

## GRADUATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

October 1, 2007

### SUMMARY OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order 5:34 p.m.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Zeli Rivas just started as the Women of Color Project Coordinator. The Empowering Women of Color Conference will be held on March 8.

A self-defense class for women will be held on October 11.

Dan Roth said the Union reached a groundbreaking new two-year contract. Academic student employees will get a 5% increase in wages effective October 1, and another 5% pay increase, pending State funding. Berkeley will now have vision coverage, paid sick leave, and childcare subsidy, \$450 a semester. Employees will also now have neutral third-party arbitration for workload disputes. The Union got the contract because its membership was active and mobilized.

Oktoberfest will be held on October 23, featuring \$4 for Top Dogs all the beer they could drink.

The Mario Savio Lecture, commemorating the memory and work the 1964 Berkeley Free Speech Movement, will be by Angela Davis.

Thursday was National Coming Out Day, and the campus will have an "Eliminate Hate Campaign."

Sam Arons described "CarPool," a ride-matching, carpool service built directly into Facebook.

### GUEST SPEAKERS

The GA heard from Claudia Covello, Executive Director of University Health Services and Bene Gatzert, a Management Analyst. The Tang Center provided quite a comprehensive breadth of services, primary and urgent care, and clinics staffed by Board-certified physicians and licensed nurses, including a laboratory, radiology, pharmacy and physical therapy. Specialists scheduled appointments at Tang, including dermatologists, orthopedists, and ear, nose, and throat doctors. Tang also had an advice nurse, at 643-7197. Mental health services included PhD clinical psychologists, psychiatrists, and licensed social workers. Tang also had a prevention, outreach, and education arm and a 24-hour health assistance program. Tang was open Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturday, from 9:00 to 5:00. The Tang Center was very interested in having regular contact with grads and getting regular feedback.

Suggestions made for Tang were to have a PowerPoint on GA and Tang Center Web sites; to distribute health insurance cards earlier, to provide information packets at the beginning of the year, at orientations; to give faculty health information when students need it; to have GSIs announce services available.

The GA last year identified three areas of concern: mental health; travel care; and health insurance for dependents. For counseling services, students now have intake plus six free visits, and steps were taken

Representative from the UC Student Association

The GA heard from Holly Lim, full-time Field Organizer for the UC Student Association. The UCSA represented 200,000 professional, graduate, and undergraduate students in the UC System. They are the official voice to the Board of Regents, the Legislature, the Office of the President, and the Governor. They're working on educational issues, graduate financial aid, and the DREAM Act. The UCSA's Students of Color Conference will be November 10-12 at UC Santa Cruz. The GA's liaison to the UCSA was External Affairs VP Abel and her Chief-of-Staff, Mr. Ortega.

REPORTS

Reports were in the agenda packet. The format for this at GA meetings was changed. Rather than hearing them, reports would be included in the agenda packet, and Delegates would just hear a few highlights.

Report from the ASUC Representatives

Mr. Rhoads and Ms. Duong reported, ASUC representatives. The ASUC attorney, which represented the students, not UC, was retiring. There was a search committee for a new attorney, and the GA would have one appointee. Mental Health Awareness Week was October 15-19.

Report from the Dean of Students

Dean Poullard reported. His office was sponsoring "Cal Secrets," where people on campus could anonymously post secrets they had. Grads were needed for the Dean of Students Advisory Council, which met once a month to help him be a better advocate. He asked grads' help in increasing civility on campus.

Report from the Funding Advisor

By unanimous voice-vote, the GA approved allocations for Grants, Round 1 and Group Resources Round 2.

Report from the Project Coordinator Liaison

There were job openings for the Graduate Support Services Project Coordinator and the Graduate Minority Project Coordinator.

Report from the Business Manager

There will be a free event on November 8, food, music, and fun. The GA had three free spaces in Anthony Hall that student groups could reserve: the patio, the conference room, and a smaller room.

Report from the Technology Committee

The Technology Committee talked to a lawyer regarding downloading and the RIAA, and offered help in having e-mail addresses remain with items were forwarded.

Resolution Referrals

A Resolution, Directed Action to Administer a Student Poll Regarding the Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, was referred to the Campus Affairs and External Affairs Committees. In March, the Bush Administration, UC, and the National Labs decided to develop new nuclear weapons. The Resolution would authorize a survey about that.

RESOLUTIONS

By unanimous voice-vote, the GA approved, as amended on the floor, the Resolution to Approve Funding Committee Rules and Procedures.

By unanimous voice-vote, the GA approved, as amended on the floor, Resolution on Directed Action Regarding the Academic Calendar OF UC Berkeley: Significant Dates of Recognition for Oppressed Populations. It would advocate recognizing certain days on the academic calendar, included Indigenous People Day.

By unanimous voice-vote, the GA approved the Resolution on Directed Action to Sign a Letter to Associate Vice Chancellor Ron Coley Requesting that the UC Berkeley Administration Temporarily Reduce the Class Pass Fee By \$1.50 Per Semester. The \$1.50 was the part of the Fee going towards a service that students were paying for, but not receiving, TransLink service.

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

End Summary of the Meeting



This regular meeting of the Graduate Assembly was called to order by Josh Daniels at 5:34 p.m. in the ASUC Senate Chamber.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Zeli Rivas introduced herself and said she just started last week as the Women of Color Project Coordinator. The Empowering Women of Color Conference will be held on March 8. There will be a call for applications for EWOC committee members. Ms. Rivas said she was a graduate student in East Asian Languages and Culture, finishing up her PhD. People could reach her at Anthony Hall or by e-mail.

Mr. McDougal asked if there will be future agenda items to get more detailed information about the Conference. Ms. Rivas said there would be. The first meeting of the EWOC Committee will be next Friday at 12:00. She's meeting with past organizers, people who have worked on the Conference for 15 years. This coming year will be the 23rd Annual Empowering Women of Color Conference. Nothing was set yet, and if people had suggestions for speakers or organizations to participate, she would like to hear them. Ms. Rivas said she'd report to the GA or give Ms. Sasser an update.

Ms. Sasser said that there will be a self-defense class for women on October 11, in the Tilden Room, 5th floor of the MLK Student Union, from 7 p.m. to 8:00.

Dan Roth said he spoke to the GA before about contract negotiations with the Union, and he was back to report some really excellent, spectacular news, something that's really helped establish the Union as a powerful force at the University in terms of making improvements, creating family-friendly policy, and protecting grads' rights. They reached a groundbreaking new contract, and on October 1, after negotiating around the clock for three days, they reached a two-year agreement. This was the fruit from the tireless effort and involvement of Union members throughout the State. They made gains in many key areas without having to sacrifice any of the past victories they've had as a Union. The contract was not yet in effect and still had to be ratified by a vote of the membership. That vote will be held next week, from Tuesday to Thursday. On Tuesday there will be a one-hour meeting at 9 a.m. for people to learn in more detail about what was in the contract and to get their questions answered.

Mr. Roth said he would go over some of what was in the new contract. All academic student employees will get a 5% increase in their wages effective October 1. And in a year, there will be another 5% pay increase, pending State funding. That meant that very likely they will have an increase in wages of over 10% over the next two years. In terms of fee remission, the Union fended off the Administration's attempts to cutback the fee remission program. They also expanded the fee remission program to undergraduate TAs during summer session. People in the summer will get paid the same rate they're paid over the regular academic year. In terms of health benefits, the Union made a really big improvement especially for people at Berkeley. Vision and dental coverage will now be expanded to all campuses. That means they now have vision coverage at Berkeley, starting the next plan year. They're also forming a committee, with the University, to look at ways to further expand the health insurance program for academic employees, especially looking at things like family coverage and filling gaps in the coverage that currently existed. That will be a long-term fight for the Union.

Mr. Roth said they now have paid sick leave, and they actually have the most comprehensive package of paid leaves that exists for any group of academic student employees in the country. It covers things like sick leave, bereavement leave, childbearing, and other sorts of family necessities. For some people, it meant that could take up to six weeks of paid leave in a year. So it was really awesome. Mr. Roth said this contract meant that they could raise their families and be in school, and meet the needs of their lives without that interfering with their jobs.

Ms. Parrish asked if there will be an increase in student fees along with the increase in benefits. Mr. Roth said fees were going to increase no matter what. But the Union was able to sit down, work really hard, and say that the University had the money to make these things happen. He wished he could guarantee that fees wouldn't increase. The Union was focusing on how UC treated its employees. And they could also work to make improvements in terms of fee remission programs and with non-resident tuition. The Union formed a committee with the University to look at getting a waiver for non-resident tuition, which would be a long-term fight.

Mr. Roth said another really key, family-friendly benefit was a childcare subsidy for workers at the University, starting next summer. At Berkeley it will be \$450 a semester. It's not just for University childcare services, and was much broader than that.

In terms of workload, Mr. Roth said employees now have neutral third-party arbitration for workload dis-

knew the GA was tight on time, so if people wanted to find out more, he would urge people to attend the meeting next Tuesday. The bargaining team was strongly recommending a yes vote. This was really a groundbreaking and historic contract, and he was really proud to be able to present it to the GA.

Briefly, in terms of how they made this happen as a Union, Mr. Roth said it wasn't just the leaders of the Union that made it happen. The reason the Union got the contract was because they get strong majorities of people who signed up as members and worked on this, and because they have a really active and mobilized Union. There's been a lot of leadership in the Union that people in the GA have worked with, people in the GA who have gotten involved in helping to build up the strength of the Union. And they had to get back at it because they'll renegotiate the contract in another two years. So they had to build up the strength of the Union and build on these victories. Mr. Roth said he'd send around a sign-up sheet asking for information about whether people would like to get signed up as a member, and also if they were interested in getting involved in the Union.

A Delegate asked what Union members will vote on, and if it would be on whether to ratify the contract. Mr. Roth said they couldn't put the contract into effect until their membership has voted to accept it.

Continuing Announcements, Mr. Daniels said Oktoberfest was an annual event put on by the Graduate Social Club. It will be held on October 23, and will feature \$4 for Top Dogs all the beer they could drink. They should bring their grad ID, proof of age, and up to three friends. It will be at the Alumni House, down from Zellerbach.

Manuel Vallee introduced himself and said he was a Sociology grad student. For the last ten years the GA has sponsored the Mario Savio Lecture, organized to commemorate the memory and work of Mario Savio and the other activists who brought about the 1964 Berkeley Free Speech Movement. This year the speaker will be Angela Davis, a noted social activist and a professor of the history of consciousness at UC Santa Cruz. She's writing a book on prisons in America. She's a fantastic speaker and it will be a fantastic lecture. He would ask Delegates if they could post fliers in their departments.

Travis Garcia introduced himself and said he was the President of the Queer Society on campus. Next Thursday was National Coming Out Day, and they were going to launch an "Eliminate Hate Campaign," an informational campaign promoting the values that most people share at Berkeley, including respecting each other and the idea of tolerance on campus. He hoped people support this campaign, which will just try to make people feel a little more at home at Cal. And this wasn't just an information campaign. In addition, if people would like to celebrate the National Coming Out Day instead of just discussing the issue, on Thursday night the group will rent a bus and will bring up to 100 people to a gay club.

Sam Arons introduced himself and said he was grad student in the Energy and Resources Group in Barrows Hall. He was a Delegate two years ago, and it was nice to be back. He and a friend at UCSB were working on a project called "CarPool," on Facebook. Essentially, it's a ride-matching, carpool service built directly into Facebook. Carpooling was important because it reduced traffic, greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollution. The program leverages the social network of Facebook. They could find, e.g., ride possibilities with people who go to their school, or who live in their area. They could look at their profiles, see what the potential driver or passenger looked like, see their wall postings, and see if they looked normal and didn't seem too sketchy to sharing a ride with.

Mr. Arons said the program could be found by searching for "carpool" in Facebook. People state whether

everything Google knew geographically, Carpool also knew about. That meant they could arrange for rides in South America, Asia, and Europe. They could do this for commutes or one-time rides. Drivers state how much they want for gas. The ride is included in their profile and news feeds, so friends see the information, in case they might want to go. The program also looked at the entire database, not just starting and ending points. So if somebody was going from Santa Barbara to San Diego, somebody in Torrance might want to share a ride, only 11.7 miles out of the driver's way.

Mr. Arons said the service was only as good as the rides that were in the database, so he was doing a lot of outreach on campus to different student groups. They're initially focusing the program on Berkeley, Cornell, and Arizona. People could use the "invite" feature and ask their friends to sign up. If people think this was cool and would like to e-mail it out to their departments, that would be appreciated. If people had questions, they could send him an e-mail.

Mr. Daniels said he would like to welcome them again. This was the second meeting of the year of the Delegates' Assembly. The last meeting was more of an orientation, and for people to get to know each other. The meeting that evening would be more work focused. After the meeting people will go to the Bear's Lair for free pitchers.

Mr. Daniels said they'd have a new report format. The agenda packet contained reports from Officers and point people for each Action Agenda item that they picked at the last meeting. A few people might highlight some things, but having Reports on the agenda was really time for Delegates to ask questions about things in the written reports, or not, and to hold people accountable, as well as help people keep Delegates informed, to have a better understanding of what Delegates needed and what they were curious about. Lastly, he would ask Delegates to please remember to turn in the Delegate feedback form. This was how the GA made make sure people liked the food, who came to the meeting, so they don't assume anybody was no longer a Delegate, and how the GA could better inform Delegates.

#### APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND THE MINUTES

Mr. Daniels said that because they were technically a legislative body and followed Robert's Rules, they needed to approve both the agenda as well as the minutes from the last meeting, which were online. It was so moved and seconded. **THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AND THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 20, 2007 GA MEETING PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.**

GUEST SPEAKERS -- Claudia Covello, Executive Director, University Health Services, and Bena Gatzert, Management Analyst, University Health Services

Mr. Daniels said they had guest speakers from the University Health Services, Tang Center, Claudia Covello and Bena Gatzert.

Ms. Covello introduced herself and said she was the Executive Director of University Health Services, and introduced Bena Gatzert, a Management Analyst who worked with her. They were invited to talk to the GA about Tang and to listen to grads' thoughts about health services. She appreciated the invitation.

Graduate students were rather active utilizers of medical and counseling services. Ms. Covello said they'd give a brief overview of their services and then open up a dialogue on how the Tang Center could engage with the GA and with grads, and have a dialogue all year. Ms. Covello said that as a major student service, UHS really valued that relationship and dialogue.

Ms. Covello said they'd start with medical care and mental services. The Tang Center was the largest student health service among the ten UC campuses and provided quite a comprehensive breadth of services. Most of them were listed on the board. Primary and urgent care services were the routine ways that students access health care, similar to seeing a family doctor. Urgent care was for a sudden onset of an illness or injury, where they needed to be seen and evaluated that day. Primary care was for the routine reasons one would see a family doctor, and were usually done on an appointment basis. Every clinic was staffed by Board-certified physicians and licensed nurse practitioners, licensed nurses. All of them were really dedicated to college health. They came to Berkeley because they wanted to work with this population, and they were delighted to do so.

Ms. Covello said they were really lucky because clinical care that Tang was backed up by having a clinical laboratory, radiology, pharmacy and physical therapy right on-site. It was like a small Kaiser, organized the same way. The other way they were lucky was that they get to contract with a lot of specialists in the medical community to come in and provide clinics at the Tang Center. Such specialists included dermatologists, orthopedists, and ear, nose, and throat doctors. These were doctors who had private practices in the community and came in to Tang four hours a week. So if a student needed something that was beyond primary or urgent care, they could be referred within the building. The idea was to have this be convenient for students, who had better things to do than to spend the whole day at the Tang Center. So they try to organize services so they're convenient for students.

A registered nurse at Tang was there to take phone calls and answer questions every day Tang was open. The telephone number of the advice nurse was 643-7197. If a student woke up and wasn't feeling well, and wasn't sure if they needed to see a doctor, or to tough it out, they should call the nurse, who could help them evaluate what they needed.

Ms. Covello said they have a nice array of for mental health services as well. They have PhD clinical psychologists, psychiatrists, and licensed social workers, who do individual and group work. One thing she thought was really obvious, particularly for graduate students, was that they were there for a number of years; and they were critical years in their lives. Very important things happen. People get in relationships, sometimes people choose to start their families, they write important works, and these were usually times in life when they need support. So the Counseling Center and the Tang Center go out of their way to design groups and have individual sessions that were tailored for graduate students. They also have an Advisory Committee specifically for graduate students, on student mental health.

Ms. Covello said Tang also had a variety of other services as well. They have health promotion service, UHS' prevention, outreach, and education arm. So when people see campaigns on campus around eating disorders, depression screening, or mental health campaigns, all of that was largely spearheaded by the Health Promotion Department. They also do teaching, in the School of Public Health. UHS was also administered the Student Health Insurance Plan. So they offer member services to give people authorized use of the health insurance plan. There was also a 24-hour health assistance program that didn't involve medical people, but instead was like a dispatch, a professional answering service, people who do the same work for UCSF and the Highway Patrol. If someone needed care and Tang was closed, people could call them and the dispatch would send them to the resources that were available at night or on weekends.

Ms. Covello said that Tang was open Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Saturday, which a lot of people didn't know about, from 9:00 to 5:00

Ms. Gatzert said she thought Student Health Services sometimes had a mixed reputation. She always liked to mention that they had a very extensive quality improvement program. They're licensed and accredited by five different outside agencies to make sure they meet the standards of care that were set nationally. They're accredited by AAAHC, an ambulatory care agency, and the American Psychological Association, and were licensed by the Board of Pharmacy and by the State clinical laboratory agency. So they were regularly reviewed externally to make sure they meet the highest standards of care.

Ms. Covello said she and Ms. Filipski talked about the Action Agenda Item on access to health resources. Ms. Covello said she thought there were more details in the packet. Ms. Filipski really boiled it down to two things connected to graduate students and Health Services, and the dialogue between the Tang Center and graduate students.

Ms. Gatzert said there were two initiatives for that year they wanted the GA to know about. Last year at the GA meeting, Delegates told them that for the most part, the Tang Center was a mystery to grad students, many of whom were unaware of this resource on campus. To get the word out and make sure students were well informed, Tang has done a variety of things. They heard the message that they needed to increase their campaigns. So one thing they did that year was to hire a brand new Communications Manager, Kimberla Peen, who started four weeks ago. They'll be launching some new information campaigns in multiple venues.

Ms. Covello said the other thing the Tang Center was very interested in having regular contact with grads and getting regular feedback. That kept Tang very fresh about grads' expectations and experiences. This was actually a very key year for that because the Tang Center was embarked on strategic planning, something they only do every few years. It was a time for extensive assessments of what their customers expected from them, to look at drivers for change, and to put things together in a strategic plan that set the direction for the next few years.

Ms. Gatzert said she's been there 18 years, and Ms. Covello has been there over 20. Grads need to help them stay fresh. So they need to hear from grads about the best ways to get information out to students, and some of the ways to connect with grads who need UHS for services.

Mr. Chen said he was in the Health Services and Policy Master's program and thought the first step was to post a PowerPoint on the GA and Tang Center Web sites. The second step would be for students to get their health insurance card a little bit earlier. He got his in the mail that week.

Mr. Stierle said the feeling he had was that Tang was money oriented rather than care oriented. They just worry how things will be cheaper rather than fixing his knee, e.g. In his Department, the reputation of Tang was very low. Perhaps they could try to move towards progress a free service. That would be far in the future, but if they start pushing for it, they could get there. Ms. Covello said the irony of that was that 25 years ago, it was a free service, 100% Reg Fee funded. Students had \$0 co-pays or fees. The world has changed, and some campus funding was withdrawn. Lately, there's been some good, interesting new efforts to direct new monies to Tang. Tang was very conscious of the difference between how much the campus funded them and how much the actual cost of care was. Health insurance and co-pays made up the difference. She'd love to get back to the way it was.



A Delegate said Student Affairs Officers often host orientations, and in her department, Civil Engineering, the SAO knew about Tang but didn't include anything about it in the information packet at the beginning of the year. That would have been nice. So when Tang sent out information, they might ask to have Tang mentioned at orientations.

A Delegate said different departments have faculty advisement roles and groups, and she thought every faculty member or advisor should have a list of contact information for the Tang Center, especially along the lines of mental health services. Often, students in crisis go especially to junior faculty in their labs at a point of crisis, with nothing having happened pre-emptively. And suddenly, an inexperienced faculty member had a student in crisis. If they didn't have an immediate simple, one-page hand-out of information, then they could end up telling the student something that wasn't good, just out of inexperience, when instead they could make better suggestions, such as having numbers to call or knowing what was at the Tang Center that they could suggest. It seemed like any faculty member with any kind of contact with students should have some kind of very simple one-page document that perhaps could be included in their syllabi. Also, it would be helpful if the Tang Center were to educate GSIs at about the fifth week, before classes could be dropped, but before the first midterm, to remind students of resources available.

Ms. Covello said Sue Bell, a PhD clinical psychologist, was in charge of outreach for mental health services and has begun to make inroads, and has done some advisor training about as to what services were available to students, making sure advisors knew how to make that referral, and how to connect students to care. But there was a long way to go.

A Delegate said it really should be something they tried to make mandatory. Most of the time the only people who come to info sessions were people who already care. Or in some cases, it was very clear that there was a particular person to go to. When a student was having a hard time, that information may not be universally known, and certainly a person like that may not exist in every department. So in terms of making things like mandatory online training for faculty regarding sexual harassment training, one thing students could work on was mandatory training for this kind of assistance.

A Delegate said that just giving a one-page information sheet would be effective, with information so faculty knew they could also call Tang if they were worried about a student.

Ms. Covello said Ms. Filipski wanted her to share a little about the history of dialogue and what happened last year, because part of the vision that occurred then was what they'd build on this year. Last year the GA identified three areas they really wanted to work on with Tang closely. They included mental health; travel care, especially after students returned, but also looking at how they could improve the pre-travel care; and health insurance for dependents. In their discussions about how they could improve mental health services, the new registration funding was helping them do a couple of things that grads really wanted. One was a request they heard from grads about wanting to reduce their out-of-pocket costs related to counseling visits. The Tang Center was able to go from intake and three free visits to intake plus six free visits. That was now in effect.

Ms. Covello said the other thing they heard from grads was the whole issue of referring people off-campus, which was frustrating to some. Some people also didn't follow through and the message for Tang was to make more services available on campus. So with the new staff Tang was able to hire, they're looking at not only having more staff available so people could stay on campus more, but they're also in conversation with the Graduate Division and other offices on campus to have satellites so they could

Another issue grads raised was dependent health insurance. One thing Tang heard was that they needed to improve helping students get their families the insurance they needed. So what UHS has been able to do was to hire and dedicate a position to help connect student families with insurance. Ms. Covello said they brought a brochure that evening that talked about some of the options, and contact information to Kathy Gage, the new specialist. She's trying to be proactive and did a series early that fall to get information out early, and she was available throughout the year, even to come to groups to give information, or to meet with people one-on-one.

Ms. Gatzert said the other area grads expressed concern about was with travel care. They met with a number of students in the GA and were able to make some immediate changes. One was to work with one of their case managers to look at how they could identify early on, somebody who had a complex or serious case who might need what they call "case management," where an RN worked closely with them and with the team of medical providers they needed, and if there were timeliness issues, making sure the student got to a specialist quickly. Also, as part of continuing medical education they organize for clinicians, they did an international travel session last year, and they're doing another one next week, where they make sure they have the latest information on to look for and how to treat issues.

Ms. Gatzert students they work with also thought it was important to have information when they came back from travel, to know what to look for and how to get the care they needed. A new hand-out was developed for people when they return. They also have pre-travel packets people get through Tang's International Travel Care Clinic. It's also something they could give out to departments. For example, there's a lot more traveling in Anthropology than some other departments.

The other two things they're working on that year was follow-up. In a few weeks they'll have a panel of graduate student come in to talk about some of the issues for them, specific examples of what did and didn't feel right. She'll work on that with Ms. Filipski.

Tang also heard from grads that while they knew grad feedback was important and that there were mechanisms for that, Tang will make sure to make those visible and easier to use. And to continue the dialogue, they have Advisory Committees she mentioned. They're still recruiting for Student Health Advisory Committees, which had a student chair. They also had suggestion boxes around the Tang Center as well as on the Web site. They want feedback about people's individual experiences, and they research every single quality of care issue, which are investigated by the Medical Director. And they issue action items out of that. They want to hear about students' cases as well as hear about group sessions. They love coming to Delegates' meetings and welcome continuing to have smaller working meetings, like they did last year. She, Ms. Filipski, and Ms. Sasser will also work together on a forum. She knew from the GA's program side they want to know about the current issues facing Tang as they do strategic planning, and Tang wanted to hear more about what students' current issues were. So they're talking about co-sponsoring and organizing a forum on quality-of-life issues, and dialogue about that.

Ms. Anderson said she's taken great advantage of Tang's mental health services and thought everyone should know about them. But Tang should really take these things online. The best thing to do for information was to just have a really good Web site, and maybe encourage departments to tell new GSIs at the orientation to please check out the Tang Center Web site. They're smart people and they probably won't check it out right then, but if they see a student who was having a problem, they'd recall the GSI training about the Tang Center. She also thought the quiz was bad.

Mr. Armstrong asked if UC was doing a Systemwide review of SHIPs on campuses. It didn't make sense to him that there were different SHIPs at different campuses that did different things. For example, at Berkeley, they cannot buy into SHIP if they had children or dependants, but that could be done at other campuses. Ms. Covello said the Directors of all ten campuses who administer SHIPs on their campuses meet every year, sometimes twice a year, specifically to review all the plans. They originally started by having identical benefit plans across the System. That's changed over the years, as student advisory committees emphasize different things at different campuses. At Berkeley, they put dental in place far sooner than other campuses. So the plans were allowed to grow organically, meeting the needs of the individual campuses. The dependent issue was complicated, but was really about money. It's extremely expensive. Some campuses have been able to offer it, and those campuses generally pay a lot more in premiums.

Mr. Armstrong said he was talking about people buying in. It wasn't that the University would pay the premium, but that he would have an option in the plan to pay for a child's premium. He thought no campus had dependent coverage, but at some, students could buy in. He asked what it would take to do that. Ms. Covello said she thought the study group would have had to review that. They actually review this about every three years, and students were included in the group looking at the cost-benefit analysis. In the last couple of reviews, it was their decision that it made more sense for families to have individual insurance than to have it included. She thought the subject was really up again now and needed to be talked about. Ms. Gatzert said the campus couldn't make it any more affordable than what it was, and this was actually more affordable than what the study groups have found they could do. So it's not about not wanting to administer it, it's that it wasn't necessarily cost effective, and ultimately it came out of students' pockets. The campus couldn't do it any cheaper.

Mr. Rees said he also purchased family coverage, and fortunately, his family was healthy. But they couldn't just dump student families on the market and expect them to buy health insurance if they have pre-existing conditions. That was a real problem with SHIP programs, with zero coverage and no options for students. So he thought it was good the Tang Center was informing students about their options. Healthy students couldn't buy cheaper insurance. But they don't have that option if a student had a sick dependent. Secondly, he would like to raise the lifetime limit of the SHIP program. He believed it was \$250,000 for life, whereas the standard appeared to be \$5 million in the open market. He had a friend who recently exhausted her element. She got cancer and exhausted her SHIP coverage in the first year. He asked what was being considered to raise the lifetime coverage.

Ms. Covello asked if his friend was put in the conversion plan so she could continue to have health insurance. Mr. Rees said she had to drop out. Ms. Covello said several things were mentioned. The lifetime maximum was determined by how many times people needed \$250,000 worth of coverage or more, something that was evaluated regularly. The whole program was evaluated annually and looked at that exact experience. Generally, they either have none, or one person per year who needed that much coverage. In other words, 99.9% of everybody was doing fine on it.

Mr. Rees said that didn't help this one person. Ms. Covello said she agreed, and felt for that situation. So one thing Tang did was to make sure they started lining up a student's options once anybody approached the maximum. Even if a student had to drop out of school, they could be put into a conversion plan the State had for people with pre-existing conditions that Tang got them in. Sometimes that happens, and Tang worked with the students and could get them on to other insurance. The student had to pay for it, but it's not as though they were uninsured.

Mr. Rees asked if there was any comment on dependents with pre-existing conditions. Ms. Covello said the same thing was true. The State had a number of subsidized plans for people with pre-existing conditions. The Mr. Rees asked if those were all income-tested. Ms. Covello said that some of them were, and one wasn't. Tang needed to hear if Delegates knew of somebody who couldn't find insurance and if people were falling between the cracks. Sometimes it was a real struggle. For 99% of the time, they line up people with insurance right away. But sometimes they have trouble. Someone will reject them from a plan and they'll have to reapply a couple of times. But to date, that she knew of, everyone was hooked into health insurance, especially if they work with Tang. That's why they have identified somebody who could walk a family through this process. If people knew of someone in that situation, she would ask them to please tell Tang.

Mr. Daniels asked what the best way for people to have additional questions to ask them. Ms. Covello said the packet had a page for questions and feedback, and her phone number and e-mail was included. She would be happy to talk to them. The more they hear from them, and know what was going on, the better Tang could serve them. Ms. Gatzert said she wanted to thank them. (Applause)

#### Representative from the UC Student Association

Holly Lim introduced herself and said she was one of six full-time staff in the UC Student Association. She was there to let them know a little about the UCSA and to answer any questions they might have. The UCSA was the UC Student Association, sort of like a Systemwide coalition of all of the UC Student Associations, representing about 200,000 professional, graduate, and undergraduate students. They are the official voice to the Board of Regents, the Legislature, the Office of the President, and the Governor. Every year they work on campaigns that deal with accessibility, affordability, and the quality of their UC education.

Ms. Lim said the four campaigns they're working on include educational affordability, accessibility, and quality, working on academic preparation programming and a fee decrease. The second campaign was graduate financial aid. The third was the undergraduate campaign, dealing with the DREAM Act, or SB 1, which was on the Governor's desk at that time. The DREAM Act was legislation to allow undocumented students access to institutional and University aid. The last campaign was voter registration campaign, which they do every year. The power they had as students at the UCSA was through their votes. Students may not have money, but they have the power to vote, and 200,000-plus UC students can affect a lot of legislation that that's passed and people who were elected. It's a very student-led, student-run organization.

The UCSA is led by the Board of Directors. Triffid Abel was a member of the Board, as was Alberto Ortega, the Campus Organizing Director/Legislative Liaison. The UCSA had a representative from every campus, and they all come up with and implement campaign strategies. They understand that students don't always have the time to implement these campaigns, so they have full-time staff. They have a Legislative Director in Sacramento; a University Affairs Director, dealing directly with the UC Office of the President and the Board of Regents; and two Field Organizers, of which Ms. Lim said she was one. The Field Organizers also deal with the collective bargaining program, where students were allowed in to collective bargaining sessions with unions. For instance, there's a bargaining session with a neighbor union, AFSCME, in Berkeley, and an undergraduate from Berkeley was going to that session, represent-

Ms. Lim said the UCSA also held conferences, one of which was the Students of Color Conference on November 10-12, at UC Santa Cruz. If people would like to attend, he would suggest talking to Ms. Abel after the meeting. Another conference will be in Sacramento on March 1, their Lobby Conference. They'll talk about their issues and on the last day, lobby legislators. The first conference held in the year was the UCSA Congress, where the students decide on which campaigns to focus on. She called for any questions.

A Delegate asked how they could contact her. Holly said she would send around a sign-up sheet. She was the Field Organizer for Berkeley and her e-mail was holly@UCSA.org, or fo@UCSA.org, which would go to her and the other Field Organizers.

Mr. Daniels said the GA's liaison to the UCSA was the External Affairs Vice President Abel and her Chief-of-Staff, Mr. Ortega.

Mr. Daniels said people who were given whistles at the last GA meeting were still responsible for whistling when they heard a term or acronym they didn't understand.

## REPORTS

Mr. Daniels said reports were included in the agenda packet, and he would ask Delegates to please review them if they could. They'd highlight a few things from those reports.

### Report from the ASUC Representatives

Mr. Rhoads introduced himself and said he was an ASUC Senator. Ms. Duong introduced herself and said she was also an ASUC Senator. Mr. Rhoads said they were there to let the GA know what was going on in the ASUC. The Senate passed a bill a week ago to enable them to set up a committee to look for a new ASUC attorney. This attorney would work for the students, and not at all for the University, and represents students in signing contracts and in lawsuits. The GA will have one student appointed to the Selection Committee by the Delegates, along with four Senators and two Executives.

Ms. Duong said she wanted to welcome the graduate population to Mental Health Awareness Week, October 15-19. She knew the graduate experience was very different, and she would urge them to come out and tell people how it was for graduate students, something undergrads would like to learn about. There will be a weeklong series of events. One event grads might be interested in was a talk by Stephen Hinshaw, the Chair of the Psychology Department, who will speak on his book about mental health stigma, on Tuesday evening, October 16.

Mr. Rajan asked what happened to the old attorney. Mr. Rhoads said he's been with the ASUC since 1973 and was retiring. He'll do a slow transition with a new lawyer, and in that way, get his knowledge of the ASUC's system and how things have worked for the past 30 years.

Mr. McDougal asked if there was any process for that knowledge to be shared not just with attorneys. One challenge with student organizations was the loss of memory. This was a 30-year memory, and he asked what kind of process would be used to share that collectively. Mr. Rhoads said he didn't know of any plans for that. Perhaps Mr. Himmelstein could come in and speak. Mr. Daniels said that was a great question, and they'd look into that.

Mr. Rhoads said the ASUC was also taking applications for the Elections Council Chair. The ASUC held elections every April and it was really important that graduate students were involved. The chair would basically run the Elections Council and the elections. One-third of the student body voted in these elections. If people were interested, he would ask them to please send him an e-mail. The position had a stipend of \$1,500.

### Report from the Dean of Students

Dean Poullard introduced himself, and said he was the Dean of all students, not just undergraduates. He'll give the GA updates on a monthly basis. He first wanted to talk about issues of access. As Dean of Students, he was located in 326 Sproul, the floor the Grad Division was on. He worked very closely with Dean Andrew Szeri, of the Graduate Division, to really make sure he had a full picture of what was going on within the graduate world, and to figure out how he could be a stronger advocate for the issues of concern to grads. Dean Poullard said he was very happy to hear that the GA, at its last meeting, adopted health care issues as an Advocacy Agenda item, because it was one of his concerns as well. As Ms. Duong mentioned earlier, Mental Health Awareness Week was coming up. This was a growing issue on this campus, health care broadly, but mental health specifically, both for undergraduates and graduates. Dean Poullard said he was part of BRAT, the Behavioral Risk Assessment Team, and at least 15 times a year, he had to convene a BRAT meeting concerning students, both grads and undergrads. Someone didn't receive good care and was basically spinning out of control, because their mental health wasn't good. BRAT meetings bring together the UCPD, the Dean of Students, the Tang Counseling Center, and others, to think strategically about how to support a particular student through a crisis. Dean Poullard said he was currently dealing with a graduate student who basically had a really severe bout of hepatitis, and was then diagnosed with depression. He went off his medication, and it all created a perfect storm. That's one example of what he dealt with on a daily basis around students' mental health issues. So Mental Health Awareness Week, which Ms. Duong was coordinating, in consultation with the Dean's office, was critically important for both grads and undergrads.

Dean Poullard asked how many people were familiar with PostSecrets. A Cal alumni started a campaign by passing out postcards and having people anonymously write their deepest, darkest secrets. He has published books of those secrets and he will be talking about this campaign in the Bay Area. The campus was having its own campaign, called "Cal Secrets," something they were doing because he thought it was critically important to raise the level of awareness of what people were really carrying in their lives about mental health issues, things they perhaps wouldn't tell anybody else, but would write down on a postcard. They'll have a huge campaign during Mental Health Awareness Week, with a program on Upper Sproul. He hoped to get a sense of what the general state of affairs was. He'd give a box to Mr. Daniels for people to place their secrets. He would ask Delegates to not only think about this themselves, but to think about students they might be in contact with at the undergrad level. GSIs can work very closely with students who deal with these issues day in and day out.

Dean Poullard said he also wanted to mention the Dean of Students Advisory Council, which met once a month. They have excellent, catered food, better than GA food. The Advisory Council was there for him to be a better advocate, and both grads and undergrads were on it. Last year three phenomenal grad students were on DOSAC, and he was currently looking for two. All they had to do was show up, build community, and eat. It was a very easy task. If people wanted to do that, he was looking for people who think critically about what was going on with their students on this campus so that he could be a better advocate as the Dean of Students.

Lastly, Dean Poullard said he wanted to ask grads to help him, over the course of the year, to deal with issues of campus civility. This was probably the most uncivil campus he's ever had the pleasure to work on. This was his fifth campus since his career began 20 years ago. Over the course of those 20 years, he has dealt with all kinds of issues of civility. But Cal was really struggling as a campus with how they talk to and engage with each other. He needed grads to help him do this, with each other and with undergraduates they might be in contact with. Since the semester began, he's had three deaths, one suicide, two attempted suicides, two interim suspensions because people went off their medication, incidents of incivility in the community on the Southside, and ten accidents and robberies. If this was how they were going to engage for the rest of the year, they were in trouble. And he, as the Dean, was very, very concerned about how they engage each other and take care of one another. So he needed their help to help him think critically about this, and to have a very different year.

Ms. Abel asked how they could find out about the Advisory Committee. Dean Poullard said they should send him an e-mail and his liaison, Rachel Luna, would get in touch with them. Mr. Daniels said he would pass the secrets cards around.

#### Report from the Funding Advisor

Mr. Tuchman said the Funding Committee met and their next meeting will be Tuesday, October 23. They'll review the Group Resources and Grants application. There was a small typo in the report, and "percentage cut" should read "percentage funded." So the percentage funded was 52%, with 48% the amount cut. Also, 98% of the grant requests were funded. There were two different funding reports, for Group Resources and the other was for Grants.

Mr. Daniels said that just like approval of the minutes, they need a motion to approve, a second, and then they'd vote. If people had any questions about how this was divided up or allocated, the floor was open.

Mr. Tuchman the amount requested and the amount rewarded was shown. The way the cuts were made and the percentages that were given were based on the budget. Everyone received a global cut.

Mr. Daniels said that seeing no questions, he called for a motion. A motion to approve the reports was made and seconded. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE FUNDING REPORT, GRANTS ROUND 1 AND GROUP RESOURCES ROUND 2, FUNDING ALLOCATIONS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE FUNDING COMMITTEE, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.

#### Report from the Project Coordinator Liaison

Ms. Sasser said everything she was going to talk about was already written in the agenda packet. There were two job openings, for the Graduate Support Services Project Coordinator and the Graduate Minority Project Coordinator. She would ask Delegates to please spread the word that there were two great jobs open at the GA, which paid pretty well. Secondly, Ms. Sasser said that all of their events and activities were open to all graduate students. So if there was an activity they were interested in, but they didn't think it was geared towards a constituency they were a member of, they were invited to attend. The only events that were closed were events like self-defense classes for women. Other than that, everyone was welcome and invited to attend all events.

#### Report from the Business Manager

Ms. Hsueh said she had a possible solution for mental health problems, and said the GA and the GA Social Club were sponsoring a free event, on November 8, in the Tilden Room, with food, music, and fun. She had fliers to distribute and would ask people to distribute them to their colleagues. Also, the GA had free space in Anthony Hall that any student group could reserve, the patio, the conference room, and a smaller room. Some people know about this, but a lot didn't. By next Thursday, October 11, the availability of each room will be on the GA Web site and could be reserved, free of charge, during normal business hours.

#### Report from the Technology Committee

Karl Chen introduced himself and said he was the Chair of the Technology Committee that year. If Delegates had anything technology related that was frustrating or that they'd like to change or wanted to work on, he would ask them to please talk to him. People have told him that when they write papers and include their e-mail address, mail address goes away when the item was forwarded. If they would like their e-mail addresses to remain, they should let him know. Also, regarding downloading music the recording industry's RIAA, the campus was not really helping students, and the Committee wanted to do something about that. He's talked to a lawyer who was interested in helping the GA get the University to defend students better and help prevent students from downloading illegally in the first place. He would ask people to please come to the Committee meeting if they were interested.

Mr. Daniels said that all the meeting information was included in the agenda packet and said the floor was open to questions about any report. They wanted to have this so it was just people talking to politely listening Delegates. He called for any questions or comments.

Ms. Freedman said she didn't want to hear people from the Tang Center talk about the same thing every semester. Also, if they have speakers, they should make sure half the time was reserved for Delegates to express what they thought.

Ms. Anderson said the paper was also wasteful.

Ms. Anderson said that regarding the Elections Council, ASUC elections cost 30 times as much as they should. If someone was interested, it might be a good idea to run for the position of chair to have more



down. Mr. Rajan said the GA paid between \$12-40,000 in election fees, so if anybody was actually interested in saving money on elections, that would be appreciated.

Ms. Crosby said she appreciated hearing from the Tang Center, especially since it was associated with an action item. She thought it was a useful dialogue between the Tang Center and grad students, even if some information was repeated.

Mr. McDougal said that it might help in the future to know more about how Tang was funded before. Someone said it used to be free, and the question was why it wasn't. Sometimes the discussion could be at very a superficial detail level when there were deeper issues.

Mr. Daniels said that maybe if they have a speaker they'll ask for discussion after the presentation.

Mr. Daniels said that next month they'll hear from the Dean of the Graduate Division, Dean Szeri. In their comments on the feedback form, he would ask Delegates to write suggestions they'd like him to talk about when he attends the meeting next month.

Mr. Rees said he would like a description of how the GA has been involved in advocacy for health care and how Delegates could get involved in that process. Mr. Daniels said that to answer briefly, in the past three years, the GA's main issue with respect to health care has been mental health. The GA did a survey four years ago that really put graduate mental health on the map for the Tang Center. So that was always on the agenda when people from Tang attend GA meetings. In terms of getting more involved, Miguel Daal and the Campus Affairs Committee were primarily the ones looking at this issue. In the agenda packet there was also a report from the Action Agenda Coordinator for Access to Health Resources, which was headed up by Ms. Filipski. And there were many other ways to get educated about this.

Ms. Abel said a lot of questions her department had for the Tang Center dealt with insurance, and they actually didn't know who they were up against in terms of care to dependents and insurance questions. They weren't qsure about the University money that was involved. Mr. Daniels said he didn't know either.

Ms. Filipski said if people had questions, they could get in touch with her. Mr. Daniels said a forum will be held on insurance and there was someone at Tang who was supposedly there to answer questions about this. Maybe they could have a second forum just about SHIP. But again, Ms. Filipski and Mr. Daal were the folks to send e-mails to about how to do this better.

Mr. Armstrong said given the new contract, the Union will negotiate SHIP in two years.

A Delegate said he was interested in an update from the GA liaison, and asked if he'd attend GA meetings. Mr. Daniels said he'll make sure he comes to the next GA meeting and gives a report in this format.

Mr. Daniels said that if people liked this format in terms of reports, he would ask them to jot that down, or to note if they didn't like it.

### Resolution Referrals

Mr. Daniels said a Resolution in the agenda packet, Directed Action to Administer a Student Poll Regarding the Qualifications of Faculty Members would be referred to committee. The Graduate

Assembly wouldn't debate it or vote at that time, but would hear a short introduction. Mr. Stierle said this was a student poll to see students' opinions. It's part of a movement that started in 2005. They were not against science but were against the unethical applications of science. In March 2007, for the first time since the end of the Cold War, the Bush Administration and their University and the Labs decided to develop new nuclear weapons. The survey would ask whether the University and the Labs should be involved in the production and proliferation of nuclear weapons, yes, no, or no opinion. This wasn't about science or religion, but their survival. Mr. Daniels said that if people wanted to ask questions about or discuss this, it will be referred to the Campus Affairs Committee and the External Affairs Committee. People should attend those meetings if they would like to have a particular say in this.

Mr. Daniels said the next Resolution to refer was from him, the Class Pass Fee. Mr. Daniels said this was a fee that students pay every semester, and \$1.00 of that service goes towards the service known as TransLink, which allows people to swipe their card to board AC Transit or MUNI, deducting the amount from their account. It's like a FastPass on cars, but was for public transportation in the Bay Area. Students were not getting that service, but were paying \$1.00 a semester as part of this overall Class Pass fee.

Normally, this Resolution would probably be sent to the Campus Affairs Committee for discussion, after which it would be brought back in November for a vote. Because of the delay in getting the Administration's support for this, if they want the fee reduced for the Spring Semester, they needed to consider the Resolution that evening. Delegates could decide to refer this to the Campus Affairs Committee, with the GA to discuss it and vote on it in November. And potentially, the fee would be reduced for the '08-09 year. If, however, they want to try and have the reduction effective that Spring Semester, then they would have to vote on the Resolution that evening, bypassing the referral process.

Ms. Freedman moved to vote on whether to vote on the Resolution that evening. Mr. Daniels said they need three-fourths of the Delegates present to vote to bypass the referral process. A motion to bypass the referral process was made and seconded. **THE MOTION TO BYPASS THE REFERRAL PROCESS AND VOTE ON THE RESOLUTION THAT EVENING PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.**

Mr. Daniels said that out of respect to the other two Resolutions introduced before, they'd consider this last.

## RESOLUTIONS

The following Resolution was authored by Mr. Law:

### RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUNDING COMMITTEE RULES AND PROCEDURES

WHEREAS, the Graduate Assembly supports graduate student groups through allocating a specific amount of the budget for graduate student funding; and

WHEREAS, the GA has a multitude of avenues by which it funds graduate students and student groups, including the Graduate Events Fund, the Group Resources Fund, Grants, and more; and

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUNDING COMMITTEE RULES AND PROCEDURES (cont'd)

WHEREAS, the funding is allocated through the Funding Committee and its application review process; and

WHEREAS, the procedures used by the Funding Committee require approval of the Delegate Assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that that the Delegate Assembly approves the Funding Committee procedures below and the Funding Guide (which can also be found at <http://gaberkelev.edu/funding/funding/docs/07-OR/07-08%20Funding%20Guide.pdf>).

Funding Committee Procedures

- 1 Type of Committee            Standing Committee
- 2 Purchase and Scope of Committee    Graduate Student Groups Funding is a means of promoting graduate student organizations throughout the University, and of encouraging participation in the Graduate Assembly.
- 3 Composition
  - Number of members    Number of members: 6-10
  - Qualifications of members    Qualifications: must be registered graduate student; maximum one per academic department.
  - How appointed/selected    Selection: approval by Funding Chair
  - Rotations (if any)
  - Quorum                    Quorum: Majority (greater than 50%)
- 4 Responsibilities/Duties            According to the GA Charter and By-laws, and voted-on procedures and policies, the Funding Committee is required to follow the guidelines presented in the Funding Guide regarding the awarding of funds and grants to register graduate student groups. Each academic year, the Funding Committee has authority to establish a set of standing policies regarding the funding review guidelines for the academic year. These policies will ensure that equitable procedures, priorities, and round allocations are in practice for the academic year. The Funding Committee reviews applications based on the criteria explained in the Funding Guide and Funding Committee standing policies. The Funding Committee makes decisions on the amount of funding including any restrictions.
- 5 Authority/Decision            Decision-making authority pending approval of the committee.  
-- Majority vote of all committee members

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUNDING COMMITTEE RULES AND PROCEDURES (cont'd)

-- Chair of the committee shall not regularly vote, but reserves the right to vote in a tie-breaker as necessary

6 Meetings/Schedules      Once a month during fall and spring academic semester, two weeks prior to GA Delegates' meeting

7 Relationship (Internal/  
and External      Attends Exec Board meeting and report to exec board and receives budget from Budget Committee  
 To Exec Board  
 To Other committees/  
groups

8 Funding Breakdown and Timeline      Rounds of funding will be broken down by dates of the event that is being funded. There are two independent-of-semester funding rounds, each semester containing three (3) rounds. These rounds of funding are coordinated administratively with the Business Office of the GA.

50% of all budgeted funds for student funding will be allocated in the Fall Semester funding rounds, while 50% will be allocated in the Spring Semester funding rounds.

The amounts of funds available to be allocated to applicants within each semester is broken down by the following:

Round 1 -- 20% of available funds for the semester.

Round 2 -- 40% of available funds for the semester, plus remaining funds from Round 1.

Round 3 -- All remaining available funds for the semester.

Mr. Daniels said this Resolution was referred to both the Rules Committee and the Funding Committee at the September GA meeting. Their analyses were on page 13. He said the floor was open to discussion.

Ms. Anderson moved to amend. She'd like to thank the Funding Committee Chair, who had to leave early. The Executive Board had some concerns with these policies. The By-laws state that the Funding Committee had to send its rules to the Delegate Assembly. The rules in the Resolution would have the Funding Committee make up its own rules. Her amendment would have the Funding Committee follow the rules, like it already does, and would add that if they ever want to change those rules, they would have to come to the Delegate body. That was basically what the By-laws said. She noted that the Funding Committee Chair, Mr. Law agreed to this, and saw it as an oversight.

Mr. Daniels said that just to clarify, this was a friendly amendment. The amendment was at the top of page 13, In "Responsibilities/Duties." A sentence would be added after "Each academic year, the Funding Committee has authority to establish a set of standing policies... for the academic year." The sentence to be added was, "Changes in the funding guide are subject to approval by the Funding Committee

and the Delegate Assembly, with the exception of rules mandated by UC Berkeley/ASUC Auxiliary Financial Services, which are to be reviewed by the Executive Board of the Graduate Assembly.” The current wording would then continue.

The motion to amend was seconded. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT PASSED WITH NO OBJECTION.

Mr. McDougal said he had a question with #3, Composition, with selection of Committee members to be approved by the Funding Chair. That seemed to invest the chair with a lot of power. One person selecting the people were on their committee was very undemocratic, especially if the chair had a vote, even if they only voted in a tie-breaker. Mr. Daniels asked if he wanted to propose an amendment. Mr. McDougal said he was new and didn't know how committees worked there.

A Delegate said she thought it was important for the Funding chair to have some say on who was on the Committee because it was important to keep some continuity. With totally open membership on the Committee, they'd run into the problem of having to re-train a committee every year, which took a lot of time.

Mr. Rajan said he would concede to the issue Mr. McDougal brought up. Mr. Armstrong said the Rules Committee talked about that and had a problem with it. It was rather strange for a committee to have its composition determined by anything other than the Delegate body. As a member fee Rules Committee, he thought their By-laws should probably be changed to reflect that. Obviously the Funding Committee chair would have probably great weight, but in general he thought the Delegate body should determine the composition.

Mr. Daniels asked if people would be comfortable adding something like “Approval by the Funding Committee chair, subject to veto by the Delegate Assembly.” He noted that GA By-laws state that having two people on the Funding Committee from the same department was prohibited.

Ms. Freedman said they didn't want a situation where the entire GA body had to vote on every person on every committee.

Ms. Anderson said she thought Funding was the only Committee that this needed to apply to, because no other committee was turning away hordes of people or that also held any real power.

Mr. Rajan said that to build on Ms. Anderson's point, the Rules Committee had a hard time with exactly these kinds of issues. One option was either say this was a major issue they needed to fix now and to send the matter to the Rules Committee, although it might take more than one meeting to figure this out, which could hinder the Funding Committee. Or they could spend the rest of the semester identifying such issues and bring back recommendations to the Assembly. But they realize this issue exists. The Rules Committee could bring this back hopefully in January and make sure this was improved for next year.

Mr. Begtrup said he thought it would be better to not have a selection process specifically spelled out, rather than to set a bad precedent. He wouldn't want to have membership of the Funding Committee approved by the Committee chair. He would just delete the selection wording since they didn't have the selection process decided.

Mr. Daniels called for a motion. Ms. Freedman moved to delete from line three three of the Funding Committee procedures, "How appointed/Selected: Selection, approval by Funding Chair." The motion to amend was seconded. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.

A motion to call the question and end debate was made and seconded and passed with no objection. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUNDING COMMITTEE RULES AND PROCEDURES, AS AMENDED, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.

The following Resolution was authored by Ms. LePak:

**DIRECTED ACTION REGARDING THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY: SIGNIFICANT DATES OF RECOGNITION FOR OPPRESSED POPULATIONS**

WHEREAS, we, as graduate students in an institution of higher education, value diversity and attempt to be inclusive of underrepresented students; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations acknowledges August 9th of every year to be International Day of the World's Indigenous People; and

WHEREAS, the State of California acknowledges the fourth Friday of September as Native American Day; and

WHEREAS the City of Berkeley acknowledges Indigenous People's Day in replace of what was once known as "Columbus Day"; and

WHEREAS the month of November is declared by the federal government as American Indian Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS October 11 is observed by members of the LGBTIQQ community as National Coming Out Day;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the President of the Graduate Assembly shall advocate to the campus Administration for the calendar of the University of California, Berkeley to recognize the above dates.

Ms. LePak introduced herself and said she was a Delegate from the School of Social Welfare. She wanted to amend the Resolution, the second, third, and fourth Whereas Clauses, by deleting "acknowledges" and replacing it with "has declared." THE AMENDMENT WAS APPROVED WITH NO OBJECTION.

Ms. LePak said Monday was Indigenous People's Day. In the planner she bought in the student Bookstore, it said "Columbus Day," which was the motivation for the Resolution.

A Delegate said she was on the Campus Affairs Committee and they didn't know what "recognize" meant in the last Resolved Clause, calling for the University to "recognize" previously mentioned dates. Ms. LePak said it would be to adopt the above recommended changes and additions of dates and days respectively.

Ms. LePak said she just wanted it on the calendar and printed so the calendar said "Indigenous People."

Mr. Rheume asked to add the words "on the official UC Berkeley academic calendar" to the end of the Resolved Clause.

Mr. Daniels suggested incorporating the proposed changes into the following amendment:

"Resolved that the President of the Graduate Assembly shall advocate to the campus Administration of the University of California, Berkeley, to recognize the above dates on the academic calendar."

The motion to amend was seconded. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.

Mr. Begtrup asked about the actual status of Columbus Day, since the Resolution mentions "what was once" Columbus Day. Also, he asked about the legitimacy of National Coming Out Day, since the other days were declared by some government body, whether the federal government, the State, or the UN. Ms. LePak said she was asked by a student group to ask to have that put on the calendar. As for Columbus Day, she felt that if that was on the calendar, they should also have "Hitler Day," since it was very similar to this population, and what Columbus stood for. Columbus Day for her was dead, but for others it might not be.

A Delegate said the Post Office still recognized Columbus Day. She thought recognizing Indigenous People's Day was appropriate, but she didn't think it was practice for UC to say it wouldn't acknowledge Columbus Day.

Mr. McDougal said an institution taking a stance was part of a process of changing history. The argument shouldn't be about things that were already there, but about what they wanted.

Ms. Haynes said this was an ideological issue UC Berkeley should take a stance on. It may not seem practical to do, but that didn't mean they shouldn't do it. A lot of things love that were done to counter racism in the last 150 years.

Ms. Anderson said one practical concern was that a lot of international students who might not know the Post Office was closed because of Columbus Day. They might ask Mr. Daniels to encourage putting something on the calendar like "formerly Columbus Day."

Mr. Begtrup said that without knowing if National Coming Out Day was a national day, he moved to strike the final Whereas Clause. The motion was seconded. A motion to call the question and come to a vote on the amendment was made and seconded and passed by voice-vote. The motion to approve the

A motion to call the question and end debate on the Resolution was made and seconded and passed by voice-vote.

THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AS AMENDED PASSED BY VOICE-VOTE, DIRECTED ACTION REGARDING THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY: SIGNIFICANT DATES OF RECOGNITION FOR OPPRESSED POPULATIONS.

The following Resolution was authored by Mr. Daniels:

DIRECTED ACTION TO SIGN A LETTER TO ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR RON COLEY REQUESTING THAT THE UC BERKELEY ADMINISTRATION TEMPORARILY REDUCE THE CLASS PASS FEE BY \$1.50 PER SEMESTER

WHEREAS, the Class Pass Fee passed via a student referendum in Spring 2005; and

WHEREAS, a portion of the Class Pass Fee, as established in the Class Pass Fee Referendum, goes to AC Transit, and of that AC Transit portion, \$1.00 per semester is for the specific purpose of providing a service known as TransLink (and another \$.50 per semester goes to the required return-to-aid); and

WHEREAS, the UC Berkeley Registrar has been collecting this \$1.50 per semester since Fall 2006; and

WHEREAS, the TransLink service has yet to be provided to students and, according to the Director of Parking & Transportation, it will not be provided for at least another two years; and

WHEREAS, students should not be paying for a service which they are not receiving;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that President of the Graduate Assembly empowered to take the necessary actions in order to persuade the UC Berkeley Administration to temporarily reduce the Class Pass fee by \$1.50 per semester, which includes (but is not limited to) signing the below letter (or a similar version) to Associate Vice Chancellor Ron Coley.

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Begin letter to Associate Vice Chancellor Coley

Dear Associate Vice Chancellor Coley:

On behalf of all students, both undergraduate and graduate, at the University of California, Berkeley we would like to request that the Chancellor (or the appropriate administrator) temporary reduce the cost of the Class Pass Fee by \$1.50 per semester as students are not receiving the promised TransLink service for which the \$1.00 (plus the \$.50 return- to-aid portion) is meant. The Chancellor has the authority to take such action according to Section 85.00 of the UC Systemwide Policy on Compulsory Campus-Based



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Letter to Associate Vice Chancellor Coley (cont'd)

Student Fees. We also request that the reduction stay in place until such time as the Director of Parking & Transportation (P&T) and a majority of the Class Pass Fee Committee (CPFC) agree that the reduction should be abolished.

As established in the Class Pass Fee Referendum, a portion of the Class Pass fee goes to AC Transit. Of that AC Transit portion, \$1.00 per semester is for the specific purpose of providing a service known as TransLink (and another \$.50 per semester goes to the required return-to-aid). It was initially envisioned that the TransLink service would provide students with the ability to use their student ID to ride AC Transit (for free) as well as any other Bay Area public transit system (perhaps for a cost) that was part of the TransLink network. That is, students would not need to purchase multiple cards to, say, ride MUNI, transfer to BART, and then take an AC Transit bus to campus. A corollary benefit would be that Parking & Transportation as well as the student governments would have access to generalized information about the public transit habits of students, allowing for better service and advocacy.

However, according to the P&T Director, students will not be able to use their student IDs in this way for at least two years as a result of delays within the company that provides the TransLink service. In other words, students are paying (now and into the foreseeable future) \$1.50 per semester for a service that they are not receiving. It is this principle which underlies the request to temporarily reduce the Class Pass fee.

In the future, if it is determined that (1) the TransLink service or a similar service is available that provides a comparable service as describe above, and (2) such a service is provided at the current cost of \$1.00 per semester (this is not including the return-to-aid portion), then the Chancellor (or the appropriate administrator) should abolish the temporary reduction and reinstate the full Class Pass Fee with the intention of using the \$1.00 per semester to pay for the TransLink or similar service. This determination must be made by the P&T Director and a majority of the CPFC.

We also request that the University of California, Berkeley hold in escrow the funds previously collected for TransLink (from the Fall 2006, Spring 2007, and Fall 2007 semesters) that amount to approximately \$100,000 as for the end of the Fall 2007 Semester until such time as (1) the P&T Director and a majority of the CPFC agree to allocated it for a different purpose or (2) the student body votes, via a student referendum administered according to UCOP guidelines, to allocate these funds in a specific manner.

The President of the ASUC, the President of the GA, and the Chair of the Committee on Student Fees and Budget Review make this request with the appropriate authorization from the ASUC Senate, the GA Delegate Assembly, and the Committee on Student Fees and Budget Review, respectively. Copies of these authorizations have been appended to this letter.

According to the Registrar, the deadline for implementing this \$1.50 per semester temporary fee reduction such that it goes into effect for the Spring 2008 semester is \_\_\_\_\_. Especially in this time of incredible fee increases it is extremely important that either we receive the services for which we pay or we do not pay for the service. We very appreciate the Administration's quick action with regards to this issue.

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Joshua R. Daniels

Directed Action to Sign a Letter to Associate Vice Chancellor Ron Coley Requesting that the UC Administration Temporarily Reduce the Class Pass Fee By \$1.50 Per Semester (cont'd) - 26 -

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Letter to Associate Vice Chancellor Coley (cont'd)

Attached (3): ASUC Senate Authorization  
GA Delegate Assembly Authorization  
Committee on Student Fees and Budget Review Authorization

End letter to Associate Vice Chancellor Coley  
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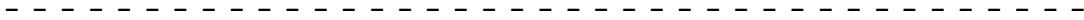
A motion to call the question and come to a vote was made and seconded and passed with no objection. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE, DIRECTED ACTION TO SIGN A LETTER TO ASSOCIATE VICE CHANCELLOR RON COLEY REQUESTING THAT THE UC BERKELEY ADMINISTRATION TEMPORARILY REDUCE THE CLASS PASS FEE BY \$1.50 PER SEMESTER.

Mr. Daniels said he would like to thank people for attending. Their next meeting was November 1.

This meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

These minutes respectfully submitted by,

Steven I. Litwak, Recording Secretary



Final Versions of Bills, As Amended

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUNDING COMMITTEE RULES AND PROCEDURES [Amended version, as amended on the floor]

WHEREAS, the Graduate Assembly supports graduate student groups through allocating a specific amount of the budget for graduate student funding; and

WHEREAS, the GA has a multitude of avenues by which it funds graduate students and student groups, including the Graduate Events Fund, the Group Resources Fund, Grants, and more; and

WHEREAS, the funding is allocated through the Funding Committee and its application review process; and

WHEREAS, the procedures used by the Funding Committee require approval of the Delegate Assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that that the Delegee Assembly approves the Funding Committee procedures below and the Funding Guide (which can also be found at <http://gaberkelev.edu/funding/funding/docs/07-OR/07-08%20Funding%20Guide.pdf>).

Funding Committee Procedures

- 1 Type of Committee      Standing Committee
- 2 Purchase and Scope of Committee      Graduate Student Groups Funding is a means of promoting graduate student organizations throughout the University, and of encouraging participation in the Graduate Assembly.
- 3 Composition
  - Number of members      Number of members: 6-10
  - Qualifications of members      Qualifications: must be registered graduate student; maximum one per academic department.
  - ~~How appointed/selected      Selection: approval by Funding Chair~~
  - Rotations (if any)
  - Quorum      Quorum: Majority (greater than 50%)
- 4 Responsibilities/Duties      According to the GA Charter and By-laws, and voted-on procedures and policies, the Funding Committee is required to follow the guidelines

## RESOLUTION TO APPROVE FUNDING COMMITTEE RULES AND PROCEDURES (cont'd)

presented in the Funding Guide regarding the awarding of funds and grants to register graduate student groups. Each academic year, the Funding Committee has authority to establish a set of standing policies regarding the funding review guidelines for the academic year. *Changes in the funding guide are subject to approval by the Funding Committee and the Delegate Assembly, with the exception of rules mandated by UC Berkeley/ASUC Auxiliary Financial Services, which are to be reviewed by the Executive Board of the Graduate Assembly.* These policies will ensure that equitable procedures, priorities, and round allocations are in practice for the academic year. The Funding Committee reviews applications based on the criteria explained in the Funding Guide and Funding Committee standing policies. The Funding Committee makes decisions on the amount of funding including any restrictions.

- 5 Authority/Decision Decision-making authority pending approval of the committee.  
 -- Majority vote of all committee members  
 -- Chair of the committee shall not regularly vote, but reserves the right to vote in a tie-breaker as necessary
- 6 Meetings/Schedules Once a month during fall and spring academic semester, two weeks prior to GA Delegates' meeting
- 7 Relationship (Internal/ and External Attends Exec Board meeting and report to exec board and receives budget from Budget Committee  
 To Exec Board  
 To Other committees/ groups
- 8 Funding Breakdown and Timeline Rounds of funding will be broken down by dates of the event that is being funded. There are two independent-of-semester funding rounds, each semester containing three (3) rounds. These rounds of funding are coordinated administratively with the Business Office of the GA.

50% of all budgeted funds for student funding will be allocated in the Fall Semester funding rounds, while 50% will be allocated in the Spring Semester funding rounds.

The amounts of funds available to be allocated to applicants within each semester is broken down by the following:

Round 1 -- 20% of available funds for the semester.

Round 2 -- 40% of available funds for the semester, plus remaining funds from Round 1.

Round 3 -- All remaining available funds for the semester.

DIRECTED ACTION REGARDING THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY: SIGNIFICANT DATES OF RECOGNITION FOR OPPRESSED POPULATIONS [Amended version, as amended on the floor]

WHEREAS, we, as graduate students in an institution of higher education, value diversity and attempt to be inclusive of underrepresented students; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations ~~acknowledges~~ *has declared* August 9th of every year to be International Day of the World's Indigenous People; and

WHEREAS, the State of California ~~acknowledges~~ *has declared* the fourth Friday of September as Native American Day; and

WHEREAS the City of Berkeley ~~acknowledges~~ *has declared* Indigenous People's Day in replace of what was once known as "Columbus Day"; and

WHEREAS the month of November is declared by the federal government as American Indian Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS October 11 is observed by members of the LGBTIQQ community as National Coming Out Day;

~~THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the President of the Graduate Assembly shall advocate to the campus Administration for the calendar of the University of California, Berkeley to recognize the above dates.~~

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the President of the Graduate Assembly shall advocate to the campus Administration of the University of California, Berkeley, to recognize the above dates on the academic calendar.*