



AGENDA  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL  
July 3, 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 7:02pm.

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

- Present (virtual meeting):
  - Naomi
  - Eva
  - Katie
  - Gabby
  - Jonathan
  - Sujana
  - Mason
  - Alicia
  - Evan
  - Sara
  - Jennis
  - Adam
  - Thyra
- Not Present:
  - Chia

## **II. Approval of Agenda\***

Law

- Megan motions to Add Appointment for Tommy Contreas for Academic Senate: Undergraduate Council, Sara seconds.  
By vote of 9-0-0, the motion passes and the agenda is approved.
- Strike ARC Allocations
- Alicia moves to add A Resolution in Support of LBGTQIA+ Community After Discriminative Supreme Court Ruling, Jennis seconds.  
By vote of 9-0-0, the motion passes and the resolution is added to the agenda.
- Alicia moves to add a Resolution In Support of Affirmative Action Against the Supreme Court's Ruling to Terminate Equitable College Admissions in the US, Megan seconds.  
By vote of 8-1-0, the motion passes and the resolution is added to the agenda.
- Add Discussion Item about Presentation by Ryan on the CRC and SIOC
- Strike SWC Programming Fund Allocations
- Strike Bruin Advocacy Grant Allocations
- Strike TGIF
- Strike ASRF Allocations
- Strike TGMF Allocations
- Strike Capital Contingency
- Strike Contingency Programming

- Sujana moves to approve the agenda as amended, Jennis seconds.
- By vote of 11-0-0, the motion passes and the agenda is approved.

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

Law

- Jonathan moves to approve the minutes from 6/20/23, Alicia seconds.
- By vote of 11-0-0, the motion passes and the minutes are approved from 6/20/23.

### **IV. Public Comment**

Hammonds

- Public comment is closed at 7:15pm.

### **V. Funding**

<del>A. Capital Contingency*</del>	<del>Prentice</del>
<del>A. Contingency Programming*</del>	<del>Prentice</del>
<del>B. SFS Allocations#</del>	<del>Wong</del>
<del>C. SWC Programming Fund Allocations#</del>	<del>Kang</del>
<del>D. Bruin Advocacy Grant Allocations#</del>	<del>Jussim</del>
<del>E. ASRF Allocations#</del>	<del>Sridhar</del>
<del>F. AAC Travel Mini-Grant Allocations#</del>	<del>Sridhar</del>
<del>G. ARC Allocations#</del>	<del>Verdugo</del>
<del>H. TGIF#</del>	<del>Curran</del>

### **VI. Special Presentation**

- A. [Special Presentation of UCLA EVP's Proposed UCSA Campaign Goals](#) Jussim

#### **UCSA and EVP's Campaign Goal Ideas**

#### **What is UCSA?**

- Statewide board of EVPs, appointed legislative directors, organizing directors, and appointed officers (the application I kept mentioning)
- Monthly board meetings where we discuss UC-wide advocacy and help each other with specific campus-based initiatives
- EVP's vessel for UCOP, UC Regents, Systemwide Committees, and more!
- Administrative arm vs legislative arm

#### **Intro to Campaigns & Past Goals UCSA's Campaigns & Selection System**

#### **Campaigns:**

1. A Campaign for Quality in Resources & Education (ACQUIRE)
2. Students Enacting Environmental Defense (SEED)
3. Racial Justice Now (RJN)
4. Fund the UC
5. UC We Vote

#### **Goal selection process:**

- Selected every year at the Student Organizing Summit (8/4-8/6)
  - If you want to sign up, the link is at the end of the presentation!
  - Caucus → ranked-choice voting → select the campaign goals

#### **ACQUIRE**

- Focuses: retention services, mental and physical health services, academic accommodations, basic needs, sexual violence, hate crimes, student labor, COVID relief, housing & food insecurity
  - Last year: funding for disability specialists

#### **SEED**

- Focuses: environmentalism, sustainability, renewable energy, green infrastructure, carbon neutrality
  - o Last year: UC divestment from Thirty Meter Telescope at Mauna Kea

#### **RJN**

- Focuses: police accountability and divestment, immigrant and migrant justice, expand legal aid access, recruitment and retention in higher education
  - o Last year: Opportunity 4 All

#### **Fund the UC**

- Focuses on: financial aid reform, scholarships for underrepresented communities, provision of housing/food resources, funding accessible institutions
  - o Last year: middle class scholarships → housing provision

#### **UC We Vote**

- Focuses on: voter education, registration, civic engagement, access, turnout, enfranchisement, voter infrastructure on campus and in the state
  - o Last year: non-penalizing election day (a flop)

#### **EVP's Ideas (so far)**

#### **ACQUIRE:**

Some ideas for this year:

- Continue disability justice
- Safe Parking Initiative
- Funding for SANEs?
- Sustainable labor & condemning companies with labor violations

#### **SEED:**

- Carbon-neutral transportation to hospitals for survivors

#### **RJN:**

- Opportunity 4 All → November approval → Affirmative Action? Other support for undocumented students?

#### **Fund the UC:**

- Affordable housing units at every UC
- Universal meal plan

#### **UC We Vote**

- Election day = national holiday

#### **What ideas do you have? Link to SOS Sign-up**

- <https://tinivurl.com/UCSASOS23>

- <https://www.when2meet.com/?20442172-y6vPF>
- Pomona, CA
- August 4-August 6 in-person
- EVP may be able to cover hotel/food travel depending on cost of EVP office sign-ups, but we are not covering flights

## **VII. Appointments**

- A. Student Fee Advisory Committee\* Hammonds
- a. Branden Bohrsen
- Alicia moves to appoint Branden Bohrsen to the Student Fee Advisory Committee, Sujana seconds.
  - By vote of 12-1-0, the motion passes and Branden Bohrsen is appointed to the Student Fee Advisory Committee.
- B. Community Activities Committee\* Hammonds
- a. Woo In Kim
- Sujana moves to appoint Woo In Kim to the Community Activities Committee, Megan seconds.
  - By vote of 12-0-0, the motion passes and Woo In Kim is appointed to the Community Activities Committee.
- C. USAC Community Service Mini Fund\* Hammonds
- a. Trevor Smith
- Megan moves to appoint Trevor Smith to the USAC Community Service Mini Fund, Katie seconds.
  - By vote of 12-0-0, the motion passes and Trevor Smith is appointed to the USAC Community Service Mini Fund.
- D. Academic Senate: Undergraduate Council\* Sridhar
- a. Tommy Contreras
- Jennis motions to appoint Tommy Contreras to the Academic Senate: Undergraduate Council, Sujana seconds.
  - By vote of 11-1-0, the motion passes and Tommy Contreras is appointed to the Academic Senate: Undergraduate Council.

## **VIII. Officer Reports**

- A. President Hammonds
- Since our last meeting, I have had a few council members come together to discuss the appointment process, including some tasks to improve transparency. We will be following up on that. I definitely heard you all and I want to continue that discussion. I think it was really great to come together outside of council and go through a lot of the appointment application. Make sure you keep on that.
  - I really appreciate ARC for sitting through 10,000 plus interviews.
  - I was able to reach out to some folks with FTSP, the Freshman Transfer Summer Program, to do some tabling. That will be on August 11th, from 11am-1pm. I will be getting more information about what it is going to look like and how the tables will be organized so that we can be best prepared for the folks that want to come.
  - I met with the director in the Research and Bruin Engagement office which is under UCLA Division 1. We talked about what they have planned for the upcoming school year and potential collaborations. I also contributed to one of the resolutions that will be presented tonight. Thank you so much Alicia for your amazing work on these resolutions.
  - I conducted interviews for my staff that will be continuing into this week.
  - I had a brief meeting with Jessica to go over the budget.
  - I met with the Berkeley Senator, his name is Caitlin and we had an amazing discussion about some of our campus priorities which was really great.

- I also had another meeting with a passionate student about some ideas to increase student engagement. At the Atlanta Research Conference that I recently attended, I got to connect with someone involved in Singapore Alabama State University so we are going to be following up and talking about some of our campus priorities.

B. Internal Vice President

Law

- Since our last meeting, I have hired all of my executive staff and I have been assigning them different projects and committees. I have purposely created new committees and positions to ensure that I don't have to reject people. I added a general events director and committee along with a videography director. I am also hiring for a SEC Campus Safety Alliance Community Support and the CSA Vice Chair which is still open for appointment if anyone is interested or if anyone knows anyone who would be interested.
- Naomi, the office of the President, and my office created a joint team specifically for USAC social media accounts such as Instagram.
- Thank you so much for the council members that met with us last week to discuss ARC and the appointments and its power within USAC. We also discussed our last ASUCLA Board of Directors Appointments and how we can improve that process for next year and hopefully we can change the timeline a little bit to accommodate our transitions with elections.
- Last week I met with Evan to discuss some of his appointments and how we can move forward with them. Since our last meeting, we interviewed 6 people, 4 of which were here tonight and we interviewed one person early this afternoon. We currently have 12 interviews scheduled for the rest of the week so please be ready for multiple interviews scheduled for the next meeting.
- Earlier today, I met with Thyra to discuss some potential future plans that we have together including a TSR IVP Transfer Welcome Week Leadership and SOLE Workshop during the fall. ATSR and IVP Winter Quarter Transfer Club Fair. I also met with her as a future chairperson to discuss any future plans we have including a ASU IVP BlackBruin Leadership Development Workshop in the fall, an ASU IVP Harambe Council Networking Social in the winter.
- I am also co-sponsoring the resolution later tonight with Alicia. Thank you for all of your hard work on that.
- Naomi and I have been contacted by the HSIE Student liaison, Daniela, the former Academic Affairs Commissioner, to discuss HSI progress and how we can support them.

C. External Vice President

Jussim

- Our main priority over here has been hiring. We finally finished interviewing people yesterday and we had to make some pretty tough decisions so that has been taking up my time. I have also been onboarding staff and preparing materials for the incoming directors to read. I wrote a brief basically breaking down what UCSA is. I am actually happy to share that with anyone because it is high key the best thing I have ever seen come out of UCSA.
- I also wrote a brief on our involvement with other campus organizations so we can really solidify those relationships and continue to grow them next year.
- Our main focus this week has been tuning into the Supreme Court cases and I also want to draw your attention to something in LA local politics. LA Mayor Karen Bass has a signature policy called her executive directive number 1 and it was initially designed to X bright perities for affordable housing projects but a couple weeks ago, she revised it to not be included in single-family zoned areas in LA and those are really the areas that we want to target to make more affordable so we are trying to cook something up at EVP about that.
- Furthermore EVP, AAC, and CSC are in the process of scheduling and meeting with the center of community engagement for UCLA and really trying to see if we can compensate for those internship courses.
- Thyra and I scheduled a meeting for Wednesday where we are going to talk about some legislation and other tactics to improve collaboration across our offices.

D. General Representative 1

Pool

- I met with about three of the other presidents of different Business Clubs at UCLA and we are trying to discuss how we can make it a little bit more transfer friendly especially at the Student Activities Fair and with all the applications for Business Clubs and how we can really jump state transfers in business and economics when they come and what to get into recruitment in whatever sector of business that they want to.

- I have also been working on doing the last couple of interviews for director positions in my office and I am going to be sending out applications for other positions in my office soon.

E. General Representative 2

Lasry

- I believe last week I met with Thyra about a commuter event for Transfer Welcome Week or for some time during the beginning of the year. This event would essentially help commuter students in terms of affordability and also help them know about things like daily discounted parking and where you can park and how to obtain a parking permit.
- I also met with Adam later about the same event but then we also spoke about a potential raising awareness for mental health events which by the way Jennis I would love to collaborate with you on that.
- I also met with Jonathan about an internship between all three of the gen rep offices, so stay tuned for that.
- The Appointment Search committee had a graphic to spread the word about appointments and we are also working on more graphics to highlight specific individual appointments.

F. General Representative 3

Valenzuela Meija

- I had a preliminary meeting with my executive board to discuss goals to kind of orient the office. I am getting the slack up so that should be up in a couple of days. Two of them are transfers, wink, wink Thyra.
- I am currently hiring directors for my platforms so please plug that if possible, that would be greatly appreciated.
- I met with Anya Schultz who is an incoming Senator at ASUC at Berkeley and we discussed space for collaboration. She is really helping me with the dual degree program given that Berkeley already has that and she has really helped me get connected. She would like to start a Books for Bruins equivalent over there at Berkeley given that you know UCLA already has a strong program. I looped in both Eva and Sujana to help with this so we can have meetings and help support and foster this connection between UCLA and Berkeley.
- Like Gabby mentioned, we talked about our office and our internship program. I am really excited about that because I was an internship director before and I think that is some of the funnest work that you can do because you really get to interact with students one-on-one and really get to see them learn more about student government.
- I am meeting with the BruinCard office next week and I am excited to see how that goes and how we can work to get the digital Bruin card implemented.

G. Academic Affairs Commissioner

Srihar

- I finally had my meeting with my SOLE advisor Melissa and we discussed how SOLE can support in making programming happen and helping to connect to all the stakeholders. It was actually a really really productive conversation and I appreciated that.
- Regarding the textbook affordability campaign, a lot of which has to do with inclusive access, I met further with Katie Wagman who I mentioned before is one of my commission directors to basically plan on writing two sign-on letters that we will be bringing to the next USAC Council meeting. The first being for course markings and course marking is a plan to mark courses on the courses planner with a certain indication if they are free or if their materials are relatively cheap and that is so students can have full transparency and know about the affordability of classes.
- A lot of times, the inclusive access system can make changes so that the students don't really have that option later on in the quarter.
- The second sign on letter is to advocate for a representative to the UCOP task force on textbook affordability because currently there is no student like that sitting on that task force to provide that input and that perspective. We are planning on bringing both of these letters.
- You all should have received emails from Katie herself with more information on this issue with a full brief about it as Eva would say. If you have a response, please reach out to me.
- We are also bringing all of these issues to stakeholders so we can have back up on these issues.
- I met with Academic Senate leadership which is also really productive. I met with the outgoing chair and the chair elect as well as the executive director and they are very knowledgeable.
- We are planning a meeting at the Community engagement Center and we are hoping to talk about incomplete notations with the academic senate and stakeholders. I have reached out to academic advising and the registrar to help out with that issue.

- I had my first training session for my directors yesterday which was really exciting. Everyone was able to meet everybody face to face and we were able to just get to know each other. I gave a presentation on the history of USAC and AAC and I thought it was cool that people came from all different levels of background. One of my directors is an interim transfer that hasn't really been to UCLA yet and there is a number of international students as well so it was cool.
- Besides that, I am just continuing implementing my programming such as the midterm stress relief week and other events. I am meeting with Thyra this week to discuss an AAC and TSR background transfer Bruin Study Hall.
- As Jonathan mentioned, I am also connecting with UC Berkeley's academic affairs representative senator and I will be helping out with Book For Bruins.

H. Campus Events Commission

Miller

- My directors are pretty settled into their roles at this point as much as they can be. I am working with all of them to start planning our fall quarter events and even events after fall quarter.
- As you guys know, Bruin Bash is the main thing that CEC and CAC will be working on this summer so we are meeting with people to finalize our sponsorships and get those approved for Bruin Bash.
- I am hopefully meeting with Jonathan, Jessica, and Fernando to close out our remaining budgets for CEC and maybe CAC as well and hopefully put that towards Bruin Bash.
- We are starting to get responses from artists that we have reached out to and we are going to finalize our top choices soon. We have a lot of other stuff going on with marketing and graphics and everything else.

I. Community Service Commissioner

Wong

- Working with Eva and Sujana on exploring potential compensation for 195CE internships; in midst of setting up meeting with people from CESC
- Setting up meetings with all the CSC directors to do vision planning for the year
- Working on planning Servocacy Fest and Volunteer Day

J. Cultural Affairs Commissioner

Verdugo

- I am scheduling meetings internally for all of our staff for our design part.
- Chris should be working with our respective chiefs of staff for the enormous activities fair and soon enough we will get started on RecFest but we are prioritizing the artist and main headliners and opener acts.
- Other than that, I have been working with ASUCLA Fernando, Jonathan, and Jessica to close out the year and get the money that we have for Bruin Bash and hopefully our budget for the next year.
- This past week I worked on two resolutions. Thank you to everyone who co-sponsored. I really appreciate that.

K. Facilities Commissioner

Curran

- We officially have all project directors and that is exciting so we are just doing onboarding now.
- I had three exciting meetings this week with different members of the local and state government mostly though with the NorthWest Neighborhood Council but I was also there representing USAC and UCLA. The first one was with Mayor Karen Bass and we had a round table with her. I was lucky enough to sit next to her and she is just fantastic.
- We talked about a lot of issues and worked out how we can move forward and find better ways and she was very supportive of the Sepulveda Transit Corridor so we are excited to schedule further meetings with her about that.
- The other big person that we met was Fiona Ma, the state treasurer. She is really important when it comes to a lot of these transportation projects. We were there advocating for transportation related things and also for different accessibility in infrastructure and investments coming into UCLA so that was pretty exciting.
- The final one is that we had an in-person meeting with someone from City Hall about local transportation upgrades and she told us that it was her number one priority for the district for transportation projects is what we are doing right now in Westwood so that is really exciting to have the backing of the City Hall which has not been something that we have had in the past.

L. Financial Supports Commissioner

Broukhim

- We had an executive director's meeting and we filled out a couple of requisition forms just to give more money to community students for the New York Times subscription. We are also just talking about our plans for the year and organizing the office.
- The New York Times subscription should now be up and running at this point so please help promote that.

M. Student Wellness Commissioner

Kang

- Just a small thing, but I signed up for the SOS that EVP Eva presented on. I am super excited about that kind of stuff.
- As for the Appointment Search Committee, the graphic turnaround took a really long time so we are just going to keep working with one another and trying to make the graphics ourselves. Right now, my life is just a lot of meetings.
- SWC just had a finance meeting to figure out establishing plans for transparency and our spending priorities for this year. Just looking back and making improvements moving forward.
- Upcoming I had a ton of work getting our own SWC people informed because I am really confused about the appointments but I am trying to be informed as possible.
- I am excited about a meeting with the Infectious Disease Management Team next week. We are voting on a possible vaccination opt-out policy for the covid vaccine so if anyone has thoughts on that please let me know.
- Our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee is creating a leadership box which is super cool and we are talking more about that this week.

N. Transfer Student Representative

Cobbs

- I have been busy writing emails. If you haven't heard from me yet, there are emails coming soon.
- I want to shout out to Eva. She gave me the contact information to the other TSR and I was able to email all of them and hopefully I can schedule a meeting with them to see how we can help each other but also how we can be in sync for the rest of the year with our transfer leadership.
- I am also going to be interviewing this entire week with my chief of staff Kelly and she is my only remaining Chief of Staff so we are just going to have to show her this one.
- I have a meeting with Jessica and my SOLE advisor Anna to talk about different things of how they can support me. I specifically want to talk with them about how to design the Transfer Unity Council but also how to create the mental health commissioner position.
- I have been working on a TSR's office academic calendar and I have been trying to place dates and figure out which quarter they should happen in and what not. I want to include something in the TSR, like programming, like Transfer Tuesday's and playing around with the design of that event but it would be bi-weekly General Body meetings that are hosted by the TSR office.
- I also met with Megan and we talked about a lot of good things. I am excited for our collaboration because we are going to be empowering both transfer and black student leadership throughout the year.
- I met with Gabby last week to talk about an event for the TSR welcome week which I am also excited about.
- Naomi and I worked on a commuter student parking pass last spring quarter and we are hoping to continue that work through this event.
- I have a meeting with Evan on Wednesday and I have been trying to get quotes for TSR merch like transfer bruin merch. I found leftover TSR shirts in my office but they looked older and I don't know if there has been any merch made recently.
- I also have a meeting with Eva this week and a meeting with Sujana.
- I met with Megan and the rest of the council for the discussion on the appointments last week. That was a cool conversation that we were having.
- I am also going to be presenting for the FTSP Peer Counselors on how they can generally support incoming transfer students so I am looking forward to that.
- I am also in the Bruin Guardian Scholars Program which is a program for fellow foster youth. While I was there, I got to see the director of students with attendance and she was basically advocating to me that she really doesn't get a lot of institutional support to help students with dependents and that doesn't just have to be students who actually have biological children or in child care but it could just be somebody who has dependence. In my case, I would qualify because when I come home, I have to take care of my family on top of being in school so how can we work as a student board to uplift but also empower the community. I think

it is a community that we don't often think about. She does stuff like giving away more dependent packages with diapers, wipes, baby formula. If there is anyone who wants to support that I would help bridge that gap.

- Thank you to Alicia for writing these resolutions because other student organizations on UCLA's campus specifically like Samahang have already released statements and I just feel as USAC on one of the most powerful universities in the world, we should have a similar statement to make our presence known but also making it clear that UCLA does not have a tolerance for that kind of thing being perpetuated through policy.

O. International Student Representative

Tfayli

- Since the last meeting, I met the director of the Dashew Center and we talked about some plans for the upcoming year. We talked about some events that we want to work on which I have already gone over briefly.
- I am working on creating a small group of clubs of the different international targeted clubs where you can work together and promote international student engagement.
- Lastly, I am working on setting up some workshops with International agreements in business this coming fall and winter.

P. Administrative Representatives

Luna, Alexander, Moran, Klimoski, Wisner

- Jessica: "Not much for me. Just super quickly, shout out to Fernando for sending emails to everybody confirming that your hiring states and that you have been stipend so please if you did not get that email or if you are having issues, let Fernando know so we can look into it. As far as I know, everybody has been onboarded and is good to go. There were a few outstanding things that we are working through but just working on that and then I will see you all in a little bit for the budget discussion."

## **IX. Old Business**

## **X. New Business**

A. Vote to Restrict TSR Office Funds\*

Cobbs

- Thyra: "I just had some remaining funds from the spring from different student organizations who just didn't spend all of it and I wasn't able to figure out what to do with it so we can just vote to restrict those funds. Basically what this would do is that when we receive our surplus allocation for this next upcoming year, these funds would already be stored away if we vote Yes to restrict them."
- Alicia: "Is it all going to the transfer student resource center?"
- Thyra: "No, some of it is for different mother organizations who got allocations. There was also an allocation for foster youth which I would probably be working on with the Bruin Guardian Scholars program. Some of it was for the transfer center and then some of it was for TSR office initiatives so there are different amounts under that \$30,000."
- Alicia motions to restrict \$30,000 of the TSR funds, Megan seconds.
- By vote of 11-0-0, the motion passes and the TSR Surplus funds are restricted.

B. Vote to Use Council Discretionary Funds for Kerckhoff Hall Door Retrofit\*

Law

- Naomi: "We talked about this a couple of weeks ago as well as at our last meeting. Just to give some background on it, these are the council's discretionary funds from the last Council so it is technically not our budget so there weren't really any other projects for these funds to go towards and this is a really great cause and opportunity to use these funds. Did anybody have any questions?"
- Megan: "Where exactly is the money going to come from?"
- Naomi: "So it comes from council's discretionary funds. We will see in the budget later when we go over our review but I believe it is ten thousand dollars that we typically set aside in our budget."
- Evan: "I guess my only comment is in support of the door. I know some people might have been taken aback by the cost of it but I also think it is really important to think about these things on a cost per usage basis. Just think, if this thing is being used a couple thousand times a year, you are really spending a dollar per use and

then over time all of those things add up. They are capital infrastructure things that are going to last us and outlast us for decades so I think this is really important and I know we think about campus as being such an inaccessible place so any small steps that we can take to make our own spaces and the spaces that we control within Kerckhoff I think that is super important. I just really encourage everybody to vote Yes on this. I think it is a great small step to increase accessibility.”

- Sujana motions to use the discretionary funds to fund the retrofit for the Kerckhoff Hall Door, Alicia seconds.
- By vote of 11-0-0, the motion passes and the discretionary funds are allocated to the Kerckhoff Hall Door Retrofit.

C. Vote to Use Council Discretionary Funds for Council Nameplates\* Law

- Naomi: “So this is a vote for using council discretionary funds for council nameplates so once our meetings are back in person in Fall, I think this will be super helpful and it will drive engagement as well. Hopefully we can have people come to our meetings and then nameplates will be useful as we won’t have our Zoom name tabs.”
- Alicia motions to use council discretionary funds to get council nameplates, Gabby seconds.
- By vote of 12-0-0, the motion passes and the discretionary funds are allocated to get council nameplates.

D. Resolution in Support of The LGBTQIA+ Community After Discriminatory Supreme Court Ruling\* Verdugo  
**Resolution in Support of The LGBTQIA+ Community After Discriminatory Supreme Court Ruling**

Sponsor:

Alicia Verdugo, *Cultural Affairs Commissioner*

Co-Sponsors:

Sujana Sridhar, *Academic Affairs Commissioner*

Thyra Cobbs, *Transfer Student Representative*

Jennis Kang, *Student Wellness Commissioner*

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**WHEREAS**, discrimination and regression and repeal of laws that have fought for the protection and existence of LGBTQIA+ communities and individuals, last Friday, the Supreme Court has ruled in favor of a Christian web designer in Colorado who wanted to refuse to create websites to celebrate same-sex weddings out of religious objections;

**WHEREAS**, the ruling was rooted in free speech grounds and could create a massive hole in state public accommodation laws for businesses that sell so-called "expressive" goods, allowing for companies that provide customized, expressive products and services to pick and choose who they work with;

**WHEREAS**, this decision’s promotion and protection of anti-LGBTQIA+ actions and sentiments only backfires on those who are pushing it because it does not invite, include, nor accept queer people into the marketplace;

**WHEREAS**, the overall state of the latest decisions by the life-appointed justices has only instilled more fear, violence, and danger for the country being subjected to these decisions. Notably, there is fear the current court is setting its sights on overturning the 2015 marriage case<sup>1</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, students at this institution represent our future healthcare workers, law makers, and innovators;

**WHEREAS**, through education on LGBTQIA+ issues, collective efforts amongst all students wield the power to change and create an inclusive environment for the community, even in light of decisions that are not directly in our control;

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cnn.com/2023/06/30/politics/supreme-court-303-creative-lgbtq-rights-colorado/index.html>

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED**, that the Undergraduate Student Association Council respects and shares the unique history of the LGBTQIA+ community at UCLA in the struggle for equity against laws that engender them;

**LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED**, the Undergraduate Student Association Council commits to supporting students to educate themselves on the community's history of activism, cultivate a safe space for the community, and actively invite community members to take space in student leadership at UCLA.

- Sujana motions to approve the Resolution in Support of the LGBTQIA+ Community After Discriminatory Supreme Court Ruling, Megan seconds.
- By vote of 11-1-0, the motion is approved and the Resolution in Support of the LGBTQIA+ Community After Discriminatory Supreme Court Ruling is approved.

E. [Resolution in Support of Affirmative Action Against the Supreme Court's Ruling To Terminate Equitable\\* College Admissions in the U.S.](#) Verdugo

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AGAINST THE SUPREME COURT'S RULING TO TERMINATE EQUITABLE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS IN THE U.S.**

Sponsor:

Alicia Verdugo, *Cultural Affairs Commissioner*

Co-Sponsors:

Naomi Hammonds, *President*

Megan Law, *Internal Vice President*

Jennis Kang, *Student Wellness Commissioner*

Thyra Cobbs, *Transfer Student Representative*

Evan Curran, *Facilities Commissioner*

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**WHEREAS**, students nationwide have endlessly fought to protect and keep affirmative action programs, initiatives, opportunities, and policies across all higher education institutions in order to create and expand opportunities for the access, retention, and acceptance of students of color, poor students, disabled students, LGBTQIA+ students, and other marginalized groups;

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Court's historic decision on June 28th, 2023, effectively ended race-conscious admission programs at colleges and universities across the country<sup>2</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, the Supreme Court excluded Military schools/academies from this ruling because they have "potentially distinct interests"<sup>1</sup>. Rather than racial equity and diversity in higher education, this decision adds insult to injury by, as best stated by Justice Jackson, preparing "Black Americans and other underrepresented minorities for success in the bunker, not the boardroom";

**WHEREAS**, students at the University of California (UC) have fought for affirmative action policies decades after Proposition 209 "passed in 1996, prohibited UC and other state entities from using race, ethnicity or sex as criteria in public employment, public contracting and public education"<sup>3</sup> created a rift and irreparable harm towards the prior admission, access and retention of students of color at the UC, and this Council stands on the shoulders of countless UC and UCLA activists and advocates who came before us;

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights defines affirmative action as measures "that permit the consideration of race, national origin, sex or disability, along with other criteria, and which is adopted to provide opportunities to a class of qualified individuals who have either been historically or actually been denied those opportunities and/or to prevent the recurrence of

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.npr.org/2023/06/29/1181138066/affirmative-action-supreme-court-decision>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ucop.edu/academic-affairs/prop-209/index.html>

<sup>33</sup> <https://time.com/6291230/affirmative-action-dissent-jackson-sotomayor/>

discrimination in the future<sup>4</sup> in order to support equitable opportunities, decisions, and diminish barriers of discrimination against marginalized identities;

**WHEREAS**, Black civil rights leaders of the 1960s were the first advocates and originators, and their affirmative action initiatives were pushed by and codified in executive orders<sup>5</sup> by Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson in efforts to expand civil rights and correct centuries of institutional and systemic racism in the United States;

**WHEREAS**, the UC adopted affirmative action practices in the 1960s such as the landmark 1978 Supreme Court case *Regents of the University of California v. Bakke*<sup>6</sup> in order to increase diversity among its student body, with UC's ability to use affirmative action policies affirmed by that case;

**WHEREAS**, at UCLA, the High Potential Program (HPP) marked the beginning of student-run, student-initiated recruitment program that united community organizers from the Los Angeles area and granted them direct access to the university, until ultimately being shut down and taken over by UCLA administration;

**WHEREAS**, the HPP was terminated in 1971 due to the violent assassinations of two of the program's students, Bunchy Carter and John Huggins, and the program was stolen and manipulated by the administration into two components: Early Academic Outreach Program (EAOP) and the Academic Advancement Program (AAP) without justice to Carter nor Huggins;

**WHEREAS**, at the time, the Third World Coalition, which was led and initiated by students in the Black Student Association, the American Indian Student Association, the Asian Coalition, the Jewish Student Union, and United Mexican American Students, was the first iteration of progressive student of color organizations uniting, forming the basis for what would grow to be the Affirmative Action Coalition in the 1990s and the Mother Organizations Coalition of today;

**WHEREAS**, the majority of universities were previously free in the U.S. especially public state schools, until they stopped only admitting white students. Race plays a factor in systemic oppression despite the Supreme Court's decision;

**WHEREAS**, President Ronald Reagan mainly pushed for an end to free college because of the protests in California to teach African American studies when he was Governor then pushed for it throughout the US<sup>7</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, prior to Prop 209, it was clear how affirmative action policies at UCLA increased the racial diversity of the UCLA freshman classes between the years 1979 and 1994 (Table 1);

<b>Table 1: Incoming Freshman Class Profile at UCLA</b>		
<b>Identity Group</b>	<b>1979</b>	<b>1994</b>
Latinx	6%	18%
Asian American	21%	44%
African American	5%	7%
White	67%	29%
Source: Steven Halpern, <i>A View from Kerckhoff: A</i>		

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.aclu.org/other/what-affirmative-action>

<sup>5</sup> [https://ballotpedia.org/Affirmative\\_action\\_in\\_California](https://ballotpedia.org/Affirmative_action_in_California)

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2018/10/how-lewis-powell-changed-affirmative-action/572938/>

<sup>7</sup> <https://post45.org/2019/02/angela-davis-the-l-a-rebellion-and-the-undercommons/>

**WHEREAS**, opposition to UC affirmative action policies only rose to state and national prominence in 1994, when UC Regent Ward Connerly, also known as the “father of Proposition 209,” called for the ending of UC affirmative action policies;<sup>8</sup>

**WHEREAS**, UCLA students organized against Regent Connerly’s attacks on affirmative action at a UCLA-hosted Board of Regents meeting with a march on UCLA’s “Historic Sites of Activism,” where fifty UCLA students marched along the following path:<sup>9</sup>

1. Murphy Hall: Commemorating the Asian Radical Movement’s two-day protest in front of Murphy Hall in 1969;
2. Schoenberg Quad: Site of the UCLA South African Apartheid Protests;
3. Campbell Hall: Site of the killing of two Black student leaders and activists Bunchy Carter and John Huggins in 1969;
4. Tongva Steps: Site of the UCLA Protest against the Vietnam War and Martin Luther King, Jr.’s 1965 speech at UCLA;
5. James West Alumni Center: Site of the Board of Regents meeting;

**WHEREAS**, the UCLA Afrikan Student Union hosted a debate and town hall<sup>10</sup> between Black student leaders and Regent Connerly that energized hundreds of students to testify against the ending of affirmative action programs at UC;

**WHEREAS**, student pressure against the administration led to UC President Jack Peltason, the UC Academic Senate, and all UC Chancellors including UCLA Chancellor Charles E. Young to firmly oppose ending affirmative action at the UC;<sup>11</sup>

**WHEREAS**, UCLA Chancellor Charles E. Young came to the UCLA Undergraduate Students Association Council meeting to seek student-administration solidarity against attacks on affirmative action, declaring “I’m very concerned about a much more central attack on the whole concept of affirmative action. We’ve got to really work to make people understand why affirmative action is not merely important but absolutely essential”<sup>12</sup> to Council;

**WHEREAS**, the UC Board of Regents, led by Regent Connerly and Governor Pete Wilson, introduced two motions SP-1<sup>13</sup> and SP-2<sup>14</sup> to be voted on at their July 1995 meeting to eliminate affirmative action programs for race and gender in admissions as well as hiring and contracts, respectively;

**WHEREAS**, former UCLA USAC External Vice President and now President York Chang mobilized a delegation of students to the July Regents meeting in San Francisco, joining with thousands of students, faculty, and community members and the Rev. Jesse Jackson to protest these motions;<sup>15</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the UC Board of Regents went against overwhelming opposition from students, faculty, and Californians to eliminate affirmative action practices at UC along a 14-10 vote<sup>16</sup> on motions SP-1 and SP-2;

**WHEREAS**, USAC launches with the UC Student Association “12 Days of Action,”<sup>17</sup> a statewide campaign of student advocacy organizations, union organizing groups, and USAC offices to sponsor cultural events and forums on affirmative action;

<sup>8</sup> Steven Halpern, *A View from Kerckhoff: A History of Student Life at UCLA (734)*

<sup>9</sup> Steven Halpern, *A View from Kerckhoff: A History of Student Life at UCLA (736)*

<sup>10</sup> Steven Halpern, *A View from Kerckhoff: A History of Student Life at UCLA (737)*

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1995-07-21-mn-26379-story.html>

<sup>12</sup> Steven Halpern, *A View from Kerckhoff: A History of Student Life at UCLA (737)*

<sup>13</sup> <https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/governance/policies/4401.html>

<sup>14</sup> <https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/governance/policies/4401.html>

<sup>15</sup> Steven Halpern, *A View from Kerckhoff: A History of Student Life at UCLA (765)*

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1995-07-21-mn-26379-story.html>

<sup>17</sup> Steven Halpern, *A View from Kerckhoff: A History of Student Life at UCLA (756)*

**WHEREAS**, “12 Days of Action” culminated in an October 12 rally of 2,200 students in Bruin Plaza, a march along Westwood Boulevard to Wilshire Boulevard, and the occupation of Wilshire Boulevard by thirty-three students that was broken by LAPD, who arrested thirty-one students including USAC President York Chang and USAC External Vice President John Du,<sup>18</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Regent Connerly and Governor Wilson qualify the Proposition 209: The California Civil Rights Initiative on the November 1996 California ballot as a way to apply UC’s ban on affirmative action to all California public universities, colleges, and institutions;

**WHEREAS**, USAC purchased a full-page ad in *The Daily Bruin* calling for a protest and march in response, where 600 students occupied five floors of Bunche Hall and then marched to Murphy Hall to demand Chancellor Young: (1) continue outreach programs, (2) protect scholarships for marginalized communities, (3) support the student campaign against Proposition 209, and (4) refuse to implement Regental policies banning affirmative action,<sup>19</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Chancellor Young declares “Proposition 209 would have a devastating effect on the university as well as the state and could radically reduce the extraordinary diversity that we have managed to achieve within the University of California system,”<sup>20</sup> though is unable to stop the elimination of affirmative action at UCLA, being pressured into an early retirement by Regents;

**WHEREAS**, Angela Davis returns to UCLA to speak to 300 students at an anti-Proposition 209 rally, where 700 students march again from Westwood Plaza to Wilshire Boulevard in opposition to the measure;<sup>21</sup>

**WHEREAS**, despite overwhelming student opposition, Proposition 209 is approved by 55% of California voters on November 5, 1996,<sup>22</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Proposition 209 ended affirmative action in all California public admissions, hiring, and contracting decisions by enacting a “color-blind” policy of prohibiting the state of California from “discriminating against or granting preferential treatment on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, and public contracting”<sup>23</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, the passage of Proposition 209 necessitated the formation of the Affirmative Action Coalition,<sup>24</sup> made up originally of the Afrikan Student Union at UCLA, the Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlán de UCLA (MEChA), the Asian Pacific Coalition at UCLA, Samahang Pilipino, and the American Indian Students Association (AISA), and USAC.

**WHEREAS**, the Affirmative Action Coalition united with the goal of repealing Proposition 209, holding a series of protests against the implementation of Proposition 209, culminating in the “Days of Defiance”<sup>25</sup> campaign and a occupation of Royce Hall that led to the arrest of 88 student protesters;

**WHEREAS**, in the immediate aftermath of Proposition 209’s passage, freshman Black student enrollment at UCLA dropped 42%, freshman Latinx enrollment dropped by 33%, and freshman Native American enrollment dropped by 62%, compared to prior year enrollment number<sup>26</sup> with additional significant decreases in transfer diversity;

**WHEREAS** In 1998, the Academic Advancement Program (AAP) and the UCLA Alumni Association, in response to declining enrollment among marginalized students, expanded their outreach efforts to underrepresented minorities that were admitted to UCLA to address the drastic damage done to diversity at our institution;<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> Steven Halpern, *A View from Kerckhoff: A History of Student Life at UCLA* (757)

<sup>19</sup> Steven Halpern, *A View from Kerckhoff: A History of Student Life at UCLA* (758)

<sup>20</sup> Steven Halpern, *A View from Kerckhoff: A History of Student Life at UCLA* (759)

<sup>21</sup> Steven Halpern, *A View from Kerckhoff: A History of Student Life at UCLA* (786)

<sup>22</sup> [https://ballotpedia.org/California\\_Proposition\\_209\\_Affirmative\\_Action\\_Initiative\\_\(1996\)](https://ballotpedia.org/California_Proposition_209_Affirmative_Action_Initiative_(1996))

<sup>23</sup> [https://ballotpedia.org/California\\_Proposition\\_209\\_Affirmative\\_Action\\_Initiative\\_\(1996\)](https://ballotpedia.org/California_Proposition_209_Affirmative_Action_Initiative_(1996))

<sup>24</sup> Steven Halpern, *A View from Kerckhoff: A History of Student Life at UCLA* (808)

<sup>25</sup> Steven Halpern, *A View from Kerckhoff: A History of Student Life at UCLA* (808)

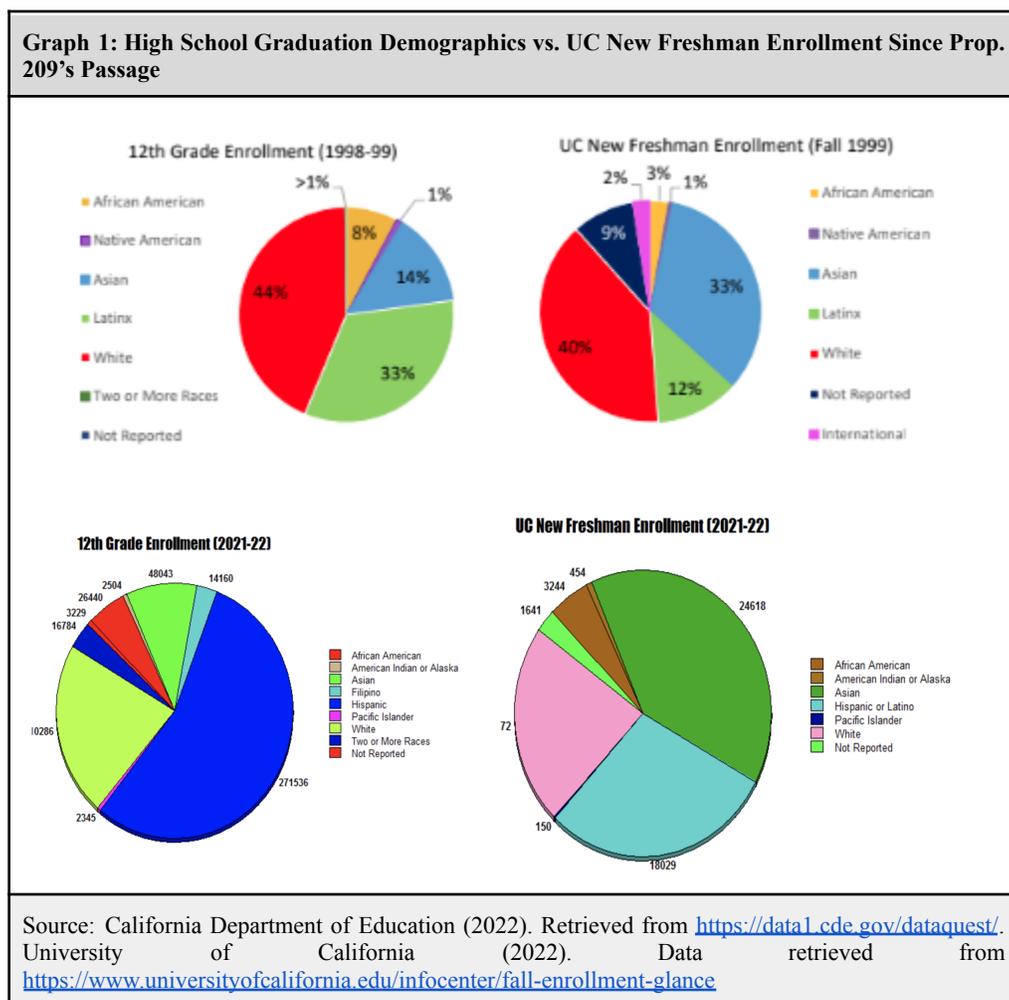
<sup>26</sup> <https://dailybruin.com/1998/06/28/proposition-209-damages-divers>

<sup>27</sup> <https://dailybruin.com/1998/06/28/proposition-209-damages-divers>

**WHEREAS**, the student-initiated and student-run recruitment, access, and retention projects of Mother Organizations evolved in response to the co-optation of these original 1998 outreach programs by the UCLA administration, and have since then worked to address the low access, retention, and graduate rates of historically marginalized groups at UCLA;<sup>28</sup>

**WHEREAS**, following the passage of the CARE Referendum in Spring 1999, the Student Initiated Outreach Committee was created by the Mother Organizations in order to address the falling admission rates of historically underrepresented and marginalized communities at UCLA, which was a direct result of the passing of Proposition 209. The CARE Referendum additionally supported the maintenance of the Campus Retention Committee under the Student Retention Center, which was created in 1992 following Samhang Pilipino, Afrikan Student Union, MEChA de UCLA, and AISA's withdrawal from AAP;

**WHEREAS**, the demographics of graduates from California high schools is no longer representative of new freshman enrollment at UC (Graph 1) since the passage of Proposition 209, leading to significant under-enrollment of Black, Latinx, and Native American students;



**WHEREAS**, despite decades of labor by students of color at UCLA, the continued ban on race-conscious admissions at UC as a result of Proposition 209 has led to a dramatic decrease in the racial diversity of the student body at UCLA — with enrollment of

Black students at 6%, Native American students at less than 1%, Asian students at 35%, Latinx students at 21%, Pacific Islander students at less than 1%, White students at 26%, and mixed students at 6%;<sup>29</sup>

**WHEREAS**, in 2006 the Asian Pacific Coalition at UCLA launched the statewide *Count Me In* campaign with student, faculty, and staff organizers at UC Berkeley, UC Irvine, UC San Diego, and the UC Student Association, which yielded changes in how UC disaggregates data about the Asian Pacific Islander Desi American (APIDA) community, leading to 2010 insights on the continual under-enrollment of communities relative to the APIDA mean enrollment:<sup>30</sup> Hmong (-13.1%), Bangladeshi (-10.4%), Filipino (-10.0%), Thai (-9.4%), Cambodian (-9.2%), Indonesian (-8.4%), Pakistani (-7.4%), Vietnamese (-3.5%), Sri Lankan (-1.5%), and Korean (-1.1%);

**WHEREAS**, throughout the UC, freshman Black and Latinx students admitted have decreased by between 12% and 60% depending on campus, with these statistics being larger when including data on transfer admission;<sup>31</sup>

**WHEREAS**, California has been one of only 8 states in the nation that outlaws affirmative action policies that promote equal opportunity for all, and we have seen the devastating effects that it has had on students and people of color, the remaining 42 states would only harm millions of more people;

**WHEREAS**, businesses owned by women and people of color lose more over \$1.1 billion annually in government contracts as a result of Proposition 209;<sup>32</sup>

**WHEREAS**, dozens of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members pushed the UC Board of Regents to unanimously endorse ACA 5 and the repeal of Proposition 209 on June 15, 2020;<sup>33</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the Opportunity 4 All campaign's historic win in May, for the immigrant rights movement that UC, has shown how campaigns like affirmative action bring justice to marginalized groups, because undocumented students should have equal access, they should have a seat at the table;

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED**, that the UCLA Undergraduate Students Association acknowledges that "color-blind" policies only serve to blind institutions from the real impacts of systemic racism on communities of color, and that Proposition 209's ban on affirmative action at UC has resulted in institutional blindness to race and sex;

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED**, that the UCLA Undergraduate Students Association sees affirmative action as a vital mechanism of inclusivity, diversity, and socioeconomic mobility at California's public institutions;

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED**, that the UCLA Undergraduate Students Association honors the work of recruitment, access, and retention projects by the Mother Organizations at UCLA, the Opportunity for All Coalition, the High Potential Program, and the countless other campus and community organizers who have fought for the repeal of Proposition 209 in California and the security and protection of affirmative action;

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED**, that the UCLA Undergraduate Students Association calls on Chancellor Gene Block and all members of the UCLA administration to consistently voice their public support for affirmative action to whatever extent possible;

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED**, that lack of diversity hurts all of us. Diversity and equity is crucial to the wellness of our student body; wellness for all students is not possible unless built on a foundation that acknowledges and aims to address the inherently inequitable institution that is UCLA and the UC. UCLA Undergraduate Students Association insists that UCLA Chancellors and administrators work along University of California President Michael Drake to share our learned lessons with our university partners to achieve a better higher education landscape;

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<sup>29</sup> <https://www.ucla.edu/about/facts-and-figures>

<sup>30</sup> [http://care.gseis.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/2013\\_iCount\\_Report.pdf](http://care.gseis.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/2013_iCount_Report.pdf)

<sup>31</sup> <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:52ee8082-35eb-41ee-8650-f6a63a9d206c#pageNum=1>

<sup>32</sup> <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:52ee8082-35eb-41ee-8650-f6a63a9d206c#pageNum=1>

<sup>33</sup> <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2020-06-15/uc-regents-to-consider-backing-affirmative-action>

**LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED**, regardless of the white supremacist institutional efforts to divide communities through affirmative action, affirmative action is still so important to keep admitting, retaining, and uplifting students of color;

**LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED**, that the UCLA Undergraduate Students Association encourages all members of the UCLA community to become involved in actions to repeal this federal measure as a means to reinstate equitable opportunity for all students, especially those from our state's most vulnerable marginalized communities, beyond just California's public institutions of higher education, but nationwide.

- Megan motions to pass the Resolution in Support of Affirmative Action Against the Supreme Court's Ruling to Terminate Equitable College Admissions in the US, Gabby seconds.
- By vote of 12-0-0, the motion passes and the Resolution in Support of Affirmative Action Against the Supreme Court's Ruling to Terminate Equitable College Admissions in the U.S. is approved.

F. Discussion on Presentation CRC/SIOC Projects/General Relations with MO Coalition Cobbs

- Thyra motions to add a discussion item about the hostile environment of AAP/the McNair program for both black and brown students, Alicia seconds.
- By vote of 12-0-0, the motion passes and the discussion item is added to the agenda.
  
- Thyra: "I was talking to Megan today about the future presentation that was supposed to happen about the other organizations and the history of us and our projects and Megan let me know that Ryan Factora said he did not feel comfortable giving a presentation on the MO's just especially the CRC and the SIOC and I wanted to have a discussion about this because I don't really see how you can have one presentation without the other aspect because they go hand in hand. For example, that is like me coming to the council presenting a presentation about ASP, the academic support program but then not presenting about ASU, it doesn't really work that way. I don't know but I think Ryan had said that because of the current state of the MO Coalition and so I guess what I am trying to say right now is that I think we should wait on that presentation until the mother organizations can come together and present a collective presentation on the MO's and what they do through the projects and it kind of goes hand in hand with what was presented in Alicia's resolution. So I just wanted to have a discussion about how you all felt about that just considering the current state of the MO's and how USAC as a council can give support fo the MO's to make sure that we are disorganized like this and so we can have a state where student leadership is unified across the board."
  
- Sujana: "I guess with what Thyra just mentioned at the end, I have two different things to say. First, given the presentation, I think it is understandable. I mean I know he has his own personal reasons but I myself kind of think that within the MO Coalition, they are a coalition but they are also very distinct organizations with their own distinct goals and I think it would be worth it if they were able to each have a bit of their own time to present and that way they could at least be speaking for themselves. It could be hard for them all to coordinate under one speaker especially in a timely manner over the summer so it just seems like not something you want to put on the back burner and it could be easier to do it that way and also more representative and you know true to their intentions. I also like your point about how you mentioned the state of the MO President because I think that is a big issue. We should be doing structural support, financial support, etc. to these projects because they are super important. I know I have spoken with Ryan in the past and he also let me know that some programs under the SIOC and CRC don't even have program directors last year and they didn't get launched until spring quarter and so obviously it is very important. I know myself, I have a platform called Growing Roots which is actually all about strengthening Academic Senate's relationship with the mother organizations and providing structural support because that has everything to do with academic success overall for these targeted communities. What we are doing is we are doing weekly round tables with representatives from the MO's just so we can give them our weekly updates and so on and so forth. Maybe a suggestion I would extend to you guys, I mean obviously weekly round tables are a lot to commit to but at least perhaps committing to a couple check ins a quarter. I think a big part of the issues with administering and executing the programs this past year was also the lack of interpersonal cohesion and manpower and just the reality of everyone being college students and I starting to think that is another places that we can really help our in just making sure that we are not keeping a timeline but checking in which them and helping out in whatever capacity they need."

- Megan: "I know earlier last week, I asked Ryan if he could present on the other organizations and he just got back to me today that he doesn't really feel comfortable speaking on behalf of the coalition but he would be comfortable doing a presentation on CRC/SIOC projects and how they interface with the mother organizations but I do agree that we should probably wait until the other organizations feels full supported or at least more put together because I really want to be able to have that presentation. He said he didn't really feel comfortable because the MO Coalition is kind of in an odd spot right now so I will be reaching out to see how I can help with that and any support from any other USAC offices would be very helpful. I definitely agree that we need to be supporting them more and so Sujana if you are down to help, I can join together and help them."
- Naomi: "I am just going to cut in really quick right before Jonathan. But when I initially ran and I wanted to say this again just because a lot of people in leadership are not paid, but we are a paid position and I think that is really important to recognize that and we have to meet people where they are so if Sujana reaches out asking for meeting, if then Megan reaches out asking for a meeting well it might spread them too thin at the end of the day so I would like if we have an idea about how we can go about this as a collective and support them together. When I talked to ASUCLA in the beginning and how in the past they have been able to provide stipends or get more funding for stipends, how can we produce a stipend for them to pay their actual leadership team so they can actually feel supported in the work that they are doing and it is not all volunteer work. I wanted to have a town hall with the MO's to see where they are at right now and what we can do better to support them or even how they feel about USAC input because they might not want it."
- Jonathan: "Yeah, I just wanted to echo what Sujana mentioned about how having those presentations from different MO's and making sure that we are giving them space to have their own voice. That being said, I think many MO's are having internal problems and I totally agree that in one way or another we need to have these conversations to aid and increase support. I agree with the stipends, I think that would be really important as well as bettering the representation because frankly there are some MO's, I am not going to name any of them, but in particular for me, I have not felt adequately represented by their perspective MO. They won't involve themselves as much and this fragments the communities that they are meant to support so I think we kind of have to go back from that route and see how we can increase student involvement but also go to the MO's and be like frankly, if you are not well representing your communities, because I will say that many of us are in those communities, many of us in here in this meeting belong to those communities that the MO's are representing so we still have a voice and I think we have to have those conversations be like look you know many members of the community, I think in particular the Latinx Community, do not feel adequately represented and that is what has caused a lot of fragmentation within the respective mother organization but also within the Latinx community as a whole. I think we need to have those increased conversations and I agree with providing more support but also conversation and being like you need to make sure you are representing your community because you will not have that support from your community if you are not doing it."
- Alicia: "I second what Jonathan said in specific to our community but I also wanted to echo really quickly what Naomi said because there are just a lot of issues that are interconnected with USAC. For example, the fact that the previous council didn't know the CRC chair communicates with the SIOC Chair and that these checks were released by BOD. Stuff like that would be really important in a town hall but also just being sensitive to these issues because there are literally cases of misconduct from UCLA administrators and full-time staff. This is people's experiences that we need to very careful about in having these conversations and consider it as well as like being mindful of how burnt out these spaces are because like dating back the TA strike in Murphy, the series of events in the past two years have definitely contributed to the MO Coalition turning into the current MO Coalition that it is today. I guess if you are going to join this town hall, which you should, just come a little bit educated. Reach out and learn. I don't care if you have to go through old instagram posts, like do your part and come prepared. Listen to be mindful, don't ask inconsiderate questions or questions that may take up space in a very timed space because like Naomi said, no one is being compensated and you need to be aware of how you take up that space so come prepared to bring something or just listen."

- Naomi: “Really quick, but one great thing we have is access to our recordings so we can have access to the presentation that Ryan gave last year. We can send it out to you all through slack or whatever so you all can have that information. We can also do other research. Like Alicia said, it is good to come in already having a foundation on what is going on because don’t expect people that are not getting paid to teach you everything.”
- Eva: “I wanted to give a follow up question or like a clarifying question. What do some other organizations even want us to do and also do we have any updates about the climate assessment of CPO? I think that is relevant especially when talking about USAC. I was wondering if there has been any further conversation about developing mechanisms to increase financial transparency about where money goes to Mother Organizations. I was just wondering if anyone knows any updates about it.”
- Naomi: “I’ll answer, What I can’t answer from that is for the mother organizations and that is the goal of my town hall but I am sure some people are involved in the mother organizations in this room so they can also talk about it a little bit. For the CPO, I have been having discussions with Roy and other administrators since the beginning about some things that we can do. I will definitely involve you all. I think we are still working through some ideas of what we can do to increase transparency so we can definitely talk about that either offline or at the next meeting because it is a whole discussion and I feel like a lot of you are not as knowledgeable about CPO so we can chat about that next time.”
- Thyra: “I don’t know about CPO updates, but still an impressive space for some of us that is an update, but in terms of what the MO’s are looking for. Just general support, like you even working with me for Black Student Lobby Day, that is you reaching out to support ASU. It can be small things like that. It could be helping us figure out internal conflicts where Jonathan was saying but general support is what I feel like the MO’s and USAC’s last council lost. They were really separated and we didn’t work hand in hand as we probably could have but definitely MO support especially through retention projects, community service projects, access projects. They do a lot both on campus and off campus. We really do the University’s work and it is crazy because I feel like we would all accomplish so much if we just worked together.”
- Alicia: “I am also the retention coordinator from MechA. We passed a memorandum back in April which essentially said the CRC continues to hold no confidence in the CPO as our administrative designee and we really had to say that in the memorandum because of the climate assessment which led me to this. Naomi already said this, but I feel like USAC should pass a resolution about this in seconds and backs this up essentially with this memorandum that came out. But I feel like we should do that after talking with them and consulting and collaborating with them obviously. That is what I wanted to say, but we did not agree with the guidepost’s climate assessment at all.”

G. Vote on USAC Budget

Hammonds

- Jessica: “The goal of this is really just to introduce the spreadsheet and point out a few key different things in your budget so that you can look at it when you have time offline to digest it. I will also drop a link in the chat for calendly if you want to set up a meeting to go over any questions you may have. The next two weeks is essentially the timeline for this. It needs to be voted on and approved at your next council meeting on the 18th so that it has enough time to be presented to the finance committee of the Board of Directors and their job is to basically review it and approve it for fiscal soundness so we can have it finalized. Any adjustments that we need to make, we need to do before the next time we meet. So first, I am just going to go through a couple different tabs so if you have any questions, feel free to stop me. Essentially this is your budget spreadsheet for the year. So what we are looking at is the original 2023-2024 budget. We have also included last year's budget and the two year prior budget just so you can see trends over time of what the fee collection is and the sort of what the budget was for those council terms. This top portion is basically your budgetable income which is all of your funds that come from your student fees that are collected. The way that we come up with all of these numbers on the fee tabs is by getting enrollment projections from the University of how many students per quarter and then we see what the new fee is with any adjustments that need to be made and then we multiply that out. This gives us the output of what the free is going to be. We also assess a percentage

fee to cover some of the overhead over time with inflation and minimum wage rising with scheduled salary adjustments per UC. The amount of budget needed to cover the overhead goes up a lot and there is not much that you can do in terms of your membership fees since that is a fixed ten dollars per student per quarter. This administrative overhead fee kind of helps cover that so you are not in a deficit essentially so 0.75% is assessed to any of your fees that are delegated which means you know USAC is sending those fees to another campus department to oversee the utilization and then a 2% fee is assessed to the internal fees that stay within USAC that USAC manages, your offices manage, or funding bodies manage. That helps to cover services like student government accounting or to cover your own staff stipends for some of your funding directors. That is pretty much how we are getting the fees in this top portion. If you scroll down, the budgetable expense is the output of essentially what is going to be going into each office as a budget. So CEC, CAC, you can see your offices here and the numbers over here are just showing what the different fees are that roll into that office budget. 9 of your offices don't have dedicated referendum fee income so what we do there is we budget you 2250 for a base budget to start the year just so you have some funds to operate with. You have what gets budgeted and it is a little bit less than your income so then all of your remaining funds drop down to the bottom in this Student Government operational fund. This is the remaining portion that gets split amongst the nine offices. In addition to the 2250 you get 3726 added so you are starting off with around \$5,000 dollars as a base budget for your office. The overhead tab is really more detailed of what is rolling into that number. So you know on this first sheet, there are different formulas linked in here so you can kind of see where the different tabs pull from but your administrative overhead which is here is more of the detail of how that is broken down. We have officer stipends, maintenance, utilities. These are essentially shared costs of running the building. Any maintenance required like changing light bulbs or servicing public spaces is a shared cost between all the different entities of ASUCLA so this is the portion that is budgeted or USAC to pay. You also have your J Board, OSAC, Finance committees so these are your different boards and committees and you have stipends for. That is most of the important sections. We also have tabs for each of your different committees as well so if you want to see more detail on what J Board stipends are. We have a budget review, CS mini, E Board, and then your retreats and installation. If you want to have a retreat during the year, you can have some of the budget cover that cost and then we will also use this account to cover your installation ceremony for next term's incoming council. The other thing that I want to point out too. Currently, the way that your financial guidelines are written is that it covers your stipends, project based on a 20 hour work week for California state minimum wage. So usually the schedule is a California state minimum wage which goes up every January 1st so your stipends will have an adjustment where they can get bumped up a little. We did want to propose to you which is I think the version that I have up right now, V2, essentially instead of basing your stipends on California state minimum wage, if you wanted to base your stipends on LA City minimum wage which is a little bit of a higher rate, you could try to do that. So that is how those stipends are calculated. So we ran those numbers with that in mind, just to be able to bring a more meaningful stipend to deal with the high cost of living. LA City is currently at \$16.78 which is higher than California state at \$15.50. It is all budgeted in and the administrative overhead fee that we assess, the credit is listed here and it is built in there to help cover the cost of those stipends.”

- Naomi: “Yeah, I just want to say that there is not much that we can change or switch around in the budget so please keep that in mind. I highly recommend if you do have questions, comments, or concerns, definitely take advantage of Jessica and Roy in these next two weeks before we vote to schedule a meeting to go over it. Last council, Sara can attest a well, one of the things that we did change was decreasing the elections board by their amount in the budget and we got some feedback from you all even when we got what was in the reimbursement grant and only being 75 in previous years, it was 200 so it is small things like that and how that affected what was on our bruin cards instead of being on an actual check. Even at one of our USAC meetings, we had a chair come out and say that due to that low budget, they weren't able to do some events that they wanted to do for the elections so it is interesting to see how some of those changes played out but that is something that we could consider. If we go back to what would be split between the nine offices, yeah so that \$10,750.00 would be split between the nine councils and those were referendum fees. I saw some of the chat comments that should be \$1,173.00 extra on top of the original balance, so there is that but if anyone has questions?”
- Katie: “Quick question, what is the surplus withdrawal. It is under the budgetable income.”

- Jessica: "Yeah, so that is basically whatever the surplus was from last year. So you don't have Surplus withdrawal available currently because we don't know what the surplus will be until closer to November or December so it usually comes late in the fall quarter. So that is what was basically surplus from last year, either the restricted surplus or the funds that were available to direct two different purposes at the discretion of council. That is what those funds were from."
- Naomi: "We are definitely trying to get there earlier this time around. Last year, we got it towards the end of winter quarter and that did not give us a lot of time to put events on and that is why we are shifting surplus allocations. For instance, we were able to get some funding for the commuter parking permit when my office originally had around \$4,000 dollars so it is stuff like that it kind of helps."
- Thyra: "I just wanted to ask how this is divided and how these numbers are chosen and why is it so disproportionate especially for the representative positions, like what is the historical precedence for that because honestly this looks very inequitable and it is sad that it is broken down this way but of course, I am guessing that it has been this way for a while so there is some kind of history behind that."
- Jessica: "Some offices get referendum money that they direct so that is under the fee table. These are all of your referendum fees. So these include entertainment fee, there is an AAC fee, CS Mini Fund fee, TGIF fee, Bruin Bash fee. These are all of your student fees that are collected and based on the referendum language it directs the fee to a particular purpose or to be overseen by a particular office. These fees collected, you will see up here in the top budgetable income and these correspond as to what the fee makeup is for each of these offices. CEC has four different streams of income from the fees, CSC has different sets of fees that stream into the commission. So these numbers are really based on different historical referenda that have been passed. The language is all available on the USAC website if you ever wanted to see specifics. The only real way to enable funds for various offices would be to run a referenda for that purpose and then direct it to those offices because again the membership fee is not adjusted to inflation. It has been the same for the past couple decades. Over time, inflation has greatly eroded that fee so it doesn't really cover much anymore."
- Eva: "I was wondering whether there is an EVP Travel Grant account. I know its number but I can not find it on this sheet at all. I was just wondering why it is not here."
- Jessica: "It wouldn't necessarily be present here because it is just rolled up into your office fee or your total office budget. After this gets approved, phase two of budgeting is where we will send out a spreadsheet of the budget breakdown of where all of your funds are going to go. Again, some of the offices that have multiple referenda that flow into it for different purposes, like for example, CAC has Arc funding that comes from a referenda so we will have a separate spreadsheet that will further break down that detail. That will be the next iteration after this portion gets passed."
- Katie: "Looking at the interest income that we get from the fees. I am so confused on what bank you are using or how we are getting these numbers because if you look at the 2023-2024 income for example, the total is \$900,947.310 and if you were to get say an average of 2% interest, that would be a total of \$18,964.00 that we should be getting for interest and that is like a normal interest percentage. However, in order to get \$1,400 dollars that means that our interest rate is like point one five percent which is quite a terrible interest rate. Do you know where these numbers are coming from, like what bank are we going through and if we can negotiate a better interest rate?"
- Jessica: "I will try my best to explain this. I think this is probably more a question for Roy and his much further experience into SGA, but essentially that is an estimation through Bank of America so it is a standard bank but the thing is why the way our accounting works, we never really have a ton of money just sitting in the bank because the referendum gets collected by the university and then it gets sent to ASUCLA to then disperse it where it needs to go. We are always a couple quarters behind so we would receive summer and fall fees probably in winter quarter so your total budgeted income is the total that we are anticipating for all of the quarters for the academic year and that is not what is actually sitting in your bank account at one given time."

The actual money that is retained by USAC is very small in comparison so that is why it is just an estimated number that we include in the budget, but it is not truly reflective of whatever interest you would expect to receive from a million dollar budget.”

- Katie: “Okay, that makes sense, I can email Roy about what you said, but offhand, do you know the interest rate we are getting?”
- Jessica: “I don’t. I think it is just a standard rate but Roy would definitely know. If he doesn’t, you can also check in with SGA because they are your primary accountants that oversee that.”

H. Discussion on the Hostile Environment in the AAP and McNair Programs for Black and Brown Students

Cobbs

- Thyra: “I think I mentioned this in some other meetings, but I am an AAP student, I am specifically a McNair scholar. For those of you who don’t know, it is UCLA’s more prestigious program to my knowledge. It is a two year program and it has the mission of uplifting and empowering underrepresented students in education and preparing students to get to PhD programs to be successful inside programs. UCLA is said to have the best program across the country. I think UCLA says that sometimes but it has taken on an oppressive form that I feel like USAC should be aware of. So I have been in McNair my entire two years at UCLA. I have never known anything other than McNair, but I have just come into contact with people who are Mellon Mays scholars and they do not have the same experiences as me and so I guess that is kind of what made me aware of the oppressive nature. I have experienced oppression and McNair people have experienced it. For my cohort, I have also heard saddening things from people who are in the current cohort, who are in Naomi’s cohort and originally I think it was just issues that were pertinent to anti-black racism at UCLA but it is coming from students across the cohort meaning that it is not a safe space for anybody at this point. I am raising these concerns because the McNair cohorts and Naomi’s cohort are black and brown and I think it is really contradictory for UCLA Administration, particularly AAP, given the history of being dehumanizing for black and brown students to continue on in a program where their exact mission is to represent those said students. One specific example of that oppression, like one of the main qualities that McNair looks for in students is that they are low income and students from my cohort and the current cohort, have had their stipends threatened to be taken away and that is actually crazy considering McNair is a kind of full-time job on its own so how can you recruit low-income students who are already marginalizing into the program and don’t have other means of income and you’re going to throw away their stipend, like how are going to do that at McNair, one of the best institutions in the country. I say this to say that I think USAC should be involved in this. I am going to try and mobilize students from my cohort and from the current cohort because it is kind of crazy that we come to these spaces thinking that they are safe and they are actually kind of reinforcing the educational systems that they aim to fight against. You don’t have to say anything about it now, but I just wanted to throw it out there to make it public on what is going on in AAP. It has gone on for so long and I am just tired of hearing about the abuse on black and brown communities.”
- Alicia: “I think we could write a letter in collaboration with these scholars and maybe involve the MO’s that these students belong to and write that letter to AAP or we could also do it as USAC and have a conversation with the AAP Administration about this. I just like to have somewhere to start because they can’t keep getting away with doing that to you and to the other students but honestly, in any way that we can support.”

**XI. Adjournment**

- Naomi adjourns the meeting at 10:55pm.

Good and Welfare;

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