

# GRADUATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

October 5, 2006

## SUMMARY OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

### Announcements

There will be a free lecture, the Mario Savio Lecture, on Thursday, November 2, 7:30, in Pauley Ballroom. Speakers will be Jeff Chang and Tom Hayden, speaking on activism "then and now."

It was Mr. Daniels' birthday, and "Happy Birthday" was sung for him.

The ASUC elected a second representative to the GA, Dwight Asuncion.

### Report from the Grad Social Club

The Grad Social Club facilitates interaction among grads. There was a "Back to School Social" in September and the next major event was Oktoberfest, on the 23rd, 7:00 to 10 p.m., at the Alumni House. There will be kegs and it will be catered by Top Dog. Last year they rented a bus and went to Sonoma for a wine country tour that was very popular. They also get discounted tickets for the Berkeley Repertory Theatre. A Grad Social Club Planning Committee was starting that Delegates could join.

### Introduction to the Graduate Assembly

The fast pace of the last GA meeting was to get out by 7:30. People were probably at the GA because they want to make a difference. The GA could help facilitate that in departments, on the campus, the UC System as a whole, or the City of Berkeley, or the State and the country. The GA's mission was to advocate on behalf of and serve graduate and professional students on campus. Delegates were encouraged to get more involved, even if that was just checking the Web site on the Monday before the Delegates meeting. The GA was going to consider raising the budget for student group funding from \$120,000 to \$150,000, but the Finance Committee didn't have quorum. The GA structure didn't work unless people sat on committees.

The Dean of Students, Jonathan Poullard was introduced.

### Presentation by Debra Grabelle, AFSCME Representative

AFSCME, Local 3299, represented about 1,000 workers on the campus who clean, serve meals, and do gardening and maintenance. Custodians basically earn poverty wages \$12 an hour after five years. Peralta Community Colleges pays custodians \$18 an hour after five years. The Union was asking for the GA's support again. Last year the GA passed a Resolution in support. The workers will have a march on October 18 and would asking the GA to get the word out. AFSCME picketed last year and Assembly Speaker Núñez got extra money in the UC's budget for this. But Chancellor Birgeneau last year said there was no money on the campus to fix this. The University wants workers to pay 2% into their pension

fund, and if custodians were to trade that for 18,000 workers giving that money, the University would give the increase to custodians.

## Summary of the Meeting (cont'd)

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They struck in April for one day, the first time for all service workers Statewide in the UC System to strike in 20 years. They got a contract with an increase of 3-4% across-the-board. In mid-contract, UC raised health care costs 70%, and raised parking fees.

## REPORTS

For the Funding Committee, they reviewed the Round 2 funding applications and allocated funds for Grad Events I and II, grants, Grad Group Resources (Projects and Services). For Grad Events I and II, the amount requested was \$28,422. The amount recommended was \$16,074 and the amount allocated was \$6,545. The difference in the amounts between "recommended" and "final" was a mathematical computation of how much money from this funding category they should spend in this funding round.

The limit for combined funding from Grad Events I and II was \$800 per semester that year. Last year the GA capped Grad Events I at \$300.

The GA had a requirement for groups to match GA funds. There was a proposal there will be a proposal to increase the budget for student groups by \$30,000, but the GA didn't have a revenue stream to fund student groups as they'd like. Also, many student groups ask to fund things that were GA restrictions. By unanimous voice-vote, the GA approved the Funding Committee's recommendations for Round 2 of Grad Events, Round 1 of Grants, and Projects and Services.

For the Environmental Sustainability Committee, the first meeting was held. They'll look at sustainable, socially responsible investing of ASUC Auxiliary funds, and work with the OSL to include sustainability in workshops and Web sites, work on the Lower Sproul redevelopment project, and on internal GA operations with regard to sustainability. Plans they had were to create an environmental sustainability Web site for the GA and a resource page; meet with OSL; and meet with GA Project leaders.

For the Foreign Student Affairs Committee, they contacted the Financial Aid Office on campus regarding international students being ineligible for childcare or other University grants. That's because money for that was from student fees money the Regents designated to be used just for resident students. The Committee will work with Ms. Cementwala on parent-student issues. They registered with OSL to get GA funding for an event in December. Things they're working on include a document showing why attracting more international students to Berkeley was important; on an international student survey, in cooperation with External Affairs; and on compiling information to talk to the Regents about non-resident tuition and other issues.

For the Business Office, Ms. Hsueh, GA Manager, introduced herself and Elisa Estrera, Student Supervisor. The front desk was fully staffed, with undergrads, so there's no conflict of interest. They mind GA money and give out money. The Business Office was fully staffed. The Web site, [ga@berkeley.edu](http://ga@berkeley.edu) was about 85% or 90% updated. The GA had only two career staff, the Manager and Ms. Stevens-Carter, Funding Advisor. The controlled spending and had some carryforward. That was used to raise student groups funding from \$120K to \$150K and to add money for some GA Projects

For the Finance Committee, they'd like to address a funding shortfall for the Departmental Liaison, for the New Grad Student Orientation, and the Graduate Student Support Project. The Finance Committee did

not reach quorum. They'll write a funding letter to the Grad Division and work to codify funding By-laws with Org.&Rules. The GA gets \$450,000 from student fees, \$50,000 from a beverage contract with

Summary of the Meeting (cont'd)

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Coca-Cola and also uses carryforward from the previous year, approximately \$77,000. The Grad Division also gives money, \$32,000 last year. Student group funding was \$150K; GA Projects and resources was \$140K; the Business Office was about \$130K; and there were other miscellaneous allocations. The budget was online.

For the Organization and Rules Committee, meetings were scheduled for October 10, 31, and November 28, from 12:00 to 1:30. They'll work towards developing amendments for consideration at the December GA meeting. Committee members were needed, and changes to the By-laws could be proposed. But the Committee had to meet quorum for changes to go forward.

### Officers' Reports

For the External Affairs Vice President, UC Student Association, encompassing all graduate and undergrad student bodies on UC campuses, met in September. The Regents saw a report on non-resident tuition but took no stance on it. The Students of Color Conference will be held in Berkeley on November 18-19. The US Department of Education held a hearing on campus and students talked about their debts. The External Affairs Committee didn't have quorum and needs members. The position of Campus Organizing Director was open, a paid position at 15 hours a week,. People could watch the Governor's debate on Saturday at the GA. The UCSA will meet at UCLA that month. The last day to register to vote was October 23. There will be a debate on Berkeley Measure I, a Berkeley measure about condominium conversions, and a series of debates on State Propositions. There will be an early voting station on campus on Wednesday and Thursday, November 1 and 2, at MLK, the 1st floor. Help was needed from TAs with class raps to register students. They'll also research international diversity and enrollment and will do a graduate quality-of-life survey. People were needed to help on these.

For the Academic Affairs Vice President, two forums on student parenting issues will be held on October 11, in the Senate Chamber, and at Albany Village on October 12. There was a response to a Grad Division survey of doctoral students the Grad Division will put out. Questions were suggested regarding student families. There was also a meeting with the Disabled Student Services Program to talk about concerns of grads and to get a sense of demographics. They still had to work on updating the Web site. The Academic Affairs Committee did not reach quorum. The entire report was on the Web site.

For the GA President, the Lower Sproul Committee was convened. They're working on a grad student survey. There was a meeting with the Chancellor and a Delegates' social was held. They still have to redo Anthony Hall and meet everyone in the GA. The Presidential Advisor Committee will be convened. Feedback on the meeting was requested.

It was Ms. Stevens-Carter birthday, and "Happy Birthday" was sung for her.

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

### **End Summary of the Meeting**

This regular meeting of the Graduate Assembly was called to order by Josh Daniels at 5:32 p.m. in the ASUC Senate Chamber.

### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Daniels said they didn't distribute agendas in order to save paper, and the basic agenda was written on the board. If people had any objection, he would ask them to please go online and let him know.

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mr. Daniels called for any objection to approval of the minutes from the September meeting. A motion to approve was made and seconded. **THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 14, 2006 MEETING PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anu Joshi introduced herself and said she graduated last year, when she was in the GA. Ten years ago Mario Savio died, and every year they put on a free lecture, the Mario Savio Lecture. This year the speakers will be Jeff Chang and Tom Hayden. Mr. Chang wrote the book, Can't Stop, Won't Stop: The History of Hip-Hop Activism. Mr. Chang went to Berkeley and was student body President here, and he's now gone on to do amazing things. Tom Hayden was a State Senator, a civil rights leader, a peace activist, and an environmental leader in the '60s. Mr. Chang was activism now, and Mr. Hayden was activism "then," and they'll have a conversation about how activism has changed and where things were going in the future. She had fliers to hand out. The talk will be at Pauley Ballroom, Thursday, November 2, starting at 7:30.

Ms. Cementwala said that Mr. Daniels did a really good job of trying to hide his birthday, which was that day. They decided to punish him for keeping it a secret and would therefore embarrass him by singing "Happy Birthday" in the most obnoxious voices they could muster. Mr. Daniels turned a quarter of a century that day. She wanted to wish him a very Happy Birthday. "Happy Birthday" was sung for Mr. Daniels. Mr. Daniels said he would like to thank them very much.

Taylor Allbright, ASUC representative, said the ASUC elected a second representative to the Graduate Assembly, and she wanted to introduce Dwight Asuncion. (Applause)

Ms. Jones, Departmental Liaison, said people should have name badges, and she would thank them for putting them back in the box when they left the meeting. And at the next meeting, that's where the

badges could be found. Also, if people could use the trash and clean up their plates, that would make cleaning up a lot easier.

## Report from the Grad Social Club

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### Report from the Grad Social Club

Jeff Wolf introduced himself and said he was the Co-Chair of the Graduate Social Club. Bethany Lyles introduced herself, and said that with about 10,000 grad students at Berkeley, the Grad Social Club wanted to facilitate interaction among departments and schools. Ms. Lyles said the Grad Social Club puts on several big events each year, as well as smaller events. They had a "Back to School Social" in September and the next major event was Oktoberfest, on the 23rd. They like to have live music and sometimes some form of entertainment. They're interested in seeing what other people would like to do and what entertainment they want. They like to do theme events, and in the past they've held a Mardi Gras event. They also hold smaller, "lottery" events, where attendance is on a first-come, first-served basis. They had a wine country tour last year that was very popular, where they rented a bus and went to Sonoma. They also do things like get discounted tickets for the Berkeley Repertory Theatre. They're interested in perhaps renting out local restaurants, and doing a kind of a discounted meal there.

The GA will have an open house on November 9. Ms. Hsueh said Delegates should invite their professors to come. Mr. Wolf said they'll have live music, food, and drinks. Ms. Lyles said Oktoberfest will be on the 23rd, from 7:00 to 10 p.m., at the Alumni House, behind Zellerbach. They'll have kegs and it will be catered by Top Dog.

Ms. Lyles said the major point they wanted to make was that they're starting a Grad Social Club Planning Committee. Delegates have to join a committee, and this could be one of them. There were lots of things they need people to do. They need a Web master. Mr. Wolf said they need a recruitment director as well. They deal with finances and filling out forms, and could use event managers. There were also positions available, separate from the GSC Planning Committee, for people who would like to consistently volunteer their time and have a say in what the GSC will do. He'd send around a sign-up sheet. People could sign up just to be on the volunteer list, which didn't commit them to anything. Their Grad Social Club's next organizational meeting will be next Wednesday at 7:00. All their meetings were held at Triple Rock. Ms. Lyles said they'll provide beer and appetizers. Mr. Wolf said if they wanted a position, Delegates should let them know and they'd get it touch with them.

### Introduction to the Graduate Assembly

Mr. Daniels said that at the last meeting, he forgot to do a quick introduction to meetings and to the organization. For those who were also there last year, he wanted to thank them for coming. He'd apologize for the pace of the last meeting. He did it because in the past, GA meetings have been long, and not always effective. So he came in really focused on getting out by 7:30. However, he realized that he forgot to explain certain things and he wasn't sure that everyone got a chance to speak on all issues they wanted to speak about. Those two things were in conflict, getting out on time and making sure everybody

had an opportunity to speak. In order to attempt to address that difficulty, there would be time at the end of the meeting to give feedback. It was important that they, as a body, figure out this issue.

As to why they were there, some of them might be there because they're interested in government; or they want to meet new people. But he'd guess that part of why they were all there was because they want to make a difference, and because in this world, a difference needed to be made. That might mean making a

Introduction to the GA (cont'd)

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difference in their department, on the campus, in the UC System as a whole, or the City of Berkeley, or the State, the country, or, for that matter, the world. That was part of why they were at the GA.

To give them a quick overview of the GA's mission, Mr. Daniels said it was to advocate on behalf of and serve both graduate and professional students on campus. That may mean within a department, on the campus, or in the State. Some students might want to address larger problems. The GA's job was to serve and to advocate for them. Unless they were perfectly happy with how the campus was run, which he hoped they weren't, since there were issues they need to improve upon, and unless they had complete trust that the campus would be run perfectly in the future, the GA was the best place to make a difference.

Mr. Daniels said he should have mentioned these things at their first meeting. He was sure most people there already knew them. If all they did was to come there and listen to him talk, and eat good food, that wouldn't make for a functional GA. He understood they were all busy, but he would encourage them to get more involved. That might just mean checking the Web site on the Monday before the Delegates meeting and reading through the agenda and writing out some notes, so discussions at the meeting were more engaging and thoughtful. He called for any general questions.

Mr. Inkabi asked when minutes were posted, and said he checked a week or so ago. Mr. Daniels said they were up on Monday. They try to get everything for the meeting up a week ahead of time, but they were a bit slow that time. If people needed something that wasn't on the Web site, they could send him an e-mail directly, [president@ga.berkeley.edu](mailto:president@ga.berkeley.edu).

Mr. Daniels said the GA technically used Robert's Rules to govern the meeting. That meant that in order to vote on something, a motion had to be made and seconded. They tend to run meetings in a fairly loose way. They could always move into a more formal structure if they had to keep things civil.

Lastly, he wanted to introduce somebody who could not, unfortunately, attend their last meeting, but was present that evening. Mr. Daniels said he wanted to introduce the Dean of Students, Jonathan Poullard. If people were at the New Graduate Student Orientation, they heard Dean Poullard give a wonderful speech. If they had questions about life on campus or various student services, Dean Poullard was the one to see.

Mr. Daniels said that just to give a brief update, AFSCME represented the custodians on campus and it has been doing some actions around wages and how the University was paying them. Ms. Debra Grabelle would be speaking at the meeting to educate the student body.

Mr. Daniels said that as of yesterday, the GA was going to consider a motion to raise the budget for student group funding from \$120,000 to \$150,000. They were also going to consider a motion to allow the Graduate Student Committee on Lower Sproul to use up to \$5,000 to survey the entire graduate student body. According to their By-laws, the Graduate Assembly had to establish a Finance Committee con-

sisting of at least five, and not more than 11 Delegates, to be responsible for preparing recommendations to the Assembly on the allocation of Assembly funds. The Finance Committee was also responsible for formulating policies for the allocation of Assembly funds subject to the approval of the Assembly. That was Section 5.5 of the By-laws. Every single Resolution or motion that changed the budget must go through the Finance Committee. Fi-Comm didn't have a quorum at its last meeting. So while they all wanted to raise the budget from \$120K to \$150K for student group funding, they couldn't do that unless they had a quorum for the Finance Committee to meet. A few people were on the disabled list and

Introduction to the GA (cont'd)

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couldn't attend. So if Delegates didn't have a committee yet, that would be one to join. This was a lesson of the importance of committees. The whole GA structure couldn't work unless people sat on committees.

Mr. Daniels said they would table motions dealing with the increase to student group funding until the GA's next meeting, when the GA will hopefully be able to address them.

Ms. Ahrendt asked to introduce the Finance Committee Chair. Nish Rajan introduced himself. He said the Finance Committee meets on Mondays at 7:10 in Demography. There were six people on the Committee. There had to be a minimum of four votes, and as a paid member of the GA, he couldn't vote. Mr. Daniels called for any questions.

Ms. Lyles asked if people had to be elected to be part of the Finance Committee. Mr. Daniels said they didn't.

Mr. Eckerle asked if Fi-Comm had a motion and the GA amended it, if Fi-Comm would have to approve it again. Mr. Daniels said it wouldn't. Mr. Rajan said Delegates have the final say. Changes that the Finance Committee makes are brought to the Delegates for approval. The Finance Committee acted as a filter.

Ms. Levitan asked if the Executive Board could act on behalf of the Finance Committee. Mr. Daniels said it could. He didn't learn about Fi-Comm not having a quorum until Wednesday, and they couldn't convene the Executive Board in time to stand in for Fi-Comm and bring the motions forward. But the Executive Board had full loads at its meetings and generally couldn't fill in for committees.

#### Presentation by Debra Grabelle, AFSCME Representative

Mr. Daniels introduced Debra Grabelle, an organizer for AFSCME, Local 3299. Ms. Grabelle introduced herself and said she worked with about 1,000 workers on the campus who clean the dorms, the classrooms, serve meals in the dining halls, do the gardening, and do the maintenance work throughout the campus. She distributed some information about a struggle that about 400 custodians have been in since last year. Last year the GA passed a Resolution to support those workers, which the workers were very grateful for. But they were still struggling. The custodians basically earn poverty wages. A custodian who has worked there for five years earns \$12 an hour, and can't support families on that amount. Many of them work two jobs and many have families they can't be with because they're forced to work two jobs. A lot of people might think that this was just the way service jobs were and that these were the wages people get paid if they clean dorms. But if they look at the chart on the flier she distributed, in the local

area, Peralta Community Colleges, which has a campus in Berkeley, pays their custodians \$18 an hour if they've been there for five years. That might not seem like a big difference, \$6, but it was a big difference when people were supporting a family. It would allow them to not have to take a second job and would allow them to be with their families.

Ms. Grabelle said they were asking for the GA's support again. They're doing a march on October 18 and they're asking the GA to help get the word out to other students. It makes a big difference if students participate, as the Administration understands that students basically pay the bills. Last year, when

Presentation by Debra Grabelle, AFSCME Representative (cont'd)

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AFSCME picketed, it was around graduation time, and Speaker Fabian Núñez, the Assemblyperson, got extra money in UC's budget to fix this problem. But when they we met with Chancellor Birgeneau last year, the Chancellor said there was no money on the campus to fix this. And the workers knew that wasn't really true. Extra money was placed in UC's budget, and then UC told these workers that the money would not be released to them, even though UC got \$2.5 million extra for the campus to fix precisely this problem. She called for any questions.

A Delegate asked how many full-time employees and how many part-time employees she represented on campus. Ms. Grabelle said it was 800 full-time, 200 part-time employees.

A Delegate asked what reason the University gave when it withheld the funds. Ms. Grabelle said that when they left, the representative of Pres. Dynes, said that the University wanted all workers to pay 2% into their pension fund, in the middle of the contract. If the custodians were able to trade, and have 18,000 workers start giving that money, then the University would give the custodians an increase from that money. The custodians said that was a separate situation and that they had gotten the University extra money for them in its budget, and that they wouldn't sell out 18,000 workers so they could get \$18 an hour. The University at this point was saying that they would give them the money if the custodians would trade for it.

Mr. Inkabi asked if this was a \$2 million surplus for Housing and Dining. Ms. Grabelle said that was in addition. They did an information request last year from the Housing and Dining Department and saw that they had the money on campus for the increase. Last year when the custodians met with the Chancellor there were other revenue streams, which the workers pointed out, and said that the campus could fix the situation on campus, and that there was \$2.5 million in addition to those revenue streams. She didn't know if people saw the story, but a few weeks ago, some custodians applied for the position of Vice Chancellor of Equity because when they met with the Chancellor, they were told there was no additional money for a raise. But the cost for the new position totaled \$4.1 million, since it was not just the Vice Chancellor position, but faculty positions associated with it. Custodians thought it was very hypocritical to constantly study inequalities when they knew what the problem was and knew that they should fix it, at least amongst the staff.

A Delegate asked if UC salaries were the only discrepancy or if other benefits like vacation, retirement, and medical compare to community colleges. Ms. Grabelle said the community colleges that were listed on the information sheet had fully paid health plans, while at UC the workers had to pay for part of their health plan. At those institutions there was fully paid retirement, the same they have on campus. But health benefits were actually less. UC, in the public eye, talked about its rich benefits package. But the comparison was with private sector employers that did laundry, and UC wasn't comparing itself to the



market of higher education institutions. UCSF last year fixed this problem and gave custodians a raise, at \$15-19 an hour.

A Delegate asked what the GA could do to help. Ms. Grabelle said they could approve a Resolution saying campus custodians should get paid what community college workers get; and they could spread the word to other students, and get people to come on October 18 to the march at 3:30.

A Delegate asked what would stop the University from taking an extremely adverse stance and firing the custodians and hiring contractors to do the work. He thought there's been a precedent to do that at schools on the East Coast. Ms. Grabelle said that only being organized was what stopped them. And the

Presentation by Debra Grabelle, AFSCME Representative (cont'd)

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workers have taken a huge amount of risk and personal time in this fight. They work two jobs. And they've done a lot of picketing on Saturdays and Sundays and at night, at UC events. So the workers were assuming most of the risk. They want to be in this fight partially because they don't have a choice, and they can't live the way they're living.

Mr. Poullard asked if she could educate the body on what happened when the Union went into negotiations with the entire UC System, and asked what was decided, and what was being decided at that time. Ms. Grabelle said they were in a contract fight about two years ago, last April. They struck for one day, the first time for all service workers Statewide in the UC System to strike in 20 years. They got a contract that had increase of 3-4% across-the-board. Part of the problem was that when one earned \$12 an hour, 3-4% was just a few cents. When the University reps talk to people, they like to say they gave the workers 10% over three years. But 10% on \$50K was different than 10% on \$20K. In addition, the University, in mid-contract, raised health care costs 70% for the workers. They also raised parking fees, which impacted workers because many of them couldn't afford to live in town. So there have been additional costs aside from the fact that salaries were already too low.

A Delegate asked what the plans were if the rally didn't work. Ms. Grabelle said they'd keep organizing and keep marching until UC realizes they weren't going away. It's been really hard on the custodians because they've been doing this for a year. But they're in it for the long haul and they'll keep organizing until they win. They have the support Sen. Perata, Speaker Núñez, Barbara Lee, and Wilma Chan. A lot of people have stepped up in this fight. So there's a lot of support and momentum. Now that UC has the money, it was different than last year, when UC didn't have the money from the State.

A Delegate asked what the situation was at UCSF to cause the campus to increase the pay, and asked how that was different from Berkeley. Ms. Grabelle said those workers fought for two years, and did all the things the custodians at Berkeley were doing.

Ms. Cementwala said it was mentioned that UC had the money because Speaker Núñez fought for and got the money. But Ms. Cementwala said her question was the reason for holding back the money. Ms. Grabelle said the University wants the custodians to trade it for a take-away for 18,000 workers. Ms. Cementwala said the money, however, was given to UC. Ms. Grabelle said it was. Speaker Núñez and Perata met with Pres. Dynes. Dynes originally said he would fix the equity problem, but since then, has met with the custodians and said they'd get a raise only if they the custodians accepted a pension take-away.

Ms. Hsueh asked if they've joined forces with other UC campuses, with AFSCME, and have petitioned the President. Ms. Grabelle said the money was put in for UC Berkeley, Santa Cruz, Irvine, and Santa Barbara, because those were places where workers were in the fight. When Speaker Núñez put the money in, it was for those campuses. So they were coordinating among those campuses. They're also going to try to do a Resolution at the UCSA next weekend, at its Board meeting, the Statewide body of students.

A Delegate asked if was the workers at those four schools that make up the 18,000 that would be asked to give in 2% for the pension. Ms. Grabelle said that was not the case. Workers at every school and every medical center would have to give up the 2% to supplement the 4%. The Delegate said that in that case, for the 1,000 workers at Berkeley to get that pay increase, the workers at every medical center and school would have to give up part of their pensions. She asked if that was what the University was hoping for,

Presentation by Debra Grabelle, AFSCME Representative (cont'd)

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with the trade-off. Ms. Grabelle said it was. There were 400 custodians involved in this. The fight didn't cover all the workers there at Cal, and covered the custodians, of which there were 400. There were about 200 in Santa Cruz, but it's about a total of about 1,000 workers on the four campuses that this would cover. And they're asking those workers to trade for that. And a lot of those workers they're asking the 2% from were already making below the other workers, and were making \$9-10. So agreeing to the trade-off would be unconscionable.

Ms. Grabelle said that last year during the strike there was a tremendous amount of student support, and the workers felt really strengthened by that, and felt they could do this. Ms. Grabelle said she wanted to thank the students for that, and hoped that something like that could happen again, where people get out, because it makes a big difference for the workers.

Mr. Daniels asked if she had an e-mail. Ms. Grabelle said it was [dgrabelle@afscme3299.org](mailto:dgrabelle@afscme3299.org). Mr. Daniels said he would like to thank her.

## REPORTS

Reporting for the Funding Committee, Mr. Jimenez said that since the last meeting, they convened the Funding Committee. He thought it was one of the few Standing Committees, or the only one, that was actually full. They have great people who joined and participated that past Monday night in figuring out what they'd do about funding decisions for that round. They reviewed the Round 2 funding applications and allocated funds. The allocations were listed in the hand-out. This was one of one busiest funding rounds in the year. They considered Grad Events I and II funding as well, and also the grants. It was entitled "Projects and Services," but it's now called "Grad Group Resources."

As for highlights, Mr. Jimenez said he would like to impress upon Delegates that for Grad Events I and II, the funds that most people applied for, the total amount requested was \$28,422, while the total amount recommended was \$16,074, and the total amount allocated was \$6,545. So while the GA had little money, they get huge requests. Groups were applying for funds in a much more measured and responsible way. But even with that, they have to implement huge cuts. Lastly, there seemed to be some communication problems between Delegates, student groups, and the people groups put on their funding applications. So he would urge everybody to identify themselves to their departments and people there

and to let it be known that they were a Delegate. And when they fill out the application, they should use the correct name. The Funding Committee zeroes out people with incomplete applications in any way, shape, or form. Everybody needed to make sure people have the right information so they could actually be eligible to apply for funds.

As for things not accomplished, Mr. Jimenez said there was the issue of online funding applications, although they did get together a subcommittee to work specifically on moving forward with that. He and Ms. So will be working to move them forward on that. Hopefully by next month, he'll have something to report about applying for funds online. For next time, the Funding Committee will work on Round 3 of funding applications.

Mr. Inkabi said an issue came up in his Department last month. A student applied for funding and was told by staff that there was a \$300 cap on meeting funding. From his perspective, that really hurt them.

Reports -- Funding Committee (cont'd)

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They looked at the issue and it seemed like the way the By-laws were originally written, it was for Grad Events, but I and II were limited to \$300. The impression they got at the last meeting was that students could still apply for upwards of \$300. But that was not the case. Mr. Jimenez said he didn't understand, \$300 for total amounts of funding for Grad Events I and II. Mr. Daniels said that was unfortunately unclear. The limit for combined funding from Grad Events I and II was \$800 per semester that year. The Resolution adopted at the last GA meeting capped only Grad Events I at \$300. Mr. Inkabi said that essentially was a new law. Mr. Daniels said that instead of an \$800 cap per semester, it was \$1,000 last year, but was actually \$300. The new Resolution was a heartbreak for many people, but it's actually been on the books for a long time. This was part of the effort the GA was making to make sure their practice actually corresponded to their laws. People like Mr. Dillon, in the Organization and Rules Committee, were charged to make sure the rules were appropriate and that the GA followed them. Unfortunately, nobody really joins the Org.&Rules, so nobody could really study the situation. And that affected not just how groups were funded, but a whole host of GA issues.

Mr. Inkabi said the reason he called it a "new law" was that prior to the change, the By-laws limited meetings, colloquia, and everything else to \$300, whereas the cover sheets state that both Grad Events I and II should be limited to \$800. So there was a disconnect between the two amounts. Mr. Daniels said that was one reading, and his reading was that the application says \$800, combined. He said Mr. Inkabi was right and the \$300 limit did not make it on to the application, and that was one issue. But the actual statute was to keep the amount of Grad Events I at \$300. If the GA can't update applications, they need to have Delegates mail out Student Affairs Officers and constituencies to notify them what was going on. Mr. Daniels said he took responsibility for not updating the application a little more quickly. But the combination still applied, and it was a compromise, because otherwise, if they had started to follow the law as it was written, everybody would have been eligible for \$300. There were several groups that would have already capped out in Round I.

Mr. Inkabi said they're being limited by \$300, but in looking at the funding application, one group received \$600 in the first round alone, just for meetings. That was more than 100% past the limit the GA prescribed. So he would like to ask the Funding Committee to at least look at that issue again, and at what the Assembly By-laws said originally, as well as the application cover sheets, to try and get the figures right. And perhaps they could have the matter brought to the floor.

Mr. Daniels said the By-laws cannot be changed without a Resolution. Although the Executive Board could fill in for the Org. & Rules Committee, they had a lot on their plate. The \$300 cap could be changed at any time, and there were many good reasons why it should be changed. But again, they need people on committees, because that couldn't change unless they had quorum at the Org. & Rules Committee for people to adopt a Resolution and then bring it to the floor.

Mr. Dillon said that as he understood the use of the budget, they were not operating within the guidelines set by their By-laws. They started to talk about what might be the most ideal set of policies, to optimize people's use of money, but to keep the GA within the constraints of its budget. These are policies the GA creates and which could be re-created. He was at fault for not convening the Org. & Rules Committee and they've had scheduling issues. He has not yet heard from three people, needed to constitute a quorum, to join the Committee. A conversation about how best to operate within the constraints of their budget was welcome to everyone.

A Delegate asked about the Grad Events Round 2 spreadsheet, and if "final" was the allocation groups would receive. Mr. Jiminez said that was correct. The "Recommended" was looking at the application to

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see if all the use of money was appropriate, such as not spending on alcohol, after which the amount goes down to the recommended amount. There were plenty of applications that actually didn't change from one column to the other. The difference in the amounts between "recommended" and "final" was a mathematical computation of how much money from this funding category they should spend in this funding round. And they apply that as well as they could. He made an exception for groups whose cut got them below \$20, and they were raised to \$20.

Mr. Daniels said cuts looked to be more than two-thirds. He asked if there were any suggestions to raise the overall allotment for student groups, or to make sure cuts weren't as drastic next time. Mr. Jiminez said the number one suggestion was to ask for less money. People seem to apply expecting to be supported solely by GA funds, and there's a requirement for matching funds. So groups need to ask for money from other sources. That was harsh to say, and there's a lot of legwork needed. If a group has an event and expected 50 people, at \$5 per grad per event, the group was eligible for \$250. But if 100 groups applied, and all were eligible for \$250, that would cash out the entire budget for the year.

A Delegate said that a year and a half ago, groups received the amounts they asked for, or close to that amount. He asked if there was less funding or if more people were making requests. Mr. Jiminez said it was a combination of both. The GA used to have a surplus. He wasn't there a year and a half ago. Last year the GA had \$150,000 for the entire budget for student groups to give out, and this year it was \$120,000. That \$30K would alleviate the problem a bit, but in looking at the numbers, not that much. Indications are they'll have less money next year, so this issue wasn't going away. The GA didn't have a revenue stream to fund student groups as they'd like.

A Delegate said one reason for the drastic changes between the amount requested and the amount allocated was because many student groups ask to fund things that were outside the restrictions of the application, such as for supplies, which weren't allowed.

Mr. Poullard said he's only been on the campus for five months, but this was his fifth university, and this was the only campus where the student culture did not believe in raising its own fees. That was good on the one hand, but they end up squabbling over pennies. That happened in the ASUC as well. Until they look at the fact that inflation goes up every year and students pay the same amount in fees, then some-

thing had to give. So they had to think about what was important to students around how they socialize and what helped them get through their courses, and think about how they tax themselves to have the resources they need to do the programs they want. This was a broader campus issue they need to re-evaluate.

Mr. Inkabi said that in looking at the “previously allocated” column, he remembered groups that received funding in Events 1 that were not listed as being previously allocated. Even though they may not have requested funds for Round 2, he asked why those groups weren't listed. The “previously allocated” column didn't reflect funding groups received that was approved at the last GA meeting. He was concerned in that they're amending groups that received funding at their last session. Ms. Franklin said she didn't think anything was changed for previous allocations. The only reason “previously allocated” showed up on the spreadsheet was that with the new \$300 cap, and the overall cap of \$800, the Finance Committee wanted to make sure they didn't go above that. It was just a matter of the Funding Committee being aware of what was already given out, so they didn't violate caps. Mr. Jimenez said that if a group didn't apply for this round, they wouldn't show up as having received a previous allocation from Round 1.

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Mr. Jimenez said the information Delegates were looking at was put together for the Funding Committee by the Business Office, which did a great job. They catch things that would affect everyone and catch things that were really beneficial.

A motion to call the question and end debate was made and seconded and passed unanimously by voice-vote. **THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE FUNDING COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ROUND 2 OF GRAD EVENTS, ROUND 1 OF GRANTS, AND PROJECTS AND SERVICES, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.**

Reporting for the Environmental Sustainability Committee, Gabe Harley introduced himself and said he was the Chair of the Committee. Since the last GA meeting the Committee was able to recruit new members and have its first meeting. They identified the areas of focus for the semester. They're looking into the potential to change the way they invest ASUC Auxiliary funds and move towards more sustainable, socially responsible investing. They were also working with the Office of Student Life to try to get sustainability on their radar and incorporate funding into workshops and Web sites. They'd also like to work on the Lower Sproul redevelopment project, and they'll work with the appropriate people to figure out if there was anything they could do. And of course they'll continue with internal GA operations and oversight with regard to environmental sustainability. He met with the Executive Board and let them know what the Committee will be up to that semester.

As for things they haven't done yet, one was to create an environmental sustainability Web site for the GA. They need to make a resource Web page. They still need to meet with OSL to get things going. He'd also like to try and meet with GA Project leaders. As for accomplishments they hope to have by the next meeting, Mr. Harley said they hope to have the Web site updated and to do background research into ASUC Auxiliary reserve funds and find out what options they had for socially responsible investing, as well as identify ways to help out with the Lower Sproul project, and to contact OSL. As for discrete ways Delegates could help, if they would like to help out with any topic he mentioned, or for Resolutions or other things, they could send him an e-mail.

Ms. Levitan asked if anything was being pursued with the Grad Division so PCs don't waste paper. Mr. Harley said that last semester the GA approved a Resolution that requested the Grad Division to relax requirements for Masters and PhD theses to reduce paper and to change options, such as printing on recycled paper, having smaller margins, printing double-sided, things like that, as well as switching to electronic filing. That was still being looked into by the Grad Division. The Committee sent a letter about that to the Grad Division and hasn't received a response. He was willing to follow-up on that. The Grad Division was also independently looking into electronic filing.

Ms. Allbright said she was an employee of OSL and she wasn't sure what workshops he was talking about. Mr. Harley said a workshop was required for every student group. Ms. Allbright said it's an online PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Harley said he was a member of a student group and had to go to a workshop a year and a half ago. The idea was to incorporate some aspect of sustainability, and having the idea highlighted there and on the GA Web site would help student groups do things in a more sustainable manner.

Reporting for the Foreign Student Affairs Committee, Mr. Stavrinides said he was the Chair of the Committee. Since their last meeting, they contacted the Financial Aid Office of the University. At the last

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meeting, he mentioned that someone came and said international students were not eligible for childcare grants or other grants from the University. And he found out that was true. International students were not eligible because money for those grants comes from USAP funds, and those were collected from student fees. The Regents designated USAP funds to be used just for resident students. That was difficult to understand because international students pay fees, which go into USAP, but international students couldn't benefit from those funds. Mr. Stavrinides said they're working on that. Mr. Stavrinides they're also going to work with Ms. Cementwala on parent-student issues. Two members of the community were very interested in participating in the work groups that Ms. Cementwala created, so they'll find a solution in that direction to this problem.

Mr. Stavrinides said they managed to recruit new Committee members, and he thought this will be a very productive year. All members were enthusiastic and had plenty of ideas. There will be plenty of work as well, since transforming ideas into action was sometimes difficult. The other thing they accomplished since the last meeting was to register the Committee with the Office of Student Life, because they plan to organize a student event in December, with help from Ms. Hsueh and other people in the Business Office who were very interested in international student issues. They need to be registered with the OSL to get funding from the GA.

As for things they haven't accomplished since the last meeting, Mr. Stavrinides said they're still working on a document on why it was important to attract more international students to Berkeley. They're collecting some data. Mr. Eckerle and the External Affairs Committee have been very helpful towards that end. Different subject areas have been delegated to members of the Committee and hopefully by the GA's next meeting they'll have something coherent to use at meetings with administrators and other key players. They're still working on the international students event to see about the date and the format of the event. By the next meeting he thought they'd be done with that. Their Web site should be finished by the end of October. As for things they hope to accomplish by the next meeting, he mentioned the Web site, the documents, and the international students event. They've started to work on an international student survey to learn the most significant problems they face on this campus, apart from being in a large institution. That was in cooperation with Mr. Eckerle and the External Affairs Committee. Lastly, they

hope to have more information to talk to the Regents about non-resident tuition and other issues important to international students. It might be at the next meeting or the Regents meeting after that, depending on the timing with the elections and when the Committee will be ready.

Mr. Daniels said he was getting a sense that people were getting a little restless, so for the next 60 seconds, he would ask people to stand up, stretch, and say hello to their neighbors.

Back in session, reporting for the Business Office, Ms. Hsueh introduced herself and said she was the Graduate Assembly Manager. She introduced Elisa Estrera, the Student Supervisor, who's been there for a year. They recently hired two more front desk staff, and were fully staffed with four people working at the front desk, all undergrads. So there will be no conflict of interest with front desk staff minding the GA's money and giving out grad student money. They work very hard, keep everything in order, and process grads' paperwork. The only thing they ask was to please give the GA complete information and to write clearly.

Ms. Hsueh said the Business Office was fully staffed. Their Web site, [ga@berkeley.edu](mailto:ga@berkeley.edu) had been about 10% updated, and was now about 85% or 90% updated. They still need more information about different

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groups. The target was to have everything updated by the end of the month, with information on all Delegates, committees, and Project Coordinators. The Project Coordinators will be there in November. Each got an assignment to do different tasks. One Project Coordinator was Ms. ElNaggar, Editor of "The Berkeley Graduate" Editor. The Minority Project Coordinator will do outreach. Other projects include the Women's Project, Women of Color, and Student Services. Ms. Hsueh said she was really happy that almost every seat in the room was taken and they had full attendance. She was there last year, and in September and October they had wonderful attendance. But by April, 30 people showed up. And by the time they'd finish each meeting, they'd have 15 people left. This was grads' house, and she would ask them to please come and stay with them for the whole year.

Ms. Hsueh said there were only two career staff in the office, and only she and Ms. Stevens-Carter were full-time. All the other staff, including Officers and project coordinators, were students, and worked part-time. They try to do as much as they could. For the Finance Committee report, Ms. Carter-Stephens labored the entire week. As Delegates know, they have more and more students who need money, and that this time they have 100-some-odd student groups applying for money. Dean Poullard was correct about Berkeley having the lowest student fees. Some of grads' Reg Fees, about \$10.75, goes to the GA, so the money was very limited. If they do a comparison with UC San Diego or UCLA, Berkeley had the lowest in student fees. So money was tight and their budget was cut 20%.

Ms. Hsueh and they were able to control some spending and therefore had some carryforward. The first thing the Finance Committee did what that chunk of money was actually restore the amount going to student groups, from \$120,000 to \$150,000, last year's total for all the funding and grants. They had a little money left over for some project coordinators since they were really cut to the bare bones and couldn't even do their projects. So that's why she and the Finance Committee were working to also see if they could restore some money back to project coordinators. They get money from Reg Fees and they from commercial revenue from the ASUC. So she would ask them to please use the ASUC Bookstore and to please buy their hamburgers from the ASUC restaurants because that money goes into commercial revenue and some comes back to the GA. They also get money from the Graduate Division. The Grad Divi-

sion was in a bind too, so money from that source was getting less and less. She and the Finance Chair were working on that. The GA had to do its best. When people submit applications, she would ask them to please be realistic. The maximum request was \$800, so they shouldn't put in a request for \$20,000. They know they wouldn't get it, and it looked really bad to ask the GA \$20,000 and to get \$300. So she would ask them to make requests realistic. The Business Office was open, and if people had any questions, they should let them know.

Mr. Daniels said there was no meeting of the Graduate Council, so there was no report that month.

Reporting for the Finance Committee, Mr. Rajan said that since the last meeting he met with Irene Lam, in the ASUC Auxiliary, and worked out how everything worked. He also met with Ms. Hsueh. There were certain issues outstanding that the Finance Committee would like to address that semester, or right away. One was funding for the Departmental Liaison, for which there was a shortfall. Other areas to address were the New Grad Student Orientation and the Graduate Student Support Project, both of which have funding shortfalls. He supposedly convened the Finance Committee but they did not reach quorum. He would appreciate more people on the Committee. There were six people on the Committee, but two people couldn't make it and one person was ill. So they couldn't make quorum. He couldn't stress enough

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how important it was to serve on committees, not just Fi-Comm. If the Organization and Rules Committee didn't get quorum, Fi-Comm would not be able to do much beyond work with spreadsheets. If Delegates really wanted to make a difference, there were some committees with a lot of power.

As for things that have not been accomplished since the last Finance Committee, Mr. Rajan said they have not yet written a funding letter to the Grad Division, which he'll work on with Ms. Hsueh. The screen showed semester-long work. They'll work on the current budget development process to codify the By-laws with Org.&Rules; and they have to codify budget design and oversight in the By-laws and determine the impact of compliance with recently passed GA Resolutions. What they hope to accomplish by the next meeting was to write the letter to the Grad Division. Last year the GA got \$42,000 and the year before it was \$40,000. They'd like to get \$40K that year, or maybe more. They'd also like to meet with the Project Coordinators and the Executive Board and get feedback on the budget process. They also want to gauge the impact of the computer support package. There was a question earlier about how the GA got its money, and he had a breakdown of the budget. The budget, he believed, was public. Mr. Daniels said it was on the Web site.

Mr. Rajan said the GA gets \$450,000 from student fees, \$50,000 from the beverage contract that Coca-Cola signed with the ASUC, and in their budget, the GA has carryforward from the previous year. Last year's carryforward was projected at \$77,000. However, that wasn't the entirety of the amount to be realized because carryforward was projected in April and a lot of spending occurs in April and September. That's why the Contingency Fund was established, and hopefully that was raised to one-fifty. Finally, the Grad Division gives them money. Last year it was \$32,000. Mr. Rajan said it all added up to \$575,000. That amount was then allocated among the various branches of the GA, primarily for funding, which they hoped to fund at \$150,000. GA Projects and resources get \$140,000, the Business Office was about \$130,000, and there were miscellaneous allocations here and there. The budget was online, and people should please feel free to look at it.



Mr. Daniels said the GA therefore has approximately \$500,000 that they can expect to get every year. Mr. Rajan said that was correct. Mr. Daniels said there was also \$75,000 of carryforward, which goes down every year. So in other words, they should only budget \$500,000 every year if they were to budget correctly. Mr. Rajan said that if they were to budget correctly, they hopefully wouldn't spend the surplus of previous years, although they're not building a huge surplus. Ms. Hsueh said they want to make sure they have a surplus for hard times.

Reporting for the Organization and Rules Committee, Mr. Dillon said accomplishments since the last meeting, include meetings that have been scheduled. There have been conflict issues with a few people's schedules who showed an interest in the Committee. The meeting schedule was October 10, 31, and November 28, from 12:00 to 1:30. Lunch will be served as an incentive. As for their failures, they have not met. As for their expected accomplishments, they hope to work towards developing amendments for consideration at the December GA meeting. Whoever wanted to join him was welcome. They need quorum. The Committee could be as ambitious as they want to be. If people were interested, he would ask them to send him an e-mail. The Committee will meet next Tuesday. The bulk of the work will occur by next Tuesday. In order to have a productive conversation, people need to have at least familiarized themselves with the By-laws. There were 33 pages of reading people could do that weekend. People could figure out what was important to them and what seemed to be needed changes, content-wise, such as if the new By-law change to funding policy irked them. He, Mr. Jimenez, and Mr. Dillon were limited in

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their thinking relative to the thinking that a larger body could do. So they'd welcome people to join these Committees. Also, something that seemed like it might be a good change to the By-laws would be to require that Resolutions offered to the general Assembly would first go through some committee, to increase participation in committees and to be a source of quality control. As the bare minimum accomplishment, Mr. Dillon said he would like to see by December amendments formulated that the general body could consider and approve or disapprove at the December meeting. If people read the By-laws, they could even clean up punctuation. A discrete task they could take up is to e-mail him and join the committee. If people want motivation to join, the screen showed examples of nuances of language that could be cleaned up. For instance, the Schools of Law and Business were not in "professional" schools.

Mr. Daniels called for any questions. Mr. Rajan said that if he may comment on the report, without quorum on the Org.&Rules Committee, anything the Finance Committee proposed to change, or any changes with the budget, could not occur. Fi-Comm could make recommendations, but when it came to following the letter and spirit of the law, without Org.&Rules they couldn't do much within the context they work in. These were very important. They want the GA to be at the highest standard it could be, and want their By-laws to read well. Org.&Rules could be a Committee of huge power, from the Finance Committee's point of view. He thought he might volunteer to sit on Org.&Rules, but he perceived that to be a huge conflict of interest, being the Chair of Fi-Comm. He wasn't trying to railroad anything, but he did want something to get done. So he would ask Delegates to please join Org.&Rules.

Mr. Jimenez said it was the same thing for the Funding Committee. This Committee does logistical work for the Assembly. They don't have extra time to do analytic work and policy. He didn't know what it was that Delegates and students want with funding. The criticism was that when he and Mr. Dillon came together, they didn't think about things in a larger scale because they were limited; so they need new blood to do this. He didn't care about funding By-laws, but just wanted to follow them, and to do that in

an equitable way, so everybody got something out of it. So he would ask people to please join Org.&Rules.

A Delegate asked how many were on the Committee. Mr. Dillon said there was one person.

A Delegate asked how many were needed for a quorum. Mr. Dillon said they need three. Mr. Daniels asked if people still attend if they hadn't read the By-laws. Mr. Dillon said they could. But to contribute, they'd have to read them.

Giving his report as External Affairs Vice President, Mr. Eckerle said that since last month they had the September meeting of the UCSA. They talked about the Regents. The "UCSA" was the UC Student Association, which encompasses all graduate and undergrad student bodies on UC campuses. At its meeting, the Regents saw a report on non-resident tuition and took no stance on it. They also decided not to vote on what to use for student fees next year, not until they see the Governor's budget in January. So people could expect to see nothing out of the Regents unless they're prompted about fees before the Governor suggests what that might be in January.

Also, a bid was accepted by the UCSA from Bridges, so the Students of Color Conference will be held in Berkeley on November 18-19. Registration closes on October 20. People can sign up for the Conference at [ucsa.org](http://ucsa.org). The Conference is sponsored by the UCSA and they'll talk about political action and deciding what could be improved in the UC System. A lot of people will collaborate and decide on policy to work towards.

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Mr. Eckerle said the US Department of Education held a hearing on campus. The United States Student Association was there and distributed they passed out sheets for people to fill out, a letter to the Secretary of Education, Margaret Spellings, and people could tell her about their debt and how they'll pay it off. That would be helpful to the USSA. Representatives of the Department heard students talk about how they were overwhelmed by debt. People also said they couldn't go into public service but would get a corporate job, in order to pay off their loans.

On the negative side, Mr. Eckerle said they didn't have a quorum at the External Affairs Committee meeting, and didn't have anyone. A paid position was available, if anybody would like to help out, the Campus Organizing Director. Gavi Begtrup is Legislative Liaison and he interacts mostly with legislators on the Statewide level, and legislative issues. The COD would interact mostly with students. Between the two, they should get students to talk to legislators by the end of the year. The COD position was 15 hours a week. For the DOE hearings the GA didn't really have anybody talk, although he was there advising. And they weren't at the last Regents meeting. It would have been nice to talk about non-resident tuition, and they may do that next month.

As for what's coming up, Mr. Eckerle he's booked the GA, Anthony Hall, Saturday night at 5:00, for the Governor's debate, which starts at 6:00. He'll get a keg and people could come over to drink beer and watch the debate. The next UCSA meeting is at UCLA, in two weeks, and he and Mr. Begtrup were going. The Campus Organizing Director would also be paid to go, and it would be a great way for people to get oriented. The last day to register to vote was October 23. They're scheduling a debate in Measure I, a Berkeley measure about condominium conversions of apartments. He needed help with that. They're also working on scheduling a series of debates on State Propositions the week before the election, October 30 to November 3. The debates would be on campus by either professors or State policy workers.

There will be an early voting station on campus on Wednesday and Thursday, November 1 and 2, and people could vote at MLK, the 1st floor. If people want to use the absentee ballot, they could drop them off there. That was done by the Campus Voting Coalition, of which the GA was a part. Also, the UC Regents will be at UCLA on November 15-16. The GA might have someone there to white line and speak to the Regents personally about non-resident tuition. Back in the day, students could go to Regents meetings, but had to stand behind a white line to speak.

Mr. Eckerle said they need help from TAs with class raps, to register students. They haven't be able to get that done yet. They'll hand out UCSA Voter's Guides, with help they've had from the Campus Coalition. They're also doing research on international diversity and enrollment to develop that message to the Regents. If people were interested in getting numbers and trying to figure out what they meant, that would be fun. He and Mr. Begtrup were doing that, and could use help. Also, they're doing a graduate quality-of-life survey. They'll survey grad students about what issues were important to them. They need to develop that survey, and hopefully have that occur every year. This was something the Campus Organizing Director was going to do. They also need help with debate plans. He, Mr. Begtrup, and one other person were working on that.

Mr. Eckerle the next screen showed the earliest information they had on non-resident tuition. It showed the percent of graduate student enrollment since 1989, until 2005. In 1991 there was a 20% increase in non-resident tuition, and they could see the drop in enrollment that year. This year the non-resident tuition was basically eliminated for those who advanced to candidacy for their Masters or PhD. As they could see, the enrollment trend increased. Then, there was a 10% non-resident tuition increase, and a huge drop. This didn't take into account regular fee increases, so there was a lot more that could be

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looked into. Also, they'll soon get more data, out to this year, from the Grad Division, with enrollment by departments. They could really look at that, and who was paying their own fees and who was on fellowship, and get a lot more into it.

Mr. Dillon said the 10% non-resident tuition increase followed the steep decline. Mr. Eckerle said this was the first year they had the 10% increase, and enrollment was dropping before the increase was implemented. Mr. Begtrup said it wasn't straightforward. Mr. Stavrinides said that from 2001, there was a 40% increase that international students had to pay, and that corresponded to the drop in enrollment.

Mr. Eckerle said the next meeting of the External Affairs Committee will be next Wednesday at 6:00, at the GA. If people would like to attend but couldn't make it at that time, they could change the schedule. It's not so important to attend meetings, but help was needed with planning debates, getting TAs to register students, and setting up the survey. People could talk to him about these at that time.

The UCSA was organizing students to go the gubernatorial debate and tailgate, with the debate to be shown on a big screen. If people were interested, they should let him know. If people want to suggest a question to be considered at the debate, they could go to [californiadeicides.com](http://californiadeicides.com).

A Delegate asked how he planned to contact GSIs for class raps and voter registration, and asked how Delegates could contact them. Mr. Eckerle said they have a contact in the Union, and they could send an e-mail to all GSIs in the Union, which was a good percentage. Otherwise, they could go department by department. Ms. Ahrendt said the Union was also doing phone banking next week, if Delegates were interested in joining them. They'll call people up to make sure they actually vote.

Giving her report as Academic Affairs Vice President, Ms. Cementwala said the first major accomplishment was that the working group finally set two dates for two forums they'll have on student parenting issues and concerns, and what they would like to achieve as action agenda items, both in terms of what they want to do and what they want the University to do. What they wanted to do was some focus group needs assessment. If Delegates were a student parent or knew one, she would ask them to please encourage them to come to one of fora. The first would be on Wednesday, October 11, at noon, in the Senate Chamber and the second at Albany Village, the Four-Corners Room, Thursday, October 12, at 7 p.m.

Ms. Cementwala said a second accomplishment was submitting a four-page comment report to the Graduate Division on the survey of doctoral students the Grad Division will put out shortly. The comment page was essentially on questions relating to student family life, asking them look at other types of questions that should be asked. For instance, how supportive departments were to student families, about giving more priority to research than to family, how advisors react to families, parenting concerns, etc. If people would like to get involved in projects like this, she would highly encourage them to come to one of these fora or to the next working group meeting on Monday, October 16. She'll send out an e-mail about this. They also met with the Disabled Student Services Program to talk about concerns of grads, increasing participation and getting a sense of demographics. She'll work with them to get demographic information and assemble that.

Ms. Cementwala said the list of things not accomplished was longer. The report she was giving was the redacted report, and the entire report was on the Web site. Things yet to be accomplished was to work on the Web site and update things like the Faculty Mentorship Award page, who won, what the best practices

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were, and the Committee Web page. Ms. Cementwala said they had the first Academic Affairs Committee meeting, and that Committee also did not reach quorum. They had great food and had three very active participants, not including herself and Harish Agarwal, the Campus Committee Liaison. It's important for Delegates to participate on committees. The mandatory thing the GA asks Delegates to do was to sit on a committee. And it was essential that they fill that one important role. Delegates were the voice that informed the policies that were developed. If people were interested in student parenting or student family issues, dependent health care, they should attend. The next Academic Affairs Committee meeting will be Tuesday, October 24 at 5:30. People could join more than one committee.

Ms. Cementwala said the last discrete projects on which she needed help was to fill committees, help with the Web page, and with the fora. If people want to help, they could send her an e-mail. If people have not yet gotten on a campus committee, she would ask them to e-mail Mr. Agarwal. Ms. Cementwala said she had office hours, by appointment.

A Delegate said several people were present from the Anthropology Department because they learned of a change in health care access policy for students doing field work or who, for any other reason, have withdrawn from the University. She asked if that was an issue Ms. Cementwala's Committee dealt with. Ms. Cementwala said it was. Dependent health care and health care in general was an Action Agenda Item and something she spent a portion of her time on. She was meeting Claudia Covello, from the Tang Center, so Ms. Cementwala said she should talk to Anthropology Delegates after the meeting. She'd love their input on issues to bring to the meeting and other issues she may not yet have.

Ms. Allbright asked if the forums would focus simply on grad student parents. Ms. Cementwala said they'll start with a discussion of grad student parents, but they hope to partner with the ASUC and focus on student parenting in general. One thing they'd like to do, which will be sent in a letter to the Chancellor that month, was to develop a Chancellor's Advisory Committee on student parenting, with grad and undergrad student parents.

Giving his report as GA President, Mr. Daniels said they convened the Lower Sproul Committee. People came from a variety of departments and they're motivated and excited. They're putting together a grad student survey. Delegates should mention Lower Sproul to people, as well as the survey. The more students who fill it out, the more power they'd have in getting their conditions included in the conceptual design. He met with the Chancellor and it went pretty well, and he didn't piss the Chancellor off too much. They also had a Delegates' social. For those who went, whatever happened at the Delegates' social would stay at the Delegates' social. They also attempted to outreach to departments and units without Delegates. They didn't do a great job, but they tried.

As for non-accomplishments, they have not yet finished completely redoing Anthony Hall and he has not been able to meet with every person in the GA one-on-one, which he wanted to do. For future accomplishments, they'll finalize the grad survey, convene the Presidential Advisor Committee, finish redoing Anthony Hall, and finish meeting everybody. For discreet projects, in case people haven't gotten it yet, he would ask Delegates to please sit on a committee, let their department mates know the GA was doing a survey, and to please fill out feedback forms. GA meetings don't go perfectly, and he hoped people let him know about them. They had a wonderful turnout that evening, and he would thank them for coming and staying. If there was something wrong with the meeting, he would also ask them please let him know. He got a lot of good feedback at the last meeting and he hoped they made some improvements.

Reports (cont'd)

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Mr. Daniels said he was open to more suggestions. For example, people pointed out that he hadn't sent out the e-mail advertising ASUC Judicial Council openings. He sent that out at Delegates' suggestion and he didn't get three responses as he hoped, but 33. They narrowed that down to eight, a perfect number. If people didn't give him feedback, things wouldn't get better.

Mr. Daniels said he would like to open the floor to any public comments people would like to make about how things have gone, successfully or unsuccessfully. One thing he heard feedback on at the last meeting was that people in the back couldn't read the screen. He enlarged the font, but it may not be big enough. A Delegate said it would probably be better to get rid of the gray shading that appeared on some screens.

A Delegate suggested that since earlier reports tend to take longer, and they have two VPs, perhaps they could go first and argue about their items, since they tended to be more important. Mr. Daniels said that on the comment form there was a place to rank how important things were.

Mr. Begtrum said they didn't have any Resolutions that month, and there was some comment about not having paper printouts of those. He asked if they would not have printouts of Resolutions. Mr. Daniels said those will always be printed out, and people were required to submit them a week ahead of time.

A Delegate said the bottom of the screen was cut off and asked if the projector could be raised. Mr. Daniels said that was as high as it went.

Mr. Daniels said he'll see them all again, hopefully at the November 2 GA meeting. As a reminder, there will be a pizza and beer celebration at the end of the year for departments with perfect GA attendance.

Ms. Cementwala said it was also Ms. Stevens-Carter birthday. "Happy Birthday" was sung for Ms. Stevens-Carter.

Mr. Wolf said that if people wanted to unwind from the meeting, they could join him and Ms. Lyles at Triple Rock.

This meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

These minutes respectfully submitted by,

Steven I. Litwak  
Recording Secretary

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Present at the October 5, 2006 GA Meeting

Abigail Sedlacek	Folklore
Ankit Jain	IEOR
Anna Simonin	Plant and Microbial Biology
Becca Jones	Department Liaison
Brad Goya	City and Regional Planning
Bradley Voytek	Neuroscience
Candace Gilet	Physics
Carmel Levitan	Judicial Council
Carolyn Hawkshaw	German
Catherine (Erin) Becker	Chemistry
Catherine Barry	Demography
Charlene Ng	Integrative Biology
Charles Smart	Math
Chris Haulk	Statistics
Corie Lynn Cobb	Mechanical Engineering
Dan Work	Civil and Environmental Engineering
Danna Freedman	Chemistry

David Purdy	Statistics
Diane Wong	Astronomy
Dwight Asuncion	ASUC Senate Rep
Elisa	Business Office Supervisor
Emily Fisher	Optometry
Emine Fisek	Theater, Dance and Performance Studies
Esther Nakogawara	Optometry
Eugene Gordon	Civil and Environmental Engineering
Gabe Harley	Materials Science
Harish Agarwal	Campus Committees Liaison
Haroldo Silva	Bioengineering
Jane Lo	Optometry
Javier Jimenez	Funding Chair
Jenny Wells	ESPM
Johanna Franklin	Logic
Jonathan Rheume	Mechanical Engineering
Josh Daniels	President
Josh J. Weiner	English
Jui-Shan (Grace) Hsu	Mechanical Engineering
Karl Chen	Computer Science
Kate Jenkins	Materials Science
Kathryn Schild	Slavic Languages and Literatures
Katrina Dodson	Comparative Literature
Keno Urquiza	Mechanical Engineering
Kevin Young	Physics

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Present at the October 5, 2006 GA Meeting (cont'd)

Kofi Inkabi	Civil and Environmental Engineering
Kristen Durham	ERG
Lena Salaymeh	History
Leslie Elwell	Italian Studies
Libby Smith	SIMS
Loddie Hagar	Chemical Engineering
Luis Jalas	History of Art
Mariyam Cementwala	AAVP
Marta Filipski	Public Health
Martha Gning	Political Science
Meghan Anderson	Math
Melissa Murphy	Social Welfare/Public Health
Menelaos Stavrinides	Environmental Science, Policy and Management
Michael Perry	Integrative Biology
Miguel Daal	Physics
Nish Raian	Finance Chair

Ola Friday  
Pete Dillon  
Philip Wolgin  
Rebekah Ahrendt  
Ruth Rouvier  
Sarah Edwards  
Sarah Tom  
Scott Siera  
Shonan Vora  
Sindya Narayanaswamy  
Stella So  
Taylor Allbright  
Texx Eckerle  
Triffid Abel  
Virginia Lingham  
Yes Duffy  
Zoe Harris

Public Policy  
Org and Rules Chair  
History  
Music  
Linguistics  
Law  
Demography  
MCB  
IEOR  
Journalism  
Transportation Engineering  
ASUC Senate Rep  
EAVP  
Geography  
Transportation Engineering  
Architecture and City Planning  
Health Services & Policy Analysis