



AGENDA  
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION COUNCIL  
October, 17, 2023  
7 PM PST

Zoom: <https://ucla.zoom.us/j/98686577744?pwd=Zm5TeGNIVG5PcTxO3MzckNlZ0lXZz09>

Password: 245694

## **I. Call to Order**

Hammonds

- Naomi calls the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

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

- Present:
  - Mason
  - Adam
  - Jennis
  - Naomi
  - Jonathan
  - Eva
  - Gabby
  - Chia Ying
  - Megan
  - Evan
  - Alicia
  - Katie (virtual)
  - Sara
  - Sujana (virtual)
- Absent:
  - Thyra

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

Law

- Strike Capital Contingency Allocations
- Add Personal Matter under New Business
- Strike ARC Allocations
- Strike ASRF Allocations
- Strike TGMF Allocations
- Eva moves to approve the agenda as amended, Jonathan seconds.
- By vote of 11-0-0, the motion passes and the agenda is approved as amended.

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

Law

- Sara moves to approve the minutes from 10/10/23, Eva seconds.
- By vote of 11-0-0, the motion passes and the minutes from 10/10/23 are approved.

## **IV. Public Comment**

Hammonds

- Naomi: "Before we get into public comment for today, just a reminder that public comment is a time for members of the association meaning, current UCLA undergraduate students to voice any concerns and questions to council. Basically you are limited to two minutes per speaker and 30 minutes total for the entire session of public comment. Just remember our community guidelines as well. Challenge ideas not individuals, use gender inclusive and respectful language. Freedom of speech does not mean freedom from accountability. Each speaker will be given two minutes and the opportunity to speak once. No dehumanizing language and with that we are going to go ahead and start public comment."

- Clara Castronova: “Hi, I am Clara and I am the chapter chair for CALPIRG. Super quick update about what we have been up to. So a couple of highlights from last week. We launched all of our campaigns with our big kickoff meeting on Wednesday. There were almost 100 people there which was super exciting. That was the biggest kickoff meeting in the country for the fourth quarter in a row. UCLA on top. The second thing is that we co-hosted a press event with Environment California about increasing renewable energy in California and Los Angeles specifically. Someone from sustainability came and spoke and that was super cool. We got three media hits on the first day. The other thing is that we hosted our regional conference at UCLA. The other CALPIRG chapters from the other UC’s came here and we did a conference where we did training, briefings, and discussions. The other schools are also working on our clean energy campaign to get UC’s to commit to 100% renewable energy by 2035 so it was super cool to talk to them about that. This week, we are doing a big week of action for our clean energy campaign along with all the other schools. We are going to be doing a ton of events to build a bunch of support on campus. The last thing is that next week we are starting our big pledge fundraising drive. CALPIRG gets funded by 25,000 student members across the state who pledge to add a \$10 fee to their tuition each quarter and this gives us the political power, staffing, training, and resources to actually win all of these campaigns. So we are trying to sign up 1100 new pledging members and 9,000 across the state. Thank you for listening.”
- Ananya: “I wanted to make a public comment regarding USAC or rather UCLA’s lack of action in general with regards to protecting their Pro Palenstisna and Muslim students. I don’t know if you guys have seen but we have had several documented incidents of students being harassed, threatened with violence, physically assaulted, property damage, and death threats directed at them due to their pro-Palenstian views on campus. One of which happened here on campus where students were assaulted and told that their heads were going to get ripped off and that they better run for their lives as well as calling them terrorists. I think that it is pretty unacceptable that UCLA has not explicitly and that USAC has not explicitly condemned this. We call for the protection and the immediate ending of all sorts of harassment and violence towards these students. It is completely irresponsible and downright islamophobic to ignore the fact that students are being targeted more and more these days. Especially when it comes to labeling them as terrorists. We have seen this happen just a couple of days ago with a poor six year old boy in Chicago who was murdered for being Palestinian and Muslim and for UCLA and USAC to not make any statement in support of Palenstians to be vilified is just unacceptable and it shows that UCLA is not a safe space for their Palestinian students. It is not a safe space for their Muslim students. It is not a safe space for students that support Palestine.”
- Matine: “I am here to express as a student, the hole that has been left vacant for my community with the recent heightened media attention on occupied Palestine. There has been a disturbing uptick of recent blatant acts of violence, hate crimes, and harassment felt by Muslims, Palestinians, and students advocating for Palestinian people’s rights and UC remains complicit in allowing it to go unchecked and dismissing the safety of these students. Is it not enough that hearts must pain and tears must flow in the face of more than 3,000 Palestinian martyrs while I still have to
  - 
  - remain
  - 9:35
  - V Vigilant in my daily school life for the moment that I or one of my peers becomes a target of Zionist aggression

The UC continues to fail us every day and so long as this lack of attention remains common place, we can no longer consider the UC as a neutral arbitrator of care for all of its students but instead a perpetuating force of occupation and genocide. As a Muslim, I have spent my entire life on the receiving end of these claims like terrorists, islamophobic terms that try to get under my skin and to see this at UCLA today, when I see so much rhetoric about how the UC is this safe space for people to have the utmost freedom and the utmost ability to express themselves and yet here we are debating the same issue that I had to fight against in elementary school, in middle school, in high school. As a Muslim, why should I have to fight against this when I already internally have to fight and my peers have the right to not cry in the middle of class when they see that a hospital with 500 innocent people was bombed. Is this what the UC must stand for? Is this what the UC is being complicit in? Is this how we are supposed to treat our students, our Palestinian students, our Muslim students, our students who are advocating for freedom in Palestine. Is that how they should be treated? I think not.”

- Kelly: “I would like to call attention to the fact that Chancellor Gene Block’s statement in regards to recent events in Gaza, he only called attention to Isreali’s deaths and completely ignored hundreds and hundreds of recent Palestinian

deaths in Gaza which has been happening for decades and has called Israel an apartheid state and Gaza an open air prison. Palestinians are being bombed, their escape routes that they are supposed to be taking right now, even hospitals are being bombed and aid is being blocked. Palestinians and Muslims are in grief and there should be more outward statements to show solidarity towards those students. I would appreciate USAC making statements especially considering that some students that have shown support towards Palestinians have been physically attacked over this. I would really appreciate that USAC makes a public statement to ensure that Palestinian students do not feel unsafe on campus.”

- Alyna: “I would like to call attention to the lack of support or empathy for Palestine and Palestinian students on campus in recent events. There has been no acknowledgements from the student body nor UCLA administration such as Chancellor Gene Block about the physical and verbal attacks towards students showing support for Palestine. Students have the right to express their beliefs on campus. Those are our rights, so the fact that people are getting harmed is horrible. Due to these vastly unacknowledged events, many students, myself included have expressed concern over our safety. Students and professors alike have been truly vilified for standing with the Palestinian people. Today there have been 3,000 Palestinians murdered in the last 10 days including those killed in Gaza when a hospital was bombed. There has been little to no mention about the atrocities currently unfolding in the Palestinian community. The silence towards the suffering of the Palestinian community is appalling and is felt by many by not speaking up in defense of Palestinian students or even simply acknowledging the community’s pain. USAC is alienating so many. It does not go unnoticed that only a couple of council members have made a statement in solidarity with the Palestinian community. It is seen and deeply appreciated. But I call on USAC to make a statement standing in solidarity with UCLA’s Palestinian students and communities. Thank you.”
- Emran: “Following up on my peer’s statements. This is not a question of making sure school is not a political space. To not talk about the genocide in Palestine is political. To not talk about the mass death of human life is political. For the Chancellor to openly paint Palestinians as terrorists and Israelis as victims is political. No matter what the outcome is, it will always be political for the student government to not address the genocide in Palestine. To not address the backlash Palestinian and Muslim students have been facing is a political stance. It is a political stance to be complicit in genocide. This is not a controversial topic. It is clear but the bombing of a hospital killing nearly 500 Palestinians and the killing of nearly a thousand children since Israel's stage of Palestine, it is clear that this isn't a two side conflict. This is genocide. The bare minimum that the student government can do is to defend the Palestinian and Muslim students of our school, yet that support has not been expressed and instead has been vilified. Can we please just think about this within the context of human decency. If we see our Muslim and Palestinian student body being racially attacked, do we not have a right to protect them, to express our support for them? These are our fellow students, yet we aren't there for them. To not defend the Palestinian and Muslim population of our school is to be complicit in violence and genocide. To not defend Palestinians in general is to be complicit in genocide. If the student government does not make it clear that it is supporting the protection and rights of Palestinians and Muslims, it will be complicit in promoting a space of violence.”
- Emily: “I am here to speak as a Palestinian student in our community that I do not feel supported by the school board or feel safe expressing my identity and political views on campus. For the past week, I have been on edge, distracted, distraught, sick to my stomach, and scared to just exist as a Palestinian. Yesterday just on the walk to class, I started crying because I was so bothered by the events unfolding and everybody just seemed like they were going on with their normal lives. The school released a statement directed at all those affected by the violence occurring in the Middle East and expressing sympathy for the victims in the statement. They were quick to declare it as a terrorist attack but they have not condemned the Israel siege on Gaza which is a clear crime against humanity. How does one justify the collective punishments of Palestinians in Gaza when they have no access to water, food, electricity, and are being bombarded by air strikes? Not to mention the imminent ground invasion. Where are they supposed to evacuate to and how? The one exit that they are supposed to go through has been bombed. Even if they could get these people out, they will never be allowed back onto their land or into their homes and it is obvious what is happening here. The US is complicit and actively funding the genocide and ethnic cleansing of Palestinians. The statement that the Chancellor and UCLA have released has felt completely one-sided. Palestinian, Arab, and Muslim students are facing hate from Zionists for simply existing in our community. How are we supposed to feel safe exposing that part of ourselves when we receive no sympathy for the Palestinian lives lost. Palestinians are being dehumanized and called human animals

and Zionists in the US media feel safe expressing hateful views which makes perfect sense because our country and school fund it.”

- Sam Rusk: “I want to second everyone in regards to the repression of Palestinian students and allies. We have seen the UC not only turn a blind eye to the violence and suppression facing Palestinian organizers but actively promote islamophobic misinformation which emboldens these heinous attacks on campus and across the globe. I have reason to believe that USAC is also complicit in these repression tactics. I want to stand in solidarity with those in the front lines of Palestinian liberation calling for the end to the UC’s neoliberal and imperialist actions. We ask you to respect the humanity of Palestiaians and Muslim students everywhere and prioritize the safety of the students that you represent. Silence is not enough. I would like to remand an unequivocal official condemnation of the Zionist attacks on Gaza and the students here on campus and the appalling discrimination demonstrated by USAC and the UC administration. Free Palestine. Thank you.”
- Asiya Junisbai: “I second everything that my peers have said in regards to denouncing the frankly dangerous and violent neglect that the UC administration, UCLA, and any others who stand silent and are allowing the violence that has been experienced by UCLA students who are Palestinian, pro-Palestinian and Mulsim on this campus in the past week. As everybody has said, our students have experienced violent assault and neglect and an outright refusal of support and this is indicative of the intention of the priorities of UCLA and UCLA administration and it is enabling the continuing siege and ethnic cleansing of Gaza and Palestine. Students have a right to defend the freedom of Palestine. Students have a right to advocate for Palestinian Liberation. We have a right to defend our communities and to defend ourselves and the UC is refusing to keep us safe. We are in need of statements by USAC that are in explicit support of Palestine and students' right and safe ability to advocate in support of Palestinian Liberation and the villainization of students who do speak out and the neglect of students who do speak out is violence and must come to an end.”
- Denise Zhou: “I am a fourth year student here on campus and I am part of many Asian-American organizing spaces. I am here today to stand in solidarity with our Palestinian and Muslim students. We will not stand for the genocide and for the brutal colonization of Palestine. I am here to emphasize that this is not just an issue for a group on campus. We are united in our cause because for anyone who knows the history and the truth of what is happening in Palestine. It is obvious who needs to be protected in this instance and I am here to denounce the horrifying rhetoric and attacks toward Palestinian students and Muslims on campus as a result of the UC’s disgusting support for Israel’s genocide against the Palestinian people and USAC’s negelect of our student body. Please stand with Palestinian students and everyone who stands with them. Any backlash that is happening towards people who stand up for Palestinians rights is just terrible.”
- Samantha Shaw: “Good evening honorable USAC and all members of the UCLA Community engaged in this meeting. Tonight I think I would be the first to say that I love my school and I love the rich and diverse UCLA community. I think what I appreciate most about UCLA is the dozens of faculty and students that I have encountered that are willing to use their expertise to educate and apply to current events. This could not be more paramount in current times in regards to the increased violence in Palestine. The last thing I would want is for the school I love so much to be somewhere I am scared of after an email on October 9th, in which President Drake sent, stated that the Regent’s hearts were heavy in the face of the horrific attack on Israel over the weekend. I assumed that their hearts would be equally as heavy for the 3,000 Palestinians that have been murdered since yet there was radio silence. Moreover, I assumed when Chancellor Gene Block said in that same email that we do not allow anguish over what is occurring internationally to turn into resentment or mistreatment of our fellow Bruins at home that he would not allow this resentment to occur at UCLA. I am confused by the biased information spewed by the regents and in our government. I was very excited to engage in Palestine teaching in Kaplan Hall on October 11th. Yet, I walked into Kaplan Hall and there were two police officers in and a note that said that the teach in had been moved online. The zoom was limited to 300 people so I sat on the floor and shared screens with a group of about 20 other students, mostly women. The UCPDC left before the meeting started and the link for the zoom was cyber attacked. The zoom was full of middle fingers and violent threats in the chat. I was watching an educational event not even to be censored in front of my own eyes. It was shocking when a couple of men started screaming at us, getting in our faces, and throwing our personal belongings. It was shocking that the police were not there to surveil and to protect. It was even more shocking when I heard that the same men who wanted to rip our heads off were able to walk free. But perhaps the most shocking has been the inability of the UC Regents, UCLA, and USAC to condemn the violence. It is upsetting that the university chooses which victims to extend their sympathy to and that an institution that champions diversity is complacent in a violent system of

colonialism and white supremacy where the UC Regents and UCLA have fallen short. I implore USAC to condemn the violence Palestinian, Muslim, and pro-Palestinian UCLA students have faced on this campus.”

- Kareem: “I don’t need to echo anything that my peers have said. I think a lot of the statements have been beautifully put and I will leave the rest for them but one thing I did want to ask of the people that are here. Today I have seen a lot of people during the speeches that haven’t been paying much attention or haven’t seemed too focused on the topic at hand and I think especially when we are talking about a sensitive topic where we are talking about people who may have lost relatives, loved ones, people of their community. It is really important that you give them the attention necessary. Currently you guys are making eye contact with me because I have called you out on it but a lot of the times I see people on their phones, people on their laptops, not paying attention. I think that the people who are here today giving their statements, deserve the respect of you at least making eye contact with them when they speak about such important and sensitive topics. Thank you.”
- Angelica: “I find it disgusting that the UC regents, administration, government, USAC has done nothing to protect Palestinian and Muslim students and students who support the Palestinian Liberation from settler colonialism, occupation and genocide but has done everything to protect Zionists on campus. I heard through the grapevine that Hillel has armed up their security for protection, but protection for what. Frankly, I am scared that a violent organization like Hillel has armed security in the first place, especially with the UC’s failure to protect us especially since they have attacked our own members like Alicia and making baseless accusations to justify their political beliefs which is Zionism. During our rally we were surveilled by police and administrators. They stood by and did nothing to protect us. There was no accountability for those who verbally and physically assaulted us. A hospital was bombed today in Gaza by a Zionist air strike. This is what Hillel and Zionists support by the way. I am angry and furious so support Palestinian students. Support Muslim students. Oppose settler colonialism and genocide. People, whenever they study history, always ask themselves why did people allow this to happen? Because of people like you who are complicit and silent. Do something and be bold. Be brave.”
- Member from Audience: “I am also not going to repeat too much. I fully agree with what has been said so far by everyone. I just wanted to come out and say my support for Alicia because I did feel like she was being vilified just for posting a statement in support of Palestine. I think the fact that people in general are vilifying her for stating her political stance is insane. I also want to talk about the Chancellor’s statement and how he was able to fully condemn Hamas’s attack on Israel but wasn’t able to talk about the loss of Palestinian life in any form. The only thing he stated was that this was a complex issue but he didn’t acknowledge the loss that Palestinian community has faced. I also want to address the lack of response. I haven’t seen any sort of statement condemning the violence that Palestinian and pro-Palestinian students have faced which is frankly appalling. People have been physically attacked and there has been no acknowledgement of that and that is crazy to me. I also wanted to bring up security concerns, we have had other students come up to us and ask us to walk them back to their dorms/apartments because they are in fear of their own safety and security on campus.”
- Member from Audience: “I am a third year international student from Palestine and Jordan and I am telling you point blank that I do not feel safe here on campus. I have been on autopilot for this past week convincing people that my family and my friends have a right to exist. Think about that. Think about it for a few more seconds and think of how exhausting it is not only for me, but for everyone else when students have to resort to each other for safety. That is how you know USAC and UCLA has failed, when professors get their addresses shared online and get doxed for simply speaking up on an issue. You know UCLA has failed when a pro-Palestinian professor had to move their lectures online for the rest of the quarter because they got doxed. Students who have spoken at this very meeting have been victims of hate crimes. Any pro-Palestinian organizations on campus cannot post the locations of their orientations, their workshops, their teachings out of fear for our own safety and that is because we know that UCLA is not on our side. Unless you are a Palestinian or Arab or Muslim or show any form of support for Palestine UCLA is a safe space.”
- Member from Audience: “I am Palestinian, like my father, like his father before him. I want to ask you guys all a question. Have you ever seen organs, a severed foot, severed hand, intestines outside of a young child’s stomach. Or have you ever seen a head completely cut in half down the middle. I don’t think any of you have but that is what I have seen every morning for the last eight days. Have you seen the video of a hospital being bombed? I don’t think you guys

have seen the video of all the children lying dead on the floor with those exact organs out of their bodies, blood spilling up out of their heads, from their arms, from their legs. I am pretty sure you guys heard of the 40 decapitated baby's heads that Hamas apparently did. Where was the evidence for that? There was none. I am sure you all heard of that because of the lies that Zionists and the West continue to release to the media. They continued to do it. Joe Biden saw there was no evidence, LA Times confirmed that there was no evidence for that but yet it was believed because once a lie is told enough it becomes the truth so we are here and we want to tell you the truth because it is the truth and we want to keep repeating the truth because no one else wants to. So I hope you guys will support Alicia and support your Palestinian students and support Muslim students on campus."

- Jenna: "I want to start off my statement by saying that a few days ago I received a phone call from our family in Gaza to tell us that they had left their home in the north of Gaza to go to the south because they felt unsafe there and they wanted to stay with family members. A few hours later, they heard that their home had been completely bombed and destroyed and their neighbors were killed. And while I reflect on their experience, I wonder if they are considered lucky. Are they lucky for making it out alive and hearing their neighbors die but also living with no access to clean water and hearing air strikes going to sleep? Or is a lucky Palestinian considered one who dies instantly in an airstrike. Just thinking about that experience and thinking about the pain of my people right now, it has been very hard to think and reflect on these points throughout the week. I have gone to class throughout this week and even last week and I have just had a heavy heart just because of the guilt of having the privileges that I have. I even visited my parents during the weekend and I remember Saturday morning, my mom came in to hug me and kiss me because she missed me after a week and I remember crying instantly because I was thinking the day before I had seen a video of a Palestinian mother hugging her dead children. So what I want to say is that as a first year student at UCLA, I have been here less than a month and in the past week I have had a very heavy heart and I have felt the pain and struggle of my people. I have not felt recognized and I don't feel respected by this University. In this past week alone, I have been called a terrorist. I have had someone yell at me telling me that I should be ashamed of myself for believing in the self-determination of my people and the liberation of my people and to simply go against the genocide of my people. And so what I ask is that hopefully this University will make a statement and it will recognize our pain. Thank you."
- Public comment is closed at 7:39pm.
  - Naomi: "I do want to say a few things. First of all, I can't apologize enough for what you are going through, what your friends and families are going through, what you have seen online as well as in the media. I will be the first to acknowledge that when I saw the Chancellor's message, I was beyond shocked. When I saw the UC President Drake's statement I was shocked as well because you know it is complex, it is a complex issue and picking one side doesn't respect anything that you all have gone through, what you have seen, as well as your friends and families. I also will say that I did see the videos and I have tried to forward one. I have had conversations with people in higher positions in mind to talk about the safety on campus and I will continue to push alongside other council members to push for safety on campus. I also want to recognize what a member from the audience had pointed out about council members not listening when it comes to public comment. I wasn't noticing it and I should have noticed it. Public comment is one of the only times that people from the community can come to speak to all of us in one central room. Listen to what they have to say, it is not that hard."
  - Alicia: "This is a question for you all, but you have the largest platform and you are the largest representative, why haven't you put out a statement in support of Palestinian and Muslim students. I have been vilified and doxed and had death threats because of my statements so I totally understand if your fear is for that to happen."
  - Naomi: "As a black woman, that is a fear of mine. I also have been getting death threats as well and have been getting harmful wishes for myself and my family. I have also been navigating some personal things this past week as well. I don't need to express the details of that today at this table. My mind has been away and I am sorry that I haven't been present enough as the leader that you need right now but that is why I haven't put a statement out."
  - Alicia: "Will you be putting a statement out?"

- Naomi: "I can't answer that right now."
- Jonathan: "More than anything, I want to recognize your resilience. I want to appreciate you for being here and I will call it out. It is a genocide. I will say that because like I mentioned earlier, my people went through it as well and there is a similar perpetrator. I will tell you that and I appreciate you all for being here. I feel a lot better because you all are here and calling us out and being direct because this needs to be discussed. This needs to be everywhere, this needs to be further vocalized and this needs to be further understood by the student body nationwide. I have seen it in the news, it is not just you all. I promise that there are students everywhere all over the world doing the labor that you are and I want to recognize that."

## **V. Funding**

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|---|---------|
| A. <u>Capital Contingency*</u>  | Yin     |
| A. <u>Contingency Programming*</u>  | Yin     |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Requested: \$49,348.00</li> <li>- Allocation: \$14,413.00 for 40 non USAC entities</li> <li>-</li> <li>- Sara moves to approve \$14,413.00 to 40 non USAC entities, Gabby seconds.</li> <li>- By vote of 13-0-0, the motion passes and Co</li> </ul> |         |
| B. <u>SFS Allocations#</u>  | Wong    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Allocation: \$3,315.00 for 2 CSC orgs and 3 non CSC orgs</li> <li>- No opposition, passes as a consent item.</li> </ul>  |         |
| C. <u>SWC Programming Fund Allocations#</u>   | Kang    |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Allocation: \$250.03 for 1 USAC entity</li> <li>- No opposition, passes as a consent item.</li> </ul>  |         |
| D. <u>Bruin Advocacy Grant Allocations#</u>   | Jussim  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Allocation: \$750.00 to 1 non USAC entity</li> <li>- No opposition, passes as a consent item.</li> </ul>   |         |
| E. <u>ASRF Allocations#</u>   | Sridhar |
| F. <u>AAC Travel Mini Grant Allocations#</u>  | Sridhar |
| G. <u>ARC Allocations#</u>  | Verdugo |
| H. <u>TGIF#</u>   | Curran  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Allocation: \$25,344.75 to 6 non USAC entities and 1 USAC entity</li> <li>- No opposition, passes as a consent item.</li> </ul>  |         |

## **VI. Special Presentation**

## **VII. Appointments**

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|--|---------|
| A. <u>USAC Undergraduate Student Initiated Education*</u>  | Sridhar |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Sofia Mena</li> <li>- Tabled until next week.</li> </ul> |         |

## **VIII. Officer Reports**

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|---|----------|
| A. <u>President</u>   | Hammonds |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- I had a follow up meeting with Jennis to discuss our IDMT meeting and talk about the response we want to make and the path forward.</li> <li>- I am also getting involved with family weekend planning and there is a lot of conversation happening there. I was invited to speak at BLack Convocation this past week and I was able to mingle and talk with balck students in campus leadership.</li> </ul> |          |

- I met with Megan this morning to hear from the Big 10 Student Government Coalition and discuss ways of entry for UCLA. I was also able to meet with Megan's director. We had our all staff meeting yesterday in Kerckhoff as well and it was good to get to know the people that I will be working with for the remainder of the year.
- We are meeting later this week to secure the last details for our tailgate for the Colorado game and then we also met with the gender recognition act implementation committee to discuss updates with our facilities person.

B. Internal Vice President

Law

- The ARC conducted three interviews since the last council meeting. We are conducting interviews for the finance, CRC and budget review director. The ARC has also scheduled five interviews for the next few days so please watch out for that.
- Josh and my team with our administrative relations committee are discussing future plans and events coming this fall and winter. They plan to reach out to SOLE and to other offices.
- I attended a meeting this past Monday with BSA's president and GSA's campus relations director to discuss the True Bruin Raise Award process and ceremony and how our offices can go and sponsor it.
- Earlier today I popped into a meeting with the Facilities Commission, EVP, and Bruin Shelter to talk about upcoming parking initiatives.
- We hosted and held our weekly all staff meeting this past Monday at 6pm. If you would like to attend the next one, there is one every Monday at 7pm in Geology 6704. Please contact me or RSVP.
- We were given a SGS training by Jessice so shout out to that.
- My equity, transparency, and accessibility committee has been working to put together transparency reports and agenda previews.
- My empower engagement committee is working on gathering resources and restarting the IVP Leadership Slack.
- The Pre-Professional support committee is currently planning programming events specifically to target transfer students in university departments and on campus as well. If you have any information on how to reserve these spaces in University departments, please let me know.
- My supporting committee is currently split into subcommittees to work specifically on topics of education, housing, food, and support and outreach.
- Our Institutionalized events and technical events committee are currently focused on a ASUCLA t-shirt contest that was just put out this last week so please share that post.
- We are very happy to announce that we have 12 new interns. It was a very competitive application season because of our lack of space and reservations and we are very happy to welcome them into the office. If you would like to attend that meeting please just let me know.
- My Administrative Relations Committee is currently outreaching to ASUCLA programming events. I have given instructions to use the social media tem to create posts.
- My executive team will be working on the following items like the dictionary, abbreviations guide, and brochure panel that will introduce USAC in future events.
- We are working on an administrative contact sheet and we would appreciate any help on this and we are trying to obtain contact information from CPO as well. We will be hosting our next fall meeting next week.
- We are no longer in the process of hiring a new chief of staff and we will be announcing who we have selected for that position soon.

C. External Vice President

Jussim

- For my Local relations team, we are rallying folks to go to the open houses that Metro is having to advocate for a heavy rail stop at UCLA as part of the Sepulveda Transit Corridor. We just finished writing talking points and a script so I am really excited for that and I hope we have a big turnout.
- We are also going to be working on a brief that explains the local transportation issues within Westwood for UCSA.
- We are working with a sustainability group on campus called SAGE and they are helping conduct a mock EIR for STC so I am really excited to be speaking with them at their general meeting.
- We also met with Bruin Shelter and IVP to discuss the safe parking initiative and next steps for that.



- As I have been mentioning, we have been having a lot of engagement with the North Westwood Neighborhood Council. We are discussing a walk through Westwood to see what we can do to alleviate homelessness especially as the CD5 interim housing project is kind of up in the air right now.
- We are also discussing a holiday giveaway thing in December and we are hoping to get some volunteer stuff for that.
- Lastly, we are trying to set up a meeting with Katie Young's office and continuing that cool relationship.
- Our assembly member Rick Chavez is going to be in person at the next North Westwood Neighborhood Council meeting on Nov 1st.
- For our state team, the Oct 14th deadline ending this year's legislative cycle just passed so our team has been hard at work preparing some bill analysis and seeing what happened and what the governor did that was wrong.
- We are also working with UCSA to get a physical space for our Latinx Lobby Day Town Hall which will be on November 6th.
- On the federal side of things, just a big reminder that our congressman Ted Lou is coming to UCLA in person November 8th at 1pm room pending. It is a great opportunity to see what he looks like and how tall he is. We will also be doing a phone bank in the beginning of November as a collaboration with other activist organizations on campus to get a really big outreach network.
- Megan and Naomi both touched on this but we woke up at the crack of dawn to meet with the Big 10 association of big 10 schools so I think that is something that we are looking to join as we are changing conferences.
- We had our first fellowship meeting and they are getting lobbying training right now.
- Our civic engagement team tabled last week with the LA County Registrar on Bruin Walk. They also had an orientation of like 50 ambassadors for our ambassador program. They are also continuing their Bruins in government series.
- Our student relations team is working hard for the second round of BAG applications. We have more funding this cycle because not enough people applied last round.
- Our UC Relations team is hard at work beginning to coordinate our UCLA's delegation to the Students of Color Conference that will be on Jan. 24th through the 26th.
- We are meeting with UC President Drake with the other EVP's and if you are interested in what we are talking about, we can circulate that information.

D. [General Representative 1](#)

Pool

- Reviewing staff applications with Directors
- Creating our Financial Literacy night with Director of Finance
- Setting up meeting to discuss bringing back the off campus meal plan with UCLA Dining
- Advertising UCLA Dining student jobs in hopes of increasing interest and productivity

E. [General Representative 2](#)

Lasry

- Meeting with First to Go on Wednesday to discuss an editing workshop for First Generation College students
- Directors for Affordability and safety for Commuter Students are working on possible self-defense classes + more funding for parking permits.
- The Chief of Staff is reviewing applications for the General Representative Internship.
  - Gabby: "The verbal and physical attacks the Palestinian and Muslim students are experiencing on campus is absolutely not okay. No student should ever feel unsafe on campus. The Gen Rep 2 offices are here for any student that needs support in any way. I would also like to address the specific comment made about Hillel. I really didn't appreciate that, especially as a member of that community. So many students unfortunately don't feel safe within both communities and jewish organizations receive threats to their safety everyday. I do agree that we as USAC need to work to ensure the safety of all students on campus, especially during this time.

F. [General Representative 3](#)

Valenzuela Mejia

- I was personally at a conference for the weekend, so I was relatively unable to do much on campus, however my office continued to do work this past week,
- Bruin Buddies

- A collaboration between GR3 and ISR, a buddy system to support international exchange students through a buddy system and hosting events to build those international connections and ensure our students have as best of an experience as possible,
- Contacted the Dashew Center to discuss Bruin Buddies and they're very supportive of the initiative,
- We hope to launch the program officially within a week or two, stay tuned!
- Hispanic Serving Institution Initiative
  - Working with HSI Initiative and other Latinx stakeholders to work on a Ofrenda for Dia de los Muertos to help bring some of this important cultural event on campus and provide a bit of support for the Latinx community
  - Meeting with some senators from UC Berkeley student government (ASUC) within the next week or so. I may have previously mentioned this but UCB recently lost their Latinx space, which I find appalling. I hope to build support between our student governments to ensure that our common goal of support centers for the Latinx community happens,
- Office work: Chiefs of Staff are meeting with their respective directors to discuss office occurrences and what Executive can do to support them as they develop the platforms,
  - Meeting with on-campus stakeholders soon to discuss that more.
- Internship: I'm excited for it, we're reviewing applications and it'll be a fun time to bring some people into the space for the first time and get them interested.
- ARC as always, much love to Sara and Megan for the work they do

G. [Academic Affairs Commissioner](#)

Srihar

- Met with DSU, FAC and SWC to brainstorm ideas for new COVID signage and mask distribution
- Interviewed candidates for Director of Finance and Director of Internship role
- Coordinated honorarium payments for office exec & directors
- Sujana: "I wanted to say this to those who came to public comment but I still can. We cannot earn our humanity by denying that of others. We cannot earn our own humanity by denying that of others. We cannot earn our humanity by denying that of others. UCLA has failed its Palestinian students. The UC Regents have failed its Palestinian students. The Chancellor has failed Palestinian students. USAC has failed Palestinian students. I have failed Palestinian students. It is no wonder that Palestinian students feel unsafe on campus because a person that is in leadership is giving them a reason to feel as such. And UCLA can and should acknowledge the fear and grief that Jewish students have been feeling and then completely erasing the pain of Palestinian students is at best ignorant and at worst which it is, murderous. Last week, I stated that my dreams of a Free Palestine have never included and will never include a bloodlust for Jews. I acknowledge the desecration of elderly women and babies are objectively horrifying and I meant every word and I still do now. But if I don't give my voice fiercely to what is happening now, I would be at best ignorant and at worst murderous. Everyone who attended public comment today was correct to call us out. I can only speak for myself in saying that this violence has stemmed from fear. But the 3,000 Palestinians killed, the 1,500 Palestinian babies were killed, the millions without energy, water, food, medical supplies felt fear, are feeling fear. It is happening right now. Our own students who came tonight to tell us of the physical intimidation and verbal harassment they faced just for telling the Palestine story about fear. I spent yesterday's general meeting discussing at length with all my members of my commission about what AAC was going to say. I promise we are not just going about our lives. I am not just going about my life. My office is composed of Jewish students with families in Israel and Palestinian students alike. We are completely appalled by UCLA's leadership disregard for Palestinian students' equal right to express their fear and horror. I do speak to all the council and I say that we must blend our voices because students are not being heard and we heard last week of those students in Israel whose families were affected and these Palestinian students, their families are affected and dying and just as much as you were able to lend a voice that we must have an obligation to lend our voices now.

H. [Campus Events Commission](#)

Miller

I. Community Service Commissioner

Wong

- On Monday, in conjunction with World Food Day, the Advocacy team worked with Hunger Project for an educational event during Bruin Walk . “How Bruins Tackle Food Insecurity” → making of UN poster this event is to spotlight the issue of food insecurity on an interpersonal and policy-based level and to inspire our own student body to educate themselves and take action to combat this issue.
- First staff meeting last wednesday to introduce everyone and set expectations
- Outreach team is completing and updated finance and transportation resource cheat sheet to be launched sometime next week
- SOLE is hosting workshops tomorrow 10/18 at Pauley Pavilion and Thursday online 10/19 to help you all understand different resources being offered to SOLE-registered organizations. Topics include: Funding, Youth Safety Training, Tips for Student Leaders and more. Our Assistant Commissioner will be here to speak on the panel.
- Met with Professor Doug and Matthew Solomon to spearhead in early winter the screening of "Reimagining Safety" documentary + panel discussion/workshop on criminal/racial justice/alternatives to policing.
- Chia Ying: “I want to very firmly denounce all the acts of hatred, intimidation, and aggression that have been directed to our Palestinian students and our Muslim students. I think that past few weeks has just been a really difficult time for so many UCLA students and they have been going through so much pain and grief and I think Sujana put it way better than I ever could so I just want to really very explicitly say that islamophobia and any forms of hatred like anti-semitism should have no place on campus and I really want to work with whoever else on council to see what we can do about making a statement. I am not sure how much impact there is but I really do what to make sure that students do feel safe.”

J. Cultural Affairs Commissioner

Verdugo

- First WoW TOMORROW\*
  - Come to an art series x word event at KAG 6-8
  - Retreat for all staff was the most successful one in years!
- GBM Yesterday was also a success
- Latinx and Pilipinx gallery was amazing
- All of our staff is now hired and series are meeting with their staff
- Concerts is planning a teeny desk next week and a jazz concert for week 5
  - Applied to TGIF for a larger concert - Rock Noir
- Met with ASA to support a resolution, research UC regents investments, and plan an art gallery and DCT to Little Armenia
- Rally for Palestine was a success
  - Collaborating with SJP and divest orgs soon for an event later on
- OUR WEBSITE WORKS AGAINNN <https://culturalaffairscla.org>
  - Alicia: “I do want to address all the comments that have been said. I will also clarify that I did not bring them here. They were exercising their own power and their own voice in a space that has not done anything to support them. I just want to express that you should take what they said to heart. You should take that seriously. You should do something. Do something to support Palestinian students and the liberation of Palestine because these vague statements of support are not going to do it. You may feel like politicians in that space and move like politicians in this space, but you are elected representatives getting paid \$10,000 to represent students, to educate yourself on matters that affect students. I repeat, educate yourself and don’t just go to the medias that are spreading propaganda. Truly take the time to listen to what they are saying and actually make a stand against the oppression of students and the oppression of millions of people. If you care about Palestinian life and not vaguely about their deaths, call for ceasefire to end the UC Regent’s funding in Israel military weapons and on their funding to IDF to Israel, to a genocide and apartheid state. The legitimization and recognition of Palestinian sovereignty, the release of political prisoners, the demilitarization of Palestinian territory namely but exclusively West Bank Gaza regions and the removal of occupied forces from all areas of Palestinian life. You all have a responsibility to do that

not just in council but in your own lives. This is a very important matter. When I was at that rally last Thursday a woman looked at me and another guy in the eye and almost ran her car over us while we were trying to get peaceful protestors to cross the street. This is literally in our faces and please do your job and educate yourselves and actually go beyond just responding to what people said in public today.”

K. [Facilities Commissioner](#)

Curran

**Upcoming Events:**

- Sepulveda Transit Corridor (STC) Community Meeting on Tuesday, October 24, 2023, 5:30 - 8:00p at Westwood United Methodist Church

**Access & Infrastructure:**

- Most updated numbers from U-Pass distribution (from 10/11):
  - Passes ordered: 18.43k
  - Passes distributed: 14.0k
- Assembly Bill 645, which allows for the piloting of speed cameras in several California cities, was signed into law by the governor this past week. Thank you to all the council members who supported the letter, excited to see this tool used to make our streets safer.
- We went on our first FAC bonding of the school year to CicLAvia in Downtown Los Angeles. Metro closes streets for cycling/pedestrians only – we also got the opportunity to tour the new regional connector stations. Filmed content for Bruins for Better Transit/FAC Instagram accounts.
- I met with Mick DeLuca to discuss the existence of our seismic retrofit fee and its use to keep buildings like the John Wooden Center safe. Expect a presentation from me about the fee next week.

**Sustainability:**

- Bruin Bazaar had its first standalone clothing swap of the school year, in collaboration with Good Clothes Good People. Thank you to everyone who came today, we’re always happy to promote sustainable fashion!
- I met with the Student Sustainability Leadership Coalition (SSLC) for the first time this week. We discussed ways to improve collaboration amongst the different sustainability organizations, especially when so many of our goals align. Historically, the Facilities Commissioner has helped lead these meetings and I look forward to resuming the role at our next SSLC, scheduled for Week 5.
- Our Environmental Justice Now team is working with the advocacy group Streets For All to support the Healthy Streets LA Ballot Initiative. We’re in the process of reaching out to other LA-based schools to garner coalition support, especially among college-aged voters.

**Appointments:**

- The TGIF Committee officially convened for the first time this week to discuss allocations for the 23 applications we received. We’re scheduling followup consultations with several organizations.
- The TGIF Committee is drafting a new presentation we’ll be giving to USAC and other organizations who are interested in applying to the fund. You can work with the committee to schedule us to come to one of your meetings and present to your organization, if interested.
- The TGIF Committee is also working on several new graphics that highlight key projects from years past. We’ll be posting these soon to give applicants ideas for how you can make a project green, especially when it might not be directly linked to sustainability.

**Internal/Administrative:**

- Had our first in person FAC general meeting of the school year!
  - Evan: “I feel in a lot of ways out of my depth. I am a student who does not have a direct connection to either the Jewish or the Palestinian communities. I don’t understand the direct emotions of what people are going through and I want to be here to empathize but I am not an expert in this situation. I don’t know what my statement should be looking like. In a lot of ways, I am feeling very lost about what to do in this situation. We are hearing a lot of demands from a lot of different parts of this student body who are asking us to make statements and I want to be here to receive it and I want to be here to listen but in a lot of ways, at the end of the day, I am just a student and I don’t know what my voice is. I think it is less like a comment about everything that has happened and more maybe asking this council for help and assistance on what the next steps forward should be.”

L. [Financial Supports Commissioner](#)

Broukhim

- Met with UCLA administrators to discuss how to help students on campus, given global events, including providing additional CAPS resources, academic leniency
- Met with VC Gorden to discuss funding pathways for the *New York Times*, commuter parking passes, and campus environment
- Met with my directors to distribute tasks for the week
- Had the FSC retreat!
  - Sara: "I first want to stand against all of the actions that have been taken on this campus against Palestinian and Muslim students. I am sure many of us saw the video of the teach in and I was absolutely appalled by what I saw. I think as Council, we have an obligation to stand with students from the Palestinian and Muslim community and from the Jewish community to make sure that all students on campus feel safe. I think students from both communities right now are feeling incredibly unsafe with different pains on each side but both of which we need to address. I think that we can possibly do a collective council statement and we can talk more about that offline but I wanted to share my deep condolences about the pain that has been developed by students on campus. As both a Jewish and Iranian student, I have both been called a dirty Zionist and a terrorist so I can understand what students are going through right now. I also want to acknowledge what has been said about Hillel. Hillel has been one of my safe spaces on campus for the past four years and the additional security is a result of bomb threats and threats that Jewish organizations get constantly even while living in LA."

M. [Student Wellness Commissioner](#)

Kang

- Commissioner Updates
  - COVID-19 updates from IDMT
    - Trying to extend contracts for Ashe Exposure Management Team (EMT)
  - Continuing to work with DSU, ASHE, IDMT in implementation of new and improved COVID resources
- SWC Updates
  - [Weekly SWC E-Board & Committees' Updates Sheet](#)
  - Collaboration with TSR today! Let's Taco Bout Transfer Mental Health
  - Healthcoming was a huge success over 500 attendees, giveaway winner awarded
  - Jennis: "To address the Palestinian students who came to public comment. I really appreciate Evan and what he said because I think honesty will serve us all so well at this time and honestly I feel so shaken and teary-eyed right now because I feel like everyone is being pushed to their limit and I hope that in all of this, everyone can take care of themselves. I feel like constantly as I speak with council members everyone is so tired and overwhelmed. I think we should all remember that everyone is always doing their best and it is best to operate under those assumptions."

N. [Transfer Student Representative](#)

Cobbs

- Thyra: "I want to thank the students who came to the public comment. As a black American who experienced one of the worst genocides in human history, I personally feel connected to the Palestinian fight for freedom. Watching black genocides I can't even comprehend, it is not something that I wish on my enemy. Just in my classes as an African-American studies major, I always have to learn about how my ancestors would be murdered on a daily basis by miraculous numbers. Black people die every day, you see two black students were killed at Campbell hall here and the university has done nothing with that. Students of color are affected by international affairs and there has virtually been no support for African countries who are suffering. I personally believe in passing freedom and liberation. I also believe in the safety of both sides and students because we are all just students. We are all trying our best and I will choose to associate that with myself and not the TSR especially because transfers are marginalized. I am sitting here as a black transfer in a predominantly white institutions and as black council members, Naomi and I are more at risk of retaliation. We will be the first to retaliate against and we will not have the same support or allyship from any other people's color. I do think that we should address the University's response because I don't think that it was appropriate and I do think we should call for the UC system to divest from the Israel government but I also

think that we should be aware of everyone's experiences in this situation because it has dire psychological implications on a lot of people."

- I attended the Black Convocation last week and I spoke on behalf of USAC.
- I had a meeting with UNICA to talk about our collaboration for Central American transfers and we are going to have another meeting this week to really go through the agenda.
- I had a meeting with Res Life because a couple events will be on the hill for Transfer Pride week. I had my directors help onboard staff members and volunteer staff members this past weekend. We were also all able to eat at the hill and I swiped everyone in with my 19P plan.
- This week is National Transfer Student Week and I hope you all will post something on your instagram to acknowledge transfer students.
- Tomorrow is the TSR/IVP leadership empowerment event and thank you to everyone that helped in with that. IVP also was nice enough to order cupcakes from Sprinkles with the TSR logo on it.
- Going to Oakland soon to meet with President Drake, the Afro latinx connection is having the first general body meeting, meeting with ASC. planning an event with

O. International Student Representative

Tfayli

- There is a lot that I want to say, thank everyone who came and all of the people who talked about it. Posted my updates on the zoom because I don't want to talk.
- Finalizing the details of Bruin Buddies with Gen Rep 3, planning on launching by next week
- Continued work on the UCLA/ISR Dining Program, we are finalizing some media for that and we are hoping to launch that in a couple of weeks
- Staff applications are still open and we are working on promoting
- Attending the TSR Marginalized transfer student resource fair on Thursday
- Continuing our work on our international student coalition campaign goals.
- 

P. Administrative Representatives

Luna, Alexander, Moran, Klimoski, Wisner

- Orlando: "Registration has closed so that is done. If your group has missed the deadline, you need to reach out to your advisor immediately. We are considering things like if you got the emails or something like that so if there is a legitimate reason why you forgot to re-register, please reach out to us. Tomorrow is our in person day of SOLE event where we will have a series of workshops in addition to the great collaboration with IVP and TSR. We will also be hosting numerous types of workshops and the list of those can be found on our website."
- Lori: "I do think I have caught up on all my emails. If you still haven't heard from me, email me again. I can also help refer people to safe places if you are interested in that."
- Jonathan: "Hey, hi, hello. It has been a day. A couple things on my end. Some of you during this meeting, received an email from Jack to schedule your mirror training. Please do so, it would make him very happy. If you do get an allocation, just a reminder to add your allocations to the universal funding sheet prior to council so that council can take a look at it and in theory review it before there is a vote. If you have yet to do anything in regard to hiring, time on that is quickly running out so please reach out to Fernando."

## **IX. Old Business**

## **X. New Business**

A. Personnel Matter\*@

Hammonds

## **XI. Adjournment**

- Naomi adjourns the meeting at 8:39pm.

Good and Welfare;

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