

A Resolution Detailing Student Response to Administrative Overstepping of Student-Initiated, Student-Run Projects

WHEREAS, the Special Education Membership Fee was passed in 1969 by the first Chicano USAC President Rosalio Muñoz to fund the Educational Opportunities Program.¹

WHEREAS, following the merger between the Educational Opportunities Program and the High Potential Program in 1971 to create the Academic Advancement Program, the SEMF monies were directed to AAP.

WHEREAS, in 1986 Finance Committee Chair Bob Alvarez at the request of USAC President Dean Alvarez withheld the SEMF monies from AAP due to student discontent and protest.

WHEREAS, in 1988 the Campus Retention Committee was established using the SEMF monies that had been withheld for the prior 3 years, commemorated in the signing of the first Statement of Understanding.

WHEREAS, in 1990 the Service Referendum was passed by the student body to increase funding for the Campus Retention Committee, with no funds being directed to the Community Programs Office.²

WHEREAS, in 1992 following lengthy negotiations the SOU for the CRC was revised and adopted by the Campus Retention Committee.

WHEREAS, in 1993 the Academic Success Referendum was passed by the student body to increase funds specifically to the Campus Retention Committee, with no funds being directed to the Community Programs Office.³

WHEREAS, in 1997 the SOU for the CRC was once again renegotiated and amended by the Campus Retention Committee.

WHEREAS, in 1999 following the effects of Proposition 209 and UC Regents Standing Policy 1 and Standing Policy 2 on students of color enrollment across the UCs, the Student Initiated Outreach Committee was created through the passage of the CARE Referendum; the CARE referendum also increased funding to the Campus Retention Committee.⁴

¹ <https://cpo.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/CRC-Statement-of-Understanding.pdf>

² <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/misc.1990.Service%20Referendum.pdf>

³ <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/misc.1993.Academic%20Success%20Referendum.pdf>

⁴ <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/misc.1999.Care%20Referendum.pdf>

WHEREAS, in 2000 the Student Programs, Activities and Resource Complex Referendum was passed by the student body to fund the renovation of what was then known as the Men’s Gym and what is now the Student Activities Center, while also establishing a student-majority Board of Governors whose four undergraduate representatives are to be appointed entirely by USAC.⁵⁶

WHEREAS, in 2002 the SOU for the CRC was renegotiated and amended for the last time, formalizing the current composition of the Campus Retention Committee.⁷

WHEREAS, in 2004 the student body passed the Promoting Understanding and Learning through Service and Education (PULSE) referendum to increase funding specifically to the Campus Retention Committee and Student Initiated Outreach Committee.⁸

WHEREAS, in 2009 the Practicing Leadership and Empowerment to Develop Growth through Education (PLEDGE) referendum was passed by the student body to increase funding specifically to the Campus Retention Committee and the Student Initiated Outreach Committee.⁹

WHEREAS, in 2016 the Social Justice Referendum (SJR) was passed by the student body to increase funding specifically to the Campus Retention Committee and the Student Initiated Outreach Committee, with the Community Programs Office also receiving funding separate from the committees.¹⁰

WHEREAS, the various referendums mentioned have no indication of the funding going to or being managed by the Community Programs Office in any way whatsoever, all funding is specifically dictated to go directly to the Campus Retention Committee and the Student Initiated Outreach Committee, with the Community Programs Office having their own separate source of funding intended to fulfill department needs.

WHEREAS, for the 2021-2022 academic year the Campus Retention Committee receives \$1,486,614.56 in student fees.¹¹

WHEREAS, for the 2021-2022 academic year the Student Initiated Outreach Committee receives \$1,353,797.46 in student fees.¹²

⁵ [https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/misc.2000.Student%20Programs.%20Activites%20and%20Resource%20Complex%20Referendum%20\(SPARC\).pdf](https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/misc.2000.Student%20Programs.%20Activites%20and%20Resource%20Complex%20Referendum%20(SPARC).pdf)

⁶ <https://recreation.ucla.edu/file/ec927556-1d8f-496d-a54f-feb3b79aa44a>

⁷ <https://cpo.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/CRC-Statement-of-Understanding.pdf>

⁸ <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/misc.2005.PULSE%20Referendum.pdf>

⁹ <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/misc.2009.PLEDGE%20Referendum.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/misc.2016.Social%20Justice%20Referendum.pdf>

¹¹ <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/budget.pdf>

¹² <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/budget.pdf>

WHEREAS, on October 30, 2018 current CPO Human Resources Analyst Richard White used the derogatory word “homosexuals” when referring to LGBTQ+ USAC Council Members and students during his appointment interview for USA Elections Board Chair.¹³

WHEREAS, on November 12, 2019 the 2019-2020 USAC sent formal letters to both the Campus Retention Committee and the Student Initiated Outreach Committee requesting the production of budget reports for the 3 prior academic years, to be received and presented at a USAC meeting by January 2020.¹⁴

WHEREAS, the Administrative Representatives selected by the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs for the CRC and SIOC on the day of their scheduled presentations let the 2019-2020 USAC know they needed more time to produce the documents and never corresponded afterwards.¹⁵¹⁶

WHEREAS, the 2019-2020 USAC appointed students to the SACBOG as the CRC, SIOC, and CPOSA representatives due to not having received recommendations from the committees

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2020 the 2019-2020 USAC signed onto and unanimously endorsed a letter written by student organizations with access and retention projects demanding for the fulfillment of the requests made by the USAC as well as demanding for the resignation of CPO administrators that failed to comply with these demands.¹⁷

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020 the 2019-2020 USAC voted to withhold the monies to the CRC and SIOC until CPO administration provided the 3 years of budget reports that had been requested.¹⁸

WHEREAS, on March 12, 2020 the 2019-2020 USAC received information from Assistant Vice Chancellor of Campus Life Mick Deluca that were classified as “budget reports” therefore causing the release of monies by ASUCLA to the CPO without USAC’s explicit authorization.

WHEREAS, at the April 7, 2020 USAC meeting the USAC deemed the budget reports to be inadequate and closer related to budget reports due to having large categorical expenditures and no itemized expenses; the USAC therefore moved to ask supplemental questions to AVC Deluca concerning the information that had been sent.¹⁹

¹³ <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/minutes.2018-10-30.pdf>

¹⁴ <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/minutes.2019-11-12.pdf>

¹⁵ <https://imgur.com/a/rUywD7l>

¹⁶ <https://imgur.com/a/lpHua47>

¹⁷ <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/minutes.2020-03-03.pdf>

¹⁸ <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/minutes.2020-03-10.pdf>

¹⁹ <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/minutes.2020-04-07.pdf>

WHEREAS, at the April 14, 2020 USAC meeting AVC Deluca committed to posting the annual budget reports online to be accessible to all students as well as committing to creating a committee composed of various entities and stakeholders to re-evaluate the CRC and SIOC SOUs, even though this was never one of the central asks of the USAC at this time.²⁰

WHEREAS, at the April 28, 2020 USAC Meeting Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Monroe Gorden committed to provide memorandums that had been passed by past CRC and SIOC committees that altered the structure of the committee, as well as committed to providing the regular budget reports by the following Fall quarter for the incoming USAC as required by each SOU.²¹

WHEREAS, the memorandums previously mentioned were centered around permanentizing certain aspects of the CRC and SIOC budgets, which the USAC deemed to be fundamentally changing the structure of each committee and therefore a change that necessitated being agreed upon by the USAC at the time, per the Statements of Understanding, which never occurred.

WHEREAS, the commitments made by Vice Chancellor Monroe Gorden as of the passing of this resolution have yet to be fulfilled with no memorandums being produced and no line-item budget reports being presented by either the CRC or SIOC at a USAC meeting.

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2021 a majority of the Mother Organization sent a letter to UCLA Administration outlining the egregious hiring practices by the CPO, leading to Samahang Pilipino's retention project SPEAR and Vietnamese Student Union's retention project SEA CLEAR to be without a full-time project coordinator for the entire year.²²

WHEREAS, in the same letter the MOs demanded multiple items be fulfilled, including complete budgetary breakdowns of the financial expenditures for the CRC and SIOC, a committee composed of the various stakeholders in the CRC and the SIOC to review and investigate the SOUs for each committee, formally limiting CPO administration's power to pure administrative tasks and no decision-making in the hiring process for the projects, as well giving the MOs power to pick the administrative representatives for the committees and have annual performance reviews of CPO administrators²³

WHEREAS, on May 24, 2021 all 9 Mother Organizations sent a letter to UCLA administration outlining the administration's failure to appropriately respond to the demands of the March 4 2021 letter, as well as the toxic and hostile environment that had led to student being gaslit,

²⁰ <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/minutes.2020-04-14.pdf>

²¹ <https://usac.ucla.edu/docs/minutes.2020-04-28.pdf>

²² <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wC17VXqlHhqvAcoGvGkyoGP7WYHf5OgSYvAGeZ2hijQ/edit>

²³ <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1wC17VXqlHhqvAcoGvGkyoGP7WYHf5OgSYvAGeZ2hijQ/edit>

bullied, and feeling unsafe while engaging in their official capacity as student leaders and project staff members.²⁴

WHEREAS, on the same day the Mother Organizations held a protest demanding accountability and action be taken by Student Affairs administration, including the immediate resignation of CPO administrators who have perpetuated this harm for well over a decade, removing the CPO as the official Student Affairs designee to the CRC and the SIOC, and admittance by UCLA administration that they have contributed to the harm faced by students.²⁵

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2021 Samahang Pilipino released a letter outlining the CPO and UCLA Student Affairs publishing job postings for the CRC and SIOC projects without the explicit consent of the projects, thereby violating the SOUs for each committee.²⁶

WHEREAS, the CPO has multiple times enforced an unfair and unsanctioned hiring freeze on the CRC and SIOC projects that have caused delays to multiple projects and led to services being disrupted.²⁷

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the USAC stands with the Mother Organizations and students demanding that CPO and Student Affairs administration be held accountable for the gross mistreatment of students within the CPO, the creation and allowing the continuation of a toxic work environment, and failure to provide transparency regarding the usage of student fees, with this accountability being actions including not limited to the immediate firing of all CPO staff members that have contributed to this harm and the immediate administrative and physical rehousing of ASP and SHAPE.

FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the USAC has no-confidence in the CPO to serve as the Student Affairs appointed designee as the administrative oversight department for the CRC and SIOC.

FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the USAC, upon consultation and approval of the Mother Organizations, commits to withhold monies from being transferred to the CPO until the previously mentioned demands of the Mother Organizations are fulfilled and another vote is taken at a USAC meeting to release the checks to the CPO or another entity determined by the Mother Organizations.

FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the USAC commits to have CRC and SIOC project staff paid through Student Government Accounting or other suitable alternatives while monies

²⁴ https://docs.google.com/document/d/1HsRAz mhKmjQxFmJgFtFx_a-HOA8qxBYf_aZNTpjX1bc/edit

²⁵ <https://dailybruin.com/2021/05/29/ucla-students-protest-cpo-administrative-oversight-lack-of-budget-transparency>

²⁶ <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mWYHKK6IVUDAQFTPovrnLv5s5TUpVMX9z9bdUJG9BYA/edit>

²⁷ <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mWYHKK6IVUDAQFTPovrnLv5s5TUpVMX9z9bdUJG9BYA/edit>

are withheld from the CPO in order to not disrupt the important services provided by the projects and the communities they serve.

FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the USAC stands with the CRC and SIOC demanding that there be no hiring delays or freezes as a form of retaliation by the CPO administration, as has been the case multiple times over the years as iterated in the letters written by the MOs above.

FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the USAC stands with the CRC and SIOC in their abolishing the memorandums that permanentize portions of their budgets that were passed in the 2013-14 and 2011-12/2017 academic years for the CRC and SIOC respectively, neither of which were taken to USAC for final approval as mandated in the SOUs for each committee.

FURTHER LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the USAC demands for the immediate removal of all CPO and Student Affairs administration that have contributed to the mistreatment of students and created a hostile, unsafe work environment for well over a decade in the CPO space.

LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED, that the USAC reaffirms their commitment to unilaterally supporting student-initiated, student-run efforts led by the Mother Organizations coalition to continue meeting the access and retention needs of their communities while still struggling against UCLA and CPO administration.