

GRADUATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

April 3, 2008

SUMMARY OF THE MEETING

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

Delegates were asked to ask fellow Delegates to attend the GA's May meeting, the last meeting of the year. The GA's budget will be voted upon.

Mr. Daniels was in Hawaii for Spring Break and brought back some fancy, Kona coffee as a raffle prize for those in attendance at the end of the meeting.

Announcements

The ASUC will hold elections next week. The GA paid \$17,000 a year to the ASUC for the elections. Two grads were running.

The Spring GA Reception will be held next week and the Faculty Mentoring Award will be on April 22.

The GA's graduate student family researcher wrote a needs assessment report that was being reviewed by the Grad Division. People should send in comments and concerns.

A coalition of students from Cal State, UC, and community colleges will go to Sacramento on April 21 to lobby against the 10% budget cuts in education.

A Referendum was on the ASUC ballot, the "SUPERB Student Fee Referendum," a mandatory fee of \$4.50 a semester.

Cal Day was on April 12.

The Green Initiative Fund received 27 applications requesting about \$1.2 million from this Fund, which was at \$175,000 a year. The response was a demonstration that sustainability should be a priority for the University.

The Dow Sustainability Fund was also receiving applications for sustainability projects.

The Chancellor's Advisory Committee's Sustainability Summit will be on Monday, April 21 at the MLK Student Union from 8:00 to 1:30.

The ASUC will hold a publications awards banquet for all grad and undergrad publications on Wednesday, April 16.

The GA passed a Resolution supporting the faculty proposal to eliminate the SAT II subject test requirement and to co-sponsor a rally on March 13, which was very successful.

Summary of the Meeting (cont'd)

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Big Ideas @ Berkeley, which provides funding for over 90 student-led initiatives, had its Bears Breaking Boundaries competition underway and will give out over \$117,000 in prize money for the best student ideas.

The GA's Business Office survey deadline was on Friday.

Presentation on Academic Compliance and Disability Standards

Present to give a presentation were Campus Disability Resolution Officer Derek Coates and Assistant Provost Sarah Hawthorne, of the Academic Compliance & Disability Standards Office.

A "disability" didn't have to be "conventional" or visible. Graduate Division support resources were on its Web site. When a grad brought up a medical condition or disability that would affect the student, they were to be referred to the Disabled Students Program. People had to go through DSP to establish legal entitlement to an accommodation. If students couldn't get the accommodation they needed, an independent office on campus would investigate.

Grad students and a complex relationship with the campus, as students, but also as employees, and they could get accommodation as employees and deliver accommodations as teachers.

Public events or activities attended by members of the larger community had to provide accommodation.

The campus took a broad viewpoint towards what was a disability, and California State law was broad about this. Maternity wasn't a form of disability and was under Title IX.

Presentation by Graduate Division Dean Andrew Szeri

Budget cuts have not yet been decided upon. The Graduate Division has been asked to prepare its budget. Education and Reg Fees could be increased by 10%.

The Grad Division will undertake a housing survey.

The University Village in Albany has been undergoing a makeover, resulting in residences that were often too expensive for grads to afford. With earthquake safety and other factors, construction was quite expensive. RSSP, which runs student housing, doesn't make a profit and was supposed to be revenue neutral. Monies collected in rent were supposed to defray the cost of construction loans.

In response to concerns an endowment will be established for Albany Village residents, based on need.

Services offered by the Graduate Division were the into GROW, "Graduate Resources, Opportunities, and Workshops," and "Families Matter," for grad parents and those with families. An idea for an additional service was to provide ownerships for grads' personal finances.

There was a question and a discussion about the Professional school Degree Fee differential (PDF), charged to students in some professional schools.

A new in absentia status will be announced, for students studying outside the State or country, reflecting the fact that these students don't access University services to the same degree as others.

Summary of the Meeting (cont'd)

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The budget will include Dean's Normative Time Fellowships. There were no plans to increase this stipend, but understand consideration from feedback was to allow recipients one semester of GSI or GSR.

People were encouraged to use the Escort Service the campus provided. People might not see police at night, but they were there.

The Grad Division conducted a lot of surveys and will start to return data to departments and do a comparison, focusing on student satisfaction with programs, academic support, and climate.

The OP was looking at the issue of health insurance for students' dependents. Students couldn't even buy in at that time.

GA Elections

Gabe Podesta was elected as Funding Committee Chair; Brad Froehle was elected as Environmental Sustainability Committee Chair; Aaron deGrassi was elected International Student Affairs Committee Chair.

Election of the Technology Committee Chair would be considered in May.

Reports

In the report from the Funding Committee, It was noted that for the second month in a row, there was a 0% global budget cut, as a result of some Grad Division money and rollover from earlier rounds. The GA approved the Funding Committee's recommendations for Grad Events Round 6.

The Budget Committee will complete next year's GA budget.

The Women of Color Initiative Coordinator position was open.

Resolutions for Referral

The Resolution for a By-law Amendment to Improve GA Efficiency was referred to the Rules Committee and the Budget Committee.

The GA voted to fast track the Resolution on Directed Action In Support of Offering Group Health Insurance Coverage to Student Families, and vote on it that evening.

The Resolution for Directed Action In Support of Increased Graduate Student-Focused Mental Health Services was referred to the Campus Affairs Committee.

Resolutions For Consideration

The unanimous vote, the GA approved the Resolution on a Budget Amendment to Include New Revenue Into the 2007-08 Budget. It incorporated Graduate Division funding into the GA's budget.

Summary of the Meeting (cont'd)

By unanimous vote, with an amendment to the proposed schedule, the GA approved the Resolution to Amend the Funding Procedures to Reduce the Number of Graduate Events Funding Rounds from Three to Two Per Semester.

By voice-vote, as amended on the floor, the Graduate Assembly approved the Resolution on Directed Action In Support of Offering Group Health Insurance Coverage to Student Families. It calls for UCB to offer group health insurance coverage to student families and requested the formation of a campus task force to extend group health insurance to student families.

Presentation By the Student Regent

Ben Allen said the UC selected a new President, Mark Yudof, Chancellor of the University of Texas System. Mr. Yudof seems to have been pretty student-friendly.

At the last Regents meeting, a whole slew of environmental issues were approved. Mr. Allen was also working on the creation of a committee focused on student affairs at the Regental level, a more formal mechanism to get sustained attention to student life. He also worked, with Mr. Daniels, to attach an amendment to the professional school fee increase to posit increases based on several public interest factors. This would affect a large number of schools.

Mr. Yudof's salary, which was an issue, was based largely on his previous salary at Texas.

Despite high cost, people on campus were paid below market. There was a problem with constitutionally required allocations from the General Fund constricting the State's budget.

Anna Griffith won the lottery and won the Kona coffee.

The 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 5:32 p.m. in the ASUC Senate Chamber. Mr. Daniels said he wanted to welcome them to the April meeting of the Graduate Assembly's Delegate Assembly. They had a packed schedule and he wanted to get people out by 7:30 or thereabouts.

Mr. Daniels said Delegates' first assignment between now and the May meeting, the GA's last meeting of the year, was to bug their fellow Delegates and ask them why they weren't there. The Delegate Assembly

was the crucial body for the GA, so if there was someone in their department who was kind of waffling, he would ask Delegates to please do their best to have them attend in May. They'll vote on next year's budget, they'll discuss important Resolutions, and they'll end by 7:30. It will be his last meeting ever, and he didn't want to be there past 7:30. So he would ask them to please bother their friends and classmates.

Announcements

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Mr. Daniels said he hoped everybody had a good Spring Break. He did, and just to brag, he was in Hawaii, the big island. And because he thought of them, he brought back a prize, some Kona coffee, a peaberry ground coffee, the top one-third of the coffee tree, very fancy. At 7:30 they'll pick a random feedback form for those that have been turned in. The winner will get the coffee. As an incentive to stay there, if a name was called and the person wasn't present, they wouldn't win.

Mr. Daniels said this was the seventh Delegates meeting of 07-08. He would ask them to, again, please remember to attend Delegates meetings as well as their committee meetings. That was how the GA functioned. There was only one more meeting left. As always, he would ask people to please turn in their feedback forms. There were a few important questions. One question dealt with budget cuts that the campus will receive. As they all knew from last month, the Chancellor noted that they had about a \$50 million budget cut to the campus' base funding. That will affect a lot of people. As a result, the GA was writing a letter to the Chancellor asking him to save certain areas more than others. So if Delegates wanted to cut Athletics, or save Athletics, or if they wanted to cut fellowships, or save fellowships, whatever it was, Mr. Daniels said he would ask Delegates to please write those things down on the feedback form so the GA could do as good a job as possible in representing the needs of grad students.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES AND THE AGENDA

Mr. Daniels said the minutes were on the Web site and the agenda was distributed. He asked if anybody wanted to amend the agenda before approving it. He called for a motion to approve the March minutes and the agenda. It was so moved and seconded. **THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 6, 2008 MEETING, AND THE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL MEETING, WERE APPROVED WITH NO OBJECTION.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Daniels said the ASUC was having elections. It was illegal to campaign using ASUC or GA funds. That meant the GA could not use its listservs or anything like that. It was also illegal to campaign in Eshleman Hall. Voting will occur next week, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. People could vote at polling booths that will be around campus or they could vote on a hardwired computer. Last year Air-Bears didn't allow people to vote. He didn't know why, and he was assuming the same was true for this year. In walking around campus, they'll see chalking everywhere and people holding up signs. That's what it was all about, ASUC elections.

Mr. Daniels said people should feel free to vote, or not. But the GA paid \$17,000 a year to the ASUC for these elections. So if nothing else, they might want to get their money's worth, and they want their voice to be heard. So he would encourage them to vote. What he would request, but could not demand at all, was that they educate themselves, as Delegates, about the election, as much as they felt comfortable, and

that they send out an e-mail to their department. Delegates could recommend how to vote, although Mr. Daniels said he couldn't do that. So if they want to tell other grads to just vote on the Referendum, that was fine, or to just vote for a candidate for Senator, or for President, that was fine. If a message came from a Delegate telling other grads how to vote, grads would be much more likely to do so. So he really would encourage that. He called for any questions about the elections.

Announcements (cont'd)

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Ms. Freedman asked if any progress has been made towards eliminating the polling stations, and she asked how much they'll cost the GA that year. Mr. Daniels said he didn't know, and said they were trying to move towards total online balloting. One problem was that it's not ADA compliant, so not everyone could vote. There were also some constitutional requirements to have polling stations.

Ms. Anderson asked if any graduate students were running. Mr. Daniels said there were. As far as he knew, there were at least two grads running, Brad Froehle, who was running for the Senate, #103, and Ron Cruz, who was running for president, #23, and for the Senate, #166. He asked if people knew of any other graduate students who were running, and said there was no indication of others. So those were the two graduate students.

Mr. Daniels said the Spring GA Reception will be held next Thursday. They try to do things on Thursday nights because theoretically, if people could attend Delegate meetings on Thursdays, they could attend other events on that evening as well. The Reception will be in Barrows Hall from 6:00 to 8:00, run by the Grad Social Club, as usual. There will be drinks that include alcohol. It should be a fun time and he would urge people to show up and enjoy themselves.

Mr. Daniels said the Faculty Mentoring Award will happen on April 22, from 2:30 to 5:30, in the Tan Hall, room 775. Ms. Freedman asked if Mr. Daal wanted to announce the winners. Mr. Daal said they got 36 applications, an increase over last year by a factor of more than three, which was surprising. The winners were Carlos Daganzo, from Civil and Environmental Engineering; Dru Dougherty, from Spanish and Portuguese; and Paola Bacchetta, from Gender and Women's Studies Department. Mr. Daal said he would encourage grads to attend. The event will be catered and the Provost will give the opening remarks. Mr. Daniels said this was a really cool event that will be joined with the Sarlo Distinguished Graduate Student Mentoring Awards, the Graduate Division awards. He would really encourage people to attend.

Mr. Daal said the Graduate Assembly had a graduate student family researcher who was trying to find out the needs of student graduate parents and put together resources in one place so people didn't have to look everywhere to find childcare resources. The researcher has written a needs assessment report that was currently being reviewed by the Graduate Division. Mr. Daal said he would encourage everybody there to read the report and send in their comments and concerns. Mr. Daniels asked if it was online. Mr. Daal said it was, on the graduate student family researcher Web site, ga.berkeley.edu, under "Resources."

A speaker said a coalition of students from Cal State, from UC, and from community colleges was going to Sacramento on April 21 to meet with legislators, lobby, and have a rally showing their anger over the 10% budget cuts. There will be events all month. On the 18th K through 12 students were going, with events happening on a couple of other dates. There's a calendar on the Web site, www.studentsforcalifornia.org, that shows all of the events going on regarding the 10% cut. This will be three weeks before the final budget went through. There's been really good media coverage. They didn't know how effective students could be, but if don't show that public schools actually really care, and show

that students don't care, then they'd really be screwed. There will be buses coming from Berkeley, along with the ASUC and undergraduate student leaders and they were encouraging as many people to come as possible.

Mr. Armstrong said there was a Referendum on the ballot, the "SUPERB Student Fee Referendum." Among other things, it was for loud rock concerts. It was a mandatory fee that would cost everyone \$4.50 a semester. That was all he could say without giving an opinion.

Announcements (cont'd)

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A Delegate asked what percentage of the fee would go to grad students. Mr. Armstrong said that it would depend if one liked loud rock concerts and bad jazz. The GA asked the ASUC Senate if it would divert some of that money to the GA so the GA could sponsor things that grad students would care about, and the Senate decided not to do that and voted that down.

Ms. Anderson said this fee was different from last year's Referendum. The total fee was small, but last year's Referendum failed. A portion last year would have been set aside for grad events, but that wasn't the case with the current Referendum. Mr. Daniels said that if Delegates were thinking about sending out an e-mail to their department about voting next week in the ASUC election, he would encourage them to talk to Mr. Armstrong or anyone else they think might educate them about this, and they should include their preference on how to vote on this to their department. Mr. Armstrong said he'd be happy to give stronger opinions when they have beer after the GA meeting.

Ms. ElNaggar said that Ms. Sasser asked her to remind everyone about the Spring Reception. It will be in the Lipman Room. Also, Bay Cruise tickets were still on sale and were available at ga.berkeley.edu. It's selling out quickly, so people should hurry and buy a ticket. Ms. Hsueh said there were only 15 tickets left, so they should buy their ticket online as soon as possible.

Ms. ElNaggar said Cal Day will be on April 12. There will be a table at the Recreational Sports Facility with people from the Business Office and from some projects. People should feel free to stop by. There was always a lot of free stuff. Also, hopefully, all Delegates and Alternates picked up a packet with *The Berkeley Graduate*. Copies need to go to people's lounges, departments, or offices. Since the GA was a representational democracy, the number of people at the GA meeting corresponded to the number of people in departments. So people should pick up enough copies. That should be the case if everyone took the appropriate packet.

John Stanley introduced himself and said he was the GA Delegate to The Green Initiative Fund, and this was their monthly TGIF update. Applications were just due. The Green Initiative Fund had a grant-making body to decide on sustainability projects for the campus. Applications were due March 15 and all applications were in. They smashed their targets to get a lot of people to apply. So the campus was very, very excited about this project. During the Referendum campaign last year, a lot of people wondered whether, if they created this pot of money, anybody would apply. And the answer apparently was a strong "yes." They got 27 applications totaling about \$1.2 million for this Fund, which was \$175,000 a year. That was about seven times what could be funded, which meant that lots of people were interested in this, including one application from the GA. If Delegates ever found themselves wondering whether the campus cared about sustainability, or talked to someone trying to convince them that the campus didn't care about sustainability, they should keep these statistics in mind, the number of applications that were submitted. He thought that was a very powerful statement by the campus, if they're trying to convince administrators, the Regents, State representatives, or anybody else, that sustainability should be and was a priority for the University.

Ms. Hubbard the Dow Sustainability Fund that Dow just gave them is receiving applications for sustainability projects. Mr. Stanley said he had no idea whether applicants knew about that or not. But that was a good point. If people wanted to forward any TGIF applications they submitted, they should let him know. A Delegate said applications were closed, but would be open again next year. Mr. Stanley said the TGIF was in the process of reviewing applications at that time and should have decisions on them by the 15th.

Announcements (cont'd)

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Mr. Froehle said he was Co-Chair of the Environmental Sustainable Committee and wanted to announce the Chancellor's Advisory Committee's Sustainability Summit will be on Monday, April 21 at the MLK Student Union from 8:00 to 1:30. There will be speeches by campus administrators, break-out sessions to talk about how to green their everyday life, and perhaps most importantly, there will be free lunch if they RSVP at sustainability.berkeley.edu.

Mr. Tuchman said the ASUC was sponsoring a publications awards banquet for all grad and undergrad publications. There were actually two graduate students who applied to receive awards. It will be held on Wednesday, April 16. They should RSVP at pubsawards@gmail.com. There will be hors d'oeuvres and refreshments.

Mr. Cruz said he wanted to give an update and thank the Graduate Assembly. Last month the GA passed a Resolution to support the faculty proposal to eliminate the SAT II subject test requirement and to also expand the proposal to eliminate the entire discriminatory SAT, and to co-sponsor the rally on March 13, which was very successful. They had more than 300 students, many from local high schools, who gave very inspiring speeches about the right to come to UC Berkeley, and about the question of immigrant rights, the new civil rights movement in California. They presented 2,900 signatures to the University and to the new Vice Chancellor of Equity and Inclusion. The Vice Chancellor said Chancellor Birgeneau would support the new faculty admissions proposal. So they were making some progress. On April 24, the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate will meet. He was sure they'll discuss admissions, and Mr. Cruz said they wanted to have a student presence there, to eliminate the entire SAT. The meeting will be on Thursday, April 24, from 3:00 to 5:00, at Bechtel Auditorium.

Annie Day introduced herself and said she was the Program Manager for Big Ideas @ Berkeley. They currently provide student funding for over 90 student-led initiatives, including The Green Initiative Fund. This year's Bears Breaking Boundaries competition was in full swing. They're giving away over \$117,000 in prize money for the best student ideas. She just wanted to make the GA aware of some upcoming deadlines. The next deadline was April 11 for the Idea for Society contest and April 14 was a big date for their contests on computational nanoscience, curriculum innovation, ideal labs, improving student life, neglected diseases, partnerships for social innovation, and synthetic biology. A couple of contests that might be of particular interest to grad students was an idea labs contest, which was to propose multidiscipline collaboration among graduate students on campus working to develop a common application, service or product. Another was improving student life and curricular labs: the Improving Student Life and Curricular Innovations contests. This was a great opportunity to get funding for their ideas and to also get some publicity for Big Ideas' online marketplace. They could go to contest.berkeley.edu for more information. She had fliers she would leave at the front.

Ms. Hsueh said that Friday at 4 o'clock was the deadline for the Business Office survey for the Graduate Assembly. They could win a Nano iPod for taking the survey. The Business Office survey can be found

at the GA Web site. They'll choose the winner by Monday. Also, the Graduate Assembly will participate at Cal Day and was actually setting up tables, and she needed some help. So if people had time to commit between 9:00 and 4:00 on Saturday, April 12, they should send her an e-mail, manager@ga.berkeley.edu. They'll have a table set up in front of Anthony Hall and another table by Sproul Hall. They'll need all the help they could get.

Mr. Daniels said he would encourage all of them to e-mail these events to Ms. Filipski, at pcos@ga.berkeley.edu. Ms. Filipski sends out *The Source*, their newsletter. He would also encourage

Presentation on Academic Compliance and Disability Standards

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them to put these events on events.berkeley.edu and they will appear on the GA's Web site, and people could advertise them that way.

Presentation on Academic Compliance and Disability Standards

Mr. Daniels said Campus Disability Resolution Officer Derek Coates and Assistant Provost Sarah Hawthorne, of the Academic Compliance & Disability Standards Office, were present to make a presentation and get people more educated.

Ms. Hawthorne said she understood that the GA had a packed agenda. The Graduate Division was really concerned about making sure graduate students knew about the resources available and the processes to be followed for graduate students with disability. So she summarized most of that in a handout she'd distribute, and walk them through things so they knew what was available and how to use it.

Ms. Hawthorne said that a lot of times when people hear the word "disability" they think of something that was really conventional and visible. But in fact, a lot of really bright students at Berkeley often find that they were smart enough to go through undergraduate programs without needing accommodations, but as they move into really intense, pressure situations in the graduate program, for the first time they become more aware of some of the issues that they have, and that they could use some support.

The third page of the handout listed all the stuff that the Graduate Division made available to support folks when they were sort of struggling to meet timeframes, writing requirements, etc. This information was on the Graduate Division Web site. People should be aware of what was available. The handout also had information on counseling services at the Tang Center, as well as a wide variety of other programs, as they'd see.

Ms. Hawthorne said she would let them know about the basic process and where things were available. The Graduate Dean, Andrew Szeri, put out a great memo recently to be sure all the chairs, deans, and other folks, were aware that when a graduate student brought up to them either a medical condition or a disability, that would affect graduate students' ability to complete some of the requirements and assignments they have. As soon as a student brought that up, faculty or administrators were to refer them over to the Disabled Students Program. They find that a lot of graduate students coming to the campus don't realize that the Disabled Students Program was not just for undergraduate students. And grads don't realize that many times, they could students adjustments to their academic requirements if their medical documentation supported that. And there were other resources that were available.

Ms. Hawthorne said the one thing Delegates should make sure they understand was the campus' process. Because the campus has a designated unit through which to make adjustments, the Disabled Students Program, people would not be able to establish their legal entitlement to an accommodation unless they followed the process. That didn't mean that they couldn't sometimes work out things with professors informally, but it really served everybody better if grads went through the process.

Ms. Hawthorne said she would draw their attention to the back page of the handout. There was a court case involving a graduate student who went to the disabled students program at their school for their courses, and the student felt they did the accommodation for specific classes, but the student didn't realize

it was necessary to ask for accommodations for their informal, non-structured types of work, including the dissertation exam, and those types of larger issues. So students should make sure they know the broad spectrum of what was involved. This was called "the interactive process." It was kind of like a tennis game. When a student brought up an issue, it wasn't other people's job to figure out whether or not the student was or wasn't doing very well, and to see what was wrong. In fact, Ms. Hawthorne said the DSP actually protects students' privacy. They don't encourage people to try and get in a student's business on things. But once a student brought something up and said they had some medical condition or disability, then there had to be a response. The intent was for their faculty advisor, who most of them work really closely with, or their course instructor, was to direct them to the Disabled Students Program. If people had questions about the process, Ms. Hawthorne said she could answer them. But it was highly confidential. The medical documentation a student turned over did not go to their department and was not kept on file there, and they could give the student a lot good feedback about how to deal with their issues. If grads that evening didn't take away anything from this, they should understand that while graduate students often work closely with their faculty advisor on problems they were having, and maybe work on them with their larger department, but might not realize there was a whole set of support outside the department.

Ms. Hawthorne said Derek Coates was a post-doc student at UCB and actually did his thesis on issues that relate to folks with disabilities. But if the processes she just described, or bragged about, actually let them down, in the sense that they were in some sort of deadlock and they couldn't get the accommodation they needed, either because the DSP was not responding the way they'd wanted to, or heaven forbid, the faculty member was not responding to implement what the Disabled Students Program wanted, there was an independent office on the campus that Mr. Coates would mention that. This office could address those kinds of issues. On the very last page of the handout was Mr. Coates' card and contact information.

Mr. Coates said one thing that was most important in his job was ensuring that if a disabled student was entitled to accommodations, that those accommodations were implemented appropriately. One of the big issues regarding grad students was that a lot of them have disabilities that weren't visible, and they don't disclose them. These students were very highly concerned with confidentiality, as they were in competitive departments. He would like to say that was one of the main reasons why they were here. He would also like to let grads know that there were resources available on campus and for Delegates to try and help disseminate that information. So part of his job involved pushing the ball when the ball got stuck, whether that was talking to a department, to DSP, and trying to negotiate some sort of movement on the issue between the two units. He dealt a lot with both departments and with DSP, quite a bit. He wanted to reiterate the note about confidentiality because it was important. DSP respected that and responded to that.

Mr. Coates said the other part of his job was doing investigations. When a student came and filed a complaint against a department, a unit, or DSP, saying that the student was entitled to extra time on an exam, and when the time was up, the exam was picked up, and there wasn't extra time provided. And there were other, even more serious things. People come and complain to him and they do an interview, after which he proceeds to find out what the facts were in the complaint. So he got things unstuck. They like to resolve most things informally, and by and large, they do. So he was a resource. Most people don't like to complain, but people could come and talk to him and he'd get a feel for the situation. The best option might be to just make a phone call and get the two parties in the room. So his job responsibilities varied quite a bit. He was really excited about the push to make sure all grad students were aware that there were resources available out there and there were supports in place to assist in helping grads get through their programs.

Presentation on Academic Compliance and Disability Standards (cont'd)

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Ms. Hawthorne said the last thing was to highlight the complexity of the relationship that grad students have with the campus. As they could see from the handout, Santa Cruz did a really good job of making that known to grads. First of all, they were students, but many times, they were also employees, and they could get accommodation from an employment standpoint. That was slightly different from issues people have as students. Obviously, when they work with other students, they become an extension of the University in the sense of how the campus delivers accommodations to other students.

Finally, Ms. Hawthorne said that if people put on public events or activities that might be attended by members of the larger community, and these events and activities were part of the University, they had to make sure these folks get accommodation. So they might want to check on the last page of the handout to see all the different ways they're interfaced with accommodation issues.

A Delegate asked if the Office included temporary disabilities, like medical conditions or people with repetitive stress injuries. Ms. Hawthorne said the campus really took a broad viewpoint about this, and didn't try to nit-pick from a legal standpoint when something became a disability covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act. They start by letting whoever was involved what the needs were. Many times the situation was not even addressed as an accommodation. It's just something they simply respond to in terms of what the need was. By and large, California State law was broad about what "disability" meant. It wouldn't apply to a cold or hangnail, and there were some limits. But generally, it's not a real bright line.

Ms. Freedman asked if maternity leave was considered a form of disability. Ms. Hawthorne said that wasn't correct, and there was a misunderstanding. Under Title IX there are anti-discrimination provisions on the basis of gender, and pregnancy got covered through that. The Disabled Students Program even had a handout about this. Usually a student worked through their Title IX officer if they were having problems in their department, to work something out. So that was covered, but it wasn't technically described as a disability. There were some case law on this.

Ms. Hubbard said there was a lot of information in the packet that was really good. She asked who would be the best person to contact in the office to get a shortened summary of the handout. Ms. Hawthorne they didn't realize how much time she spent working to summarize the information in the handout. Ms. Hubbard said it was one of those things where they should have information in one place. In her department they had a central depository of information that faculty and students go to. Ms. Hawthorne said that if they're going to limit her to one page, it would be the second page, the Web page of the Disabled Students Program, where they will find all those links to the Campus Access Guide and the handbook that they have. That would be the one thing she'd submit if she just had one page. If there are people who

didn't receive a copy of the handout, they could call 642-2795 for more copies. She wanted to thank the GA for giving them time on their agenda. (Applause)

Presentation by Graduate Division Dean Andrew Szeri

Mr. Daniels said Dean Szeri was a professor in Mechanical Engineering. He was appointed as Dean of the Graduate Division nine months ago. He previously served as Associate Dean of the Graduate Division, focusing on student life. It was a great appointment and students were very lucky to have him both at the GA and on campus as grads' dean. He was present to speak to the GA on any number of issues. He would like to welcome Dean Szeri. (Applause)

Presentation on Graduate Division Dean Andrew Szeri (cont'd)

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Mr. Szeri said it was a pleasure to be there. He wanted to start by congratulating Mr. Daniels on two excellent and productive years as President of this distinguished body, the GA, and he also wanted to congratulate Miguel Daal on his ascension to that most rarified of realms. Mr. Szeri said he looked forward to working with Mr. Daal.

Mr. Szeri said he was asked to come to the GA that evening to talk about three different topics: the implication of budget cuts on graduate students; the Albany Village housing plan; and then an overview of Graduate Division services. And after that, he'd be happy to answer questions.

Regarding budget cuts, Mr. Szeri said it was difficult to note what the impact of budget cuts will have on graduate students because cuts have not yet been decided. Like all parts of the campus, the Graduate Division has been asked to prepare its budget with the assumption that some cuts would happen, while essentially arguing that they shouldn't happen. And they've done that assiduously. The budget was with the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost. The campus was essentially awaiting news from the State about what the budgetary situation would be for the whole UC, and then the Regents would decide what the budgetary situation was for individual campuses. One thing that was clear was that fees will go up. The current proposal was that the Education Fee will go up 7%, and Reg Fees increase 10%. He actually expected the Ed. Fee to increase 10% as well. They're doing this as a way to enhance revenues in order to heal the shortfall of the deficit relative to what, in the concept of the Regents, was necessary to run the University. So that was the one certain impact of budget cuts to graduate students, that fees will go up. Happily for many of them, somebody paid grads' fees. In many cases that was the Graduate Division, and in other cases, it was research grants, or the TA budget if they were a GSI.

However, grads were not held harmless just because somebody paid their fees. There was a fixed amount of money to go around, and if higher amounts of fees were being paid for students, then the number of students on whose behalf fees can be paid may decrease. They don't know that yet because they don't yet know what the damage will be to the budget.

Mr. Szeri said already gone out with fellowship offers for the campus-wide fellowship competition, with about 320 fellowship offers to incoming students. And they've already gone out with allocations of graduate student support monies to individual departments and programs around the University. So those horses have already left the barn, as it were, and they hope that no cuts will accrue to those. But if they're forced to cut their budgets, then other kinds of things might be affected. They just do not yet know the magnitude of the cuts. When they do know more, he'd be happy to come back to the GA and talk about it.

Mr. Szeri said that after financing, housing seemed to be the biggest concern. To enlarge the question a little bit, he just asked for a housing survey to be completed, and he put in charge of that Associate Dean Susan Muller, an appointee of his who now worked in the Graduate Division. She is a professor of the College of Chemistry and has been a member of the Graduate Council of the Academic Senate for some years. She has been put in charge of graduate student life issues, including housing. The original plan was for her to attend the meeting that evening with him, but unfortunately she was ill, and they haven't seen her for a couple of weeks. He was concerned about her, but he's heard she was getting better.

Mr. Szeri said he has asked Ms. Muller, along with people from RSSP, to undertake a survey on graduate student housing around the UC System and at their comparable private institutions. Peter Hoenig, from RSSP, has been helping a lot on the survey around the UC System. And for their private competitors, Ms.

Presentation on Graduate Division Dean Andrew Szeri (cont'd)

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Muller has been working on along with Joe Duggan, another Associate Dean, to poll their private competitors. They don't yet have all the data, but they've learned some things. For example, UC Irvine guarantees housing for all the years for normative time to degree, minus one year for all doctoral students. So if one was a doctoral student coming in, and the average time to degree in the program was six years, the school would guarantee five years of housing on campus. Actually, he used to be a faculty member at UC Irvine and lived on campus. The school had lots and lots of housing on campus, and there was a lot of room. Unfortunately, Berkeley didn't have that kind of room, and also didn't have that kind of graduate student housing. But he was anticipating that there may be some opportunities opening up in the next year or two where they could, if they're well armed with arguments, pounce and try to secure some more graduate student housing. Hence, the survey.

Mr. Szeri said that regarding Albany Village, or University Village in Albany, it's been undergoing something of a makeover, as they knew, and was essentially being reconstructed from the ground up. What resulted were residences that were often too expensive for graduate students to afford. That happened because the University, when it builds something, had to build in a way that was responsible for the occupants under code, especially when it came to things like earthquake safety. So the construction was actually quite expensive. Residential and Student Service Programs, RSSP, the program that ran student housing, doesn't make a profit and doesn't have profit sharing. There's no cross-subsidization of anything else on campus from the proceeds of the housing program. It was supposed to be a revenue-neutral operation. So the monies housing made, or collected in terms of rent, was supposed to defray the cost of loans taken out for construction. So housing was expensive, and there were reasons why it was expensive.

Mr. Szeri said that in response to concerns that were actually raised by GA leadership, and leadership of the University Village Residents Association, he undertook negotiations first with RSSP to see if there wasn't something they could do about the situation. What they did was to develop a proposal that had the goal of establishing an endowment that will spin off a payout every year that would go to provide housing subsidies to residents at University Village. These things would be awarded on the basis of need. They had in mind some test of financial need that would take into account things like whether the student had dependent children, and so forth. That was still being worked out, but they have started that process. But that was the idea.

As for where the money came from for this endowment, Mr. Szeri said they found a wealthy donor who was willing to support graduate student housing. And there were cost savings on reconstruction of Uni-

versity Village. Essentially, the money they had planned to spend on reconstruction was a little bit in excess of actual costs, so they could secure that excess for this endowment. And the other piece was derived from the sale of some pieces of the property. There were many pieces of the property were University Village sat. One piece he believed has recently been leased to Whole Foods, for the establishment of an apparently not very useful supermarket. And other pieces were planned to be sold off. But there was a complication. He didn't pretend to understand all of the Byzantine things going on there, but apparently the Mayor of Albany, from what he's been told, was making it difficult for the last bits of the sale to proceed because the Mayor has in mind the idea to establish enormous amounts of open space at the expense of further property sales from University Village. Mr. Szeri said the campus hoped that didn't take place because they thought a higher priority than open space in downtown Albany would be to reduce the rents of deserving graduate student residents of University Village.

Mr. Szeri said he offered to speak with the Mayor of Albany, but Government Affairs people at the University tell him he shouldn't worry, that they had it under control. But nevertheless, Mr. Szeri said he was

Presentation on Graduate Division Dean Andrew Szeri (cont'd)

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able to rehearse their arguments and coach them a little on pushing to the forefront the argument that graduate student welfare depended on the outcome of this ego trip. That's where they stood with Albany Village housing. Mr. Szeri said the Chancellor liked the proposal they were making and wanted to move forward with it. The Chancellor just had to wait until the financial pieces were in place. They were dependent to some extent, on the good will and sensibility of the Mayor of Albany to move forward. But Mr. Szeri said he was hoping that will happen.

Mr. Szeri said the last thing he was asked to comment on briefly was an overview of services offered by the Graduate Division. That was not necessarily the briefest of possible things to go over, so to help in that regard, he brought along a brochure to distribute that included lists of services offered by the Graduate Division. It was divided into two pieces. One was GROW, which stood for "Graduate Resources, Opportunities, and Workshops," and the other was "Families Matter," for graduate student parents and those with families. There was a lot of information about various different kinds of assistance they could obtain from the Graduate Division, along with contact information, Web sites, telephone numbers, offices, and places to go. They also tried recently to improve their description of these things on the Web so that they were easily findable.

On the subject of services that the Graduate Division offered, Mr. Szeri said he would be happy to hear suggestions from the GA about services they don't offer that grads wished were offered. There was one subject that he kept bringing up in his meetings with GA leadership, that he wished there was a workshop series for graduate students on how to manage their personal finances. He thought that would be really useful considering the squeeze that many grads were under. So they've discussed this idea a couple of times. They have some difficulty imagining who exactly would lead this. He couldn't imagine calling up Merrill Lynch, Stearns, one of these firms, and asking them to come and help practically penniless graduate students. It was difficult, but if any of them had ideas about where they might go to find a person who could help on this score, he thought that would be a useful service to offer that they don't really currently offer.

With that, Mr. Szeri said he would open the floor to questions.

Ms. Pulaski said that as he might know, some professional schools were in midst of some very significant student fee increases already, such as the Law School. She asked if the general student increases that he was speaking of also applied to those schools, given the fact that they were already experiencing such

high student fee increases. Mr. Szeri said she was talking about the Professional school Degree Fee differential, or PDF, which was charged to students in some professional schools like Law or Public Policy, but not, e.g., Social Welfare, which didn't have a professional differential. And the increases that she mentioned were steepest in Law and Business. The answer to her question was a little bit complicated. Once a school established a PDF, then the increases that it had in conventional campus fees were usually different, slightly smaller. But the Regents will work out what those differences were, in this case. Ms. Pulaski said it was likely, then, that there will be additional student fee increases besides those that already happened. Mr. Szeri said it was likely there will be additional fee increases beyond the PDF increases for students in those schools. But it was likely that the fee increases, Ed. Fee and Reg Fee increases, will perhaps be different. They may be different than they generally were for the rest of the campus.

Mr. Daniels said the PDF for the Business and Optometry Schools was currently about \$200 less than for all other graduate students. So when fees are increased, percentage wise, as he understood it, that difference will grow, and students in those schools would have different fees, lower than anybody else's. Mr.

Presentation on Graduate Division Dean Andrew Szeri (cont'd)

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Szeri said the Regents in their wisdom do this, he thought, in part to recognize the fact that the PDF goes to support some of the things on a local basis that Ed. Fees and Reg Fees won't support. But it was clearly not an even trade-off. He didn't think Reg Fee increases will be that much smaller.

Ms. Ahrendt said that with the general crunch between not being able to provide continuing fellowships and teaching positions being cut because departments didn't have money to pay for them, she asked if the Graduate Division was going to be able to invent some kind of new category of graduate student so that those who were in the writing stage could pay partial fees and still retain some services. Mr. Szeri said that's been a battle that's been fought for many years. And there was currently no progress on that front. But related to the question, there was going to be announced soon an in absentia status, which will be smaller by some amount, for students who were studying outside the State, or outside the country. That reflected the fact that these students don't access University services to the same degree as others. It was like being banished. If a student planned to do their writing in the wilds of Canada, they would pay a reduced fee. It was unknown why the Regents finally agreed to that after 35 years of battle. Ms. Ahrendt said that also seemed to unfairly punish those who were native Californians. They couldn't exactly go running off to their families in the wilds of Canada. Mr. Szeri said that was correct. He didn't think that was high on the Regents' list of considerations, he was sorry to say. Many students who were in that stage simply withdraw from the University and then come back. So the Regents think this will enhance revenues. People would register in absentia for a more modest fee instead of withdrawing. Mr. Szeri said he thought the Regents were dreaming and that in fact what will happen was that students who were funded on fellowships or research grants would see this as a chance to go to London and do research. He thought students will like this because they'll have a chance to travel more easily, which would be good for their research.

Mr. Wolgin asked if he could talk a little about the Dean's Normative Time Fellowship and how that may or may not be affected by budget cuts in the future. Mr. Szeri said the DNTF was promised, and they'll make good on that promise. Mr. Wolgin asked if people already there and who qualify will received funding for that. Mr. Szeri said they would, and that was the promise. The Dean's Normative Time Fellowship was for one academic year for students who advanced to normative time in disciplines where typically that has been a problem.

Mr. Szeri said that in response to the DNTF issue, some of them might remember that last fall the Graduate Division was presented with a petition that had 600 signatures asking for two things. One, that the stipend for students who receive DNTF should be increased from \$16,000 to \$20,000, and secondly, that students who hold the Dean's Normative Time Fellowship should be allowed to work. Currently they're prohibited from working. The original idea was that the fellowship was supposed to be a relief from constantly teaching.

On the first issue, the Graduate Division certainly didn't have the money to raise the stipends. On the second issue, which was brought up in the petition, he did a number of things with it. He talked to a group of students who held the DNTF to find out what they thought about the issue and about students being allowed to work. He also asked the GA for some input that was recently delivered. In addition, he appointed a task force within the Graduate Division to consider the issue. He just now had all those ingredients in hand and was getting a uniform message from all of these avenues of advice that the campus should allow one semester of GSI or GSR to students who hold the DNTF. He still hasn't made his decision, but that's been consistent advice.

Presentation on Graduate Division Dean Andrew Szeri (cont'd)

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Ms. Freedman asked about the crazy people sitting in campus trees. It was clear that the campus police presence was diluted because police officers were watching people in the trees. Mr. Szeri said the people in the trees hardly seemed to be a threat to anybody besides their own safety. Ms. Freedman asked when the police officers were going to be back on the campus. Secondly, as someone who liked to walk home alone late at night, there really wasn't much of a police presence on campus, and the fact that people had to wait until 3 a.m. in order to take the night shuttle was slightly inconvenient. Mr. Szeri said there was an Escort Service that was somehow not quite properly named, but was available to everyone on the campus. He knew many people who use it. He hasn't used it and he walked to work, and frequently walked home across campus late at night and would think to himself whether that was wise. So it was an issue that he cared about personally. But he hasn't sought refuge in the Escort Service and he wasn't sure what his mother would say about that.

He asked if Ms. Freedman has used it. Ms. Freedman said she has. It was awkward, but was fine. They have to talk to someone, call ahead, and call them back. Mr. Szeri this was sanctioned by the University to prevent inappropriate conversations from people who were not sanctioned by the University. So in terms of human misery, this was a small one, and might even be good practice, socially. He'd be very interested to know if the Escort Service was working well. There are people in the Graduate Division who use it and he knew many people who told him that sometimes it took ten minutes or a half hour for escorts to show up, but they do show up. And if someone called ahead of time and asked, they'd be given an idea of how soon someone would be there. So it sounded like it was imperfect, but working.

Ms. Freedman said that was correct, but in five years, she didn't think she's seen a single police officer on the walk home. Mr. Szeri said he has actually observed that to the Chief of Police herself and she assured him that they are there and that he just didn't see them. He would encourage people to take advantage of the Escort Service. If lots of people started accessing that service and it really became heavily subscribed, they would increase the number of people who operate it and it would get better. It was like public transportation in that if nobody took a bus, then the service would be cut. So people should use the Escort Service and encourage their friends to do so.

Ms. Hubbard said her question dealt with surveys that the Grad Division put out to departments. The issue was that the data weren't sent back to students, but were sent to departmental chairs. That was a slight ethical issue when it comes to standards of giving surveys. It seemed that often times department chairs ignore the data and don't do anything with it. She was hoping to hear his opinion of the actual purpose of these surveys because she hasn't gotten a straight answer on that. Also, she asked if there were any plans to incentivize departments to address deficiencies that came up in these surveys, or if departments were working on improving these deficiencies, and asked if there was some way to get support from the Grad Division to recognize efforts and encourage departments to do better. These were surveys that reflect grad student experience.

Mr. Szeri said those were about 12 questions and he would try to parse it. Yes, they did lots of surveying. They survey incoming students, continuing students, and exiting students. He just began late last spring returning a high-level summary of the mid-point survey to departments in order for them to see where it was that they could observe shortcomings from the point of view of the students, and encourage them to address the shortcomings. So they've just begun. Now that they had surveys from a few years, they're returning data to departments and compare departments to like programs in a large number of categories. There were three basic things that they focus on. One was student satisfaction with the program, the second was the academic support students got in a program, and the third was the climate that students perceive in the program. In the high-level summary that the Grad Division returned, they try to look at what

Presentation on Graduate Division Dean Andrew Szeri (cont'd)

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contributed to each of these things. So they look, e.g., at whether students in the program were satisfied or unsatisfied because they were happy or unhappy with the amount of financial support they received.

Ms. Hubbard said she was actually seeing the results from the Chemistry Department survey as their Chair shared them with her. Mr. Szeri said she had a wonderful Chair. Ms. Hubbard said they also did an internal survey that expanded on large amount of issues. She said it was mentioned that the Grad Division encouraged departments to address these issues and asked what that actually meant.

Mr. Szeri said they have just begun the practice of returning survey data. They want to develop an advisory group in programs that did really well by the measures being asked about. The idea was to see if they could basically learn what the secrets were in programs that were doing well, and arrive at some common set of shared principles that guided their thinking, or ways they were organized or the priorities that made them do well. Once they have that information in hand, they want to hold meetings with the programs that were the most deserving of interest, basically the worst offenders, and ask them why it was that they couldn't adopt these practices. That was something new the Graduate Division was trying to put together. But for a longer amount of time, other kinds of survey data were used in program review. So when a program came up for review, every seven or eight years, some survey data was received. Programs wrote a self-evaluation and graduate students were usually involved. They're definitely involved in the review process, but often respond directly to the self-evaluation. So that's where the survey data have been used. And frequently in these academic program reviews, much importance was attached to students' feelings about the program, especially with specific complaints. So he would assure the GA that the information from surveys was used in program reviews. But those occur relatively infrequently. That's why he want to establish a mechanism to look at things more frequently. They could imagine that funding the Graduate Division gave to programs to use for graduate student support could be dialed up or down, according to how happy or unhappy students were in a program. That would certainly get programs' attention. He asked if she thought that would be productive. Ms. Hubbard said she would actually like to help him out with some ideas that she had for things like that. Her Department has been trying to address certain things specifically and she had a lot of ideas along the lines of departmental incentives

and how to quantify some of that. Mr. Szeri said she should drop him a line. The Delegate said she's found that he doesn't respond to his e-mails. Mr. Szeri said he didn't receive all of his e-mails, and his assistant did, who triaged them.

Mr. Rees said he had a quick question, and a yes or no would suffice. The University of California at Berkeley was one of the few top universities in the country that did not offer health insurance to student families. Even the majority of UC System campuses offered that insurance to dependents. Mr. Szeri ask if he was referring to dependent care. Brandon said he was, children, spouses, and domestic partners. He asked if the Dean would support forming a task force of students and administrators to make recommendations on how they could offer guaranteed health insurance to student families.

Mr. Szeri said there was, in fact, a move afoot to consider that very issue, at the Office of the President. It was possible, for unbelievable prices, to ensure dependent children on the SHIP plan, he believed. Mr. Rees said that was not correct. Mr. Szeri said it was. Mr. Rees said he's been meeting with University Health Services. Mr. Szeri said it was just for dependent children. Mr. Rees said there was no University service. Mr. Armstrong said students couldn't even buy it. Mr. Szeri said that was new to him. There's a Coordinator at UHS who helped to get students, departments, into big programs. Mr. Rees said his concern was qualifying. Mr. Szeri said the question was how much all graduate students would be willing to have their health insurance costs increased in order to cover the cost of dependents, spouses, or partners.

Presentation on Graduate Division Dean Andrew Szeri (cont'd)

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Mr. Rees said that was something the task force could address. Mr. Szeri said that in the past, the decision has been made that it would be too expensive, basically, and that students wouldn't be willing to pay those kinds of charges. Opinions on this matter may have changed. If they have, he would like to hear that, and maybe the GA could tell him as a whole, and perhaps pass some kind of resolution that they thought all graduate students would be willing to accept, say, a 20% increase in their health insurance in order for dependents and children to be covered. And he was just pulling "20%" out of the air.

Mr. Armstrong said students could not even buy in at that time, so no one paid anything extra. But people with families should be able to buy in if they had a child with a pre-existing condition. Mr. Szeri said he understood the question was for dependent care to be offered to all qualified dependents, spouses, and partners. Everybody would have to pay in. And then it would be automatically available. Mr. Rees said it would be a guaranteed opportunity to purchase health insurance. Mr. Szeri said that, then, was what their issue was. Mr. Rees said he wasn't suggesting that students be asked to subsidize others' children. This was something that other universities provide, and he had numbers from his own survey of campuses of what the premiums were. He said he just sent that to the Dean. Mr. Szeri said he would be interested in receiving that information.

Mr. Daniels said they had to move on. He would ask the GA to join him in thanking Dean Szeri.
(Applause)

Mr. Daniels said that for those who had questions that they didn't get to, they should shoot them to him, he'd compile them, and send them on to Dean Szeri. Or if there were other issues Delegates would like the GA to raise at their monthly meetings with the Dean, he would ask them to please feel free to let them know.

Mr. Daniels said he would ask everybody to stand up and stretch at that point.

GA Elections

Back in session, Mr. Daniels said they had four positions being elected that evening in elections that were deferred from last month. Unless there was any objection, if only one person was nominated, they'd automatically approve that person. If people would not like to follow that process, he would ask them to please object at that time. He called for any objections to that procedure and seeing none, said they would follow that practice.

Mr. Daniels said the first election to consider was for the Funding Committee Chair. He called for any nominations. Ms. Pulaski nominated Gabe Podesta. Mr. Daniels call for any other nominations, and hearing none, said Mr. Podesta was approved. MR. PODESTA WAS APPROVED AS FUNDING COMMITTEE CHAIR WITH NO OBJECTION. Mr. Daniels said he would like to congratulate Mr. Podesta. (Applause)

Mr. Daniels said the next position up for election was the Environmental Sustainability Chair. He called for any nominations. A Delegate nominated Brad Froehle. Mr. Daniels called for any other nominations, and seeing none said Mr. Froehle was approved. MR. FROEHLE WAS APPROVED AS

GA Elections (cont'd)

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ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE CHAIR WITH NO OBJECTION. Mr. Daniels said he would like to congratulate Mr. Froehle. (Applause)

Mr. Daniels said the next position was for International Student Affairs Committee Chair. He called for any nominations. If there were none, they'd push back filing the position until May or September. Aaron deGrassi nominated himself. Mr. Daniels called for any other nominations and seeing none, said Mr. DeGrassi was approved. MR. DeGRASSI WAS APPROVED AS INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIR WITH NO OBJECTION. Mr. Daniels said he would like to congratulate Mr. deGrassi. (Applause)

Mr. Daniels said the next position to elect was Chair of the Technology Committee. He called for any nominations. Mr. Armstrong nominated Gwyn Harrison-Shermoen, who respectfully declined. Ms. Hsueh nominated Karl Chen, who respectfully declined. Mr. Daniels said that to give some background on the position, it helped to know the topic, although that wasn't required. This wouldn't deal with just GA stuff,

but things like the recording industry sending out letters to grads and undergrads who download music, and issues of technological access on campus or off-campus for grad students, as well as advertising, communicating to the grad student body via technology, listservs, e-mails, things like that. The GA had three undergrads that year working on technology, so the Technology Committee Chair did not actually have to write code. It was kind of like being a CIO for an organization or company.

Mr. Rajan nominated Meghan Anderson, who respectfully declined.

Ms. Freedman asked if they could consider this as the first item at the May meeting when everybody was there. Mr. Daniels said that when they approve the agenda at the Exec Board meeting, they could do that.

Mr. Daniels said they would consider the election of the Technology Committee Chair in May.

REPORTS

Mr. Daniels said reports were included in the agenda packet, including the Funding Committee report.

Reporting for the Funding Committee, Mr. Podesta said this was the second month in a row with a 0% global budget cut, so they were doing pretty good with that. He called for any questions.

A Delegate asked how the Committee had 0% cuts. Mr. Podesta said they got lucky and got a little Grad Division money, which definitely helped. There was also a significant amount of rollover, unspent funds from earlier rounds. They got lucky.

Mr. Daniels said that hearing no further questions, they would move to a vote. **THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FUNDING COMMITTEE FOR GRAD EVENTS ROUND 6 WERE APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.**

Reporting for the Budget Committee, Ms. Anderson said they wrote a draft budget last month that will be on the Web site. The Committee will have another meeting to approve the budget the second Wednesday

Reports (cont'd)

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in April, on the 9th. If people had questions or wanted to make suggestions, they could send her an e-mail at budget@GA, or they could attend the meeting. If they plan on attending, they should send her an e-mail so she knew how many people to expect.

Mr. Daniels called for any questions about any of the reports, or for any of the people who already spoke.

Mr. Daniels said there was a request for the Student Regent to speak to them, but he had class at that time.

Mr. Daal said he would like to add an item to his report. If people were interested in the bus rapid transit planning issue, he would ask them to please talk to him. There will be a town hall meeting about that very soon when decisions will be made.

Mr. Daniels said the Women of Color Initiative position was open. If people had questions they should talk to Zeli Rivas. The position for 08-09 was 15-hours a week, on average, and would pay, depending on the budget the GA passee, probably a little bit more than \$10,000 a year.

Mr. Daniels said that if people had any questions about reports, they should feel free to shoot people an e-mail.

RESOLUTIONS FOR REFERRAL

Mr. Daniels said there was a Resolution for a By-law Amendment to Improve GA Efficiency. Mr. Armstrong said he and Mr. Daniels worked on the Resolution and Ms. Ahrendt a few minutes ago made

some edits. There was some text to be filled in after people talk to lawyers about the right wording. The By-laws were sort of re-done a year or two ago and still needed to be cleaned up. This was the first step in that process. Mr. Daniels said the Resolution would be referred to the Rules Committee.

Ms. Anderson said that she hadn't read the Resolution, but if the Resolution proposed to change the rules and mentioned any committees, the bill should get referred to those committees as well.

Mr. Daniels said they would therefore send the Resolution to the Budget Committee. Mr. Rajan said they might have to add the Environmental Sustainability Committee and the Technology Committee as well. Mr. Daniels said he would refer the Resolution to the Rules Committee and the Budget Committee. He said the Executive Board would also discuss it. He called for any objection to the referral, and seeing none, said the Resolution would be sent to the committees noted above.

Mr. Daniels said the second Resolution to refer was Resolution on Directed Action In Support of Offering Group Health Insurance Coverage to Student Families. Mr. Rees said he wanted to make a motion to fast-track this and vote on it that evening. There was a sense of urgency and he would ask to have a letter sent to the Chancellor asking for implementation of a task force to make recommendations on adding dependent health insurance at UC Berkeley. If anyone was interested, he had a rundown of other universities that offered health insurance to student families. He also met with the Campus Affairs and the External Affairs Committees and both have had a chance to review this language and make recommended changes.

Resolutions for Referral (cont'd)

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Mr. Daniels said that fast tracking this would mean the bill would not be referred to committee and would be voted on that evening.

The motion to fast track was seconded by Mr. Podesta. THE MOTION TO FAST TRACK THE RESOLUTION ON DIRECTED ACTION IN SUPPORT OF OFFERING GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE TO STUDENT FAMILIES PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.

Mr. Daniels said the next item to refer was the Resolution for Directed Action In Support of Increased Graduate Student-Focused Mental Health Services. Ms. Hubbard said the Resolution would support an increase in graduate student-focused mental health services. Mr. Daniels said that with no objection it would be referred to the Campus Affairs Committee.

RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

RESOLUTION ON A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE NEW REVENUE INTO THE 2007-08 BUDGET

WHEREAS, Vice Chancellor for Equity and Inclusion Gibor Basri has bestowed \$7,911.88 for the 2008-09 Graduate Minority Students Project's Distinguished Lecturer of Color Series; and

WHEREAS, Vice Chancellor for Equity and Inclusion Gibor Basri has bestowed \$2,030 for the 2008 Empowering Women of Color Conference; and

WHEREAS, the Graduate Division has bestowed \$10,000 for 2007-08 student group funding;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Graduate Assembly's 2007-2008 budget be amended as follows:

- An added revenue line of \$10,000.00 from the Graduate Division;
- An added revenue line of \$3,441.88 from the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Equity and Inclusion;
- An increase of \$1,411.88 to the Program & Events line under the Graduate Minority Student Project;
- An increase of \$2,030.00 to the Program & Events line under Women of Color Initiative; and
- An increase of \$10,000.00 to the Student Funding line under Funding.

Mr. Daniels said the Resolution would incorporate Graduate Division funding into the GA's budget.

Resolution on a Budget Amendment to Include New Revenue Into the 2007-08 Budget (cont'd) - 22 -

Ms. Anderson said the bill was referred to the Budget Committee, and to be honest, they were so busy with the budget they didn't look at it. But the amendment made sense. It would insert funds into the GA's budget where their agreement with the Grad Division said they had to. The Resolution included funding from different sources on campus, a lot of which was thanks to Mr. Daal. The money was for specific things, and the Resolution was just to put the money into the GA's budget to pay for some specific things. The GA really didn't really have any control over where this money went and the Resolution just has the actual budget reflect what the GA will do with this money it received.

A motion to call the question and end debate was made and seconded and passed with no objection. **THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE NEW REVENUE INTO THE 2007-08 BUDGET PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.**

The following Resolution was authored by Vince Law:

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FUNDING PROCEDURES TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF GRADUATE EVENTS FUNDING ROUNDS FROM THREE TO TWO PER SEMESTER

WHEREAS, there are six (6) rounds of Graduate Events (GE) funding per year (Fall 2007 funding is comprised of Rounds 1, 2, and 3 and Spring 2008 funding is comprised of Rounds 4, 5, and 6) and applications are due before 12:00 p.m. on deadline dates; and

WHEREAS, the GA does not have enough funding to support 100% of funding requests; and

WHEREAS, two rounds per semester would encourage/reward graduate student groups who plan events in advance; and

WHEREAS, two rounds per semester will allow the Funding Committee to have a more accurate funding projection (meaning evenly distributing funding amongst all student groups, not as many global cuts); and

WHEREAS, two rounds per semester will slightly reduce the workload of the funding committee and the Business Office with less number of rounds for review; and

WHEREAS, with two rounds per semester there is more flexibility changing dates because the round event timeline length is increased; and

WHEREAS, fewer rounds makes it easier to navigate the funding deadlines dates; and

WHEREAS, it is too late to make any changes to the Fall 2008 funding timeline;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Funding Guidelines be amended starting in Spring 2008-09 to include only two Graduate Event funding rounds per semester.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2008-09 Graduate Events funds rounds shall be as follows:

Resolution to Amend Funding Procedures to Reduce the Number of Grad Events Funding Rounds - 23 -
from Three to Two Per Semester (cont'd)

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FUNDING PROCEDURES TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF GRADUATE EVENTS FUNDING ROUNDS FROM THREE TO TWO PER SEMESTER

FALL 2008 EVENTS

<u>Round</u>	<u>Deadline Dates</u>	<u>Event Timelines</u>	<u>Notified</u>	<u>Receipts Due</u>
1	Aug. 3, 2008	Aug. 18 - Sept. 14	Aug. 17	Sept. 17
2	Aug. 31, 2008	Sept. 15 - Nov. 5	Sept. 14	Nov. 5
3	Oct. 19, 2008	Nov. 5 - Dec. 7	Nov. 2	Dec. 10

SPRING 2009 EVENTS

<u>Round</u>	<u>Deadline Dates</u>	<u>Event Timelines</u>	<u>Notified</u>	<u>Receipts Due</u>
4	Nov. 16, 2008	Jan. 12 - Mar. 17	Dec. 7	Feb. 11
5	Feb. 20, 2008	Mar. 18 - Apr. 4	Mar. 7	May 11

FALL 2009 EVENTS

<u>Round</u>	<u>Deadline Dates</u>	<u>Event Timelines</u>	<u>Notified</u>	<u>Receipts Due</u>
1	Early Aug. 2009	Mid Aug. - Early Oct.	Mid Aug.	Mid Oct.
2	Mid Sept. 2009	Early Oct. - Mid Dec.	End of Sept.	Mid Dec.

Mr. Podesta said it was obviously too late to do anything about fall 2008, but there would be three rounds for next fall. They kicked around a couple of ideas and talked about maybe going to two rounds and having the applications due the semester before. But there were problems with that and they abandoned that idea. They now just want to go from three funding rounds to two. They think that would be beneficial to student groups and would definitely be beneficial to the Funding Committee. Mr. Tuchman was kind enough to point out that receipts due for round 4 should probably be a day at the end of March as opposed to February 11, and the event timeline for round 5 should go to May 9. But Mr. Podesta said he thought the dates were set by the Business Office. So what was on the chart might not necessarily be the dates, depending on the Business Office. But the chart provided a rough guide. If people had any questions he'd be happy to answer. They got a lot of feedback.

Ms. Ahrendt said that May 9 would be at the end of the semester. Mr. Podesta said he didn't think they cover the end of the semester currently, and end a little bit earlier, for bookkeeping purposes. Ms. Ahrendt asked if that meant they don't at all cover events at the end of the semester. Mr. Tuchman said it was up to the last day of instruction. Ms. Ahrendt said that was a flexible date, depending on what day that fell on. Mr. Podesta said that was correct.

Mr. Wolgin moved the question. The motion to end debate was seconded and passed with no objection. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION, AS AMENDED, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE, RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE FUNDING PROCEDURES TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF GRADUATE EVENTS FUNDING ROUNDS FROM THREE TO TWO PER SEMESTER.

Resolution on Directed Action In Support of Offering Group Health Insurance Coverage to Student Families

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The following Resolution was authored by Brandon Rees:

RESOLUTION ON DIRECTED ACTION IN SUPPORT OF OFFERING GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE TO STUDENT FAMILIES

WHEREAS, the Student Health Insurance Plan does not offer group health insurance coverage for the dependent children, spouses or domestic partners of UC Berkeley students; and

WHEREAS, a substantial number of graduate students are married or live with a domestic partner, and many graduate students have dependent children; and

WHEREAS, the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research estimates that 6.5 million Californians, including 1.1 million children, do not have health insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, employers are the primary provider of group health insurance for dependents, and the University of California employs over 12,000 academic student employees; and

WHEREAS, out of the 20 top ranked private national universities, as published by US News & World Report, 19 universities offer student health insurance plan coverage for dependents of students; and

WHEREAS, many leading public universities in other states, including Michigan-Ann Arbor, Virginia, Wisconsin-Madison, North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and Texas-Austin, offer student health insurance plan coverage for dependents of students; and

WHEREAS, many other University of California campuses offer student health insurance plan coverage for dependents of students, including UC Los Angeles, UC Santa Barbara, UC San Francisco, UC Santa Cruz, and UC San Diego; and

WHEREAS, students may not be able to obtain dependent health insurance coverage from insurance companies because of preexisting conditions or from government-sponsored programs because of income eligibility and immigration status requirements; and

WHEREAS, health insurance for student families is needed to attract and retain the most qualified students to UC Berkeley and to ensure access to higher education for single parents; and

WHEREAS, the Graduate Assembly recognizes that innovative solutions are required to overcome the economic challenges to offering group health insurance coverage for dependents of students;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Graduate Assembly calls on UC Berkeley to offer group health insurance coverage to student families.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Graduate Assembly President shall send a letter to Chancellor Robert Birgeneau, and Health and Human Services Associate Vice Chancellor Steve Lustig to request that a student-administrator task force be formed to develop a proposal for the extension of group health insurance coverage to student families.

Resolution on Directed Action In Support of Offering Group Health Insurance Coverage to Student Families (cont'd)

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Mr. Rees said people have heard his spiel a couple of times. Currently UC was considering several potential reforms to health insurance, including a Systemwide program. The Chancellor has said, and the Graduate Dean said that evening, that there were indications that they will study health insurance. Mr. Rees said he would like the GA to pass a Resolution in support of offering health insurance to student families and to form a task force to propose options. There were economic hurdles, but their peer universities in the US have figured out ways to offer dependent health care. He thought Berkeley should join those peers. He called for any questions or comments.

Ms. Rowen said the External Affairs must looked over this Resolution and thought it was very strong and very well worded. The facts that were presented were really good and she was very much in favor of this.

Mr. Wolgin said that in light of Dean Szeri's comments, he asked if they could also add the Dean as well, to add to last Resolved Clause, "Dean of the Graduate Division Andrew Szeri," to read:

"Further Resolved, that the take President shall send a letter to Chancellor Robert Birgeneau, Dean of the Graduate Division Andrew Szeri...."

The author accepted the friendly amendment. THE AMENDMENT WAS ADOPTED.

A motion to call the question and end debate was made and seconded and passed with no objection. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION, AS AMENDED ON THE FLOOR, PASSED BY VOICE-VOTE, RESOLUTION ON DIRECTED ACTION IN SUPPORT OF OFFERING GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE TO STUDENT FAMILIES.

Mr. Daniels said that attendance tended to drop off as the semester went on, and yet the last meeting of the year was possibly the most important, because they discuss the budget. He would beg them to attend. If they could get the room packed, he'd wear whatever they wanted him to.

Presentation By the Student Regent

Ben Allen asked if there was anything they'd like him to highlight. Mr. Daniels said he might talk about the UC presidency. Mr. Allen said that as many of them knew, the UC just selected a new President, Mark Yudof, who was the Chancellor of the University of Texas System and previously headed up the University of Minnesota. Mr. Allen said he was on the search committee and he was actually pretty excited about the choice. From all that he's seen, Mr. Yudof seems to have been a pretty student-friendly President. He had technical, academic, and management credentials and was committed to hopefully setting the ship aright with regard to the relationship between the OP and the Board of Regents, which has been problematic recently. Mr. Yudof is a law professor who has spent a lot of time working on social justice cases. He's taken a couple of very important cases to the Supreme Court that relate to finance and equity in schools. He had an interesting and engaged commitment to public service outside his administrative career. Mr. Allen said he was happy to answer questions about Mr. Yudof's appointment. He was certainly coming at a pretty high priced, and Mr. Allen said he had some mixed feelings about that. But

Presentation by the Student Regent (cont'd)

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he also thought it was really important to have the right person in this position. And problems people had with regard to compensation of the President had more to do with not being transparent about the policies rather than the actual amount that was paid.

Mr. Allen said he was able, at the last Regents meeting, to get a measure passed that pushed the ball forward on a whole slew of environmental issues, including green building, pushing the University on climate change, action plans that different campuses were implementing, and procurement. He'd be happy to talk about this to people working on environmental stuff.

He was also still working on the creation of a committee focused on student affairs at the Regental level so there could be more sustained attention placed on student life at the Regents level. He's always been really struck by the fact that issues that get more sustained attention by the Regents were those that ended up getting better funding and better support by the Regents. He was really dismayed when he tried to put a measure forward, a report before the Regents, related to community college transfers and was told they couldn't have two student affairs issues come before the Regents in one meeting. It was just too busy. If it had been a measure related to the investment portfolio or another issue, it probably wouldn't have run into that sort of disagreement.

The idea would be to create a more formal mechanism at the Regents level to get more sustained attention to student life. They're trying to push forward getting more funding for the undergraduate survey. He'd like to see a similar system for graduate students. It would provide a lot of important information. Berkeley had its own survey, and he would encourage people to fill it out. It was a little bit of a drag, but was really important for policy makers and people who run the University to get feedback from students. Things get a little skewed when the same people fill them out.

Mr. Daniels said they're pushing the Grad Division Dean to release survey numbers. The more students who fill out the survey, the more ammunition the GA would have to advocate for the needs that students raise. So he would encourage Delegates to encourage people in their departments to fill it out. The survey turnout for grads was worse than for undergrads. Mr. Daniels said it depended on the survey, and when there's been a push, they actually get a great turnout.

Mr. Allen said the last thing he wanted to say was that earlier in the year he was able to attach an amendment to the professional school fee increase. The amendment would have certain professional school fees that went above 6% be contingent upon several key factors relating to public interest, loan forgiveness, financial aid, outreach, and making sure those programs were comparable to similar public programs in that field. Mr. Daniels worked on it really hard with him and they were able to get it attached to the professional school fee increase measure. He wasn't able to defeat the increase, but at least was able to get an attachment to it. Law School Dean Edley came to the Regents a lot with programmatic and academic justification for responses to the fee increases, and explained the things he did to put in place a financial aid infrastructure to make sure they were taken care of the needs of students and those students who wanted to go into public interest jobs. Mr. Allen said he thought the Dean got a measure passed to respond to all professional fee increases. These measures were included largely because of the homework Dean Edley did and the actions he took at Boalt. These measures will include business schools, some of the other law schools, and a whole bunch of pharmacy and other professional schools. They were able to get the amendment passed. The President just came back with a report showing that about 72% of the programs were in compliance, and 20% were not. As a result, they're actually going to cut fee increases because of this amendment. That was really exciting. That would include Public Policy at Berkeley. And there were a whole list of other schools that were affected.

Presentation by the Student Regent (cont'd)

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Mr. Allen said he was pretty pleased about this measure being approved, and it was the first time there's ever been a kind of limit to the inexorable rise in fees in their programs. So it was an exciting development. It was a testament to Mr. Daniels' hard work with him and the help he gave to craft this, and Mr. Allen said he really appreciated it.

Mr. Allen said those were a couple of issues that came up and he'd be happy to take questions.

Mr. Rajan asked what determined Mr. Yudof's price factor. Mr. Allen said it largely was his previous salary, he was making at Texas, about \$750K. And this job was definitely more hectic, with more responsibility and was more prestige. The increase was not commensurate with the with the added responsibility, but he was already making quite a lot of money. There was a sense that he had to get a pay increase. It's a baseline salary of \$591K, and then he also had a position at Boalt. Mr. Yudof will teach undergrads in legal studies, which was exciting. They worked out a compensation package that basically gave a pay increase but didn't hit the OP budget quite in the way it would have had it been done in other ways.

Mr. Rajan asked if it was comparable to what Mr. Yudof would make in the Texas System, and if Texas invested more in education than California. Mr. Allen said he was making a little bit more than he was making as head of the whole Texas System. And when they talk about investing in California, the sad truth was that despite the high amounts for this institution, everybody was underpaid, from their janitors through the graduate students. As they all know, they lose staff all the time to other colleges because they pay better, including their administrators, chancellors, and presidents. Compensation of the new President will now be more at market, believe it or not. He realized the salary sounded ridiculous in a lot of ways, but all of their chancellors, including the Chancellor at Berkeley, was actually paid below market, if they look at comparable institutions.

As a follow-up, speaking on the issue of public investment, Mr. Allen said there was a lot of action going on. There was a plan afoot on April 21 that Mr. Allen said he wanted to reiterate. All the different sectors around public education will come together and push to start trying to change the paradigm in the State, and make the case that they need to have a better system of investment in the State. One thing he brought up that morning was that everybody talks about people not wanting to pay and the government wasting money. But it was important to know that California actually had less public service per person in the State than 48 other states. They chronically shackle their State finances. Sadly, it wasn't just about going to Sacramento to ask for more money, but part of what's happened with the whole State budget system getting more and more constricted. They've constricted their revenue flows considerably, and do that every time they pass a new measure as a State to provide more money for something, like stem cell research, a great thing, or GPS tracking devices on sex offenders. They should not constitutionally require the State's General Fund to spend money such matters while they don't have a similar constitutional requirement to fund higher education. So he would ask them to please join the effort on April 21, and to also please join the broader effort of trying to find new revenue sources from the State.

Mr. DeGrassi said concerns were raised about the process of selecting the UC President. He asked if Mr. Allen could address those, and asked if Mr. Yudof was asked about the process by which Regents were selected. Mr. Allen said Mr. Yudof was not asked about that, at least not in anything he saw. The process of selection of the President he thought was very problematic. But he thought things worked out well. One thing that made him most comfortable with Mr. Yudof was that he was taking the job with the understanding that they'll right the ship in terms of the relationship between the Regents, the campuses, and the

Presentation by the Student Regent (cont'd)

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OP, and the roles the different parties will play. The System needed that to happen. Mr. DeGrassi asked if the President's salary will also receive a 10% budget cut. Mr. Allen said it was a different budget mechanism. The salary will be a pay increase, and the salary was much higher than Pres. Dynes', nearly double. Mr. Allen said he had very mixed feelings about that as well. After the approval meeting, the compensation meeting was planned within five days, over Spring Break. He didn't even actually vote on the compensation package because he had other plans at that time. He was still thinking about what he would have done, because he saw both sides, and thought both were very convincing. He shared the frustration that others felt.

Mr. Daniels said he would like to thank Mr. Allen for attending.

Mr. Daniels said they would ask the recorder to choose the winner of the coffee for people who remained until the end of the meeting. People who already receive some compensation from the GA were not eligible. Mr. Daniels said that Anna Griffith won the lottery and won the coffee. (Applause)

Mr. Daniels said people will be going to the Bear's Lair after the meeting. For those who were newly elected, he would ask them to please stick around for a second.

This meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

These minutes respectfully submitted by,

Steven I. Litwak
Recording Secretary

Resolution to Amend the Funding Procedures to Reduce the Number of Graduate Events Funding Rounds from Three to Two Per Semester [as amended on the floor]

Whereas, there are six (6) rounds of Graduate Events (GE) funding per year (Fall 2007 funding is comprised of Rounds 1, 2, and 3 and Spring 2008 funding is comprised of Rounds 4, 5, and 6) and applications are due before 12:00 p.m. on deadline dates; and

Whereas, the GA does not have enough funding to support 100% of funding requests; and

Whereas, two rounds per semester would encourage/reward graduate student groups who plan events in advance; and

Whereas, two rounds per semester will allow the Funding Committee to have a more accurate funding projection (meaning evenly distributing funding amongst all student groups, not as many global cuts); and

Whereas, two rounds per semester will slightly reduce the workload of the funding committee and the Business Office with less number of rounds for review; and

Whereas, with two rounds per semester there is more flexibility changing dates because the round event timeline length is increased; and

Whereas, fewer rounds makes it easier to navigate the funding deadlines dates; and

Whereas, it is too late to make any changes to the Fall 2008 funding timeline;

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Funding Guidelines be amended starting in Spring 2008-09 to include only two Graduate Event funding rounds per semester.

Be It Further Resolved, that the 2008-09 Graduate Events founds rounds shall be as follows:

FALL 2008 EVENTS

<u>Round</u>	<u>Deadline Dates</u>	<u>Event Timelines</u>	<u>Notified</u>	<u>Receipts Due</u>
1	Aug. 3, 2008	Aug. 18 - Sept. 14	Aug. 17	Sept. 17
2	Aug. 31, 2008	Sept. 15 - Nov. 5	Sept. 14	Nov. 5
3	Oct. 19, 2008	Nov. 5 - Dec. 7	Nov. 2	Dec. 10

SPRING 2009 EVENTS

<u>Round</u>	<u>Deadline Dates</u>	<u>Event Timelines</u>	<u>Notified</u>	<u>Receipts Due</u>
4	Nov. 16, 2008	Jan. 12 - Mar. 17	Dec. 7	Mar. 23
5	Feb. 20, 2008	Mar. 18 - Apr. 4	Mar. 18	May 9

Resolution to Amend the Funding Procedures to Reduce the Number of Graduate Events Funding Rounds from Three to Two Per Semester [as amended on the floor](cont'd)

FALL 2009 EVENTS

<u>Round</u>	<u>Deadline Dates</u>	<u>Event Timelines</u>	<u>Notified</u>	<u>Receipts Due</u>
1	Early Aug. 2009	Mid Aug. - Early Oct.	Mid Aug.	Mid Oct.
2	Mid Sept. 2009	Early Oct. - Mid Dec.	End of Sept.	Mid Dec.

Resolution on Directed Action In Support of Offering Group Health Insurance Coverage to Student Families [as amended on the floor]

Whereas, the Student Health Insurance Plan does not offer group health insurance coverage for the dependent children, spouses or domestic partners of UC Berkeley students; and

Whereas, a substantial number of graduate students are married or live with a domestic partner, and many graduate students have dependent children; and

Whereas, the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research estimates that 6.5 million Californians, including 1.1 million children, do not have health insurance coverage; and

Whereas, in the United States, employers are the primary provider of group health insurance for dependents, and the University of California employs over 12,000 academic student employees; and

Whereas, out of the 20 top ranked private national universities, as published by US News & World Report, 19 universities offer student health insurance plan coverage for dependents of students; and

Whereas, many leading public universities in other states, including Michigan-Ann Arbor, Virginia, Wisconsin-Madison, North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and Texas-Austin, offer student health insurance plan coverage for dependents of students; and

Whereas, many other University of California campuses offer student health insurance plan coverage for dependents of students, including UC Los Angeles, UC Santa Barbara, UC San Francisco, UC Santa Cruz, and UC San Diego; and

Whereas, students may not be able to obtain dependent health insurance coverage from insurance companies because of preexisting conditions or from government-sponsored programs because of income eligibility and immigration status requirements; and

Whereas, health insurance for student families is needed to attract and retain the most qualified students to UC Berkeley and to ensure access to higher education for single parents; and

Whereas, the Graduate Assembly recognizes that innovative solutions are required to overcome the economic challenges to offering group health insurance coverage for dependents of students;

Amended Resolutions (cont'd)

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Resolution on Directed Action In Support of Offering Group Health Insurance Coverage to Student Families [as amended on the floor] (cont'd)

Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Graduate Assembly calls on UC Berkeley to offer group health insurance coverage to student families.

Be It Further Resolved, that the Graduate Assembly President shall send a letter to Chancellor Robert Birgeneau, Dean of the Graduate Division Andrew Szeri, and Health and Human Services Associate Vice Chancellor Steve Lustig to request that a student-administrator task force be formed to develop a proposal for the extension of group health insurance coverage to student families.