

## **A RESOLUTION ON THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE CULTIVATING UNITY FOR BRUINS (CUB) REFERENDUM**

***Whereas, this section shall serve as HISTORICAL CONTEXT for the creation and development of the CUB Referendum:***

The creation and passage of the CUB referendum was rooted in the need for historically underrepresented and marginalized communities to have their own spaces. The need for a Black Resource Center, solidifying a space for the Transfer Student Center, and providing organizations office spaces were identified and sought to be remedied through this referendum. In collaboration with multiple USAC offices, student organizations, and the Transfer Leadership Coalition, this referendum was developed and approved by the various entities mentioned.

Conversations surrounding the need for improved spaces for marginalized communities have occurred for decades on campus, but were brought to ASUCLA attention through conversations initiated by 2018-2019 Afrikan Student Union Chair Isaiah Njoku. Months later, during Week 10 of fall quarter of 2019, the Mother Organizations (MO) Coalition invited USAC representatives Robert Blake Watson, Lalo Velazquez, and Naomi Riley to attend the MO Coalition's weekly meeting to discuss the potential of developing a referendum to address the spatial and programmatic needs of underrepresented communities on campus.

From this initial meeting, Afrikan Student Union Chairperson Alexandria Davis, USAC President Robert Blake Watson, USAC General Representative 1 Lalo Velazquez, and Asian Pacific Coalition External Assistant Director Justin Suarez met on various occasions throughout Winter Quarter of 2020 with ASUCLA CEO Pouria Abbassi and ASUCLA Director of the Union Roy Champawat to discuss the logistics and feasibility of running a referendum. These meetings were used to draft rough outlines of a possible referendum to address underrepresented students' needs. These outlines would later be used in the following meetings to develop the Cultivating Unity for Bruins (CUB) referendum.

On February 21st, 2020, in a Mother Organizations (MO) Coalition meeting chaired by Afrikan Student Union Chairperson Alexandria Davis, student leaders from across campus met with USAC, ASUCLA, the Transfer Leadership Coalition leadership in Kerckhoff Hall 417 to discuss the beginnings of what would become the Cultivating Unity for Bruins (CUB) referendum. This included developing the initial language that would later be sent to the University of California Office of the President for approval.

Student leaders that were involved in these various planning meetings included:  
Designated Campaign Representative and Afrikan Student Union Chair Alexandria Davis  
Asian Pacific Coalition External Assistant Director Justin Suarez  
MEChA de UCLA Chair Viviana Prado  
Muslim Student Association President Hanaan Osman  
Queer Alliance Intern Antonio Rodriguez  
Samahang Pilipino President Josephine Flores

Transfer Leadership Coalition Co-Chair Milagros Martinez Stordeur  
Transfer Leadership Coalition Co-Chair Zuleika Bravo  
USAC President Robert Blake Watson  
USAC Internal Vice President Kimberly Bonifacio  
USAC General Representative Lalo Velazquez  
USAC Academic Affairs Commissioner Naomi Riley  
USAC Cultural Affairs Commissioner Kelechi Iheanacho  
USAC Facilities Commissioner Lily Shaw  
USAC Transfer Student Representative Isabel Orah  
USAC Assistant to the President Jimmy Zhou  
USAC Assistant Internal Vice President Emily Luong  
USAC Referenda Coordinator Matthew William Richard  
Vietnamese Student Union Intern Vivian Nguyen  
USAC ASUCLA Board of Directors Member Alexis Wells  
USAC ASUCLA Board of Directors Member Siena Villegas

Upon approval from the University of California Office of the President, the Mother Organizations Coalition, the Transfer Leadership Coalition, the USAC Office of the President, the USAC General Representative 1 Office, the USAC Academic Affairs Commission, and the USAC Transfer Student Representative Office led the campaign to successfully pass the CUB Referendum at the conclusion of elections of Spring Quarter of 2020.

***Whereas, this section shall serve as a documentation of APPROVED CUB REFERENDUM LANGUAGE:***

This memorandum is designed to formulate agreements between the USAC and ASUCLA leadership in order to clearly delineate how CUB referendum fees would be managed and allocated.

The following referendum was voted on in Spring 2020 during the undergraduate student body elections:

*“Shall the Undergraduate Students Association address the space, resources, and programming needs of undergraduate students from historically underrepresented and marginalized communities by implementing a new ASUCLA CUB fee of \$15.00 per undergraduate student per quarter (\$9.00 per UC undergraduate student enrolled at UCLA in summer session), to supplement the Ackerman student union of \$22.00 per quarter, beginning in Fall 2020?”*

Upon the referendum's passage, this Memorandum of Understanding would take effect immediately and would be in place indefinitely until otherwise altered or revised with the clear and mutual consent of both ASUCLA Board of Directors and the USA Council (USAC). Any changes that are made and/or initiated by either party must be made in consultation with the Mother Organization (MO) Coalition and the Transfer Leadership Coalition (TLC).

***Whereas, this section shall serve as a draft of the MANAGEMENT OF CUB REFERENDUM FEES had the referendum been approved:***

- The CUB referendum fees would be managed by the ASUCLA Board of Directors (BOD), but with the continuous guidance of the USAC.
- The ASUCLA BOD would prepare reports and consultation meetings with the USAC, the leadership of the Mother Organizations, and the Transfer Leadership Coalition on a bi-annual (twice a year) basis.
  - This would be done through ASUCLA BOD Leadership's biannual attendance at the USAC's weekly meetings, with a majority of Mother Organizations and TLC leadership present.
- The ASUCLA BOD would take into serious and continuous consideration the recommendations of USAC in how it would allocate CUB referendum fees.
- In the event that the USAC is in need of financial support for programming related to the purposes of the referendum outlined in the ballot language and supplemental ballot language, the USAC would have the ability to request a portion of these fees for their individual office-based or all-council-based use in such programmatic endeavors with the approval of USAC Council, the Mother Organizations (MO) Coalition, and the Transfer Leadership Coalition (TLC).
  - The USAC may request, at a maximum, 10% of the CUB referendum fee on programming related to the purpose of the referendum as specified in the supplemental ballot language. If the USAC is in need of additional funds, they would access such fee only with the approval of the Mother Organizations (MO) Coalition and Transfer Leadership Coalition.

***Whereas, this section shall serve as a draft of the ALLOCATION AND USAGE OF CUB REFERENDUM FEES had the referendum been approved:***

- The immediate development of a Black Resource Center within existing ASUCLA facilities, with financial support for programming.
  - 6% of these referendum fees would be directed on an annual basis for the creation and continuity of a programming fund for the Black Resource Center.
  - Upon the development of a new building under ASUCLA Board of Directors leadership, the Board would reevaluate the quality of the existing Black Resource Center in Ackerman Student Union, and consider moving and expanding the Black Resource Center in the new building.
- The full and immediate financial support of the Black Resource Center towards all rent, utilities and maintenance payment.
- The full and immediate independence of the Transfer Student Center towards all future rent, utilities and maintenance payments.
- The eventual development of high-quality meditation space for undergraduate students seeking to pray, meditate, or rest.

- The ongoing funding of student programming with additional funding specifically related to historically underrepresented communities on campus.
- The eventual creation of new office and storage spaces for organizations in ASUCLA facilities. This would be accomplished through the usage of this fee to support the interior spatial development of a new ASUCLA building in the old loading dock next to the Ackerman Student Union.
- The eventual maintenance and improvement of ADA compliance in new and existing ASUCLA facilities.

***Let it be resolved*** that it is the USAC's hope that future campus leaders will continue the work that was initiated through the CUB referendum, and will use this resolution as a guide and resource for the creation of meaningful change on campus.