AGENDA
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL
Kerckhoff Hall 417
January 14, 2014
7:00 PM
PRESENT: John Joanino, Avi Oved, Maryssa Hall, Omar Arce, Sam Haws, Darren Ramalho, Lauren Rogers, Armen Hadjimanoukian, Savannah Badalich, Jessica Kim, Jessica Trumble, Lizzy Naameh, Sunny Singh, Cynthia Jasso, Patty Zimmerman, Laureen Lazarovici, Dr. Berky Nelson, Dr. Debra Geller, Danielle Dimacali
ABSENT: Roy Champawat, Dr. Nelson

GUESTS:

I. Call to Order
-Joanino calls the meeting to order at 7:01 PM
-The attendance sheet is passed around
II. A. Approval of the Agenda
-Ramalho moves to strike ASRF. Arce seconds.
-Arce strikes travel and advocacy grant. Ramalho seconds.
-Arce moves to approve the agenda. Singh seconds.
11-0-0 agenda is approved
III. Approval of the Minutes from January 7, 2014
-Trumble calls to question. Arce seconds.
11-0-0 minutes are approved.

IV. Public Comments
-Brittany is the retention coordinator for Afrikan Student Union has some words she wants to share. They have a huge problem here where people of color were elected by peoples of colors and you want to forget who put you here. You all are funding your own initiatives and that sounds like internalized racism. It sounds like you’re forgetting here you have come from, not progressive,. Please explain how jazz reggae and USSA and lobbying is more important than bringing students of color to UCLA. She knows students on this council have gone through admit weekend. Both sides have collectively been discussing sustainable funding, last year when the bruin diversity initiative most voted it against because they thought it was cultural but that itself is racist. You all are asking us to keep you accountable, well here we are. Give the surplus funding back to students and recall.

-What about the Bruin Bash Referendum where money is taken out of the surplus. How is taking out $14,000 for the safety map. UCLA is her safe spot. All of the programs and projects are of PISA. Everyone in here is project of cultural problems. Everyone needs to take this surplus and overturn it because this isn’t right.
-Uyen APC coordinator, connects the API community and helps them. A large majority have cultural nights and at that price together alone is more than surplus available. They do programming every quarter for their members, alumni, and larger community. Governments
in any form and any size serve the people and USAC should too. She doesn’t like the fact that this is the second time she’s in the room saying this. We all know that there is a shortage of funds, it is just simply fact. Regardless degrees of knowledge of funding, it is not a bad thing to need money to run programs. We can’t keep spending like our funds are unlimited. We don’t want to have to fight for animals as student orgs pitting each other against each other. They are stuck in the bureaucracy hustling for the funding deadlines. She doesn’t appreciate the fact that the governments are lining their own pockets. USAC must start prioritizing student groups, if your priorities are the students then show it.

-As many of the folks mentioned it is unfortunate that folks decided to spend their own surplus. Many of you opposed bruin diversity initiative which would’ve not cut funds from the programs that many folks run. This is a bigger and larger issue with student fees not just surplus. It shows that you have turned your back on communities of color, queer students, and undocumented students. Since the first week of Fall and she oversees 24 projects, there were already cuts in funding for community service projects that are independent. There is no transparency. Surplus should not be spent on own pet projects, surplus should be spent supporting the efforts of real work. All of you are kind of shady and sellouts.

-When our people talking, when you talk look at them.

-Robert Assi is here on behalf of CEC to tell you about events coming up. On Thursday they are screening the new film with Jude Law, and Friday applications are due to be part of Campus Events. On January 24th they are having a speaking event with the cofounder of reddit in Ackerman grand ballroom.

-Vietnamese Student Union President Anh wants to ask council what their priorities were last week for surplus allocation. You are aware that more students are applying, when it comes to allocations you forget your own community to find your own endeavors. It is your responsibility to secure funding for student groups. How often does this room get this filled? These people are involved in programs from SEA Admit to VCN. So many orgs put on programs are the people that got screwed over and all of the programs are getting cut. VCN felt it first because they were the first. Their event is this week and she invites everyone to come, tickets in the CTO. It adds diversity to this campus, and to almost cut it is terrible. The whole quarter of practicing may go out the window. VCN is the first of the culture night but she is more concerned about all the programs happening later. What else is going to be affected? Grads? Spring admit? Is that going to be gone too? It’s all the different faces and communities and asks you to overturn your decision that was made last week and answer to your platforms such as transparency of student fees, adding diversity, guaranteeing sustainable funding. Please!

-Tolmen Galni, president of the American Indian Student Association, Navajo from Arizona. As a government body in USAC, he is very disappointed from out of state and low economic status. It really confused him where they knew they will have less money on surplus and still spent on their own initiatives. You have put a lot in jeopardy such as his programs. They run the largest youth conference in southern California, and the American Indian community
really looks to UCLA. We are such a huge powerhouse for the LA native community. What is he going to tell the American Indian community council? We half the funding, and these programs have helped the community and him grow. They’ve never had an incoming class but now we have five! Programs like this are really in jeopardy, and he wants all of USAC to know that it really discerns him that none of them were in his decision. He wants them to overturn their decision to think about a better and more stable funding for student programs. What do you really value? Your decision last weeks shows your priorities, such as a concert rather than diversity.

-Terry Hyunh, VSU Cultural Coordinator and Director
The past seven months her and her staff have been planning really hard such as preventing financial problems. This is VCN’s 34th year and set the standard for the rest of the world, the largest culture night of its kind. They knew they would have financial struggles, they tried to have a bigger sponsorship program. To know that we put on these programs not just for these own communities to facilitate dialogue to understand their community, it gives over 100 students to learn more about themselves to understand their culture and put forth a theme like mental illness and domestic violence things that their parents are too scared to talk about it. Perhaps this could’ve been fixed if they had an opportunity to ask for help. VCN is fortunate to access other funds because of their themes, but other culture nights won’t be able to. We allow over 100 students to be able to invest themselves in this campus to show to the rest of the community that UCLA is awesome. Other culture nights do the same. We are the first to take the hit, and we made it. Other culture nights will suffer. What are you going to do to prevent it? These culture nights and other student initiated programs promotes understanding. We all want the same thing, she doesn’t doubt that they want a better status. However, understanding is the first key to improving campus climate. You see how students push forward these programs they care about. If you don’t realize that, then there are thousands of students you are forgetting about being able to show you how you can better help us.

-NPI Coordinator
-Every individual in PISA is a product of the programming. She is directly involved in the cuts. She is a product of these programs. With these surplus allocations that getting PI’s is no more an accessible route. This should be overturned.

-Tony Tonu, Internal director for APCN
-She knows that council members know that culture nights are important. Some of you “want to enhance transparency of student fees” you want to “fund the future.” You should know how to use money, and reallocate funding to education. You aren’t doing any of this. You are doing the opposite. You are using money irresponsibly. These events such as yield events and access events are deprived of money. Education is not a classroom experience. Students experience college outside the classroom. Without funds, students cannot experience a diverse community. Overturn what you voted for last week.

-Nicole, Academic Affairs Coordinator for APC
-It does us no good that the council makes us rely on other funds. Why do council members get favorable treatments over student groups? Where is the transparency? If you want to talk
about your platforms for diverse campus, diversity involves student groups. You have to overturn what you said last week and give funds back to the students.

-Jazz Kiang, external assistant director APC
-He stands before council as a conscious, unafraid, angry student. Look around this room, these are the faces of the communities you turned your back against. It’s not just the body, its the youth of underprivileged communities. UCLA clearly isn’t diverse. He wants to make it clear that framing this issue through the discussion of surplus is a mistake. We are not dependent of surplus, the problem is how you bypass the ways how students can access surplus. We must find immediate funds to go to programs that you essentially stole from. The allocation of money from surplus was pretty atrocious. What is more disturbing, is how you voted. Every allocation was voted for unanimously. There was not a single negative vote for the allocations of student money for your initiatives. You as a collective essentially bypassed every obstacle that the rest of your student body must go through. The cuts student government faces should be proportional to cuts that student orgs have. You are accountable as a collective governmental body that serves students. You invite us to hold you accountable, and here we are. Here we stand and here we speak. We are explicitly telling you that last week, council messed up. We are here to make you remember that you ran on platforms for diversity and these people around the room who can and are ready to work with you. This is your community, serve us and help make UCLA the place we want it to be.

-Gabriel Guitterez representing LEAP and Hermanos
-What he sees on the room is a lot of angry and disappointed people. He saw project directors working hard on their allocations just to get finances for this quarter. It’s apparent you aren’t doing your job that you should be, what are you guys doing? Are you just using this for your resume? I know some of you in the classroom and you said you want to make a change, yet here we are.

-Alice Young, API Graduation Coordinator
-This year her job is to plan graduation, a lot of graduates are thinking about it. A lot of the money comes from student surplus and it’s a very expensive event. We have to appreciate and respect the work they do and we must be able to give them the recognition they deserve, such as graduation. They need the recognition. With the budget cuts taken out of the surplus money, she doesn’t know if she’s able to give families and the graduates what they deserve. She’s trying to plan graduation but she’s scared shitless right now. She just asks council to overturn what they decided last week. Your initiatives are important, but so are student programs.

-Jasso thanks everyone for coming and taking their time and expressing their concerns. She gives props to VCN for having their show running. She read the appeal, and she knows how hard it was for the events. To find all that money to get Royce is difficult, so thank you for doing it and having the passion and tenacity to do so. Last week when council made the decision, the day after the money was put into all budget. Surplus does not exist, everything is in everyone’s account. She wants to say that diversity comes in many shapes and many colors and many forms. You all are here from the product of programs, and even though whatever decision council makes. She is going to ask this council to have an agenda item to
discuss this, to make it more fair. As a funding chair, it is disappointing that council members don’t have to apply SGOFF. She agrees that there are not appropriate guidelines for surplus. She agrees financially. She hopes that this conversation is collaborative. USAC council members must outreach more to student groups. Not in just come to events, but coprogramming and helping these events happen. There are a lot of student orgs that aren’t here, there are a lot of groups are struggling. She hopes that they recognize it happened and there must be a conversation about how this can happen in the future, but also as a council on how to work together. Perhaps add a discussion item at the very least for some ways to work with surplus in the future so it doesn’t rise again. This is a problem. No student should pay a dime out of their pocket for an event. We owe them that.

-Trumble adds it as agenda item. Oved seconds.

11-0-0 Surplus Discussion added under New Business.

Amil Khan, CPO Intern
-He just started and is amazed since this is a serious thing. It gets troublesome to pay out of pocket. Really take into consideration that if you have money spread it around so that everyone has it.

Nancy Vuong
After hearing about this issue, her first reaction was angry. USAC sugarcoated this issue by talking about surplus. You can’t take away the money we need and expect us to deal with it. She understands they have other issues and other priorities, but for every person in this room there are 10 people like them.

-The money that you all did take, there must be a change for it. She is in charge of Black Transfer extravaganza, mind you there aren’t a lot of black applicants. The fact that she tried to plan an event to bring black transfer students and she only got $100, it didn’t help. Being a student of color at this school forces you to be resourceful. Why is she a UCLA student having to work just as hard, where they should be completely funded? She doesn’t receive financial aid, she works three jobs, she’s a student leader and she is taking 25 units this quarter. When she crosses that stage, she will keep on walking. It shocks me. We are just planning our culture show, her whole staff doesn’t know she just sent it out on GroupMe. She is just preparing documentation to apply for funds, what is she supposed to do? What about the Nigerian students who completely disengage themselves? It’s the one opportunity to show them it’s a great thing for them to understand and want to know more. What about the proceeds that get sent to Nigeria? Please take it into consideration and go in their shoes. As much work as they put in the applications and to only receive $100 makes no sense.

-Uyen states she understand what with Jasso states. Where there’s a will, there’s a way. There are more people on this campus that look up to everyone. Be the leaders that you should be.

-Arce motions for 2 minute recess. Badalich seconds.

V. Special Presentations
VI. Appointments
-Joanio tells them to look forward for E-board coordinates.

VII. Officer and Member Reports
A. President – John Joanino
-Joanino has a meeting with the library. Next Wednesday there is a community forum with USAC, OCHC, DB, News Magazines in DeNeve learning auditorium with a Q&A and agenda setting. Bruin card reform is coming. Next Tuesday there is a meeting with Julie Sty na to develop funding.

B. Internal Vice President – Avi Oved
-Oved states that IVP is programming the off campus living fair, from 11AM-4PM in Ackerman Grand Ballroom. They got over $6,000 in sponsors and there are going to be raffles. In addition FSC is going to be programming a budgeting workshop to ensure safety. Bruin transfer pride is next week, and IVP is programming a transfer resource fair and a transfer misconception panel. Lastly, they want to demonstrate USAC live they want to implement. They want to voice the issues brought up by council. Can streaming of USAC meetings vilify council? They stated it will only uphold them with the idea of Google hangout air. Avinoam demonstrates and states that they reached out to five schools and got overwhelming positive feedback. It helped resolve conflicts. It’s a great start to what could be USAC live.
-Joanino asks when they can start
-Avinoam says they got the film permits signed and within 3 weeks they can get it up and running.
-Badalich asks if they move the meeting, does the permit allow other locations?
-Zimmerman stated the permit needs location.
-Avinoam states se

C. External Vice President – Maryssa Hall
-Kirt, state affairs director, substitutes for Hall. They had a UCSA meeting and they went over the governor’s funding with an increase in funding for education and no tuition increase until 2017. There is a 4% funding increase, and they passed a resolution in regards to what happened to San Jose State University. They passed a resolution is solidarity with black students and want to rectify acts. They want a 0 tolerance policy for racial discrimination. They want to bring this to council for next week. The last thing was Fund the UC for Prop 13 reform. They are planning to make a presentation to council regarding Prop 13. Lastly, LegCon is happening and the applications are due January 22nd. They want a diverse pool of applicants.

D. Academic Affairs Commissioners -- Daren Ramalho
-Ramalho states they are having a cover letter workshop and hoping to co-program with FSC and have other readers to read over and perhaps a workshop. They are looking for having a pamphlet or program called Know your Academic Rights. They want to compile fun facts for students. Lastly, he feels sad that ASRF was an underutilized fund. He was able to get VSU $1,000. Every week he has to remove that from the agenda because no one is applying, but that is a fund they are eligible for if it’s for academic reasons.
-Singh asks about a study resource compilation
-Ramalho states they are looking to release it week 3.
-Geller wants to know the chancellor’s role for Academic Inequity Awareness week.
-Ramalho states they are in the works for planning that, and his committee is still finalizing an agenda.

E. Student Wellness Commissioner
-Badalich states she met with Nancy Greenstein and Lt. McKinney who is in charge of control. They talked about feedback specific to UCPD and the way officers talk with survivors of sexual assault and what inappropriate questions and statements there are and how to rephrase them. First one of the biggest critiques for detectives is that they don’t communicate with survivors enough. Second, Nancy promised to create a new program called “every word counts” to talk about sensitivity. They are making a google doc of the 9 Network and 7000 in Solidarity. UCPD has to tread this line to talk about potential outcomes and be sensitive. They want it to be at least a little bit positive even if they can’t get their case to the court. Lastly, weighing sensitivity as a higher component to become detective and hiring more female detectives. They want to make alcohol case more seriously. She is meeting with California state auditor and she is asking for additional information through a survey: www.tinyurl.com/uclasexualassualtauditsurvey
She can talk about generalities such as feedback, potential ideas, and any other comments. They are going to send out a survey to all UCLA students and recommendations. Consent week is week 4.
-Badalich asks if other students from other UC’s can comment.
-Badalich states yes.

F. Administrative Representative
-Geller introduces Kris Kaupalolo who will be alternate administrative rep in the event Dr. Nelson isn’t here.

-Lazarovici asks if any of the students approach any of them about putting a motion on tonight’s agenda about overturning your vote?
-Council says no.
-Lazarovici reminisces about her time in all levels of government from both sides. It’s interesting that Jasso said she’s graduating, but you are going to be in government the rest of your life and will have to deal with these issues for the rest of their life. The issue it comes down is to prioritizing and how different government bodies organize it. People think their programming is more important than anyone else’s. It is seen at any level of government. Your job is to prioritize. People will disagree passionately. She doesn’t go to large events where there’s music, that to her is punishment but it seems like other people like those events. She also is looking this in terms of political organizing. Tonight you are the people that they are petitioning. Other times, you will be the other people going to other elected officials. In terms of persuasive political communication such as goals, target, and what will influence their target. She has to wonder if calling council shady is an effective political tactic. There is an appropriate time and place and at times polarizing an issue is what you want to do, and making stark differences is effective. She just has to say that expressing your own emotions is not a relevant political goal. There are appropriate ways and places for people to do that with. The political arena is a place where power plays out, who has resources, whose asking for them, and how do you make decisions. Your own personal emotions is frankly irrelevant. It has been her experience that there is an overemphasis on the
value of expressing one’s personal expressions in a political arena. A little bit of self awareness about how and where and with whom would benefit all of us.
-Zimmerman states that there are a lot of other funding initiatives such as the Green Initiative fund for cultural programming such as changing programs to recyclable materials or having an educational sustainable component. For example, Jazz Reggae has a strong sustainability component. Think blue, gold, and green in terms of sustainability.

VIII. Fund Allocations
A. Finance Committee Chair Discretionary
-Ramalho moves to approve contingency. Haws seconds.
-Jasso states $3,839 recommended and $34,793.64 left in contingency. The surplus allocation is in a separate account not used later. The surplus allocation was a little over $31,000.
-Ramalho moves to approve. Badalich seconds.
8-0-3 contingency approved.

D. Cultural Affairs Mini-Fund
-Trumble allocated $750 for Chinese Lunar New Year. $10,420 left in the fund.

IX. Old Business
No old business.

X. New Business
A. Surplus Conversation
-Joanino prefices it that they must recognize that there is definitely a reason for these student organizations to be angry. They want to be proactive and solution oriented.
-Jasso states the process which surplus was allocated was pointed out. The most striking aspect is how unfair procedurally it is. They just reviewed proposals about appeals and they are looking for procedures to see if it was fair. The procedure must be more parallel to which student orgs apply to funding.
-Joanino states it’s a good time to have a conversation about endowment. It should have been partnered with surplus. We’ve had a lot of trouble figuring out endowment and maximize long term effects. We are at a crossroads between balancing short term consequences and long term solutions. What is our solution for a sustainable revenue source? Joanino said we actually lost money from the endowment, and that money won’t be taken out until 2 years. There are long term benefits, but what now? Joanino asks how much BOD will be cut.
-Jasso states 30-40%
-Joanino asks if it’s feasible to return some of those funds to surplus.
-Zimmerman said she must look into it, as long as the moneys not spent.
-Jasso states its a possibility.
-Singh asks about the endowment. If we add to the endowment, do we pay the administrative fee every time?
-Jasso stated no.
-Singh clarifies that we can put in the endowment, and take it out? Are there any costs for running the endowment here on out?
-Jasso states no costs.
Zimmerman states last year the surplus was fairly high, and the goal was to stabilize. With the endowment now where surplus is higher than should be, anything left over would feed into the endowment. Nothing has to be added if you choose not to. It’s a way of stabilizing so it goes into student groups. One year they are giving this much and that was the purpose.

Joanino wants to discuss the process for surplus requests. It’s pretty clear that council member initiatives clearly have an advantage. Is there something in the future council can do? We must have a large conversation.

Kim asks if surplus is always connected to BOD.

Jasso states if no council member was funded. The bylaw David implemented is capped at $150,000. What Joanino is trying to get at is are they trying to create different methods and solutions to move forward.

Hadjimanoukian asks where the money comes from for contingency and surplus.

Jasso states that contingency gets 10% of fees, with $76-77,000. BOD is supplied half by ASUCLA and the other half is from student fees.

Hadjimanoukian stated that if we had 0 surplus it gets to a larger discussion and perpetual problem of funds being tied to surplus.

Jasso states that the problem endowment didn’t solve was that surplus would affect funding sources.

Jasso states that there are many different solutions and four scenarios available with how surplus connects with funding sources.

Hadjimanoukian states once again 76,000 gets allocated contingency and the internal problem is that they get $ number back.

Joanino invites those who asked for surplus to speak.

Badalich stated they got an urgent call asking for funding for VSU. Normally they only give $750, and have been thinking that it’s because of surplus. She feels that her and Oved should have to give some back. If VSU has to beg and try so hard, Oved and her should have to try that hard. She feels they could put the same amount of effort.

Oved states he is more than willing to give the money back from their proposal but it should come out of everyone else’s proposal proportionally. Initially they proposed a $30,000 allocation and starting from there it was a $15,000. Every single proposal should be affected equally. He wants everyone to be held to the same standard.

Badalich agrees to an extent with Oved. She can already think of a bunch of different places they can ask for. The proportion may hit them harder because they can’t find the same sponsors they can. She understands she wants to make it proportional but just give it back.

Trumble is trying to crunch numbers to see what they can do.

Kim asks if it’s fair to have this conversation without Hall? She states Hall should be here to suggest what she can do.

Jasso asks if there’s any way she can come.

Hall’s proxy will text her.

Joanino states that what he’s hearing that some surplus would go back. He’s asking how it would go back.

Jasso states 43%, 42%, and 12%.

Joanino states if everyone gave back half it will put them back $60,000.

Singh asks for clarification. So every year we get a surplus, and if surplus is at $150,000 then the allocations for those 3 funds of what they should be?

Zimmerman stated that with the budget they have to stabilize and talking with funding directors these are recommendations and an idea of what you should hopefully have towards the end of the quarter. First allocate to projects, then $150,000 will go into the equation, and anything left over will go to the endowment.
Roger states that working proactively, it’s important that council must know what student groups have to go through. There needs to be some sorts of processes because we have too much discretion over it. We must start by having education and then look at the 3 funding sources. We must all have a full understanding of this. We must spend time looking. It will be good to start looking at sustainable ways for surplus to be allocated.

Badalich states that whatever student groups have to go through, council should have to go through it. We have too much discretion over it. We have a discretionary fund.

Trumble states there definitely needs to be reform. She is not willing to take money out of Cultural Affairs Mini Fund, but definitely thinks that to be honest Red has been withholding $9,000 and with this student outrage she can convince them to give it to her and she can give that much.

Oved states in terms of having council members get funding, perhaps they should get signatures to support them and have a similar process.

Jasso states that there needs to be an application made and make a focus group where they develop this application presented to council as a whole. Council members used to have to apply with SGOFF, and now it’s automatic. So many things are automatic for you all, there needs to be council regulation on their own power.

Joanino definitely thinks that an application will be a good first step. The core issue is that council has too much power over surplus. Something they can think about through CRC is how to strike the balance between council being able to access student funds and how it’ll affect student groups. The timeline of student groups asking for Spring is already at a disadvantage.

Trumble asks if an application would be a bylaw change.

Zimmerman states that she’ll look into it.

Dr. Geller states that the big issue is priority. By voting the way you did, you gave the message that funding council initiatives as a priority. You knew that every dollar allocated to council would not be allocated to student groups. When she looks at the contingency allocations, much of the funding is to support council programs. It seems to her that the discussion shouldn’t be about an application for surplus funds, it should be what are council priorities? Are they to fund council initiatives? Are they for student programs? Is it a blend of the 2? Is it something they want each year’s council’s to determine or are you wanting to take action that would codify what you believe are the priorities and impose that on future councils. Do you want to adjust those formulas? She encourages them to look at bigger issues rather than focusing on the minutiae. Where are they as a group and what do they believe is the role of council in regards to funding and programming. Is the priority programming? Is it student initiated? Is it council initiated? Whether or not some or all of you decide to give back the funds previously allocated to your projects, that’s a band-aid. That’s not a long term solution to address a long term problem. The cost of venues goes up every year, more and more student groups register and program every year. The more groups that apply to funding, the less far it goes. If you can’t give enough funding to make a program viable, might it be in everyone’s interest to deny funding to one program and award enough to make another more viable? You must prioritize.

Hadjimanoukian asking if its appropriate to say that if it’s less than $150,000 than council can claim x amount? Is there a way to secure funding with them not having that discretion over it.

Badalich asks why USAC is allowed to tap into surplus before everyone else? Who decided that?
Zimmerman said its unrestricted money coming in from the other year. It’s to fund programs without any funding sources. It is money rolled over from last year that is not restricted.

Badalich asks why council gets first dibs?

Geller states that much of these funds come from the individual offices.

Jasso states that last year’s surplus came from a ⅓ of commission leftovers. The surplus is coming a lot of time from council but somehow we still find a need to apply for funding sources with the misconception that they are saving money. She hates retreats applications, is there a need for beachside properties? What are the priorities of council? Originally she thought the only programming was only CAC and CEC. The increase in council programming is overwhelming.

Badalich asks if surplus just allocated and big programs apply to BOD?

Joanino states that a lot of student orgs apply to BOD also.

Lazarovici wants to widen the lens even a little bit more. She has often scratched her head on why some activities are being funded by student fees. Like a safety app? Why isn’t UCPD paying for that or a university? There are some academic programs, why isn’t the university funding that? The longer library hours? Why should student fees go for that? There are a lot of different entities that have funding prioritize and make funding decisions and when any one source steps way from that responsibility, it leaves that vacuum that you all are struggling to fill. Why has this fallen to you?

Joanino states its a good point. Why aren’t access and yield events coming from university funding?

Kim wants to touch upon what Kim and Hadjimanoukian stated. She said Jasso advises us to use our budget the whole year, and she agrees. Doesn’t that pose a problem that we are so dependent on surplus, but since they are all used to being funded for so much more? Wouldn’t it be a problem no matter what?

Jasso states she wishes that year can happen with everyone being too dependent on surplus. Every time a student pays $40 that is an investment in you all and the entire student government. It would create chaos and people would be upset. We must realize and mobilize. There shouldn’t be a surplus, but there are so many accounts open and it’s hard to regulate hundreds of accounts and close them all. There is a contradiction asking you to spend everything, knowing it will spend next year. Start living within our means or think about creative ways for funding sources. The sense of entitlement is going to continue to grow if there is no tangible solution.

Dr. Geller asks what do you want to do-- reduce what you do to live within your means, or run a referendum to increase the money in order to increase what you can do?

Joanino states it reminds him of the CURE referendum. Aside from a referendum, in the short term what does that mean for this years council? Hopefully down the line there will be more money, especially with the centennial campaign. What can we do as a council?

Badalich states we will reduce what we asked for. That’s what they asked for. Long term is referendum and application for surplus. Point blank.

Kim agrees, as of right now that none of them are prepared to have this conversation and they are going to have to talk about after some research especially if it’s in talks for a referendum. As of for tonight, then they should talk about short term.

Jasso states there’s a problem for those who applied for capital contingency, applied 2 weeks and those allocations were set to come next week. She can inform the groups and out of fairness she’ll have to see.

Singh states that having this conversation with Hall here is important enough is a concern that we should use USAC discretionary funds.
Dr. Geller stated that as understands it, the pool for capital contingency would not get smaller but larger if the allocations are reversed, so why would delaying a vote on reversing prior surplus allocations need to delay allocations from capital contingency?

Jasso states it would affect how she funds if more money was added.

Haws agrees that there needs to be a short term solution because honestly last week there were a lot of consensus, but last week our conversation was very narrow minded and tonight he wants to see them reduce funds and what that can go towards and long term go toward referendum.

Ramalho states that there needs to be something long term, as simple as he can say. As offices with commissions we must spend money, I need to be spending my SGOFF and creating a culture where student groups don’t have to rely on surplus. Students definitely spoke tonight.

Arce states that it is an issue that council has so much discretion over surplus, and there is more demand with the same supply of funds. There are a great increase in student groups applying for funding. Another issue is the inconsistency of the fund, and inherently there will be peak years and low years and years like this would be inevitable.

Naameh states that hearing public comment was a shocker. She shouldn’t have been so shocked she should have thought about it earlier. A lot of groups that talked felt under served and under represented. We fucked up. The fact that they have to work so much harder to get here, so much harder to stay here, so much harder for access, so much harder for funding. We really need to give back, the bruin diversity initiative should have passed. It shouldn’t be a defensive stance, it should be literally look at your project and see how much you give back. It’s the responsibility you have. We must be proactive, we must not seem entitled.

Oved apologizes if it seems like he seems entitled, but he thinks he’s fair.

Chris stated that the students are hurt and they need to be made whole by all of you. There are funding and there are a lot of money left why aren’t they hitting me up? This needs to be reexamined and loosen up what type of funding sources. You do have large funding sources that isn’t available. How can I work with these student groups? This is how you make them whole again. They feel hurt.

Kim states that they are all in agreement some of what they allocated is the right thing to do. She wants to touch upon with that Deb said earlier. If you’re allocated $100, should you nix the money. If you want to make an initiative happen it would be unfair for that to happen.

Badalich states that there are long term goals that cannot be talked about but right now what we should really focus on is reducing allocations given last week but that’s the only short term solution. It would be really uncomfortable for Jasso to postpone it but it should be really talked about this week.

Jasso states it frustrates her that people say it’s absent, because she reminded council 3-4 times. No one was critical enough. They already feel hurt. She doesn’t want to make them wait one more week.

Zimmerman states that if the account stays as is we would give an allocation of supposedly 80% and I received an additional let’s just 10,000 then my allocation would have been 95%. Then we can determine that 80% and then we want to take that additional 15% and pay it out of discretionary and then wait it out. There is a way to move forward with those allocations and still move forward next week. She states it would work either way but doesn’t think they have to stop this conversation.

Joanino is asking if they want to decide tonight giving back.

Singh states that we should ask those who asked for surplus. If we can still do it in the manner that Zimmerman described, then that would be great as long as those council
members think they need another week. If they need another week, let them have a week to avoid accounting errors.

-Trumble states that she doesn’t want to wait a week perhaps an emergency meeting.
- Oved states he agrees that they should wait.
- Hall states essentially they should make a decision tonight. Right after the meeting she thought she wanted to give money back. As Jasso kept saying, this was bigger than us. She didn’t know it would be to this scale, but she’s glad it is. She does want to give money back but wants to find the money to mitigate it. Her budget hit twice from all different angles but she’s trying to crunch numbers. She does thinks they should give some sort of portion. Is it possible that they give back funding can it go back to BOD/funding?
- Trumble states yes it will follow the same formula.
- Singh clarifies that they want to make the decision tonight?
- Hall states its a really pressing issue and they really need to make a decision. Hopefully they can figure out how much they can mitigate this so student groups feel this way.
- Joanino states that he will answer more questions about the endowment next week since he’s moving.

-Badalich yields her time

-Public comment states that they should own up to their responsibility that they all fucked up. This shouldn’t be a conversation on how much they can give back? They should give 100% back. It’s 100% wrong. It was wrong from the get-go. You can have weeks and week of discussions, but you need to put the money back where it belongs.
- Badalich moves towards a 20 minute recess. Ramalho seconds.

Meeting adjourned at 9:33.
- Oved states that they are proposing to cut 33% and encourage everyone to match that because they feel it’s fair.
- Jasso states what everyone’s willing to cut and then having the discussion afterwards.
- Oved states 33% would leave them with $10,385 and $5,115 going back.
- Kim is willing to take $3,000 instead of her original $4,000.
- Hall states she has to disagree with the 33%. She is willing to give back more than that. She is willing to give back $6,000, 57%.
- Trumble is willing to give back $15,000.
- Joanino thinks it’s their responsibility the idea of council member initiatives foregoing any surplus funds. What is council’s idea?
- Naameh states they did make mistakes, but they also have initiatives that deserve to be funded but it should be funded in a more democratic way, but doesn’t think they should be completely cut.
- Lazarovici states that there is an artificial distinction between council initiated programs and the student initiated programs which doesn’t make sense since they are all students and developed leadership skills and political base from the very student groups. She can picture a scenario where all of the events and initiatives were discussed by the public commenters were funded, and all of the students that support yours would be in public comment. She just wants them to entertain the idea. She warns against making a distinction on a broader level that things aren’t that different from each other.
- Joanino states that’s a good point, reemphasizing prioritizing.
- Kim states she can agree and to disagree. What we prioritize is objective, and cancelling out all would be unfair thinking about how $80,000 was already allocated. It would be unfair to stop funding from the beginning.
- Trumble totally gets it but at the end of the day it doesn’t solve the problem.
Badalich wants to go back and states there are some topics that aren’t able to get funding and inherently controversial because it doesn’t always make them look good for the reason behind it. There are something’s you need surplus from. She’s not too familiar but she thinks its weird how USAC gets first dibs like we get to pick and everyone get’s scraps. Why don’t we all go through the same process? It’s fair competition as opposed to left overs.

Hall states she agrees with what everyone’s saying, and even if we do give funding back it won’t go directly to where it needs to go. She emphasizes a plan that those funding that come back every year are protected. She fundamentally believes in the work of USSA. It’s the largest and longest running student initiated.

Hadjimanoukian states determining funding is completely arbitrary. The biggest question is how much of an impact is giving half and some of these projects still happen. We just told the public we’re doing this and then going back on it. We saw a handful of students tonight and another handful weren’t here and everyone’s arguing who deserves it and it’s a perpetual problem.

Haws agrees with Lazavoci stated that people who did support the initiatives from last week would come. We must look forward and he adamantly supports making it more fair and democratic. It doesn’t make any sense to dip into the fund more and take what they deserve. We must compare what we deserve and the need with others.

Badalich states long term they have to put money into the fund that’s stable through a referendum and should be coupled with an application that is fair an equal to BOD. Long term we know what we have to do, but not it must be short term. We must stay on the topic of feasibility.

Joanino agrees. He’s hearing that we should not forgo all of the surplus request.

Oved wants to take a vote.

Jasso states it’s interesting because they are all in a different pickle. You are essentially saying that some of you all should play devil’s advocate. The piece in the Daily Bruin had a half-heartedly conversation of what would be left over. What would be the pros and set the precedent going back, the student orgs won’t suffer the huge blows? There are pros that people aren’t discussing that make it unfair. She doesn’t want to see something half-hearted. Council can potentially set a precedent of $150,000 going back to student funding. You must be more critical because last week that’s what you are lacking.

Hall states she agrees with Jasso. How much is currently what Jacob has to work with for BOD?

Jasso states $129,000.

Hall asks what is the percentage of cuts orgs are seeing?

Jasso states 30-40%.

Hall states they should be strategic, it shouldn’t be arbitrary. Let’s put things back with an end in site. How do we make that 30-40% smaller for it to be closer to 10% so it’s not as drastic. There is not enough money to go around for everyone. We have a responsibility to at least ensure they aren’t suffering at our gain. We need to stop making it about politics and my party for your party. These are student groups and they need this funding. This is about the funding they need that as students need to do more. We should start talking about.

Singh states the threshold is $150,000 and $152,000 if that’s the threshold we are trying to meet and reduce BOD to manageable number, that means every council member is returning 100%, with $2000 to split between 4 people.

Joanino states, that is why he is posing the question does council want to return everything?

Arce states yes it’s an issue they are having and some of these initiatives affect the whole campus. What Jasso said was valid.
Badalich stated that the argument for $80,000 was determined prior to knowing the number of surplus. We are already prioritized and gambled without knowing all of our chips.

Oved states that there are other council members that applied to BOD, and we should also take that into consideration and didn’t tap into those finds and looking for it for a one time fee. It’s not just surplus, its the weekly contingency, it’s BOD. We should really not just pick and choose, but look at the entire big picture.

Ramalho states he’s trying to think of the perspective of council members and student groups. It’s not black and white, although he disagrees with about 95% of what they lobbied for LegCon is still needed. He doesn’t think everyone should give back everything, but we have to look for long term things for the future. We must make proportional cuts and unless we give everything back, then you are not going to satisfy everyone.

Hall yields his time to Raid.

- His beliefs is that you should give all the money back and $2,000 over and Bruin Bash initiative. If you pay the money you won’t charge and you still took it from surplus. You already prioritized certain items. There are other mixed feelings and last year the Bruin Diversity initiative there are people who voted against it. These programs create a better campus climate and stop microaggressing. That could’ve been a solution. They thought about every aspect and it wasn’t passed. Did you all vote for it last year? Would you vote for it this year? This is not a reliable source of funding. There will be a lot of issues. The clapping after bruin diversity failed was the most atrocious thing. Is it political? Now you are trying to reconsider and increased own stipends and these are critical things. You must address and prioritize own initiatives supporting communities of colors? What are you trying to prioritize?

Jasso states there needs to be some form of straw vote whether they want to do just student orgs, council programs, or both? At this point, it’s what are you prioritizing as a council? Make that decision to have a normative goal and a clear path on what you want to get through. People are all over the place, there is no goal.

Rogers agrees that it’s not black and white, and she doesn’t support what legcon stands for either but agrees that student groups are hurt. She was looking up what bylaws said, she thinks they should return some of it she doesn’t believe in forgoing it.

Hall moves to give back all of the funding she requested last week for USSA. She’s essentially going to be operating on $0 budget, but she’s going to try to figure it out. She is not willing to hurt all the students in the group.

Hadjimanoukian seconds.

12-0-0 USSA registration fees were defunded.

- Trumble moves to give back all the funding jazz reggae got. Ramalho seconded.

12-0-0 Jazz reggae is defunded.

- Oved moves to give all funding on the safety app. Badalich seconded.

12-0-0 the safety app is defunded.

- Kim moves to give all funding for the Jack Benny app.

12-0-0 Jack Benny is defunded.

Badalich wants to say that it was huge and it was really big and thanks everyone.

Jasso thanks everyone, and for council members that will be a rock in a hard place, please use FiCom and all of the administrators.

Badalich thanks all the students for coming

Kim yields her time.

- From the bottom of his time, he really wants to thank everyone and is excited that they came to something. They still have to apply to something, at least those funds are now available to students in a different way.
XI. Announcements
-SWC has super QPR next Wednesday from 7-9PM. It’s in new Sproul Venice Room A-B. Week 4 is consent week and it’s a lot of cool stuff. Look out for that, continuously have CPR questions on weekends.
-Singh states that the meeting will be in Covel Commons and it’s a quick run down from 5:30-7:00 they are planning mixer type activities and council meeting at 7pm.
-Jasso states she won’t be here next week. Today contingency accounts will be closing.
-Hall states that Fund the UC day of action 11-2.
-Kim states there is a sneak of Dom Hemingway next week and Alexis Ohaney and co-founder of Reddit. They have a cool concert January 27
-Oved states the campus safety alliance met and they are programming with campus safety day to utilize the entire campus on March 3. A safety take over. A how-to guide is almost finalized. USAC funds and fund all across campus will be included, as well as deadlines, contact, and requirements.
-Trumble states that tomorrow the Word comes back. It’s going to be in Ackerman Viewpoint Room just behind Tsunami. They are having auditions for hiphop fashion show on Rieber Terrace 8th floor lounge from 7-9 PM.
-Hall states the LegCon app is out.
-Ramalho seconds.
-Oved yields her time to Brittany.
-Brittany thanks council for returning the money back. She finds a lot of discussion problematic, such as taking funds from student groups. We will hold you accountable, sit and think and be devil’s advocate and think of both sides. This should have never happened. There should have been nothing to discuss. This is a hard lesson, this is something they can all take. Making a hard decision shows character, hopefully we took away some learning process. She really doesn’t want to come back.
-Rogers wanted to say that some of the hardest working students and she’s really proud of all the money they give back, sitting here and watching them through the meeting is humbling. Everyone is incredible and lucky to go to school, and she wants to support fully giving back anything and making sure surplus is having $150,000 for student groups and making sure council should be accountable. We don’t know anything and we need to reach out to you. She really wants to say that. Brittany especially, she is so impressed.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet
The attendance sheet was passed around.

XI. Adjournment
-Ramalho moves to adjourn. Hall seconds.
Meeting adjourned 10:16 pm.

XII. Good and Welfare