



AGENDA  
 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL  
 May 21st, 2019  
 7:00PM

**I. Call to Order**

Watson

- Watson calls the meeting to order at 7:10pm

A. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

- Attendance sheet is passed around

**II. Approval of minutes\***

- 05/14/19 minutes
  - Naomi motions to approve the 05/14/19 minutes; Mihika seconds the motion
  - 7-0-2 motion passes; 05/14/19 minutes are approved

**III. Approval of the Agenda\***

- Add capital contingency
  - Johana motions to add capital contingency as an action item; Mihika seconds the motion
  - 9-0-0 motion passes; capital contingency added as an action item
- Strike SFS, strike travel mini grant, strike ASRF, strike ARC, strike BAG, strike CSC, add the names Nadiya Komzyuk and Kristy Vang to the appointments
  - Isabel motions to approve the agenda; Tara seconds the motion
  - 9-0-0 motion passes; agenda approved as amended

**Contingency Programming\***

Ender

- 67 applications; non-USAC entities
- Total required: \$155,781.96
- Total requested: \$44,404.53
- Total recommended: \$26,816.00
  - Isabel motions to approve \$26,816.00 to non-USAC entities; Tara seconds the motion
  - 9-0-0 motion passes; contingency programming is approved

**Capital contingency\***

- One application; USAC entity
- Total requested: \$740.00
- Total allocated: \$740.00
  - Isabel motions to approve \$740.00 to a USAC entity; Johana seconds the motion
  - 9-0-1 motion passes; capital contingency is approved

~~SFS Allocations#~~

— Wisner

~~Bruin Advocacy Grant Allocations#~~

— Guerra

~~SWC Programming Fund Allocations#~~

— Sridhar

~~ASRF Allocations#~~

\_\_\_\_\_ Riley

~~AAC Travel Mini-Grant Allocations#~~

\_\_\_\_\_ Riley

~~ARCF Allocations#~~

\_\_\_\_\_ Iheanacho

#### IV. Public Comment

Watson

- No audio, no video
  - None
- Audio, no video
  - None
- Audio & video
  - Hi I'm Sithara I'm the chapter chair for CALPIRG. We've been working to ban styrofoam, it takes over 500 years to break down. [indiscernible] We're optimistic it'll move forward to ban all these single use plastics. We're also working towards trying to make the 2020 election more accessible by making registering to vote more easier. We also just had our art gallery for our zero hunger campaign. If any of you were able to check it out I hope you liked it.
- Public comments adjourned at 7:23pm

#### V. Special Presentations

- None

#### VI. Appointments

Finance Committee Chair: Nadiya Komzyuk\*

Watson

- Watson: Nadiya this year is the vice chair of the Finance Committee. It's been tradition in the past that the vice chair will become chair upon the retirement or absence of the chair.
- Ender: I first met Nadiya 3 years ago. She's one of the hardest working most brilliant people I know. She goes above and beyond. I have absolute confidence that she can fulfill the role. I hope you all confirm her appointment tonight.
- Nadiya: I'm a third year business major. I've been on the finance committee for 2 years. I really hope to continue working with all of you guys.

##### Q&A/Comment

- Watson: How do you handle stressful situations?
- A: I feel I have a pretty high stress tolerance.
- Jonathan: What do you think is the importance of this role?
- A: I think it's important because it basically funds the events that go on. That's what I love about the finance committee is being there for student organizations.
- Isabel: Which organizations are you apart of?
- A: I'm a part of grace on campus
- Naomi: What are your ideas or critiques about the way finance works right now?
- A: Something we been working on this year is our accessibility for students and giving them access to funding sources and making it easier for them.
- Watson: Are there any ideas you've been thinking about to engage student organizations?
- A: [indiscernible] I really want to partner with them on those workshops and adding in a funding section.
- Watson: What do you view your role as at the council table?
- A: I hope to be there for whatever financial matters you guys might have. I want to talk to Kelechi and Kim with helping them with their budgets.

- Thank you all so much for listening. I really hope to work for you all next year. If you ever have any questions please feel free to reach out.
- Kim: 3-0-0 ARC vote. I personally voted to approve because I saw a lot of potential. I saw you're very passionate and willing to take that step to help out student organizations.
- Kelechi: I feel she displayed sufficient knowledge for her position. I feel she can effectively carry out the job.
- Shahamah: I voted because you're very passionate about it. We all saw that passion in you. I think you'll do a great job next year.
  - Shahamah motions to approve Nadiya for Finance Committee Chair; Kim seconds the motion
  - 10-0-0 motion passes; Nadiya is appointed

Budget Review Director Kristy Vang\*

Watson

- Hello I'm Kristy. I have a strong passion in helping student organizations on campus. I'm involved in many organizations that are cultural and educational I enjoy going to the office every single day. I will spend my time going there, I love it so much. I hope I can continue doing this work.
  - Q&A/Comment
    - Jonathan: Doing a position for a second year often creates complacency, how do you plan to avoid that?
    - A: I've seen a lot of challenges. Some of the difficulties we experienced were there were a lot of glitches on the USAC page. I'm trying my best to outreach as well this year trying to make sure that every student organization gets the email. I want to increase the communication even more.
    - Johanna: Are you involved in any other student organizations?
    - A: I'm involved in a lot of organizations, I like be involved in community service and education.
    - Watson: How do you balance all of that?
    - A: I have 2 calendars, a passion planner and google calendars. School work is my priority, then budget review director, then dance, and the rest would go through passion. I can manage it pretty well and I have strong communication skills with the organizations so they're understanding of my time.
- Kim: 3-0-0 ARC vote. I personally voted because I saw how knowledgeable you are. You really care about making sure student organizations are accessing these funding opportunities.
- Kelechi: She's passionate about helping people in carrying out her role. It's clear you care about doing this work and making these funds available. I was pleased to hear about how you try to be lenient with student organizations. It's really important to be empathetic and understanding.
- Shahamah: She's very ambitious and knew what she wanted to accomplish. She had very clear goals and ideas and it was refreshing to see how clear-minded she is.
  - Naomi motions to approve Kristy Vang as Budget Review Director; Shahamah seconds the motion
  - 9-0-1 motion passes; Kristy Vang is appointed

**VII. Officer Reports**

A. President

Watson

- Appointments application and OP applications are up for all those to apply to!
- Meeting with Hillel leadership about goals and values for student government this upcoming year.
- Upcoming meetings with Vice Chancellor Gorden and and Assistant Vice Chancellor Suzanne Seplow about ResLife policies impacting queer students.
- Finalizing the Commuter Lounge in the John Wooden Center Game's Lounge with Facilities Commissioner

B. Internal Vice President

Bonifacio

C. External Vice President

Guerra

D. General Rep 1

Velazquez

E. Facilities Commissioner

Shaw

F. Campus Events Commission

Steinmetz

G. Transfer Rep

Oraha

TSR is hiring! Please apply; the applications can be found on our social media. FB: USAC - Transfer Student Representative  
Insta: @usac\_tsr

H. Student Wellness Commissioner

Sridhar

-SWC Leadership Staff is all set for the 2019-20 AY! We had our first transition meeting earlier today.  
-Body Image Task Force: The Beauty in You Photo Exhibit in Kerckhoff Art Gallery June 10-14 to showcase members of the student body and what they love most about themselves and why.  
-Active Minds: Mental Health Networking Night Mon 5/20, 6-8 PM Bruin Viewpoint Room and Music in Mind Concert Tue 5/21, 6-8 PM Fowler Amphitheater  
-BruinNecessities: Dental Fair on Hill, May 24th, and Menstrual Hygiene Fair on Bruin Plaza, May 28th

~~I. Community Service Commissioner~~

~~Wisner~~

J. Academic Affairs Commissioner

Riley

K. Cultural Affairs Commissioner

Iheanacho

L. International Student Representative

Shahamah

M. Administrative Representatives

Aboagye, Alexander, Champawat, Geller, Kadota

## VIII. Old Business

### Resolution Regarding Misrepresentation Surrounding UCLA's Students for Justice in Palestine\*

Velazquez

- Lalo: We've been talking with folks from SJP to make sure the language is tight but it's still accurate with the concerns that they had. One thing we did add was the quote of chancellor Gene Block in the LA times. I know a big debate from last week was equating support for, that's a thing we're still iffy about. I don't know if y'all had a chance to look it over.
- Tara: My issue with it still hasn't changed from last week. At the end of the day anti-semitism is still in there. It says either directly or by implication which is then implying that it was wrongly done. That's why I wanted to clarify, I'm not the voice for all jewish students on this campus. I know jewish students that would consider some things that have happened to be anti-semitic and I don't feel comfortable as a council putting that wording in there when the resolution itself is dealing with canary mission.
- Justin: I read the resolution over and think the increase of the word anti-semitism should not be mentioned. It is disputed and I would say based on the reflection on the majority of jews, anti-semitism should not be mentioned in the framework of this resolution. I'm happy to explain why although I find it a little ridiculous to have to justify.
- Public member: I actually do think it should continue to use anti-semitism because America's accusations of anti-semitism have conflated it with anti-zionism and have been used to stifle advocacy on Palestine on campus. This sort of discourse is advancing a chilling effect on advocacy on Palestine. This is the context on which we put this language inside the resolution. The other context individuals are referring I hear what you're saying but that's not the context that this resolution is specifically talking about.
- Hi my name is Jesse I'm a member for Jewish Voices for Peace. I wanted to speak first because I guess we're representing some part in groups we identify with I appreciate Tara for realizing there's not one jewish voice. I think it would be problematic for any organization to act as if they can speak for the entire jewish community. I personally do not feel that halel is a home for me because many of its principles conflate zionism with judaism. This resolution is trying to piece apart that what Gene Block said was to infer that SJP and the conference is an anti-semitic organization.

Those types of accusations are used repeatedly to police certain types of advocacy on campus. Jewish Voices for Peace at UCLA strongly endorses the resolution whole heartedly.

- I'm a newly admitted transfer student. I'm involved at Santa Monica college with student life and I've had a lot of problems with anti-zionism and anti-semitic rhetoric on campus. When I heard Gene Block speak out with language I was reassured that UCLA administration had jewish students backs. I need that when I come on campus next year.
- Watson: I'm going to limit public comment from now on.
- Naomi: I do agree for the chancellor to support all students on campus regardless of their identities and their backgrounds because he is the chancellor. But if you read the op ed in the way that he spoke about SJP he clearly is again reproducing mechanisms of repression and silencing these students which is why we continue to leave the op ed here because of the fact that he's perpetuating that notion. I just don't think he should be taking a public stance on the issue of this issue in a way that demonizes another group.
- Lily: I just want to say welcome to UCLA. I hope USAC can be a supporting body for you. I'm really happy you feel comforted by the chancellor. I just hope you can empathize with students who are feeling targeted or discomfoted. And congrats again.
- Kelechi: I think it's very nice to feel supported, but I think all of us must keep in mind when you're not feeling supported by the chancellor how easily you could end up having his disagree. I feel we should all be able to see how students wouldn't feel supported or safe is the chancellor is basically saying he doesn't support their existence. I think we should keep that in mind.
- Tara: I know I'm not gonna be able to stop this resolution. I'm not here to hold this up forever. I do need to keep saying what I believe. I think this issue is something very complex and requires a lot of education. I struggle with this as a jewish human. If anyone wants to talk about these things I'm more than welcoming. Replying to jvp, we can't deny that some jewish students, their zionism intersects with their judaism. Those students shouldn't be told they're good jews or bad jews because they have those feelings. The chancellor issued a statement with all other chancellors in December about the boycott of Israel and condemning it and excluding dialogue. I'm just saying that because this resolution was passed after the fact it's not done in a way that's completely out of context. I wanted to bring that to your attention.
- Watson: All of us just want students to feel safe. If we can avoid language that's leading or implying some students versus others. If we can avoid this type of discourse. I can open it up to final public comments
- Justin: At the same time, I think when you have a resolution that's supposed to protect some people and it ends up demonizing another. I feel my voice is not welcome here. There are student organizations that happen to align with that ideology. I just want you to have that context of history.
- Public member: Singling out one group of students for another doesn't create a safe space. I just want to echo that that conflation is used on a lot of sides of the spectrum, there should be more education to isolate the two from each other.
- Matthew: I wanted to speak as a role in campus safety alliance. One of the biggest issues is there are 214 students and professors on canary. They get your name, as many socials as they have of you. My friend has his workplace on there and he's been threatened at work. They tried to sue a student group for using a bear in their logo. At the conference for using water. It was the gene block letter that was put in LA times. They strongly implied that anti-semitism happened at the event. People outside of the conference were calling us terrorists. I personally saw zionists point at students and say hey follow them.
- Watson: I just want to point out this topic comes up in various capacities of students feeling welcome and safe. I support the resolution in the fact that supporting student organizations like SJP who have had this rhetoric that's defamatory. It is horrible and needs to be spoken out against. I hear your concerns about why the usage of that being used in a resolution and I do want to have that continued dialogue. I appreciate everybody coming out. Are there final thoughts?
- Guerra: I just wanted to reiterate the context of this resolution for the public and for council so we're certain about what we're doing tonight. This resolution has come up because a student organization has approached us because there was a newspaper spread around campus that was defamatory. When we have members coming here to make students feel unsafe, USAC does have the responsibility to speak up. We should not have had to wait 3 weeks to vote on this. This is about asking UCLA administration to be held accountable. They have not been able to serve them. I want to make sure that as USAC we move with as much proactivity as possible. We know that this issue is complex, but the issue that it came about is not. We were supposed to act and address is appropriately.

- Naomi: I just want to echo what Johana was saying and reemphasize people's role here at council. I think it's part of council's responsibility.
- Isabel: I just wanted to say a brief thing about why had to wait 3 weeks to vote. This is a very serious and sensitive topic we're dealing with. The first week we barely got installed, the second week we wanted a community response and now it's the third week. We really need to hear from the communities and I think it takes time.
- Lily: We're not elevating one group or belief over another, that's our role here on campus. I care about the safety of every student. Our role is to condemn these acts of violence and hate speech. We consider these issues really heavily.
- Tara: I want to echo what Isabel said, I think rushing it would do injustice. I would like to make comment on a public comment. Using the term zionism to demonize someone is unfair without having dialogue with the people that may identify with that term. I want to revoice my support for the resolution in terms of condemning canary mission and David Horowitz project regardless of how I choose to vote. I'm really grateful to everyone who has done their research and has worked hard on this resolution.
- Kelechi: I just wanted us to keep in mind while discussing how long it's taken for the resolution. We were elected to this not by accident. I do feel within a week you should be able to try to approach educating yourself of the information of the resolution. I'm not sure for everybody but I do feel like by week 3 versus week 1 there's not that much different. I also just wasn't comfortable because we do need to hear from the community but it doesn't only have to be in this space. A lot of ppl don't feel safe in this space. You can go talk to sjp or hold space for them in your office. Us voting on things shouldn't be contingent for people coming to us. I didn't feel good going into voting without saying that.
- Watson: Last week I directly asked if we wanted to table this or not last week, please speak up whether you want something tabled or not. Whether you wanted it tabled or not both with valid points and reasoning. We are going to vote on this tonight.
  - Johana motions to approve the resolution; Naomi seconds the motion
  - 9-1-0 motion passes; resolution is approved

## IX. New Business

### A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ANTI-DEPORTATION AWARENESS EVENTS\*

Guerra

- Whereas, Southeast Asian immigrants represent the largest refugee community ever to be resettled in the United States. Whereas, The 1970's marked the diaspora of Southeast Asian refugees who fled their homelands from the Vietnamese War, Khmer Rouge Genocide, and Secret War. They were forcefully displaced and forced to resettle in places with high poverty and few social or economic supports. Whereas, They also experience low retention rates in higher education and are now at least three times more likely to be deported on the basis of a past criminal conviction due to proposed policies by the Trump Administration. Whereas, Deportations have increased under the Trump administration in an attempt to crackdown on illegal immigration. Whereas, On October 10th, 2018 the Department of Homeland Security proposed changes to the Public Charge rule that aimed to drastically restrict our community members from accessing green cards and obtaining citizenship on the basis of their family income and health conditions. Whereas, The Administration has also pressured the Vietnamese government to take back about a dozen of pre-1995 Vietnamese refugees who have been living in the U.S. for decades, which disregards the previous Repatriation Agreement in 2008. Whereas, There are more than 2.7 million SEAs living in the United States, but at least 16,000 members of this community have received final orders of deportation. WHEREAS, The Southeast Asian Solidarity Week: Students Against Deportation, along with the Vietnamese Student Union, Asian Pacific Coalition, United Khmer Student, and Association of Hmong Student, IDEAS at UCLA, the Vietnamese Student Association at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the Vietnamese Students' Association at University of Pennsylvania, the Southeast Asians Furthering Education at UC Davis, the Cambodian Student Association at Portland State University, the Hmong American Cultural Outreach, the Diversity Leadership Council at Gustavus Adolphus College in Minnesota, VietUnity Santa Cruz, and the Vietnamese Student Association at the University of the Pacific will happen during APIDA Heritage Month in order to increase awareness on this issue. Whereas, We aim to help our communities as they continue to be terrorized by policies of mass deportation. Whereas, These events and more are being worked on in collaboration with other Southeast Asian organizations throughout the United States to plan various events during

Week 8. Whereas, We will have a photo campaign on Bruin Walk and are currently in the process of working with the Asian American Studies Center to plan a Southeast Asian Deportation Lecture Series.

- Therefore let it be resolved, That USAC supports Southeast Asian Solidarity Week: Students Against Deportation. Therefore let it be resolved, That USAC supports current and future anti-deportation efforts on UCLA's campus. Therefore let it be resolved, That USAC will continue to support immigrant rights and undocumented individuals.
  - Jonathan motions to approve the resolution; Isabel seconds the motion
  - 9-0-1 motion passes; the resolution is approved

#### Bylaw Change\*

Shaw

- Suggested Change to Appropriate Article:
  - USA Bylaws Article II, Section C5, Subsection H VI
- Suggested Change to Bylaw Language:
  - vi. UCLA Committee on Disability: five (5) undergraduate appointments with three (3) members serving a one (1) year term, and two (2) members serving a two (2) year term.
- CRC: The article was written incorrectly, we fixed the article location. The actual language was a little bit unclear so we expanded it. We voted 3-0-0.
  - Naomi motions to approve the bylaw changes; Johana seconds the motion
  - 10-0-0 motion passes; bylaw changes are approved

### **X. Signing of the Attendance Sheet**

- Attendance sheet is passed around

### **XI. Adjournment\***

Watson

- Meeting adjourned at 8:49pm

#### **Good and Welfare**

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