



AGENDA  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL  
November 19, 2019  
7:00PM

## **I. Call to Order**

Watson

- Robert calls meeting to order at 7:08 pm

### **Swearing In**

Gibbs

- Jamail: Good Evening everyone, my name is Jamail Gibbs, and I'm the Chief Justice of the Undergraduate Student's Association Board. On November 6th, the Judicial Board received a petition for consideration from Robert Watson on behalf of this council to exercise our power under article 6, section B clause 2 of the USA constitution. Specifically the petition requested the board to rule on the validity of alleged campaign violations by officer elect Smedley and additionally rule on an appropriate remedy or sanction. On November 9th in light of a non-existent elections board, and convincing evidence of the campaign violation, the judicial board granted the petition for consideration. Recognizing the necessity to have a formal investigation to [indiscernible] one of our rulings, was the investigations director who would assume jurisdiction under normal circumstances, the board elected to inquire about the willingness and ability of the investigations director to conduct an investigation before proceeding. On November 13th the investigation director ceded the investigation to the board and thereafter, the judicial board assumed an investigatory role in the matter. As part of our investigation the judicial board summoned five individuals directly related to the matter for questioning and received [indiscernible] evidence. Following the conclusion of the investigation, the board reviewed all of the submitted evidence and testimony and rendered a final judgment on both matters this morning. As mentioned before, the petition requested the board to make a two part ruling. First, a ruling on the validity of each alleged campaign violation and second, a ruling on an appropriate remedy or sanction. In regards to part one of the ruling, judicial board ruled the following of the alleged violations outlined in the petition: the judicial board finds officer elect Orion Smedley in violation of election code article 8.2 section 4 clause A subclauses 4 8 and 9, and lastly article 8.2 section 7 clause C, subclause 6. In regards to part two of the ruling, the judicial board considered the following in rendering its final verdict: The fact that the officer elect has no prior USAC experience and sought clarification regarding the legality of campaigning on the hill by reaching out to then election board chair Kyana Shajari. That the former chair after reviewing article 8.2 section 4 clause A which refers to the on campus student handbook, wrongly informed Orion that campaigning on the hill was legal so long as the Hill approved it. That the election code is laid in with contradictory provisions regarding the legality of campaigning on the hill. That the officer elect referenced the ORL rules and regulations link which is mentioned in the Election Code as containing additional guidelines for campaigning on the hill. That the officer elect accessed these outdated guidelines under the elections web page on the current USAC website as one would reasonably expect a candidate to look. And that this document was presented as being operative given its existence on the current elections webpage a few links down from the election code with no time stamp to suggest otherwise. That this outdated handbook expressly allows for a GSA and USAC campaigning in with each residence hall providing for its own procedures. That the officer elect reached out to the Sprowl hall front desk, of which he is a resident, who then directed him to Jada Anderson, the assistant residence director of Sprowl hall. That Jada Anderson wrongly informed Orion that he could post flyers on RA announcement boards on the first floor of Sprowl hall and that residents can post flyers on their own doors. That concerning the [indiscernible] photos, testimony and evidence indicate that Orion after a day of campaigning on Bruin Walk simply walking to his home in Sprowl hall with campaign materials and was in the process of exchanging contact information with someone he met on Bruin Walk when the photo was taken. That testimony indicates that Orion was seen the day before with the same [indiscernible] taking the same route to his dorm in Sprowl hall. That the posters seen in Gardenia matches the description of a poster Orion gave to a friend who then presumably put it on their door and that the election code allows for residents to post campaign materials on their respective doors. Given all the previously mentioned, and that the judicial board was restricted to issuing a sanction of either disqualification or no sanction as a remedy, the judicial board unanimously ruled on a remedy of no sanction. The board also believes certain actions should be taken immediately as to ensure a similar situation doesn't happen again in the future. The first is the removal of the ORL

rules and regulations link from the elections webpage and the second is the removal of all provisions in article 8.2 section 4 of the election code regarding exemptions for campaigning on the hill. A full report providing a more detailed account of the investigations findings along with an extended list of recommendations is scheduled for release at the beginning of winter quarter. In conclusion, this board's ruling represent the fairest and most just outcome given the facts of the situation, and I would like to applaud the judicial board's efforts in reaching an expedient resolution on this matter.

- Swearing in of Brandon Broukhim and Orion Smedley at 7:24 pm

#### A. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

- Attendance sheet passed around

### **II. Approval of minutes\***

- 11/12/19 minutes
- Isabel motions to approve minutes, Lalo seconds
- By motion of 10-0-0 motion passes, 11/12/19 minutes are approved

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

- Strike CAE, BAG
- BOD action item added, Lalo motions to make BOD appointment an action item, Kelechi seconds, 10-0-0 motion passes, BOD action item is added
- Add action item for BOD allocation, Lalo motions to add action item for BOD allocations, Kelechi seconds, 10-0-0 motion passes
  
- Lalo motions to approve the agenda , Kelechi seconds
- By motion of 10-0-0 motion passes, agenda approved as amended

#### BOD Allocations

Vang

- 30 organizations applied, 36 events
- Total allocation: \$172,726.91
- Average allocation: \$5,016.82
- Lalo motions to approve \$172,726.91, Kelechi seconds
- By motion of 10-0-0 motion passes, BOD allocation is approved

#### Kayla Rafanan for BOD Vice Chair

Vang

- Isabel motions to appoint Kayla Rafanan, Johanna seconds
- By motion of 10-0-0 motion passes, Kayla Rafanan appointed to BOD Vice Chair

#### Election Board Updates

Afzal

Robert: This is per our conversation last week where were gonna talk about expectations for the future. I think this is going to be like an open forum for council members to voice expectations, ask questions, you can tell us what your vision is for election board.

Johanna: As far as your investigations go, what are some things you'd want to improve on for this upcoming election?

Afzal: I would say the process of it all. The way complaints are sent in, then from there what happens. I just think there's ways that this entire process could be more efficient. Another thing is going back to the bylaws and codes, I think there's a lot of things that could be changed and rewritten in layman's terms, there's no reason to make them super vague and complicated. And then I

think more so for my committee, just to give them more responsibility, because right now I end up doing most of the work, making the entire process faster would be nicer.

Johanna: In order to eliminate bias, do you think you could push for a separate email to be created specifically for the investigative portion of the election board?

Afzal: Definitely.

Naomi: Are there plans or is there the ability for the investigations director to address election code violations even though there are no sanctions? I

Afzal: The process usually includes us reading the complaint and then within the form it tells the person who's submitting the complaint to cite the exact bylaw or code that has been violated. So the initial reading of it usually tells us if we need to investigate further or not. So once we do investigate further we reach out to both parties.

Kim: How accessible are the complaint forms to people?

Afzal: That's an interesting question, I honestly don't know. Kyana told me that any time there was a complaint I could either just email it to her or look on the Facebook page for the actual application for the violation.

Johanna: Given that judicial board recommended to revise election code, what are your thoughts on whether or not we should allow campaigning on the hill?

Afzal: I'm for taking it out completely from bylaws, but the only problem was that, during the candidate orientations there was supposed to be someone from student housing to talk about rules and regulations of on campus campaigning, and it never ended up happening. So either one of two has to end up happening, either that has to be taken out along with the ability to campaign on housing or have someone come in for the candidate orientation. But personally, I think it should be taken out completely. All campaigning should be done on the actual school campus.

Robert: When you say take it all out do you mean take out all allowances or all restrictions?

Afzal: Remove all allowances. There should be no campaigning on the hill.

Johanna: How big are you expecting your committee to be?

Afzal: At least 10-15.

#### Contingency Programming\*

Komzyuk

- Total Recommended: \$16,900.14
- Total Allocated: \$13,765.50
- 24 applications, USAC and non-USAC entities
- Lalo motions to approve \$13,765.50, Kelechi seconds
- By motion of 11-0-3 motion passes, allocated amount approved

#### SFS Allocations#

Wisner

- Total Requested: \$2,031.78
- Total Recommended Allocated: \$2,031.78
- CSC and non-CSC groups
- No oppositions, recommended allocations approved

SWC Programming Fund Allocations#

Sridhar

- Total requested: \$1,003.00
- Total allocated: \$853.00
- 2 non-USAC groups
- No oppositions, recommended allocation approved

Bruin Advocacy Grant Allocations#

Guerra

ASRF Allocations#

Riley

- Allocating \$955.24
- No oppositions, allocation approved

AAC Travel Mini-Grant Allocations#

Riley

- Allocating \$2,751.55
- No- USAC entities
- No opposition, allocation approved

ARCF Allocations#

Iheanacho

- No allocations this week

**IV. Public Comment**

Watson

- No Audio No Video:

0 comments

- Audio No Video:

0 comments

- Audio and Video

- Hey guys I'm Sithara, I'm the chapter chair for our CALPIRG chapter here on campus, we're a student run, student funded non-profit organization here on campus. We recently just had our board meeting of our student board of directors so we are student directed, we have a board made up of members elected from each of our 8 chapters across the UC's. We come together to make decisions about our program and our budget and other organizational priorities. So at this board meeting we selected our priority campaign for the next term so we're gonna be putting the majority of our effort into continuing our work to protect our oceans and stop the use of single use plastics. Also looking statewide at stopping plastic pollution outside of California, outside our campus. Another cool update I have for you guys, we're also running our zero hunger campaign working to fight food insecurity, which 37% of our students are facing. We're putting together a round table where we're bringing together students that work on the issue of fighting hunger. It's gonna be this Thursday from 6-8pm on the hill. We're hoping to come out of it with a lot of ideas about how to tackle food insecurities.

- Hi everyone my name is Veronica and I'm a campus organizer [indiscernible] which is basically CALPIRG but across the states. I was a campus organizer at UC Santa Barbara, and we're currently hiring campus organizers for next year, you guys being some of the top leaders on this campus we definitely wanted to let you know about that. I have a couple of interest cards and flyers that I'm just going to go ahead and pass around. Basically, we really believe that students should have the power to create the future that they want to see. Students have always been at the forefront of social movements throughout history with civil rights, voting rights, and protecting the environment and that's really the legacy that focuses our mission as campus organizers working to give students the resources and skills and the training they need to make effective change on the issues they care about. So students in the chapter, like Sithara, work on fighting climate change by convincing college campuses across the U.S. to focus their attention on clean renewable energy. They're working to address America's plastic problem by working on plastic bans on unnecessary single use plastics like plastic grocery bags and styrofoam plastic containers. You'll be hired as campus organizers to work with those students all up and down the west coast and across different states like New Jersey, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. So all this is applicable to anyone in here that's specifically a senior. Some of the other things that CALPIRG's have done with the help of campus organizers and student activism is here in California [indiscernible] is gather 20,000 petitions, pass eight student government resolutions, done dozens of lobby meetings, and in Oregon

students lobbied their state house and advocated for the net neutrality bill. And then on the new voters project, we've been working on that since 1984 and have registered 1.9 million students and it's really the largest and biggest non-partisan voter registration program. So if you guys are interested I'm here for one more day on campus and I'll have two info sessions tomorrow at 11am and 6pm in Ackerman A30.

- Hi everyone, my name is Anari, I'm a senior here. I just wanted to bring to light an issue that concerns reproductive health. So the UC in Spring is proposing a partnership with Dignity Health. Dignity Health is a Catholic run set of hospital networks and they operate under these directives that are founded by the US Council of [indiscernible] Bishops which you can probably guess is not a medical organization. So a lot of their policies are anti-trans, anti-women, they deny reproductive services, and have a long history of denying services. They've been sued multiple times by the ACLU, one time for denying a trans man a hysterectomy once they found out he was trans, another time for denying a potentially life saving tubal ligation for a woman after she received a C-section. Nowhere under these hospitals is it mandatory that they state that they don't provide these services, it's completely up to the doctor's discretion at these hospitals to be like, oh this goes against my ethical directive, so they can decide not to do this treatment. So the UC's are planning a partnership with Dignity Health and trying to quietly pass it through before the end of the year so right now they've been in contact with every single UC that has a medical center, including UCLA. There's been efforts across all across those UC's [indiscernible] and UCLA as well specifically because we don't have a location that are specifically targeted at reproductive justice, so we've been reaching out to different student leaders to do this. So there's a petition that's going around created initially by the ACLU, we're trying to get 2,000 signatures by Monday. When this first happened a lot student effort was why the initial partnership was blocked. But as an institution that needs to champion LGBTQ rights and champion reproductive health and progressive values I think it's really crucial that we stand by that in practice as well. Please reach out to me or Millen if you would like to learn more or get more involved in the efforts.

- Public Comment adjourned at 8:10pm

## **V. Special Presentations**

### Center for Accessible Education

Velazquez

### Student Health Advisory Committee

Kapoor

- I'm Akash and I'm the President's appointment for SHAC. I wanted to come in today to kind of introduce what we do and talk a little bit about what we're working on and then kind of get your input and some help from you guys. SHAC, along with SWC is in charge of maintaining student wellness here on campus, we specifically work directly with Ashe, CAPS and Avery Health Services to meet with staff members and change health policy, give feedback on student complaints, and also work to do executive oversight of the health insurance plan. We have weekly meetings with Ashe, CAPS and [indiscernible] members so every Friday we meet with the co-director of the Ashe center as well as CAPS and the health services center so we have a lot of influence in terms of having those conversations. We also have representatives that go to the executive oversight board for SHIP, which is the student health insurance plan. Some of the things we're working on right now is we're working on this new patient intake application, with CAPS along with the Vice Chancellor as well creating resource map for people going to CAPS. CAPS has been seeing a lot of overflow and we've been working with them to reduce copays for a lot of the services they offer and to try to change the way they have patient intake. We're also working on improving health literacy, we're working on outreach to student affairs staff, and work with the current health insurance plan to see what services students want more of. In terms of what I wanted to get all your input on is in terms of your individual offices, if you could send out a representative or if you guys could come to some of our bi-weekly Friday meetings and give your input on places you think students would want help. Since we're a small committee, we don't have a lot of outreach power right now, so we would really like your help on the best way to outreach to students, things that you guys have found successful. We also have some questions for you guys regarding the onboarding process and stipend issues since we do get stipended by you but for some reason our stipends aren't going through the Ashe center, it's redirected. We have a meeting next Friday, so if any of you guys want to come to that it's from 6-7pm in the Bruin Resource Center. So two specific things, for health

literacy we've had a lot of ideas we feel will help literacy problem on campus in terms of student's knowing what rights they have in regards to health care, a lot of students find themselves with large bills or copays to pay after they've had a procedure without prior knowledge of the services they have access to. One of our ideas was, there's a lot of modules you need to complete upon your entrance to UCLA, and we wanted to find out if you all had knowledge about how to set up a health literacy module that students have to take when they enter UCLA. The second thing I wanna talk about is the onboarding process and stipend issues, so this year SHAC members had to go through the Ashe Center Health Clearance which requires members to get fingerprints and do a full clearance through the hospital's HR management event though we don't have any contact with patients. We also had to do full drug testing and blood work and a lot of our staff felt that was overreaching the process. Another thing is that we were supposed to get our stipend in Week 5, but no one has cleared apart from the people that were on SHAC last year. So last year the SHAC members didn't have to go through this process, that's something new they did this year. So I wanted to open the floor to any questions or comments you all had.

- Mihika: Thanks for bringing up the health literacy campaign to council. That's one of SWC's initiatives that we wanted to collaborate on. And I wanted to express that we will be helping you on this. I know there's been a little bit of miscommunication between SHAC and SWC but just to let you know and have that as a formally established connection, that's our initiative that we're working with you on.
- Kelechi: I think one thing, I know you mentioned SHAC wanted to know what changes students wanted to see, I think it would be helpful for students to know what kind of changes they can propose, because even I'm not even entirely sure.
- Lily: Does SHAC do any environmentally sustainable initiatives in Ashe, or would you be open to that?
- Akash: Yeah, definitely. And in terms of any specific initiatives, we have meetings with the Ashe Center, so if you have anything that needs to be input to the Ashe Center can be sent to us and we could bring that up with our meetings with the Ashe Center.

## **VI. Appointments**

-none

## **VII. Officer Reports**

### A. President

Watson

- Affordability team going to Basic Needs meetings
- Acceptance campaign sitting on Gender Recognition Task Force
- Progress being made on task force
- Letters have been sent, have not received a response

### B. Internal Vice President

Bonifacio

- True Bruin Scholarship applications are open
- Study hall for finals
- Campus Safety Alliance meeting on Thursday
- Student advocacy partnership
- Internship applications being released soon
- Finishing touches on logo

### C. External Vice President

Guerra

- Upcoming weekend having Students of Color Conference on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday
- Having meeting with interns
- Strike was last week, supporting AFSCME

- D. General Representative 1 Velazquez
- This Thursday- Town Hall with CAPS in Bruin Viewpoint room
- E. General Representative 2
- Recruiting shortly, sending out application soon
- F. General Representative 3
- Completed most of hiring, begin office meetings thursday
- G. Academic Affairs Commissioner Riley
- Healing Space tomorrow 5-7 in Kerckhoff Hall Art Gallery
  - Submitted survey data and proposal to housing about study spaces to launch Covell study space
  - Found a faculty member that will be teaching new mental health Fiat Lux
  - Met with UCLA library, launching pilot program for laptop rental times, working to increase accessibility, publicizing resources
  - Meeting with Vice Chancellor Monroe
  - Priority enrollment meeting today
- H. Campus Events Commission Steinmetz
- On Monday at James Bridges screening of A Million Little Pieces, with Q&A with the director
  - Tuesday concert in Kerckhoff Grand Salon with Odie and Hello Yello
  - Co-programming with SWC Body Image Task Force
  - On Thursday December 10th- screening of Just Mercy
  - On the 10th screening Little Women
- I. Community Service Commissioner Wisner
- Releasing app for annual Impact conference
- J. Cultural Affairs Commissioner Iheanacho
- Yesterday had event that featured jewelry making , collage, etc.
  - DCT second tour of the quarter on Sunday
  - Study break coming up
  - Healing circle coming up
- K. Facilities Commissioner Shaw
- Working towards forming disabled students union
  - Meeting with CPO about incorporating accessibility to basic needs
  - Meeting about sustainability and environmental justice
  - Course reader recycling program is going to be up and running
  - Safe parking campaign live on Facebook
  - Reusable mugs for Kerckhoff in final phases
  - Lit team meeting with Kilgore this week
  - Water team in final phases installing outdoor hydration stations across campus
  - Upcoming Ozzie meetings
  - Blank space concert this Sunday 2-5pm in Bunche Palm Court
- L. Financial Supports Commissioner Srivastava
- Met with Carmen Garcia to talk about parking advocacy task force appointment
  - Westcom and FSC partnering to host event for finals, relieve stress for finals
  - Opened transportation scholarship. \$2,000, 27 scholarships
  - Interested in expanding eye clickers
  - Secured money from TGIF for lab coats
- M. Student Wellness Commissioner Sridhar
- Active Minds: [Stretching for Self-Care](#) - RISE Center 21st Nov 6pm - 8pm; [Spill the Tea](#) - CAPS - 22nd Nov - 4pm - 5pm; [Art and De-Stressing](#) - Kerckhoff Patio - 25th November - 4-5pm
  - Body Image Task Force: Body Positive Yoga 11/25 7:30 - 8:30 pm; CEC Co-Program! Jameela Jamil! Dec 3.
  - HNF: Cooking class + kitchen first aid co-program with CPR @ Hitchen 11/22, 6-8PM; [Post-work Out Snacks](#) outside the Wooden entrance on 11/25

- Total Wellness: DITY Fair (Do It, Thank Yourself!) 11/25, 11-3 pm on Kerckhoff Patio to promote their upcoming MindWell zine
- Student Health Network: SHN meeting this Thursday at 5pm in the Viewpoint Conference Room B. We will be discussing organizing mini popup resource fairs, our collaboration with Students with Dependents, and Diversity Training within CAPS (Gen Rep 1!).

N. Transfer Representative Oraha

- First meeting with UCSA transfer coalition
- By quarterly transfer success team on Friday
- Trying to get support for bill for students with dependents
- Finishing up proposal to Academic Senate

O. International Student Representative Tariq

- Conversation Cafe went well
- International student town hall tomorrow
- Lost in translation event
- Trying to advocate for faculty to be more responsive to international student needs

P. OCHC Representative Gupta

- Beach clean up, carnival

Q. Administrative Representatives Alexander, Champawat, Geller, O'Connor

- Roy: Encourage council to attend Entities mixer in the Bruin reception room.
- Josh: On February 25 2020, OCHC hosting a UC Student Resident Hall summit at UCLA.
- Jessica: Winter quarter parking permits are available for allocations

## **VIII. Old Business**

Committee Accountability Letters to these entities\* Bonifacio

Kim: Lalo and I have drafted the letters we wanted to send to SIOC and CRC.

### SIOC

November 19, 2019

Student Initiated Outreach Committee

Student Activities Center, Room 106

Los Angeles, CA 90095

Dear Student Initiated Outreach Committee,

We, the undersigned Undergraduate Students Association Council (USAC), are writing to ask the Chair of the Student Initiated Outreach Committee (SIOC) and an Administrative Representative to come to the USA Council meeting Tuesday, January 7th in order to present the past 3 years of budget reports, including this year, showing the full breakdown of the student fees allocated to the SIOC through USAC. We want to have this budget report in order to show students where their student fees are being allocated and that great work is being done in the SIOC and the Student Initiated Outreach Center.

In addition to coming to USAC and presenting the budget reports, we ask that the SIOC also publish the minutes of past, present, and future meetings of the SIOC within a reasonable time frame and an annual budget report, updated on a yearly basis in a similar format that Student Government Accounting (SGA) publishes their budget reports. We ask this be made publicly accessible through an online format for all students to access, given that all students pay student fees that are used to fund the SIOC.

We look forward to our continued communication throughout the academic year.



Cordially,

***The Undergraduate Students Association Council***

*Robert Blake Watson*, President  
*Kimberly Bonifacio*, Internal Vice President  
*Johana Guerra*, External Vice President  
*Eduardo “Lalo” Velazquez*, General Representative 1  
*Orion Smedley*, General Representative 2  
*Brandon Broukhim*, General Representative 3  
*Naomi Riley*, Academic Affairs Commissioner  
*Tara Steinmetz*, Campus Events Commissioner  
*Jonathan Wisner*, Community Service Commissioner  
*Kelechi Iheanacho*, Cultural Affairs Commissioner  
*Lily Shaw*, Facilities Commissioner  
*Mihika Sridhar*, Student Wellness Commissioner  
*Millen Srivastava*, Financial Supports Commissioner  
*Isabel Orah*, Transfer Student Representative  
*Shahamah Tariq*, International Student Representative

- Johanna motions to approve letter to SIOC, Lalo seconds
- By motion of 14-0-0 the motion passes, letter to SIOC is approved

CRC

November 19, 2019

Campus Retention Committee  
Student Activities Center, Room 105  
Los Angeles, CA 90095

Dear Campus Retention Committee,

We, the undersigned Undergraduate Students Association Council (USAC), are writing to ask the Chair of the Campus Retention Committee (CRC) and an Administrative Representative to come to the USA Council meeting Tuesday January 14th in order to present the past 3 years of budget reports, including this year, showing the full breakdown of the student fees allocated to the CRC through USAC. We want to have this budget report in order to show students where their student fees are being allocated and that great work is being done in the CRC and the Student Retention Center (SRC).

In addition to coming to USAC and presenting the budget reports, we ask that the CRC also publish the minutes of past, present, and future meetings of the CRC within a reasonable time frame and an annual budget report, updated on a yearly basis in a similar format that Student Government Accounting publishes their budget reports. We ask this be made publicly accessible through an online format for all students to access, given that all students pay student fees that are used to fund the CRC.

We look forward to our continued communication throughout the academic year.

Cordially,

***The Undergraduate Students Association Council***

*Robert Blake Watson, President*  
*Kimberly Bonifacio, Internal Vice President*  
*Johana Guerra, External Vice President*  
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*Brandon Broukhim, General Representative 3*  
*Naomi Riley, Academic Affairs Commissioner*  
*Tara Steinmetz, Campus Events Commissioner*  
*Jonathan Wisner, Community Service Commissioner*  
*Kelechi Iheanacho, Cultural Affairs Commissioner*  
*Lily Shaw, Facilities Commissioner*  
*Mihika Sridhar, Student Wellness Commissioner*  
*Millen Srivastava, Financial Supports Commissioner*  
*Isabel Orah, Transfer Student Representative*  
*Shahamah Tariq, International Student Representative*

- Lalo motions to approve letter to CRC, Shahamah seconds
- By motion of 14-0-0 motion passes, letter to CRC is approved

Basic Needs

November 19, 2019

Antonio Sandoval  
Director of Community Programs Office  
220 Westwood Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA 90095

Dear Director Sandoval,

We, the undersigned Undergraduate Students Association Council (USAC), are writing to request the publicizing of Basic Need Committee meeting minutes and funding allocations from the past year, and to continue to publicize minutes immediately following all future meetings.

The USAC hereby formally requests the UCLA Basic Needs Committee and the Community Programs Office to update the Basic Needs Committee’s minutes, agendas, and allocations on the Basic Needs Website within a reasonable time limit and to publicize past and future allocations to students.

We are grateful for your commitment to students and to tackling basic needs issues at UCLA. We look forward to our continued communication throughout the upcoming academic year.

Fiat Lux,

***The Undergraduate Students Association Council***

*Robert Blake Watson, President*  
*Kimberly Bonifacio, Internal Vice President*  
*Johana Guerra, External Vice President*  
*Eduardo “Lalo” Velazquez, General Representative 1*  
*Orion Smedley, General Representative 2*  
*Brandon Broukhim, General Representative 3*

*Naomi Riley, Academic Affairs Commissioner*  
*Tara Steinmetz, Campus Events Commissioner*  
*Jonathan Wisner, Community Service Commissioner*  
*Kelechi Iheanacho, Cultural Affairs Commissioner*  
*Mihika Sridhar, Student Wellness Commissioner*  
*Millen Srivastava, Financial Supports Commissioner*  
*Isabel Orah, Transfer Student Representative*  
*Shahamah Tariq, International Student Representative*

- Lalo motions to approve Basic Needs letter, Kelechi seconds
- By motion of 13-0-1 motion passes, letter to Basic Needs is approved

## **IX. New Business**

### **Discussion Item: OSAC Allocation**

Tariq

- Shahamah: So I wanted to talk about something to council members since USAC has jurisdiction over OSAC. So PSA got allocated Kerckhoff room 4012. And currently in the new cycle for 2019 the four orgs are [indiscernible]. Previously there used to be three other orgs who, for whatever reason did not reapply to it. Right now there's this whole thing where PSA really wants to use this space because we really want to use this space as a communal/meeting space and we tried really hard to be on top of it and apply. At this moment the room is literally like a storage space, there are boxes everywhere from different orgs. I don't know who to go to or how to mediate this because there's stuff in there from orgs, based off the application system, that are not part of that room. The reason I brought it here is because I feel like this might not be something that is only relevant to room 4012 and I spoke to Jessica about it and this might be something that is happening in other offices too.
- Johanna: Yeah so a whole bunch of orgs have had that room for years, so now we're dealing with different student organizations that want to move into that room. Specifically for that room, it's really hard to have this conversation given that different organizations have a stake in that room. I know this is something that council needs to have a discussion about but I feel like it's something that needs to happen more offline rather than here.
- Shahamah: So we have access to the space, we just don't know how to go about using that space as a shared community space. USAC has jurisdiction since there is no OSAC chair. Realistically, USAC can be the only one to help logistically.
- 
- Robert: My question is, do you have a suggestion or a plan of how you would want us to resolve this?
- Jessica: I just wanted to clarify also that my office is trying to help fill the voice of not having an OSAC chair and we're trying to operate off of the allocations that were approved by this council. So at the end of the day, if we need to accommodate or adjust space I don't personally don't feel comfortable having my office making those executive decisions especially when it came to you all and you all reviewed it and you all voted on it.
- Shahamah: The concern is that the three orgs that are not a part of, logistically speaking, did not reapply and did not get the office space, they are still occupying it and using it which is why the other two orgs are unable to.
- Kim: I think at the end of the day, it's a conversation that needs to happen between the representatives and we're just kind of here to guide the conversation and get a conclusion out of it.
- Jessica: I think you all bear the responsibility in the absence of an OSAC chair, if organizations are not able to get into spaces that they were allocated then it is your responsibility to figure out how to get them into that space.
- Shahamah: I'm going to reach out to these orgs, and talk about having an internal conversation. It will just be difficult because all the orgs feel like they have a right to that space.

## Discussion Item: Surplus

Watson

Robert: Because Toy has done a lot of work with surplus over the years, Roy, please take it away.

Roy: So surplus is, in any given year there are fees assessed by the student body. When they are collected in that year they all have specific purposes and your charge is to try to bring about productive uses of the funds. Inevitably, at the end of the year, there are unspent funds. So your student fees never leave the control of students. So if they are not spent in one fiscal year they cross over to the next fiscal year, they're never not student funds. So what happens is you are handed surplus from your predecessors and you will be and handing surplus to your successors. So that's the basic notion of what surplus is. Some of the money that comes over are restricted surplus. The commonly referred to surplus is what's called net surplus for allocation. There's a lot of money that you can't do anything with, certain fees are controlled by certain commissioners and funding bodies and you can't really move the money out of those channels. Your bylaws then say that at this point that in order to have some of the stable funding that goes toward some of the funding bodies, until you take this vote not all the money in those funding bodies will be present. This money has really broad range of motion in terms of what you can do with it.

Orion: How much are we currently putting in each of our offices and has the decline in this amount been due to votes from members of council, referendum?

Roy: The main reason for decline is fee has been eroded by inflation. Most of the modern fees are indexed to inflation. Your membership fee has been the same dollar fee since 1982, which is \$30. It's not that council has been getting funds, it's just that the available funds have started to diminish.

Robert: An initial thought that I had that I discussed with people was rather than council opening up a council wide, which has been done for the past two years amid controversy, a council wide funding pool for student orgs to apply generally, that this money solely goes to offices and offices can apply to p]open up their own funding pools or to expand their already existing funding pools for student orgs to apply to. That is my proposal. This would still be a process where council submits proposals which has been done for the past two years and council makes a judgement of how much money we should give to each office. Some offices will likely get more than others and that just depends on them making a compelling argument to council.

Nadya: If the goal is to give back to student groups, my question is why don't we add funding to funds that are already existing that are underfunded instead of opening new funds under each of your respective offices.

Naomi: I think we should kind of focus the conversation on where the money is going to go and what's going to be the process for this dispersal cycle. I wanna echo the sentiments of my predecessors in that this money should go back to the students. Not all council initiatives benefits all students.

Kim: I think for me I would want most money to go back to student orgs and I do not want the mechanism to have USAC become a funding body. I would want to put the surplus into different funding bodies into bodies that already exist.

Robert: I think my response to some of that is that is that, first the option to apply to contingency for council shouldn't be viewed as a negative because any registered student org has the option to apply to contingency. I don't think that should be a reason for our offices to get funding any less than a student org. And that's why we do give \$150,000 back to contingency from surplus in the first place. I just want to say too that we are elected to carry out our platforms and when offices have \$1,000 to carry out platforms it becomes a problem especially when we have big goals. Some offices just want to carry out the things that they ran on and they can't.

Naomi: I think it's best that it's assessed periodically.

Robert: I think the big conclusion of this discussion is, do we not want to or do we want to have an all council funding body?

Unanimously: No.

Robert: Ok so the question is then is if we agree then, the only way we do this is to move into a process of proposals and set a deadline for that. So a council member will put it on the agenda, come in and present to council, and then we'd vote on it and how much money we give.

Nadya: I just wanted to be clear that I am advocating for adding more money to BOD and Contingency. The 34%, that's not a cap that's set anywhere, that's just what we have to do to avoid going into negative numbers. All student groups can apply. To me it seems like a really efficient way to give back to the student groups.

Robert: So what we did last year is have all of the orgs give their presentations but didn't decide and vote until all the presentations were done.

Johanna: So can I just have a summary of what decisions are being made?

Robert: So the decisions that are being made is we will not open up surplus directly via council to student organizations but rather, USAC offices, USAC funding offices, and USAC committees can submit proposals to council which will be considered through a proposal process all of which will at the end will be considered with the lump money \$129,000 that will be distributed through council deliberation. The thing to move forward now is a due date for when all the proposals should be done. I think the appropriate deadline is week 2 of winter quarter. We can start presentations next week, deliberations week 2, and allocations week 2.

## **X. Adjournment\***

Watson

- Robert adjourns meeting 11:37 pm

## **Good and Welfare**

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