PRESENT: David Bocarsly, Lana Habib El-Farra, Andrea Hester, Michael Starr, Carly Yoshida, Kim Davis, Anees Hasnain, Taylor Mason, Stephen Kraman, Sahil Seth, Jan Tacinco, Yasar Mohebi, Cassarah Chu, Dr. Deb Geller, Dr. Berky Nelson, Laureen Lazarovici, Bob Williams, Roy Champawat, Patty Zimmerman, Cynthia Jasso, Katrina Dimacali

ABSENT:

GUESTS:

I. A. Call to Order

- Bocarsly called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

B. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet was passed around.

1 Approval of the Agenda
-Seth moved to strike capital contingency and add a new report
-Mohebi moved to strike travel and advocacy
- Bocarsly called for Acclamation. Bocarsly asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the agenda was approved, as amended.

III. Approval of the Minutes

1 *4/30/13

- Mohebi moved and Davis seconded to approve the minutes for April 30th, 2013.
- Bocarsly called for Acclamation. Bocarsly asked if there were any objections to approval by Acclamation. There being none, the minutes were approved.

IV. Public Comments
- She said that USAC should support the resolution to divest from fossil fuels. She said it would be in bad interest to stay invested in that industry. She said it would destroy the communities of their economy
Kevin- Fossil Fuel Campaign
He said he feels like he has a moral obligation to students. He said that they should uphold the True Bruin values to support the resolution

He said that several small universities have completely divested. He said 6 UC’s did this as well

She said that UCLA is an amazing campus and it seems ironic they are investing in something that is slowly destroying our world

He said that he agrees and believes they should divest

E3 Representative
He said UCLA has always been at the forefront of these issues. He said that divesting is something that could be done at an incredibly low cost

James Aquare
He said it is important to look towards the future and that it is a way to protect the health of future human beings

Mason
He said he recently got involved. He said being a student at UCLA, it was hard for him to imagine this was going on. He said this is an important thing that needs to be done.

Sherif Abani
She said she’s worked with E3 and she’s seen UCLA be a leader in sustainability in California and the world. She said as students, they have a moral authority to say that this needs to happen.

Tamir Sholklapper
Sholklapper said they are putting a plaque in the council room. He said he sent an email about it. He said this is the first time a plaque has been added in a while. He talked about the USSA bylaw proposal change. He said this is something that was discussed when he was on the council. He said that he believes this can make a positive difference for this campus. He said if they have any questions to talk to him or Cynthia. He said they want to keep it that way so the discussion continues.

B.

V. Special Presentations

VI. Appointments
VII. Fund Allocations

A. *Contingency Allocations
-Mohebi moved to approve contingency of this week. Seth seconded.
-Jasso said there is a total required of $72,580.96. There was a total requested of $16,877.58. The contingency balance is $9,727.94. The total recommended for this week was $4,970.00.
-Seth called to question contingency allocations. Kraman seconded. With a vote of 11-0-0, the contingency for this week was approved.
-Jasso said tomorrow at 5pm is the last chance to apply for contingency and summer contingency starts after that.

B. Cultural Affairs Commissioner
Mason said to pay attention to tithe first table. These are from this week and last week. CFran, TASC Initiative, FAST, Samahang Pilipino, and the Afrikan student union applied but all except the Afrikan student union got funding.

C. ASRF Fund

D. Capital Contingency
Mohebi moved to approve capital. Starr seconded.

VIII. Officer and Member Reports

President – David Bocarsly
Bocarsly said they are talking about the leadership fund later. He said they got a donation of $1000 recently. He talked about election season and said to make sure they encourage everyone they know to be respectful. He said he’s seen a lot more respect this year. He urged them to pass on this message. He talked about the Bruin Bash referendum at the debates. He said if they support it to go out and show people that. He talked about the banquet on May 20th, Monday of 8th week. He said they were going to send out RSVP links this week. He said this would be in Pauley Pavilion
-Jasso asked if she could send it to SGA as well.
-Bocarsly said yes. He said all of the administration is invited.
-Mason asked if it included CSP
-Bocarsly said they have a maximum capacity so send it out ASAP
-Hasnain asked when it would be sent out
-Bocarsly said the RSVP would be sent out this week
-Mason asked if he got her pictures
-Bocarsly said yes. He said their last meeting is next week. He said there is one more week to do anything they wanted to do. He said three offices sent in their bylaw changes.
-Jasso asked about the diversity workshop.
-Hester said she could propose it to the next council.
-Bocarsly said they talked about the plaque last year. He said hopefully a lot of people could see the ceremony next week. He said to enjoy this week.

**Internal Vice President – Andrea Hester**
Hester said transition is something they all should be thinking about. She said to use time to think about transitioning. She said thank you to Zimmerman. She said she sent them a random list of ideas for IVP and her staff compiled it in a nice way. She said if they don’t have the time to get the information to Zimmerman. She said next week would probably be a longer evening. She said to think ahead of time of what they want to say. She said a meaningful council meeting is a good idea. She said to start thinking about what to say for next week.

**External Vice President- Lana El-Farra**
-El-Farra said she was at her last UCSA board meeting. She said she is happy with the top three. She said in terms of travel and advocacy grant, it has all been allocated. She said they closed the application online. She said now they are focusing on the students that got money. She said fund her future was last week and they collected about 800 post cards. She talked about the local elections. She said they would have UCSA lobbying with the regents. She said they would hopefully do it again. She said this is the second time they are doing it with them.

**Academic Affairs Commissioner— Kim Davis**
-Davis said they are hosting a diversity workshop next Tuesday. She said to please let everyone know. She said they are co-hosting it with ORL. She said AAC and Dean Mata would facilitate it.

**Student Government Services- Patty Zimmerman**
Zimmerman said they have installation May 19th in Kerckhoff Grand Salon. She said to work to get there at 12. She said to bring their nameplates. She said good luck with everything. She said this is the first time they had a conflict with SWC Run Walk. She said maybe to warn anyone who might be coming to installation.

**Administrative Representative- Dr. Deb Geller**
Dr. Geller said to put in their ticket request for commencement if they haven’t already

IX. Old Business

*There was no old business for this week.*

X. New Business

1 A. Fossil Fuel Divestment
A Resolution

In Support of Divestment from Fossil Fuel Companies

WHEREAS, the leaders of 167 countries (including the United States) have agreed that any warming of the planet above 2°C (3.6°F) would be unsafe; and,

WHEREAS, we have already raised the temperature 0.8°C since 1880 and the environmental effects are evident as 1/3rd of the Arctic ice has melted; and,

WHEREAS, the industrial extraction and combustion of fossil fuels, particularly coal, is the number one cause of greenhouse gas emissions, specifically CO2, and is therefore the greatest contributor to anthropogenic climate change; and,

WHEREAS, human beings can only burn 565 more gigatons of CO2 to stay below 2 degrees of warming, while fossil fuel companies hold more than 2,795 gigatons of CO2 in their reserves—5 times the safe amount to avoid catastrophic warming effects such as flooding, drought, and sea level rise; and,

WHEREAS, among the many fossil fuels utilized in the global economy, coal has severe detrimental effects on human health, including the effects of contaminated ‘potable’ groundwater with dangerous toxins, with a recent estimate of $345 billion of damage per year in the United States alone due to coal extraction and burning; and,

WHEREAS, the current global effects of climate change include at least 150,000 annual deaths according to the World Health Organization,

WHEREAS, the conditions resulting from climate change often disproportionately affect low-income communities and minorities globally, who have done the least to cause it and often have the least access to the tools to combat it; and,

WHEREAS, the poverty rate within one mile of coal-fired power plants is almost double that of the poverty rate of the U.S. population as a whole; and,

WHEREAS, President Obama stated in his 2013 inaugural address, “Some may still deny the overwhelming judgment of science, but none can avoid the devastating impact of raging fires, and crippling drought, and more powerful storms. The path towards sustainable energy sources will be long and sometimes difficult. But America cannot resist this transition—we must lead it. We cannot cede to other nations the technology that will power new jobs and new industries—we must claim its promise.”; and,
WHEREAS, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa recognizes the pressing importance of ending our city’s reliance on coal, declaring it his goal to make Los Angeles “Coal Free by 2025” at a UCLA event on February 26, 2013; and,

WHEREAS, the University of California has affirmed its commitment to, “responsible stewardship of resources and to demonstrating leadership in sustainable business practices,” and to having a “net zero impact on the Earth’s climate”; and,

WHEREAS, a multitude of college campuses have already introduced and passed resolutions through their Associated Students calling for the divestment from fossil fuels, including the University of California at Santa Barbara, University of California at Berkeley, University of California at San Diego, University of California at Santa Cruz, University of California at Davis, and University of California Irvine, and three university Board of Trustees in the U.S. have already committed to divesting from fossil fuels; and,

WHEREAS, by divesting from South Africa, tobacco, and Sudan, the University of California has demonstrated that voluntary investment in an industry shows implicit support for the decisions and actions of said industry; and,

WHEREAS, if we prevent a 2°C increase in temperature, the amount of ‘unburnable’ carbon that oil and gas companies hold could pose unpredictable and unmanageable risks to the global economy according to HSBC, the world’s largest bank by assets; and,

WHEREAS, divesting from fossil fuels will remove both financial and symbolic support of fossil fuel companies and opens up opportunities to invest in resources needed to eventually transition to a sustainable and carbon-free economy; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the UCLA Foundation is “to actively promote philanthropy and manage donated resources for the advancement of UCLA” in order to “support the University’s commitment to teaching, research, and service”; and,

WHEREAS, investments in companies that threaten environmental sustainability and are complicit in the violation of human rights do not constitute socially responsible investing and fail to promote UCLA’s True Bruin values of integrity, accountability, and ethicality; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the USAC of UCLA call upon the Regents of the University of California, in its commitment to leadership in sustainability, to take the following actions regarding the General Endowment Pool:

1. Instruct asset managers to stop any new investment in fossil fuel companies; and

2. Take appropriate steps to ensure that, within 5 years, none of its directly held or commingled assets include holdings in fossil fuel public equities and corporate bonds as found on the Carbon Tracker list; and
Release quarterly updates, both detailing progress made towards full divestment and providing information on the holdings of the endowment pool and of index funds within the GEP.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the USAC President compose a letter advocating for UCLA and UC systemwide divestment from fossil fuels and present it along with a copy of this resolution to the University of California President, as well as to UCLA Chancellor Block, within two weeks of the passage of this resolution.

Sponsors:

Yasar Mohebi, General Representative 3
Lana Habib El-Fara, External Vice President
Anees Hasnain, Community Service Commissioner

-Seth asked about TGIF funds about how UCLA has established steps towards this
-Zimmerman said this is the third of its kind
-Seth said it could come after the whereas of college campuses. He drafted a possible whereas.
-El-Farra said they could include everything that UCLA does that is green
-Mohebi said they could mention the solar panels in Ackerman
-El-Farra said they could say that UCLA has already taken several strides, including...
-Kraman said they should have TGIF, zero waste, and solar panels.
-Seth said it would be whereas the multitude of college campuses to add a whereas UCLA has already taken large strides to commit itself to sustainability and zero waste practice, through developments including the establishment of the green initiative fund, the zero waste goal by 2020 initiative, and the introduction of Solar Panels on Ackerman student union to promote sustainability on campus. Kraman seconded. With a vote of 12-0-0, it has been added.
-Mohebi made a friendly amendment to add a semicolon and an “and” to the 6th whereas.
-Seth made a friendly amendment to change college to university
-Bocarsly said the format is good and easy to read
-Hester said they could have a template. She said at the final whereas, she didn’t see ethicality as a Bruin Value.
-Mohebi said it is respect, accountability, integrity, excellence, etc.
-El-Farra moved to add respect instead of ethicality. Chu seconded. With a vote of 12-0-0, it was changed to “respect”
-Seth said this resolution makes claims of what they can’t do and it doesn’t make claims of what they should do. He said he would like to add something about encouraging UCLA to sponsor investments that support sustainable sources of energy including hydrogen fuel, etc.
-Mason asked if they had a list of companies they could cite to support.
-Bocarsly asked if they researched the impact the divestments had
-E3 said they invest in a huge portfolio and they’re targeting 13 companies out of about 1,000. He said taking out 13 of the dirtiest fossil fuel companies shouldn’t affect their expected returns at all. They also
said there was a study that found there is a modest risk of .0001% of risk, no even considering the fact that solar is becoming more affordable. She said that is the risk without taking out the considerations. They talked about the EPA.

-Bocarsly asked what a dollar amount would be
-E3 said it is really long and it is not laid out very clearly. She said it is hard to say. They said there are the dirtiest companies that schools are requesting because those are the most impactful. They said they would not cost their endowment value to go down significantly.

-Bocarsly asked how many they are divesting from
-E3 said the number that they invest in requires research. They said it is not transparent of them to figure out now.

-Bocarsly asked if they wanted to be more specific with this resolution
-El-Farra said it is pretty clear what types of companies they are targeting with this.
-E3 said it was modeled after other UC’s

-Bocarsly asked what groups talked about it
-E3 said other campaigns on the east coast started off with coal divestments but other UC’s talked about all fossil fuels

-El-Farra said their lack of access as students makes this resolution even more critical. She said they don’t need to lay it out for them. She said it would take way too much time. She said it is pretty clear-cut what they’re asking for

-Kraman said he is worried because he doesn’t know if they should advocate divestment indexes. He said personally he would like to strike the index fund section from number 3. He said logistically it wouldn’t make sense. He said an index might have the dirtiest coal companies but it is difficult to put that section in

-E3 talked about how they put that in and it is calling for the information about the divestment

-Dr. Nelson asked if they asked the other UC’s about what they found about this.
-E3 said Berkeley did the most progress on this research. She said they were working on the UC regents as a whole. She said she didn’t know if Berkeley found all of their information about their endowment. He said the first step is to pass a resolution. They said they had a California training and they all basically said they had the trouble of being able to understand their endowment. She said they were all in the same situation of not being able to understand the endowment.

-Dr. Nelson said he was concerned because some UC’s wouldn’t even know it. He said it seems they need to operate on campus here and what other campuses are doing. He asked if they contacted the student regent
-E3 said they would be appearing at the UC Regent Board meeting. They said they brought up the issue to the regents. She said it was recent between the UC’s. She said they realized all of their campaigns have been mobilizing. He said they were trying to mirror other UC’s and make sure they weren’t calling for different companies

-Dr. Nelson said he was concerned about specificity
-E3 said they tried their best to standardize it

-Seth asked about the percent gains assets or stocks related to fossil fuels. He said fossil fuels generally have the largest returns.
-E3 said they didn’t have that information to his knowledge

-El-Farra said it is important to stick to the principle of the resolution and look at it holistically and the idea that they should not be investing in the first place
E3 talked about returns and said it is hard to predict the market. He said it is hard to guarantee the returns would stay consistent.

Seth said in a lot of index funds they have to keep their money for more years.

E3 said the universities that passed these have relatively small endowments. She said they are one of the larger endowments working on this campaign. She said the amount of resources that are out there is completely different than what they deal with at different colleges. She said this is a growing movement that is very young but that is what the campaign is for. She said it would lead the way to navigate such a huge endowment.

Lazarovici said this conversation is really about how they engage in capitalism. She said there is fossil fuel in the tank of her car. She said that would have been the most logical way to get here. She said they engage in the marketplace as consumers. She said they engage in the marketplace as institutional investors. She said they also engage as citizens and as people that come together and make policy. She said she appreciates the conversation around this and challenged them to think of this as one piece of the puzzle as how they are engaging with the marketplace and capitalism. She said if they are engaging, they have to accept the structure of capitalism how it is and see which entry points they would go into to engage in it.

Hester asked if there were conversations like this on the administrative level.

Dr. Nelson said no. He said it is a great idea that students are coming forward with this. He said people in high-level corporations pay more taxes than any other entity in this country. He said it is a detailed thing. He said they need to know as much as they can because there are so many things that are interwoven into where they money goes. He said it is a monumental task they have ahead. He said if they focus on the 14 dirtiest companies, it might seem over the top. He said it probably would take 2-5 years before they know where all of the interaction is.

El-Farra said it is obvious that not a lot of information is available to students and nobody knows what they are investing in. She said it is really important to help move this campaign forward. She said the next step should be taking a resolution to UCSA and having the president send a letter to the new president and moving it forward. She said they also have to trust that administration is the one that makes stances. She said they have to have the trust that they make the right decision. She said they should keep pushing them so then they could ultimately say yes. She said if they don’t think it’s a right thing, they won’t listen to them.

Bocarsly said he wanted to call everyone to the last whereas cause. He said he would like it if someone would strike the last part.

Seth moved to strike the violation of human rights clause.

Starr seconded.

Mason asked about the human rights section and asked if it would make a difference.

Mohebi said it is only fair that they discuss it. He said that they had a resolution a few weeks ago and he said how people define it differs.

Mason said she didn’t think the true Bruin values would violate human rights.

Bocarsly said they should make sure human rights stays out of the conversation.

Jasso said she was interested about what people not involved in the issue have to say about human rights and where they stand. She said there is inconsistency because they used “human rights” in the fair trade resolution. She said she wanted to know other perspectives.

Davis said “human rights” in the sentence seems like human rights is defined as a threat to environmental sustainability. She said they could define it there.
- Yoshida said if they read the entire resolution, it seems murky and she would rather tweak it or define it.
- Seth said they could define it and make it about environmental sustainability.
- Davis said they could simply say that human rights relates to violating environmental sustainability.

Davis moved. Mason seconded. With a vote of 12-0-0, it has been changed.

-Seth talked about encouraging investments in companies that renew energy. He said there are a lot of companies that have alternate sources of energy. He asked if they wanted to reference a few of them.
- Bocarsly asked for clarification
- Seth said they could mention these resources
- Mohebi said they could do more research on that
- Mason said she would want it to come from E3 to make sure that some companies aren’t duel investing in things
- Seth said he would like to put something in there
- Bocarsly asked if they needed to include companies
- Mohebi said in their fair trade resolution, they talked about human rights and in that resolution it promoted human rights and in this one there is a different connotation.
- Hasnain said they should treat human rights as a term consistently. We shouldn’t pick and choose when it’s appropriate and not appropriate to use, especially when our qualifiers or standards are inconsistent.
- Seth said he would like to add a therefore clause. He motioned to add a therefore after the first therefore as follows: **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the USAC encourages investments by the Regents of the University of California into companies that promote the usage of renewable energy resources and/or are actively engaged in research and development for alternative fuel sources or renewable energy sources.

-Mohebi called to question the resolution. El-Farra seconded. Mohebi read the resolution as follows:

**A Resolution**

**In Support of Divestment from Fossil Fuel Companies**

**WHEREAS,** the leaders of 167 countries (including the United States) have agreed that any warming of the planet above 2°C (3.6°F) would be unsafe; and,

**WHEREAS,** we have already raised the temperature 0.8°C since 1880 and the environmental effects are evident as 1/3rd of the Arctic ice has melted; and,

**WHEREAS,** the industrial extraction and combustion of fossil fuels, particularly coal, is the number one cause of greenhouse gas emissions, specifically CO₂, and is therefore the greatest contributor to anthropogenic climate change; and,

**WHEREAS,** human beings can only burn 565 more gigatons of CO₂ to stay below 2 degrees of warming, while fossil fuel companies hold more than 2,795 gigatons of CO₂ in their reserves—5 times the safe amount to avoid catastrophic warming effects such as flooding, drought, and sea level rise; and,
WHEREAS, among the many fossil fuels utilized in the global economy, coal has severe detrimental effects on human health, including the effects of contaminated ‘potable’ groundwater with dangerous toxins, with a recent estimate of $345 billion of damage per year in the United States alone due to coal extraction and burning; and,

WHEREAS, the current global effects of climate change include at least 150,000 annual deaths according to the World Health Organization; and,

WHEREAS, the conditions resulting from climate change often disproportionately affect low-income communities and minorities globally, who have done the least to cause it and often have the least access to the tools to combat it; and,

WHEREAS, the poverty rate within one mile of coal-fired power plants is almost double that of the poverty rate of the U.S. population as a whole; and,

WHEREAS, President Obama stated in his 2013 inaugural address, "Some may still deny the overwhelming judgment of science, but none can avoid the devastating impact of raging fires, and crippling drought, and more powerful storms. The path towards sustainable energy sources will be long and sometimes difficult. But America cannot resist this transition—we must lead it. We cannot cede to other nations the technology that will power new jobs and new industries—we must claim its promise.”; and,

WHEREAS, Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa recognizes the pressing importance of ending our city’s reliance on coal, declaring it his goal to make Los Angeles “Coal Free by 2025” at a UCLA event on February 26, 2013; and,

WHEREAS, the University of California has affirmed its commitment to, “responsible stewardship of resources and to demonstrating leadership in sustainable business practices,” and to having a “net zero impact on the Earth’s climate”; and,

WHEREAS, a multitude of university campuses have already introduced and passed resolutions through their Associated Students calling for the divestment from fossil fuels, including the University of California at Santa Barbara, University of California at Berkeley, University of California at San Diego, University of California at Santa Cruz, University of California at Davis, and University of California Irvine, and three university Board of Trustees in the U.S. have already committed to divesting from fossil fuels; and,

WHEREAS, UCLA has already taken large strides to commit itself to sustainability and zero-waste practice through developments, including the establishment of The Green Initiative Fund, Zero Waste by 2020 Initiative, and the introduction of solar panels on Ackerman Student Union, to promote sustainability on campus.

WHEREAS, by divesting from South Africa, tobacco, and Sudan, the University of California has demonstrated that voluntary investment in an industry shows implicit support for the decisions and actions of said industry; and,
WHEREAS, if we prevent a 2°C increase in temperature, the amount of ‘unburnable’ carbon that oil and gas companies hold could pose unpredictable and unmanageable risks to the global economy according to HSBC, the world’s largest bank by assets; and,

WHEREAS, divesting from fossil fuels will remove both financial and symbolic support of fossil fuel companies and opens up opportunities to invest in resources needed to eventually transition to a sustainable and carbon-free economy; and,

WHEREAS, the mission of the UCLA Foundation is “to actively promote philanthropy and manage donated resources for the advancement of UCLA” in order to “support the University’s commitment to teaching, research, and service”; and,

WHEREAS, investments in companies that threaten environmental sustainability violate human rights and do not constitute socially responsible investing and fail to promote UCLA’s True Bruin values of integrity, accountability, and respect.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Students Association Council (USAC) of UCLA call upon the Regents of the University of California, in its commitment to leadership in sustainability, to take the following actions regarding the General Endowment Pool:

1. Instruct asset managers to stop any new investment in fossil fuel companies; and

2. Take appropriate steps to ensure that, within 5 years, none of its directly held or commingled assets include holdings in fossil fuel public equities and corporate bonds as found on the Carbon Tracker list; and

3. Release quarterly updates, both detailing progress made towards full divestment and providing information on the holdings of the endowment pool and of index funds within the GEP.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the USAC encourages investments by the Regents of the University of California into companies that promote the usage of renewable energy resources and/or are actively engaged in research and development for alternative fuel sources or renewable energy sources.

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the USAC President compose a letter advocating for UCLA and UC systemwide divestment from fossil fuels and present it along with a copy of this resolution to the University of California President, as well as to UCLA Chancellor Block, within two weeks of the passage of this resolution.

Sponsors:
Yasar Mohebi, General Representative 3
Lana Habib El-Fara, External Vice President
Anees Hasnain, Community Service Commissioner

-Hester said the whereas at the top of the last page should say “do not prevent a 2 degree Celsius decrease”
-E3 said that it says that if the amount carbon companies are valued is related to the temperature.
-With a vote of 12-0-0, the resolution was approved.

B. SOOF Guidelines

-Chu moved to go into SOOF guidelines. Starr seconded.
-Jasso talked about the background information on SOOF and what SOOF is. She talked about how much was given to SOOF and how much was given to SGOF. SGOF is an operational fund. She said SOOF aims to subsidize the operational cost associated to running a student organization. She talked about why SOOF isn’t being spent. She said it was done earlier this year. She showed them a glimpse at the USAC retreat. She said $60,000 was unspent of SOOF. She talked about how the most used line item was for retreats. She said a lot of students don’t use their SOOF funds
-Dr. Nelson asked why that was the case
-Jasso said what they were looking at was which items were being spent the most and what organizations that were in existence longer. She said that their committee has 4 different databases. She said this is still something they are working on. She said one of their challenges is talking about SOOF throughout the year. She talked about spring signatories that were valid throughout the year. She said SOOF is due a week before school even starts. She said if old signatories are filling out forms, this could be a problem because of the unspent funds. She said they have two different rounds of SOOF. She said there needed to be more clarification on the items that could be purchased for SOOF. She said they still don’t know if they could fund certain things. She said there are also line item restrictions. She said it is in their guidelines that the BRD should be by June 15th. She said this is something she would be pushing. She said Jacob was appointed in August and she said a month wasn’t enough time to look at the fund and to analyze it. She talked about the funding study group and how it was part of the agenda for the last two years. They talked about the SOOF Mini fund. She said this is something they are still contemplating. She said this is something they will be looking into and maybe be more effective in following up on student organizations. She talked about having the new signatories and registering for CSP. She talked about a solution where operational funds were transferred to programming. She said she wanted to make sure they knew about the different suggestions they had throughout the year. She said they had two listed proposed changes. She said the first one was the removal of the 30% t-shirt line item cap. She said students would use all of their allocations on t-shirts if needed.
-Ashendorf said he got lot of verbal feedback. He said a lot of groups wanted to buy t-shirts and they couldn’t.
-Jasso said there is a slight inefficiency because they had to calculate the 30% cap. She said in year’s prior, one of the questions that came about was whether this was an operational need or a luxury item.
She said student groups are changing and preferences were changing as well. She said they didn’t want a saturation of their financial needs from SOOF. She said they have had a lot of student organizations want to apply to get t-shirts. She said this is something that needs to be taken into account. She said the second one is a subtle change. She said on the SOOF budget and assumptions, as of now presidents or vice presidents or other elected offices can earn a maximum of $275 a month. She said that is an interesting stipend ceiling. She said the average allocation was $524.11. She said to pay $275 per month is not going to happen and is very disproportionate. She said they wanted to make it not a monthly payment plan but a quarterly plan. She said this is something they have been working on with SGA. She said as they should know, 60% is not much of the total allocation. She said they didn’t feel comfortable moving that as of now

-Dr. Geller asked how much SOOF is actually being used to club presidents

-Jasso said from signing all of the hiring packets, at the beginning of the fiscal year, she received almost no new hire packets. At the end of April, she got 40-50 of them.

-Bocarsly asked if they got them retroactively

-Jasso said no but they got it for that quarter. She said retroactive pay would be per month. She said she didn’t have clear numbers on that but it was an interesting trend she noticed.

-Dr. Geller said she hadn’t realized that officers could use SOOF to get paid. She asked how that would benefit student groups

-Jasso said she didn’t know the backstory to why this was created. She said from her understanding, several people used the argument that students invested so much of their time to start their organization. She said she didn’t want to take a stance on this.

-Dr. Geller asked if there was an evaluation requirement and asked if that was a line item

-Ashendorf said that is a good point and he said the idea of a stipend was never looked into.

-Bocarsly said the point made is because the reason that they pay is because it is to compensate them or give them funding if they can’t also get finances by working a job

-Ashendorf said this is a loophole

-Jasso said they could have a better auditing system. She talked about what would happen the next fiscal year. She talked about the smaller mandatory SOOF allocation hearings where more interaction is needed. She said that they need to have smaller focus groups with more interaction with student government accounting. She said she still receives SOOF emails. She said there is a disconnect in terms of information. She said what they’re going to do is push the SOOF deadline forward, giving groups the chance to have signatories transitioned in. She said they are working with Debbie and the deadline is week 8. She said they would suggest appointing a BRD by June 15th so they had a good analysis of how SOOF was working. She said these are some of the add ons they would be working on and hopefully at the end of next year this would be the time to do so. She said they wanted to make sure they were providing the student body the necessary information of their funds
-Kraman asked if t-shirts were typically for members of their organization and asked if they got club rosters

-Jasso said they don’t require them to do so but just to turn in the t-shirt design. She said they take into account the magnitude of their organization

-Hasnain asked how they would judge if it was a portrayal of their members. She asked what is considered an active member. She said she didn’t know how they would judge it

-Ashendorf said a lot of groups don’t know what to say

-Jasso said they brought up the question and they brought up what active members are. She said active members are a lot smaller members than how many people are in their org. She said that is something they have been generally seeing. She said they don’t have a set in place audit system

-Zimmerman said the original creation of the SOOF item list was to create a template for students dealing with the ASUCLA bookstore. She said they tried to make a SOOF item list so they could itemize their own receipt and not have to go shopping twice. She said it tried to streamline this process for students. She said it is great that it is being updated but it wasn’t the only way they could buy items. She said she wanted to make sure they were on the same page. She said that students get a 20% discount by using a requisition.

-Jasso said there are two different things. She started with the guidelines. She removed page 6 and there was a slight change where if they had expenditures fall quarter it had to be by week 9.

-Seth called to question the SOOF guidelines. Chu seconded. With a vote of 11-0-0, the SOOF guidelines have been approved.

-Seth moved to go into SOOF Budget Assumptions and Instructions.

-Jasso said she wanted to make sure they were in accordance of SGA’s new policies. She talked about stipends and the maximum pay rate that was changed. It was changed to be proportional to what they give for SOOF allocations. She said they updated the logo and on the general t-shirt policies they removed the 30% cap. She said this is to be in accordance with their new SOOF guidelines. She said she changed vernacular on the last line item. She said she removed “sloppiness” since it was computer-generated form

-Bocarsly asked for clarification

-Jasso said it was bolded and italicized because the deadline was critical

-Seth called to question SOOF Assumptions and Instructions. With a vote of 11-0-1, it has been passed

-Jasso said the t-shirt cap was something Ashendorf felt strongly about. She said when SOOF comes next year, a lot of student organizations would be happy with this change.

-Bocarsly said he appreciates the thoughtfulness and he encouraged the conversations with the mini-SOOF.

B. Bylaw Change Proposal- Student Leadership Fund
-Bocarsly said there were 2 main changes. He said it is a component of contingency. He said it would be a donation-based fund. He said the reason they chose $50,000 is because they estimated that this much was given to retreats. He said they wanted to keep some funds in development and use it in the future in case they had larger amounts.

-Mohebi asked if anyone could apply

-Bocarsly said this would work on just donations. He said if they get more money that is great for student programming. He said for people applying, they would apply to contingency. He said if it was a leadership fund, they would tap into the student leadership fund. He said they know they could tap into the money that was donated to them. He said they didn’t want to allocate it all in one given year. He said that future leadership funds can come from contingency

-Jasso said there was a way to track retreats and conferences. She said it was possible to do that logistically. She said in terms of it working logistically there was already a mechanism in place

-Bocarsly said this was feasible. He said some donations were better than nothing. He said that he added a part D. He said that is clarification of what was added last year. He said that there were changes to number 11 on page 16. He said that the contingency fund would be part of the total membership fees. He said letter D was added, which was the main description. He read the change. He said once the student leadership fund is depleted, the rest would be funded by contingency. He said if they apply for a leadership-training component for students, that is when they apply for the leadership fund

-Mohebi said he gave the wrong page number

-Bocarsly said the language is different but it is relevant

-Seth moved to approve the bylaw change proposal. Kraman seconded. With a vote of 12-0-0, it has been approved.

C. ISU Culture Night Discussion

-Seth said the situation was that they typically receive more. He said last year they cut the show because of costs. He said this year, they tried to change the packaging price. He said they are in a financial hole and their culture show is coming up. He said that the individual reached out to see if there was anything they could do. He said they were sent a breakdown of what they received. He read off what they applied for. He said their program is on the 1st of June

-Mason asked when they applied

-Jasso said she got their application 4 days ago. She said they would be pulling out from their restrictive budget

-Mason said their fund is near depletion and could only help them marginally. She said she thinks they allocated to them already.

-Davis said a lot of culture nights have applied for ASRF and they can apply if it was two weeks before
- El-Farra asked how much they need
- Seth said more than $7000
- Dr. Geller said they would get $3000-$4000 from various funds
- Chu said they got permission from Royce to reduce their package but they had already agreed for a certain package price.
- Dr. Nelson asked about the package and asked if they offered a lower package
- Seth said they could request less rooms and would get less staff
- Chu said Royce should be willing to reduce the package
- Dr. Geller said they don’t have enough of the facts to draw a conclusion but they should follow up with the advisor.
- Seth said ASRF would be a good outlet. He said he knows they have discretionary and he didn’t know if that was a path they could go down.
- Jasso said funding a specific student organization would be dangerous
- Bocarsly said they could have a longer discussion off the council table. He said they could all reach out
- Zimmerman asked if they sell tickets
- Jasso said sometimes they ask community members
- Dr. Geller said if they charge students they will get a prorated charge.
- Jasso said they could charge community members
- Seth said now they were looking to have each community member raise $650 so anything would help
- Bocarsly said the first step would be to go to the CSO advisor and then Dr. Nelson could help.

XI. Announcements
- Kraman said happy elections
- Yoshida said tomorrow is the farmers market and this week is the clothesline project. She said they line trees with domestic abuse and gender violence. She talked about take back the night. She said this would be after next week’s meeting. She talked about the Amazon survey and the target is a woman. She said it was a shooting target and they wanted to take away the survey.
- Tancinco said there might be chicken wings and sandwiches in Ackerman. Tomorrow night is the heat in Bruin Plaza and Thursday is the dirty projectors. Tickets are at the CTO and they are free
Seth said their office is co-hosting alumni day. He said his office is sending out people. He said people who aren’t graduating could experience the speakers and events that are going on.

Hasnain asked when the culture night was mentioned earlier

Seth said June 1st

Hester asked how much it was

Seth said $15 and said he could look into getting council in

Starr said this Friday would be a bus to see the baseball game. He said there is a cool article in the Daily Bruin. He said next week is Bruins Night Out and they would be showing Monsters University

Jasso said they should submit requisitions before their term ends. She said to please be mindful of that because this could be the only time their funds are available. She said to see her before they try to sponsor something like this and they are trying to work on language on this. She said to please talk to her. She said she wants to have a conversation about bylaw changes

Hasnain said they have project Bruin coming up and it is superhero themed. She said they get a glimpse of what college life is like. She said if they see them to say hi and tell them what they do and what they like about college

Bocarsly said his campus wide email went out today and it encouraged everyone to vote. He said he encouraged everyone to participate in the diversity symposium. There was free breakfast and it will be in Ackerman Grand Ballroom.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

*The attendance sheet was passed around.*

XIII. Adjournment

Seth moved to adjourn the meeting. Chu seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 pm.

XIV. Good and Welfare

Respectfully Submitted,
Katrina Dimacali
USAC Minutes Taker
2012-2013