

FINALIZED

February 28th, 2017

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

Kerckhoff Hall 417

February 21st, 2017

7:00 PM

PRESENT: Danny Siegel, Sabrina Zeigler, Ashly Mohankumar, Jordan Dang, Zoe Borden, Inan Chowdhury, Zack Dameron, Amy Shao, Sandra Rhee, Ariel Rafalian, Christina Lee, Kevin Yu, Ruchit Majmudar, Divya Sharma, Debra Geller, Roy Champawat, Rob Kadota, Jessica Alexander

ABSENT: Rafael Sands, Michael Starr,

I. Call to Order

-Siegel calls the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

A. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet is passed around

II. Approval of the Agenda

-Mohankumar moves to strike ASRF.

-Shao moves to strike ARC fund.

-Zeigler moves to strike IVP report.

-Shao moves to approve the agenda. Borden seconds.

10-0-0 vote the agenda has been approved as amended.

III. Approval of the Minutes from February 14th, 2017

-Chowdhury moves to approve the minutes. Mohankumar seconds.

9-0-1 vote the minutes have been approved.

IV. Public Comments

-CalPirg is updating council, March 6th they are going to Sacramento to work on fracking ban and other environmental issues.

V. Special Presentations

A. BASH Resolution Presentation – BASH Members

-BASH presents their resolution changes to show more clarity and to oversee the results of investigations for all campuses.

-The BASH resolution with changes states “WHEREAS the University of California has extensively revised its UC wide Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment (SVSH) Policy in January, 2016;¹

WHEREAS a new position of Title IX coordinator for the entire UC system was created in February, 2017;

WHEREAS new policy recommendations issued by the UC President Office include the formation of a campus Peer Review Committee to review investigation reports and advise

¹ <http://policy.ucop.edu/doc/4000385/SVSH>

the chancellor on recommended discipline,² and WHEREAS it is not yet known who will be the members of this committee, to be established by July 1, 2017, what its exact responsibilities will be, and whether it will solely include tenured faculty members evaluating the investigations of their own;³

WHEREAS these new policies emerge in light of mounting evidence of a system-wide failure to adequately address sexual harassment and violence committed by faculty members and senior administrators across the UC system. This point has been validated several times in the past few years, in a series of widely publicized cases in which the university failed to properly sanction sexual harassers;⁴

WHEREAS in many of the recent cases of SVSH at the UCs the accused was removed from campus only by virtue of external public pressure (as in the case of Geoffrey Marcy at UC Berkeley), special orders by UC president Janet Napolitano (Graham Fleming and Sujit Choudhry at UC Berkeley), or the intervention of an external investigation firm (as in the case of Rob Lathan at UCR);

WHEREAS despite the renewed efforts on the part of the UC system to address the problem of sexual violence and abuse on campus, there persists a very justifiable lack of trust between the campus community, the Title IX office, and the administrative bodies in charge of adjudication processes, since they have repeatedly proven to prioritize the interests of the university rather than that of survivors;

WHEREAS such trust, which is necessary for the flourishing of a safe and productive campus environment, can only be built through greater transparency, openness, and community involvement in deciding and overseeing SVSH policy and sanctions;

WHEREAS the new SVSH policy was established without input from campus groups substantially affected by it, for example the Student Workers Union, which negotiates the working conditions of all graduate student employees, including teaching assistants, readers, and tutors;

WHEREAS the new SVSH policy does not recognize abuse of power as an aggravating condition in SHSV cases;

WHEREAS the UC-wide Title IX policy is either vague in much of its language, or too limited in its definition of what constitutes sexual violence and sexual harassment and in outlining the parties involved;⁵

² <http://sexualviolence.universityofcalifornia.edu/files/documents/implementation-of-svsh-recommendations.pdf>

³ Information based on conversation with Vice Chancellor Jerry Kang and the UC Title IX officer Kathleen Salvaty on January 31, 2017.

⁴ These include Gabriel Piterberg at UCLA, Sujit Choudhry, Geoffrey Marcy, and Graham Fleming at UC Berkeley, and University of California Regent Norman J. Pattiz.

⁵ Specifically:

- the current policy does not include the mouth among the body parts that can be penetrated in an act of sexual assault (Page 3, Part II.B.1.a);

WHEREAS the current SVSH policy lacks transparency, is managed by administrators and a very small number of faculty without involving representatives from other campus communities, promotes silencing, and often operates in the interest of the institution and not of the survivors;⁶

WHEREAS it is known that a repeated sexual offender is currently teaching at UCLA, and the university has made no effort to notify his students of the accusations brought forward against him, of the symbolic sanctions put in place in order to ensure student safety, of the widely-criticized settlement agreement reached between him and the administration (unknown to the survivors), or of the recent federal settlement agreement signed between the survivors and the university;⁷

WHEREAS this case, and others like it, compromise the safety of survivors and of the campus community at large, implant fear and distrust at the heart of student-faculty relations, irremediably upset a positive and productive learning environment, raise suspicion of the priorities of the Title IX office and the university administration at large, deters survivors from bringing their complaints forward in the future, and reveals a dangerous tolerance of SVSH on the part of the university;

WHEREAS a more democratic and transparent process for reviewing cases and deciding appropriate discipline and remedial measures is needed in order to insure accountability and justice to both the accused and the survivors;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UCLA Undergraduate Student Association Council (USAC) calls on the UCLA administration to make a clear and demonstrable statement that abuse of power and repeated sexual harassment will not be tolerated in our campus community.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UCLA Undergraduate Student Association Council (USAC) calls on all bodies involved in investigation and adjudication of SVSH allegations, namely the UCLA Title IX office, the overseeing Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, the Office of Academic Personnel, the Office of the Dean of Students, and Campus Human Resources, to officially recognize that abuse of power (by faculty,

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- the Faculty Code of Conduct is not mentioned (Page 4, Part II.B.1.d);
 - the identity of the “designee” is unclear (Page 6. Part. II.D.6);
 - the definition of “local procedures” is unclear (Page 8. Part. IV. B-C);
 - the investigation’s timeline is unclear (Part V. A.1);
 - the meaning of “eliminate the effects” is unclear (Part V. 3. C);
 - the current policy does not mention all possible combinations of parties involved: a student a faculty member; two faculty members; a student and a staff member; a faculty member and a staff member (Part V. A. 5).

⁶ Under the current UC SVSH policy and UCLA administrative regulations, there is no obligation to complete the SVSH investigation before a settlement can be negotiated by the Vice Chancellor of Academic Personnel with the accused faculty member; there is no obligation to inform the survivors about such negotiation; there is no obligation to include the survivors in the negotiations.

⁷ For an overview of the Gabriel Piterberg case, see <https://bashucla.wordpress.com/piterberg-settlement/>

administrators, staff, or students) is an aggravating factor that cannot be ignored in both investigation and adjudication policies.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UCLA Undergraduate Student Association Council (USAC) encourages the UCLA Title IX office, and the overseeing Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, to compose a new and clearer policy outlining the manner survivors are to be informed of the development and outcomes of any investigation into their complaint, and are to be part of any settlement agreement involving the accused.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the the UCLA Undergraduate Student Association Council (USAC) calls for the creation of a representative body to include members from all constituent parts of our campus (undergraduate students, graduate students and student employees, tenured and non-tenured faculty, staff, administration, and postdocs) to identify problems and recommend changes to the UC SVSH policy at UCLA and to contribute to the establishment of disciplinary sanctions and trauma-informed remedies;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the above mentioned body would have the power to review the investigation process once it is complete (regardless of its outcome), to oversee the adjudication processes, and to critically intervene in cases in which it deems that the university administration has failed to respond adequately to SVSH allegations;

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the body described above will not simply be an advisory committee, but an official body accountable to the entire UCLA community and in turn ensuring the accountability of SVSH investigation, adjudication, and sanction procedures.”

-Lee says in the 8th Whereas, grad students and undergrads are part of the task force that provide that policy and one of the BCC members were on that task force too so she wanted to clarify that.

-BASH members say we know that, but we can definitely change that if it makes it stronger.

-Geller says it involves students at every campus and graduate and undergraduate level.

-Siegel says it is appropriate to recognize the students from BCC also.

-BASH says we will include the graduate, undergraduate groups as part of the debate and BCC.

-Lee says it may be more effective to push for different requirements for faculty and staff, so it would be better to have a specific goal.

-Lee says in the 3rd Therefore, it should be clarified that this is a UC wide policy; UCLA cannot make this policy we can only encourage this policy.

-BASH says there is a policy, but it is not clear on what they are doing under the general UC wide policy.

-Borden says this is a very different “ask” from what you presented 2 weeks ago, it seems as more you are asking UC to change their policy rather than having the student advisory position.

-Borden says she thinks that it is a lot to ask of a student for confidentiality stake to ask to be given these records and Borden does not feel comfortable to pass a resolution to effect a student to give their records, so Borden will not be voting on that unless this is taken out.

-BASH says we want confidentiality to carry on while the investigation goes on too, we do not want to break that.

-BASH says they agree with Borden, but we would like to have this body to oversee other actions.

-BASH says the point of the resolution is to make a point of these policies to not be as secretive, it is possible to have an overseeing body to not give names of people.

-BASH says we are trying to avoid cases where settlements are signed and this disappears completely, so community body is the best solution for this in our opinion.

-Borden says she fears that students will be less likely to come forward with accusations if they are aware that other students will be given access to this information, it would be more effective to call on parallel procedures to be put in place for faculty and staff as we see it for students.

-BASH says these are 2 different things, specifying the minimum sanction and creating a body of transparency are 2 different topics.

-BASH says we questioned the abuse of power in this resolution, but it this does not solve the question of confidentiality you brought up.

-BASH says they are not sure if that is fair to change that body to include students, they are afraid that would risk more.

-Borden says my fear is about students in the body.

-BASH says the reason there is a Title 9 office on campus that deals with these cases is that the university is a community and it should have different mechanisms to go about situations like this.

-BASH says the university is a community that can sanction itself.

-Shao moves to extend time by 10 minutes. Chowdhury seconds.

10-0-0 vote the time has been extended.

-Shao says she disagrees with Borden on the student aspect, if we consistently move this to administration then we are undermining student power.

-Shao says if we say we cannot have students on the advisory committee it undermines us to even be speaking at this table.

-Shao says there should be a student advisory committee, 2 weeks ago they clarified on this issue and bringing it up now is a bit late.

-Chowdhury says that the advisory board would look into how this is made; he is getting a more objective look from it.

-Zeigler says it is once the investigations are complete it is overseeing that process as a whole after the investigation is complete.

-Chowdhury says that is necessary and in that same paragraph there are a couple of grammatical errors such as assault spelled wrong and identity being identify.

-BASH says we will change those.

-Siegel says you can change them bring it up during old business.

-Chowdhury says in the 3rd Whereas it should be "or" instead of "and".

-BASH says okay.

-BASH says would you want this to be more evident?

-BASH says in the last Whereas there is a typo and we will fix that.

VI. Appointments

VII. Officer and Member Reports

A. President – Siegel

-Siegel says last Thursday he sat with leadership at the volunteer center, we spoke about community service projects to happen in Westwood village and having more students engaged in Westwood village so we are coming up with ideas with his staff.

-Siegel says last Friday was ASUCLA Entities meeting and spoke about the core values that ASUCLA has and are thinking about components to make ASUCLA based on.

-Siegel says next Wednesday is his quarterly meeting with Chancellor and GSA president, so if there are items you want to add on the agenda please email him.

-Siegel says this Friday there is a quarterly meeting with President Napolitano and he will let you know how that goes next week.

B. External Vice President – Nicolette (Sands proxy)

-Nicolette says the 12 students from EVP are in D.C. advocating for college affordability, British Act, pelgrants, and supporting international students through HIZ.

C. Academic Affairs Commissioner – Mohankumar

-Mohankumar says we finished out activism and unity workshop and UCLA social justice advocates puts on great workshops so please reach out and take advantage.

-Mohankumar says today we met with Pat Turner and discussed over-enrollment causing lack of study space and how we can alleviate the issues.

-Mohankumar says we discussed concerns of groups who do not have resources such as pre-med students not having counselors to help them.

-Mohankumar says we discussed how to convert space to study spaces and looking at location behind Powell.

-Mohankumar says this Thursday we are having a career workshop to help you with a networking, it will be at 6pm.

-Rhee asks to clarify about the Powell space.

-Mohankumar says converting the backspace behind Powell to be used for classrooms or study spaces.

-Rhee says that is great.

D. Student Wellness Commissioner – Lee

-Lee says last week SWC hosted a commission wide event Back to Basics and Sexperts will be giving information about sex.

-Lee says there will be an oral health fair on the hill.

-Lee says next week there is national eating disorder week and there will be many events.

E. Facilities Commissioner – Rhee

-Rhee says the meeting with SSLC went great and we spoke about needs for a student staffer and Measure S is on the ballot in less than 2 weeks so our table has been set up and ready.

-Rhee says our work on the Title 9 task force to institutionalize a student task force to work on prevention and consent education.

F. Financial Supports Commissioner – Rafalian

-Rafalian says our event February 23 from 6-8pm in Ackerman is coming up.

-Rafalian says we had office hours this week in 300A so please come by.

-Rafalian says we have been posting end of interviews each week and we want students to think of curveballs that people can ask in interviews.

-Rafalian says we are holding a phone bank for no against Measure S.

-Rafalian says we are sending a google doc for people to sign up and participate.

G. Campus Events Commissioner – Dang

-Dang says right now we are screening Manchester by the Sea.

-Dang says winter has been a slow quarter for CEC, spring will be busier.

H. General Representative 1 – Borden

-Borden says today she met with Alexis Rampall to discuss the creation of a day during career week and it will be second week of spring quarter.

-Borden says companies that are expanding will be featured and discussion for big employers will come also.

-Borden says we will provide more information later.

-Borden says her office is sitting with CPO and other offices about career education and engagement for the next 3 days.

-Borden says A level of Ackerman will be housing our lawn blankets for our network and chill event.

-Borden says we had a second scholarship of the week posted on our page so this is the best scholarship and we are featuring a scholarship for Bruin Women if you want more information please check out our facebook page.

I. General Representative 2 – Majmudar

-Majmudar says he was late because he was at a meeting and talking about a permanent fund outside of his office to continue later on, this fund is up and running we just funding Harel for their Chabad event.

-Majmudar says the funding is only 3 lines long and you do not need to be religious to apply.

-Majmudar says please spread the word and hoping to lobby this fund to \$40,000.

-Majmudar says we were supposed to have a resume workshop today, but it was rejected so we are reapplying to get this workshop passed.

-Majmudar says our WTF facebook page is going on so everyday there are food deals going on.

-Majmudar says we post different opportunities so check it out.

-Majmudar says he met with the director of the UCLA BC fund and are pushing students to apply for this fund.

-Majmudar says entrepreneurship networking night is tomorrow from 7-9pm.

J. General Representative 3 – Chowdhury

- Chowdhury says this week we are partnering up with social justice advocates this Friday 4-6pm called Politics of Love and Desire.
- Chowdhury says please come out.
- Chowdhury says our special projects team is putting the reusable bag event called Totes Sustainable to promote 0 waste on campus.
- Chowdhury says next quarter we will have a global appreciation week.
- Chowdhury says we will also be appreciating this people on this earth also.
- Chowdhury says our mental health team released their health packet and hoping to print out a physical copy.
- Majumdar says last week you said it got approved?
- Chowdhury says not necessarily approved just different from the healthy campus initiative.

K. Transfer Student Representative – Sharma

- Sharma says we have 3 petitions going out the next 3 weeks -- a housing petition for non-trad students, undocumented students, veterans, recovery students and LGBT students. There is lactation space petition for north campus and student recovery floor on the hill petition is going out also.
- Sharma says please sign these!
- Sharma says the more numbers we get the closer we get to gain these.
- Sharma says we are giving out 2 \$1,000 scholarships and 2 \$5,000 scholarships.
- Sharma says the transfer coalition adds a component of wellness in this and to contact SWC to let them know about this.
- Sharma says in regards to student space the language was tough to get student groups on board so he cleaned up the gen rep office and he is putting a sign up sheet out and Monday through Friday students will be able to rent out their rooms.
- Sharma says this is just to open more spaces for groups to have meetings and he is sending a google doc out.
- Sharma says we are changing Show Me the Ropes to Transfer Mentorship Program to let transfers know they have help.
- Sharma says intersectionality and identity is working on a photo campaign so reach out and we are asking them to tell us what they love about themselves.
- Sharma says he spoke to presidents of the Washington system and they are working on a TSR position in Washington and 2 other places.
- Chowdhury says thank you for cleaning the office.
- Borden says maybe we can dedicate the fridge to the student food collective.
- Sharma says that is a good idea.

L. Community Service Commissioner – Dameron

- Dameron says this past weekend CSC took students to Washington University to a delegation and UCLA has many ties to this conference in terms of civic engagement and community service.
- Dameron says it is great to go there and look at issues of different community partners nationally.

M. Administrative Representatives

- Geller says no report.
- Kadota says we had a safety and security education meeting and reported their first student response team and had students come down to role play as survivors and had 25 students graduate this program of safety.
- Kadota says if you would like UCPD officers come to speak at USAC let him know.
- Siegel says he is interested to have UCPD come and speak so he will update council on that when the date comes closer.
- Kadota says we can have an officer come once a month to USAC meetings.
- Kadota says thank you for the apartment guide.
- Alexander says many of you know we have had internet issues the last couple of weeks so our computer tech checked it and it is fixed so please email her if there are any issues.
- Alexander says we are trying to get a new server also.
- Champawat has no report.

VIII. Fund Allocations

A. Contingency Programming * -- Yu

- 20 organizations applied, 18 non USAC and 2 USAC.
- Total required was \$56,150.35.
- Total requested was \$15,579.98.
- Total recommended is \$7,795.
- Chowdhury moves to approve contingency allocation for \$7,795. Rafalian seconds.
- 12-0-0 vote the contingency allocation has been approved.
- Gen Rep 1 -- Total required and requested was \$250.
- Total recommend is \$120.
- Majmudar moves to approve the contingency allocation to Gen Rep 1 for \$120. Rafalian seconds.
- 11-0-1 vote this allocation has been approved.
- Gen Rep 3 total required and requested was \$254.39.
- Total recommended was \$210.
- Majmudar moves to approve the contingency allocation for Gen Rep 3 for \$210.
- Mohankumar seconds.
- 11-0-1 vote this allocation has been approved.

B. EVP Bruin Defenders # -- Sands

- There were 5 applications
- UCLA Halal applied for \$500.
- AEπ applied for \$500.
- Persian Community and Halal applied for \$500.
- Transfer Undergraduate Students for Halal applied for \$500.
- Bruins for Israel applied for \$500.
- This allocation has been approved by consent.

C. AAC Mini Travel Fund # -- Mohankumar

- There were 2 applications.
- Jonathan Flores applied for \$200
- Chelsea Dormavall applied for \$200.

-This allocation has been approved by consent.

D. Student Wellness Programming Fund # -- Lee

-There were 2 applications.

-Chicanos/Latinos for Community Medicine applied for \$460.19.

-Gen Rep 3 applied for \$494.44.

-This allocation has been approved by consent.

E. USA Surplus Allocations* -- Siegel

-Yu says we came to agreements to have stipulation of leftovers to go towards endowment after this academic year.

-Zeigler moves to approve the USA surplus allocation to be moved into endowment after this year. Majmudar seconds.

-Dameron says this is a good means to achieve this, but also change the percentages so that way we do not need to worry about these percentages in the way.

-Champawat says there was question for summer contingency, it is budgeted separately.

-Zeigler says this vote is for the academic school year, not summer, but since Yu will be here his appointments will carry this on disregarding summer sessions.

-Champawat says the school year ends June what?

-Siegel says June 16th would be the final date of the academic year.

12-0-0 vote the USA surplus allocation has been approved.

IX. Old Business

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

-Sharma says we posted a google form for people to join in the conversation.

-Sharma says we just want more student input to make sure their government is running smoothly.

-Sharma says please share the google form from his facebook page.

-Zeigler says as a committee we are not asking for a system we just want student input.

-Sharma says it is hard because there are students who have said we need to work better.

-Geller says she appreciates this, but reminded them if there is to be a change of this coming year it would need to be voted on by this body the week before the date of the election calendar approval.

-Sharma asks what date that is?

-Zeigler says the week before April 11th, needs to be done by April 4th.

-Chowdhury says this should be a part of the bylaws this year and concentrate on the transition process from new to old to set out the specific responsibilities.

-Sharma says if you have any ideas for change that is great and let us know, you are welcome to have your input and talk to me after meeting.

-Zeigler says one thing our office is doing it write a bylaw in the IVP office within that transition aspect.

-Shao says she disagrees with the changes being made this year and if your deadline is in April you have only one month to make changes.

-Shao says if we all of a sudden implement these changes did we really ask the students their opinions or only our facebook friends? We want our voters to be informed.

- Shao says all of us in CAC, when we leave office we teach whoever is transitioning in such as a 2 day training period and a 15 page manual.
- Shao says if we took on these positions we know we will not be here forever so it is smart to write down everything and have training, this transitional thing should not be an issue if we are doing our jobs.
- Sharma agrees with Shao, but it is not meant to create any type of language, but Shao is completely right.

X. New Business

A. USAC BASH Resolution Approval* -- Council Discussion and Vote

- Majmudar moves to approve the BASH resolution. Mohankumar seconds.
- The changes of the resolution are now fixed with typos.
- BASH members said they removed the input from the union and we said internal policy rather than saying new policy.
- BASH says we changed the minimum sanction for the committee to discuss.
- 11-1-0 vote the BASH resolution has been approved and adopted by council.

XI. Announcements

- Shao says on the 23rd the African student union is presenting and it is from 6-9pm at Campbell Hall.
- Shao says March 2nd the UCLA Hijab Day will occur in Kerkhoff 308.
- Shao says March 3rd at 7pm Royce Hall NSU is having culture night.
- Shao says there is going to be a Ethiopian and Trinidad conference March 25-26th.
- Shao says there is a concert on Thursday also.
- Chowdhury says today is Bengali holiday National Mother Language Day and today 50 years ago students protested against the Pakistani government to get their own language approved and we became our own country.
- Chowdhury says BSA is planning a banquet.
- Chowdhury says Saving Hearts foundation is giving free heart screenings so please take advantage, all through next week.

XII. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

The attendance sheet has been passed around.

XIII. Adjournment

- Mohankumar moves to adjourn the meeting at 8:31pm.
- Chowdhury seconds.
- 12-0-0 vote the meeting has been adjourned.

XIV. Good and Welfare

- * Indicates Action Item
- # Indicates Consent Item
- @ Indicates Executive Session Item