an Environmental Science senior thesis class, and one of his students was doing a thesis on the issue of recycled papers and jams, and he could introduce him to the GA office and determine what brands would work well.

A Delegate said he didn't know whether or not the University bought recycled paper, but it occurred to him that if they do, because of the purchasing power it has, it would some there might be some benefits, if the GA purchased recycled paper already, of getting into some kind of purchasing stream with the others on campus. That might be better than buying paper retail, virgin paper. Mr. Harley said the University negotiated a contract with Office Max, which has good prices. Purchasing on campus was really decentralized, so some people buy recycled paper and some don't. As for a University-wide storehouse or purchase of mass quantities of paper, there was a contract already. If that idea turns out, they could work for this on campus as a whole. This campus was last of all UC campuses in the amount of paper it purchased that was recycled, 9% versus Davis, which was at 75%.

Mr. Cantor said he wasn't sure about this amendment to the By-laws, and asked if this was how they're supposed to go about making such an amendment. He said amending the By-laws was a big deal, and

Resolution to Amend the By-laws with an Environmental Sustainability Article (cont'd)

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things had to make sense. So he thought they should have the Organization and Rules Committee look at this. The Resolution should be considered in the context of re-writing the By-laws, and addressed that way. The other thing was he didn't have time, and didn't think any of them had time, to think about this the way they should, in terms of what exactly was enforceable in it, what would change. He asked if they were just talking about the office and the type of paper that's bought for the printer in the office, or if they were talking about copies, or about reimbursing student groups for purchases of this type of paper, or if they were talking about other paper products, such as paper plates; that kind of stuff. The spirit of the Resolution he thought was good, but to get it to be where it had a really big impact, it should be much more clearly laid out and studied, and proposed knowing how it would actually play out and what would actually change. Mr. Harley said there were specifics included, such as referring to recycled-content paper, which was pretty specific. The other stuff was vague. It was just call for buying EEP products if the price of those products fell within 10% of a non-preferable product. The idea was to get this approved as a Resolution, and then follow-up with the Organization and Rules Committee, which they were going to do last semester. With the formation of the Sustainability Committee, they'd figure out what they can do as a whole and try to hash out some things. The first step was to form a committee and then decide what else they could do besides these things, which were fairly standard practice, setting up an EEP policy and buying minimal recycled paper.

Ms. Odusanya said they should perhaps think about forming a committee to review this in more depth and to come up with some analysis, pro and con.

Mr. Allen asked if it was mentioned that if the GA passed this, it would go to the Rules Committee. Ms. Odusanya said that if they pass this, they would amend the By-laws. They have a clause that says they can form a committee to pass something like this on to the Rules Committee, or some other committee, to review it and make a recommendation about changing the By-laws. Mr. Harley asked if they could agree to passed the bill that evening, but then have it subject to the approval of the Organization and Rules Committee; and then they could work on wording.

Mr. Stagi said he would think it would be silly to constitute some other committee to hand this off in the interim to the Rules Committee. He thought the Organization and Rules Committee should be constituted to take a look at this.

Ms. Odusanya said that in the interests of time, they'd change the wording to reflect what was just said.

Mr. Harley said they could have a Resolved Clause read, "Resolved, that the By-laws will be created subject to review by the Organization and Rules Committee." Mr. Harley said he could work with Mr. Stagi on that.

Ms. Odusanya called for a motion to approve the Resolution. It was so moved and seconded. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION PASSED BY HAND-VOTE, 30-0-4, RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE BY-LAWS WITH AN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY ARTICLE.

Report from the ASUC Representative to the GA

Ms. Levitan moved to go to the report from the ASUC representative. Mr. Besbris said he had to leave and would ask to move his report up. The motion was seconded and passed with no objection.

Report from the ASUC Representative to the GA (cont'd)

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Mr. Besbris said he just had some things to report that occurred in the past month that he thought were worth noting. There was a really, really great banquet that raised over \$16,000 for earthquake relief in South Asia, an event that was organized by one of the ASUC Senators, Sen. Huzair. Mr. Besbris said that in his opinion, the banquet was the highlight of the semester. Other things to look forward to include an online election plan that should be coming out pretty soon, since last year's Senate passed a Resolution to have this year's elections online. Also, the Judicial Council case involving the GA was going to be resolved on Friday. The current Executive Vice President was suing last year's Senate for transferring money to the Graduate Assembly. The parties involved have actually decided to settle and not go to trial. He could send Ms. Odusanya an e-mail when the settlement occurs. He called for any questions.

A Delegate asked if he knew the terms of the settlement. Mr. Besbris said the terms would be determined on Friday.

A Delegate asked if he was involved in settlement. Mr. Besbris said he wasn't, and said that was up to the Judicial Council. He believed that \$30,000 was at stake. Even though the question might seem petty, it was a lot of money, and it was the GA's money.

Ms. Odusanya asked if it was true that with online voting, the ASUC would have both online as well as polling booths. Mr. Besbris said that was the plan at that time. He was actually on a task force with some ASUC staff on the 4th floor, the ASUC Auxiliary, who have organized ASUC elections. They're currently formulating a plan whereby it looked like they'd reduce the number of on-campus polling locations, while also having online voting. There still would be both. Ms. Odusanya asked if there was a plan to move to entirely online voting in the future. Mr. Besbris said that was the intention of the bill last year. For now, the cost of doing that was almost double what last year's Senate allocated for elections. So he really couldn't say. In his opinion, he thought that's the direction that a lot of Senators wanted to move in. But he didn't know how it would end up.

Ms. Zahrt asked how the costs could be double the cost of last year's elections, which were in the five-digit range, if they have online voting, which was already in place, since Mr. Kittiyachavalit wrote the code for what was done last year, and it was already essentially online. She asked how the costs would double. Mr. Besbris said that according to the tech manager for the ASUC Auxiliary, the cost of moving the elections to being online would mainly come from security purposes, or renting out the process. Most student governments that have online elections rent out that function to private companies that organize the elections for the schools. That's what the ASUC would have to do if

they wanted a fully online election. It seems contra-logical that that would be the case, but apparently that's the situation.

A Delegate asked if he was saying the elections would be secure. She asked how he could say it would cost more to make it secure for everyone to vote, and how asked how it could cost double to put that much more security on something when they're already letting people vote online. Mr. Besbris said they're not voting online at that time. The Delegate said she thought that was the point. Mr. Besbris said he didn't understand. Ms. Odusanya said this year they had both polling stations and online voting. Mr. Besbris said the online voting they'd have would be like a beta test, and right now the plan was to not rent out online voting, but to try to do it themselves, within the ASUC, in an attempt to keep the costs as minimal as possible. And if the system worked out, he thought then the process of moving to fully online elections would take place. The way it's looking at that time, it was thought that the best thing to do for now was to try to have a beta test in this elections cycle. That was a decision made by the Elections Council Coordinator and some people from the 4th floor, who have been talking a lot about this. As they

Report from the ASUC Representative to the GA (cont'd)

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proposed, the upcoming election would be online as well as on-campus elections, and the number of polling places would be reduced. Having online elections would be contingent on the idea that the elections were secure and not compromised. And if they were compromised, the election would be thrown out, and then only the on-campus voting would be counted.

A Delegate asked if he was saying that if it didn't work, the ASUC would throw out the idea entirely, and if what they do does work, they'll pay someone else a lot more money to do it again. Mr. Besbris said the way it was explained to him by the 4th floor, the ASUC Auxiliary, where their money comes from, was that it was cheaper right now to do a contingent online election and an on-campus election than to fully transfer the election online. Ms. Odusanya said the reason was because with fewer people going online, the ASUC could operate that in-house. But if the elections were entirely online, they would need to have a much larger network. Mr. Besbris said that was correct, and that was how it has been explained to him.

Mr. Stagi asked what the estimated budgets were for that year's election, and the subsequent election, if they ramp up to this much more secure and expensive elections. He asked what they were talking about in terms of costs, given that they've had discussions about elections costs. Mr. Besbris said last year's Senate allocated \$45,000 for elections. He thought they were aiming to stay with that figure for this year, because they would be able to reduce the cost by cutting some on-campus locations. The main cost of elections was upkeep of the computers that people use on campus, since the ASUC has to rent them, and the computers have to be managed, and the election has to be staffed by the League of Women Voters. That's where most of the costs actually go, to personnel, such as to the League.

Mr. Stagi asked about the cost for the following year. Mr. Besbris said that has not yet been estimated. Mr. Cantor said that at the last meeting they had with the ASUC, some numbers posted, and it appeared it was remarkably cheaper, 25% of the cost, to just do a paper election. So the discussion about whether it was cheaper to do an election partially online, versus totally online, was kind of disingenuous when they have an alternative they can compare it to. He asked why they should have an entire beta test for elections when they could just have paper balloting. If they want to have a system, they could do that, but they should use paper ballots until a new system was working, instead of having contingent plans that end up in debacles and end up costing \$50,000 every year. Mr. Besbris said he could only answer from his own opinion, and it seemed that what Mr. Cantor said was a very reasonable offer. However, there were other Senators who didn't feel the same way he did. He wished he ran the Senate, but the idea last year was to have elections online this year. Last year something like 7,000 students voted, less than a third of the total student population. The idea was to make voting as accessible as possible. The idea with having a paper election was that people wouldn't take the time to fill out a paper ballot.

Ms. Odusanya said the ASUC President was present, Mr. Buenrostro, and perhaps he could help Mr. Besbris with questions. Mr. Buenrostro said he was just in the neighborhood and decided to stop by and answer any questions people might have about what the ASUC is doing; so this part of the agenda could be as quick as the GA wanted it to be.

Mr. Buenrostro said that to give them a little update, he's been very pleased with how they've been able to work very closely on different issues with people like President Odusanya, Mr. Stagi, and Academic Affairs Vice President Schechtman. One thing they're currently working on was the issue of Lower Sproul redevelopment. This is a process they could push that year, along with the University. They've also been working very closely with the GA on the Class Pass referendum, something they've been very successful with that year. Right now they have a good collaboration between the Graduate Assembly and

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the ASUC, which the ASUC hopes to maintain. Mr. Buenrostro said he didn't have a presentation but could answer any questions. Ms. Odusanya called for any questions.

Mr. Begtrup said he hated to beat a dead horse, but he was confused about the voting system. Right now, with registration, they have BearFACTS, which can handle the entire student population. So he'd ask why they couldn't integrate that into a voting system that obviously could handle the numbers and be secure. He asked why they would have to use something else. Mr. Buenrostro said he would refer any technical questions on the elections to David Fullmer, who is the expert on technological details. Mr. Buenrostro said that all he could tell them was that in no way did he want the ASUC that year to spend more for elections than the amount of money they've allocated. He didn't want to reach the level of expenditure they've reached in previous years. That was his major concern. If people have further questions, he would recommend that they send him an e-mail and he would forward their questions to David Fullmer, who could answer technical questions better than he could.

Mr. Stagi said he had some insight on that. He and Mr. Schechtman had a conversation with the Registrar and in terms of voting possibilities, the Registrar indicated she was not really capable or willing to set up more than a simple up or down vote. That kind of vote would be appropriate for referendum situations, but not appropriate for a full, convoluted type of ballot that the ASUC has.

Mr. Begtrup asked if that was because the Registrar didn't have the power or because the Registrar's office didn't want to actually implement ASUC elections. Mr. Stagi said he thought it was more the latter. The Registrar's office was willing to help, as a courtesy, on smaller levels, but the level of involvement that would be required to put something on the ballot was more than they would be willing to commit.

Mr. Allen said that with that in mind, he would strenuously recommend that they use some resources to help put something like that together. The elections were already costing so much anyway. From his old undergraduate institution, he did some research and talked with people from some other undergrad schools, and it seemed to him, with all due respect, that there's always a great deal of contention with these things, and he didn't know if it was up to the level where they need to bring in the League of Women Voters, Common Cause, and other good government folks. This was a school election, with year-long positions. The positions weren't that powerful. He wished these measures were in place in Florida in 2000, for the presidential election. But he felt at Berkeley they could be a little more sensible. There was such a concern about security and he didn't know how well founded it was. Lastly, he would suggest that if they use paper ballots, he would like them to be 30% post-consumer recycled.

Mr. Besbris said he really did think security was an issue. He's also done research on the issue and most all UC

student governments, besides Berkeley, have online elections, and there have been multiple incidents, notably an incident one or two years ago where people would have keggers and set up a laptop right next to a keg and tell people they wouldn't get any beer if they didn't vote for a particular candidate. It seems petty, but security was the main concern. He submitted a bill that would only allow one vote per IP address, but having that level of security was very costly, although he thought it was necessary.

Ms. Odusanya said the Elections Council was in charge of the elections, so Delegates' comments could be passed on to them.

Mr. Buenrostro said valid points were brought up about BearFACTS and paper ballots, and he would really appreciate Delegates sending e-mails of their suggestions so that could be looked into more specifically, and so they could be given a precise response.

Report from the ASUC Representative to the GA (cont'd)

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Mr. Allen said it was his sense that the two of them, Mr. Besbris and Mr. Buenrostro, knew much more about this than Delegates, at least from their presentation. The problem was with other folks in the Senate. Mr. Besbris said that's the way he liked to think of it. He just had his own opinions, and other people didn't agree with them.

Ms. Tom said that with respect to the online system they'll test that year, she asked what the criteria was for security and whether that was acceptable or not, and whether they could repeat what happened to the votes in the beta test system if security was compromised. Mr. Besbris said the Senate has not yet made a decision on this entire issue, or to have an online beta system and still have on-campus polls. This was wanted by just a couple of Senators and a couple of people on the 4th floor, including Dave Fullmer, the IT staffperson for the ASUC. Mr. Besbris said this was the plan they, including himself, have thought, although it hasn't been approved. So things could change. But right now the thought was that there could be a beta test one week. They haven't discussed levels of security and how they would decide if the votes have been tampered with, or if there's been an encryption problem, or whatever mandate would cause those votes to be thrown out. So it's not something that's solid, concrete, or anything near completion.

Ms. Tom asked if people would have an opportunity to vote again if votes were compromised. Mr. Besbris said the plan was that if the online votes were found to be compromised, then they would try to figure out a way for those people to come on to campus to vote.

Ms. Hagar said spending \$50,000, or \$45,000, for elections seemed like a lot to her, although she had nothing to gauge that on. She asked how much other UCs pay for elections and if Berkeley's turnouts were so much better because they're spending more, or what the tradeoff was. Mr. Besbris said he didn't know what other UCs pay. Since most of them rent out this function to private companies, he would guess their costs were probably higher. Right now the ASUC's main cost was personnel, from the League of Women Voters. But otherwise, they don't have the type of IT costs that other schools have. But he really couldn't answer the question.

Ms. Zahrt said this was off the topic of the elections, but since Mr. Buenrostro was here, she asked for a brief sound byte on what "Lower Sproul redevelopment" meant. Mr. Buenrostro said this has been in the works at least since 1996. A plan was drawn up by the University a couple of years ago, and the idea was to take down Eshleman Hall and Lower Sproul and rebuild it to be a better, more vibrant area. The idea was to have a career center there, and extended student services in this space, and to have it be a lot safer, because right now, if there was an earthquake, they'd essentially all die. Mr. Buenrostro said he and Mr. Schechtman, of the GA, have been working with people like Regina Maslach and Cathy Koshland, from the University. Ms. Maslach was Vice Provost and Director of Education. Mr. Buenrostro said they've been trying to figure out a way to get a conceptual design before the end of the second semester so they could put a proposal on the University's capital campaign. Unfortunately, this was an issue that took a long time to solve. They hope that at least this year they could put this issue on the University's

capital campaign fund so they could get money outside of student fee money to actually retrofit Lower Sproul in the future. The hope was that next year they could make sure that whoever replaces the current student officers could work with that.

A Delegate said he would like to first thank Mr. Buenrostro for coming to the meeting. This discussion on elections there highlighted something for him. He was a freshman undergrad ten years ago, and for the idea that this was a problem ten years later, especially for a school like Berkeley, blew his mind and made him think there was something to be said about taking the experience of grad students, who have

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been at other undergrad universities. Also, he wanted to commend Mr. Buenrostro on setting up the Graduate/Undergraduate Mentorship Program. That was not something that existed at either school he's attended. Mr. Buenrostro said that regarding graduate expertise, a committee met regularly to discuss the elections in the spring, and he would actually recommend that anybody from the GA attend if they were interested, and he would welcome at least one member of the grad student body to attend and give their input, because all the input he's received from them so far was good. His e-mail address was president@asuc.org. He would ask them to please send him or Mr. Besbris an e-mail, maxb@asuc.org, and they'd make sure grads were invited to the next meeting.

Mr. Stagi asked if the entire membership of that committee has already been constituted or if they would be willing to accept a grad student, voting member on the committee. Mr. Buenrostro said the Senate committee has already been established. But at the same time, it's not exclusive, which meant that anybody who was interested in the issue could come and participate. It's not a completely formal committee.

Mr. Cantor said his input would be to go back to paper voting, which was cheaper and didn't have any security concerns. He thought overall, the ASUC needed to take into account that grad students were already somewhat disenfranchised by the voting process because so few of them actually do have access. What they would be doing in going to an online system was to open up the process for vote buying. Despite the fact that vote buying was good politics for politicians, it wasn't exactly a cornerstone of a great democratic system. So when they open things up to such possibilities, and it cost them to do that, he thought as grads they hopefully would stand against that because they vote in small numbers.

Ms. Odusanya called for any other comments and said she would like to thank Mr. Besbris and Mr. Buenrostro for attending the meeting. Mr. Buenrostro said people could contact him whenever they have a question, and said he'd love to answer them.

Ms. Odusanya said they would move into Reports.

REPORTS (cont'd)

Ms. Odusanya said the President's report has been covered. The only item she would remark on was that they purchased a new server that will be installed within the next week. So they'll have better security. The rest of her report has been addressed, dealing with autonomy and online funding.

For the report from the External Affairs Vice President, Ms. Medina said the Regents approved a fee increase about

two weeks ago, which was bad news. The increase for grads was 10%. And even though a lot of graduate students there don't pay their own fees, they know that such an increase affects their departments because that means there were fewer students they could admit, and less financial aid to be given. Some departments weren't even accepting international students. For professional students, the fee increase has varied. If they look at her report, she included the amounts. It ranges from \$1,500 for Law students, and thank God she was graduating, to \$200 for Public Policy. But Public Policy and Public Policy actually got an increase last year, so \$200 was still a lot.

Reports (cont'd)

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Ms. Medina said there were some good moments in their campaign with the Regents. The UCSA, which works with the other UCs, has actually successfully lobbied the Regents. Assembly Speaker Nuñez has a vote on the Board of Regents but never shows up to exercise it. So students really lobbied him hard and collected postcards on the campus. And Mr. Nuñez showed up, which was really great. And he actually made an amendment during the Regents meeting and promised to work to allocate more money to the UC, so that if the UC were to get more money, that money would go directly to buy back undergraduate fees. So that's good, and students will have an aggressive campaign ahead of them to get that implemented. Ms. Medina said the other good news was that one of the Regents made an amendment to freeze grad fees, and it only lost by three votes. And actually, some of the students' allies, Regents who always vote with students, voted no. If students had known about the proposed amendment beforehand, they could have lobbied their allies and could have had that passed. So they'll work with Regent Marcus, the Regent who proposed that, and get him to propose the amendment for the January meeting, and hopefully get enough votes to get that passed and freeze grad fees. As for professional students, they're not sure what their message was. Ms. Medina said she's a professional student, and they're working on developing their message, since because Law and Business were elite schools, the whole, "We can't afford to be students" doesn't work. So they're trying to see what else they can do, because Law and Business were different from the poor professional schools, like Public Health, where most students go, to serve the public, and grads from those schools don't have big salaries to look forward to. If Delegates want to be part of these campaigns, the office really welcomed that.

Ms. Medina said the three people in the External Affairs office will be gone next year, so if people would like to get the hang of how everything works, they could start to get involved at that time, and hopefully fill positions next year. If they would like campus organizing and legislative advocacy, these were perfect positions, and they were a lot of fun.

Reporting for the Organization and Rules Committee, Mr. Stagi said that based upon the passage of the Resolution on environmental sustainability, which amended the By-laws, it appeared that the Organization and Rules Committee needed to be convened. So he would like to express the need for people to stand up and be members of this Committee. He had one volunteer, Mr. Gabriel. He called for anybody else. Volunteering were Mr. Eckerle and Umberto, in Public Health. Mr. Stagi called for any other volunteers. He said they would put this out to people in general.

For the report from the Academic Affairs Vice President, Mr. Schechtman said they've already talked about the RSF. He just had a long conversation with the ASUC and they'll try to coordinate efforts on that. He wanted to thank those who volunteered. The only other thing he would add dealt with the Class Pass and the Bear Transit referendum, which will come up for a vote in the spring. Based on students' feedback in working with Parking and Transportation, and Mr. Stagi's work with them, there were two major changes. Mr. Schechtman said he was sure everybody saw the Lawrence Berkeley Lab buses, the blue and white bus shuttles that go around campus that were mostly empty, because students were not allowed to ride them. That system will be merged with the campus bus

shuttle system. That would almost double, he believed, the frequency of campus buses. That's being proposed to start next year. Mr. Stagi said there will also be some route changes and rationalization of routings, so they will go in popular areas and will, e.g., stop in front of the rotunda at the BART station, as opposed to on the far side, so people could catch the bus for the perimeter route. There will also be other items that are changed, so the system will be much more intelligently routed.

Reports (cont'd)

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Mr. Schechtman said they've also added a funding stream to provide money for what's called "next bus technology." Based on feedback from Delegates, they've proposed to roll that out first for the Night Safety Shuttles. So from a computer or cell phone, a passenger would be able to look to see when the next shuttle would arrive. Mr. Schechtman said he's also had feedback from grad students who use AC Transit to commute that they would like to roll that out to more AC Transit lines.

Mr. Cantor said he had concerns about the amount of technology Mr. Schechtman was talking about. It was being rolled out in San Francisco and was being passed off in higher fares and poorer service. They raised fares 20% and that money, rather than paying for a deficit, has gone to pay a \$12 million contract for next-bus service. Mr. Schechtman said he understood that they were independent from Muni, in San Francisco. And they specifically specified that no single vendor was to be named. The Engineering Department was actually working on a student initiative, and what they did was that rather than take money away from services, there would be an additional \$1-2 per student per semester that would fund this. Mr. Cantor said his point was that AC Transit was watching Muni in terms of raising fees, and people should be cognizant of that, because it did have an impact on service. Mr. Schechtman said AC Transit was already rolling this out on its own, on San Pablo and on Telegraph, and any other changes on campus would be funded by the students. Students felt it was worth \$1-2 per student per semester. Mr. Cantor said he wanted to make clear that they were not independent, and that there was a larger community of riders who ride AC Transit. He didn't think they should approach it as whether students kick in more, but on the whole situation of fare hikes on AC Transit.

Mr. Stagi said the technology has not yet been entirely decided upon. They're developing a lifeline technology at the Engineering Department that was significantly cheaper than undergrads would pay. They were working out some bugs, but it's almost ready. It worked on topography, and while there were holes in coverage, it would be significantly cheaper, and would be an opportunity for to roll out something that would be helpful. Minimally it would be rolled out on certain buses that especially lack clarity on when the next buses were coming, and then it would be rolled out to the rest of the Bear Transit and around the perimeter. As for as AC Transit, it will institute its own next-bus technology along Telegraph Ave. They're definitely not willing to spend big money for a Cadillac and subsidize other systems.

Mr. Cantor said he got an e-mail about a dispute with shuttle drivers, and he was wondering if Mr. Schechtman knew about that. Mr. Cantor said he didn't hear anything back from them. Mr. Schechtman said he didn't know about it.

Reporting for the Funding Committee, Ms. Zahrt said her report was with Ms. Moore's report, and she had nothing additional to add.

Reporting for the Diversity Committee, Ms. Kasad said the Committee just recently formed. They've only had a couple of meetings so far. The two main things they're trying to focus on were to form a network of different graduate groups on campus around issues of diversity, and they're doing that by contacting departments individually and trying to find out what's going on with student life in those departments. They're having limited success with

that, so if Delegates were involved in such groups or knew of any, he'd really appreciate if they could let her know. And secondly, sometime next spring, they'd like to meet with different groups that address these issues. So early in the year they hope to have some kind of informal gathering for groups to get together to talk about how they can work together.

Reports (cont'd)

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Mr. Allen said that most professional schools have similar kinds of groups. Ms. Kasad said the whole idea was to form a network of graduate groups across campus. They've had limited success going to administrative people in departments to find out what groups exist. So if any Delegates knew of any, that information would be helpful. Ms. Zahrt said she knew about the grad groups that apply for money, and there were a lot. So she and Ms. Kasad could get together. People send her e-mails, and Ms. Moore also had people's e-mail addresses.

Ms. Odusanya said she would entertain a motion to approve all the reports that they've heard. It was so moved and seconded. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE REPORTS THAT WERE GIVEN PASSED WITH NO OBJECTION.

Ms. Odusanya said she would call for a motion to adjourn. It was so moved and seconded and passed with no objection.

Ms. Odusanya said she would like to thank people for staying.

This meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

These minutes respectfully submitted by,

Steven I. Litwak
Recording Secretary

| Name | Dept. | Name | Dept. |
|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Abbaszadeh, Sahar | Architecture | Hsueh, Susan | GA Manager |
| Agarwal, Harish | Physics | Huezo, Hector | Law |
| Ahrendt, Rebekah | Music | Huff, Eric | Astronomy |
| Anderson, Meghan | Math | Jimenez, Javier | Comp Lit |
| Arons, Sam | Energy & Resources Group | Kasad, Roshni | MCB |
| Bartolone, Pauline | Journalism | Levitan, Carmel | Bio E |
| Begtrup, Gavi | Physics | Ng, Charlene | IB |
| Bertucci, Sonja | French | Odusanya, Lola | GA President |
| Besbris, Max | ASUC Rep | Ordonez, Juan Thomas | Anthropology |
| Brakora, Katie | IB | Ortega, Alberto | Public Health |

| | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Buccitelli, Anthony | Folklore | Preciado, Jessica | Mech Eng |
| Chanzit, Adam | East Asian Languages | Rinehart, Bruce | SIMS |
| Cobb, Corie | Mech Eng | Salas, Luis | Art Hist |
| Cohon, Adam | Political Science | Scales, Joyce | Public Policy |
| Crosby, Joy | Performance Studies | Schechtman, Rob | GA Acad Aff VP |
| Eckerle, Tex | Bio E | Stagi, Jay | DCRP |
| Fairbrother, Malcolm | Sociology | Strange, Jason | Geography |
| Fisher, Josh | GA Dept Liaison | Tasoff, Josh | Economics |
| Franklin, Johanna | Logic | Tom, Sarah | Demography |
| Freedman, Danna | Chemistry | Tran, Richard | Rhetoric |
| Ghias, Shoaib | Jurisprudence and Social Policy | Troyani, Sara | Italian Studies |
| Gross, Stephen | History | VanderSal, Nicole | ESPM |
| Hagar, Loddie | Chemical Engineering | Virgili, Justin | Chem Eng |
| Harley, Gabriel | MSE | Way, Cecily | Transportation Engineering |
| Hasadsri, Wanda | Law | Yu, Way | Optometry |
| Haubenreich, Jacon | German | Zahrt, Jenn | German |
| Haynes, Erin | Linguistics | | |