



AGENDA
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL
March 7, 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 7:09pm.

A. Signing of the Attendance Sheet

- Signed via google docs

II. Approval of Agenda*

Le

- Strike TGIF
- Strike Bruin Advocacy Grant Allocations
- Eliana moves to approve the agenda as amended, Kian seconds.
- By vote of 10-0-0, the motion passes and the agenda is approved as amended.

III. Approval of the minutes*

Le

- Vote tabled until next week.

IV. Public Comment

King

- Clara Castronova: "This week we met with 58 different legislative offices which is really really cool. We also met people from UCA and we talked a lot about our current oceans campaign. We also talked about solar energy and looking at the timeline of making school buses 100% electric across the state. This past week we did an event at Bruin Plaza where they had a bruin bear replica made out of environmentally friendly packing materials which is very cool. Thank you for listening."
- Sydney Pike: "Hello, my name is Sydney Pike and I am currently a first year transfer student and one of the co-chairs for the Transfer Leadership Coalition here at UCLA. I just wanted to come here to voice my disappointment in USAC. There is a lack of funding and support allocated to our transfer student representation office. The history of transfer advocacy on this campus has been a long process with the creation of the TSR office only occurring in 2015 through a referendum from former transfer leadership coalition members and it has come to our attention that the TSR was only granted \$17,000 to represent all transfer students who represent roughly 30% of the undergraduate population here at UCLA. This is a disparagingly disproportionate amount of money compared to how large the transfer community is and it is disappointing to see the lack of investment into our transfer community. There are several issues impacting our community here on campus of which our TSR has expressed interest in addressing however nothing can be done or fixed or changed without institutional and financial support from USAC. Transfers also represent a variety of individuals with several intersecting identities including parenting students, undocumented students, commuters, first generation students, and more. The lack of support and investment only makes it more difficult to support these already vulnerable populations and to put it into perspective just little money this really is. The admit weeks for both freshmen and transfer require about \$15,000-\$25,000 just for a single weekend. Meanwhile the entire transfer community only receives \$17,000 to support initiatives that would benefit a whole community of students during their time here at UCLA so I just really want to come here to emphasize that the transfer community is listening and we are telling you that we need your support."
- Ana Bulis: "I am just here on behalf of the Elections Board to notify you guys of a little change in the campaign calendars. We have added the due date for ballot measures and amendments to be filed with is also on the day that the candidate packets are due on March 24th at 11:59pm."

- Ryan Factora: “Hi guys, my name is Ryan Factora. I have talked to you all before representing the Campus Retention Committee but today I am here representing Samahang Filipino which I serve as a board member on. Samahang Filipino is one of the 10 mother organizations of the mother organization coalition that represents the interest of the Filipino American community at UCLA and I am speaking here today to express Samahang Filipino’s unequivocal support for the TSR surplus proposal that will be voted on today. To kind of rehash Samahang Filipino’s goals, our ultimate aim is to foster a thriving Filipino community that fosters self-empowerment while working in solidarity with other marginalized communities to work towards self-determination. We recognize that the transfer community at UCLA faces unique community conditions due to structural contradictions in the university system and as such we wholeheartedly support the TSR Surplus proposal since it will uplift transfer needs and advocacy. Additionally we support this proposal due to the aid that it will provide of our closest sister organizations, the Filipino transfer student Partnership, or PTSP. The TSR Surplus proposal will fund essentially transfer advocacy events that PTSP puts on every year. This is a high yield event that brings transfer students to UCLA and debuts a culturally conscious event that seeks to commemorate the end of the year for Filipino transfer students. In conclusion, Samahang Filipino supports the TSR Surplus Proposal since it works to not only broaden the scope of PTSP’s mission and vision but the work of the transfer community as a whole. We urge you to vote yes on this surplus proposal.”
- Eghosa Ogbuide: “Hi everyone, my name is Eghosa and I am representing on behalf of the Nigerian Student Association. I know we previously came forward in early January just expressing our concerns and about this question of the allocation of the CAC funds and so it has just been a lot of back and forth since February and we were wondering at this point after a lot of discussion with my organization if it is possible to just reallocate the funds that were supposed to be funded for fall quarter to our spring quarter event because that event is in more dire need than this one.”
- Megan Law: “Hello, my name is Megan Law. I am a second year undergraduate student at UCLA and I am moving into the university apartments next year. I don’t have a car and so I just wanted to voice my support for the universal transit pass referendum that somebody will present later on in the meeting. I think it will be very helpful and beneficial for all students here at UCLA and most students wouldn’t even have to pay for an increase in student fees because it is such a small increase so I just wanted to voice my support.”
- Han Na Kim: “Hi everyone, I am a third year transfer student here at UCLA and I just wanted to talk about the transit proposal and how it would benefit me as a commuter. I commute everyday from Pasadena which is not too far away but it is a heavy burden to commute back and forth constantly and the financial burden as well. I currently have the UCLA issued TAP Card however it is \$45 per quarter and that does end up being a big financial burden on somebody like me in my personal expenses so I just wanted to support aht initiative and I believe that it will help greatly for anyone who wants to utilize public transportation.”
- Lawrence Tran: “Hi everyone, my name is Lawrence and I am a second year undergraduate student here at UCLA. I am asking the council to please opt to put the transit referendum on the ballot in the spring. It will be presented later on in the meeting and I just think that this will really be a revolutionary thing for us to do since other UC schools already have similar transit programs and this referendum will be the lowest fee among them. Also just in general for people of UCLA, they are going home every day or once a week or going to work or exploring the city and this will help out all of them. I think this is an issue and a fee that all the students should be able to vote on and have a voice on so I am asking for your support.”
- Lexi Daetz: “Hello everyone, I am a student leader on campus representing the Pediatric AIDS Coalition and I have two inquiries. One of them is regarding the BOD fund. It was due three weeks ago but we have not heard about a hearing. I see other funds on the agenda whose deadlines are more recent but BOD was due three weeks ago so just inquiring about that. My second inquiry I have is about the 2023 USAC budget. They have not been released weekly since the beginning of this year and it is really critical for the financial health of our work to know where we are in terms of budget and I am wondering which office initiates this and if that is something that we can have as a priority.
 - Carl: “I know our BOD representative, Dakota, is not here and I know you were asking about a fund that he was supposed to release that has not been released yet, correct?”
 - Phoebe: “Thank you for bringing this to our attention. We have been aware of the deadline. The Budget Review Committee consists of me, the FSC, and CSC. It is a different group of three people each year but the

budget review director is the one that oversees all of the funding bodies every year but this year we have had some delays from SOLE advisors getting approvals for this information. The spreadsheet is coming together this week for us to review all of the funding proposals so I really apologize about this. If anything, I would recommend checking in with your SOLE advisors and they might know more information about what the delays are in terms of why the proposals are not going through faster because it is something that we have been checking on the past couple of weeks and hopefully we will have an answer by next council meeting.

- Carl: "Regarding your other question, the budget should be posted weekly for all student organizations, it is something that is under SGA but that should have been posted on Monday."
- Fernando: "I would reach out to SGA since right now we do not have a SGA representative present."
- Cora Clementine Murray: "Hello, my name is Cora Murray and I am a second year. I am speaking in support of the Universal transit access pass referendum. Currently I do not have a car and my family lives in Los Angeles and it takes me about \$50 dollars to travel by Uber to their home and I would really love to have the opportunity to lower that investment and reinvest it towards my education."
- Olive Long: "Hello, my name is Olive. I am a fourth year undergraduate student and I am just speaking in support of the universal transit pass referendum. Even though I am going to be graduating by the time that this is implemented, I think it is important because it is a good price for uCLA students and it would help to decrease prices overall and so I am just urging the council to vote Yes to put this on the ballots."
- Evan Curran: "Hi, I am speaking on very similar stuff so I will keep it short. I am here in support of the Universal transit pass. As a commuter myself, I know just how hard it can be to get to UCLA and just how costly it is. I know that the cost of transportation has just been skyrocketing. We have all these fuel increases and so providing as many alternatives as possible is fantastic, not to mention that public transportation is way more green than all the other ways that we are getting around Los Angeles. So I think that for the future of UCLA students, for the future of our environment, for the future of the planet, we need to vote YES on the universal transit pass. It is a ridiculously low price and it is just a no-brainer."
- Samone Anderson: "Hey you all, I just wanted to say that I am just personally extremely disappointed in the amount of anti-blackness that I saw exhibited here at last week's council meeting. It is extremely hurtful to see that Carl put forward a proposal for Mardi Gras and you know Thyra clearly was not given any money for her office. She is Carl's appointment and it just hurts to see that the president had to take money out of his budget to give to Thyra. Everybody else you could put some money in that pot too. Thyra is asking for money for commuter students. She is asking for money for all of the mother organizations and transfer yield programs that are severely underfunded. She is asking for money to go to the transfer center since EARN failed last year. I am not sure why the mother organizations were not contacted to put up proposals this year. We know the BBRC is still underfunded. We know these committees still need more money. We need access and retention resources since EARN didn't pass. I mean it is just extremely hurtful to see our student fees going to Bruin Bash, we are asking for things to go to cover honorarium costs to go to Jazz Reggae to go to all of these other things that truthfully have already been funded. A lot of these offices have budgets. I mean I am sure people feel like there are a lot of reasons as to why they need more money but we are talking about marginalized people on this campus that truly need resources. I mean other than you know Carl and Thyra's proposals along with Eliana's for DSU. I mean who else is asking for something that is not for themselves and that is not for their office that is doing a selfless ask. I don't think you guys understand that Mardi Gras was an annual program that used to be funded just like Bruin Bash and you know about 20 years ago the money went to unicamp. Do you know every year there are barely any black people that work for unicamp and every year there are reports about counselors sitting here using the insular and racial slurs in front of the free black students and youth that are admitted into the unicamp.. This is unfortunate and just like Bruin Bash and Jazz Reggae and everything else, we deserve to have this annual Mardi Gras program restored. This is something big that Carl is bringing forward and something that has not been restored by a USAC president and those fees truly are going to unicamp and you guys don't know much more about how those fees are being used just like you don't know what CPO is doing with any of our money and I really think we need to look into the deep of our hearts and dig a little deeper and I think some people can take some other cuts when this revote goes up and I really think you all need to find it in your hearts to give up some money for Thyra's and Carl's proposals to help all of these other marginalized populations in the student body right now because as far as I am concerned anybody that doesn't is really selfish and it is really revealing how complicit and enabling you are to the anti-blackness,

to be anti-transfer, anti-foster youth and all of these other sensitive populations that we truly need to cater to. This is the largest surplus you all have had in over five years and I think you can do a whole lot more with it. I mean I am looking at the CAC and CEC and there are like 12-13 proposals on here just for the two of these commissioner offices. I mean quite frankly it is really ridiculous so I am really hoping that you all can make this right tonight. I think there is plenty of money on the table for everybody to walk out of here with some. But \$150,000 going to this Lyft share ride thing and just all of these other things, it really just doesn't sit right."

- Carlie Haug: "Hello I am Carly, I am a first year transfer and I just wanted to echo what Simone said. We are all extremely disappointed to see the lack of investment in transfer students. The reason that UCLA is so powerful and considered transfer friendly is because of how UCLA presents itself and this amount that was given to our transfer student representative was a slap in the face to all the students who worked really hard to be here and if you are going to say you are transfer friendly instruction then you need to step up to the plate and if you don't want transfer students here just say that you know we saw how you know minority and culturally important initiatives were now taken away because our transfer students needed it because no one else was interested in providing funding and that is not okay. We very much want to see the transfer student representative get the proper funding that she deserved because transfer students are 30% of the population and we are what makes UCLA great."
- Cisco Martinez: "Hello everyone, my name is Cisco Martinez. I am a first year transfer from Sacramento City College. I will be commenting about providing more funding for transfer programs and students so thank you all for being here. I would like to start off by saying that transfer students represent some of the best students enrolled in higher education. Transfers are some of the best examples of what is possible when given the opportunity. We take pride in our work and understand that we can make a difference in increasing the success of all students here at UCLA. I believe some of us here today are asking is that we demonstrate the need to develop stronger partnerships to support welcome and transition transfer students into UCLA in order for them to excel and graduate. In the words of Alfred Herrare, UCLA does not need more applicants, we need a different kind of applicant. We must understand the importance of the delivery of these students, the diversity of these students and we must begin to understand the crucial place transfer students occupy in our universities. Thank you."
- Branden Bohrsen: "Thank you for letting me speak. I wanted to first touch on the transfer student representative situation. I just wanted to voice my concern that the website is down and that the only website that I was able to find was last updated in 2017. I am sure you already know but I wanted to echo the support for increased funding for the transfer student representative office. I think that that is a great cause. Secondly, I wanted to quickly speak on the transit post. I am an undergraduate researcher. I have been looking at transportation policy for the past six months or so. University free fair public transportation is a really great policy but I wanted to speak on some caution before the vote happens. The funding proposed for this proposal would not cover a little over a half from the predicted cost of a program this size. I am basing these numbers off the Bruin Go program that took place in 2000 that I saw you all mentioned on the PowerPoint. I just wanted to voice my concern that safer funding options may be presented before the vote or at least before the students vote on the referendum. It would be worth doing this because as well see now, the Bruin Go program takes the form of a copay and that happened because we couldn't agree on a way to keep the Bruin and Go program funded after 2000 so I would hate to see a program with this much potential go to waste because we don't have a stable funding scheme."
- JeiRonemo Thomas: "Hello my name is JeiRonemo Thomas and I am a fourth year and I am here representing the Afrikan Student Union and today I wanted to speak on the TSR and Mardi Gras points. First with TSR, I want to fully stress my disappointment and I urge you all to consider increasing funding for TSR and being selfless because as we understand that transfer initiatives transfer programs are completely necessary. This population is the most vulnerable and they contribute so much to this campus and it is important to make sure especially in a position that is so young that we are continuing to uplift funding for it so that we can breathe the potential of this office in the best way that we can in the transfer center. Secondly to the point of Mardi Gras, I highly want to stress to everyone that we need this Mardi Gras event. It is not only tradition but it is community. When you look at historically that Mardi Gras programming has done for the community it has connected us to the greater South Central Community and what I want to urge to everyone that yes we have to do Jazz Reggae and yes we have to do Bruin Bash but to be completely frank these are spaces that have been co-opted black culture and fame connection that really is not there and what I want to affirm is that having something like this and especially coming from somebody who is from the south, trying to

reinvigorate this program, I find it that we should advocate for it because this is an opportunity for us to establish pride because it is pride explicitly in black culture and building community amongst the greater Los Angeles community and go from there and so I understand that this is something that people haven't heard of in the past but I want you to consider it because it is much more than simple programming. This is a way to inspire the community and bring them to campus and establish pride in a very niche part of black American culture and so again I express my confidence that we will find something to work out these things.”

- Lucas Guazelli: “Hi, I am Lucas and I am a second year undergraduate student. I wanted to voice my opposition to the recent approval of providing New York Times for students because we already have access to articles from the New York Times that are available through the library and I am just curious as to why money is being spent for a duplicate service when it could be better spent for a program that we don’t already have access to. I also wanted to voice my support for the Universal Transit Access Pass Referendum. I use public transport to get around LA and this would really help me reduce my cost as a student.”
- Rebecca Suen: “Hello, I am Rebecca and I am a second year transfer student and I am the chairperson for the Filipino Transfer Student Partnership also known as PTSP and I wanted to comment on the transfer student representative surplus proposal and also just funding for transfer students in general because I agree with a lot of what the other transfer students have been saying alongside with Ryan and Simone that USAC has not given transfer students enough money to really operate and to have all of our programs and outreach to students as we would like. Specifically speaking from the PTSP, which is an organization under the Transfer Leadership Coalition and under the cultural space which is another underrepresented community at UCLA, I think not having enough funding just impacts out club’s capacity to really hold events and also to give back to the community and really have that safe space that we desire to create for transfer. The lack of funding has affected our events and so that is complicated and affected our planning for this year’s event debut which is our end of the year celebration for transfer students and we would also use this funding to incentivize members to attend general meetings and events that discuss the transfer timeline and the community conditions that transfer students face. When I was a first year transfer that inspired me to not take organizations like PTSP in the Transfer Leadership Coalition for granted and to continue the work in advocating for transfer students so while I am glad that there is a transfer student representation proposal being made, I am just not sure if that would be enough because out of the \$700,000 budget, I think a bit more could be allocated to transfer students because as others have said we make up over 30% of the population at UCLA and I feel like those students deserve to have the same opportunities and also that funding can help make things more equitable.”

Public comment closed at 7:45pm.

V. Funding

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| <p>A. <u>Capital Contingency*</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requested: \$40,85 - Recommended: \$40.85 for 1 USAC entity - Naomi moves to approve \$40.85 to 1 USAC entity, Eliana seconds. - By vote of 10-0-0, the motion passes and Capital Contingency is approved for this week. | <p>Prentice</p> |
| <p>A. <u>Contingency Programming*</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Requested: \$33,989.37 - Recommended: \$18,007.34 for 21 non-USAC entities and 2 USAC entities - Divine moves to approve \$18,007.34 for 21 non-USAC entities and 2 USAC entities, Kian seconds. - By vote of 10-0-0, the motion passes and Contingency Programming is approved for this week. | <p>Prentice</p> |
| <p>B. <u>SFS Allocations#</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allocation: \$2,440.42 to 3 non-CSC organizations - No opposition passes as a consent item. | <p>Flores</p> |
| <p>C. <u>SWC Programming Fund Allocations#</u></p> | <p>Majer</p> |

- Allocation: \$500 for 1 non-USAC entity
- No opposition passes as a consent item.

D. <u>Bruin Advocacy Grant Allocations#</u>	Johnson
E. <u>ASRF Allocations#</u>	Cortez
F. <u>AAC Travel Mini-Grant Allocations#</u>	Cortez
G. <u>ARC Allocations#</u>	Verdugo
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Allocation: \$16,602.89 to 9 non-USAC entities - No opposition passes as a consent item. 	
H. <u>TGIF#</u>	Chiu

VI. Special Presentations

A. <u>Undergraduate Transit Pass Presentation</u>	Van								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Universal Access Transit Pass For Undergraduates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outline of Presentation: - How the Proposed Pass Works - Benefits - Case Studies - Conclusion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How it works: - Pay a small fee (\$2.50/quarter) - Get a free transit pass for ALL Transit Agencies serving UCLA - About 55% of undergraduates would have the fee covered by financial aid! - Local Transit -&- Commuter Buses <table> <tr> <td>a) Big Blue Bus</td><td>e) LADOT Commuter Express</td></tr> <tr> <td>b) LA Metro bus and rail</td><td>f) Antelope Valley Transit</td></tr> <tr> <td>c) Culver CityBus</td><td>g) Long Beach Transit</td></tr> <tr> <td>d) Metro Micro vans</td><td>h) Santa Clarita Transit</td></tr> </table> - Benefits - Equity – Why Transit is Important <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Median income of LA Metro bus riders is \$15,000, 72% of riders from communities of color - Less than a quarter of riders have access to personal vehicles - Transit provides travel options to campus and access to the city - Our proposal would increase transportation equity and access - Equity - Commuter Students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transportation costs should never prevent someone from attending UCLA - Connect UCLA with cheaper housing in West LA and beyond - Most important for commuter students without cars (\$\$\$) - Urban Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transit is space efficient, can scale-up easily 		a) Big Blue Bus	e) LADOT Commuter Express	b) LA Metro bus and rail	f) Antelope Valley Transit	c) Culver CityBus	g) Long Beach Transit	d) Metro Micro vans	h) Santa Clarita Transit
a) Big Blue Bus	e) LADOT Commuter Express								
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c) Culver CityBus	g) Long Beach Transit								
d) Metro Micro vans	h) Santa Clarita Transit								
More transit riders means:									
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less parking is needed 									

- Potential for improved transit service
 - **Environmental Sustainability**
 - Encourages transit use instead of driving
 - More riders per bus (make use of some spare capacity)
 - Case Studies
 - **BruinGo Program, 2000-2001:**
 - **Fare-free Big Blue Buses**
 - 40% increase in transit ridership
 - 1.4 million trips 2000-2001
 - 2 million trips 2002-2003
 - Similar decrease in driving to campus (- 9 percentage points)
- Ridership dropped substantially after UCLA moved to a partial subsidy
 - 1.4 million trips 2004-2005
 - **Graduate Student Transit Pass**
 - Started in Fall 2020; \$25 per quarter student fee
 - Includes same seven agencies as our proposal
 - Far exceed initial usage goal: 6,200 vs 3,000
 - Gained popularity after passage
 - **Transit Passes at Other Universities**
 - Nationally, transit ridership increased on average 7.6% after implementation
 - Passes often spur service improvements
 - All LA County Community colleges have free transit passes
 - All other UCs (except Irvine) have free transit passes
 - Conclusion:
 - People will use transit, especially free transit!

If passed, our proposal will:

- Increase the opportunities accessible to students without cars
- Reduce costs for commuting and travel
- Decrease transportation emissions

VII. Appointments

VIII. Officer Reports

A. President

King

- My office began working on distributing the money that we got from surplus. In regards to our proposals for CAPS and the abortion pill, I want to reiterate for students who don't have UC Ship, we are giving CPAS money so that students without UC ship can go and get extra free sessions. This is the same for students who do have UC Ship. They can go and get abortion pills and receive the care that they need.
- One of my directors was able to work with Vice Chancellor Beck who was able to extend the hours and days of Safe Ride currently. Safe Ride is UCLA's ride share program and we were able to get them to extend that for free so no student fees.
- My director of sustainability is planning and finalizing the details of her sustainability week so she will be reaching out to other offices for that.
- She is also working with Sara in regards to the new bylaw change about the committee that she created.

B. Internal Vice President

Le

- This week we held our quarterly CSA meeting. It went really well and the information shared by administration was really helpful to my directors and I and hopefully it was helpful for other students who were there as well.
- Thank you to Daniela and Carl for attending as well and representing your offices because I think that really helps the meeting.
- We are working on releasing minutes from those meetings as a resource for students.
- We are working on the IVP Housing Relief Fund. We just reached out to the CRT to discuss the application process. I also emailed Jessica about the application and stuff so that we can work on collecting students' information.
- We are also working on our IVP Partnership fund and working guidelines for different events.

C. External Vice President

Johnson

- The Student Lobby Conference is this weekend and my amazing state director, David, has been doing really amazing about planning everything and the legislation that we will be lobbying on finalized and transportation as well.
- I am planning on going to DC to speak on different panels in regards to higher education.

D. General Representative 1

Kohanteb

- This past week I have been meeting with the administration to talk about my safe ride program. I have met with a lot of different council members and heard their opinions and see what they would do to adjust my proposal.
- I am excited to voice my opinions and the program later on today.

E. General Representative 2 Written

Hammonds

- Posted our 3rd Bruin resource highlighting UCLA Basic Needs
 - Previous resource was the Computer Center in SAC and UCLA Career Center
- Planning a collaboration with Afrikan Student Union
- Posting Meet the Staff post tomorrow
- Met with directors and general staff to discuss next steps for Spring quarter
- Talking with other elected members about surplus initiatives
- Advocated for a Management Professor, ("Coach") Weinhaus in effort to keep his job and teach courses in Spring quarter.
- Met with Calping to discuss upcoming resolution

F. General Representative 3

Sisman

G. Academic Affairs Commissioner

Cortez

Internal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting finance with requisitions for ASRF and TGMF
Platforms + Committees	<p>Retention First</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on a resource to deliver students with information on the Affordable Connectivity Program, which assists with wifi payments. • Initiated 2nd PO for B4B <p>Community Liaisons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on Winter newsletter • Helping Senate connect with the MOs <p>Access and Equity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working on a survival guide for prospective students to assist them with college prep <p>In-N-Out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Alumni Association to discuss Alumni panel and mixer collaboration for PGV week
Academic Senate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief of Senate is working continuously with CAE and Seppy to discuss accommodations and compliance • Prepared for UgC meeting this upcoming Friday
External	Met with HSI Initiative leaders on Retention and Belonging to discuss the

	<p>naming of the Latinx Resource Center and location. Also brought up wanting to ensure that this center creates space for student organizations to be housed</p> <p>Met with Gen Rep 3 to discuss resources for peer mentoring programs (for example shared details about ASRF). Also discussed UCOD Action Group and the initiative to further develop anti-ableism training with UCOD.</p> <p>Met with CRC chair, SIOC chair, and SIOC vice to discuss stipends under SFAC. Communicated with SGS to get more information about SFAC and shared this with CRC/SIOC to plan an approach.</p> <p>Met with Roy to discuss CPO's funding transparency and other student concerns with the entity.</p> <p>Prepared for and attended Pilipino Recruitment and Enrichment Program's Day in the Life event for prospective students from marginalized backgrounds. Assisted as a panelist.</p> <p>Attended the Campus Safety Alliance meeting where we discussed with campus stakeholders. Students' concerns about safety issues at UCLA</p>
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- H. Campus Events Commission Boffa
- I. Community Service Commissioner Flores
- Tomorrow we are having our Basic Needs Town Hall in which we are partnering with Bruin Shelter to talk about food insecurity and housing insecurity and specifically what role does an organization have to play in addressing these issues in partnership with each other.
 - Our intention with this town hall is to start building solidarity and coalition among different student groups. Our current dynamic of approaching community service and addressing these long-term issues is fractured and separated and we are all working in silence and what the community service commission is attempting to do is bring everyone together to the safe space to talk about solutions and practice sharing resources among each other.
 - I also would suggest that every council office has a role to play in these issues so I urge you to send a representative to talk about this. The main topic of discussion is going to be about how we support and empower student organizations and address systemic issues. We will focus on funding and resource sharing and building partnerships with everyone.
- J. Cultural Affairs Commissioner Written Verdugo
- K. Facilities Commissioner Chiu
- Directors from my office have been working on the Transit Pass Presentation that they just presented. It will also be presented at the Campus Bike Advisory committee about the Westwood connected platform that is also shared by the EVP. Hopefully we will introduce a resolution to the council about that soon.
 - We are scheduling a follow-up with the Assistant Vice Chancellor of Facilities Management for the YRL Space Activation. We are also still doing the accessible restroom inventory for the Metamap project. We are still coming up with visual designs for different labels on whether or not it is ethically sourced or sustainable in terms of labor and contracts so people can be more conscious consumers.
 - We are putting on a student vendor fair next quarter. Right now we have about 10 vendors but we are trying to get up to about 30 so it can be a huge event that we can do for years and years to come.
 - Our sustainable committee is still waiting to hear back on when exactly the reusable dining ware program is going to launch in Rende during Fall Quarter.
- L. Financial Supports Commissioner Broukhim
- Proxy: "I have a pre-written statement for her. In the FSC office, we have been working on moving forward with the New York Times deal. To clarify based on a public comment earlier, the library does not offer or provide a full subscription. It provides archive access to New York Times and so our deal was that for one dollar per student we are giving active subscriptions to the students which is about a 50th of the cost of the original subscription. We also started planning our returns for the iclickers and lab coats and goggles. We are working on publishing transparency reports on our Instagram. We have met with a representative from ASUCLA to host a financial fair next fall and hopefully all goes well."

M. Student Wellness Commissioner Written

Majer

N. Transfer Student Representative

Cobbs

- I have been busy working on my presentation for the Surplus Proposal and meeting with different mother organizations to see what kind of financial needs that they have. I also met with the TSC and the Transfer Leadership Coalition. I have been working on a collaboration effort between the black transfer organization and MEChA which focuses on the black and brown banquet in the spring. It will be the first black transfer week in the spring and we are going to collaborate with the Filipino Transfer Student Partnership for a collaboration for that event.
- I have a meeting with one of the PTSP representatives this Friday.
- The TSR staff applications are coming in so I am going to have a staff soon which I am so happy about because I have been doing everything for my office by myself and that is not easy. I am going to start interviewing people and fill all of the positions on my board soon.
- The Stomp Conference is this Saturday from 8:30am to 3pm which is a conference that centers around the UCLA transfer Bruin community and it is primarily for prospective transfers so it is really important that I am there. I reached out to the Stomp directors and let them know that I wanted representation of black transfers and so I will be there sitting on a panel and I will be doing a workshop on the black transfer experience from 2-3pm.
- I met with Jessica yesterday to look over my surplus proposals but to also talk about writing a referendum and a resolution centered around increasing support for transfer students particularly with USAC but also the general UCLA Community. There have not been resolutions written about transfer students and the kind of support that we are getting right now reflects that.
- Not only do I want to write a resolution to increase USAC and UCLA's support, I also want to write one centered around Black Bruins. UCLA has a terrible culture of anti-blackness and I think that we need to address that and openly acknowledge that USAC plays a part in that.
- I am working with the transfer student center to host a black transfer grad checklist event in Week 1 of spring quarter. Oftentimes when transfers are graduating it is really easy to miss a deadline or miss a requirement so I am going to have this even to help out with that.
- I need to follow up on housing accommodations for all the POC transfer weekend because they are really confusing and they keep saying that we can have overnight and then they say no and then they say yes so I am confused. I personally think that overnight accommodations are pivotal for the transfer experiences because we are going to be here for two years and that is a short time to spend at a place that doesn't give you the adequate amount of support that you would need so I think overnight accommodations will allow people to gauge if UCLA is the environment that they want to be in.
- The transfer experience at Holly is having a telescope viewing at the astronomy building so I will be at that trying to meet more transfers and seeing what people are talking about in terms of the transfer experience. I have been working with Eliana on various initiatives so thank you for that.

O. International Student Representative

Nath

- This week in my office, I met with someone from the Career Center and we are working on organizing a three-day career fair next quarter basically under three separate sectors which is health, business, and engineering. Those are the three most popular majors for international students and we are trying to plan a bigger event so we are going to call in employers and also have student panelists give their perspective and also call on specific clubs on campus to cater to international students.
- This coming Thursday is when we get our green light signal to go ahead and if it doesn't I will come back to council and hopefully get it to pass. In the coming weeks I will keep reaching out to you all to promote this event so that we can get a good turnout.
- I met with the Armenian Student union and we are funding one of their events in terms of their venue and food and then I also met with someone from the Israeli Student union. They are hosting an event in partnership with Anderson at the Hillel building.
- My office has been budgeting for the rest of the quarter because we have a lot of events that now need funding.
- I met with CALPIRG to work on their oceans resolution which is asking for protection of the oceans and demanding action from the state. I am also working with CALPIRG on my initiative which is to organize a cleanup drive on Sage Hill so you will see that coming up in our social media.

P. Administrative Representatives

Luna, Alexander, Moran, Klimoski

- Jessica: “ Our office has been working on a couple different things and we will be reaching out if you haven’t heard from us already to get some feedback from you on the things I was just talking about with the upcoming training and transition for newly selected council members so we are trying to streamline the process of having the transition peppers that we provide and making additional templates available for event specific or program specific or things like budgeting. If you have internal office transition documents that have either been passed down to you or you have created them this year please share them with our office. You can email them to SGS at sgs.ucla.edu just so that we can retain and maintain copies in case we lose them. The other thing is that we have been really overhauling and redesigning our contracts and agreements process so we will have more information on that shortly. We are always looking for feedback so if you have something to say in that area please reach out. We have a new support manager who will be starting on the 20th of March in a couple of weeks so we will have another person to support you all. He will be coming to the USAC meetings and he is very familiar with the space. He is a former community service commissioner and we are looking ro onboarding him and connecting you all. Thank you.”

IX. Old Business

A. TSR Surplus Proposal

Cobbs

- **USAC Office of the Transfer Student Representative Surplus Proposal**
 - “The USAC Transfer Student Representative Office addresses the collective needs of all UCLA transfer students. The representative functions as a facilitator of resources, providing advocacy and support for this group’s unique needs. They are also responsible for bringing transfer students’ concerns to the administration and the USAC council.”
- **UCLA Transfer Student Profile**
 - 36% of Incoming UCLA Undergraduates
 - Currently 7,768 transfers ar UCLA, 30% of bruin population
 - 43% are First-Generation College Students
 - 93% transfer from a CCC
 - Lowest Ethnic Percentages are American Indian (1%) and African American (6%) Transfers
- **Who does the TSR Represent?**
 - Formerly Incarcerated Transfers
 - Latinx Transfers
 - Norcal Transfers
 - Transfer in Recovery
 - CC Transfers
 - Returning Transfers
 - API Transfers
 - First-Generation Transfers
 - Parenting Transfers
 - System-Impacted Transfers
 - Commuter Transfers
 - Out-Of-State Transfers
 - Veteran Transfers
 - Undocumented Transfers
 - 4-year to 4-year transfers
 - Black Transfers
 - Independent Transfers
 - Former Foster Youth Transfers
 - International Transfers
- **USAC TSR Surplus Proposal**
 - USAC TSR Thyra Cobbs is requesting \$100,000 in USAC Surplus Funds to adequately support UCLA Transfer Student Community.
 - TSR Transfer Mingle:

- Saturday, May 13th, 2023, 3-5pm
- \$15,000 in funds for a Welcome Event after Bruin Day for All Prospective Transfers
- HUGE Success last year!
- Funds will be used for space reservation (Kerckhoff Patio), UCLA Giveaways, Table and Linen Rentals, Light Refreshments, etc.
- Transfer Student Survey:
 - \$5,000
 - Campus Climate survey to learn more about the transfer Bruin experience. Survey results are pivotal for the TSC, TSR office, and general UCLA administration
- TSR Transfer Unity Week:
 - USAC TSR Thyra Cobbs would like to promote cross-cultural unity among the Transfer Bruin community! This event will occur during Spring Quarter.
- MO Transfer Yield Programming:
 - \$10,000 for each organization
 - This fund allocation includes marginalized transfer populations including parenting, commuter, and foster youth.
 - Programming will work to serve prospective transfers, current transfers, and transfer alumni.
- ASU and UMJOA: Black Transfers
 - \$10,000 for Black Bruin Transfer Extravaganza (BBTE)
 - First Black Transfer Week
 - Umjoa X Caps/RISE Pan African Destress
 - Umjoa Career and Networking Night with BBSA
- MECHA: Latinx Transfers
 - \$10,000 for Latinx transfer Day
 - Semena de Los Transfers (Latinx Transfer Week)
 - Support for Latinx in STEM
 - Nuestra Familia de Transfer Banquet
- VSU and SEA CLEAR: Viet Transfers
 - SEA Clear Career Alumni Conference
 - VSU Transfer Admit Weekend: SEATED
 - SEA Clear PostGrad Career Planning Workshop
- PISA: Pacific Islander Transfers
 - \$10,000
 - Islanders Maintaining Unity And Access Conference
 - Beach Day with PI transfers
 - INSPIRE Program initiatives
 - PISA transfer Admit Weekend
- AISA Native Transfers
 - \$10,000
 - AIR Program: American Indian Transfer Recruitment
 - AISES: Support for Native Transfers in STEM
 - AISA Transfer Admit Weekend
- PTSP: Filipino Transfers
 - \$10,000
 - SEND: Filipino Transfer Student Admit Weekend
 - PTSP X UMJOA Spring Collaboration
 - Kapataid Transfers Mentorship Program
 - Transfer Appreciation w/ Samahang Filipino
- Commuter, Parenting, and Foster Youth Transfers
 - \$10,000
 - "Scholarship Fund" for these transfer who have financial needs

- Commuter Transfers: Transportation Costs
- Parenting Transfers: Childcare Funds
- Foster Youth Transfer: Food, Transportation, etc.
- Vote tabled until discussion about Gen Rep Surplus Proposal Veto

X. New Business

- A. [A Resolution in Solidarity with the Armenians of Artsakh, and Demanding that UCLA Stand with Armenian Students and Denounce Armenophobia*](#) Le, Nath

A Resolution in Solidarity with the Armenians of Artsakh, and Demanding that UCLA Stand with Armenian Students and Denounce Armenophobia

Sponsor:

My-Lan Le, Internal Vice President

Co-Sponsors:

Hansika Nath, International Student Representative

Eliana Sisman, General Representative 3

Alicia Verdugo, Cultural Affairs Commissioner

WHEREAS on December 12, 2022, the Azerbaijani autocratic regime initiated a blockade of the Berdzor (Lachin) Corridor;¹ and

WHEREAS the Lachin Corridor represents the only source of vital humanitarian supplies, including food and medicine, to the people of the ethnically Armenian enclave of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh); and

WHEREAS for over **80 days** and counting, Artsakh has been cut off from the outside world, unable to obtain food, fuel, medicine, and other vital supplies; and

WHEREAS gas and electricity running through Azerbaijani-occupied areas have intermittently been shut off, leaving 120,000 civilians without heat in near subzero temperatures;² and

WHEREAS Azerbaijan has also consistently disrupted internet access throughout the region, leaving school children unable to access educational resources, and further isolating civilians from the rest of the world;³ and

WHEREAS the blockade has had deadly consequences, including the death of a patient in critical condition who could not be transported for urgent, life-saving treatment;⁴ and

WHEREAS a humanitarian catastrophe is underway, with countless civilians under intensive care unable to receive necessary treatment outside of Artsakh, where medical supplies are critically low; and

WHEREAS on February 22, 2023 the International Court of Justice, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, ordered Azerbaijan to “take all measures at its disposal to ensure unimpeded movement of persons, vehicles and cargo along the Lachin Corridor in both directions;”⁵ and

¹ [Roadblock cuts off food, fuel and medicine for thousands | openDemocracy](#)

² [Gas Supply To Karabakh ‘Also Blocked By Azerbaijan’ \(azatutyun.am\)](#)

³ [Internet Service Severed in Artsakh; Stepanakert Accuses Baku \(hetq.am\)](#); [Hidden Road Initiative \(@hiddenroadinitiative\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

⁴ [Supplies Dwindle as Karabakh Siege Continues | Institute for War and Peace Reporting \(iwpr.net\)](#)

⁵ [Application of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination \(Armenia v. Azerbaijan\), Order on Provisional Measures \(Feb. 22, 2023\).](#)

WHEREAS impeding the passage of medical and relief supplies intended for a civilian population constitutes a flagrant violation of the Article 23 of the Fourth Geneva Convention and Article 54(2) of Additional Protocol I to the Geneva Conventions; and

WHEREAS intentionally using starvation of civilians as a method of warfare by depriving them of objects indispensable to their survival, including wilfully impeding relief supplies constitutes a war crime under Article 8(2)(b)(xxv) of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court; and

WHEREAS on February 1, 2023, the the International Association of Genocide Scholars Executive Board released a statement in which “strongly condemns Azerbaijan’s blockade of Artsakh (Nagorno-Karabakh) and the ongoing aggression against the indigenous Armenian population of the region and warns of the risk of genocide against the Armenian population of that entity;”⁶ and

WHEREAS the Lemkin Institute for Genocide Prevention and the Center for Truth and Justice have joined countless genocide scholars and human rights organizations in denouncing the genocidal blockade and raising awareness about the ethnic cleansing campaign underway;⁷ and

WHEREAS Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International have documented the dire humanitarian costs of the ongoing situation and called on Azerbaijan to immediately lift the blockade;⁸ and

WHEREAS Azerbaijan routinely uses military action against Armenians throughout the region, egregiously violating fundamental principles of international law enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, engaging in acts of torture, persecution, cultural erasure, and dehumanization of indigenous populations, constituting crimes against humanity;⁹ and

WHEREAS in September of 2021, Azerbaijan brazenly attacked Armenia, intensively shelling homes in major population centers well into sovereign territory, executing Armenian prisoners of war on Armenian soil, and precipitating an ecological disaster by starting forest fires and targeting reservoirs;¹⁰ and

WHEREAS on October 24, 2022, the International Association of Genocide Scholars Executive Board released a statement which “strongly condemns Azerbaijan’s invasion of the Republic of Armenia and the ongoing aggression against the Armenian people in the Republic and in Artsakh (Nagorno Karabakh) and expresses concern about the risk of genocide against the Armenian population of that entity”;¹¹ and

WHEREAS the dictator of Azerbaijan, Ilham Aliyev, has frequently made statements dehumanizing and vilifying Armenians, making his genocidal intentions abundantly clear;¹² and

⁶ [International Association of Genocide Scholars Executive and Advisory Boards: Statement Condemning the Azerbaijani Blockade of the Artsakh \(Nagorno-Karabakh\)](#).

⁷ [Red Flag Alert for Genocide - Azerbaijan Update 4 \(lemkininstitute.com\)](#); [Azerbaijan’s Blockade of 120,000 Armenians of Nagorno-Karabakh and its Humanitarian Crisis \(cftjustice.org\)](#).

⁸ [Hardship in Nagorno-Karabakh as Lifeline Road Remains Blocked | Human Rights Watch](#); [Azerbaijan: Blockade of Lachin corridor putting thousands of lives in peril must be immediately lifted | Amnesty International](#).

⁹ [Monumental loss: Azerbaijan and 'the worst cultural genocide of the 21st century' | Art and design | The Guardian](#); [Video Shows Azerbaijan Forces Executing Armenian POWs | Human Rights Watch \(hrw.org\)](#); [Azerbaijan's 'Ethnic Hatred' Theme Park Draws Ire, Imperils Reconciliation \(rferl.org\)](#).

¹⁰ [Explainer | What happened in Armenia and Azerbaijan on 13–14 September? \(oc-media.org\)](#); [Fire breaks out in forests of Armenia’s Jermuk as a result of Azerbaijani shooting \(iravaban.net\)](#); [At least 7 identified PoWs captured by Azerbaijan in flagrant violation of Geneva Conventions | ARMENPRESS Armenian News Agency](#)

¹¹ [International Association of Genocide Scholars Executive Board, Statement on Azerbaijani Aggression Against the Republic of Armenia and the Indigenous Armenians of the South Caucasus](#).

¹² [Ilham Aliyev on Twitter: "Armenia is not even a colony, it is not even worthy of being a servant." / Twitter](#); [Listen to the Words of Dictators, Don’t Say We Didn’t Tell You - EVN Report](#)

WHEREAS Armenians have historically been subjected to pogroms, ethnic cleansing, and genocide at the hands of Azerbaijan and its close ally Turkey;¹³ and

WHEREAS Azerbaijan's pattern of aggression and contempt for human rights has been denounced by high-ranking US and world officials, including former Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and countless members of Congress and political leaders; and

WHEREAS local and national leaders worldwide have called on Azerbaijan to end the blockade and halt the "unfolding humanitarian catastrophe";¹⁴ and

WHEREAS democracy and human rights worldwide are at grave risk, as imperialist authoritarian states like Azerbaijan have routinely subjected innocent civilians to aggression, isolation, and oppression;¹⁵ and

WHEREAS American universities have long been centers of discourse which uphold and strengthen the ideals of democracy, self-determination, and human rights; and

WHEREAS UCLA, as an institution, purports to stand for the "betterment of our global society," "freedom from intolerance," equity, and diversity;¹⁶ and

WHEREAS Armenian students are an integral part of the UCLA community, whose voices have long been ignored and marginalized; and

WHEREAS Armenians in Los Angeles have been a constant target of hate speech and hate crimes, including a recent incident in which an Armenian solidarity march location was scattered with flyers threatening to "wipe Armenia off the map";¹⁷ and

WHEREAS Armenian Bruins have been the target of Armenophobic intimidation campaigns aimed at terrorizing and victimizing the community, which have led to official inquiries by the UCLA Administration (which unfortunately have not led to any concrete steps aimed at protecting the community from further harassment and prejudice).

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Student Association Council stands in solidarity with the Armenian community at UCLA and abroad in denouncing Armenophobia in all its forms, and affirms that the fight for human rights must continue; and

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Student Association Council strongly condemns discrimination on the basis of ethnic identity, and any and all attempts at ethnic cleansing and military aggression; and

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Student Association Council urges the UCLA Administration to expeditiously offer additional CAPS counseling services for Armenian students in light of this unfolding crisis; and

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Student Association Council urges the UCLA Administration to take concrete steps to prevent Armenophobic incidents on and outside campus, including holding town halls addressing the issue and educating the student body about anti-Armenian rhetoric and action; and

¹³ [32 years ago on this day, Azerbaijan's state-sponsored massacre of Armenians began in Baku | ARMENPRESS Armenian News Agency; Statement Commemorating the 1988 Sumgait Pogroms Against the Armenian Community | Congressman Brad Sherman \(house.gov\).](#)

¹⁴ [Bass, Krekorian Urge Biden to Take Action on 'Russian/Azeri' Blockade of Artsakh – Asbarez.com; ANCA joins Congressional leaders, coalition partners at Capitol Hill press conference condemning Azerbaijan's blockade of Artsakh \(armenianweekly.com\).](#)

¹⁵ [Azerbaijan: Freedom in the World 2022 Country Report | Freedom House](#)

¹⁶ [Our Vision, Mission, Principles and Values Statement | UCLA](#)

¹⁷ [Hateful Flyers Aimed at Armenians Appear in Beverly Hills \(lamag.com\)](#)

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED, the Undergraduate Student Association Council urges the UCLA Administration to send a mass email to all students, faculty, staff, and administrators that (1) acknowledges the situation in Artsakh and takes a stance of solidarity with Armenians in the UCLA community; (2) educates the campus community on the situation in Artsakh, (3) provides resources to those affected by the events; (4) and affirms support of the principle of self-determination for the people of Artsakh; and

LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED, that the Undergraduate Student Association Council (1) declares the blockade of Artsakh to be an urgent humanitarian crisis that requires immediate intervention; (2) recognizes the fight for self-determination and democracy to be wholly aligned with UCLA priorities and values; (3) and thus demands that the UCLA Administration illuminate Royce Hall in consultation with the Armenian student community.

- Thyra motions to approve A Resolution in Solidarity with the Armenians of Artsakh, and Demands that UCLA Stand with Armenian Students and Denounce Armenophobia, Alicia seconds.
- By a vote of 10-0-0, the motion passes, and A Resolution in Solidarity with the Armenians of Artsakh, and Demanding that UCLA Stand with Armenian Students and Denounce Armenophobia is approved.

B. Universal Access Transit Pass Referendum*

Van

2023 Universal Access Transit Pass Referendum

Shall the Undergraduate Student Association (USAC) support a new fee of \$2.65 per quarter, effective Fall 2023 and terminating at the end of Spring 2026 unless renewed, to provide unlimited free access for undergraduate students on all public transportation providers that serve UCLA (LA Metro Bus & Rail, MetroMicro, Big Blue Bus, Culver City Bus, Long Beach Transit, LADOT Dash and Commuter Express, Santa Clarita Transit, and Antelope Valley Transit Authority) during the academic year?

This fee will be subject to a Los Angeles County Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment factor (as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor) every Fall in order to address changes due to inflation and any rise in the cost of living. The CPI adjustment will begin annually in Fall 2024. This fee will be assessed each academic quarter beginning Fall 2023. The fee will not be assessed during summer quarters. The fee will sunset after three years, at the end of Spring 2026, unless extended through the referendum process.

Consistent with UC policy, 25% of the amount collected (\$0.66 per quarter in AY 2022-23) will be returned to Undergraduate Financial Aid.

☐ Yes
☐ No

Supplemental Language

The transit passes currently offered to UCLA undergraduate students provide limited services. Some of these programs include GoMetro¹⁸ and BruinGO!¹⁹ transit passes, which charge students a \$45 fee per quarter respectively for access to Metro bus and rail lines, the Santa Monica Big Blue Bus (BBB), and the Culver CityBus (CCB). For students who do not use transit often, UCLA also offers a UCLA Co-Pay option, which allows students to pay a discounted co-pay rate of \$0.70 for the BBB and CCB²⁰. While these programs make transit moderately more affordable, much more significant benefits to students' access and transportation emissions can be realized by levying a small fee to make transit free at the point of service for students.

The passage of this referendum would not affect the transit subsidies UCLA Transportation already provides; instead, the student fee would cover the remaining costs needed to make transit services free at the point of service. The per-student costs are kept

¹⁸ Go Metro Transit. (2017, July 30). Transportation.

<https://transportation.ucla.edu/getting-to-ucla/public-transit/go-metro-transit>

¹⁹ BruinGo! Transit Program. (2017, July 30). Transportation.

<https://transportation.ucla.edu/getting-to-ucla/public-transit/bruingo-transit>

²⁰ "UCLA Co-Pay." Transportation, 26 July 2019,

<https://transportation.ucla.edu/getting-to-ucla/public-transit/ucla-co-pay>.

low by assessing the fee to all undergraduate students, along with maintaining the current subsidies. **Moreover, according to UCLA's Financial Aid office, about 55% of UCLA undergraduates will have this fee covered by financial aid**²¹. This is partly because, as with all UCLA referendums, 25% of the fee will be returned to UCLA students as financial aid. Return-to-aid will remove significant transportation barriers for all UCLA students, and will be an important benefit for low-income students.

Upon loading the Universal Access Transit Pass on a TAP card through UCLA's Central Ticket Office, students will have unlimited access to **all LA County transit agencies** that serve UCLA's campus, including local buses, light rail, and commuter bus lines. This includes Los Angeles Metro buses, trains, and Metro Micro, Big Blue Bus, and Culver CityBus, as well as regional/commuter bus services offered by Long Beach Transit, Antelope Valley Transit Authority, Santa Clarita Transit Commuter Express, and LADOT Commuter Express.

The funds collected from this referendum will be provided to UCLA Transportation Services, which will coordinate and facilitate the service. Expenditures from this fee will be overseen by a committee with representatives appointed by the sitting ASUCLA and USAC Presidents and by the UCLA administration. The committee will periodically evaluate the program and ensure that fee monies are properly allocated to UCLA Transportation Services.

Other universal transit passes

UCLA undergraduates are unique in not having a free transit pass. In addition to UCLA graduate students, all 21 community colleges in Los Angeles County²², as well as every other UC^{23,24,25,26,27,28,29} (except Irvine), offer free transit passes to their student bodies, with the UCs primarily funding their transit passes through student fees. It seems unlikely that UCLA's student body cares less about transit, equity, or the environment than the undergraduates and graduate students at the rest of the UCs.

The graduate students have already shown that a free transit pass at UCLA provides lots of value to their student body. This is because UCLA is well-served by public transit, with 11 local bus routes, 4 commuter routes, and Metro Micro serving UCLA directly, in addition to rapid bus service on Wilshire Boulevard and the E (Expo) Line light rail. UCLA graduate students currently pay a \$75 annual student fee (\$25 per quarter) for their universal transit program, Bruin Grad Pass. This fee was passed with 76% support³⁰. During Fall 2022, roughly 6,200 graduate students signed up for the program, comprising half of the graduate student body and far exceeding the initial usage goal of 3,000. An undergraduate transit pass would be well-used and would improve students' access to affordable and sustainable public transportation for a fee 1/10 of the cost the graduate students pay.

²¹E. Aguilera, personal communication, March 3, 2023

²²GoPass for K-12 and Community College Students. (n.d.). LA Metro. Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://www.metro.net/riding/fares/gopass/>

²³AC Transit—Student EasyPass | Parking and Transportation. (n.d.). Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://pt.berkeley.edu/StudentEasypass>

²⁴Unitrans Undergraduate Fee Referendum. (n.d.). https://cosaf.ucdavis.edu/sites/g/files/dgvnsk1561/files/inline-files/Unitrans%20Referendum_010819_0.pdf

²⁵Metro bus passes. (n.d.). Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://taps.ucsc.edu/buses-shuttles/metro-bus-pass.html>

²⁶CatTracks Pass | CatCard Services. (n.d.). Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://catcard.ucmerced.edu/plans-usages/cattracks-pass>

²⁷Student Transportation Fee Referendum. (n.d.). <https://as.ucsd.edu/Content/docs/Elections/Referenda/2018-Student-Transportation-Fee.pdf>

²⁸Learn About Taking The Bus. (n.d.). Transportation Services. Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://transportation.ucr.edu/bus>

²⁹Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (MTD) | Transportation & Parking Services. (n.d.). Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://www.tps.ucsb.edu/commuter-options/bus-programs/santa-barbara-metropolitan-transit-district-mtd>

³⁰BruinGo Transit Fee Statement. (n.d.). Google Docs. Retrieved March 3, 2023, from https://docs.google.com/document/d/1obYoz7ODgfnwGLi3kiH4wPNWAgkadqoZ6WxvME3Md88/edit?usp=embed_facebook

Compared to other transit programs, the proposed universal transit pass at UCLA plans to offer a more accessible and lower-cost option for undergraduate students. Based on a cost-analysis comparison between transit programs offered at other UCs, including UC Berkeley and UC San Diego, UCLA undergraduate students would pay a lower price but get access to more transit options (our proposed transit pass would cover all routes on all transit agencies serving UCLA/Westwood, while the other transit passes are more restrictive). Despite having a higher cost for their transit referendums, which include annual student fees of \$180 (UC Berkeley) and \$191 (UCSD), these universities still received significant support from their respective student bodies (86% and 72% support in their latest student fee renewals, respectively)^{31,32,33}.

Universal transit for undergraduates is not unprecedented, even at UCLA. In 2000, UCLA implemented its BruinGo program, during which all students, staff, and faculty could initially enjoy unlimited rides on Big Blue Bus for free, courtesy of UCLA Transportation³⁴. This program was very successful; as a result of making transit free, UCLA-affiliated ridership increased from 1.4 million trips in 2000-2001 to 2 million trips in 2002-2003. Demand for driving to campus decreased during this time, with a five percentage point decrease in the observed rate of driving alone to campus the following year, in addition to about 1000 people giving up their parking spot or leaving the waitlist for a parking spot¹⁶. When UCLA Transportation required co-payments from students for BruinGo, transit ridership fell back to 1.4 million trips in 2004-2005³⁵.

Historical/Current Context

While often referred to as one of the most car-dependent cities in the US, Los Angeles has an extensive bus and rail network that transit agencies are actively working to expand and improve. LA Metro has the third largest bus fleet in the country³⁶, and numerous regional municipalities operate their own bus networks, for example, Santa Monica's Big Blue Buses. In the past 15 years, LA County voters have voted overwhelmingly for Measures R and M, which were sales taxes to fund public transit, showing an increasing willingness to invest in transit over car infrastructure^{37,38}. Public transit is much more space- and energy-efficient than personal automobiles, due to the requirement to provide each car with multiple parking spaces and long stretches of road, and the ability to put many passengers on a single transit vehicle. These benefits are especially important in high-density areas. Westwood in particular is outgrowing the car as the principal method of transportation. UCLA is growing quickly, with six large residential buildings housing around 5,400 having been completed in the last three years, two of which stand on the site of a former parking lot, and none of which have any associated parking spaces^{39,40,41,42}.

Historically, automobile dependency has encouraged Los Angeles' sprawling development at the expense of transit, furthering socioeconomic inequities. However, investment in public transportation resumed in the 1980s, and overwhelming voter approval of sales tax referendums in the subsequent decades have continued funding new public projects. For rail, Westwood will be home

³¹AC Transit—Student EasyPass | Parking and Transportation. (n.d.). Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://pt.berkeley.edu/StudentEasypass>

³²Student Transportation Fee Referendum. (n.d.).

<https://as.ucsd.edu/Content/docs/Elections/Referenda/2018-Student-Transportation-Fee.pdf>

³³LIVE: Results from the 2020 ASUC general elections. (2020, April 10). The Daily Californian.

<https://dailycal.org/2020/04/10/live-results-from-the-2020-asuc-general-elections/>

³⁴Brown, J., Hess, D. B., & Shoup, D. (2003). Fare-free public transit at universities: An evaluation. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 23(1), 69-82.

³⁵D. Shoup, personal communication, January 20, 2023

³⁶Roman, Alex (September 17, 2019). "Top 100 Bus Fleets Survey" (PDF). Metro Magazine. Retrieved November 17, 2021.

³⁷Measure R. (n.d.). LA Metro. Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://www.metro.net/about/measure-r/>

³⁸<https://www.metro.net/about/measure-m/>

³⁹UCLA Gayley Heights Apartments Student Housing—Los Angeles, CA. (n.d.). Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://studios.com/ucla-gayley-heights-apartments.html>

⁴⁰With two new residence halls, UCLA comes closer to fulfilling a promise. (n.d.). UCLA. Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://newsroom.ucla.edu/stories/olympic-and-centennial-residence-halls>

⁴¹Sharp, S. (2021, July 27). Status report for UCLA's \$870m student housing expansion. Urbanize LA. <https://la.urbanize.city/post/westwood-ucla-student-housing-construction-july-2021>

⁴²Single undergraduate university apartments. (2022, May 18). Housing. <https://portal.housing.ucla.edu/single-undergraduate-university-apartments>

to a subway station around 2027 through the D (Purple) Line extension to West LA⁴³, and UCLA may gain an on-campus station in the 2030s with the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project⁴⁴.

According to the 2021 State of the Commute Report, UCLA has over 31,000 total student commuters, of whom 18,039 are undergraduate students residing off-campus⁴⁵. Examining modes of transportation used by commuting students in 2021 and 2019 confirms that policies like the Universal Transit Access Pass are necessary to encourage the use of public transportation. To draw accurate comparisons to 2019 pre-pandemic commute methods, we have excluded the 16% of commuter students who remained off-campus taking online classes from the percentage of students who use each mode of transportation in 2021. In 2019, 25.5% of students took public transit to campus. In the Fall of 2021, this number fell to 20.8%. Conversely, the number of students who drove alone to campus increased from 23.6% in 2019 to 25% in 2021^{16,46}. The Universal Transit Access Pass provides a strategy for UCLA to reduce personal vehicle use and reinvigorate students' interest and access to public transit.

Benefits of Pass

Environmental Benefits:

As of 2017, commuter emissions make up the largest portion of UCLA's mobile source emissions (52,720 MT of CO₂e)⁴⁷. This figure is largely driven by single-occupancy vehicle travel, which contributes a high per-capita amount of carbon dioxide, as well as nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, and other pollutants. Studies of transit passes at UCLA in years past, as well as at dozens of other universities across the country have shown that promoting and subsidizing public transit leads to fewer people driving to campus, especially if that transit is free at the point of service^{48,49,50}. These environmental benefits are particularly important in urban areas due to the accumulation of local pollutants contributing to adverse health outcomes⁵¹. To continue advancing our sustainability goals, it is imperative to engage with the entire campus community and promote public transportation by providing students with an affordable universal transit pass. The proposed Universal Access Transit Pass will incentivize the UCLA community to use public transit instead of driving by strengthening connectivity to campus and the rest of LA County.

Accessibility & Safety benefits:

UCLA and the greater LA region are filled with opportunities for growth and exploration of students' experiences. Museums like the Getty and LACMA provide human-enriching art, while LA City Hall and Downtown LA are filled with career and internship opportunities. However, such areas are too far for simply walking and require either a personal vehicle, expensive ridesharing, or public transportation. Many are able to explore the city, while others do not have the financial capacity. By enacting a free transit pass, all students will be able to participate in opportunities across Los Angeles, including employment and exploration. This

⁴³Purple (D line) Extension Transit Project. (n.d.). LA Metro. Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://www.metro.net/projects/westside/>

⁴⁴Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project. (n.d.). LA Metro. Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://www.metro.net/projects/sepulvedacorridor/>

⁴⁵UCLA State of the Commute 2021. (2022, April 26). ArcGIS StoryMaps. <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/b5f9d4cc81fe4f15b7bafa75b1f73adf>

⁴⁶UCLA State of the Commute 2020. (n.d.). Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://ucla.app.box.com/s/fk0rktzo06hd2ad5m5irnaz3af8qt93o>

⁴⁷UCLA Sustainable Transportation Plan. (n.d.). Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://ucla.app.box.com/s/qgqc8wrfkgkom5fz72hpbhncjv1pw48z>

⁴⁸Brown, J., Hess, D. B., & Shoup, D. (2003). Fare-free public transit at universities: An evaluation. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 23(1), 69-82.

⁴⁹Miller, J. H. (2001). Transportation on college and university campuses (No. Project J-7, Topic SA-11).

⁵⁰Saphores, J. D., Shah, D., & Khatun, F. (2020). A Review of reduced and free transit fare programs in California.

⁵¹Holland, S. P., Mansur, E. T., Muller, N. Z., & Yates, A. J. (2016). Are there environmental benefits from driving electric vehicles? The importance of local factors. *American Economic Review*, 106(12), 3700-3729.

would provide much-needed career advancement that UCLA prides itself in producing and allow students to explore the nooks and crannies of Los Angeles. These benefits wouldn't be accessible to all students without a no-cost transit pass.

In addition, the universal access transit pass will remove the difficulty involved with having to load a TAP card for multiple uses, and determining if one has enough funds to complete a trip. Fare-free transit will allow students to simply focus on getting to their destinations.

Along with this, Metro has pushed for greater safety measures for transit riders, in order to ensure more efficient and feasible trips for all commuters. We understand the necessity of safety in ridership for students, especially international students who may face challenges in navigating these systems. In Metro's 2022 ridership survey⁵², safety was listed among the top five priorities by customers, with Metro increasing efforts towards meeting this priority. The safety improvement efforts that LA Metro has implemented include^{53,54}:

1. Security Cameras: LA Metro has installed security cameras on its buses and trains to monitor passenger activity and deter criminal activity. These cameras can also assist law enforcement in identifying suspects and providing evidence in the event of an incident.
2. Onboard Security: Starting in 2022, LA Metro has hired additional security personnel to patrol its buses and trains to deter criminal activity and ensure the safety of its passengers. These security personnel are trained to respond to emergencies and provide assistance to passengers as needed.
3. Public Awareness Campaigns: LA Metro has launched public awareness campaigns to educate passengers about safety best practices, such as standing behind the yellow line on train platforms, keeping backpacks and bags in front of them, and reporting suspicious behavior to Metro personnel.
4. Infrastructure Improvements: LA Metro has made significant infrastructure improvements to enhance safety, such as installing gates and barriers to prevent pedestrians from crossing train tracks and implementing train control systems to reduce the risk of collisions.
5. Safety Inspections: LA Metro conducts regular safety inspections of its buses and trains to ensure that they are operating safely and in compliance with industry standards.
6. Emergency Response Planning: LA Metro has developed comprehensive emergency response plans to ensure that its personnel are prepared to respond quickly and effectively in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Overall, these safety improvement efforts have helped to make the LA Metro system safer for its passengers and employees. However, more work can be done to ensure all Bruins feel safe on transit, and LA Metro, USAC, and UCLA Transportation will continue to collaborate to evaluate and implement new safety measures to enhance the safety of public transportation for all students.

Equity benefits:

Although driving a car is the preferred choice of transportation for many, owning and operating a personal vehicle is expensive. Significant costs associated with car ownership including purchasing the vehicle, as well as paying for gas, insurance, maintenance, and parking - the average American spends more than \$10,000 each year on their vehicle⁵⁵. Currently, the price for a commuter student quarterly parking pass alone is \$292.93⁵⁶. These costs can form a major barrier for low-income individuals seeking an education, which is one reason why public transit is so important.

⁵²L. A. Metro. (2022, October 27). Results of our 2022 customer experience survey. The Source. <https://thesource.metro.net/2022/10/27/results-of-our-2022-customer-experience-survey/>

⁵³G line improvements project. (n.d.). LA Metro. Retrieved March 3, 2023, from <https://www.metro.net/projects/orangeline/#documents>

⁵⁴Metro Customer Code of Conduct. (2022, January 1). Dropbox. https://www.dropbox.com/s/ojew7hws7pdw3g4/22-1285_bk_CusCodeConduct_eng_2022_web.pdf?dl=0

⁵⁵Moye, B. (2022, August 11). Annual cost of new car ownership crosses \$10k mark. AAA Newsroom. <https://newsroom.aaa.com/2022/08/annual-cost-of-new-car-ownership-crosses-10k-mark/>

⁵⁶UCLA Parking Rates and Fees. (2017, July 30). UCLA Transportation. <https://transportation.ucla.edu/campus-parking/ucla-parking-rates-and-fees>

The current public transit network fills this role and provides valuable connections to historically underserved communities in LA County and at UCLA, most notably commuter students who can't afford their own car. Commuter students are also more likely to have other responsibilities, for example as parents or workers. For students who rely on transit, the pass will serve as financial aid to help fund their education and facilitate their mobility to school, jobs, family, and more. Furthermore, in 2022, 72% of LA Metro's ridership is made up of communities of color, with a further 83% of riders coming from household incomes of \$50,000 or less and with the median income of Metro bus riders being \$15,000⁵⁷. Although making transit free at the point of service would benefit everyone by allowing a plethora of convenient trips at no additional cost, low-income individuals would see the most benefits. Affordable public transit is crucial to ensuring all students have access to the opportunities UCLA can provide, and the Universal Access Transit Pass will provide this to the entire undergraduate student body.

- Phoebe motions to put the 2023 Universal Access Transit Pass Referendum to the ballot for this year, Alicia seconds.
- By a vote of 10-0-0, the motion passes and the 2023 Universal Access Transit Pass Referendum is put on the ballot.

C. A Discussion on Strengthening USAC by Creating an Archive, an Alumni Network and Having a Retreat

Sisman, Cortez, Cobbs

- Eliana: "So basically, the bottom line here, especially after what Thyra was talking about in her office report, which I really appreciated the honesty of, is that we could use more community and more institutional knowledge and I was thinking about some way that we could do that. I had a good conversation with Daniela and Thyra. First of all we feel that an alumni network would be very helpful because that is a great opportunity for us to meet our predecessors and our successors. There are hundreds of students from USAC and that is just a wealth of opportunity to connect with people who share experience with us. That would also give us the opportunity to gain institutional knowledge about what has been done in the past and what worked and what did not. The other thing was an archive so that we can know what happened before us. For example, the special education membership fee which ties into a lot of issues about not having information about it. If we were to have a record of that and that is not going to end up in the Daily Bruin or the meeting minutes it would be worth knowing. If anyone else wants to jump in?"
- Thyra: "You kind of covered everything but just to emphasize what she was saying. Particularly for me in this role, it has been very hard to transition and I know it is because I came in during the middle of the year but there still needs to be some safeguards just in case something like this ever happens in the future again. I want to prevent that for other USAC offices because it has been very stressful and like Juan was saying, I am still a student outside of these spaces so I can't put all of my attention on this all the time."
- Divine: "I know that someone already mentioned it earlier but just in terms of transition, making some form of like what they are sending over to people. Maybe we can have a form requirement for the offices. Specifically, we have to do transition documents and even the directors in my office every year make them and then hand them down and this has really helped me a lot with understanding the background of the job. So maybe we can make it a requirement in the bylaws of some kind."
- Carl: "Yeah, I think this is all great. I think then there just needs to be an outline of what this would look like specifically and then we can have a discussion about how to tangibly get this into effect. I think making it a requirement to have transition documents and share passwords and emails and all that stuff is a great idea. In regards to the retreat part, we already did have a retreat at the basketball game and I think only four council members showed up. I know My-Lan did a lot of work for that one."
- My-Lan: "I can touch on that and then also talk about the reason as to why we didn't have a retreat this year. We do have retreat funds so we can do more social or smaller scale things but the reason why we didn't have a retreat was just because of how hard transitioning was for all of us. I found myself not having the time to speak to council members. We were all thrown into these roles without much support and so there wasn't a lot of time to think about hosting socials or retreats when there was so much to be done."

⁵⁷L. A. Metro. (2022, October 27). Results of our 2022 customer experience survey. The Source. <https://thesource.metro.net/2022/10/27/results-of-our-2022-customer-experience-survey/>

D. Lyft Safe Ride Program Veto

King, Kohanteb

- Carl: "All right moving forward, we will be talking about the Lyft Safe Ride program veto. I mean I sent out the email on March 5th in regards to the veto of the Lyft Safe Ride program using the bylaw powers that are vested in the Office of the President. The problem that I had with the program was that it was brought to my attention after it was passed that there was an Instagram post of a transparency report stating that from January 12th through the 16th there were 60 rides used and when I went back and looked at it, I was like that can't be right because it was said that 182 out of the 200 ride codes were claimed and redeemed which means that they were claimed and then used or at least that is what I gathered from that wording and I think most council members took it that way as well. I reached out to the Gen Rep 1 office and asked about it and was told that the information on the Instagram post was correct and that there were only 60 rides from the 182 claims that were actually used. When I asked for the rest of the numbers, he told me that there were 112 rides from February 1st to 6th and then there were a total of 97 rides out of 250 from February 16th to 20th. I don't know why this was left out in the initial proposal and it felt misleading and so this veto wasn't meant to just completely get rid of this initiative but to bring more clarification in regards to it and figure out more information about this and see how we can work on the control measures. In the email I spoke to the fact that putting discount codes on a public Instagram account where anyone can follow it and so we don't even know if those 60 rides that are used when even students and so it is a gamble and I am not willing to gamble \$130,000 in that especially when we weren't given all of the information."
- Kian: "For the past six months, we have been working on this. Students need a way to get home safe at night and if you call yourself the number one university in the nation you need a program like the Lyft Safe Ride that can help with that. Now that Carl has made a couple of things clear, I want to assure you guys that it was never my intention to mislead you. I understand that it came out wrong but that is not the reason that I showed that information. At the end of the day, I can't afford to pay for all of the rides even if they are not being used but the important part is that we are only paying for the rides that students actually use. The next thing that I want to be able to ensure is that the evidence that was brought up to council, I talked about the parameters that would be in place to make sure that this was fair for the students. When Carl emailed me though, I realized that we needed to find a better way to do this so I met with Jessica and we came up with a better way and hopefully we figured it out. We can send out a Google form to talk to students where they could put in the ucla.edu email and that is how we would be able to verify if it was an undergraduate student or not. So there doesn't need to worry about the control measures anymore. This program is the idea that I ran my campaign on and I have met with administration for countless hours just so that my proposal would actually be able to work."
- Carl: "I guess I will make this final statement and all the other council members are free to talk. You know this isn't personal, I do know that you ran on this which makes it a good reason as to why you really want to push this through even if it is not sustainable or the appropriate way to go about this. I mean you didn't talk about why you didn't put the amount of rides that were actually taken like why did you fail to put that in there because that is very important information. I mean we had individuals like Eliana who took a lot of money away from some of her initiatives for her community. She is the only one on council for the most part that has been advocating for the disabled community and she had to cut a lot of her money for this huge allocation. I mean you are asking for \$130,000 and you are not even giving us all the information. I am not saying this to attack your character but these are facts that misled the council and we were not given all of the information. The second thing is that the control measure that you said you met with Jessica to talk about. But it is not only about getting the emails because every UC program that currently has Uber, the administration, if I am not mistaken, pays for it and every student, faculty, professor can use the Uber for free. Also per our bylaws we are not allowed to pay for graduate students and so how do we sort between undergraduate and graduate students by email because we all have the same one. Also faculty and staff have those emails as well. People can lie and say that they are in their fourth year and I am just not willing to gamble \$130,000 on that."
- Thyra: "I just wanted to give my two cents on this. Everything that Carl was saying, I agree with because you asked for a huge allocation of the budget and there was no transparency whatsoever. Not only am I heavily

involved with both the Black Bruin and transfer community and when I was listening to your presentation I was surprised that there was so much success because I had never heard of this program. I feel like a program like this should be outreaching to organized groups which is making me question who exactly are these codes benefiting when there are students who are not having access to this platform specifically. I feel like this whole situation perpetuates anti-transfer sentiments and anti-blackness but also ableism because as Carl was saying you asked for so much money and you didn't give us correct numbers and you watched as I asked multiple times in the chat if someone could reduce their budget and then you watched Carl get rid of his whole initiative that was centered around black cultural experience and you watch Eliana who is advocating for disabled students get rid of a large portion of her budget as well so i just want to hear your thoughts on that end."

- Kian: "So one thing that I had mentioned is that we marketed it as much as we could. We sent it out so much and I asked at every meeting for everyone to share it as well so I think everybody on this council should have been informed about it. I had students coming from all different student groups coming and giving their testimonials. It is not something that every single student will be able to use so that is my answer."
- Hansika: "I am going to take a very practical approach with what I say. I agree with everything that Carl said and I also really appreciate you for bringing up all the concerns that you did. I can't speak for everyone but I can speak for my community and I can tell you that this proposal and the suggestion that was proposed was extremely integral for the international community because there is a complete lack of transport for us. Transport has been one of my platforms since the day I was first running. There is a huge gap and I am representing almost 5,000 students over here and what is really important is that while I understand that there is a need to rework this proposal or maybe reevaluate this, I don't want council to completely negate the purpose of this proposal because at the end of the day it is extremely important and I appreciate Thyra for bringing up what she did."
- My-Lan: "I wanted to second Hansika and speak on the side of the Campus Safety Alliance. I really liked Kian's proposal because it promoted campus safety and made sure that students were able to get back to their apartments or to the spaces where they live in a safe manner through lyfts as opposed to walking. I know that there is UCLA Safe Ride and it ends around 12 so students are really left to walk along in a very dangerous city. I personally think that there are things that could have been reworked and all the concerns that Carl has brought up are very valid and we would need to work through that but I think that this program is something that could be very beneficial to students just on the basis of campus safety and making sure that students get back safe especially in light of the recent kidnappings in our parking structure."
- Carl: "Awesome, so I know we said that Safe Ride isn't to be viewed as opposed to this but I mean people keep bringing it up and comparing it. As I said before, my office worked with the Vice Chancellor Michael Beck to make Safe Ride operate until 2 am and these are the hours that are going to continue for regular weeks so long as students are utilizing it so that is something that is going to be coming up. And keep in mind that this is something that can be continued if students are utilizing it. This is something that is already being paid for by the administration so we don't have to use student fees and it is also something that can be considered a long-term program. I am not attacking the program itself or its purpose or the initiatives which are to keep students safe. I just think that Safe Ride is doing that currently and we are working with them to do that without paying any money for that service. At the end of the day, we have a financial responsibility to ensure that student fees are going to where students want them to go and so then we have to reevaluate how much we put in there. I want to give you a chance to talk about your program and talk about it a little bit more."
- Kian: "Since talking to a lot of council members I understand that a lot of council members think it is too high and that is why I will be dropping it when I do the next proposal but I also think by putting in the control measure of students signing in with their email it does help a lot. That is how other universities do it. Also once again, the misleading part with the numbers, I was just going off the example that was shown by other universities who showed their numbers."

- Hansika: “I just want to bring up one more point about the Bruin safe Ride. While I do appreciate the effort, I want to point out that that is within a very specific boundary and it doesn’t extend all over LA and it is really limited in comparison to the whole LA area. I want to point out that international students really hesitate taking public transport especially towards the evening because they have no idea about LA or their whereabouts as compared to someone who is from here so you are basically in a new place in a random bus and that feeling of not being safe is not how anyone wants to feel and that is why I think this proposal is important because it allows accessibility to the entirety of Los Angeles and is not limited to Westwood and I think that is important. There are people going to and from the airport almost every day and then there are people traveling elsewhere in LA and if you don’t want to take public transport, you have to take a lyft or uber. I felt like this was one of the most important proposals that would deal with safety as well as accessibility to the rest of the city and I think that it is really important to the entire international student experience to be able to explore LA.”
- Thyra: “Yeah, I was just texting in the chat but I want to let you all know to clarify that I never said that this initiative wasn’t needed. I was simply highlighting my own personal experiences with asking for funds and allocations in regards to Kian’s numbers but also the inequalities that already exist with this program. Like I said before, I am heavily involved particularly in the Black bruin community where at this point it is not safe to walk around at night and I know it is not safe for international students but imagine how it feels to walk around as a black person in Westwood where UCPD are more likely to come up to you and treat you like this because of the color of your skin and so it concerns me that this intuitive isn’t reaching out to marginalized communities like black bruins. The ASU president is on the call right now so she can let you know that we have not had access to this resource. I don’t know any black bruins that have had access to this resource and we have a very tight-knit community and people should have known about this more. So I wasn’t saying that this intuitive wasn’t needed, I know it is important for a transfer who has a lack of access to appropriate transportation materials and resources but I was just saying that there is already inequities that exist for transfers and black bruins and so I was curious to know how other USAC members felt about that.”
- Eliana: “Thanks I want to respond because that is an important point and I agree kind of one-on-one. At the very least go on Instagram and send a direct message to the African Student union and tell them about this and it will end up on their story. I think this is an important program but those elements definitely should be added in addition to the transparency.”
- Naomi: “I definitely think like what Thyra said about the inequities in this project, I want to say that the outreach with Lyfts wasn’t reaching the amount of communities that it could have. I know Kian, you asked council members to repost it on our respective office but even my general prague doesn’t have the amount of followers that i would like to reach out to these communities, these huge stakeholders, like the MO space, the transfer space, the commuter space, all of which could really benefit from this resource. I am not sure if Carl brought this up earlier about the other UC’s that have these programs but they are not student fee funded so I am thinking like how do we go from here. Can we use the evidence that you got from the pilot program to show to the chancellors to see if they can pay for it not using student fees or what would we need to do to show the percentage margins to get this to be a program at UCLA so that is what I am thinking about. I really do appreciate your work on this. I know that this is what you ran on Kian and I really do want to commend that.”
- Sara: “I just have a few questions about the implementation of the program. Just to clarify, you said funding that isn’t used will go back into surplus? Or will it be lost?”
- Kian: “Yeah, we only pay for the rides that are actually used.”
- Sara: “So then how is that implemented, is it going to your office that will hold on to the funds and then only give them out as they are claimed? My other question is is Lyft offering a discount or is it essentially a subsidy by USAC for rides?”

- Alicia: “At first, I was really torn because I have seen the development of this initiative from Kian and he has done a lot of work for it. It is a hard initiative to work on but with this conversation I do feel like diminishing those inequalities and especially just in the ways students of color within the MO are not getting serviced because of many issues especially those surrounding CPO and the withholding of checks. I mean I hate having to choose but at the end of the day, we have to center on students of color and we have to center around students at the margins. At the end of the day, I feel like what Naomi was saying was something good and like where do we go from here and where do we go for equitable transportation and accessibility transportation that does not have to come out of student fees. There are more pressing issues that affect these vulnerable students that have to be addressed first before we make programs like this one where we have to pay for it. I don’t know how to frame this but there should be a priority and there should be a focus and a center of those who have historically been underrepresented and historically been abused by this campus.”
- Carl: “I will just say one more final thing and then we will move on to the presentation. I just wanted to say some stats right now because I feel like ultimately this is going to affect the Safe Ride thing which you know we are not paying for, administration is paying for this. Okay, so Bruin Safe Ride has an average of 595 weekly uses. The Lyft rides that Kian presented when he finally forked over this information once I asked him the maximum was he said it was 112 for the most rides in a week and that costs about \$784 because it is 7 dollars a ride and if you do that for a quarter, it would be about \$7,840 which is not bad but that is not \$130,000. Secondly, I also think that this proposal now that we got all the information is not as successful as we thought it would be. It is going to affect a few other things like Vice Chancellor Beck is going to ask me why do you guys want us to pay for expanding Safe Ride when you have this Lyft thing. Because the administration is paying for the Safe Ride, we can put more resources into expanding other things. It is not completely on us to keep the students of UCLA safe and that is why I went to the chancellor to talk about that and now they have expanded it. Honestly, I am not comfortable with putting money towards this. If you all want to, that is fine, but personally \$130,000 is a gamble and it is ridiculous and there are no control measures and there is no solid plan to make this happen.”
- Divine motions to approve \$100,000 to the TSR Surplus Proposal, Kian seconds.
- By vote of, the motion passes and \$100,000 is approved for the TSR Surplus Proposal/
- Kian motions to approve \$47,000 for the Lyft Safe Ride Proposal, Juan seconds.
- By vote of 2-7-1, the motion does not pass and the Lyft Safe Ride Proposal is not approved.
- Kian motions to approve \$30,000 for the Lyft Safe Ride Proposal, Divine seconds.
- By vote of 4-6-0, the motion does not pass and \$30,000 for the Lyft Safe Ride Proposal is not approved.

XI. Adjournment*

- Carl adjourned the meeting at 10:49 pm.

Good and Welfare;

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