

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED FUNDING TO UCLA'S CAMPUS
ASSAULT RESOURCES & EDUCATION (CARE) TO BETTER SUPPORT
SURVIVORS**

WHEREAS approximately 1 in 3 women, 1 in 6 men¹, and 1 in 2 transgender individuals² will experience sexual violence over the course of their lifetimes. If these statistics are applied to UCLA's 31,000 cisgender undergraduate population, roughly 7,150 Bruins will experience sexual violence at some point in their lives;

WHEREAS at a university where sexual violence and sexual harassment remain pervasive, the CARE office has only two Advocates³;

WHEREAS experienced sexual violence can increase the risk of anxiety, substance abuse, PTSD, and depression⁴;

WHEREAS from 2015-2016, the Campus Assault Resources & Education (CARE) office had 207 clients. From 2016-2017, there were 388 clients. And from 2017-2018, CARE had a total of 770 clients. From 7/01/18 to 12/31/18 alone, there were 428 clients⁵;

WHEREAS in the realm of prevention education, two dedicated staff members are expected to reach and/or train not only undergraduates, but graduates, faculty, staff, and administrators (or nearly 80,000 individuals⁶);

WHEREAS UCLA's CARE office does not have the capacity to fully pursue effective, far-reaching prevention education programming to mitigate the sexual violence epidemic on campus because it is so overwhelmed with the demands of survivor advocacy and healing;

WHEREAS the U.S. Department of Education's proposed changes to campus sexual assault and harassment policies⁷ and the recent California appellate court case ruling that California colleges and universities must hold live hearings to resolve certain sexual misconduct cases⁸ create a triggering environment for survivors. Without appropriate funding and resources, CARE cannot fully support survivors during this difficult time;

WHEREAS it is often argued that UCLA cannot allocate more funding to CARE because Student Affairs has so many competing priorities. Instead, administrators have suggested going to the UC Board of Regents, the UC Office of the President (UCOP), and the governor to advocate for more funding for CARE⁹;

WHEREAS both the UC Board of Regents and the Governor of California also have many competing priorities and each of their relative inaccessibility renders effective CARE funding advocacy difficult and unlikely;

WHEREAS in September 2014, UCOP published its recommendations for implementing better prevention, response, and reporting strategies out of its UC Task Force, one being that an appropriately staffed confidential advocacy office for sexual violence and assault be created on each campus¹⁰. UCOP gave each campus funding for three years to help start this project. The agreement was that after three years, each individual UC campus would fund their CARE offices completely itself. Therefore, UCOP will not be giving more funding¹¹;

WHEREAS while CARE offices across the UC are relatively understaffed, under-resourced, and underfunded, certain UC campuses receive significantly more funding for these offices. In fact, UC Berkeley's PATH to CARE Center has a staff of ten with three full-time CARE advocates¹² and soon to be two part time CARE advocates¹³. UC Santa Barbara's CARE office has a staff of eight, including three full-time advocates¹⁴. Given that funding for CARE comes largely from student tuition, the disparities become more stark when comparing UCLA's 31,002¹⁵ to UC Berkeley's 30,853¹⁶ and UC Santa Barbara's 21,574¹⁷ undergraduate population;

WHEREAS the inconsistency of CARE funding becomes more manifest when finding the disparity of compensation for CARE advocates across the UC¹⁸, a finding that cannot fully be explain by standard of living alone. It is understandable why the staff may feel unsupported, overworked, and overwhelmed;

WHEREAS through the hiring of additional staff at the CARE office, the CARE staff will feel more supported and better be able to support the survivors that come to them and implement more and better prevention and healing programs;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Undergraduate Student Associated Council (USAC) calls on Chancellor Gene Block, Vice Chancellor Monroe Gorden, and relevant student committees to advocate for and increase funding for CARE so that it can better support survivors and engage in better prevention education. CARE can then allocate any received money to programs as it best sees fit.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the USAC recognizes the significance of trauma-informed and survivor-centered confidential care that CARE uniquely provides and the important work the office does on campus in education, advocacy, and healing.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the USAC supports increasing pay compensation for the CARE staff because of the emotional draining nature of this work and the lack of institutional support currently.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the USAC will not forget advocating for CARE in discussions about both increasing funding for mental health services on campus and sexual violence and sexual harassment.

LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the USAC understands that effective sexual violence advocacy and prevention comes from supporting, funding, and recognizing those who already do the work, in the most survivor-centered and trauma-informed manner as possible.

Resolution Passed April 2019.

¹ <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0145213490900777?via%3Dihub>

² <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1359178909000202>

³ <https://www.careprogram.ucla.edu/meet-the-staff>

⁴ https://nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/publications_nsvrc_researchbrief_health-sexual-violence.pdf

⁵ From CARE Director Alicia Oeser

⁶ <http://www.admission.ucla.edu/campusprofile.htm>

<https://www.ucop.edu/institutional-research-academic-planning/files/workforce-profiles/workforce-profile-2010.pdf>

<https://www.collegefactual.com/colleges/university-of-california-los-angeles/academic-life/faculty-composition/>

⁷ <https://www.newyorker.com/news/our-columnists/assessing-betsy-devos-proposed-rules-on-title-ix-and-sexual-assault>

⁸ <https://dailybruin.com/2019/03/07/op-ed-in-face-of-legal-developments-uc-strives-to-ensure-integrity-of-title-ix-process/>

⁹ Said at UCLA SVSH Town Hall on 2/27/19

¹⁰ <https://ahed.assembly.ca.gov/sites/ahed.assembly.ca.gov/files/hearings/UC%20Task%20Force%20-%20Preventing%20and%20Responding%20to%20Sexual%20Assault.pdf>

¹¹ Conversations with UCOP System-Wide Title IX Office

¹² <https://sa.berkeley.edu/dean/confidential-care-advocate/staff>

¹³ <http://www.dailycal.org/2019/01/31/uc-berkeley-path-to-care-center-receives-grant-to-support-survivors/>

¹⁴ <http://wgse.sa.ucsb.edu/care/who-we-are/care-staff>

¹⁵ <http://www.admission.ucla.edu/campusprofile.htm>

¹⁶ <https://www.berkeley.edu/about/bythenumbers>

¹⁷ <https://www.ucsb.edu/about/facts-and-figures>

¹⁸ <https://ucannualwage.ucop.edu/wage/>