

FINALIZED

January 31, 2017

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

Kerckhoff Hall 417

January 24, 2017

7:00 PM

PRESENT: Sabrina Zeigler, Rafael Sands, Ashly Mohankumar, Jordan Dang, Zoe Borden, Ruchit Majmudar, Inan Chowdhury, Amy Shao, Sandra Rhee, Ariel Rafalian, Christina Lee, Divya Sharma, Debra Geller, Roy Champawat, Michael Starr, Rob Kadota, Jessica Alexander

ABSENT: Michael Starr, Zack Dameron, Danny Siegel, Kevin Yu

I. Call to Order

-Siegel calls the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

A. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet is passed around

II. Approval of the Agenda

-Shao moves to strike ARC fund.

-Sands moves to change presentation C to B.

-Mohankumar moves to strike ASRF and Travel Mini fund.

-Lee moves to strike the Student Wellness Programming fund.

-Mohankumar moves to approve the agenda as amended. Majmudar seconds.

9-0-0 vote the agenda has been approved.

III. Approval of the Minutes from January 17th, 2017.

-Mohankumar moves to approve the minutes. Rafalian seconds.

10-0-0 vote the minutes have been approved.

IV. Public Comments

-Emma from CalPIRG says we are working on moving the UC system to renewable energy and renewable electricity.

-Emma says we are working on protecting our bees.

-Emma invites everyone to their kickoff event tomorrow at 7pm in Dodd 170.

V. Special Presentations

A. Sigma Chai Presentation – Inan Chowdhury and Jabril Muhammed

-Zoiya is taking Jabril's place to speak.

-Zoiya is Inan's chief of staff.

-Zoiya says Sigma CHAI stands for the Coalition of Humans Against Injustice.

-Zoiya says there are many injustices going around on campus.

-Zoiya says there is a level of fragmentation occurring on campus that needs to change and Sigma CHAI is our way to challenge that.

-Zoiya says a community is sustained interaction plus conversation plus a shared space.

-Zoiya says Greek life has all of the qualities of a community and we need to break the gap between Greek life and students here.

- Zoiya says we are trying to engage with Greek life's social awareness.
- Zoiya says we have created focus groups, surveys, and ideas to have conversations regarding mutual learning.
- Zoiya says we would love if all of your offices could help by attending events every Friday at 4pm here in Kerkhoff and have open conversations.
- Zoiya says the goal is to be a typical picture of multi-cultured friends here on campus.
- Zeigler asks is the topic going to change week to week or a continuous theme for new people coming every week?
- Chowdhury says every week it will be a different topic and if we want to speak on certain issues people can speak on that.
- Chowdhury says each week we will speak on issues occurring.
- Chowdhury says every week our goal is to educate and to share our narratives on these issues with our experiences.
- Chowdhury says every week we will send out a curriculum of what is going on during the event.
- Chowdhury says this is to build the interaction with every community.
- Borden says thank you and is wondering if Sigma CHAI has reached out to any of the Greek community members?
- Zoiya says some panels have been reached out, but we want to make it more personal so we would like to do interpersonal outreach and then market ourselves further.
- Chowdhury says we were heavily in contact with the IFC president last year, but we just received the PanHellenic phone number.
- Chowdhury says we want to build a personal connection with Greek life so they will engage and see us as humans too rather than bulk emails sent out.
- Zeigler asks will there be proper vocabulary at these things since many people do not understand fully when it comes to issues as so?
- Zoiya says yes there will be an educational component to this to define certain terms needed for these issues.

B. Presentation on Measure S, the Neighborhood Integrity Initiative – Rafi Sands

- Sands says there is another election in March called "Measure S".
- Brent introduces himself and attended UCLA in 2012, he helps run housing and affordability organizations here in LA to try to get the cost of living down.
- Brent says Measure S is what we are focusing on in the next few months.
- Gabe introduces himself and graduated in 2008, he is very active in housing in LA because he is tired of living in such expensive rates.
- Sands says Measure S is known as the neighborhood integrity initiative and it is occurring on Tuesday of 9th week.
- Gabe says this is an issue because it limits housing in Westwood apartment area to a maximum of 3 stories tall.
- Gabe says his rent has increased constantly by \$100, and massive amounts of people are spending a chunk of their income on rent.
- Gabe says the reason why rent is high is because there is not enough housing for all of the people living in LA.
- Gabe says over the last decades we have not built new housing so accommodation has drove up rent extremely high.

- Brent says local land use is complicated, in summary; this would ban large buildings outside of downtown.
- Brent says this would stop 20% of the housing being built in LA.
- Brent says Measure S will slow transit, promote development of single-family homes and suburbia, decrease new housing construction and affordable housing and housing for the homeless.
- Sands says UCLA plays a role because we will be paying higher rent and living in more congested living conditions due to the issues of not allowing housing to be built more than 3 stories high when most apartments here are already 3 stories high.
- Sands says UCLA cannot build enough dorms anymore either.
- Sands says this will make UCLA go back into a commuter campus when more and more students will not be able to live in Westwood.
- Brent says this will affect our environment also because of more traffic due to everyone being forced to live in suburbia, greater releases of greenhouse gases, carbon and pollution, increased water use, and much more.
- Brent says the increase of traffic will cause smog, rent will rise, homelessness rises, less job opportunities, and fewer services such as firefighters and police.
- Gabe says Measure HHH just passed that puts money into housing for homeless, but 10 of those sites are illegal to build on if Measure S passes.
- Sands says there are many effects due to Measure S outside of simply rent issues.
- Brent says the president of the AIDS healthcare foundation is using money needed to fight HIV to fund ballot propositions and is currently being sued.
- Gabe says this was originally going to be on the November ballot but now it is on the March ballot due to older homeowners more likely to show up and younger students are not likely to show up.
- Sands says the bad news is that this is a horrible measure, the good news is that most of our students are registered and since this is a city election if UCLA students show up we can surpass this bill.
- Sands says housing has been an issue for almost every student on campus and we need to work against this.
- Sands says 5th week we will have an open event and 6th week we will have a registration phase, 8th week is when we will get up and vote until 9th week.
- Sands says we need to inform students about this and get votes.
- Majmudar says thank you and has heard quite the opposite about Measure S.
- Majmudar says first off, this would take money out of developers giving to politicians and using the money elsewhere, secondly I understand the 2 year ban on housing has an exception on affordable housing and homeless housing, and third the environment is confusing because the yes side claims to take the power of the those environmental reports to give to staff and fill out the reports. Could you please clarify?
- Brent says first no one can take the profit from these projects; it does take away power from politicians but does not give power to others.
- Brent says they are lying about the second issue, the exception is for the high district change and zone change, not applying to the affordable and homeless housing.
- Brent says as for the third point I agree with them on their environmental reports, but we should not pass a housing prop that effects us this way.
- Brent says the real environmental issue is forcing people into suburbia.

- Shao says you all opened up the presentation about the transit system, how close would this transit system follow the highway system? Will this process expedite gentrification?
- Gabe says people move over other cities in LA that causes a trickle down effect and research shows allowing the construction of more housing will prevent the gentrification.
- Brent says LA is building housing right now, but none of it is on the west side.
- Brent says if they cannot build a new building, they will buy older buildings and kick everyone out to make it a luxury building for those who can afford it.

C. Books Not Bombs Presentation – Reem Karmouta and Kawsar Nasir

- Kawsar says Books Not Bombs is a scholarship program for Syrian students.
- Kawsar says this is a platform to urge campuses to take action for the issues arising in Syria.
- Reem says IIE Syria Consortium is the institute for international education and was launched at the Clinton Global Initiative in 2012.
- Reem says this is meant to provide scholarships for Syrian students for those who can no longer obtain education.
- Reem says the situation in Syria is ongoing and almost 6 years old now.
- Reem says cities that were once historical landmarks are not dust and only a small amount of refugees are allowed to get scholarships.
- Reem says the universities in Syria are currently closed and have been closed due to threats or constantly being bombed.
- Reem certain scholars from Syria that received education elsewhere gained degrees to help refugees.
- Kawsar says funding will not come from our students, funding will come from private donors, scholarships, and graduate fellowships.
- Kawsar says these students will have the same opportunities that we have here as students.
- Kawsar says our public funds will not be misused.
- Kawsar says UCLA has established certain scholarships, Books not Bombs administratives person are going to meet in San Francisco in regards to this scholarship.
- Reem says UCLA would take more time out to try to obtain funds from other resources.
- Kawsar says these students will not be a threat; they will be subjects to highest security level checks.
- Reem says we have been in contact with Marcelo Ramirez in assisting the community to assist Syrian students and it has passed at UCI, UC Davis, and Berkeley.
- Reem says UCLA prides itself in activism so we need to continue to help to fulfill these goals.
- Reem says this is a resolution, nothing is set in stone, but this shows we are willing to take this step to help the international community.
- Reem encourages everyone to take this in as a humanitarian crisis to help others globally.
- Zeigler asks when you both came and spoke last quarter you said there was a petition, how many signatures do you have now?
- Reem says we have 240 currently.
- Zeigler asks what will that entail?
- Reem says this will not entail anything; it is just for us to get the word out about this issue and this movement.

- Mohankumar says how many other IIE organizations are at campuses?
- Reem says 4 other universities are working to get a similar resolution passed.
- Chowdhury says this requires collaboration with UCLA IIE, does this occur after all resolutions have passed?
- Reem and Kawsar say yes.
- Sands asks if they have been in contact with certain donors at UCLA?
- Reem says we are working with the UC Regents this week.
- Sands asks do you know what the regents are deciding on?
- Reem says they are working on how this funding would work and feasibility.
- Zeigler says for a resolution, do you mean through USAC or what else?
- Reem says having this passed through UCLA.
- Sands says we need to modify the image a little bit since we do not have the ability to speak for all of UCLA.
- Reem says we are open to alterations.
- Sharma says how time sensitive is the passing of this?
- Reem says we started at UC Berkeley and we realize it is a slow process, there is not a specific deadline, we just want to take it one step at a time to make it as feasible as possible.
- Zeigler says to pass resolutions through USAC you need 3 council members and then we need to change wording on this for USAC and not for UCLA. What are the next steps?
- Reem says more events on campus, more signatures and alter the wording to get it passed through USAC.

VI. Appointments

VII. Officer and Member Reports

A. President – Siegel

- Zeigler speaks on behalf of Siegel.
- Siegel says this Wednesday 6-7pm in Humanities A46 his interns are having their weekly meeting so please come by or send a staff member.
- Siegel says reach out to Women’s Caucus sponsored by the UC Council of Presidents.

B. Internal Vice President -- Zeigler

- Zeigler says the off campus living fair is this Wednesday February 1st so come by.

C. External Vice President -- Sands

- Sands says last week the Millennial’s Take Charge panel was amazing.
- Sands says the Women’s March was great.
- Sands says regents are voting this week or so to move forward with the plan to vote on a tuition hike and student fee hike.
- Sands says when tuition is increased, all students who receive CalGrants will receive more money and the state is paying more money anyways.
- Sands says we will be having flyering and phone making event Thursday from 6-8pm to focus on long-term solutions.

D. Academic Affairs Commissioner – Mohankumar

- Mohankumar says the Women's March went great and it was amazing how much support we got.
- Mohankumar says Jan. 25th there will be a panel discussion about the path of medicine and healthy lifestyle in DeNeve.
- Mohankumar says they will be screening Hidden Figures here in Westwood to push students to get involved in STEM fields.
- Mohankumar says there is college academic counseling occurring on campus too.
- Mohankumar says Feb. 23rd will be the networking program for clubs.

E. Student Wellness Commissioner – Lee

- Lee says last week she went to the HCIC committee and emotional well-being will be the theme this year.
- Lee says the B-Plate roof/patio will be growing food to incorporate into their own foods.
- Lee says tomorrow is I Am Pre-Med event and this week is the Students Against Sexual Harassment events.
- Lee says week 8 will have panels on schizophrenia.
- Lee says we are currently at \$7,000 for our 5K and hoping to get more.

F. Facilities Commissioner – Rhee

- Rhee says CSO van service will have something similar to uberpool in the Spring.
- Rhee says the CPO food closet will have 2 bins of bagels and pastries there.

G. Campus Events Commissioner – Dang

- Dang says we are hiring next week for graphic designs.
- Dang says Jan. 31st is the rescheduled film and Moana is Feb. 2nd.
- Dang says we have a sneak for Fist Fight on Feb. 9th.

H. General Representative 1 – Borden

- Borden says we are currently working with the scholarship resource center and director of IT to add hyperlinks on myucla to financial aid and scholarship resource center to make it easier for students.
- Borden says we are working on getting corporate scholarships for campus and reaching out to underutilized spaces on campuses to rent these spaces.
- Borden says we are meeting with the director of the career center to highlight companies that practice diversity and careers that students can access.
- Borden says we are also hiring for a graphic designer application going out tomorrow.

I. General Representative 2 – Majmudar

- No major updates.

J. General Representative 3 – Chowdhury

- Chowdhury thanks council for the presentation and this Friday is the first event for Sigma CHAI's first event "Community on Challenge" 4-8pm.
- Chowdhury says the first meeting will be more informational than the rest of the meetings.

- Chowdhury says today Sigma CHAI and the Bruin Games are both going to be official organizations at UCLA and hopefully those will last after his term is over.
- Chowdhury says the venue for the Bruin Games will be hosted near the hill for students to engage in competitive activities to build a stronger UCLA community and selling food on the side.
- Chowdhury says we are finalizing those events within this week and next week and I just hired 14 new members to my office to help.

K. Transfer Student Representative – Sharma

- Sharma says we have transfer pride week, mental health chats on Monday and focus groups went on today.
- Sharma says the mental health chats went really well.
- Sharma says there is a survey going out to transfers about mental health to help them in the orientation process.
- Sharma says we as a council need to converse each other on how we will support others on campus, currently he is working on scholarships and the issue that you need to be citizen for many of these.
- Sharma says we are trying to create non-traditional housing off campus and working with Jean in the BRC to create a recovery space on the hill for sober students.
- Sharma says we are reaching out to RA's on the transfer floor in regards to recovery.
- Sharma says parenting student updates; we are working with the issue of payments for families to lower the costs.
- Sharma says we are working with MOCA (Mother's of Color Association).

L. Administrative Representatives

- Geller says this morning she sent a couple of emails about opportunities for student leaders to participate in and give honest feedback about whether certain programs are good for our students on campus.
- Geller says she sent information from Katie Couric's production company to film on college campuses, so if that is of interest for you please reach out.
- Kadota says the national geographic is a great publication and he saw the latest version of it called "Gender".
- Kadota says this was a comprehensive expose about gender and a movie is coming out about it, so please take a look at it.
- Kadota says we had a meeting this morning and shared the release of Bruins Safe app developed out of the incident last year and updates to Bruin Alert.
- Kadota says download the app, there is a safe walk that will connect with the CSO vans.
- Kadota says training is starting this weekend for students who are interested in emergency and medicine to help members know what to do in these emergency situations.
- Alexander says some of you have emailed me about the issue in your offices of fruit flies, technician will be here Thursday night to spray and the floor needs to be clear so please clear the floor and tables and spaces beforehand that would be great.
- Shao says we have wood art installations in the walls, they will not be out until next week, is that ok?
- Alexander says it should be a problem.

-Kadota says housing does not have a sober living option here, but we are working on it currently.

-Sharma says Jean is trying to work on having RA's help with this lifestyle.

-Champawat has no report.

VIII. Fund Allocations

A. Contingency Programming * -- Yu

-10 student organizations applied.

-Total required was \$22,149.57.

-Total requested was \$8,544.26.

-Total recommended is \$4,200.

-Chowdhury moves to approve the contingency allocation for \$4,200. Majmudar seconds. 11-0-0 vote the contingency allocation has been approved.

B. EVP Bruin Defenders # -- Sands

-One application from the Equity Diversity and Inclusion Board to attend a conference at UC Davis for \$500.

-This allocation has been approved by consent.

IX. Old Business

A. USAC Reform Ad Hoc Committee Update – Ad Hoc Committee Members

-Sharma says it was a quick meeting; we gave out tasks such as talk to different members at colleges.

-Sharma says Lee, Dameron, and himself worked with student groups and many of these groups felt they had no space in appointment process.

-Sharma says he understands why there is conflict and confusion about how this has to do with students and we are having focus groups up and running soon.

-Sharma says at the end of the day it is the students voice and we are looking at marketing in general for the focus groups.

-Lee says we came up with questions after speaking to students; it is not easy to see how commissions would fit into this system.

-Lee says it is not clear whether commissions will be able to maintain their independent abilities.

-Lee says we are currently seeing issues such as how funding would work.

-Mohankumar says we spoke to UCI members on how their student government functions, there are 3 main branches and the executive is made of president, academic affairs, IVP and EVP.

-Mohankumar says our current set up will not function well.

-Mohankumar says the feasibility of having a senate is a lot of chaos with many people in the student government, but it is a different perspective from students to speak, but it might not function well.

-Sharma says the Daily Bruin speaking about the senate was not supposed to be towards the senate, it is more towards the role of what the student government is.

-Sharma says it looks as though it is hard to completely change the system, but institutionalizing diversity is something we need to be constantly asking ourselves.

-Zeigler says she is creating a Google folder of minutes each week, universities we speak to and what we are currently working on as a council, we meet 6-7pm.

X. New Business

XI. Announcements

-Zeigler says next week we are voting on the election calendar so look at that before meeting.

-Sharma says make sure you and your offices get Allyship training for the benefit of the LGBT community on campus.

-Shao says they will be hosting the Word on Wednesday.

-Shao says February will have hip-hop appreciation month to celebrate black history month.

-Shao says Thursday and Friday there will be a fashion show for culture and where we came from.

-Shao says there are auditions for this catwalk.

-Shao says at Wooden people will come together for freestyle sessions this upcoming Friday.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet has been passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

-Majmudar moves to adjourn the meeting at 8:34pm.

-Sharma seconds.

11-0-0 vote the meeting has been adjourned.

XIV. Good and Welfare

* Indicates Action Item

Indicates Consent Item

@ Indicates Executive Session Item