

Student Fee Referenda Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2012

Members present: Mark Lucia, Claudia Covello, Judi Sui, Olivier Bouan, Fabrizio Mejia, AJ D'Asaro

Members absent: Jodie Rouse, Julia Joung, Vishalli Loomba, Bahar Navab, Phillipe Marchand

Recorder: Laura McBride

1. Class Pass referendum update

- The ballot language was incorrect for several hours on voting day 1, so Bahar as filed a charge with the Judicial Council to invalidate the votes; an additional charge was filed that the language in the referendum was misleading, alleging some increases weren't mentioned and the language was not vetted with P&T.
- The Judicial Council will issue rulings.

2. Daily Cal/VOICE referendum update

- Vishalli issued an executive order to invalidate the referendum on the basis that the referendum process can't be used to fund an outside organization. Since an MOU hadn't been negotiated, students were not properly informed where the money would go.
- Daily Cal is arguing that there was a precedent established with the Lower Sproul Initiative for the students to negotiate an MOU with campus after approval of the Lower Sproul via election; the counterpoint is that the Lower Sproul MOU was negotiated by student government on behalf of all students' interests while the Daily Cal MOU would be negotiated specifically by the Daily Cal on behalf of the Daily Cal's interests.
- It is likely Vishalli's order will be overturned; however, the Judicial Council is likely to invalidate the referendum anyway. If this happens, it is unknown whether the election results would be revealed.

UPDATE AS OF 5/11/12: The executive order was overturned by the Judicial Council on 4/24/12, and the disqualification of the VOICE referendum was overturned, meaning that since it was approved by voters, it will be allowed to go into effect in 2012-13, pending finalization of an MOU.

It is possible that both the Class Pass and VOICE referenda could be put through a special ASUC election in the fall.

3. Nomination/Selection of 2012-14 SFRC co-chair to replace Mark Lucia

- Co-Chairs serve 2-year terms.
- Fabrizio Mejia accepted a nomination.
- Mark will send out the information and votes will be taken by email.

UPDATE AS OF 5/3/12: All votes cast by committee members were in favor of Fabrizio's nomination, with no objections. His nomination was presented to, and approved/accepted by CACSSF on 5/3/12.

4. Miscellaneous

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- 1.7% tax is levied on all student fee referenda and goes to UCOP. In the future, this information will be included in ballot language.
- CalPIRG is an example of a student fee referendum that does fund an outside organization. It was ruled an opt-in.
- Next Spring there might be a Wellness Center fee proposal.
- There is also talk of a Tech fee: The fund would select software packages, negotiate prices for students to buy individually. This fund might not work because negotiating a MOU would be too complicated. Microsoft & Adobe have already-negotiated contracts and students have to pay after the contracts expire. It could go on a ballot.