AGENDA
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL
June 20, 2023
7 PM PST
Zoom:
https://ucla.zoom.us/j/98686577744?pwd=Zm5TeGNIVG5PcTxQ3MzckN1Z01XZz09
Password: 245694

I. Call to Order
Hammonds
- Naomi calls the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

A. Signing of the Attendance Sheet
- Virtual Meeting
- Present:
  - Naomi
  - Jonathan
  - Chia
  - Megan
  - Eva
  - Sujana
  - Gabby
  - Evan
  - Alicia
  - Sara

- Not Present:
  - Thyra
  - Jennis
  - Katie
  - Adam
  - Mason

II. Approval of Agenda*
Law
- Strike Bruin Advocacy Grant Allocations
- Strike TGIF
- Strike ASRF Allocations
- Strike TGMF Allocations
- Strike SFS Allocations
- Strike ARC Allocations
- Amend ARC Appointments, Add Tiara Weedagama to ASUCLA BOD
- Sujana moves to approve the agenda as amended, Gabby seconds.
- By vote of 9-0-0, the motion is passed and the agenda is approved.

III. Approval of the minutes*
Law
- Alicia moves to approve the minutes from 6/6/23, Chia seconds.
- By vote of 9-0-0, the motion passes and the minutes are approved from 6/6/23.

IV. Public Comment
Hammonds
- Public comment is closed at 7:11pm.

V. Funding
Prentice
A. Capital Contingency*
- No allocations for this week.

A. **Contingency Programming**
   - No allocations for this week.

B. **SFS Allocations**
   - No allocations for this week.

C. **SWC Programming Fund Allocations**
   - No allocations for this week.

D. **Bruin Advocacy Grant Allocations**
E. **ASRF Allocations**
F. **AAC Travel Mini-Grant Allocations**
G. **ARC Allocations**
H. **TGIF**

VI. Special Presentation

VII. Appointments

A. **ASUCLA Board of Directors**
   a. **Ronen Wenderfer (2 year term)**
      - Thraya moves to appoint Ronen Wenderfer to the ASUCLA Board of Directors, 2 year, alternate, Gabby seconds.
      - By vote of 1-0-7, the motion does not pass and Ronen Wenderfer is not appointed to the ASUCLA Board of Directors.
   b. **Heeya Firdaus (2 year term)**
      - Thraya moves to appoint Heeya Firdaus to the ASUCLA Board of Directors, 2 year alternate position, Jennis seconds.
      - By vote of 7-1-1, the motion passes and Heeya Firdaus is appointed to the ASUCLA Board of Directors, 2 year alternate position.
   c. **Eliyah Cohen (1 year, voting)**
      - Sujana moves to appoint Eliyah Cohen to the ASUCLA Board of Directors, 1 year term, Megan seconds.
      - By vote of 8-3-0, the motion passes and Eliyah Cohen is appointed to the ASUCLA Board of Directors, 1 year term.
   d. **Tiara Weedagama (1 year, voting)**
      - Evan moves to appoint Tiara Weedagama to the ASUCLA Board of Directors, Jonathan seconds.
      - By vote of 10-1-0, the motion passes and Tiara Weedagama is appointed to the ASUCLA Board of Directors.

VIII. Officer Reports

A. **President**
   - We had JuneUnity by Hillel and Shabbat dinner, it was great to see so many people.
   - I wrapped up some hiring forms from the last council and finished some requisition forms.
   - I have general staff applications done and they are out now. Encourage everyone to keep working on appointments.
   - Set up a meeting with one of the senators at Berkeley about plans for the years
   - Set up a meeting with CALPIRG
   - Set up a meeting with Judicial Board Directors and details about the year to come.
   - Working on an appointment post for the ones that I am responsible for.

B. **Internal Vice President**
   - Law
- I have my applications and they closed last weekend, but I am extending them. I have hired out half of my directors and I am going through interviews for the next round. Looking for a CSA Vice Chair, let me know if you have any recommendations.
- I am setting up meetings with student organizations and starting with the mother organizations.
- Wanted to reach out to the GSA Vice President but the position is vacant, so reaching out to the President instead.

C. **External Vice President**

Jussim

- Was unable to go to a lot of meetings in the past couple of weeks because I got violently sick. Working on rescheduling those meetings now.
- Meetings with the other EVP’s at the other UC’s in two days, getting to know each other. Forum on discussion on what we want our goals to be as EVP’s.
- Conference happening in August, and I will keep you updated on that opportunity.
- Focused on hiring and finishing applications, I have too many so will be plugging other offices.
- This week I will be working on a brief for funding for the courses, drafting a resolution about labor practices.
- Met with IGNITE to get into contact with folks who can get a treatment center to promote themselves at new student orientation as well as Title IX, so students know where to go if they are an assault victim.
- Bunch of appointments available that you might be interested in. UCLA representation in UCSA.

D. **General Representative 1**

Pool

- Working on filling her office, taking applications, posting link soon.
- Currently in Israel with Hillel

E. **General Representative 2**

Lasry

- Meeting with Orlando about who are the best people to contact regarding my platforms
- Letting more people know about appointments
- Hired Finance director and working on filling more director positions in my office

F. **General Representative 3**

Valenzuela Meija

- Met with Orlando during Finals Week, discussed the work that I am wanting to do and the ways that he can support me in that. Also met with Fernando about same thing
- My application for executive directors is out, please promote it because I need someone, anymore.
- My goal for the summer is to hire my office and reach out to stakeholders.

G. **Academic Affairs Commissioner**

Srihar

- Getting back into USAC role after finals
- Had to reschedule my meeting with my SOLE advisor again but it is going to happen
- Meeting with Academic Senate leadership this Thursday to talk about issues that I really want to push for.
- Regarding textbook affordability, met with CALPIRG’s platform along with Katie
- Working on promoting textbook affordability survey to see what people are thinking about this issue, hoping to get a lot of responses to show data to admin
- Working on appointments, recommended a senator to ARC, continuing to interview candidates.
- Hired all of my directors and finalized our training schedule. Hoping to have a USAC mixer thing in August for everyone to meet each other.
- Finalized my CRC appointments
- Meeting with Jennis to see how we can work together on a midterm stress relief week.
- Scheduled a meeting with Mary Romo

H. **Campus Events Commission**

Miller

I. **Community Service Commissioner**

Wong

- We held a Service Summit, a big success and we had workshops with different people.
- Met with the director of Community Engagement and seeing how we can support each other.
- CSC representative to be on the University level for institutional service
- Preparing for a CSC Annual Workshops for service organizations in July. Helping them prepare for the year and what they can do.
- Working with Lori to book a venue for an event during Welcome Week.
- Planning for Volunteer Day that will happen during Week 0.
- Going to reach out to Eva and Sujana to see how I can help with some of the appointments.

J. Cultural Affairs Commissioner

Verdugo

- Mason and I are just working on Bruin bash. Before council today we had our administrative meeting which we now have weekly. We are doing artist outreach right now to get quotes on our top ten picks for people that we want to perform for this year.
- I am sick of Greek life like organizing and getting all of the floor tickets historically so we are going to work on ways to prevent that from happening this year. We are getting in touch with the sponsorship director at UCLA so we can get as much money as possible from sponsors and hopefully not be in debt next year with Bruin bash.
- I am also just putting together a calendar for all of our fall events with each of my series in my office so everything will be planned for the fall quarter and planned ahead of time which will be exciting because it means more events will be more accessible to people if they know about them ahead of time.
- I highly recommend everything to be a part of the enormous activities fair and just plan your events ahead of time because events are hard to plan and it is important to get people to attend them.
- I would also like to touch on what the proxy of Gen Rep 1, Katie said. I also got an invitation from Hillel to the all expenses paid trip to occupied land. I want to say that Zionism is something that USAC needs to talk about and also republish a resolution that we had a couple of years ago because historically this institution and the UC’s have upheld the worldwide systems of injustice and UCLA is no exception especially when it comes to Zionism. While I appreciate the all expenses paid trip, it is not okay and I would never feel comfortable visiting, touring, or vacationing in any sense to occupied land because people are being terrorized, murdered, and displaced in their homeland and you can see it from news and reports. I also want to share my sentiments and beliefs should not be misconstrued as me being in any way harmful or exclusionary to Jewish students or the Jewish community. Anti-semitism is not the same thing as anti-zionism. I am against a state that is oppressing the original people of the land.

K. Facilities Commissioner

Curran

- I was very busy with finals the last couple of weeks. We did have a meeting with one of the transportation deputies for our CD5 representative and we were able to discuss our next steps forward with Westwood Connected. We are specifically looking at some active transportation improvements like cycling infrastructure and pedestrian infrastructure.
- We had all of our study nights last week and we ended up tripling the attendance that we had from previous student nights that we had in the winter quarter so I was very excited about that. Shout out to Thyra and Megan who managed to make it out to these events.
- I was able to talk through a transfer checklist with Thyra that we couple implement for the different offices and see the ways that we can support transfer students and make sure that is not all on Thyra.
- I also had a meeting with Fernando last week where we discussed the basics of TGIF and how we can really improve transparency and make sure that people really understand what the application process looks like and why people aren't not getting funding and just some ways that we can work to fix those issues before they arise.
- We are now going to set up regular meetings with Fernando so we can continue that conversation over summer and really make sure that TGIF is a much more transparent funding body to the student body next year.

L. Financial Supports Commissioner

Broukhim

- We are filling out a couple of requisition forms to get some funds to the community to provide parking passes for the summer.
- We have also worked with some clubs to provide additional funding for the end of the year events. Currently our application is done and we just need to post it.
- We have done a lot of our interviews and I have enjoyed my debriefs with Jonathan and Megan.
- We are working on a financial fair for the fall and we are going to start our weekly executive meetings soon.
- I also want to second what Gabby said in the chat about how zionism is a complicated issue and we should definitely speak about it later.

M. Student Wellness Commissioner

- I am meeting with my core student leaders to plan for the future of us this summer. I also met a lot of wonderful individuals at the networking event that the student government support team set up for us so I am meeting with Amanda from the office of emergency management for collaboration on a first aid emergency preparedness event.
- Also of course, within our own council, we are planning to meet within a week to discuss a future midterm de-stress event.
- I am also rescheduling with Jonathan and then for SWC, my assistant commissioner, Annabelle, met with them while I was down and sick. They won a bunch of money funding from the UC National center for Free Speech and it is a big engagement for a reproductive health justice program and they reached out to SWC this week asking if we would have this program and we delightfully accepted so we are super excited to plan a program that is centered on education and resources and providing a safe space for sensitive and productive discussion on these topics. We are also going to work on centering marginalized videos so they would like to collaborate with other student organizations. For the Resource fair, we would love to have other folks join us, so let me know if that is something that you are interested in.

N. Transfer Student Representative

- I just want to acknowledge Alicia, thank you so much for posting Happy Juneteenth on your Instagram and showing support for the African-American Community. I take it very personally as an African-American but also just as somebody who is interested in empowering black communities everywhere so thank you so much for that.
- I had the USAG Transfer student agenda meeting and it was really great, we talked about a lot of great things. I will say everything about that in a later meeting just because I need to get my life together right now.
- The Filipino Transfer student partnership had an event called a Debut which is kind of a traditional event that they had and I sponsored this year so I was able to go to that and wear a sparkly dress and feel like a princess.
- Shout out to Evan for having those study nights during Finals week. They were so cute and I definitely was drinking that coffee.
- I attended the black graduation and the Latinx graduation this past week and they were amazing and it was great to see all of my friends.
- I am pretty sure all of you know this but I am going to be the incoming ASU chairperson so if you are scheduling appointments for the mother organizations, I am the representative for the black one so you can reach out to me via the ASU Chairperson email that I will put in the chat later.
- I have interviews coming up so I am hoping to do those this summer and get my staff completed. Thankfully half of my staff was not graduating, so I only have to hire the other half.
- Sujana, I am hoping if there are any people who are left over who want to serve as a transfer representative on AAC, I can swing them through that application. I am also trying to find a chair for the LGBTQ transfer admit weekend. Last time I checked, I only had one application. If you know anyone who is interested in that position, please let me know.
- I want to collaborate with Jennis because a lot of incoming transfers experience a lot of imposter syndrome so I want to have some conversations about that and give students tips on how to navigate that.

O. International Student Representative

P. Administrative Representatives

- Orlando: “Hello everyone, just a couple of quick updates. The first one is that in the last meeting, I had mentioned that the SOLE Bruin leaders Project had an Instagram account that could help promote the appointments that you all are trying to fill and there was a question on how many followers we have and we do have over a thousand so just wanted to throw that in. If anyone is interested, please reach out to me and I can help you out from there. I believe as CSC mentioned, the Community Activities Commission Annual Fund will be due in August. I know that seems far away but it will get here really quickly so if you belong to any organizations that are not apart of CSC reach out to your SOLE advisor for guidance.”
- Jessica: “Just a couple of quick things. Something I mentioned at a prior meeting regarding having funds available from this past council. So 22-23 fiscal year in the discretionary fund for council to cover the cost of an ADA door retrofit or at least partially cover the cost for one of the student organization offices in Kerckhoff so I just wanted to bring that up again as we are approaching the end of the fiscal year and we need to make a decision at this point on this issue. So next meeting if possible, we can go ahead and vote on that. My recommendation would be to keep it on your mind for when we get into surplus conversations in the fall because that is a great opportunity to have some additional funds available for things that are outside the general maintenance and utility costs so I just wanted to bring that up again. If this was something that you wanted to get moving on sooner rather than later, you can just vote to approve the use of the funds for that purpose and then we will take care of getting the work order places and then once it is getting billed we can help fill out that rec form. The other financial thing that I wanted to mention is that we do have an invoice for name plates for everyone as we return to in-person meetings. We ordered name plates with everybody’s names, pronouns, and position just for people who come and attend can identify who you are since your names are not displayed like on Zoom. Typically we would change that cost to our installation budget but our budget was lower this year given some amendments that were made when last council was voting on their budget but the cost for that is about $900.00 so a good account to use the funds from would be the council discretionary since that account hasn’t been utilized at all yet so you should have the full ten thousand dollars. But again, since it is not typically charged there I wanted to bring it up to all of you so you all can let me know if that sounds reasonable to you as a good place to change it. Aside from that, I also just wanted to mention if anybody wasn’t able to attend some of the training sessions that were held on Thursdays, we can send out the PowerPoint slides for that or I can drop it in the slack if that is more accessible. I also just wanted to offer. I know some of you have already had meetings with Fernando, Jonathan, and I but if anybody specifically wants to meet to go over some of the topics that we went over in the training just as a refresh or recap, we would be happy to do that over the summer. We are also going to plan on having training again once you have all of your office staff filled out so we can go over contracts and things like that.”

- Lori: “I spoke to marketing for recreation and they are also happy to repost your appointment socials if you tag them and then they will repost it for you as well as the student affairs instagram. Because it is summer, I am working on Bruin Bash and I am recovering from commencement.”

- Jonathan: “Hi, hello. I hope your summers are off to a good start. The sun has finally decided to come out a little bit and I know that has been great for my personal morale so I hope it has been good for you as well. Updates I have on my end. Just the classics. If your outgoing officer has yet to deal with their surplus allocations and you know that, please give them a reminder that the fiscal year closes quite soon and if they need to send money over to another campus entity they need to do that now. The summer is also a wonderful time to clean out your office and have work done on it if it needs it. I hope by now, you have had a chance to at least look in there and see what needs to be taken care of. I am also embarking on a little project to kind of go through a lot for your fees to come to us as Council but then get delegated to another campus entity via a referendum or whatever it may be. A lot of your appointments, the people, are in theory supposed to come and give you updates on what is going on with that money with those entities whatever it may be so I am going to be going through a good amount of that and see if we can start setting up some of those. There will be special presentations at council for you to kind of know where a lot of your money that you oversee goes and what that money has been done with. I think it is important for you all to know this stuff because it is a very large sum of money that you oversee and getting some personal facetime with the people that manage a lot of it is important for transparency and all those kinds of things. The point of me saying this is that when you are making appointments, they should be coming to council to give updates on what they are doing and where that money is going. Lastly, be on the lookout for a feedback form on how your transition went so we can know what we can still improve on. The transition is a difficult adjustment period with a lot of knowledge dumped on you so we would love to hear the things that went well and the things that did not.”

**IX. Old Business**

**X. New Business**

A. **Vote on Next Summer USAC Meeting on July 4th, 2023***

- Meeting will be held on Monday, July 3rd at 7pm instead of July 4th, 2023 at 7pm

- Sujana moves to move the upcoming meeting to July 3rd, 2023, Sara seconds.
- By vote of 8-0-1, the motion passes and the upcoming meeting date is changed to July 3rd, 2023.

B. Discussion Fee Transparency and Inclusive Outreach

- Megan: “So Phoebe was the previous facilities commissioner and she sent us a letter about transparency and inclusivity regarding TGIF but also applicable to the other funding bodies at UCLA. Please look out for that letter if you have not gotten it yet but if not, I can also send it in the chat right now. Essentially, I just want everyone to take a look at this letter and I wanted to bring it up as old business for next week as well if we want to further discuss it. So essentially, this letter is about how since student fees go into TGIF, there is not too much transparency about where the fees go and who they are affecting. Sometimes definitions can be a bit obscure especially when it is things like need based or priority funding. I know a lot of student organizations have had issues not just with TGIF, but a lot of the funding bodies in general. A lot of the time it is because there is just not enough funding anymore. So this is just kind of a proposal on how we should allocate our funds and like how we allocate based on how we evaluate the campus needs to student organizations and initiatives. Potentially we would work with FSC to create transparency reports and have more data open to the public to see what population that student fee is affecting as well as just increasing transparency and inclusion. We could consult undergraduate students to collaborate and just have required reports from each funding body to see how we are best allocating these student fees. We also want to work with applicants to those funding bodies who were rejected. This letter brings up how Fernando’s is going to have a new position as a funding manager so he can probably help with this as well but that was the summary of the letter. I encourage all of you to read it thoroughly.”

- Thyra: “I appreciate you for bringing this up. I particularly had an issue with transparency as it relates to ASU. I am sorry I keep saying this but bring in ASU, we are connected to the Harambe Council which I think in 2020, the current USAC member who oversaw TGIF, promised a specific allocation of these funds to the Harambe Council in support of Black Lives Matter and just general support for black Bruins and we did not get that much transparency about how to access those funds. We thought it was just an initiative that a USAC member was trying to do to show support for our community but after talking with Phoebe and getting more clarification from Evan it does not seem that it works that way. I just think things like that are culturally insensitive so maybe just working with these different organizations that were promised funds to show what that entails and how to have open access to the funding because a lot of Harambe Council organizations were betting on having this financial support form USAC and they weren’t able to tap into that this year because of these additional qualifications that we didn’t know we had to have. We didn’t know we had to have the sustainability aspect which is fine but that was never made clear to the different Harambe Council organizations and so it was just creating barriers for us to get that support from USAC.”

- Sara: “I just wanted to talk about the transparency efforts. I would love to collaborate and help out on that. One thing that I think would be particularly useful is two things. One part of platform was creating a sort of spreadsheet for every funding body that gives people transparency on where they are within the funding process so they can look up their Club on the spreadsheet and then be like oh it is being process right now or like a decision has been reached because I think that was a big issue with transparency this past year. We are also working to get this thing up and running again, we used to have it and it is called the Financial Expenditure Viewer. Basically it is a big graph and it basically codes the USAC budget data so you can look at it and it is really easy to use and it shows the percentage of where money was spent. It also shows when spending occurred and it gives you a lot of information. So we might be able to do that. I don’t know if we can do that individually with funding bodies or how that would work but I can try to talk to my team and see how we could get that up and running. I think we should just make it super easy for students to see the amount that we are spending and where that money is going. It is also more realistics. I think students are more likely to look at graphs than read reports but we could definitely do both.”

- Eva: “Yah, I think there is a lot that we can do and I think transparency often gets lost in the shuffle. Something that I do for the Bruin Advocacy grant even though it is so much smaller than TGIF and I want to preface by saying that. But what we do is we have a spreadsheet where we list the committee, the applicant, what they applied for, how much they got allocated, and then the rationale and that is just an easy way to see how much we have allocated and what is remaining in the fund. I think publishing reports and stuff like that
is really good but it also has limited value because the websites that they are posted on are not trafficked by UCLA. No offense, but we are so bad at getting the right information out there and keeping it updated and being diligent about that. I think if we could communicate with the USAC webmaster about posting these or updating websites or whatever it is, I do feel that will still reach a limited number of students even as Council. I think it is on us at this point that if things are brought to council we are collecting data and receiving the extent that equity is considered which I think should be more a part of the process. I think that is our job and that is our responsibility. Something that I want to start doing on my personal social media accounts is like publicizing like whenever my office is mentioning something in council, for example the bag funding, then just make a little slide and a screenshot of the spreadsheet or if there is a resolution that we co-sponsor or something like that, that is all going on the Instagram. I would love to hear Evan’s thoughts on his role in TGIF and everything and I think with everyone’s suggestions, I would personally love to see a social media component be a big part of that other than updating the website or presenting at council because even though that is a great starting point, we will reach more people through social media.”

- Evan: “I really appreciate all the comments that have been made especially because this has an emphasis on TGIF. Thyra, I want to make sure you know that we are listening and we are here to quickly talk about what happened with the Harambe Council and you know the issues that Thyra brought up because it really is a big issue and a big failure of communication on behalf of TGIF. So in these initial allocations that were being made, I think it is important to know the distinction between TGIF vs. discretionary funding bodies that we have in USAC. Because TGIF is funded by a referendum, there are certain bylaws and rules about how we can allocate money and where that money has to go, so when we were first initially giving that money to the Harambe council, I think there were some missteps in the way that we were allocating it because we were violating our own bylaws. You can only have your money for one year and after that year it goes back into TGIF allocation money so if you don’t spend it in that year when we originally allocated it, it was supposed to go back into TGIF Surplus so similarly one of the requirements before we give out funding is because it is the Green Initiative Fund, it is funded for students for sustainable initiatives so that always has to be a component of those events but I do not think that those things were clarified or communicated very well. My vision for TGIF is really about long-term relationships and building the relationships with organizations that we are funding. I think that we can really walk people through this funding process. I think we should be sitting down with the people and walking them through the application and really talking to them about what a sustainable event can look like because it doesn’t necessarily have to be an event that is focused on sustainability. We see it all the time in TGIF that there are organizations that are really focusing on more cultural events but they are still able to incorporate sustainability into the mission of that event. So I think by really making sure we are available as a resource and by actively seeking out those partnerships to make sure that we can develop sustainable events and easily get those TGIF fundings out. Another vision I have is maybe trying to create a flow chart for all of the funding bodies that we have in USAC. I think oftentimes people just apply to TGIF because they know it exists and they know it has a lot of money but it is not always the most appropriate funding body that you could be applying for and so I think by trying to clarify and tell people about all the funding bodies to make sure that they are getting funding from the most appropriate funding body.”

- Chia: “Yah, this is a lot of really great ideas. I think I also just wanted to speak because CSC does manage a lot of money for community service and there are also a lot of funds for Community Service groups. I really like the idea about what Evan mentioned about the flow chart about what is the best funding body for different groups because I know we do have a list of options on the website but that is not the most accessible. For CSC, what we are planning to do is have a chart/table where we go over different line items and be like okay if you are trying to get this for items for volunteer appreciation, these are the best guns and all that so that is more service focused but I feel like if you want to do something that goes across all the funds that will also be beneficial and I would be happy to contribute to that. I will also be very open to having to work on different initiatives to develop rubrics for the funds that we manage. I know Eva was talking about the sheets for the status of requisitions and for the remaining funds left and just an idea to put out where we want to have a financial transparency committee where all the offices with funds, dedicate their finance director to sit on this committee, where we share best practices in terms of what we want to do with this
moving forward. I think having the finance director be a part of that process can really improve how there can be more transparency with how we manage student fees so that is an idea that we can look into.”

- Eva: “I love the ideas that were just mentioned. I think having the committee system would be good because they can also help with gathering financial documents and serve as a reminder for the USAC offices to be like hey can you send me this document with the Req and whatnot. Those things really get lost in the shuffle and I think that would be helpful.”

- Naomi: “One of my main goals for this upcoming year in these Town Halls that I envisioned. I also want to break down funding. So I think what would be best for next steps, if you have a chance, review the letter that was sent by Phoebe. I highly highly recommend that. Then, I think we should set up a working group whether that is through text, email, or slack. That way, we can talk about the options that were put on the table tonight and see what we can do moving forward. I funding was one of the biggest issues for this past year so we should definitely nip this in the butt while we are talking about it now. Thank you to Megan for bringing this conversation up.”

**XI. Adjournment**

- Naomi adjourns the meeting at 10:12pm.

Good and Welfare;

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