



AGENDA  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL  
February 21, 2023  
7 PM PST  
Zoom:

<https://ucla.zoom.us/j/98686577744?pwd=Zm5TeGNIVG5PcTxQ3MzckN1Z01XZz09>

Password: 245694

## **I. Call to Order**

King

- Carl calls the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

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

- Signed via google docs

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

Le

- Strike Capital Contingency
- Strike Bruin Advocacy Grant Allocations
- Strike ASRF Allocations
- Strike ARC Allocations
- Strike TGIF
- Add statement regarding the vote to release the CPO checks
- Naomi moves to approve the agenda as amended, Eliana seconds.
- By vote of 12-0-0, the motion passes and the agenda is approved as amended.

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

Le

- Sara moves to approve the minutes from 2/14/23, Alicia seconds.
- By vote of 13-0-0, the motion passes and the minutes from 2/14/23 are approved.

## **IV. Public Comment**

King

- Clara Castronova: "Hi guys, I am here to give my weekly CALPIRG updates. So two things that I want to talk about. The first is that our federal Lobby day is next week in Washington DC and two students from UCLA were chosen to represent California which is very exciting. So far we have scheduled 69 congressional meetings and 18 of them are with California offices that are going to be very busy. We are going to meet with 5 white house staff people including the senior director for chemical safety and plastic pollution prevention and also the senior director with clean energy innovation and implementation. The one thing that we are going to be talking about is our right to repair campaign and we are especially looking for student leaders like yourself to help out on this. When things like devices break we do not have a culture of fixing things and we just go to buy another one because these big companies like apple make it so difficult to actually repair things so you just like when your phone starts breaking you just buy a new phone. I am going to put a link in the chat if you are interested in signing on that would be awesome. We are looking for student leader sign-ons to show that this is something that students care about. Obviously there is an environmental aspect of the e-waste produced from people throwing away so many electronics. The second thing is that the all in voting challenge just opened up nominations for their annual student voting honor roll which recognizes college students that are participating on their campuses and are advancing non-[artisan student voter registration education and voter turnout efforts as well as ensuring equitable access to the polls. I know that some of your offices did a lot of really good voter work. Thank you !"
- Anna Bulis: "Hi guys, I hope you all are doing well. Per the elections code and keeping with the voting theme. I have to tell you guys whenever a change happens to the election cycle calendar and basically I am here to just tell you that flyering hours have been changed from 12-4 and the candidate reimbursement grant deadline has been added for April 17th and that is it. Thank you!"
- Public comment is closed at 7:13pm.

## **V. Funding**

- A. ~~Capital Contingency\*~~ ~~Prentice~~
- A. Contingency Programming\* Prentice
- Requested: \$29,957.41
  - Recommended: \$16,596.33 for 40 on USAC entities and 1 USAC entity
  - Sara moves to approve \$16,596.33 to 40 non USAC entities and 1 USAC entity, Naomi seconds.
  - By vote of 13-0-0, the motion passes and Contingency Programming is approved for this week.
- B. SFS Allocations# Flores
- Recommended: \$9,938.13 to 4 CSC orgs and 4 non CSC orgs
  - No opposition, passes as a consent item.
- C. SWC Programming Fund Allocations# Majer
- Recommended: \$849.94 to SWC groups
  - No opposition, passes as a consent item.
- D. ~~Brain Advocacy Grant Allocations#~~ ~~Johnson~~
- E. ~~ASRF Allocations#~~ ~~Cortez~~
- F. AAC Travel Mini-Grant Allocations# Cortez
- Allocations: \$3,806.53 to 5 non USAC entities
  - No opposition, passes as a consent item.
- G. ~~ARC Allocations#~~ ~~Verdugo~~
- H. ~~TGIF#~~ ~~Chiu~~

## **VI. Special Presentations**

- A. ASUCLA Board of Directors: Vote to Release CPO Checks King
- Carl King: "So for this discussion, I think it comes down to speaking with you individuals who are there and who cast the votes because at the end of the day it was a secret meeting and we didn't know what was happening so this is a chance just to really talk about it because we don't know what happened and we would just like to speak to you in regards of the specifics of what was voted on, who brought this forward to the agenda in the first place, and just in regards to where the disconnection in regards to communication was with ASUCLA BOD."
  - Wudia Kamara: "I just want to say thank you to Eliana for reaching out to us to join. I wasn't sure if we were going to come today or expect us to come since I did not hear back but thank you so much. I just didn't want to miss the opportunity to speak to you all. I mentioned in the email that I sent ever since our last meeting Last Monday to just be talking on our end trying to think about all of the questions that were asking in the meeting that we had and just kind of bring answers to that and write up that to a certain extent so that all you can review it and then also understanding that Carl, you would be meeting with the CFO which you just mentioned that happened today and just knowing that what happens after that because most of the questions that were asked on Monday might be better directed towards them but to your specific question right now as to just understanding what happened in the meeting and why this was brought up to our attention to vote on it. This was brought to our attention in direct response to the CFO letter that we received which I believe, Carl, you now have as well. Before this, this was also an ongoing discussion item and we would have students come to public comment and explain why these funds need to be released, the impacts or potential impacts that they have on said communities if these funds are not released. However, those were like November of last year if I remember correctly. This year we saw that letter in January and then so the board's action to release the funds was in direct response to that letter which we did in executive session because we

had to talk about it considering the sensitive situation as it was presented to us and we just talked through it and everything and up until that point most of the questions that we asked were like what does this mean for the students, what does this mean for the student leaders just to understand the extent of what you all know. From our understanding, the main players of this whole situation are council members as you all have mentioned. We were informed by Roy who is really in between the board and council members that he has had conversations with multiple council members, yourself included Carl and a couple other folks. I tried to put specific folks down on the document that I sent out and I don't know if everyone has had a chance to go over it so we were all on the same understanding. We needed to get the point across that hey we do understand that this vote is happening right now and it is a point of last resort after going through all the other solutions. Last Monday, Carl, you mentioned that you were forming a committee on this issue and this is not something that we knew before we voted and I do understand that if we were in better communication beforehand I feel like this could have all been avoided. Maybe it could have been held off to a certain extent because the vote could not not have happened but if we had been communicating maybe we could have held it off for a little longer. After my conversation when we spoke on Monday, we kind of talked about hey let us try to understand where the communication happened and with what specific folks. You wanted to know who was specifically speaking with Roy and what those conversations were. It was also made clear that we did not expect the board to take action or inaction on this just to make it seem threatening to council members or make it seem like we were overstepping the authority of council members which is what we did not want to happen at the end of the day with the whole vote. I think that is for the most part what happened on our end. Voting on this was within our fiscal authority and our judiciary stated fiscal responsibilities. If you have other specific questions Carl, feel free to just go back and forth and we can answer things that are not already on the document that we sent out to you. I am hoping that a conversation with the CFO would put more light into this situation as well because we are the transfer agents in this whole situation and it's just like hey if there is monies owed that are due beyond past the fiscal year and then you receive or not from the CFO will be like hey this is what you need to pay this money or else it is going to the university and we have the right to at on that not considering all the political edges which you know does not provide the fullscope of everything that is happening but like I mentioned Monday, I believe if we have better communication I feel like this could have been avoided to a certain extent and not have it be at the level we are at right now.”

- Carl: “Council members, you can ask questions as well. We had a discussion this Monday and this is for being on the record and I remember you stated that you were ill-informed of a lot of things surrounding the checks correct?”
- Wudia: “Wait, would you want me to specify what I was ill informed on?”
- Carl: “Well, as we spoke in our meeting on Monday, you were confused on members of the CRC and SIOC and you were not too aware and you said that it was your first time seeing this letter that was sent to the ASUCLA executive director in november and it was your first time seeing it in January, correct?”
- Wudia: “Yes.”
- Carl: “Okay, so you also stated that there were just a lot of things in regards to why Council decided to withhold the funds that you just weren't really aware of, you were just being told that it was your fiscal responsibility as being a part of the BOD board, correct?”
- Wudia: “Yes, I mean we do have an idea of like why council is withholding the funds, we do have the background information to a certain extent and that is why the funds have been withheld for as long as they have been because they are overdue by a year now and we understand that but right now the point that I reached out we had to vote on this was because it was primarily a fiscal judiciary responsibility and like you had mentioned on monday, these funds were being held for specific reasons and to a certain extent it is for political leverage but when this is brought to use we stay out of that but when it is brought to us in this way it does not only become a political stance anymore. This money was owed and they have to pay as ASUCLA because we are responsible to the university because they give us money like hey these are monies that are paid by students, now you have to give it to the entities that it is due. From our point of view, that money is

delinquent right now because of like you know the political struggle and at this point there is not evidence to say why we shouldn't release the funds so then we do but at the end of the day if you don't agree with this then you should check in with the CFO because we are just the middle men and we legally have to release the funds."

- Carl: "Well, this is my problem and I got you next Eliana. I don't know who has been telling you that this is just a political thing. I mean because you know per the same bylaws that allowed us to appoint you to your position, you know we have oversight of the funds and we have the right to withhold the funds per our bylaws. They are the same bylaws and they are the reason why you are in the position that you are, so it is not just a political thing, it is a bylaw, it is a constitutional bylaw thing. The second problem that I had with the way this whole process went. I mean it is not even just about the release of funds right which is an egregious overstep which is you know is debatable in terms of your judiciary and fiscal responsibility but it is the way it went about. Don't you think it was weird that you know the funds that Council voted to withhold were secretly voted on by a board that has nothing to do with it and then we weren't told about it until a month later. You don't think that is a bit strange? You don't think it was strange that Council wasn't reached out regardless of our stance on the issue. Yeah Roy can say, Patty can say that they reached out to me and spoke to the other council members but it wasn't one or two council members that voted to withhold the fees last year. It was a unanimous vote and officially the council didn't take a stance on this and so I am just very upset and confused that we were not taken into account in regards to releasing the funds whatsoever. This is also unprecedented because as I recall the statement that have been made are that this Council has no say over the funds from last fiscal year and as I stated before in our last meeting if that was true, that would mean that this Council has no control over Surplus which is false and that would also mean that this Council does not have any input in regards to the interested that is made and collected on the USAC endowment which you know isn't collected during our time as council members."
- Eliana: "I was wondering if you could see which individuals and ASUCLA BOD members initiated this decision?"
- Wudia: "Yea, like I had mentioned earlier, the letter from the CFO was brought to our attention in January and in the January meeting we talked about it as well."
- Eliana: "Sorry, I don't mean to interrupt, but I am just trying to dig deeper, was there anyone in particular?"
- Wudia: "Yes, because the letter itself is from the executive director of ASUCLA so he brought it to our attention."
- Eliana: "Wait, I am sorry, is that Pouria, the executive director?"
- Wudia: "Yes."
- Eliana: "So it was basically initiated by Allison Baird, the CFO and then Pouria Abbassi, the ASUCLA Director was the conduit for that interaction, does that sound accurate?"
- Wudia: "I would say to an extent because this information, the letter itself, when you read it it shows that it was directed to the executive director and then they have their people bring it up to the board to discuss it and see what was going on with it. So yeah, it came from the CFO to Pouria, and then from Pouria to us."
- Eliana: "I appreciate that. My second question is do you think there is some error or problem with the way the ASUCLA BOF handled this and if so what is the error and what are you going to do to correct the consequences of it as much as possible."
- Wudia: "Yeah, I mean like I said in our meeting on Monday, as soon as this was brought to our attention and we started talking about it, I recognized that the first loop in all of this was that there was the lack of communication and if we had direct communication with council members to understand this and like what is

the severity of this issue and hear what their thoughts were would have better. So moving forward that is something that we acknowledge could be improved on.”

- Carl: “Alicia, you can speak next but first off, I want to say that we also have two other board members here so you don’t have to talk for everyone, there are also other individuals that can also speak because I do understand that these individuals also voted a certain way so I would like if other ASUCLA BOD members spoke as well and if they could answer some of council members questions.”
- Alicia: “I just want to reiterate the frustration of the fact that UCLA and the CFO should not be in charge of threatening anything surrounding this money because it is not federal money, it is student fees that students voted for and passed on. It is their referendum money from students and also CPO has the money to pay people. CPO has millions of dollars that they sit on and they are not transparent about it. I just want to reiterate the frustration from myself and obviously many of you students appointed by the student body should have known about this decision and it is frustrating that you did not communicate.”
- Carl: “Alright so I just wanted to ask, Wudia I understand that you stated that you were not aware that I had formed a committee regarding this issue that was slated to fix this issue this month. I was wondering if the other two board members had heard about this committee as well.”
- Alejandra Castellanos: “I will add Carl, just for transparency that I did not vote in this decision because I am the alternate and I did not get called to vote for this one. I was not aware either of a committee that was being formed to rectify this issue so I am on the same boat as Wudia.”
- Muratkhan Abdirash: “Hi everyone, I am a fourth year PhD student and a grad representative on the ASUCLA BOD. To answer your question Carl, I was not aware that there was a special committee to specifically discuss the issue. I was under the idea that there had been communication between the management and the USAC council. I am sorry because I do not know how the undergraduate side of this works but I was there and I was not aware of any committee. I was aware of the fact that there was some communication happening and that these communications have been happening for a while now but not specifically. I also am new to this board and joined only this year so I was made aware of the situation back in October, we were told that there was communication happening between the management and USAC. You guys are more than welcome to ask more questions and thank you for having us.”
- Carl: “Yeah, no problem I appreciate you all for coming especially you know as a graduate student. Both of your non-voting members showed up but you know the undergrad representatives did not which is just crazy.”
- Wudia: “I just wanted to mention that I know a lot of folks are missing from here as well but no one knew about the committee until last Monday when we met and then I informed them of this committee. I tried messaging the folks who are not here and they just weren't able to because it was on such short notice.”
- Naomi: “Quick question, were the non-voting members in the executive session where the vote took place or not?”
- Alejandra Castallenos: “Yeah, we were present in the executive session when the vote took place.”
- Naomi: “Okay, cool then to follow up on that I am just trying to understand how it was presented to you guys. I don't know if we mentioned it already but why did it have to go into executive session so I don't know if anyone has more information on this.”
- Alejandra: “I honestly am not sure why it was going through an executive session so I don't know if others have more information on that.”

- Roy: "Contracts and personnel matters are the most common reasons as to why things go into executive sessions. Most bodies use executive sessions for certain circumstances. I think essentially this was a contractual issue because there is essentially a contract between USAC and student affairs that speaks to this issue."
- Naomi: "That is interesting and then to follow up on the question, I know we mentioned previously that when this was presented before the vote, there were mentions of being in delinquency. Was it ever explained to you all what would happen in delinquency and what that means of what is kind of just thrown out there for leverage for them to be like you all need to vote on this right now?"
- Muratkhan: "I guess I can speak on that. A couple things before answering your direct question. We had a special meeting with our board members and discussed and took it very seriously about your complaints and then we had a meeting with the board members and the mangamene and the CEO and we agreed that it would be better if we had this whole meeting once you had the chance to speak to the CFO so that is why a lot of the board members could not show up tonight. Secondly, I don't know the exact reason why it went into executive session. I assumed that that was probably more a question towards the people who organized the meeting but I don't feel like there was any alternative agenda or something sketchy going on. Thirdly, as to how this whole thing was presented, in my understanding, we were being delinquent because the fees had not been transferred since last year. I think most of it was presented from the point of view of our financial responsibilities and duties. And based on our common sense I made conclusions for myself as to what delinquency meant when it comes to ASUCLA just having those funds floating around and not being put into use. Obviously it is student fees and UCLA should have no oversight over them and I do understand that."
- Carl: "I think you say you don't feel like anything sketchy was going on but I think you are misinformed. Were you aware of the resolution that USAC passed last year and froze the funds? Were you aware that a resolution even took place?"
- Muratkhan: "What kind of resolution specifically?"
- Carl: "USAC released a resolution that started the freezing of the funds that was released last council, so were you aware of this resolution and have you ever taken a look at it?"
- ASUCLA BOD members were not aware of the resolution.
- Carl: "Yeah, I kind of figured that out because speaking with you about this situation it seems like and it is not your fault but speaking to this it just seems that the board members are not even aware of why Council froze the funds in the first place and that is the thing like you can't sit here and say when our bylaws are the reason why you are able to be in the position that you are in now. You said you have oversight over those funds but no we have oversight over the fees and we have the right to stop sending fees to a certain program or activity and that is in our bylaws and we had a specific reason as why and we will go into more detail about this a little bit later as to why we decided to freeze the funds and it seems that none of you were aware of that . I mean the executive director knew why the funds were frozen. I was on council last year and he knew why the funds were frozen and then he brings you this letter but he doesn't give you the reason why we froze them in the first place or he doesn't tell you about the committee that we formed that was supposed to fix this problem. Do you see now why it seems like you all are a bit innocent in this can you really just didn't know what was going on and you voted a certain way out of something being phrased as negligent."
- Eliana: "That was very good Carl, I was also wondering what might have been told about what would allegedly happen if you did not release the funds because I am guessing that some of you do not have a political alignment with CPO and have some understanding of the issue especially Roy, so I would be curious to hear what negative possibilities might happen if you did not release those funds and what might have motivated you in this decision."

- Wudia: “Ok, I think Naomi also asked a similar question earlier as well to understand what was the extent that was indicated and what would happen if these funds were not released and basically from again referencing that letter as well I don't know if you all have looked at it clearly but also understanding to the whole idea is that if those funds were not released since they are fees that are collected based on referendum to go to certain entities specifically and since we were just holding that money, if they were not released then the university is mandated to possibly stop collecting those fees from students or have all of you sued because USAC is automated to do that. It is put in the lens of like hey if you are paying for these fees and they are not going to what you are paying for based on the referendum then we might as well stop collecting it overall and students get that money back. But yeah, I think that is the ultimate decision about what would happen if the money was theoretically stopped but thinking about it right now, that money is supposed to go to committees that represent unrepresented students and if that money stops then those committees would stop getting funding and for me it makes sense for now I mean it has been run so efficiently based on reserves but ultimately if we stop that fee that money doesn't go to those students and those committee are affected.”
- Alicia: “I just wish specifically the board of directors and the student representatives on that board would have knowledge and understanding about why the checks were being withheld and why that money wasn't being given to the community programs office because if you knew anything about their history with these communities that they are supposed to serve you would know that there is a reason why the money is being withheld because it is an act of political pressure against the CPO. I don't want to get into it but because of how awful the CPO has been, deserving of abolition actually, it empirically has proven that with the checks being withheld it can be a lot of political pressure for the CPO so I don't appreciate that you did not investigate as to why the checks were being withheld in the first place because you just assuming that USAC withheld it to take away services from students is bizarre to me and I am really upset that you did not inform yourself of the fiscal decision that the previous Council made to take this money away from the CPO.”
- Muratkhan: “Yeah, thank you for expressing your frustrations and complaints. I think it is very important that we ask the board of directors take their time moving forward on this but I just wanted to express that I think when we made this decision we tried to look at it from our judiciary fiscal responsibilities and the implications that it has. I also want to say that our decision might have still been the same even if we did have all of the information about this situation. I think moving forward our communication can be better and I think moving forward as student representatives we have to be aware of everything happening in the student body.”
- Sara: “I did not have a question but I just wanted to add a statement because I think like many other council members I am worried about the precedent that this sets for the distribution of funds from bypassing USAC and sort of really disrupting the checks and balances of our current system so I guess I just wanted to draw attention to that.”
- Steven: “Hi everyone, I am currently the alumni representative but I did serve on the ASUCLA BOD for two years and I just wanted to kind of add my own kind of external insights here. I think it is very clear that there was a lack of communication that can be easily corrected. There is no reason as to why there can't be a direct line of communication between the board and USAC but I do want to say that I think it is important to recognize what ASUCLA even is. To me, ASUCLA is a parent organization. It is a non-profit business and that is apparent for both USAC and GSA so when we talk about fiscal responsibility I think it is important to recognize the fact that these decisions have ramifications for the entire organization of ASUCLA and potentially GSA as well. I was not in the meeting but if I was there I would have expected to be kind of told that line of thought that these decisions affect the entire organization and I do think it is in the purview of the board to make decisions like this under certain circumstances because it is the parent organization. But I do think as Carl mentioned earlier, there is no reason why if it was a decision that was lasting for like four months back in November. At some point there could have been a direct line of communication between both parties.”
- Felicia: “Hi my name is Felicia. I am putting my daughter to bed right now. I am a graduate student representative on the BOD of ASUCLA and I am sorry I joined the call late so I did not hear from the

beginning but I just wanted to share and speak to some of the points that were brought up, especially what Alicia said. You all are doing a good job of communicating your concerns. I do not know the reasons as to why it wasn't communicated well to us but to echo the points that Steven raised. This is my second year serving on the BOD and the first year was remote and last year we came into the BOD really wanting to understand the scope of everything and I think as Steven pointed out correctly we are guided to watch over the financial arm of the non-profit and the services. I want to say as a student representative, I am here because of my concern for the students and the student well-being. I am fairly confident for my graduate student representatives that we wouldn't have made that vote if we didn't think that it was going to serve the students. I think we didn't have the proper information about what the reasoning was behind it but I can say for myself I really didn't understand what the reasoning was behind and I think this is a conversation that I am going to take back to the full board. Our number one priority is that we want to uplift students and we do that through our organization and it is a very complex process which I think Wudia outlined really well but I just wanted to say that I am grateful to you all for hosting this space and bringing us here and Carl for speaking so respectfully with us because we all know you feel conflicted and it is a difficult situation to navigate but it helps to have these spaces where we can communicate and talk about the different experiences and perspectives to this situation.”

- Daniela: “I just wanted to bring up quickly up the CRC and SIOC and bringing them back into the conversation because I feel like right now the conversation has really revolved around USAC and ASUCLA BOD’s relationship but really these two committees are at the center of why this issue is here. Just piggybacking from what Alicia brought to the floor by addressing the history earlier and what Carl added by raising the resolution. There is a history there and also building from what the rest of council members have mentioned tonight that they have expressed, there is just a lack of education and I want to add again as a reminder to you all that I do have appointments to both the CRC and SIOC and from checking in with my CRC appointment Ashley, I came to learn that you Carl are creating a committee within USAC. I also learned from Ashley that the CRC and SIOC are creating their own committee to compartmentalize the issue of the CPO and to talk about it so I just wanted to bring that to your attention as well. I did include that in my officer report as soon as I learned of this new information to make it aware to all of you and the public that there are more stakeholders beyond just the people sitting in on this call right now that are actively working to find a resolution for this issue and it is important that we also include them in these conversations moving forward and keeping everybody in the loop and ensuring that everybody has equitable access to education about each entity’s history because it is true that there are ramifications on ASUCLA. In terms of the precedent that this decision sets for future councils but more importantly there are real and actual ramifications for the student leaders who are leading these committees but also for the students that are being served by them so I just wanted to bring that back into the picture.”
- Carl: “I just want to say that I am very conflicted tonight because you know I hear ASUCLA BOD say they have a judiciary responsibility and I understand that. I am just curious about the same attitude when you said you complained about the financial responsibilities and the lack of transparency from CPO like where ASUCLA was then. I mean why didn’t you support the resolution or support the process of getting more transparent documents from CPO. You stated yourself that this is about prioritizing the students and you are correct. We are sending 2.7 million dollars over to a group of individuals who don’t even give us the funding documents that lay out how they are spending the money. As a student yourself you are paying 290 bucks to this. The problem that I have with this is because I understand you have a fiduciary responsibility but where was this last year. We got no support from ASUCLA BOD and they didn’t reach out to us at all. I mean this was a secret meeting that we didn’t even hear about from our undergraduate representatives. I mean you represent the council and we appointed you and you are supposed to give us an update of things that are happening and it didn’t happen and that sets a dangerous precedent that you can go and overturn a decision that Council makes in a secret vote and then not tell us about it at all. How are we not supposed to be upset about that? Are we not supposed to hold ASUCLA accountable?”
- Daniela: “I apologize, this has been clarified prior but I just put it in the chat and there is a line from the resolution that was signed last year if someone could please explain why is that in 1988 we were able to withhold fees for up to three years but now we can’t let it carry over from one prior fiscal year.”



- Wudia: "I don't think any of us have the answer to that question right now but I think it is a pretty valid question and if you would like me to investigate it, I can try to get an answer for you."
- Naomi: "I think Roy mentioned at the last council meeting that Roy had spoken to somebody at the presidential reunion that Carl had attended and it was more of a simple misstep or something like that. It was never supposed to happen but if someone can provide more context that would be great."
- Roy: "Yeah, so I talked to this guy Bob Alvarex who is cited in your resolution. When I got a chance to talk to him, he explained that at a certain point some financial official at ASUCLA approached him as the FICOM chair to say hey we just found that two years of fees had just simply not been disbursed to the proper department. At that time, it was a much smaller fee so a much smaller amount of money. Anyway that official asked him to sign off on the fees. That is when I sated to ask questions, well what are we doing with this now and wanting to ask the transparency questions that you guys are asking now so you know the third year you seemed to have been made aware of it and the transparency questions he was asking so it did not seem to be an intentional thing."
- Carl: "I think at the end of this day and as we are wrapping up this conversation up because we can talk about this all night. I think at the end of the day you know the students that are appointed to ASUCLA BOD responsible to USAC. I hear all the stuff but you know we appointed you to be a voice and to be an extension of USAC and take into our account before voting on things that affect us and that wasn't done and no one reached out to us to get our input or insight. I mean you made a decision based on information told by the individuals who are biased towards this."

B. Bylaw Change: Article II, Section C. 4.h.i.\*

Chiu

- Bylaw changes are tabled until next week.

## **VII. Appointments**

A. Office Space Allocation Committee Co-Chair\*

Chiu

a. Abril Olalde

- Sara moves to appoint Abril Olalde to the Office Space Allocation Committee Co-Chair position, Juan seconds.
- By vote of 13-0-0, the motion passes and Abril Olalde is appointed to the position of Office Space Allocation Committee Co-Chair.

## **VIII. Officer Reports**

A. President

King

- I had a cabinet meeting where we discussed UCLA Mardi Gras and planning with the office of communications so we are working with Vice Chancellor Osaka for that. I will also be meeting with the chancellor soon regarding my meeting with the CFO regarding this whole situation in particular.
- We are also looking into the initial problem behind the reason as to why this whole freeze started regarding transparency documents that have been in the nature of the CPO. We are working with the CFO of UCLA for that because she was unaware of the situation and she is also a new appointment to her position.
- I had a meeting with Andy from the LGBTQ+ center regarding the deficit. I will be bringing my surplus proposal to council next Tuesday so just look out for that.

B. Internal Vice President

Le

- Our Campus Safety Alliance meeting will be on Friday on March 3rd from 3:30pm to 4:30pm. This will be an open meeting so anyone can attend. We have the question forum that is posted on our instagram but I can also link it in the chat. If you have any questions for campus safety you are more than welcome to submit your questions.

- We are working on our surplus presentation for our regular rewards, IVP partnership fund, and campus safety fund potentially. We are also working on our finals events that we put on for the student body to help people manage their stress during finals.
- I am also working on the USAC social that I emailed all of you about. So if you have gotten the email, please fill out the google form if you are planning on going. It should be really fun. Thank you to Lori and Jessica for helping me with catering and figuring out our retreat plans.

C. External Vice President

Johnson

- I attended a UA meeting within USCA about considering having Lobby crops meetings that prep students for the lobby conference that is happening in the second week of March 1st. That way we can help prepare them for Sacramento. For the Student Lobby Conference, we booked hotels and figured out transportation for the students so we are all set up for that trip.
- We are having a mentor/mentee thing for our winter fellows coming up which will be fun and kind of wrap up the winter quarter fellowship.
- Our local team had a lobby meeting with Katie last week as well and it went really well and we will continue to build strong relationships with her and her team.

D. General Representative 1

Kohanteb

- This week I have been working a lot on my proposal for surplus to get free lyft rides so today I met with the director of transportation. I met with Mike Cohn and Roy to figure out different ways that we could use it and different ways we could implement it so it can be shown to as many students as possible. We are working on a feedback form that I can post so we can hear from the students what they think and what they want.
- We are working to make our Instagram more transparent and make it more accessible.

E. General Representative 2 Written

Hammonds

- Reviewing ARC interview notes
- Hosted a self-care night in the Black Bruin Resource Center
  - Posted a recap on our social media. Great turnout and it seems like people really enjoyed it.
- Attended interviews for BBRC Program director
  - Had the opportunity to provide feedback on the candidates
- Meet with directors and general staff to discuss next steps for the remaining quarter
- Talking with other elected members about surplus and mental health initiatives

F. General Representative 3

Sisman

- I have been working along with my surplus proposals and I have a bunch of people who want to be mentors for the disability peer mentoring program and program coordinators and some folks who want to be mentored so I am very excited about that.
- My office co-sponsored a mindfulness social which happened yesterday so that was cool.
- I was able to talk to a lot of people about the CPO situation and try to educate myself and try to help develop our response to the situation.
- I had a great meeting with Melissa and one of the SOLE advisors and we were thinking that we could do regular socials which is exciting.

G. Academic Affairs Commissioner

Cortez

<b>Commissioner</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Checked in with SIOC and CRC appointment, Peter and Ashley, to discuss ASUCLA updates on checks</li> <li>• As part of the Distinguished Teaching Awards committee, I am reviewing Senate Faculty nominees for the award on an ongoing basis.</li> <li>• Working on student requisition forms for ASRF/TGMF applications</li> <li>• Finalizing surplus proposals to go before the council               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Worked with Fernando on them</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Facilitated a meeting with In-N-Out UCLA directors to discuss PGV week, sort out panelists, the grad prep rental program and discuss budgetary needs for PGV week               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ PGV week happening week 3 of Spring</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Rental program launching Spring quarter</li> <li>● Facilitated conversation with exec members to discuss the occuspace initiative with CLICC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Brainstormed a list of student organizations we would like to speak with to get their endorsements</li> <li>○ Finalizing our presentation materials, swifting through data</li> <li>○ Developing a letter of endorsement template</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Platforms + Committees</b>	<p><b>Retention First</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Met with Roy and Jessica to discuss potential funds for B4B via external grants.</li> </ul> <p><b>Accountability and Transparency</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Finalized Fall q transparency report.</li> </ul>
<b>Academic Senate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Checked in with the UgC Chair and Policy Analyst, Kathy and Julia. We discussed issues with student enrollment seats, concerns about the consequences of strike alongside the budget for academic programs and available discussion sections, as well as making enrollment slots available by utilizing the summer and online courses.</li> <li>● Committee on Academic Freedom is meeting with the CAE and DSU to discuss accessibility to courses</li> <li>● Chief of Senate, Sujana, is going to discuss with Julia and GSA president the need for Grad Representatives on senate committees</li> </ul>
<b>External</b>	<p>Spoke with member of ASUCLA BOD to discuss updates regarding CPO checks</p> <p>Spoke with former USAC President, Naomi Riley, to discuss previous USAC actions regarding CPO checks and potential avenues for advocacy</p> <p>Met with the Chair of EST to discuss policy changes to the admission of transfers into the major</p> <p>FEC approved changes to extend prep course completion and application to the Winter quarter. Are also working with local CCs to create prep courses equivalent to EST's accessible prior to transfer. Working with TSC and CCCP to disseminate information on new policies. Discussing increasing student representation of the EDIS FEC committee.</p> <p>Reached out to AISES regarding their letter to CEEDS that calls for more resource access to Native American students. We are in touch about ways we can support to elevate this issue.</p>

#### H. Campus Events Commission

Boffa

- Hi everyone, I will be doing a surplus proposal with Alicia later but I also want to give you some updates on events that we have coming up.
- We have a screening with Mad Max Fury Road tomorrow night in the Mountain Theater and then on Friday we have the TikTok star Devin Halbal coming to speak in Kerckhoff Grand Salon and then next Monday from 12-1pm we are having a DJ playing on vinyls. He is a Brazilian DJ playing on the Kerckhoff patio in promotion of our Synthetica concert on March 7th.
- We have a screening on clue next Tuesday.

#### I. Community Service Commissioner

Flores

- We are going to have a jam-packed quarter in the spring. CSC is hosting a Basic Needs Town hall on March 9th from 6-8pm in Haines Hall Room 39 and we are going to be focused on creating dialogues and try to be a little more action oriented towards building partnerships and coalitions between student groups that address food insecurity and homelessness at UCLA. We are going to have special presentations from swipe-out hunger and Bruin Shelter which are CSC projects that are going to present about their work and how they are

going to partner with them. We are going to be having more robust conversations facilitated by our CSC staff among all of the student groups that attend.

- If you would like to RSVP we will be making a post tomorrow and you can do it through our Instagram.
- We are also doing our IMPACT Conference. IMPACT is the nation's largest civic engagement conference and we are leaving on Thursday to go to Amherst, MA for the conference. The flights, hotels, and logistics have all been planned out and it is going to be an exciting weekend.

J. Cultural Affairs Commissioner Written

Verdugo

K. Facilities Commissioner

Chiu

- The Transportation, Equity, and Access committee has reached out to a lot of you to get feedback on the transit referendum that we are trying to run to get universal transit passes for all UCLA students at a super duper reduced and discounted price. I think they are trying to present it through Council, after surplus allocations.
- Our space committee had their meeting with the assistant vice Chancellors of Facilities Management Kelly Schmater. I really encourage everyone to collaborate with him. We talked about getting a prayer space and working with mSA on that.
- A new project that one of our committee members, Katie, came up with is to have laminated waterproof signs and these CLA bathrooms with just a how-to to a body check for tumors and helping make sure people are checking themselves out before any medical conditions arise.
- We had a meeting with UCLA transportation and the CAE earlier this week and just tried to see more about UCLA safe ride and seeing if we can expand those services and what kind of pilots that we could do.
- We are talking about the disability cultural center which was in line with Eliana's idea for the mentoring thing. We are trying to see if there is still funding available for a project that we have in mind.

L. Financial Supports Commissioner

Broukhim

M. Student Wellness Commissioner Written

Majer

- Commissioner Updates
  - Presenting USAC Surplus Presentations
  - Opportunities to collaborate with other organizations!
    - ResLife
    - Project HOPE
  - Upcoming meeting:
    - VC Gorden
    - Dr. Chaitali Mukherjee
  - Programming Bruin Health Week for Spring Quarter!
    - Commissioner - interfacing with USAC and outside entities
    - COS - coordinating SWC Committees events
  - Semel HCI Steering Committee Meeting
    - Post-strike relations on campus
    - MARC Meditation and presentation
  - Preparing for Gen Meeting Week 9!
    - Asst. Comm. co-presenting this public meeting
    - Open to everyone to update them on SWC plans, and it's catered!
- SWC Updates
  - Logistics - Rooms are being booked!
  - Corporate Relations - Planning on campus events with various studios + sharing student discounts for fitness studios in LA!
  - HLRC Platforms Committee
    - Keynote Speaker:
      - Dr. Chaitali Mukherjee, M.D., M.P.H. Executive Director, Arthur Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center
    - Panelists:
      - Tucker, Harm Reduction LA
      - Dr. Maliha Khan, Internal Medicine, LGBTQ+ Healthcare Fellow

- Dr. Deborah Glik, Professor, Department of Community Health Sciences
- Dr. Mopelola Adeyemo, Clinical Instructor within the Division of Clinical Nutrition
- Call for Abstracts CLOSED Feb 19th, 11:59 pm
- SHN - Hosting a food truck event where each organization in SHN will have a booth, more details to come!
- Internships - New intern cycle is about to begin! Shadowing different committees and SWC E-board members
- PSL - Stop by Kerckhoff 308 and check out [@swc.psl](#) whenever you'd like peer support!
- Staff Development - SWC Potluck held! Movie night in the PSL to come
- SWC Events
  - SWC Platforms - SWC Health Literacy Research Conference (HLRC)
    - Sunday, March 12 from 9:30am - 3:30pm
    - Carnesale Commons
  - SWC - Gen Meeting
    - Date: Week 9 - Tuesday, March 7
    - Time: 5-6pm
    - Location: Bruin Reception Room
  - BN - BruinNecessities Fair Co-Program with ResLife
    - March 2, 2023
    - The Hill
  - DiverSWC - Hosting workshops during SWC Committee meetings (BITF & CPR)
  - CPR- Go to [uclacpr.com](#) to register for reduced CPR classes!
  - EARTH - Documentary screening and study-a-thon in
    - Wednesday, February 22 from 6-7pm
    - Ackerman Union 3516
  - HNF - Collaborative event with CPR
  - Planned Parenthood - Crafting two workshops for HLRC
  - TW - Deco daze
    - Thursday, March 2nd at 7pm
    - Rieber Fireside Lounge

N. Transfer Student Representative

Cobbs

- Divine shared Thyra's report:
- Thyra wants to say special thanks to Juan for allowing her to sit in on the CSC meeting. She said it was very helpful. She finally got access to the TSR email and got Teddy's content information from the TSC.
- She had a meeting with the transfer tribe with TSC and TLC on Friday.
- She is reaching out to Jessica for surplus funds proposals and would specifically like to provide assistance to POC transfer admit weekend as she stated before.

O. International Student Representative

Nath

- I started off this week by meeting Idris who is the director for transport and Res Life and he offered some really great resources for our website and we had a good discussion and making pick up and drop off much easier for international students when they land in the airport so like UCLA sends their buses so there is a lot of scope in that proposal.
- I met with Abby who is working with first year experience and she gave me some more insights on how we can better our website and ideas we can incorporate. She also shared some resources that they had specifically created that we could put into our website.
- I have been working with FAC on their unlimited transport proposal and we will be coming to USAC in a couple weeks to share about that.

P. Administrative Representatives

Luna, Alexander, Moran, Klimoski

- Jessica: "The only main update that I have for Student Government Services is that we have hired and are currently onboarding a couple new student staff who are going to be working in SGS with just general support of student government and USAC so hopefully at some point we can have them attend one of these meetings just to introduce themselves and say hello to you all so that there is a face behind the SCS email."

- Steven: "Hi everyone, two quick items. The alumni quarterly meeting is this Saturday so if you have anything that you would like me to bring up to the board, please feel free to contact me by email or by phone. The second point that I wanted to make. I just wanted to say that I think emotions ran a little high today and I completely understand all of the frustrations. I feel like the meeting was somewhat targeted and at some points unfortunately a little bit condescending and I just kind of want to put this out there that I think we need to consider how to approach this going forward. I don't think this is entirely the board of directors fault. I think there is some room for introspection on behalf of USAC and I would like to challenge the council to kind of think about what can be done differently. I would like to say more specifically that this might be somewhat controversial but these types of decisions I don't really think are necessarily in the purview of USAC and I say that it is because these have broad implications that go beyond USAC. I think one possible room for improvement here is last year a specific conversation should have actually occurred between USAC and the BOD prior to any funding initiatives saying that we are going to withhold funds. That is my personal opinion because these have broad implications. Something to put on the table here is that UCLA took on over 25 million dollars in debt over the last few years because of pandemic related expenses. It is in the best interest of ASUCLA specifically at this point in time to be strong partners with the university and so maybe there was a different way to approach this problem. I completely agree with you that they should be giving full transparency on how these funds are being spent but maybe this wasn't the right approach or there should have been transparency a year ago not just over the past couple months. I think there is room for introspection. I think it is wrong to entirely blame the BOD. I agree that there was some ignorance and the decision was made and voted upon and that might not have been the right action at this point in time but I think it is wrong to blame the BOD entirely."

## **IX. Old Business**

### **A. Article VII, Section C, 13. b. iii.\***

Flores

- Eliana motions to approve the bylaw change on Article VII, Section C, 13, b, iii, Alicia seconds.
- By vote of 12-0-0, the motion passes and the bylaw change is approved.

## **X. New Business**

### **A. Student Wellness Commission: Surplus STI Testing Presentation\***

Majer

- Presented but voting is tabled until next week.
- Free STI Testing at ASHE for Bruins without UCSHIP
  - Steps UCLA students can do to Prevent STIs
  - Prevent, Test, Treat
  - A STI panel now would cost a Bruin upwards of \$300.00 to be screened. Because students should be getting tested once a year and before and after partners, this price should be changed.
- Our Proposal:
  - \$50,000 from surplus funds to sponsor UCLA ASHE center to provide free STI testing to UCLA students without UCSHIP for 5 days
  - WHY:
    - Financial concerns for Bruins without UCSHIP act as barrier to sexual health care access
    - Testing at outside clinic costs extra time
  - How can this help ALL Bruins?
    - Alleviate financial strain and barrier to reproductive healthcare
    - Allow for easy follow-up treatment on campus
    - Promote & destigmatize STI testing by marketing during Sex Week in April

### **B. Student Wellness Commission: Surplus Basic Needs Gift Card Program\***

Majer

- Tabled until next week

C. [Campus Events Commission and Cultural Affairs Commission: Surplus Bruin Bash 2022 Presentation](#)\* Boffa, Verdugo

- Presented but voting is tabled until next week.
- CAC and CEC's Bruin Bash Surplus Proposal:
- Purpose and History:
  - Bruin Bash is the **annual** interactive **concert and festival**
  - The Concert: Good music and cultural enrichment
  - Bruin Bash RecFest: Featured student performances throughout the day, activities, and student vendors
  - **To Have Fun and Meet New People**
  - Fully **student run** (*majority is unpaid work*)
  - *Bruin Bash past artists: Common, T.I., Kendrick Lamar, Childish Gambino, Chance the Rapper, Amine, Charli XCX, and Rico Nasty*
- Bruin Bash Honorarium and Total Costs in Previous Years
  - Total Cost 2021: \$291,124.06
  - Honorarium Cost 2021: **\$80,706.14**
- Implementation:
  - **May - June:** Transitioning into role, delegating Bruin Bash staffers roles
  - Artist Relations
  - Establishing Budget
  - Marketing & Sponsorships
  - Festival (Vendors, Student Performances, Activities, etc)
  - Web Development
  - **June - July:** Event Logistics & Bruin Bash Concert Artist Work
  - Sending offers
  - Ticketing processes
  - Marketing & Sponsorship Work
  - **July - August:** Bruin Bash Concert Artist Work
  - Finalizing Artists
  - Security walkthroughs
  - Event Logistics
  - **September:** Final Details
  - Coordinating Artists
  - DOS details finalized
- **Total amount requested from surplus: \$82,103.71**
- Allocating the Surplus according to a Budget
- Breakdown:
  - We were able to only partially cover the cost of Bruin Bash, EAF, and RecFest altogether with the \$109,502 Bruin Bash Referendum
  - The Rec Event Fund, Security Credits, and sponsorships gave us \$80,230.54 to work with.
  - As a safety net, CAC promised to apply to \$8,000 and CEC promised to apply \$30k from their respective budgets to cover costs. We are aiming to receive an amount from surplus that avoids our having to compromise year long programming in pursuit of maintaining the same level of programming for Bruin Bash
- Honoraria Costs
  - Artists are charging much more, and the demand is way higher
  - PinkPanthress: \$65k
  - Ravyn Lenae: \$20k
- Performances
- Inflation
  - Due to inflation, organizers are seeing disproportionate increases in production costs, talent buyouts, and other numerous facets of the live event sphere, according to several events experts across North America.
  - Our referendum is not tied to inflation

- Sponsorships
  - Time to work on them was limited
  - We were not able to work closely with Mick De Luca and the Sponsorships team at Learfield, so exploring new sponsorships was extremely difficult
  - Received 8k total (after ~29k applied to EAF)

D. [Academic Affairs Commission: Surplus Books for Bruins\\*](#)

Cortez

- Tabled until next week

E. [Statement Regarding the Vote to Release CPO Checks by the ASUCLA Board of Directors](#)

King

**A Statement Calling for the Resignation of the ASUCLA Executive Director**

After years of UCLA Community Programs Office (CPO) mistreatment of students, promotion of a toxic work environment, retaliation against dissent, denial of transparency for student fee spending, and refusals to reshape its leadership in line with Mother Organization and student government (USAC) requests, USAC voted to withhold \$2.7 million in student fees from the CPO in 2021. USAC intended to withhold these funds until the UCLA Administration addressed student needs in good faith.

Last month, the ASUCLA Board of Directors held a secret meeting in Executive Session, voting to disburse the \$2.7 million in withheld funds to the CPO. This occurred without any outreach to the student government council or the student body at-large. The maneuver is an egregious violation of student government authority to conduct oversight of fee spending, and sets a concerning precedent.

In addition, the Executive Director and CEO of ASUCLA, Pouria Abbassi, P.E., oversees ASUCLA administration and serves on the Board of Directors. Student government bylaws dictate that he must serve as a liaison communicating the activity of the Board to USAC. ASUCLA was also informed that the USAC President Carl King Jr., had created a committee focused on working with CPO and the UCLA administration in order to release funds presuming more transparency was given.

CEO Pouria Abbassi, P.E., failed to provide any consultation prior to, or notification following, this critical vote. ASUCLA also failed to provide consistent public access and notification of Board of Directors meetings. For instance, meeting agendas, locations and times, and minutes have not been uploaded to the ASUCLA website since 2021. As a result, he has neglected his responsibilities to the student council, and to the student body at-large.

Furthermore, the SGA office under Pouria's leadership has caused numerous funding delays to the student body resulting in student organization funding problems and massive stress.

The USAC Office of the President is therefore calling for the resignation of Executive Director and CEO Pouria Abbassi, P.E., for failing to keep council updated, allowing a secret meeting with no council insight to be taken and for also overstepping the USAC in the most unprecedented and egregious manner recorded in ASUCLA history regarding student funding.

Link to last year's resolution starting funding freeze:

[A Resolution Outlining Student Response to Administrative Overstepping of Student-Initiated, Student-Run Projects](#)

**Sponsor**

Carl King, USAC President 2022-2023

**Co-Sponsor**

Eliana Sisman, General Representative 3

**XI. Adjournment\***

- Carl adjourns the meeting at 10:08pm.

Good and Welfare;

\* Indicates Action Item

# Indicates Consent Item



@Indicates Executive Session Item