

GRADUATE ASSEMBLY MEETING

March 5, 2009

SUMMARY OF THE MEETING

This meeting commenced the Spring Semester. It was called to order at 5:33 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A number of ASUC events were going on, or will be soon, including Tang Center Awareness Week, the Undergraduate Research Forum, the Women's Conference, and Mental Health Awareness Week. The Senate passed a bill in commemoration of Oscar Grant's life and has also passed a lot of financial bills. As a result, they replenished their Contingency Fund by \$35,000. A bill was submitted to amend the Constitution and increase the number of signatures required to have a recall election of an elected official. The Senate also passed a bill in support of having non-denominational prayer and meditation space.

As a result of the recall election, Sen. Moghtader was voted to be removed from office. There were 3,786 votes, with 2,689 yes votes, 72.78%, and 1,021 nay votes, 20.62%; with 76 abstentions. The matter has again come before the Judicial Council.

Mr. Daal and Senators have been working on a bill to share revenues and expenses between the GA and the ASUC.

Deborah Behrens, of the Career Center, spoke about services available to grads. A series of workshops is offered every semester on the academic job search. Services are also available for students at different phases of their graduate studies. They also have Career Fairs regularly.

The ASUC was working on a textbook affordability task force and drew up some recommendations.

Three positions have opened up under the Projects, the Berkeley Graduate Project Coordinator the Graduate Support Services Project Coordinator, and the Women of Color Initiative Project Coordinator position.

Law School students will re-look at the Master Plan of Higher Education, and there will be a roundtable looking at higher education.

The California Constitutional Convention Conference happened, put together by the Bay Area Council, a business group, to think about revising the California Constitution.

Mind and Body Awareness Week will be next week, as will Disability Awareness Week.

The OP is looking at a Systemwide policy for sustainability research. On the campus, the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Sustainability is looking at this policy.

Student Lobby Conference at Sacramento occurred that past weekend. The Berkeley GA was named the Graduate Student Assembly of the Year for 2009.

Talk By the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost George Breslauer

“Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost” is a combined title. The Executive Vice Chancellor component coordinates among all of the functional Vice Chancellors. “Provost” comes from Medieval German, and meant “jailer.” It's the chief academic officer. Mr. Breslauer has been at Berkeley for 38 years.

The budgetary deficit to fill was \$67.2 million. That will get bigger if voters in California do not pass ballot measures in May. The deficit was caused by cuts from the State that year and from the accretion over time of unfounded obligations and mandates. The State, e.g., used to fund the campus PG&E bill, which that year will be \$12 million.

Campus strategy in response to this was based on several principles. Having a combination of revenue enhancements and cost savings and not sacrificing the undergraduate curriculum. They're not going to cut the Temporary Academic Staffing budget, which pays for GSIs.

Staff will be asked to voluntarily reduce their pay by 5% or more, at their election. The vast majority of State funds go towards the salaries of 1,500 faculty and 6,000 career staff. Tuition will increase, i.e., fees will increase. They will also reorganize the way they work so they're a less expensive operation. In six years they could save \$45-60 million a year.

There are no current plans to slash graduate student fellowships.

Faculty and staff could be asked to take furloughs, a 2-3% de facto pay cut, or earnings reduction, through six unpaid vacation days.

The campus doesn't tell them department where to cut. Some may cut back on GSIships, and there are a variety of strategies among departments with respect to grads.

GSIs are under Union contract, so the campus didn't have the right to unilaterally reduce pay. There's a hiring freeze and fewer professors will be hired, and will be replaced by lecturers, although that wouldn't happen on a large scale. The most consequential budgetary decision each year was how many new faculty to hire, and how much start-up money those faculty need. This year only 25 new faculty searches were authorized, compared to 131 last year.

They don't know if the economy was more like 1982 or more like 1932, and whether they'll come out of it in two or three years or in eight or nine years. Mr. Breslauer said he's heard that it looked like a four- to five-year affair.

The campus will complete a \$3 billion capital campaign. For a school without a medical center, that was pretty audacious.

The campus wasn't willing to conceive any loss of competition edge as a result of the budget. Other schools were hurting as well, with endowments down 25-40%.

And so for the transparency of the process, the Administration works with the Academic Senate to deal with budget and planning.

They have a commitment to what they call comprehensive excellence, and relatively few major research universities across the country have Cal's degree of breadth and excellence.

A Delegate noted that with budget cuts and staff reductions, the burden of individual staffers can fall on grads and GSIs.

The task force looking at online student course evaluations just issued a report. Having evaluations online involved a number of issues.

REPORTS

By unanimous voice-vote, the Assembly approved the allocation recommendations of the Funding Committee for Grants, Round 4, \$11,216.68, and Graduate Events, Round 5, \$25,292.07.

Online Course Evaluation Update

The GA was waiting for a response to a requested meeting with the chair of the committee working on this. The task force just issued a report.

Reports/Announcements

The GA got a very positive response from the Administration on the graduate student endowment the GA set up last May, \$25,000.

A forum on Panda Express coming to campus will be held that evening.

RESOLUTION REFERRALS

Resolutions were referred to committee: Directed Action and Standing Policy Regarding Commercial Activity Revenue Sharing between the ASUC and the GA; Resolution to Share Expenses between the ASUC and the Graduate Assembly; Resolution to Amend GA By-laws to Create a Technology Chair Designate Position; Resolution on Standing Policy and Directed Action In Support of the 6th Public Hearing on Campus Climate; Resolution In Support of Justice for Oscar Grant; Resolution to Amend the GA Budget to Allow the Investment of the GA Reserves into a Fund Functioning as an Endowment Administered by the UC Berkeley Foundation, to Make an Endowment Gift to UC Berkeley and Invest In an Endowment Administered by the California Alumni Association.

GA ELECTIONS FOR 2009-10

The GA elected the following for 2009-10:

Sam Ullah, Funding Committee Chair

Miguel Daal, GA President

Triffid Abel, Campus Affairs Vice President

Alberto Ortega, External Affairs Vice President

Nish Rajan, Budget Officer

Lucero Chavez, Project Coordinator Liaison Officer

Danny Kramer, Environmental Sustainability Committee Chair

Graduate Council Representatives for 2009-10: Gwyneth Harrison, Pam Berkeley, Dan Work, and Miranda Ritterman (Alternate).

Interim Grad Council Representatives for 2008-09: Phil Wolgin and Miranda Ritterman.

Brad Froehle, Project Technology Committee Chair

Farren Briggs, International Student Affairs Committee Chair

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

[End Summary of the Meeting]

This regular meeting of the Graduate Assembly, commencing the Spring Semester, was called to order by Miguel Daal at 5:33 p.m. in the ASUC Senate Chamber.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Daal said the first announcement was the ASUC report. Mr. Tran introduced himself and said he was an ASUC Senator. There were a lot of projects the ASUC was helping with and working on. Tang Center Awareness Week was going on at that time. The Undergraduate Research Forum was also occurring, as was the Women's Conference, on Monday, with Mental Health Awareness Week the week after.

Ms. Flores said that as for some bills the Senate passed, one was in commemoration of Oscar Grant's life. They've also passed a lot of financial bills. They replenished their Contingency Fund by \$35,000 because of all the amazing events and student organizations they're funding. One thing that might interest grads was a bill to change the Constitution and the number of signatures required to have a recall election of an elected official. The bill will be considered by the Constitutional and Procedural Review Committee on Monday at 9 p.m. in the Senate lounge, 2nd floor. She was sure Con-Review would appreciate graduate students' input, as this would also affect grads.

Ms. Shah said the Senate also passed a bill in support of having non-denominational prayer and meditation space, something the University should provide. The Tilden Room in the MLK Student Union has been used for that, but it's mostly rented out and was a source of revenue. The Senate's Advocacy Agenda Committee for Student Financial, Spiritual, and Physical Health was also working on this. If grads would like to help in getting prayer space for the campus, they should let her know.

Ms. Rodriguez said she was also a Senator. As they knew, there was a recall election, and that afternoon the election results were presented. There were a total of 3,786 votes, and Sen. John Moghtader was recalled by 2,689 votes, 72.78%; with 1,021, nay votes, 20.62%; and 76 abstentions.

Mr. Rabkin said it seemed that the turnout was 11%. He asked if that was normal for ASUC elections. Ms. Rodriguez they haven't had a recall election in a very long time. Last year's general election had a turnout of a little over 10,000 votes.

Ms. Rodriguez said that Mr. Daal and Senators have been working on a bill to share revenues between the GA and the ASUC. If people had input, they could contact Mr. Daal. Mr. Tran said there will be a Special Order at 9:45 on Wednesday to vet out the terms of revenue sharing. Also, the Lower Sproul questionnaire has been released at studentcenter.berkeley.edu. He would ask grads to please fill it out so they could decide what the barren wasteland that was Lower Sproul could be turned into.

Mr. Wolgin said the Daily Cal reported possible misconduct in the recall election, and asked what was going on with that. Ms. Rodriguez said she hadn't read it. She knew the Attorney General was working on a couple of charge sheets and was working with the Judicial Council.

Mr. Rabkin asked why he never received any official communication about the recall. Ms. Shah said the Elections Council had very little time to prepare. The Publicity Chair of the Elections Council was a little disappointed about the outreach he was unable to do. He wanted to send out campus-wide e-mails about the election, but wasn't able to. Mr. Rabkin said it was hair-raising to have an election without telling the voters. Ms. Flores said they've reported to the GA about the recall election and kept reminding them about it and when it was rescheduled. She would apologize for him not getting an e-mail.

Mr. Daal said the next guest announcement was from Deborah Behrens, from the Career Center. Ms. Behrens said she wanted to introduce the Career Center's services to those who might be new to Cal. They're all welcome to come in and take advantage of career services for graduate students. She asked how many have been to the Career Center, and noted that some had. They offer a series of workshops every semester on the academic job search. She asked how many present were going for academic positions, and noted that some were. The Career Center also offers a series of workshops, "Looking Beyond the Academy," offered twice a semester. The Academic Job Search series is offered in the humanities and social sciences as well as for the sciences. They have individual counseling, with two PhD and career counselors, herself and Andrew Green.

Ms. Behrens said she wanted to underscore that the Career Center not only offered services for those at the end of their program, whether Masters, PhD, or professional, but also at different phases of their graduate studies. If they want to do an internship or were looking for a part-time job or fellowship, they could come in for consultation, mock interviews, résumés, cover letters, etc. They could even help people looking at two different tracks, perhaps an academic job search and at what else was out there. Those were the kinds of things the Career Center could help with.

The Career Center offers a Career Fair every fall in October. Throughout the semester, they also have other career fairs graduate students might be interested in, such as the Environmental Career Fair. Their Web site has a list of fairs. She would also pass around contact information in the form of a bookmark.

She would ask them to please get it touch with the Career Center and she wanted to thank them for the opportunity to speak to them. If they had any questions, they should feel free e-mail them or call.

Announcements (cont'd)

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Mr. Daal said the next announcement was from ASUC Sen. Tran. Mr. Tran said the announcement was about textbook affordability. He was with Samantha, and they're members of a textbook affordability task force that drew up some recommendations on how to address the high cost of textbooks. Law School students pay astronomical fees. The task force has a list of recommendations. Last semester, with some of their efforts in the ASUC, they were able to save students about \$100,000. That wasn't much, but was progress in the right direction. Samantha said she had copies of the recommendations that she would ask them to give to their favorite faculty or post in their departments. Mr. Tran said that if grads had the time to get involved in these efforts, he would ask them to please get in contact with them.

Mr. Rajan asked if these textbook efforts were working to channel textbook sales back to Follett, with the money returned to students. Mr. Tran said that last semester the Textbook Adoption Initiative was to increase the percentage of adoptions by a certain deadline and to increase the used books market at Berkeley. That would allow students to sell books back at a higher price, and would allow the Store to order used books.

Ms. Rivas said the GA that week has opened up three positions under the Projects. One was the Berkeley Graduate Project Coordinator, since Ms. ElNaggar is graduating. Also open was the Graduate Support Services Project Coordinator, the position that organizes all the wonderful dissertation workshops. The Women of Color Initiative Project Coordinator position was also open, which works on the Empowering Women of Color Conference. Next year will be it's 25th year, the longest-running women of color conference run by and for women of color in the nation.

Mr. Daal asked how long Ms. ElNaggar has been in the position. Ms. ElNaggar said it's been since 2004. Ms. Rivas said they were losing a really big part of the GA.

Ms. Chavez said the La Raza Law Journal, in conjunction with the California Law Review, the Boalt Law Students Association, the UCSA EAVP, and the Vasconcellos Project, will re-look at the Master Plan of Higher Education, a document that was created that outlines the State's System. She had one flier she'd pass around. It will happen next Tuesday, a roundtable looking at higher education, how far they've come, and what still needed improvement. There's been a lot of discussion about graduate and professional student issues, and so they really want to make sure those issues are represented for the next four years. There's an RSVP because food and beverages will be provided. It will occur next Tuesday, 6:00 to 8:00 at MLK. If people have questions, they should let her know.

Mr. deGrassi said he wanted to give some feedback on the California Constitutional Convention Conference that happened last week. The Bay Area Council, a business group, is trying to put together people to think about revising the California Constitution, partly in relation to all the budget stuff that's been going on. A few other concerned groups were also trying to get involved as well. This announcement was to just put this on people's radar. The UC came up quite a few times as indicative of some of the structural budgeting problems the State was having. Prop. 13 also came up as a big item, causing uncertainty for businesses and partly motivating the Bay Area Council's interest. The meeting was actually about one-third lobbyists, very much more white than California. Some groups that have come in were trying to push to make a constitutional convention, if it happened more open and inclusive, and there were differ-

ent debates about modalities-types of issues. He just wanted to put this on people's agendas. If people had questions, more information was online.

Announcements (cont'd)

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Kristen Parrish said that Mind and Body Awareness Week is next week, the 9th through the 13th, with activities all over Sproul Plaza, with all sorts of mind, body, and wellness things.

Oscar Mairena said that next week was also Disability Awareness Week, and he'd like to invite grads to the events. They'll have intersectionality of race, gender, class, and disability. They're kicking off the Week that evening with Josh Bloom, a comedian with disabilities who will perform that evening at 8:00 at Wheeler Hall. Tickets are \$5 with IDs. The Awareness Week will also include a town hall discussion on Obama's plans for disability policy. There will also be outreach to high school students with disabilities to attend higher education.

Mr. Ortega said the OP is looking at a Systemwide policy for sustainability research. A subcommittee of the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Sustainability is looking at this policy and how it will be implemented on the Berkeley campus. He's been working on it with Lisa. They're looking for somebody else to work on this, and if anybody was interested in this, it will involve contacting people in food companies on campus, getting their input, and figuring out how to move forward to implement policy over the next year or so. Most of the work will be in the next two or three months. If people were interested, they could contact him and he'd put them in touch with more information.

Mr. Rajan said that past weekend he went to the Student Lobby Conference at Sacramento, and it was pretty awesome. The last three or four years he's been looking at the budget, wondering what the UCSA was and why the GA kept paying it. Mr. Ortega finally roped him into going, and Mr. Rajan said he finally found out that it was actually a pretty good organization. A lot of cool stuff happens there. Mr. Rajan said he was also happy to be at an awards banquet, where the Berkeley GA was named the Graduate Student Assembly of the Year for 2009. (Applause) So props for EAVP Ortega and Mr. Daal. Mr. Daal said they'd pass around the certificate.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND THE MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the February meeting was made and seconded. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 5 MEETING PASSED WITH NO OBJECTION.

Mr. Daal said that for the approval of the he would like to entertain a motion to add an additional Resolution to refer, "g," entitled "0903g, To Amend the GA Budget to Allow the Investments of the GA Reserves into a Fund Functioning as an Endowment Administered By the UC Berkeley Foundation, To Make an Endowment Gift to UC Berkeley and Invest in an Endowment Administered by the California Alumni Association.

It was so moved and seconded. THE MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA PASSED WITH NO OBJECTION.

Mr. Daal called for a motion to approve the agenda. It was so moved and seconded. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.

Talk By Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost George Breslauer

Talk by Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost George Breslauer

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Mr. Daal said he would like to welcome Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost George Breslauer to the meeting that evening. (Applause)

Mr. Breslauer said he would like to thank the GA for inviting him. It was nice to be there, and it reminded him of when he was a graduate student. And hearing them approve the minutes and the agenda, it reminded him of his own field of study, Soviet and East European Politics. They went through revolutions in East Europe, peaceful, that overthrew Communism and brought to power, for the most part, forces dedicated to consolidating some sort of democratic transition. The period during which people mobilized within society to overthrow the government was really quite exhilarating. And it was a form of revolutionary politics that a lot of very highly educated people got very highly involved in. One thing, five years later that was increasingly heard was that compared to that, democracy was really boring. Bodies have to pass resolutions and have to observe parliamentary procedure rather than plotting to take to the streets. In any case, he wasn't bored.

Mr. Breslauer said that when Mr. Daal suggested to him that he meet with the GA, he suggested some items to address. Mr. Breslauer said he didn't want to hog the floor very long because there must be things people wanted to address to him, information, questions, or statements, and he was really eager to hear that. So he didn't want to take the majority of time available to just speak at them.

One thing that Mr. Daal suggested was that he explain his title. "Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost" is a combined title. At some universities there are two separate people for it. The Executive Vice Chancellor component basically means he coordinates among all of the functional Vice Chancellors, for Research, Fundraising, Capital Projects, Student Affairs, and several others. He meets with them regularly to make sure they're on the same page. That's a coordinated function, and they report to the Chancellor; but Mr. Breslauer said the Chancellor counts on him to ensure coordination.

The other part of his title was Provost. The word "provost" comes from Medieval German, and it meant "jailer." It evolved in the 19th Century to mean "chief academic officer" of a university. He didn't know how to reconcile that, but it's something he learned after he got the job. He realizes that if one comes on like a jailer, they have no authority, and that authority only comes from the quality of one's ability to persuade people that their ideas have merit, and to listen to people and validate their meritorious ideas.

He enjoys the job and was in it almost three years. This Chancellor was an absolute joy to work with and was highly supportive. They flow back and forth between each other's offices coordinating with each other, bouncing ideas off each other, and asking each other's assistance, on fundamental issues regarding personnel, policy, and budget. Were he not working for a Chancellor who was as supportive, as well as exciting and filled with ideas as he was, he would not enjoy this job and it would be overwhelming.

Mr. Breslauer said he's been at Berkeley for 38 years. This was where his first job was, back in 1971. He worked his way up the professoriat, became department chair, and then a dean, and now, Provost. So he's

had a career there where he wakes up every morning and pinches himself to make sure he was living something real, rather than just a dream. If he had it to do all over again, he wouldn't do anything differently.

Mr. Breslauer said he grew up in New York and got all his higher education at the University of Michigan, from Bachelors through PhD. "Go Blue!" And then he came out here for his first job, and never looked back.

Talk by Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost George Breslauer (cont'd)

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Mr. Breslauer said he was asked about the budget. It's a moving target, and a cause for deep sighs. At present the budgetary hole they have to fill is \$67.2 million, which was hugely daunting; and there will be pain felt in many quarters. But hard choices had to be made because they don't have the option of not filling the hole. That hole will get bigger if, in May, the people of California do not pass the ballot measures that would have to be passed in order to fulfill the budget that the State passed. If those measures are not passed, then there will be billions of additional dollars that the Governor will have to find through cuts or otherwise. That would mean that in the fall, the \$67.2 could balloon to \$75-80 million. So they had to make a lot of hard choices.

Mr. Breslauer said the source of the budget hole the University faced was caused by cuts from the State that current year. The other half was the accretion over time of unfounded obligations and mandates. Things that 20 years ago the State simply funded for the University, like the PG&E bill, has sort of, bit by bit, been withdrawn. So for that coming year, the campus had to cover a PG&E bill that will be \$12 million. That past year it was \$10 million, but rates keep going up.

Mr. Breslauer said they're committed to greening the campus and they're working hard on that front. They anticipate over time that they'll be able to drive down the PG&E bill through conservation measures. But in the meantime, they have to keep the lights and the computers on.

The situation was similar for faculty merit payments. On average, every three years faculty come up for an evaluation of how much they've accomplished in that three-year period, and if they've done well, they get a merit increase, usually somewhere between 4-6% every three years. These merit increases used to be funded by the State, and now the State has told the campuses to pay for them. The State will negotiate a contract to increase the pay of staff, has happened recently with AFSCME, and as will happen shortly with CUE and UPTE. And whatever that is, the money wasn't there from the State to pay for it. So campuses had to pay for it. Health and medical benefits are under-funded by \$5.6 million. The network funding model for the technology infrastructure of the campus is under-funded by \$3 million. It all added up to the \$67 million. So even if the State was to cut less, the campus would still have that \$67 million in under- obligations that it would have to find a way to meet.

Mr. Breslauer said their current strategy was based upon several principles. One was that there had to be a combination in equal measure of revenue enhancements and cost savings. Another principle was that the undergraduate curriculum would not be sacrificed in this budget cutting exercise. They bring the students there *en masse* and they're not going to cut what is called "the Temporary Academic Staffing Budget," which pays for GSIs, in order to help balance the budget. In fact, he's told the Dean that what he gave the Dean last year as his contribution to his Temporary Academic Staffing budget, he'd give him this year as a floor. And then they'd start to negotiate up from there. So as opposed to many other areas of the budget in which units were being told to expect an 8% cut, in the area of the undergraduate curriculum, they can expect an increase. That was based upon a principle they embraced early on, that there had to be some things they'd treat as somewhat sacrosanct.

Mr. Breslauer said they're about to announce to the campus a number of measures that will hopefully save considerable funds. In the way of a staff hiring freeze, it's an incentive program for staff to reduce their work, that is to say, their pay, by 5% or more, at their election. It was voluntary. If it was 5%, they could take one day a month as a three-day weekend. It's like a forced vacation, but without pay. They retain all benefit rights. The campus also has a retirement incentive program for faculty. And they're looking into a variety of other measures for reducing the cost of the workforce. Essentially, when they get \$500

Talk by Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost George Breslauer (cont'd)

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million from the State each year, or this year, probably closer to \$450 million, the vast majority of that goes towards paying the salaries of faculty and career staff. They have 1,500 faculty and 6,000 career staff. That eats up most of what the State gives them. When the State cuts back, they can't fire faculty, and can only slow down the hiring of faculty. The bulk of the short-term pain is felt by staff. That's traditionally been the case. It's not as if they have all that many alternative options.

Mr. Breslauer said they're also working in the near term towards trying to balance the budget through a combination of revenue enhancements. It will entail tuition increases, or what are euphemistically called "fee increases," and they'll also include refreshing the business models of the Auxiliaries on campus in order to lead them to them to raise more money on their own, with the campus to take a tax on the amount the Auxiliaries raise. This year, it was 4%, and next year it will go up to 6%. That was another way to help balance the budget.

They also realize that in the medium term, they have to reorganize the way they work so that down the line they're a less expensive operation, and can therefore cope with these cuts more easily. It's not the kind of thing they could do overnight, but they have some fabulously talented people working in California Hall and elsewhere. Several of them were out of industry and they just "know." One example was Nathan Brostrom, who the GA has probably met. Another was Frank Yeari, who they may have met or read about; or Shel Waggener, in charge of the campus IT enterprise. All of them were out of private industry and really understood management and organization. They're working with the campus on plans for a medium-term restructuring of the Human Resources operation, of the IT operation, and of various other aspects of the campus' administrative enterprise. They anticipate a variety of measures along those lines. It will take six years to realize it in full. But they think that in six years, they could have this administrative operation saving \$45-60 million a year relative to what it costs today. So that's what they're working on.

Mr. Breslauer said he hasn't mentioned graduate students as yet, or graduate student fellowships. The campus has no current plans to slash graduate student fellowships. But graduate students are going to feel a little more pain just given the decline in the amount of money available for things. So if there is, e.g., an average cut of 4-6% in a lot of budgets, the Graduate Division will probably feel some of that pain. Whether it will feel the full 4-6%, he couldn't say yet. This was such a moving target that the campus didn't as yet know. For example, they don't know what kinds of measures the campus will be allowed to take to save money that will help balance the budget, because some of those measures require Regental approval, and that won't happen until May. So a lot of things were a couple of months off before they knew the fullness of what they could and could not do.

One example was faculty and staff furloughs. People may have read about them in private industry, and they were in the newspapers all the time. Obama alluded to them in his inaugural address when he praised workers who were willing to take a cut in their pay so their co-workers would not have to be laid

off. That's the spirit of furloughs, with any faculty and staff, including administrators, all the way up to the Chancellor, taking a 2-3% de facto pay cut. It's not a pay cut, but an earnings reduction, by taking six unpaid vacation days a year. And furloughs would be mandatory. The OP is currently exploring that issue. Mr. Breslauer said he thought it was the most humane approach to take, because it would reduce the need to engage in layoffs. And it's also the most rationale because layoffs lead to less service for undergraduates, grads, faculty, everybody. So he was hoping to get legal approval of furloughs. But they won't know for a couple of months.

Mr. Breslauer said he would leave things at that and would engage in conversation.

Talk by Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost George Breslauer (cont'd)

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Mr. Rabkin said the Computer Science Department has recently discontinued a practice of hiring undergraduates as new GSIs. He asked if there's been any policy change at the Chancellor's level about undergraduate GSIs. Mr. Breslauer said he could guess at what might be happening, but there's been no directive sent down to hire fewer undergraduate GSIs. It may have something to do with the extension of the fee remission policy to undergraduates.

A Delegate said he understood that GSIs and fellowships come out at the department level. He asked about departments having to make choices to scale back on, say, graduate fellowships or GSIs, and asked if that was a separate budget, and how that worked. Mr. Breslauer said the Temporary Academic Staffing (TAS) budget, for the most part, is used for GSIs and visiting lecturers. The Graduate Division gives a block grant to departments that is supposed to be used for fellowships. These block grant typically go more towards incoming students, helping to recruit new graduate students. On top of those two buckets is whatever the department and the dean can contribute to GSIs and other expenditures that are of concern to graduate students. If a department or a dean is experiencing a cut, the campus doesn't tell them where to take the cut from. So it's a local choice as to how the department will prioritize, and where that cut comes from. It would not be a directive from his office. So they're likely to get a variegated landscape. Some departments may cut back on GSIs and others may cut back on other things instead. And there are a variety of strategies among departments with respect to graduate students. One department, e.g., won't admit any more graduate students than they can afford to offer five-year packages. As a result, that department has scaled back the number of graduate students, and those particular departments go for quality over quantity. People might say they're going to put all their funds towards recruiting the very best, even if that meant they'd take seven students this year instead of the 12 that they used to take, or 30 instead of 35. But those are all local decisions.

A Delegate said that it was mentioned that the campus didn't want to affect undergraduate education, and he thought that was a good choice. Part of that was not wanting to cut the number of GSI positions or the number of faculty positions. But he thought that spoke to pay scale. So GSI and GSR pay scales may be reduced. Mr. Breslauer said that GSIs are under Union contract, so the campus didn't have the right to unilaterally reduce their pay. He asked if GSRs were unionized. Mr. Rabkin said they weren't, and didn't think it was equal across departments. Mr. Breslauer asked if that was with respect to pay. Mr. Rabkin said it was. Mr. Breslauer said there are different levels of GSRs, so a professor could hire a grad at GSR step 3, while another might appoint them to GSR step 1. He didn't know what governed the individual decisions. Last year, in the first wave budget cuts that were applied to this current year, they allocated a disproportionate cut to the non-academic side of the house. So administration, IT, HR, all of those areas that are not per se either deans, departments, or research, got a 20% greater cut than did the academic side of the house. And this year, when it comes to the hiring freeze, his office will be in charge of approving exceptions to the freeze on hiring staff. They're assigning top priority for exceptions that would avoid any damage to teaching and research programs. That didn't mean all exceptions on the academic side of

the house will be approved, but it did mean that if it could be demonstrated that not replacing someone who left would hurt teaching and research programs, that would be the most powerful argument that could be made. A lot of people in Parking or whatever are not going to be able to make that argument.

Mr. Rheume asked if he could comment, in this period of economic hardship, on the future of the tenure system and whether it was too expensive and whether it was sustainable in the long run. Mr. Breslauer said that was almost a philosophical question because it's unfathomable. In the United States today they face a sort of populist surge that questions a lot of assumptions about higher education. It can sometimes be fairly mindless. He'd give the latest example. In the federal stimulus package, at the insistence of the

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Senate, all money was removed from the House bill that was targeted for capital construction on college campuses. And it was removed because the Senators questioned why colleges and universities, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and Stanford, with such large endowments, the schools didn't spend from the endowments. Somehow nobody got to them and said that there are hundreds of colleges and universities that don't have big endowments that desperately need capital construction money.

That kind of populism manifests itself in many different ways. It manifests itself in public attacks on universities for being bastions of left-wing indoctrination and in images of professors not knowing how to teach, teaching terribly, and not caring if students learn. So then you get the Secretary of Education calling for standardized testing of freshmen and seniors to see how much value added their education was. Unfortunately, his alma mater, the University of Michigan, bought into that. At Berkeley they, on principle, said they wouldn't give in to this and wouldn't have anything to do with it. UofM bought into it and discovered that when they tested a representative sample of freshmen with the standardized test that was given to them, and then tested seniors, and compared them, they found that four years at the University of Michigan subtracted value. The populist surge also included questioning of the tenure system. But he was impressed by how little traction that actually gets. So if he projected out over the next 20 years, he would not anticipate an end to the tenure system.

What he thought was a greater trend that was not being imposed on them directly, but indirectly, through the economics of the situation, was the hiring of fewer and fewer professors, and their replacement with more and more itinerant lecturers, simply because of the economics. Cal was not going to do that in any large scale. But one way to cope with this economic downturn was how many faculty they hire. Last year, 07-08 they issued authorization for 131 searches for new faculty. They had a very high yield rate, and only 30 failed and over 80 succeeded. The other 17 or 18 were still in negotiation. That is a higher success rate than usual. The single most consequential budgetary decision made each year was how many new faculty to hire. Because not only do they cost salaries, but in the sciences, they cost anywhere from \$500,000 to \$2 million in start-up money for laboratory renovation, equipment purchases, and so on. To get somebody started in the arts, humanities, and social sciences, it was closer to \$3-400,000 on average for start-up packages. This year they only authorized 25 searches for new faculty compared to 131 last year. They'll continue with 25 next year, which will probably drift up to 30 or so, as departments come in and say they're desperate. So in the near term, to sustain the undergraduate curriculum, they'll have to hire more lecturers to fill those holes in the faculty.

Mr. Breslauer said they don't know as yet whether, historically speaking, this was more like 1982 or more like 1932, and whether they'll come out of it in two or three years or in eight or nine years. Economists he's heard speak say it looked like a four- to five-year affair. Mr. Breslauer said he's been there for 38 years, and he's seen how it goes in cycles. But of all the cycles they've faced, this looked like a deeper

one and one that was likely to be longer than the previous cycles. At the same time, he was really quite optimistic in the longer term. Of course, current grads wouldn't be here. And he wasn't saying that in the long term, they're all dead. But he thought that when they come out of this in four or five years, they're going to be a stronger institution because they're going to be leaner and meaner, from an administrative standpoint. They'll have defined their priorities and concentrated their resources on them, and they will have raised one hell of a lot of money in four or five years. They'll complete a \$3 billion capital campaign. Mr. Breslauer said he'd been there a decade and never even knew they had a Development Office. And indeed, most people didn't know they had one until the mid 1980s, when the campus decided the State disinvesting, that they better learn how to raise money. They didn't even know addresses for their alumni in any significant numbers. So they launched a campaign in the mid-80s that raised \$400

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million. And then they launched another campaign in the 1990s that raised \$1.4 billion. And now they've launched a campaign that was aiming for \$3 billion. No University that doesn't have a medical school, such as Cal, has ever aspired to that large a number. They toyed with the idea of aiming at \$3.141592 billion, with the tagline being, "Get your piece of the Pi." But then they thought that might sound frivolous, and this was too serious.

When UCLA raises \$4 billion, about \$2 billion is raised by their medical center. It's easy for medical centers to raise money because who could argue against that; and they get a lot of bequests from very grateful patients they've kept alive. But Cal didn't have that, so they're going for \$3 billion, without a medical center. Mr. Breslauer said he thought that was pretty audacious; but they'll get there. That also fed into his optimism about the medium term. In four or five years they'll come out of this, and they'll be stronger. In the meantime, there will be pain.

Mr. Breslauer said he's been Provost for less than three years. Provosts usually drop from fatigue after about eight years. It saddens him and the Chancellor both a bit that they'll have to spend most of the rest of their term engaging in damage control rather than pursuing dreams. But dreams will come, along the way. The Hewlett Foundation match, of \$113 million, was phenomenal, and there will be more things like that coming down the pike. But the short-term pain will not be comfortable for any of them. And he would rather be a builder than a damage controller. But when one loves an institution, damage control was noble as well. So that's what he'll be doing for the next four or five years, seizing opportunities, trying to create opportunities, and trying to control damage, from a force out there that was bigger than all of them. This global recession is not like the one- to two-year affairs, or even three-year affairs that they have faced in the past. This was going deep. But if Warren Buffett says they'll come out of it, then they will.

Ms. Parrish said she had a question about how the faculty in Economics or decision sciences were involved in the current processes of sort of leading the University. Mr. Breslauer said they are in constant communication with CAPRA, a Committee of the Academic Senate that is chaired by an economist, John Ellwood, a politics economist, who is a specialist on budgets. Behavioral economics is an interesting subfield and basically was about the psychology of real economic behavior as opposed to modeling expected economic behavior on the basis of rational choice assumptions. They instead ask how, in the real world, people actually behave, not how they should behave if assumptions were correct. The leader on this campus on behavioral economics, who is a towering figure in that subfield, got into behavioral economics in an untraditional manner when he realized that he had \$25,000 in a non-interest bearing account. That just defied all rationality. So he started studying the behavioral economics of procrastination. Mr. Breslauer said he would suppose they could invite behavioral economists in to watch administrators, but they have

some pretty good budgeters in California Hall, people who are not professors like himself, but who had real world experience.

A Delegate asked if there were plans to reduce course offerings. Mr. Breslauer said that maintaining a robust undergraduate curriculum hopefully will mean that wouldn't happen. However, there are all kinds of different ways to calculate "robustness." It could be the total number of students who get into classes. So if they had a larger number of very large classes, they could satisfy that criteria without necessarily having a larger total number of classes. There are no systematic plans to either reduce or enlarge the number of classes that are offered because that's a product of so many local decisions, and those local decisions are a product of both the amount of money they have available for the purpose and the leave patterns of the faculty. Faculty are allowed to take sabbaticals after they acquire a certain number of

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credits. Faculty who receive an outside grant giving them leave without salary have generally been told that they cannot take it. Columbia University, he learned that day, has canceled all course relief from faculty. That meant that if a person has been directing an institute and getting two courses off from teaching because of all the time it took to direct that institute, that person will be told to continue to direct the institute and teach full-time. So there are lots of things going on. The campus has tried to not be Draconian in this regard and to try more positive incentives. An example was one department chair who told faculty they had to talk about their leave patterns to make sure that enough of them were in town to make sure everything was covered that they needed to offer. He appealed for staggered leaves, and for faculty to not take them even when they were eligible, in order to maximize the amount of faculty available to teach the curriculum.

Mr. Breslauer said he'd give an example of a non-Draconian action he took. He didn't forward it to all the deans because he figured it might just fall off their e-mail radar screen, so he Xeroxed it and handed it out to every dean. They meet every two weeks as the Council of Deans, and he handed it out to each one, and said why don't they talk to their department chairs about the spirit of what was happening in Material Science and Engineering. He didn't know what has resulted from that. One doesn't give too many directives and instead, counts on inducing people to engage in certain patterns of behavior and hopes that it cascades down.

A Delegate said it was Mind and Body Awareness Week. PE classes were being cut by 50%. She asked the rationale behind that because the budget impacts were very small, as opposed to the number of students who are affected. Mr. Breslauer said they're going to have to do a lot of little things like that. The other day he made a list just for purposes of brainstorming of 30 analogous measures that would add up to \$4.8 million, measures they may have to engage in if they don't get furloughs. In the case of the Physical Education program, they could the question around. What they sustained were introductory classes. These are classes that give kids who previously may have come from backgrounds at which they didn't give access to Phys.Ed. classes the opportunity to enter that world and perhaps spark an interest and a habit that they then take to the Recreational Sports Facility to follow-up on the courses. What was eliminated were basically the advanced PE courses. That money will be used to open up more sections in science classes. It's a trade-off, and it's not something the campus did with pleasure, he could assure them.

Mr. Saxena said they've talked a lot about undergraduate education. This was the Graduate Assembly, and he asked what Mr. Breslauer had to say about graduate education. Mr. Breslauer said he'd be interested in people's thoughts about that. His impression from 38 years of being a professor was that professors love to teach graduate seminars. So there will be a natural pressure coming from them to keep

teaching those seminars. Indeed, one university back east has told its professors they had to teach fewer graduate seminars and more undergraduate courses in order to sustain the undergraduate curriculum. So if they had a four-course teaching responsibility and were doing two-and-two, they would have to do one-and-three. Cal was not doing that, and to the extent that they're not doing anything directive in that regard, his assumption was that professorial preference will protect the availability of graduate courses. It's a very, very big landscape that was this University. People might find pockets of disappointment in that particular regard. But he'd bet that the overwhelming weight will be in the other direction.

Mr. Rajan said that given that they were mostly a State-funded University competing against better funded private peers, he asked which competitive edge at Berkeley will be most affected by these budget cuts. Mr. Breslauer said he wasn't willing to conceive any loss of competition edge. Cal can go toe to toe

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with Harvard, Stanford, Princeton, Yale, Chicago, MIT, and Cal Tech, and win some and lose some. But they win 70% of the time. He thought that was pretty darned good when they think of the sheer number of competitors they have. The reason these specific cuts are not likely to lose them their competitive edge was because the other schools were hurting as well, and hurting big time. Their endowments are down 25-40% and might continue to go south. And they don't have a State subsidy. So the privates rely entirely on tuition and endowment yield. Tuition was so high already and they couldn't just raise it \$10,000 a year. Some of these schools are already ruing the day they made particular promises as their endowments have since collapsed. When their endowments were bloating, such as Harvard's, which was up to \$36 billion, they made increased commitments to their faculty that they'd build a new campus or a new building. That was as opposed to the approach Pres. Putin of Russia made, who put away about one-third of all oil money that came in when it was \$140 a barrel, smart on his part. Mr. Breslauer said he didn't think Cal's competitors did that. So they're hurting to the point that while they're continuing to recruit, his bet was that the number of faculty raised was going to be way down.

Mr. Rabkin said that it was mentioned that priorities were being set by the campus, and he asked how transparent that process was, and if, in two or three years, there will be a list of departments that had higher priorities with others less so. He asked how explicit that would be. Mr. Breslauer said they work with the Academic Senate, the Divisional Council, CAPRA, dealing with budget and planning, and present to them the campus' plans, for them to criticize. They have changed some of their plans in response to that criticism, but they don't do what the Academic Senate would probably want them to do, and tell them how to cut \$67.2 million. People were in these positions because they're supposed to make hard choices. That wasn't the same as him saying "trust me." They are transparent with the Academic Senate. In fact that brainstorming list that he just alluded to was just for discussion between him and the Chancellor. If it came to lists of things they're going to have to cut, he'd present that list to the leadership of the Academic Senate and ask for them to give Senate feedback. They know what the score is and know the campus didn't have the luxury of simply trying to ride this out and pretend they didn't have to cut. But he and the Chancellor were pretty much agreed they're not going to eliminate departments, schools, and colleges, even if they had the power to do that, which they don't. They're only part of that process.

Mr. Breslauer said they have a commitment to what they call "comprehensive excellence," and what he would prefer to call "breadth and depth." That meant that they have greatness. Somebody comes to Berkeley in Business Administration and finds themselves talking to people in Law, Engineering, Social Sciences and the Humanities. And there are relatively few major research universities across the country that have the degree of breadth and excellence that Cal has. Some don't have a law school, some don't

have a business school, or an engineering school. And Cal has them all. And that made for a very exciting intellectual environment for the people who come there, both for graduate students and professors. It allows for all kinds of collaborative possibilities, whether formal or just the interchange of ideas. So the campus will sustain that. And then the kinds of things where they would likely see cuts are whether a particular deanship really justify its existence, or whether they had to retain that deanship. Or whether an Organized Research Unit really needed as much money from the campus as it's been getting. They'll probably have to make some choices on the ORU front. Those include research centers and institutes.

At the moment they're not talking about eliminating any ORUs, but they are talking about rationalizing their administration by having their back-office functions, particularly their budgetary functions, increasingly performed by a centralized grants and contracts administration unit. That would reduce the costs of staffing grants and contracts, which is now distributed all around campus. There are dozens of ORUs

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ORUs that have their own budget officers, HR officers, and people doing grants and contracts. And that was awfully expensive when all the costs were added up. Centralized administration would not only be less costly, but more reliable. It wouldn't be centralized at the top of the campus, but along regional centers. They'd be more reliable because people wouldn't be counting on the weakest link. Grants and contracts administration is a very big deal. Last year the campus received \$600 million in grants and contracts, and they receive at least \$500 million every year. Units are responsible for administering the use of that money and making sure it's not used sloppily, and that it's not unaccounted for. They just had to pay, as a result of behavior that occurred a decade ago, a \$2.2 million fine to the Office of Naval Research for sloppy accounting of research dollars. So it's a very big deal, and that's where the campus will try and rationalize more centralized administration, in order to capture savings that he'd suggest, down the line, would save \$45-60 million.

Mr. Daal said speaking time had expired.

A Delegate said she had a quick comment she would like the Provost to take away. With budget cuts and staff reductions, especially in areas of student and academic support services, often the burden of an individual staffmember falls on graduate students and GSIs. She was already observing her co-workers, acting as GSIs, doing jobs that formally fell to staff support. They're not receiving increases in pay, and they're simply being asked to do more. Many of them don't know any better and just assume this was their responsibility as a part of their GSI assignment. This was just something for the Provost to take away, that this was already happening in what she would consider a well-funded department.

Mr. Breslauer said he couldn't direct or predict the behavior of any individuals down in the trenches, but what the campus was trying to do was reduce the reporting workload on departmental staff. That would be done by automating some activities that previously had to be done by hand and by eliminating some activities that previously had to be done. That would be combined, in the academic realm, with sharply reducing the pace of faculty hiring. When they search for, say, 100 faculty, that meant that 400-500 candidates come out to be interviewed. And staff of departments coordinate all those logistics, and all the reporting requirements. With far fewer searches these years, there will be less work on that front as well. And they're doing other things to reduce formal reporting requirements. Most dramatically, course evaluations. These wouldn't be for GSIs, since the Union has a position on that, but course evaluations for faculty. They are no longer requiring that departmental staff type up the comments that students write on their course evaluation forms. That took an enormous number of staff hours. For purposes of evalua-

tion at the higher levels of a professor's merit increase case, they'll just take the numbers. If the numbers were problematic, then they'd want reportage on the written comments; but not otherwise. His home Department, Political Science, processes 14,000 student evaluation forms every year, by hand.

The Delegate said she taught a small class and wasn't asking him to defend anything. She was just saying it was already happening. And she was sure it wasn't in just one department. So when he had discussions with deans, she would ask him to please remind them that if they have staff decreases, the expectation should not be that GSIs or GSRs should automatically assume that burden.

Mr. Daal said speaking time had expired. Unless there was a motion to extend time, and thus the meeting, they should thank the speaker. Mr. Rheume moved to extend by two minutes. The motion was seconded and passed by hand-vote 23-12-0.

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Online Course Evaluation Update

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Mr. Rheume said he had a quick question. Continuing the theme of competitiveness, and addressing the burden of typing up course evaluations. He was wondering why, if Harvard, Yale, MIT, Stanford, University of Michigan, and UVA, all put course evaluations online and made them accessible to students, why UC Berkeley couldn't compete in that respect. Mr. Breslauer said there were two separate parts to that question, each of which had several subsections. He received that day a report of a task force looking at online student course evaluations. He hasn't had a chance to read it. They set up that task force too long ago and it's taken forever. But he finally forced closure and got a report. He didn't know yet what the task force recommended, but he has been a great advocate of going online. There were separate issues, such as whether that would be accompanied by making the course evaluation results personalized, and include what was said about a professor, or what scores particular professors got in courses. Another issue was whether to make the evaluations accessible to all students, which would probably would mean they'd be available to anybody who wanted to see them. Those were separable issues; and they've come to grips with the first, about the desirability of going online. He wanted to now find out what it would take. They have not addressed the second. There is a fear, as well as a tendency nationally, that when they go online with course evaluations, the rate of student participation in the exercise plummets. So they have to ask themselves if there were any easy ways to prevent that from plummeting. And if there were no easy ways, they have to ask whether they'd be willing to live with a lower response rate. The campus was working on it.

Mr. Daal said speaking time had expired. He wanted to thank the speaker. (Applause)

REPORTS

Mr. Daal said reports have been posted online. He hoped people had time to review them. They had to approve the Funding Committee's report, approving the money that student groups have requested.

Reporting for the Funding Committee, Mr. Podesta said that Grants Round 4 had a global cut of about 40%. Grad Events had a global cut of about 50%. There was a record-setting number of applications,

with 92. They usually have about half that. All things considered, they had about a 54% cut. That was low compared to what they were looking at.

A motion to approve the funding report was made and seconded. THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE REPORT FROM THE FUNDING COMMITTEE, APPROVING GRANTS, ROUND 4, \$11,216.68, AND GRADUATE EVENTS, ROUND 5, \$25,292.07, PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE-VOTE.

Online Course Evaluation Update

Mr. Daal said this was in response to the GA's Resolution on a directed action passed in December, he believed. There wasn't much to report. They have been in pursuit of a meeting with the Chair of that Committee, which the Provost just spoke about, to ask if its charge could be broadened to include putting the course evaluation statistics online, making available to students online the information collected by course evaluations. They have not received a response from the Chair yet, but Mr. Daal said he just

Online Course Evaluation Update (cont'd) Reports/Announcements

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learned that the course evaluation task force seemed to be coming to a close and finishing its task. Maybe that's why they didn't receive a response from the Chair. Mr. Daal said he'll look into that and report back next month.

Mr. Rheaume asked if the student body should try to do anything to help this issue move along, such as writing a letter to the editor for instance. He would like to ask his fellow Delegates if there was any action to be taken to bring attention to this issue.

Mr. Rabkin said his guess was that the answer was that there wasn't, because people on the task force were almost totally shielded from public opinion. They're faculty and mid-level administrators, not interested in what the Daily Cal had to say. He wouldn't think the Daily Cal would have an impact. Yelling at the Provost might be plausible because he might be able to do something, since it was his task force. But the Daily Cal was helpless. Mr. Daal said that if people were interested in finding a solution, they'd talk.

Reports/Announcements

Mr. Daal said he would like to make a couple of brief reports/announcements. He would like to draw attention to their Delegate feedback forms and ask them to please, please fill them out. They're very important to the GA. This time they included a nice little table to fill out about their student service priorities. The GA would really like to know about that. Also, he would like to draw their attention to question #5, about the budget memo. The Provost just underscored the severity of the budget crisis they're in. Last year the GA wrote a very successful, well-received budget memo, and they're planning to do that again this year. He would encourage Delegates to be involved in writing it. He had 20 copies of the memo they sent last year.

Ms. Parrish asked how they wanted to handle that, and if there would be a big meeting of people, or if he wanted people to send him blogs. Mr. Daal said he thought it would start with a meeting and then they'd

decide what amount of blurbs and deliberations they'd like to include. They will also comment on the Graduate Division's budget as well, at the invitation of Dean Szery.

Mr. Daal said he wanted to pass out something else. They already saw the certificate from the UCSA that they passed around. The GA also got a very positive response from the Administration about the graduate student endowment the GA set up. The Assembly voted unanimously last May to appropriate \$25,000 toward a graduate support endowment. That was matched by the Chancellor and executed in December. The Chancellor sent them a thank you letter, as did the Dean of the Graduate Division, Dean Szery, who was in attendance that evening, and also from Vice Chancellor Bidy, of University Relations, essentially the Vice Chancellor of fundraising. Mr. Daal said he would pass the letters around.

Lastly, Mr. Daal said he wanted to point out that there will be a Panda Express forum in the Senate Chamber that evening at 8 o'clock. So the GA really needed to finish the business it had by that time. They have elections coming. The restaurant was proposing to come to the campus, and there's controversy. So there will be a forum about it with a Panda Express representative in the room, at 8:00.

Mr. Daal called for any questions about people's reports.

Resolution Referrals

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A Delegate asked where they could find results of the survey for funding priority, and asked if feedback forms were public. Mr. Daal said they've never made them public, but they could if people would like. Typing them out was kind of a problem, as far as having staff do that. But people were welcome to come in to the GA and read them. They sit in a box and were open to the public. People could review them if they'd like.

RESOLUTION REFERRALS

Mr. Daal said that without objection, he would refer 0903a to the Rules Committee and the Budget Committee, Directed Action and Standing Policy Regarding Commercial Activity Revenue Sharing between the ASUC and the GA.

With no objection, 0903b, was referred to the Rules Committee and the Budget Committee, Resolution to Share Expenses between the ASUC and the Graduate Assembly. Mr. Rabkin asked if Campus Affairs should get a crack at some of these. Mr. Daal asked if that was an objection. Mr. Rabkin said it was. He asked if anybody wanted to write a report on the Resolutions. Seeing no interest, he withdrew his objection.

Mr. Daal referred Resolution 0903c to the Rules Committee, the Technology Committee, and the Budget Committee, Resolution to Amend GA By-laws to Create a Technology Chair Designate Position.

Mr. Rajan said he would withdraw Resolution 0903d.

Mr. Daal referred Resolution 0903e to the Campus Affairs Committee and the External Affairs Committee, Standing Policy and Directed Action In Support of the 6th Public Hearing on Campus Climate: "Make the New Vision of Hope Real at UC Berkeley: Make UCB a Diverse, Integrated, and Affordable

Sanctuary Campus.”. Mr. Rabkin said the Rules Committee wanted the bill as well. Mr. Daal said he would add that referral.

Mr. Daal referred Resolution 0903f to the External Affairs Committee, Standing Policy and Directed Action In Support of Justice for Oscar Grant.

Mr. Daal referred Resolution 09-03g, the one they added to replace, 0903d, to the Rules Committee and the Environmental Sustainability Committee, Resolution to Amend the GA Budget to Allow the Investment of the GA Reserves into a Fund Functioning as an Endowment Administered by the UC Berkeley Foundation, to Make an Endowment Gift to UC Berkeley and Invest In an Endowment Administered by the California Alumni Association. Mr. Rajan asked if it could also be referred back to the Budget Committee.

Mr. Rajan said he would make a quick plug for this Resolution, 0903g. This was the endowment Resolution, or the Resolution to invest in the endowment, or various combinations. It was basically a grant Resolution that will take time. It was mostly an authorization. The Budget Subcommittee of the Budget Committee will hold an open house for anybody who was interested in this. They had a lot of charts and numbers for people. People should watch their e-mails for that, and the open house will probably be in mid-March.

GA Elections, 2009-10

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Mr. Daal said he would refer 0903g to the ES Committee and the Budget Committee.

GA ELECTIONS FOR 2009-10

Mr. Daal said that for each office, nominations will be opened and then ended when there are no other nominations. At the end of the nomination period, nominees will be invited to make a short speech if they'd like. At the end of those speeches, nominees will leave the room and Delegates will deliberate and elect the new Officer. Without objection, if a position was unopposed, the Assembly wouldn't vote on that position. People could nominate themselves. People must accept the nomination in order to be considered.

Mr. Daal said nominations were open for the Funding Committee Chair. Asad Ullah was nominated. Mr. Daal called for any other nominations.

Ms. Anderson asked if he was on the Funding Committee at that time. Mr. Ullah said he was. Mr. Daal said that seeing no further nominations, nominations were closed. He asked if Mr. Ullah would like to make a brief announcement. It would be nice to know his vision.

Mr. Ullah said that one thing he was concerned about was the surveys they do along with their agendas. The one they had a couple of months ago asked Delegates about their priorities and how funding should be allocated. He would like to work on something like that on the Funding Committee. There were a couple of other things that people were concerned about, which the Funding Committee knew about. One was funding for use of student groups and problems, and hopefully, those are things they'll discuss at future meetings.

BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, SAM ULLAH WAS ELECTED FUNDING COMMITTEE CHAIR FOR 2009-10.

Mr. Daal said he would like to thank Mr. Ullah and would like to congratulate him on being elected Funding Committee Chair. (Applause)

Mr. Saxena said that if Mr. Daal could give a quick description of positions' responsibilities, that might be good.

Mr. Daal said the next position up for election was for GA President. As for the responsibilities of the position, the President was responsible, in laymen's terms, for being kind of like the chief quality control officer of the GA, making sure everything got done and was done well. The President has a vision-generating function and a vision-pursuit-type function. The President helps the Officers do their jobs. The President was kind of like the public face of the Assembly and was the default contact person for the Assembly. The President also attends a lot of meetings. He would say that the job, if left unchecked, would take 40 hours a week. People have to be very, very good at time management, and in fact, this week for him was a 40-hour week. There are a lot of meetings. And there was a lot of writing involved, at least 10-pages of documents that were not e-mails. He has about 10,000 e-mails since July in his inbox, for the President.

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Mr. Daal said nominations for the position of President were open, and he would give the chair to Ms. Abel at that point. With Ms. Abel chairing the meeting, Mr. Daal was nominated. Ms. Abel called for any objection to nominations. A Delegate nominated Mr. Rajan, who respectfully declined. Seeing no other nominations, Ms. Abel said nominations were closed.

BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, MIGUEL DAAL WAS RE-ELECTED GA PRESIDENT FOR 2009-10.

Ms. Abel asked if he would like share his vision. Mr. Daal said he wanted to work next year on re-envisioning the mission of the GA so that they know where to focus their resources and how to measure their success. He wanted to enhance their engagement with their graduate student constituents because he felt that not enough of them knew who the GA was and what the GA did for them, or knew how the GA could help them. Lastly, the Lower Sproul project was presumably going to go to referendum next year. This was a huge project, and the work for a new student center complex, four buildings, will cost about \$400 million. The GA has been in a very strong leadership position for the project thus far and it will be a priority next year to make sure it goes well and to make sure students were interested, since they'll end up paying for most of the project. (Applause)

With Mr. Daal chairing the meeting, he said the next position up for election was the Campus Affairs Vice President.

Ms. Abel said the position was responsible for three things. The position works on the GA's Faculty Mentor Awards, which they're going through at that time, 56 nominations. The Campus Affairs Committee will select the winners. The position was also responsible for placing all graduate representatives to campus committees. Hopefully they'll do that a little differently next year, with more communication. After getting grad students on committees, the position then had to make sure about the feedback those

students give. The third responsibility was to run the Campus Affairs Committee, which did a lot of analyzing of Resolutions. They get most of them, although not that evening.

Mr. Daal called for nominations for Campus Affairs Vice President. Mr. Wolgin nominated Ms. Abel. Mr. Daal called for any other nominations, and seeing none, said nominations were closed.

BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, TRIFFID ABEL WAS RE-ELECTED CAMPUS AFFAIRS VICE PRESIDENT FOR 2009-10. (Applause)

Ms. Abel said this next year they'll start hunting for campus committee representatives earlier so that grads could be involved deciding when committees will meet. Her vision was for people who are Delegates this year and want to continue next year to get involved earlier, or for the GA to reach out to departments earlier and find the Delegates who were interested.

Mr. Daal said they'd move on to the election of the External Affairs Vice President. He called for a description of the job.

Mr. Ortega said the External Affairs VP represents graduate students in anything that affects graduate students linking outside of the University from the community local community, State, to the federal level. What he envisioned was is to be more involved in working with a lot of administrators in

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advancing how grads are affected by policy and helping advance grads' interests, at all levels of government. Also, there's a big accountable of working with the UCSA, coordinating a lot of lobby efforts that the UCSA does, both at the Regental level and at the State level.

Mr. Daal called for nominations for External Affairs VP. Mr. Rajan nominated Mr. Ortega. Mr. Daal called for any other nominations, and hearing none, said nominations were closed.

BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, ALBERTO ORTEGA WAS RE-ELECTED EXTERNAL AFFAIRS VICE PRESIDENT FOR 2009-10. (Applause)

Mr. Ortega said the External Affairs office has done quite a bit in the past year and there were a lot of exciting opportunities for people to get involved, whether a small-time or big-time commitment. There were tons of issues, and if people felt strongly about something and wanted to pursue it, the External Affairs office can help with that, at any level of government.

Mr. Daal said the next position up for election was the Rules Officer. The current Rules Officer wasn't in the room. The Rules Officer makes sure that the GA obeys the By-laws and has duties with funding appeals. The position also had responsibilities outlined in the MOU between the ASUC Senate and the GA. Lastly, the Rules Officer is charged with keeping the By-laws updated, and has a committee to run, the Rules Committee.

Mr. Daal called for nominations. Mr. Rabkin nominated Ms. Anderson. Mr. Wolgin nominated Mr. Rajan, who respectfully declined. Mr. Daal called for any other nomination, and seeing none, said nominations were closed.

BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, MEGHAN ANDERSON WAS ELECTED RULES OFFICER FOR 2009-10. (Applause)

Ms. Anderson said some of them may have noticed the Rules Chair has been inconsistent in the work he's done. He did a ton of work in the fall, but hasn't been to meetings since Winter Break, other than Committee meetings. Ms. Anderson said she planned on being more consistent and doing less than he did in the fall and more than he did in the spring, and not getting paid for any of it. (Applause) Mr. Daal said that in Mr. Armstrong's defense, he's in the job market.

Mr. Daal said the next position up for election was the Budget Officer.

Mr. Rajan said last year he made this speech, and he thought was still true. There were basically two types of Budget Officers, in his view, good ones and great ones. The good ones know high school math, and as for the great ones, he wouldn't really know because he wasn't one yet. He'd like to think he was aspiring towards that. The Budget Officer had to make up the budget for the upcoming year. People could do that in a half-assed manner, and just make the budget from last year and put that back in place, and have the GA muddle through it. No one would blame them for that because it was an enormous task and nobody understood the entire scope of the GA to be able to draw up a budget document. However, there have been a lot of valiant efforts in the past. Mr. Rajan said he was going to try and continue that. And at Ms. Anderson's suggestion, Mr. Rajan said he'll try to write down a good set of procedures that

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were safe, sustainable, and could be followed in the future. The position basically made up a budget for next year and had to know the GA's priorities.

Mr. Rajan nominated himself. Mr. Daal called for any other nominations, and seeing none, said nominations were closed.

BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, NISH RAJAN WAS RE-ELECTED GA BUDGET OFFICER FOR 2009-10. (Applause)

Mr. Rajan said he wanted to point out one thing for any of them who were concerned about having an Executive Board that looked exactly like last year's Board. That was something that would normally concern him. But he wanted to put in a plug for last year's Exec Board. It really came together and they were able to get a lot of good projects started. Unfortunately, one year was just not enough time to get it done. He wasn't saying two years would be either, but he thought all of them so far were very appreciative of this chance the Assembly has given them to get one more year to do what they want to do, and hopefully they'll make the Assembly proud.

Mr. Daal said the next position up for consideration was Project Coordinator Liaison.

Ms. Rivas said the position deals with goals that the GA sustains for more than a one-year period, such as academic inclusion. It basically provides support for graduate students and holds events. The Project Coordinator Liaison also acts as an go-between and a supervisor for the projects. They have seven projects, and the person in the position had to be familiar with each of them. The person holds monthly

meetings for projects, supervises them on their budgets and event-holding skills. The position is an Officer and is on the Exec Board. They also go to Grad Division meetings and meetings with the Vice Chancellor of Equity and Inclusion, as well as other meetings on campus.

Mr. Daal called for nominations. Mr. Ortega nominated Ms. Chavez.

Ms. Parrish asked if Ms. Sasser was coming back. Ms. Rivas said she'll be on research leave.

Mr. Daal said that seeing no other nominations, nominations were closed.

BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, LUCERO CHAVEZ WAS ELECTED PROJECT COORDINATOR LIAISON OFFICER FOR 2009-10. (Applause)

Ms. Chavez said she was Mr. Ortega's Chief-of-Staff that year and did a lot of work externally, working with the UCSA. They have close to 20 associations and she's been supervising a large group of people. Next year she really wanted to focus internally and see what she could do on campus, and for Berkeley students, as opposed to all students. Mr. Daal said that Ms. Chavez didn't mention that she was President of the UCSA.

Mr. Daal said the next position up for consideration was the Environmental Sustainability Chair.

Danny Kramer said the Environmental Sustainability Committee Chair deals with environmental sustainability. It was that open ended.

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A Delegate nominated Mr. Kramer. Mr. Rheume nominated Ms. Berkeley. Ms. Parrish nominated Ms. Hendrin, who respectfully declined. A Delegate nominated Mr. Rabkin, who respectfully declined. Mr. Daal said that seeing no other nominations, nominations were closed. He said they'd hear speeches from the candidates.

Mr. Kramer asked how many people were in attendance at the first GA meeting, when he was sort of thrown into this position. He really loved it. He had a fantastic Committee and they've been working with undergraduate students and at the level of Vice Chancellor and the Chancellor on things ranging from social and environmental responsibility, the University endowment, having more recycle bins, on which they've gotten strained responses from the University. They've also worked on bicycle issues, specifically bicycle parking. They just found out a few days ago that due to, in part, their work, the University has agreed to fulfill the campus Bicycle Committee's request for all the funding units to implement the campus Bicycle Plan's parking section, with several thousand dollars. The Bicycle Committee and a Senator from the ASUC helped to move that through. They're a really good Committee and he would encourage people to join it. There's power there and room for growth. They're still young and were expanding in all sorts of ways.

Ms. Berkeley said that past year she's served on the Grad Council. She wanted to do the Environmental Sustainability Chair last year because she was very interested mean this area, but knew that her coursework would prevent her from actually getting a lot done. But she was done with that now and wanted to move on to dealing with environmental sustainability issues. It was her area of research, and she got a lot of ideas for that. Some things she was thinking of working on was electronic filing of theses, which Brad Froehle has worked on in the past with. She would also like to put course evaluations strictly online,

which would reduce a large paper load. For a project last semester she drafted a letter that was being worked on to increase recycling on campus. There were also other things to work on, like water usage. The campus uses so much energy to use water, essentially, such as with pointless watering of lawns, e.g., and changing that might actually net greater energy savings than other things. So she had a variety of issues.

Mr. Daal said he would like to entertain a motion to extend the meeting by 20 minutes. It was so moved and seconded and passed by voice-vote.

Mr. Daal said he had a question for the candidates, and asked if either was interested in other positions. Mr. Kramer said he wasn't. Ms. Berkeley said she would also serve on the Grad Council again, but primarily wanted to be ES Chair.

Mr. Rajan said he didn't know how to decide between the two candidates. Both speeches were great. He asked if the candidates could say how to choose. Ms. Berkeley said she personally didn't have a record to go from. But she's been kind of chomping at the bit and has been waiting for the opportunity to not have classes in order to work on this. She was eager to get to work on a lot of different things that have been bugging her for the three years she's been there.

Mr. Klein asked if she was on the ES Committee last year. Ms. Berkeley said she wasn't, because she was on the Grad Council and had a very busy semester.

Mr. Kramer said he was always concerned with young organizations like the GA. If they don't have continuity from one year to the next, they have to start all over again. He felt like they've grown, after

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starting all over again at the beginning of the year. Mr. Froehle helped them out a lot at the start, and Ms. Anderson helped them out early on. But he really didn't want to see that happen again. He felt like they were currently on a roll and he thought there was plenty of room for Ms. Berkeley within the Committee to do a whole lot of stuff, and they could use her absolutely.

Mr. Daal asked the candidates to leave the room for a discussion off the record and a vote.

AFTER DISCUSSION AND A VOTE, DANNY KRAMER WAS ELECTED AS ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE CHAIR. (Applause)

Mr. Daal said the next position up for election was interim Grad Council representatives. The GA had two of their three positions drop out of the three Grad Council, so they need to elect two more. This was a two-meeting commitment. They weren't voting for next year's Grad Council representatives, which they'll vote on later.

Mr. Daal asked if somebody could give a brief overview of what the Grad Council does. Ms. Berkeley said GA reps go to Grad Council meetings, which are held once a month, where they discuss various topics relating to departmental reviews and grad student issues. Representatives have a say and a voice.

Ms. Abel asked about the schedule and duration of meetings. Ms. Berkeley said they meet the first Monday of the month, from 2:00 to 4:30.

Ms. Anderson said that as Rules Chair she should know this, and asked if it was possible to simply hold Grad Council elections at that time, since it would make sense to have new people start early, if they could. Mr. Daal said they could do that if there was no objection.

Mr. Daal said that with no objection, they would consider at that time Grad Council representatives for next year as well. They'll elect three principles and one alternate. The alternate attends when a principle couldn't.

Ms. Abel said the meeting time for the Grad Council will be the same next year, so she'd ask people to please not accept a nomination unless they'd be available during meeting times.

Ms. Anderson nominated Ms. Harrison. A Delegate nominated Ms. Ritterman and Mr. deGrassi. Mr. deGrassi said he would do it if nobody else wanted to.

Mr. Daal said the time commitment included monthly Graduate Council meetings and meetings of the Executive Board and its retreats. It was very important that Grad Council representatives help out with the various Executive Board tasks, and there were many.

Ms. Abel said the Exec Board meets once a month, for an hour and a half, and the retreats happen once a semester, for one day. The Exec Board also meets on Thursday evenings.

A Delegate nominated Ms. Berkeley. Mr. Wolgin nominated Mr. Work. A Delegate nominated Mr. Wolgin, who respectfully declined, since he wouldn't be there. Mr. Rajan nominated Ms. Parrish, who respectfully declined. Ms. Parrish said she would be out of there in May.

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Mr. Daal said the top three vote getters would be the principles, and the next would be the alternate.

Mr. Rajan nominated Ms. Hegar, who respectfully declined.

Mr. Daal called for any other nominations for the Graduate Council, and hearing none, said nominations were closed.

Mr. Daal said he would invite Grad Council nominees to make short speeches.

Ms. Abel asked if the people who are elected could work it out among themselves who would be the alternate, rather than deciding on that by who got the least votes. Mr. Daal said that with no objection, they would allow the four nominees to decide who would be the alternate.

Ms. Ritterman asked if she could be the alternate.

BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, THE GA ELECTED AS GRADUATE COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES FOR 2009-10 GWYNETH HARRISON, PAM BERKELEY, DAN WORK, AND MIRANDA RITTERMAN (ALTERNATE).

Mr. Daal said they would address the interim Grad Council issue. Ms. Abel asked if any of them could make it to the next two Grad Council meetings.

Mr. Daal called for nominations for two interim Grad Council, for two meetings for the rest of the semester. Mr. Froehle nominated Ms. Anderson, who respectfully declined. Mr. Wolgin said if it was as alternate, he would do it for interim Grad Council position. Mr. Ritterman said she could also be interim Grad Council representative for the rest of the year.

Mr. Daal said that seeing no other nominations, nominations were closed.

BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, PHIL WOLGIN AND MIRANDA RITTERMAN WERE ELECTED INTERIM GRAD COUNCIL REPS FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR.

Mr. Daal said the next position up for election was for the Technology Chair.

Mr. Rajan nominated Mr. Froehle.

Mr. Froehle said the Technology Committee monitors technological aspects of the GA and poses ways for the GA to use technology to further its mission and to establish content on the GA's Web site and other GA technology.

Mr. Daal said that seeing no other nominations, nominations were closed.

BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT, BRAD FROEHLE WAS ELECTED PROJECT TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE CHAIR FOR 2009-10. (Applause)

Mr. Froehle said that next year he wanted to work on streamlining some of their operations, such as perhaps moving towards online funding applications.

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Mr. Daal said the last position to elect was International Student Affairs Committee Chair.

Mr. deGrassi said the main duties are to be a liaison with the International Office and to work on fees and living conditions. There are about 2-3,000 international grad students, about one-fifth of the grad population. The Committee deals with academic issues and liaising with outside groups. They also have a fall reception.

Mr. Daal called for any nominations for the International Student Affairs Committee Chair.

A Delegate nominated Mr. Saxena. Ms. Ritterman nominated Mr. Briggs.

Seeing no other nominations, Mr. Daal said nominations were closed. He asked the candidates to please make speeches.

Mr. Saxena said he was a relatively new Delegate on the Graduate Assembly but he's already been deeply involved with international students issues on campus. He was an international student himself and knew the burdens of having to pay non-resident tuition. But primarily, his involvement with international students has been in the International House, where he lives, and where he's been a member of the I-House Council for the past two years. He has served as Chair and was currently serving as Communications Director for the I-House. He already had a rather extensive network of graduate international students on

campus having represented the I-House on its Council and sat on its Board. So he was already in touch with many people on campus who were interested in international graduate issues. He saw their current International Affairs Committee was looking to do a survey. That was the kind of thing he was responsible for as Communications Director in the I-House Council. So he thought this position was a very good fit with his current role already.

Mr. Briggs said that he was also an international student and has served on international committees through his eight-year tenure as a student in the US. So he's be able to navigate various committees with deans, students, and various student organizations as well. Within the past year he has served on the International Affairs Committee and has been able to develop relationships with the Berkeley International Office and identify several areas of redundancy he'd like to get rid of, and ways to help them improve their services for international students. One of his key issues was reconciling the fee differences between international students and US citizens. As the international students enrich the community of graduate students, they make Berkeley competitive, and it looked good for Berkeley. It also increases students' entire community.

Mr. Briggs said there was also very little integration between I-House students and the rest of the international community, people who were not part of that residence. The I-House was pretty secluded, and he would like to bring those students, like himself, to others who were not involved in the I-House. They've been acculturated a little more, and they were trying to bridge gaps between students, including undergrads and many undergrad international organizations. In terms of grad students, there were very few, if any, outside of this actual Committee, who directly catered to international students. So he would like to create and foster community more for international students.

Mr. Daal said their time was expiring. He called for any questions.

Ms. Anderson asked if they both planned on serving on the Committee whether or not they were elected Chair. Both candidates said they would be.

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A Delegate asked Mr. Saxena what he wanted to do next year. Mr. Saxena said he'd want to get grad students integrated into campus early, working with the Berkeley International Office, and trying to be sure that in response to the current budget issues, non-resident tuition for international students doesn't increase disproportionately.

Seeing no further questions, Mr. Daal asked the candidates to step outside for a discussion off the record and a vote.

AFTER A DISCUSSION AND A VOTE, FARREN BRIGGS WAS ELECTED AS 2009-10 INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIR.

Mr. Ortega said that if anybody was interested in being the Chief-of-Staff for External Affairs, he would ask them to please let him know.

This meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

These minutes respectfully submitted by,

Steven I. Litwak
Recording Secretary