AGENDA
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL
April 26, 2022
7 PM PST
Zoom: https://ucla.zoom.us/s/97123303841

I. Call to Order
   - Breeze calls the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

   A. Signing of the Attendance Sheet
      - Signed via google docs

II. Approval of Agenda*
    - Strike TGIF
    - Add Discussion on Elections Board and Code
    - Add Discussion on CARE Advocates and Administrators Handling Cases
    - Strike Capital Contingency Allocations
    - Strike Bruin Advocacy Grant Allocations
    - Strike ARC Allocations
    - Change IVP Report to written

      - Emily moves to approve the agenda as amended, Tayloneei seconds.
      - By vote of 13-0-0, the motion passes and the agenda is approved as amended.

III. Approval of the minutes*
     - Maya moves to approve the minutes from 4/19/22, Tayloneei seconds.
     - By vote of 13-0-0, the motion passes and the minutes from 4/19/22 are approved.

IV. Public Comment
   - Clara Castronova: “Hello everyone, my name is Clara. I am the newly elected Chapter Chair for CALPIRG Students here at UCLA. I have some quick updates. So we finished our pledge drive a couple weeks ago and we hit our goal of signing up 300 new students in the spring and overall for the year we signed up 2,500 new members to pledge the $10 CALPIRG fee that allows us to work on our campaigns and win. We have been holding lobby meetings of the offices of LA Student Council members this week and last week for our Beyond Plastics and Clean Transportation Campaigns. So for plastics, we recently got the LA County Board of Supervisors to commit to phase out single-use plastics. So we want the LA City Council to adopt the same thing as well to affect all of LA County. This city council frequently does things like this so the meetings have been going really well and we have been making a lot of progress. And we hope to get a lot done before the end of the year. For our Clean Transportation Campaign, they have been really positive in expanding LA’s electric vehicle infrastructure so that is really great as well. Lastly, CALPIRG is governed by a statewide board of directors from students from all of our chapters and we make decisions about things like what campaigns we want to run and approve our budget and policy. In addition, we have an executive committee that leads the board and on Saturday during our board meeting we held elections for the executive committee. Two UCLA students were elected so Christian, our vice chair and our Voter Project Coordinator were elected treasurer and I am the new chair of the board of directors and we’re really excited to represent UCLA at a state and national level.”

   - Public comment is closed at 7:15pm.

V. Funding
   Contingency Programming*
   - Allocations: $14,464.79 to 28 non-USAC entities
- Cut allocations by 15% due to limited funds, but hopefully have funds for rest of the year to partially fund the organizations

- Emily moves to allocate $14,464.79 to 28 non-USAC entities, Sarah seconds.
- By vote of 12-0-0, the motion passes and Contingency Programming is approved for the week.

SFS Allocations
- Subhan

  - allocations: $4,045.84 to 5 non-CSC org and 1 CSC org
  - No opposition, passes as a consent item.

SWC Programming Fund Allocations
- Jackson

  - allocations: $2,515.00 to 5 non-USAC entities
  - No opposition, passes as a consent item.

Bruin Advocacy Grant Allocations
- Wang

ASRF Allocations
- Quint

  - allocations: $7,636.82 to 3 non-USAC entities
  - No opposition, passes as a consent item.

AAC Travel Mini-Grant Allocations
- Quint

  - allocations: $512.21 to 1 non-USAC entity
  - No opposition, passes as a consent item.

TGIF
- Ni

VI. Special Presentations

VII. Appointments

VIII. Officer Reports

A. President
- Velazquez

  - We are currently wrapping things up and making sure we have transition documents filled out.
  - In the Covid Response and Recovery Task Force there was discussion about an email that is going to be sent out to students to encourage them to continue to wear masks. Cases are still on the rise and this is causing concern especially for the seniors who are hoping for an in-person graduation. Discussion about sending out strong recommendations and email will be sent out by Friday.

B. Internal Vice President
- Gatica

C. External Vice President
- Written
- Wang

  - My office is also still wrapping up. We are figuring out logistics because some of us are going to be traveling up to Berkeley on May 7th for the last UCSA Board Meeting of the year and the nine EVP’s are also going to be selecting the next UC student regent. So if you have any recommendations or any ideas of what you want to see in the next student regent, feel free to reach out to me.
  - We also are working on the big Mayoral Town Hall that we will be hosting on May 9th. We pushed it back and UniVision will be televising it. We are working on getting the top 5 candidates approved. We are still working on Mick Carusso but fingers crossed that he pulls through.
  - The last big funding opportunity other than Bruin Advocacy grant will be the Trailblazers Scholarship so we are going to release apps hopefully this week. This will be a one-time payment of $2,000.

D. General Representative 1
- Written
- Valles

E. General Representative 2
- Written
- Pungchai

F. General Representative 3
- Written
- King
G. Academic Affairs Commissioner
- This week we finalized the Tilt Social Justice Mentorship program that we have been working on for the past few months. We had our final facilitation meeting on Sunday so we are just working on the Social Justice orgs and projects that students created.
- My office is also finishing up planning our study social event with our raffle and a chance to win a grammarly subscription for a year. We are currently working on Inside Out Study Space event to launch the OccuSpace app with the sensors in the libraries that will tell students of the capacity levels of the spaces.
- My office is also working with Project Bruin to put on an academic workshop for youth as part of a CSC event.

H. Campus Events Commission Written

I. Community Service Commissioner Written

J. Cultural Affairs Commissioner Verbal

K. Facilities Commissioner Written

L. Financial Supports Commissioner Written

M. Student Wellness Commissioner Written

● Commissioner Updates
  ○ Working on the free full-panel STI initiative proposal! Will meet with SHAC during Week 5 to present the proposal.
  ○ If you have a health need that needs to be addressed, let Tayloneei at tinyurl.com/swcneedsrequest!
  ○ View our SWC events at tinyurl.com/swctracker! This tracker is updated weekly.
  ○ Co-programmed “The Student Body: Managing Your Nutrition as a Student” Event with the Alpha Gamma Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.
  ○ Presented our Health Equity Summit Report and our progress as a Commission in meeting the needs voiced during the Summit at the Healthy Campus Initiative Steering Committee Meeting on April 21st.
  ○ Check out our ‘Guides’ tab on Instagram to see a compilation of all SWC-content (updates, announcements, event flyers, and more) posted during Week 4!

● SWC Updates
  ○ The Basic Needs Subsidy Program is back – new and improved! Visit tinyurl.com/swcbasicneeds22 to request a personalized basic needs kit by April 29th.
  ○ SWC HNFs Gleaning Project is growing!
  ○ Budget report is currently being worked on by our Chief of Finance!
  ○ The Basic Needs Resource Fair is currently being planned by our Student Health Network Directors.
  ○ CampusCups are available for pickup during Camille and Isabel’s Office Hours (Wed 10-11, Thurs 9-10)

● SWC Events
  ○ Bruin Consent Coalition hosted Take Back the Night on April 22 on the Hill!
  ○ EARTH hosted a ‘Plant With Us’ Program on Saturday at Tongva Steps.
  ○ Bruin/Run Walk hosted a Panda Express Fundraiser in Ackerman on April 25th from 12PM-2PM.
  ○ SEARCH hosted a Faded Facts Festival on April 21st from 2-4PM in Dickson Court.

N. Transfer Student Representative Written

O. International Student Representative Written

Q. Administrative Representatives

- Jessica: “Hi all, Just a quick reminder that as you are working on your transition documents for your office, can you please send me a copy so that we can save it to our SGS documents just as a additional backup in case anything happens to your electronic copy. So feel free to send those over or if you have it in a google drive you can share it. If anybody has any questions about transition docs or anything you are trying to prep as you leave office just let me know and congrats on almost being done with the year.”

- Patricia: “Hi everyone, I just wanted to let everyone know that we had such a great movie night with CEC last week so I just wanted to do a shout out for that collaboration. We also have one coming up in May and are also really excited to work with the EVP on the mayoral town hall so that will be here just around the corner so hopefully you all can come check it out to see all of Sarah’s hard work and her team.”

IX. Old Business
X. New Business

AAC Travel Mini-Grant Fund

- Can’t vote this week, but will be reviewed and voted on next week.

CARE Advocates and Administrators Handling Cases

- Breeze: There has been a lot of discussion surrounding elections this year and I want to start off the discussion by addressing the SA Allegations and situation. The student survivor made it clear that they did not want their case coming forward to their CARE advocate and asked that they reach out to an administrator to tell USAC that they did not want any information to be distributed. The CARE advocate told the student that they sent an email to an administrator within Res Life and was informed that the individual was going to talk to USAC. Has anyone been reached out to about this?

- Tayloneci: I am an RA and I still haven't heard about this.

- Breeze: Okay, so I guess that brings up the question as to why we haven't heard from administrators so I guess I want to hear from you guys. We were told that the administrator in question had told the CARE advocate that USAC had been spoken to on April 12th. I know that there was a discussion with myself but there was not a discussion about how the case was being handled and the whole situation has not been survivor centered. So I want to hear from administrators.

[Breeze voices her frustration about having to hold administrators responsible when they should be there to support USAC and the students.]

- Josh: What I can tell you is that I reached out to the CARE advocate this afternoon and we clarified what the conversation was that you were talking about. I can’t really say much in a public venue but I did have conversations with certain folks and it was clarified by the CARE advocate about who I should be having these conversations with.

- Breeze: Okay, I guess my question now is why haven't you all been assisting us through this situation. Why hasn't anyone spoken up and I don’t know why this hasn’t been taken as seriously as it should have been. Josh, you are not the only one, there are other administrators but I really feel like the only reason you assisted was because I pressed very hard for it.

- Promise: I am also tired of USAC having to fall on the sword when behind the scenes we are not actually being informed properly where things are starting to escalate. For example, a person on council who isn’t at this meeting yet, decided to address a situation that had nothing to do with them, that should have been handled by administration to make sure this person isn’t spreading information. Instead, we have had to try to confront this person and been harassed by this person. I would just really love some accountability here.

- Angelina: I also wanted to add that the survivor had told me multiple times when she confronted me that she did not want her story to be public for her own healing and she reiterated to me when the council members sent me that email on April 12th and at that point she was afraid for her safety and so she went directly to her CARE advocate and asked ResLife, Josh, to have a conversation with council members to make it clear to not make this public. This email from her CARE advocate was sent to Josh on April 14th and Josh said he would have a conversation with us but this has not happened. I also want to clarify that the survivor has given me permission to share this information. I also have a screenshot of the email that her advocate sent to Josh. I will not be reading this publicly but if anyone wants to have a conversation about it afterwards let me know.

- Josh: I apologize, I tried to find a space where I could speak openly about this so my apologies I did miss a little bit of that but I think there was a disconnection that took place with what CARE stated and what I can actually do. I met with the CARE advocate today and the CARE advocate did have a conversation with me that the people that they have contacted are the people who I needed to speak with. Now that might be a little bit different from what the CARE advocates said themselves but I just wanted to be very transparent about that.

- Carl: Good evening everyone, I just wanted to address something that was brought up about me. First off, I wanted to thank everyone for sharing their stories. Obviously, survivors are very important, as someone with a mother and five sisters, I have always taken the safety of women very important. I just wanted to tell my side of the story because I hate
when people try to make me come out to be the monster. A couple of weeks ago on April 11th, two of my staff members, two women, my team is 80% women, reached out to me and told me that they had been hearing rumors that an individual was associated with the Academic Affairs team. I spoke with them and I could see the fear in their eyes but I could also see that they were looking for me to get accountability and that they weren’t just confiding in me. I had two options, I could have just shut up about it and say I am sorry but there is nothing I could do at this moment, or I could ask the individuals involved and ask about the steps being taken. I understand that the survivor didn't want her story out, but how did it get out to me?

- Josh: Carl, if I could jump in real quick. The only thing that I will say to this is that this cannot and should not be a platform. The one thing that CARE and the administrators did agree on is that everyone needs to stop talking about this. There are proper reporting models that everyone must go through including CARE, Title IX, and the Dean of Students. You are all required reporters if you have any information, you should be bringing that forward. I know this has become a point of contention with all candidates or most candidates. What I would say from here on out, there are election violations, I cannot move forward with those. My role as the USAC admin advisor is to tell you all where the appropriate places to report are located. USAC live is not an appropriate place for us to be having this conversation. I know that many of you do not believe that administration is working fast enough and I hear and understand that frustration. What I do want to make very clear is that the administration is aware through the reporting that has been done over the past couple of weeks in a variety of different conduct and Title IX issues that those are being addressed. I think the best thing moving forward is that these conversations need to stop. They need to stop. You need to go through the appropriate reporting processes if anyone has questions on what those processes look like you are more than welcome to reach out to me. So I am going to pause there and see if anyone has additional conversations or questions for me.

- Passa: I was just wondering if there would be any considerations to modifying or adding things to our Title IX training for future council members.

- Josh: Yes, we will totally be making those alterations for the future in consultation with CARE and Title IX.

**Elections Board and Code Discussion**

- Palmer: Starting off with the letter that was released today by EBoard. This letter was drafted last night after Angelina’s post and then we went over it together as an election’s board and everyone approved of it so Martin and Anna put their names on it as well. The purpose of the letter was first of all to show our solidarity with Angelina. I know she is going through a really tough time as the elections board. We need to take a stance on anything election-related right and she is being directly affected in her physical and mental health by things that are happening during the elections whether or not that is within our jurisdiction. The point of addressing in the letter, we just wanted to say that for the general situation, we are here for her and if she has any concerns or anything that we can help with we are happy to communicate with her. I reached out to her already. Then the second kind of statement on that letter was just clarifying a point that Angelina made when she said that the Elections Board failed to support and protect her. We all have a reputation to upkeep. Personally, as Chair, I have a reputation to upkeep. I didn’t want people to think that I was not being impartial. I just gave our side of the story. Angelina did not do anything wrong, she was totally right in everything. She has the right to ask us not to share any details with Carl from that meeting and she was totally in the right to not share anything after that because it didn’t pertain to the election code, it pertained to the student code of conduct. The only issues we had was when she said that we didn’t protect and support her. We had a meeting with her and we took the time to address these issues with her and then she asked us not to take any further action and then went around and said that we didn’t provide any protection or support. We weren’t trying to invalidate your story or your side of things, but we wanted to give our side of the story to the student body who appointed us and paid our stipends.

- Angelina: Hi, I really appreciate your support. I did receive your email and I do appreciate your solidarity. I just wanted to share my side of the story during that meeting that I had with you and Josh. After I had explained what I had been experiencing which included the fake accounts, the multiple fake accounts as well as the harassment that I had faced from individuals following me and taking photos of me. Palmer stated that he would be open to having a conversation with Carl because he seems like a reasonable guy and that you had spoken to him in the past. I had stated that I didn’t want you to have a conversation with him because I told you I was afraid of retaliation from Carl. I was nervous after that. You and Josh both told me that there was nothing that you could do about anonymous accounts that were
harassing me online and that I would have to go through the dean of students. All I stated was that I didn’t want you to have a conversation with Carl. I never said that I didn’t want anything to be done at all. It was to my understanding that there would be an investigation conducted because you had stated that you would take the document of all the evidence that I compiled and take it back to your team, so it was to my understanding that there was an ongoing investigation.

- Palmer: I think personally maybe that was a bad decision on my part to not inform you that we hadn’t made any progress with the investigation up until this point. Maybe I should have communicated with you more about the steps we were taking in the investigation. That is totally fair and I apologize for that. I just figured that until we had some sort of progress that was when I would update you. I didn’t feel comfortable sharing the entire contents of that document with our whole investigations team just based on the kind of personal information that was in there. I know the video footage, I wasn’t even supposed to see and I think that was removed. It was confusing on what I was supposed to be showing to people so I kept it to myself and really didn't have anything that I could take form the elections Code to apply justice in the document that you gave me. There is nothing I can really do with anonymous accounts. I just don’t have the abilities and so I think that's what me and Josh were coming from when we asked you to refer to the Dean of Students because maybe they could get the police involved or someone that could trace an anonymous account or find footage of the people that were harassing you. Both of those situations are a little bit out of my jurisdiction and my abilities.

- Angelina: I do want to say that I feel extremely unsupported and failed by this university and by the elections board. I have not been able to go to class, to sleep, to eat because of the situations that I have been experiencing and so I think even though it might be outside of eboard’s jurisdiction, the fact that nothing has been done is concerning to me because it is very real and very personal to me and to be told that this is election pretty drama is very invalidation and I am not saying that you said that Palmer but I have heard this from several administrators. I feel very disappointed by the way that everything has been handled.

- Palmer: I also kind of gleaned the general feeling of administration about this like they just need to work it out between themselves. I think we are way past that point and that is another reason why I feel like because that is something I can step in on right now. Okay, let’s sit down Carl and Angelina and have a conversation about this and work this out. That is something that I am all for and I can do that. But at this point, I think this is so much past that. I don't think that Angelina and I am sorry that you don’t feel supported but I don’t feel comfortable as a student employee being the one to facilitate an argument or a conversation between each other that is going to involve the law enforcement.

- Promise: I just wanted to ask essentially like when things like this are being brought to your attention, I completely understand that there is a level that just goes pas what your job it supposed to be like but I also think that as the Election Board Chair overseeing this election, a candidate has inequitably been unable to campaign because of harassment from another candidate so as Election Board Chair, it's your job to ensure equity for all candidates. Just because she did not want to sit down with him doesn’t mean that nothing should have been done. So what was done on your guy’s end because at this point it doesn’t seem like anything has been done and no penalties have been made and it is just continuing and perpetuation a toxic cycle within the election itself and this election drama at this point because this person who has been a victim of harassment hasn't been campaign because of this.

- Palmer: Totally valid, at this point, I am trying to ensure due process for Carl. The evidence I have and this is something I consulted with my advisor and Josh, is not conclusive enough to bring something down on Carl and say okay this is everything, sorry dude, you are being sanctioned or your campaign is being terminated. Obviously if all these accusations can be tied to Carl his campaign should be terminated, but there is not enough substantial proof and evidence from my end about things concerning the election code. I am not ever going to touch the harassment and the stalking and anything legally related right that is a whole spirited issue. I am supposed to be the impractical elections board chair and what I am hoping is that the proper authorities can find the evidence to show me that Carl did these things and then I will remove him from the election but at this point there is not enough evidence.

- Jane: I just wanted to ask about something that is kind of related. I just wanted to bring attention to some things that I personally feel like you guys could directly do better. So as you guys know, in the last day there has been a lot of information on reddit, you get anonymous forums and I know that you guys can’t do anything about it but why is there
Breeze: Yeah, and I think overall, this has been a very messy election. I can say every election season is pretty messy.

Carl: I was going to say you are totally right Jane, I definitely agree. Angie definitely shouldn't be getting those types of comments but I totally agree with Jane. Right now we are sitting in De neve trying to facilitate the debates. We have a lot on our plates at this moment. I thought our resources would be appropriately used in making sure the debate went smoothly. But I appreciate the feedback and I will bring it back to the board.

Palmer: Yeah, I definitely agree with Jane. I think it would help me if you summarize these points and text them or email them to me so I can put down on paper all the things you are telling me because it is all important and legitimate. I would like to have all of that compiled for when I draft an email to the candidates tonight and for when I implement these policies that you are speaking about. I don’t want to lose these thoughts.

- Palmer: Again, in situations like these, I can’t trace it to a student and if this continues to persist I would be happy to help you bring that to the Dean of Students but at this point there is nothing that I can do about this.

- Patricia: Hi everyone, I just wanted to let you all know and it seems like the conversation is kind of going back more to the process, but you know having this be about the process of a lecture submitting grievances then we should air those out in the processes that are set through forward within the election code and the j board in other processes. So just want to give that reminder out there as we continue this conversation.

- Palmer: Yeah, and I would also like to encourage anyone that feels like the election board hasn’t done a good job in handling their case to bring it to the judicial board as they are the impartial judicial party on all these issues. If you feel like I haven’t done your right in any sort of way, I encourage you to bring it to them and they will set it straight. Is there anything else folks would like to say?

- Jane: I was kind of mentioning this earlier but I think something similar had happened to me last year during elections where people were really defending me on the internet and obviously like I didn't even really think it was my opponent because it was anonymous. After I had filed a sanction, eboard mandated that like themselves, my opponent and everybody else in the election to go on this one reddit post and defended me from the comments the anonymous user was making. Stuff like this is clear bullying and I would like confirmation that you as the elections board and all the other candidates should be supporting this woman who is being told to go to prison just because she is running for this position.

- Palmer: Yeah, I definitely agree with Jane. I think it would help me if you summarize these points and text them or email them to me so I can put down on paper all the things you are telling me because it is all important and legitimate. I would like to have all of that compiled for when I draft an email to the candidates tonight and for when I implement these policies that you are speaking about. I don’t want to lose these thoughts.

- Carl: I was going to say you are totally right Jane, I definitely agree. Angie definitely shouldn't be getting those types of posts. No one should be getting threatened in that manner or being told these things. I know where you are coming from in that aspect. I am willing to make a statement saying you know what no one should say and it is unacceptable but I don’t know what platform you are talking about, but if you let me know, I am definitely willing to make a statement on there defending Angie.

- Breeze: Yeah, and I think overall, this has been a very messy election. I can say every election season is pretty messy but this one in particular has been very harmful to so many students, so I also want to bring up a discussion like moving forward, how can USAC do better. How can council members do better overall to make the space more conducive to actual change and not one in which students are attacking each other so.

- Palmer: Yeah, I think the last thing I want to say is that obviously it is our first year doing an in-person election in my experiences, so there have been unforeseen things that have come up and we are all kind of learning on our feet right now and making adjustments as needed. I really appreciate all of you for having patience with me in my own learning and trying to be the best chair I can be. Obviously at this point, I am working well below minimum wage as are most of my directors so I just want to remind everyone that we are students as well, we have midterms just like you this week. Um so just hopefully we all can have a better relationship moving forward. I mean I guess if we deserve it, call us out but I just don’t think that is a productive way for the student body to see us interacting especially when I feel like I have
friendly relationships with all of you. I would appreciate it if you could just come to me and we could have a conversation about it instead of posting on the internet because you know I appreciate everything that you all do and I thought we had a working relationship so that we could feel it to be professional.

- Josh: I just want to mention that I know Jane had mentioned in the platform that asking student affairs to step up and monitor those sites as we become aware of issues that arise. We do report them to the proper reporting protocols so where that is Title IX or the dean of students office to do the investigation.

- Jane: I just wanted to push back on that. If student affairs could monitor these sites for a violent election, no students should be responding to these threats and that for students affairs in the positionality as you guys hold as employees of the university salaried employees of the university who don’t have to take midterms and go to class you should be doing more than reporting to Title IX and reporting to student affairs and dean of students. Those are great avenues to pursue but more needs to be done.

[Discussion ends after speaking about potential ways to move forward with future councils and future elections]

**XI. Adjournment***

- Breeze adjoins at 8:46pm.

Good and Welfare;

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