



# UC Santa Barbara Associated Students

## Senate Agenda 4/9 Associated Students

### [Zoom Link](#)

*This meeting was called to order at 6:44PM in the Fly A Room by Internal Vice President Pinto.*

Minutes/Actions recorded by: Liliana Dritz, Melina Magno, Hazel Gong, Sydney Arbolado  
**CALL TO ORDER** by Pinto, Internal Vice President **at 6:51PM**

### **A) MEETING BUSINESS**

“Before we begin, we call for students to acknowledge that the lands that the University of California locations were built upon were expropriated & founded upon exclusions and erasures of Indigenous people's human rights throughout California. UCSB is built on Chumash Land, specifically that of the non-federally recognized Barbareno tribe. As an association that pushes the student bodies’ voices to the forefront, we should aim to make strides past just acknowledgment to those who continue to fight for their right to be recognized & respected as the original stewards of this land. I ask you all to dedicate time & care to personal education & to advocate for justice alongside Indigenous peoples.”

### **A-1) Roll Call**

Name	Attendance	Position
Dalia Gerson	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	Off-Campus Senator
Alexa Butler	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	Letters & Science Senator & Second President Pro Tempore
Carly Lankarani	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	Off-Campus Senator
Taylor Iden	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	Off-Campus Senator & Advocacy Committee Chair
Enri Lala	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	Off-Campus Senator & Outreach Committee Vice-Chair
Leiya Kadah	➖ Absent ▾	Off-Campus Senator
Yasmine Suuck	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	Off-Campus Senator & Liaison Committee Vice-Chair
Levi Corlew	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	Off-Campus Senator

Name	Attendance	Position
Leah Khorsandi	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	College of Letters & Science Senator
MingJun Zha	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	International Senator
Isabella McClintock	✗ Absent ▾	Transfer Senator
Alejandra Martinez	✗ Absent ▾	College of Letters & Science Senator & Outreach Committee Chair
Dominic Wang	✗ Absent ▾	Off-Campus Senator
Lily Habas	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾ proxy	College of Creative Studies (CCS) Senator
Paolo Brinderson	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	Off-Campus Senator
Eemaan Wahidullah	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾ zoom	Off-Campus Senator
Jasmine Amin	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	Off-Campus Senator
Daniyal “Dan” Siddiqui	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	Off-Campus Senator & First President Pro-Tempore
Noura Elkhatib	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	College of Letters & Science Senator
Sandhya “Sandy” Ganesh	✓ Present, 🌑 Late ▾ 7:33pm	International Senator & Liaison Committee Chair
Aryaman Singh	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	College of Engineering (CoE) Senator & Finance Committee External Chair
OlaBisi Ola-Olaitan	✗ Absent ▾	On-Campus Senator
Nadine Malhis	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	On-Campus Senator
Amna Chaudhry	✗ Absent ▾	On-Campus Senator
Kamela Dali	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	On-Campus Senator
Ashley Valenzuela Balderrama	✓ Present, ☀ Early ▾	On-Campus Senator

## A-2) Excused Absences

***Motion to excuse Senator Leiya Kadah until 7:15PM***

***Elkhatib - Lankarani***

***Call to question: Malhis***

***Passed at 6:46PM.***

***Motion to excuse senator Martinez for the duration of the meeting***

***Lankarani- Dali***

***Call to question: Malhis***

***Passed at 6:46PM.***

*Motion to excuse senator Ganesh until 8pm*

*Suuck - Lala*

*Call to question: Lankarani*

*Passed at 6:46PM.*

*Motion to excuse senator Chaldhry for the duration of the meeting*

*Malhis - Lankarani*

*Call to question: Suuck*

*Passed at 6:47PM*

*Motion to suspend Standing Policy 10 from Standing Policies & Procedures for the duration of the meeting.*

*Siddiqui - Lankarani*

*Call to question: Suuck*

*Objection to call of question: Zha*

*Siddiqui refused to rescind the motion*

Pinto

- Going into a vote to vote
- Voting on the objection of the motion

Zha

- We are deciding whether or not to vote on the motion to suspend standing policy 10
- We are not voting on the suspension of the motion
- We are voting right now to go into a vote
- This vote request  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority

Amin

- You made this exception once
- We didn't understand the rules the first time
- But this would be the second time, we know the rules
- We know what is allowed and what is not allowed
- I don't think we should move forward

Pinto

- With vote to vote?

Amin

- The policy

Pinto

- We are not in discussion
- We are in vote to vote

Siddiqui

- The point of suspending standing policy
- I don't think
- It's not because we don't know the rules, we just don't want to penalize people

- The commentary that we had around that discussion was that he thought it would be appropriate to follow the subjects and suspend the policy for the duration of the quarter
- Again, this suspension of this policy is open to all senatorial candidates who wish to proxy.
- And if it's an issue of people having equal opportunities to be able to proxy, that I truly generally do, welcome all of you to send those names to me so we can get everyone to proxy
- But for the purposes of efficiency, for the purposes of having a Senate that is prepared
- Historically, every single year the Senate has suspended the standing policy.
- I think we had a debate and vote over it in the first meeting, and it overwhelmingly passed. So I think it's fine to do this

Zha

- I object to the suspension of the standing policy as the standing policy to ensure that every single candidate, whether they have a connection with the senator or not, have an equal chance of competing in the election.
- If we suspend the policy, the people who have a connection with a senator can be a proxy to gain exposure.
- It's just not right

***Vote to vote:***

***Yes: 14***

***No: 3***

***Abstain: 3***

***Vote passes at 6:52PM.***

***Vote to suspend Standing Policy 10 from Standing Policies & Procedures for the duration of the meeting.***

***Yes: 14***

***No: 5***

***Abstain: 1***

***Motion passes at 6:56PM.***

***Motion to McClintock for the duration of the meeting***

***Lankarani - Suuck***

***Call to question: Malhis***

***Motion passes at 6:57PM***

***Motion to excuse senator Wahidullah after 7:50PM***

***Lankarani - Suuck***

***Call to question: Amin***

***Passed at 6:59PM***

*Motion to excuse senator Valenzuela after 9PM*

*Malhis - Lankarani*

*Call to question: Dali*

*Passed at 6:59PM*

*Motion to excuse Butler for the duration of the meeting*

*Zha - Lankarani*

*Call to question: Khorsandi*

*Passed at 8:43PM*

A-3) Acceptance of Proxies

*Motion to accept Sohan Sunderrajan as proxy as senator Habas*

*Siddiqui- Lankarani*

*Call to question: Briderson*

*Motion passes at 6:58PM*

B) External Reports

*Motion to add president report as well as unit report from office of attorney general the agenda to add president's report and unit report for the office of the attorney general under executive report and unit report*

*Zha- Khorsandi*

*Call to question: Lankarani*

*Motion passes at 8:52PM*

B-1) Chancellor's Representative-

B-2) UCPD Representative-

B-3) GSA Representative-

B-4) University Center Governance Board Representative-

B-5) IVCS D Representative-

C) New Business

 A Bill To Amend the COSWB Legal Code

Suuck- Ganesh

Metzger

- We are updating our legal code
- I dont know the last time it was updated
- So a lot of it is just wording, and then current positions and duties are outdated

- For example, there is a duty of the mental health coordinator that is just no longer worked on anymore
- So that is not needed to be in the legal code
- And then the main thing is that we are adding two new coordinator positions, one of which is culture and inclusivity coordinator
- So this person is going to be focused on liaising with other groups and hosting events related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, so making sure that COSWB events are more accessible
- Working with cultural events on campus
- And the other position that we are adding is community outreach coordinator who will specifically be working on doing events to outreach to freshmen and new students, and then also doing volunteer events
- Just to increase our community outreach
- Our current outreach coordinator's title is going to be changed to specific projects coordinator and just be doing events
- Because that is what they been doing anyways

Pinto

- Because this is a bill, it will need to be tabled for a week

***Motion to table A Bill To Amend the COSWB Legal Code for a week.***

***Zha - Ganesh***

***Call to question: Lankarani***

***Passed at 7:52PM.***

***Motion to enter a 8 minute recess***

***Siddiqui - Lankarani***

***Call to question: Kadah***

***Passed at 7:52PM.***

***Back at 8:03PM.***

D) PUBLIC FORUM

[1:30]

***Speaking agreements:***

***"You have two & a half minutes to speak, with two minutes for Q&A. Please state your name, pronouns, and enunciate, but refrain from yelling. Speculation of a Senator's intentions and abilities is prohibited and will result in strikes, 3 strikes and you will be removed from the ability to speak on the floor. Please know this meeting is being recorded. You may speak on any issue, whether it is on the agenda or not. Please include a content warning if it will be graphic. You may only come up once, and you may choose to not answer questions."***

Hattie Ellision

- Hi i'm Hattie from environmental affairs board
- So I just want to start by mentioning that the EVLA legal code states that for all voting membership positions, the Environmental Affairs Board shall conduct improvements process and provide the AS president and senate with a recommendation. All of our voting member positions are advertised as open to all UCSB students, and we send a university announcement email to all students and advertise open positions on our public Instagram page. Also the legal code states that the executive chair should be returning voting members which also means that they have already been selected from a recruitment process that was open to all these students. From email sent today, interviews will begin week 7 of spring quarter. Wondering how we can guarantee that interviewees and interviewers will be available during that time. If we were extending to summer, is everyone involved be guaranteed honoraria for the summer? Our BCU has summer orientation for voting members led by the exec chair. If recruitment is still happening in the summer, we don't know when to orient new members and train new exec chairs. Organization starts meeting on week 1 of fall. There's a lot of work that goes into training voting members. Little worried about recruitment. Worried about losing time and energy which would affect the strength of our board.

Pinto

- Are you open to taking questions?

Ellision

- No

Pinto

- Taking question is a good opportunity to engage with the senate body, to answer any questions. If you don't take questions, there is no room for dialogue.

Siddiqui

- I know this is unorthodox. If I could just make one comment before you resume the rest of the public forum, a point that probably was not articulated well enough in the email.
- BCUs that have already done existing recruitment processes with university wide emails like ad will not be affected by this. If you've already done a recruitment process, would be want to develop in our discussion is a comprehensive standard. We want a comprehensive standard of what constitutes transparency. To me, it's at least an undergrad wide email which you have already done. I believe the only two positions that weren't included were the executive chairs, where I think there may be some room for conversation with the liaison committee, but all the work that has already gone into recruitment for those other positions, I believe, is fine.
- I think the other things that would be good for transparency purposes would be just allowing be, whoever the next incoming executives are, are going to appoint these people access to see the Google Form responses, how many people responded, what their answers were through the questions that we want to develop collaboratively with you guys,

- Then also in those interview transcripts that we have in future search committees where the current and existing chairs are members to provide the recommendations for their successors
- So I just wanted to really hammer on the fact that BCUs, who have been following their legal code and actually doing the recruitment process correctly are not going to be penalized by this, and that's the reason why we're having such an individualized approach of working with the BCUs, it's only for the BCUs who aren't following legal code and may need some help getting things done so we can have a fully staffed Association. Thank you

Bella/Alicia (EJA) 7:04pm

Bella Rosemary (she/her):

Alicia

- We also wanted to begin by talking about our legal code, which states that all chairs should be internally selected, recommended to the committee on committees and then nominated by the President and approved by the Senate for the term of the year.
- The process of internal BCU chair selection allows for us to make the most qualified candidates selections who have spent time becoming familiar with BCU and EJA specific processes,
- In addition all of our positions for EJA, except for the co executive chairs, Which class are open to all students and advertise as such, the co executives are required to have served previously on the board, and therefore they have already gone through the open process of the treatment.

Bella

- We use channels such as our public Instagram or shoreline, and we usually use our listed draft, our email listserv, which we have currently drafted for recruitment.
- And we feel that this is most equitable way to continue ensuring everybody knows about the application and can apply for all positions besides the executive chair, since this is an internal selection, as per our legal code and is justifiable for reasons previously stated
- Additionally delaying more recruitment into the summer or will likely cause a much spare search, and interest because of far fewer students who will actually be actively involved on campus and checking their emails.
- Therefore, we typically will do recruitment in the beginning of spring quarter, and we go that this proposal of new improvement timeline and the process may hinder not only the applicant pool itself, but also the process of selection that typically ensures the strongest and most qualified candidates are selected to lead EJA to amplifying campus involvement towards environmental justice.

Iden

- Do you guys feel like you've had enough time to like process this decision that might be made from like the time that you all went out and the decision now being potentially made at this meeting?

Bella

- Our stand on it will be the same. Sending out email and discussing tonight was impromptu and took time to come up with a response.
- We did think about it thoroughly

Suuck

- Do you feel like starting interviews week 7 is too late?

Alicia

- I think starting in the late quarter will push it to the summer. Everything in summer would get backed up since people aren't as responsive. This will really impact our turnout

Bella

- We usually try to wrap up our interview process by week 8.

Iden

- Do you think pushing it back will make freshmen get involved?

Bella

- I think that's a fair point, sometimes not all positions get filled. And then we re-open again in the beginning of fall. Freshmen do have that opportunity.

Will(IAC) - Recruitment policy 7:10pm

Will

- So we didn't prepare, like set remarks. So I apologize that this is a little bit disorganized. We came hoping for a little bit of clarification on the email sent out earlier today.
- I'll just sort of start off with our legal code on the chair and vice chair. So it says the AS Chairperson shall be the Chief Investment Officer, the CIO and Vice Chairperson felt recommended by the outgoing executive board of AS committee on committees then nominated by the AS president and approved by the majority, 50 plus 1% of the Senate for a term of up to one academic year.
- We were hoping both for clarification on how that would potentially change, and second, how other positions within our executive board, namely the portfolio managers that lead our nine sub sectors, would change.
- And if, again, we're asking mostly for clarification, but if that decision would be primarily within the hands IC internally or outside that, that if it was primarily outside, we just like to express that we don't necessarily support that for a couple of reasons.
- First being that we're a very large BCU. We have over 50 members, and we hold public recruiting for analysts, who usually are then promoted within the group to Portfolio Manager, and generally the chairpersons are previously serving portfolio managers.
- We obviously want to make sure all of our recruiting efforts are 100% consistent with bylaws.

- Secondly, I might be getting to the end of time here, but I just like to emphasize that being a portfolio manager or a chairperson requires a pretty significant non technical knowledge, a lot of which is facilitated through initial membership in IAC which, again, I'd like to stress, is 100% open to any UCSB Student, and we take great effort to do promote that to the greatest extent.

Siddiqui

- Just a quick comment, nothing will change, the CIO is still nominated by the president. The chairs are the ones that do the interview process for the portfolio managers.

Eric Carlson (Attorney General) 7:29PM

- Thank you for your message outlining the Senate proposed plan regarding recruitment activities across the association. However, I want to express a deep frustration and concern with the content, and timing of such an enormous announcement that will fundamentally change the inner workings of assists of organizations like IVTU.
- The email was sent just a mere seven hours before the Senate meeting in which the proposal is scheduled to be debated and implemented. I personally feel that it is not enough time at all, especially because I'm so busy and I've already established a schedule for my day. It's simply not appropriate or respectful to BCU chairs and staff advisors, many of whom have ongoing committees to review the implications of such a dramatic policy shift, gather input from the team or provide meaningful feedback.
- It honestly just feels a little shocking for this to be presented in the Senate without even reaching out to the BCUs at all. And I speak for my board when I say we were completely blindsided by this proposal.
- The proposal would further bureaucratize our process, slowing down internal processes, even further causing a larger time demand for appointments and taking away from projects that would help tenants of Isla Vista and the UCSB Student Body.
- These last minute attempts at communication creates avoidable confusion and stress for those of us working to lead our entities. If the Senate truly aim to better the relationship between BCU and the association, then communication needs to be timing thoughtful and invite genuine consultation and feedback.
- The nature of this proposal just seems abusive. I strongly urge you and the Senate to consider postponing any formal action on this motion.
- I hope my worry and genuine concern is accurately articulated through this email, and I do appreciate and acknowledge, acknowledge the hard work you do, but I just felt the need to speak on behalf of IVTU two. I invite further discussion, if necessary. But because I could not make the senate meeting, I still felt the need to voice my thoughts on this matter.

## Chloe Hsieh and Sam (co-chair) - recruitment policy

Chloe (she/they)

- We didn't write out anything specific, but we're basically echoing Eric's concerns about just transparency and communication with the BCUs. In the past, especially the past couple of years, we had difficulty being, like, connected to Senate, and I think about sending out an email about something that fundamentally changes, like the way BCUs use their election processes, whether it is like trying to adhere to legal code or not, whether it is like a big or small change, sending out like seven hours before, especially like right now it's Pride Week, like we're missing an event that another Commission members doing right now to be here because we didn't know what's going on.
- I think it's just, it's kind of absurd, in my opinion, to say that you're trying to prioritize the opinions of these BCUs and try to have open communication and then do something like this.
- So in the future think about that too. We also have concerns about the summer election, like finishing it within summer. We do pride events for like Isla Vista and in collaboration with like downtown Pacific bright foundation during weekends, we try to get all of our election stuff done before then.
- We also have two marginal leader Commissioner chairs. Those positions open in fall quarters, so we can't physically have all of our positions until at least the middle of winter. So that's just like, kind of what we're thinking off the top of our heads. But yeah, all right.

Siddiqui

- So let's say hypothetically, based on the email that the Liaison Committee Chair sent out and how they were proposing that they wanted to work individually with each BCU, because each BCU had their own unique situation.
- How would your board feel if the Senate left today to be a discussion period, but the office hours scheduled for tomorrow and Friday were still used by the liaison committee and other members of the Senate, which would also be extended to Monday and Tuesday next week.
- And we would work with each BCU to address all of their concerns and come up with a very rough, individualized plan, and then have a formalized final plan that's voted on at next week's meeting?

Sam

- That would be helpful but in the next couple days it is our biggest events. This week and next week is our biggest event and it is all hands on deck. We need to talk to our BCU liaison

Chloe

- We would have to talk to our board

Siddiqui

- All the tidy details would not have to be figured out

Sam

- Since we are having pride event and it is our most important events, we wanted to promote spring elections

Chloe

- We were confused about the language of the email.

Siddiqui

- I want to clarify. BCU that has done correctly. All the work they put in will be counted, we aren't making everyone start over. The original intention to put pause on things. We could not keep track of who is recruiting and who is not

Suuck

- Thank you for coming
- I've seen you all over the harbor, literally everywhere. The fact that we sent this email out this morning, and like you guys showed up in your work, and I'm sorry if this email calls me any stress or any personal harm.
- As liaison committee Vice Chair, you're going to be hearing from me. I would like to thank you so much for speaking up on this. And I think, like this year, we were striving for better communications, and I think I don't want to be set back.
- I want to move forward together, and I think we will, we will be able to accomplish that. And I think you really informed the setup tonight, and I'm sorry overall, and I think we can move forward together. So thank you

Sam

- Personally, liaison committee has been helpful. It's been working well

Le Ann Metzger she/her - recruitment policy (COSWAB)

- Hi, I'm Le Ann. My pronouns are she/her. I'm also talking about the recruiting policy, since they've already covered, kind of you know, how disrespectful the timing of the email list. I will not focus on that.
- I will focus more on the content of the email. First of all, just having to put a pause on all hiring right now, I think if this is if a complete change of hiring process is wanted to be considered, that's something that should have been considered like early winter quarter at the very latest.
- You know, me and my co-chair, we've been talking about the hiring process since the end of last quarter, and we already have our plans, the schedule that we're trying to follow for the hiring process. I know that boards have already opened the hiring for their applications.
- So I think it's pretty disrespectful to us to be put on pause, not only to the boards, but also people who have already started working on their applications and considering what they want to do next year.
- Also, I think I just, I have some concerns with the timing and the actual like proposed plan. It's saying that the hiring of the chair for the following year won't happen until week seven, and the decision for the rest of the board won't happen

the end of summer. At least for us, we like to have our next year board figured out by like week six or seven, so that we can do training the rest of the quarter.

- It's really important for the incoming board to attend our meetings for the rest of the quarter. Get to know the members, get to know the people whose positions that they're taking and actually have that one on one conversation to receive that training.
- This is pretty next and possible to do over the summer. You know, if any of you are graduating seniors, I don't think you're gonna be wanting to meet the people over the summer to train them.
- Initially, I agree that, you know, there are ways to make hiring more equitable make it more available to all people, but I think it's more something that can be giving like ways for BCU to do this, giving some like advice, instruction, rather than just taking over the whole like taking over the hiring process in itself. I think that BCUs know best.

Zha

- Do you have anything else you want to say?

Metzger

- I think I also had a bit of, I don't know exactly how this would be implemented, by a bit of concern over, like, accepting applications for the chairs, and then like, considering who the chairs want to be in the next position. I think that's, it's almost like a bit of a waste of time, if you're going to open up, like anyone in UCSB can be co chair of any BCU. So people are going to apply to that and but at the end of the day, the people who are currently in the BCU are going to have that advantage because they know how it runs, they know what to do, and they're ultimately going to have an advantage of the position.
- And so anyone who's applying to that position where other other internal people are also applying, it's kind of more or less a waste of time.

Iden

- Have you seen a lot of senators at your events this year?

Metzger

- Some.

Iden

- Do you feel senate understand COSWAB

Metzger

- No

Iden

- Do you think a pause of four weeks on the hiring is enough time for the senate to take over the hiring process.

Metzger

- No, the people currently working on hiring have been on COSWAB for 3 years. 4 weeks is not enough time. Considering there are 15 BCU, that's a lot of people. We all have very different purposes I would not be able to do the hiring for a different BCU

Malhis

- How many applicants do you get per year

Metzger

- Last year we opened to all students . We got probably 40 applicants for 3 open positions, a high amount.

Owen Meyers + Samira Casilla (EVPLA and UCIV) - recruitment policy 7:43pm

Owen (he/him

- This is kind of like a weird start, but it's just because of the uniqueness of like ucib as an organization. I'd like to ask first of all, since UCIB is kind of this weird position as a subcommittee of my office, Is this something that impacts uciv at all

Siddiqui

- No.

Owen

- UCIV enjoys the benefit of BCU, would that cause a change?

Siddiqui

- No, i don't think so

Zha

- JC is reviewing senate requests about your UCIV status. If they found you not to be a BCU, then they will not be subject to any policy regarding the BCU.
- But if it found you to be able to receive the benefits and privilege of BCU, so there might need to be more conversation height on the topic to offer more clarification

Owen

- So there would need to be more clarification on whether or not it applies?

Zha

- Answer is yes and no. All BCU chair person must be appointed by the president. But if you are not BCU, or sub-BCU, not subject to the requirement.

Castillas

- I had questions for appointments. We have a very high turnover and we consistently hire representatives. There was a freeze in appointments that only for BCUs, Would UCIV also be affected?

Pinto

- We are trying to figure it out right now

Owen

- We believe it is a major oversight of the organization. We are unique because we receive 60 applications through bulk email. We'll say that following this process.

we do get turnover as mentioned. On the deltopia shift, they already worked shifts. If there is a freeze on this hiring means they cannot be compensated for the work they already did.

Siddiqui

- The freeze is for the 25-26 school year

Owen

- I'd like to echo the sentiments of others. I'd spoken to IVTU and pardall center
- I echo precious concern about the lateness of notice. Especially if it applies to UCIV that has uniqueness to them

Amin

- This is super off topic but I don't know if you will be there next week. Thank you both for everything you did for deltopia.

Owen

- We had 10,000 visitors to our stations. 3,000 liquid IV packets. 105 galon jugs of water. Equivalent to 4000 water bottles. \$3000 worth of snacks. 1200 units of narcan. We were the only water station within 3 blocks

E) Acceptance of Agenda

***Motion to accept the agenda.***

***Ganesh - Lankarani***

***Called to question: Lala***

***Passed at 11:03PM.***

F) Consent Calendar-

G) Action Items

***Motion to direct the election board to extend the deadline for submitting candidate photo submission to April 11th 11:59 PM due to delays and uncertainties in ballot's release and extend the deadline for submitting con-statement for fee reaffirmations and initiatives to allow for greater level of student's participation.***

***Zha - Siddiqui***

***Called to question: Lankarani***

***Passed at 11:01PM.***

G-2) Old Business

[Debate Time Per Item- 30 Minutes]

☰ A Bill To Improve Internal A.S. Operations

Siddiqui - Zha

☰ A Bill To Peg AS Judicial Council's Honoraria To Senate Standing Committees

Zha - Siddiqui

☰ A Bill To Revise The GGC Legal Code

Zha - Ganesh

***Motion to bundle and table all of old business into next week.***

***Ganesh - Suuck***

***Call to question - Gerson***

***Passed at 11:03PM.***

H) Recess

***Motion to enter a 15 minute recess until 9:21PM***

***Zha- Lankarani***

***Called to question: Malhis***

***Passed at 9:06PM***

I-3) Unit Reports-

Noah and Vanessa from the Office of the Attorney General

Noah

- We are going to discuss an issue that has gone unnoticed in the association. Some of you have recently become aware of this. It has to do with the USSA lock in fee.

Vanessa

- The USSA, for the United States Student Association, is a national student advocacy Association, and UCSB decided to join this association as a participating member, and created a lock in fee in 2016 to fund membership efforts. So unfortunately, at the time UCSB joined USSA,, they were facing a lot of membership decline and toxic internal fighting, so that led to failure to elect leadership in 2017 which ultimately led to its collapse. Since 2017 USSA cedes to operate as an organization until recently. I'll get into that later. Despite USSA being defunked since 2017, it has been up for reaffirmation with the ballot language stating that the fee is to "support the continued funding of UCSB membership in USSA." At no point during the time that USSA was nationally defunked was an announcement, notification or procedure created to rectify the situation. And additionally, I think how the fee was managed was not really transparent. So for a little bit more context, legal code states that USSA fee is

jointly managed by the EVPSA and Finance and Business, with both offices collaborating annually to evaluate the funds use and reaffirm their shared funding process through a member memorandum of understanding. This agreement is supposed to help ensure transparency and accountability. However, backroom deals about who got to oversee the money turned into MOUs signed by three parties, depriving students of informed consent in the decision making process. However, well spent these fees were, the students authorized the fee were being defrauded, since the organization didn't exist. During our research, we found that USSA actually recently started up, this spring, they hosted a conference, and so it kind of messed up our planning a little bit. This is the first time we're seeing some resemblance of a reorganization at a national level. The history of this fee brings up a lot of concerns. So just the fact that the students have been authorizing this fee with the understanding that this is for continued membership in USSA, when USSA didn't exist, and just how AS handled this. We shouldn't be funding an organization that didn't exist, or is defunct. So now, with the organization starting up again this spring, especially, maybe there's some new mission statements or new purpose of the organization. I think there is a need for reaffirmation now, to give students more transparency of what the history behind this whole fee is, and what the new USSA is and if students actually agree with what they're doing now. We need to give students all the tools to make informed decisions to rebuild that trust that might have been destroyed due to this whole situation. We need to let students be aware of everything that has happened.

Noah

- To reiterate some of those points, for 6 years this organization was defunct, and every 2 years, students voted on the ballot lock in fee for continued membership in the organization. THE EVPSA collects the fee as a result of an MOU that is in conjunction with the Finance and Business Committee, so that is all fine and accounted for. However, the issue we found was that there is no organization, and students are paying a fee and we believe that might be fraud. However, the organization has been restarted, as Vanessa said, and in discussion with EVPSA we have learned they are in the process of making us members once again in USSA. Unfortunately, there are still concerns we need to address. Most pressing, we are to request. I have sent a resolution to senators Lala and Iden. That would need to pass tonight. This would put the USSA ballot fee language onto the ballot for this year. We have drafted a statement giving historical context to the fee, sort of describing what Vanessa mentioned, which would go in the comment section. As we have been working with EVPSA on this and they are aware of what is going on, they agree the issue should be rectified, and they have drafted a pro statement to be attached to the reaffirmation. It is imperative that the student body is able to vote on reaffirmation of USSA this year, so as to clear the air so that it cannot be challenged that it was defrauding students. Once students have all this information, they can make an informed decision, and that is our responsibility and our hope by asking for this resolution to be passed tonight. However, there is the need to ensure that something like this does not happen again so the Attorney General's office is currently working towards a

standing policy or bylaw that addresses what happens when an organization goes defunct or cannot be used for its stated purpose. Furthermore, we are considering asking the Judicial Council to render an opinion on the case itself, or at least having the authority as stated in the standing policy to review and render opinions on lock in fee statuses when situations arise. So again, we are requesting that tonight, you guys please consider passing the resolution putting this reaffirmation on the ballot, and that 2 and 3, our office is working to a standing policy and bylaw or potentially with judicial council to ensure a situation like this doesn't happen in the future.

Iden

- Would you tell us what you came across when looking at potentially dissolving the fee entirely and the senate's authority to do so?

Noah

- Vanessa and I and the solicitor general have been working for a couple months and we have a report. We have a huge pile of research into the legality of these where they drive their authority from how they're imposed, and this has to do with regulations that come from AS legal code, that go up to campus regulations all the way up to the UC regents and the PACAOS policies.
- I don't know if that answered your question or if you want to repeat it.

Iden

- This fee has been talked about for a couple months now. The whole USSA restarting is a new thing but in my mind we're defrauding students to essentially be used as EVPSA's piggy bank. No one really understands that. Can the senate cancel the fee? In my mind the correct solution is cancel the fee or raise the voter threshold. It needs to be voted on again and we don't know the membership fee. My question is does the senate have the authority to cancel the fee?

Vanessa

- We talked with the campus council about this before we knew they were restarting. We were trying to cancel it because it did not exist. Since it restarted, the campus council told us we can't just get rid of it because it is fulfilling the mission now. The EVPSA office has been trying to connect with USSA and reinstate that.

Noah

- While we may agree with you on that point, the campus council has looked into the issue, provided the information we gave them, and they did not see any glaring issues. Now because we are rejoining and we are in the process, the issue at hand no longer exists.

Khorsandi

- If the student body votes no on the fee, then it goes away?

Noah

- Yes, that's the purpose of the ballot.

Lankarani

- Thank you for looking into this. Every single election the USSA reaffirming thing has been on the ballot. No matter who I talked to, I have no idea where it goes
- Especially with the senate, we have been trying to reallocate a lot of funds to make things make more sense. My question is how does it keep ending up on the ballot if no one is chairing it?

Vanessa

- Technically on the ballots, it says continuing membership for USSA. In the legal code, it says for USSA and advocacy support so they have been using it for advocacy, which is still kind of fulfilling the mission. But on the ballot it says for continued membership.

Noah

- The EVPSA is designated as our representative as chair in USSA in legal code. Legal code delineates that EVPSA will be UCSB's chair in legal code That's why it goes to them.

Ganesh

- In your consultation with the campus council, did they have any recommendations, not necessarily monetary, but reparations for defrauding students?

Noah

- Had been in contact with them in winter, and they promised to get back to us and they continuously didn't. They literally emailed us at 1:23 PM today. I can't quote it but I can paraphrase what I do know. They believe that the student advocacy efforts Vanessa mentioned were sufficient.

Pinto

- Thank you for giving your report

Noah

- Sorry, we are only 1/2 of our unit's report.

I-4) President's Cabinet Report-

Attorney General Carlson (9:59PM)

- As mentioned upon the email thread for the Senate today, I have been asked to present the following. The veto made on March 7, 2025, the president asked me to come in on their behalf to explain the reasons. We have lived through 3 different cycles of presidents wanting to appoint chairs in my tenure of AS. In Tessa Veksler's term, we had a weird seizure of who could be appointed week 1 and 2 and 3 of fall quarter. This resulted in an association stop and everything paused.
- It was a bubble that exploded on us week 1 of fall quarter because we didn't have people appointed. Someone called out President Veksler on her inability to appoint chairs and it caused a whole slew of drama and ultimately took about 6 weeks for her to appoint BCU chairs into fall quarter. What ended up happening was, it wasn't an agreement but this is where we were all educated in real time.

- Since there are no criteria for chairs to be denied or appointed beyond having a statement of intent as required by most presidents, the senate authority to deny an appointment is very limited. You can cite reasons and make them up on the fly but they have to be on the record because in the senate agenda and minutes, you are creating the precedent while you are making the decision. If you don't do that, the decision is rendered invalid. If you don't have a good reason, then the decision hasn't actually been made yet. That's really how it falls at the end of the day. Authority of nomination rests with specific individuals. You cannot say no for the sake of saying no. There has to be reasons appended to it. In that kind of process, the president thought it best to veto it seeing as there were no reasons during minutes or agenda beyond things that we can only speculate. Those were the main issues, especially since it simply was not made public. The fact it's not on an association wide agenda. There is no trace of the decision and the reason why. That's why the president made the veto. Are there any questions before I move on to the next section?
- We started today analyzing the preliminary budget. The finance committee has finished some of their decision making. The budget has now been given to the president to come up with a preliminary budget. The president is going to be inviting BCUs and stakeholders present in senate meetings to give them an updated and advanced look at the budget, just because things change from 2 months ago so their funding pictures might be a little different.
- Did they get a chance to speak about the Pardall Center? No, okay. To paraphrase, we expected to do 50k in maintenance. We were given a quote for the first 20% of our total maintenance repairs we want to do for the space. We budgeted 50k, the first quote is around 83k. It's very typical of contractors who want to upcharge a university, or government agency. We have to fight it. Just because of that, we want to get a better financial picture. The president and I, in her cabinet, will be assisting the preliminary budget to have a post election season. Are there any questions?
- We also are embarking on financial preparedness. I don't know if a report drafted by a senator was made public to an entire senate body. I was instructed by the president to submit this to the judicial council and to prepare some type of analysis or argumentation to advocate for lock in fees for staff support, by and large, if that makes sense that if we're helping student organizations come together and use student resources, there should be a buy-in. That includes pay staff we rely on and resources and computers we rely on. The mechanism or mode or however it manifests, we have to play it by ear one step at a time. I am happy to assist. I hope everyone had an opportunity to prepare the report. We will begin preparing our legal arguments for that. That concludes the President's report.
- In regards to the unit report I will send an email now, the chancellor had sent out an email on March 18th creating an advisory committee on antisemitism
- Additionally on April 8th, sent email creating advisory committee on anti-Palestinian bias and islamophobia

- With both of these in mind, my office will be creating two separate anonymous forms to invite student leaders
- Have links up on our site
- Inviting students to put some anonymous understanding on how UCSB operates
- How does antisemitism and islamophobia manifest at ucsb
- To collate and have a document
- Anonymous
- Not tracking web browsers
- As well as an acknowledgement that it might be forwarded onto illegal things
- Can find those both on website
- Antisemitism inquiry as well as islamaphobia inquiry
- Both should be ready to go
- Feel free to submit
- Can at least reasonably have a running record
- That is my first half there
- My office is now drafting the reports finally for publishing
- We'll have that ready in a couple weeks, post election season
- Any questions about antisemitism, islamophobia, and research
- Lastly, two years ago
- Mini story
- Dr. Marquez said student approached them asking about if the senate would be willing to amend the ballot or allow a late candidate to declare their willingness to run for executive office
- The senate, the identity of that student to this day is unknown
- The agreement that we came to in the 73rd senate, was that Dr. Marquez and elections board signs
- That student signs a promissory agreement
- The same one other candidates sign
- Would sign a remedial training course
- Would understand rules, where to place board
- That candidate by senate motion was allowed to run for office
- I have been asked in Dr. Marquez's absence to inquire about
- As well as subject to eligibility checks, to inquire about
- The possibility of requesting from the senate
- To run for executive office in 25' spring election
- I do have to preface, I will have to ask that candidates that are running from office of president excuse themselves from discussion and debate
- When we get into discussion on this topic
- Would have to request that candidates running be recused from the discussion
- I can answer questions if need be

Zha

- What's the reason that anonymous candidate had missed the registration deadline
- What's the rationale for asking for an exception?

Carlson

- The request is made in a not in depth way
- Not super in depth
- Have communicated to me that, like with everything, when it comes to both academics or mental health or preparation for large scale event planning, that some things get caught by the wayside
- Especially when they're managing things in tens of thousands of dollars
- When stuff like this happens, when you think about Deltopia as an example, that was last week
- This request was made to my office, simple staff deferral
- By staff member simply by referral
- I have been told and corroborated with my own office
- We have communicated with elections board
- Have kind of deferred to senate for this option
- Again, just to see what the senate is thinking of
- Simultaneously, there may or may not be deliberations tomorrow
- Have to check with ruby
- Those are the reasons that have been communicated to me

Zha

- I understand that elections board would like to defer this manner to senate
- Two questions
- First, when is the latest, the motion from the senate, authorization from the senate that has to be passed in order for that candidate to appear on the ballot
- Second, why is this matter handled directly with the senate if there's a lot of us standing again in the next year's election, and not the independent elections board?

Carlson

- Elections board said they could take it on if senate didn't
- When it comes to timeliness, week 2 of spring quarter is supposed to be deadline for senate to approve of ballot
- Is it on the agenda
- If you don't have it, can't fix it
- When we voted on something like this 2 years ago, we made a stipulation that the candidate had 2.0 above GPA, was going to be enrolled
- Again, don't wanna comment on identity
- If the senate is willing to make a motion
- I will personally see to it with interim director Lieberman as well as elections board chairs to ensure candidate is up to date
- I'll make sure candidate is up to date with everyone else in election process
- I checked with ruby and there are candidates seeking exceptions already
- Exceptions already from certain rules from elections board
- This wouldn't be the only candidate asking for certain things to be made for them
- And so I think there's already a half dozen or more students that are already seeking assistance regarding deadlines

Zha

- Your capacity as AG, do you believe that senate has authority to pass a motion and refer this to elections board
- If so, what would you recommend for the language?

Carlson

- You have the authority to defer options to other people, BCUs
- The responsibility I can rest with elections board
- We did it through senate two years ago
- Only because elections board punted it back to us
- After reviewing everything, we don't want to make the decision
- Again what a motion could sound like is
- Reopened some extension of his office to work together with AG office or with other relative staff members at the table
- They can use their judgement to how they see fit and how it affects the case
- At the same time it can still remain anonymous with judicial council but time is running short
- In terms of deferral, not unprecedented for senate to handle it by themselves
- It's just the executive action so to speak of making the amendment was given to Dr. Marquez who would then handle the eligibility checks to her office
- And then instruct Lieberman to make changes to ballot
- Again, there is a lot of flexibility there

Brinderson

- April 7 at 8pm was the deadline to become a write in candidate
- I do have a question
- Was this interaction between you and this person after Monday 8PM?

Carlson

- In terms of being a write-in candidate, that wasn't the decision that was expressed
- It was wanting to be a choice candidate after following the deadline
- I already spoke to Ruby and she mentioned there were other candidates seeking extensions for that deadline
- Now if they drop or do whatever, no idea
- Students that are more intimate with elections board
- Kind of candidates that are seeking exceptions to certain rules
- Not the declaration of candidacy one but something else that I can't remember

Brinderson

- Would appreciate an answer to the question I asked
- Either way, we have this process that we all had to go through and you write all these things
- Get it in early
- If you don't have that, that's fine
- The alternative to that process is write in
- You don't get to just jump in
- You become a writing candidate if you're too late
- If you're too late, that's fine, but that's the other option

Carlson

- That reminded me, the people are seeking extensions to deadlines like putting their faces up on stuff
- People haven't submitted bios, statements, headshots so there are people asking for extensions
- There are some people asking for those extensions

Dali

- The website was not working for inputting statements and headshots for a little bit
- You would try to type something in, didn't work
- I did email them, and they fixed it but I don't know how long it was going for

Iden

- Looking at this election, seems like a super low turnout in terms of candidates
- As long as it's made open to other students, do you see there, benefits in reopening?
- Right now, everyone running for off campus gets elected
- See more benefits for larger pool of people

Carlson

- Very pragmatically, when it comes to elections, want a lot of choice
- Want a lot of people making a choice
- To your question, it absolutely is beneficial to have more people running and voting
- When it comes to what we're dealing with this year, I have no idea
- If you take it from me, I am about to enter my masters year
- Already a published researcher
- I'm working solid stake batteries for a whole year
- Will be forced to be cut from AS
- If you want to speak very bluntly, more choice is always better

Amin

- Always scared of voting threshold, last year they were saying this was the only time we've had to extend stuff
- Do you think adding another person to the ballot or however many people
- Do you think adding them all will make it easier to reach that threshold?

Carlson

- I honestly have no idea
- Know that most people in this room have an insta following above a couple hundred
- If you do and advertise it, it means you asking 100-200 people to vote
- Especially if you're looking at how people are voted for in the past two senate elections
- I would say so, yes
- I think it's meaningful
- Senator Lankarani got over 800 votes for off campus because she has large network

- Senator Lankarani has very large network
- That right there is evident enough,
- Certain individuals and more individuals means more people voting

Amin

- In other words, yes?

Carlson

- Yes

Ganesh

- First of all very last minute decision
- If they were passionate enough they would've gotten it in
- Why don't they just pursue a write in candidacy if it was open so recently?

Carlson

- Can't attest to any particular reason
- For some people, organizing in recent weeks has been incredibly time consuming
- Hope that works

Pinto

- Can you identify if they're in the association

Gerson

- I feel like you can't disclose a lot of information
- It's relatively close to deadline
- Probably this person had stuff going on or personal decisions that they could not disclose
- Maybe personal things
- Maybe we should give them benefit of the doubt
- Everyone is human and has to deal with their own personal things and missing the deadline should not take away from wanting to contribute to this amazing organization

Carlson

- Definitely a predicament
- Had this conversation a couple years ago
- Thank you for the sentiment

Khorsandi

- To make a decision like this, not enough information
- Wish we had full picture
- We are kind of being asked to make a big decision
- For the next, 2-4 weeks
- Without knowing all the information, it's tough
- I don't know
- Wish we could know more background
- I would be open into going into closed session

Carlson

- I would rather not disclose anything because it's a request from my office

Iden

- 4 out of 5 executive positions are running unopposed this year
- Dont think it's a bad thing to give people more choices
- In terms of this body handling it,
- There is an abundance of conflict of interest in this room
- My preference is we send out to elections board and the interim director
- Have them make the decision
- They are not going to have conflict of interest problem
- Dont think it's fair for us to make that decision either way

Carlson

- I would be most amenable to it being kicked out of my office as well
- I appreciate that sentiment

Amin

- Tempted to make a motion to hand this over to elections board

Ganesh

- My worry here is if they're running for something here as important as president,
- This feels like an afterthought to come to you
- Candidacy has been open since last quarter
- When I filled mine out, I procrastinated as much as I could
- This is not some chill position, it's 22 million dollars and people's livelihood
- If this is so much of an afterthought, shouldnt be allowed
- Also if the precedent is that senate makes a decision, I think senate should make the decision

Carlson

- Appreciate your sentiment
- One of chief reasons when I declared candidacy
- I made it because I was of sound mind and I wasn't able to campaign a lot
- Wasn't able to successfully campaign a lot
- My dog died week 1 of spring quarter and he died when I was taking a quiz
- And my family calls me
- I completley checked out
- I checked out and failed a class
- Life absolutely impacts how people are able to pursue
- Not my place necessarily to make comment on what the student is going through
- Again, there are absolutely circumstances where AS takes the back road
- Most presently, academics
- Especially since it's the eligibility requirements
- Have to maintain above a 2.0
- Not necessarily an afterthought
- It's simply a balancing of priorities on this wavelength
- Have all these things we have to worry about
- You have to have that responsibility for grades otherwise you cannot serve what you need to do
- When it comes to this student, to me academics, week 9 is your deadline, could absolutely be viable?

- Appreciate though the senate precedent

Zha

- At this point, since the measure was formally raised by the Attorney General, senate should at least take a vote on it
- If it's amenable with the senate I might make that motion

Pinto

- Are you referring to making the motion to send it out to elections board?

Zha

- I can just read out my proposed motion:
- ***"Motion to grant interim director the discretion of accepting candidates past the declared deadline in consultation with AS Office of the Attorney General and AS Elections Board."***

Carlson

- Would almost appreciate not to have my office involved
- Send it to a staff requirement
- More eyes and witnesses is always better
- Just saying, want you to consider what having my office in that would involve

Zha

- I'll amend

***Motion to grant the office of the interim executive director the discretion of accepting candidates past the declared deadline in consultation with the AS elections board.***

***Zha-***

Iden

- Can we flip those?

***Motion withdrawn.***

***Motion to grant the AS elections board the discretion of accepting candidates past the declared deadline in consultation with the office of the interim executive director.***

***Zha - Iden***

Ganesh

- I think the motion should be to accept them as write in candidates
- The only fair thing
- We can't start the process all over for them

Carlson

- We did two years ago

Ganesh

- Well then you're also not following senate precedent
- I highly recommend alternating the motion to say write in candidacy
- Being equitable, giving a chance
- We're also not being unfair to everyone who actually did the work

Brinderson

- Echo senator Khorsandi's points
- When I asked senator carlson when they sent in the request, he did not answer
- Which is fine
- He doesn't have to
- I understand precedent was two years ago, it's a one time, it's not that strong

Iden

- There was precedent last year as well
- Elections board extended deadline last year
- Otherwise I wouldn't be here

Gerson

- We can assume that something unfortunate will happen, or that they just missed that
- We can assume a lot of things, but at the end of the day, we're not going to know.
- And it's giving this person the benefit of the doubt and the opportunity to run for a position that they feel they can make a difference in
- They're going to make their pitch to the student body, and at the end of the day we're not going to be voting this person in
- Student body gets to say
- Not something to do lightly, have to buy a board, make flyers, do a lot of work
- Have to do all these things
- Give them the opportunity rather than trying to figure out why they missed the deadline
- Rather than trying to figure out exactly why they missed the deadline
- We should take it into consideration and not a decision made lightly

Ganesh

- Yes we should be empathetic to people's situation
- We also have to be fair to people who did get it in time
- The only good middle ground is not to deny, but to also not let them be a regular candidate
- People have done that and I feel like that it is a good request to amend the motion
- To allow them to be a write in candidate

Iden

- I still don't think it should be this body's decision
- Just given our relationships
- I'd like the AG of policy 15 on C
- Like to ask AG about policy 15, conflict of interest and how it may pertain to this matter
- How we go forward on this matter and voting and who needs to excuse themselves

Carlson

- Marquez and I created a conflict of interest training module last year
- To be totally honest, we were kind of worried that it would be weaponized
- We had students not in this room who had requested other students' conflict of interest, with complete intent to print them out and post them on campus
- We tried to come up with middle ground in a way

- Where I have gone to BCUs and tried to explain certain things
- Ultimately conflict of interest is hard to explain but basically the university
- Basically university is strict in defining it as financial gain
- Questions like do you invest in anything? Are you in finance and business?
- There are some amendments Dr. Marquez and I made
- An old draft we saw a long time ago asked 'Who are you dating?'
- We kind of struck some of those things
- I can absolutely discuss policy 15 if you want
- I have a draft and a conflict of interest form I can send you all
- And a conflict of interest form I can send you all
- Will just cc all of you, have you sign it by tonight
- If that's something you are interested in

Iden

- The reason I bring that up is because everyone has conflict of interest here, that's why we need to give it to elections board
- That's why we need to give it to elections board

Khorsandi

- Can we clarify the difference between a write in and choice candidate

Carlson

- Write in candidate will be in a free response box at bottom, every vote for them will be tallied and counted
- A choice candidate will be like a multiple choice, or rank them

Khorsandi

- We'll then have to remember their name and write it in?

Carlson

- Correct

Zha

- Had enough discussion
- Important financial report we need to get to

***Called to question: Gerson***

Zha

- If this motion passes, the whole matter is referred to the elections board
- If the motion is not passed, that means that candidate will not appear on the ballot, end of story
- If you want elections board to deal with it, vote yes
- If you want to just stop it, vote no

Amin

- We just said is there any objection to the consent
- And there was no objection
- Did we just backtrack?

Pinto

- No, still on first consent

Zha

- Speaking as parliamentarian
- The voting was interrupted by the author asking to re explain the motion
- Do not believe that vote has been completed

Amin

- I'm happy to back track

Pinto

- During my period of chair, I have back tracked for every single one of you
- Going to continue to recognize that

Lala

- There is an entire term of precedent
- Namely Zha most often explains the motion
- If you choose X this will happen, and Y this won't happen
- It seems intuitive that what was meant
- What was meant by both the senator and chair was consent to go into vote by hand
- Was consent to go into a vote by hand
- Pretty clear
- There's a year of precedent supporting this

Ganesh

- Can you state in the motion it's going to be hand vote

Zha

- If you vote yes for the motion, then the whole matter is sent to elections board
- Senate will not be involved in that process
- If you vote no, everything stops here
- Elections board will not be authorized to make any amendments
- Any candidates potential referrals will be rejected
- Does that answer your question

Amin

- Something, I don't know what it's called,
- After we vote on it you can go back
- But if there is any objection, and there was none,
- I just think we should go back
- Point of information was after you asked if there was objection to consent
- It was after you already asked any objection of consent

Pinto

- Even when I ask for objections, you can still be like consent and move forward
- There was no larger consent

Zha

- If a member of the meeting had doubts of the chair, the majority vote of the senate will decide the eventual outcome

Ganesh

- We're voting yes or no by hand vote right

Zha

- Not a voting method identified in the motion itself

- By convention, the presiding officer, the chair, has the right to set a voting method unless the rest of the senate is against it

Pinto

- Now voting on motion on whether or not we're sending this to elections board and interim director for further deliberation

Iden

- Just to confirm, you're not going to confirm individuals' conflict of interest, considering there is conflict of interest?

Pinto

- Didn't know candidate's position for presidency was confirmed

Gerson

- We were asking for candidate for presidency to refrain from voting

Pinto

- Okay Dan, no voting

Zha

- There is no different obligation for any member of the senate to recuse themselves due to conflict of interest

Siddiqui

- I am not recusing myself

***Voting on Motion to grant the AS elections board the discretion of accepting candidates past the declared deadline in consultation with the office of the interim executive director.***

***(10:48PM)***

Iden

- Point of order
- Policy 15 A3
- In the event that a conflict of interest is determined to exist, the individual member committee report as a whole, the members unable to objectively discharge their responsibility, shall abstain from voting on said matters
- You are required, unless you're able to objectively discharge your conflict of interest
- Give you all ran on the same platform last year, I will say there's conflict of interest

Pinto

- Considering we who don't know who the individual is, I don't understand the direct conflict of interest

Amin

- Iden, are you saying the conflict of interest is the entire senate

Iden

- It is, like basically the entire senate
- I'm saying it needs to be deferred out
- Voting out sends it to another body

Zha

- Senator Iden has the floor

Iden

- Conflict of interest
- Were not making a decision when we vote yes
- Voting it no is voting a decision
- This is putting it in the hands of individuals who make the decision for us

Lala

- If I go left, it's a conflict of interest, if not it's not a conflict of interest
- It makes no sense
- Second, you can define conflict of interest as expansive as you want
- It's a very interconnected association
- Lots of competent people
- Can define it in terms of perspective hires, slates
- If you go down that road there is no end
- Let's vote

Pinto

- I agree, want to go into a vote

Iden

- Just to make it clear
- You're overruling policy 15

Pinto

- I'm overruling your stance on the conflict of interest
- I feel conflict of interest is beyond this room and not exclusive to here
- Feel like it'll carry on into elections board
- The conflict of interest is beyond this room and not exclusive to us
- Don't think it's exclusive to us

Amin

- We are in a room with Dan everyday
- He's our friend
- Someone who we know

Siddiqui

- Point of order are Robert's rules
- You can't just make a point of order and then talk
- You can't make assumptions about Robert's Rules of Order

Gerson

- Can we clarify what conflict of interest means

Pinto

- Literally just did that

Carlson

- In any committee, a conflict of interest is defined as personal financial gain,
- Conflict of interest is personal financial gain, gain of associate, gain of campus organizations
- RCOs, said committee or board members cannot be resolved
- In event conflict of interest is proven

- The member unable to objectively discharge should abstain from voting on set matter that it's defined as personal financial gain
- Dan is the only one running for president
- All execs get paid 10k for their term of office. He's running unopposed
- Guaranteed 10k, running unopposed
- If you're voting in another candidate not to run,
- It's a textbook violation of policy 15 section 1

Pinto

- Siddiqui, I recommend you abstain

Siddiqui

- Okay

***Motion to grant the AS Election Board the discretion of accepting candidates past the declared deadline in consultation with the office of interim AS executive director.***

***Zha - Iden***

***Call to question - Gerson***

Yes: 4

No: 10

Abstain: 3

***The motion fails.***

I-5) Executive Director's Report-

I-6) Executive Officers' Report -

***Back into session at 9:26PM.***

EVPLA Owen Meyers and Samira (9:26PM)

Samira

- We got there around 8am to set up and we started cleaning up around 4:30-5pm and that was because we ran out of water cups. Had we had more water cups, we probably could have handed out water until 6-6:30pm. All our things were packed away and people were still coming up to us asking for water. We handed out a lot of throw up bags and we gave you the stats earlier.

Owen

- So the tent saw 10k visitors. We gave out all of our water, which was over 7k water cups. We also gave out 3k worth of snacks, 3k units of Liquid IV, 1200 units of naran, over 600 test strips. An issue I want to highlight, that I also highlighted to UCSB administration, is that Samira and Fernando, the UCIV advisor, faced an issue when they went to leave. Law enforcement wouldn't let them through the road closure. So despite the fact that we came in with a UCSB truck, and were trying to pack our supplies to go to Pardall to unload everything, they said they wouldn't let us through because no vehicle traffic could be allowed through.

Samira

- UCIV shifts ended at 6pm because we expected to be able to clean up by like 5:30pm. We thought the timeline was more tied to the noise ordinance. They didn't tell us the road blocks were on a different schedule. So that meant all representatives left at 6pm and that left only Nando and I to load the entire truck with all of our supplies, which, if you saw our tent, you know, was a lot of things. So we were the only two left to load up the entire truck which was unfortunate. We ended up just waiting with our supplies for an hour, and then loading the truck. I got home by 8:17PM so it was a 12 hour day.

Owen

- It was an intense shift overall. It was unfortunate that they did not inform us
- Unfortunately, they did not inform us of that occurring at all. Going through was fine, but coming out was not fine at all.

Samira

- They did try pushing till 7:30. Had it not been a UCSB truck, they wouldn't have let us through

Owen

- For deltopia, I can give my office's efforts as well. We gave our hundreds of care kits prior to Deltopia. We gave out from the Pardall Center, fentanyl test strips, snacks like cookies, narcan, also Liquid IV. We gave them out to anyone who approached the center. Even when we ran out of kits, we continued to give test strips and narcan. So anyone who came to the center to collect those kids, was able to get something to get prepared for Deltopia. We also donated to support drink testing kits efforts to CSD. A lot of those kits the CSD had provided through our donations and free breakfast and narcan testing kits. I'd like to highlight the fact that when the CSD sent their representative to deliver the leftover narcan, the law enforcement stopped them from entering through the road closure again. They said it was because it was a bike so we had to choose a meet up spot. Keep in mind, we don't want representatives to leave the station, it's important that they're there.

Samira

- We got lucky that there were administrative members that came as volunteers.
- As soon as I saw them I was like 'okay good. You guys can help get the narcan.' There were about 5-6 of us at the tent at any given time. Sending 3 people would be sending half the people who staffed the tent to go pick up Narcan because we weren't allowed to pass through.

Owen

- We hope these issues can be ironed out. I did meet with the university staff, and the chief of UCPD, and other local stakeholders. I also attended the CSD meeting yesterday just to emphasize that I want a written agreement with the county. Because UCID was so successful, I do want to keep improving with the county. I'm going to collect all the data and make a report to the county basically saying thank you for letting us use the county park and that this is the impact we were able to have. We'd like to continue this year by year. I would like all your support on that if you can reach out and emphasize these efforts to the county and especially emphasize from a student perspective why this was so important. We

were the only water station within 3 blocks, keep in mind if you could not get water at the UCIV tent, you had to go all the way to Little Acorn Park. A lot of those coming out of UCSB don't know what Little Acorn Park is and it's hard to explain with them if they don't know where landmarks are because they are not from the area. Granted I do support the keep it local campaign, I think it's important to support people and not leave completely unhelped just because they are from other areas. And I don't support the approach of not having any safety stations 3 blocks from the event. I think it's already difficult enough that UCIV is the only safety station on DP that people can find.

Samira

- I did notice that there were a lot of people who used the tent to find their friends because it was a very clear pinpoint on Del Playa. Especially people not from here who saw the white tent and could find their friends. It was a very easy way for them to find their friends. I found it could be helpful for people who lost their phones and who were borrowing phones to call their friends to let them know where they were. It was really cool and happy to see a lot of people found each other again on Del Playa, especially on a busy day like Deltopia.

Owen

- A lot of people were using the tent as a safe space because they knew it was non-police affiliated so they could rest and sit there with less worry. The issue we see with restorative justice suspension argument and the attempted removal of the UCIV tent station, it's that it's always enforcement over harm reduction and that they don't understand that people don't want to ask for help in terms of calling 911 because they are afraid of getting a citation on their permanent record. I will discuss some data regarding Deltopia. There was a 52% increase in citations, 458 citations this year.
- A lot of these were thrown at the district attorney's office (DA). The DA office has its own restorative justice program, but separate foot patrol programs. If people have complaints, they refer them to the DA's office. This is a significantly more arduous program, you have to go to court, apply to their program, and they have more to do. It is more extensive than that foot patrol program, and it's also volunteer based. Employees are not paid to run the program and now they are receiving 458 new citations to deal with. I will say that, however, the DA's office has talked to the university saying they are going to be easy on Deltopia citations as long as they are nonviolent. A significant amount of citations came from things like littering, and the majority of arrests, 80 arrests this year, were majority public intoxication. So they arrested people and put them into protective custody. They said it was because they couldn't help themselves or others, so they arrested them. And so that's a lot like the uptake and arrest that we saw. We did see police at the IVCS recovery center sitting there by the center arresting and citing people before they could reach the center, which is what the CSD complained to me about, that police were just sitting by the center, and that is something she does not want to continue. Fortunately, law enforcement did not station near the tent which is good to see. I will say too, I am in contact with the Chief Public Defender of the Goleta area. She is very upset, her name is Tracy, by the

restorative justice suspension. I have her number so if any of you know someone who received a citation or arrest, please reach out to me and let me know. She's agreed to directly speak to any student affected by this and how she can help through the DA restorative justice program so that's good news to come out of this, that the public defender's more involved this year.

- As well, my office is planning to host a Know Your Rights Workshop for immigrant students. We are talking to local immigrant defense agencies in Santa Barbara and have a postal workshop, and also working with public defenders on that as well. The screen-a-thon, unfortunately, was postponed last week. We are having another one on April 17th, so it'll still be next week. Also, I'd like to announce that we're having a sexual assault session town hall. That's April 23 that will have catering, so free sandwiches. Please come. May 14, is the meal ticket distribution event. There will be a band show, vendors, similar activities like tie dye shirts, and rock paintings. There will be free meal tickets from a variety of vendors like Sams To Go, and Maria's Tacos, and we are trying to include more Pardall local restaurants. So it'll be a collection of vendors and you can get free stuff so I recommend you come.
- Going back on another note, There is a new sheriff. Lieutenant Tess la did resign. He did not fill out his full term so he resigned prior to Deltopia. Actually, his position ended effective March 31 so there's now a new sheriff. His name is Joe Schmidt. He went to UCSB, he was a Gaucho. Despite his relatability, he was called the ideal successor for the position, so I would take that with a grain of salt. He is a new sheriff so it will be interesting how he does things differently and can foster a relationship where UCIV does not feel combated, and where we can actually provide harm reduction. The new sheriff will be serving out the rest of Tess la's term, and then up for reelection at the end of June 2026. Those are the major updates of my office, I will just be serving out the rest of spring. We are planning to host all these events to support you guys. Thank you for your support. Our main missions are support supporting UCIV in any way, and uplifting the Pardall Center
- Those are our main points from the beginning of the year. I don't think it can be overstated how many people were assisted by that tent. Even if one person is assisted by the tent, I believe it is a success. It can only be a result of your collective efforts, and us negotiating with the county, and I am hoping to get something written done so we can have that next year.

Malhis

- Thank you for the work you guys do every year. There are so many people on campus on and off campus for Deltopia. I just did the calculations and about 2% of the undergraduate population got citations. I want to refine my statement because there are so many people off campus too, maybe 50% of people out there aren't from Santa Babrara. Excellent job and excited for what you guys do next year

Owen

- As for demographic info, unfortunately the sheriff department says they don't want to legally provide it. They also refused to provide information on police

increase. We noticed a significant increase in officers, but they won't give us numbers.

Khorsandi

- If the previous sheriff resigned before Deltopia, does that mean this current sheriff was in office during Deltopia?

Owen

- Yes but Lieutenant Tess La did still run the event in a way, he was still incident command and was present and was at the triage. He basically still did run Deltopia, because it was all his plan in motion.

Brinderson

- Thanks for taking charge of this. Thanks for keeping students safe. Great work overall. I do have a question about where Tess La is now. He resigned but is now promoted? So he is the boss of the current sheriff?

Owen

- He was sent to an office that governs Santa Maria and Santa Barbara. He is not the boss of the current sheriff. He is more countywide now. The new sheriff actually requested Isla Vista. It is interesting he didn't serve out the rest of his term.

Samira

- We are hoping UCIV will have extra tents next year. We did have a rest area behind the tents but we wanted to make sure people have shade because we noticed the sun was really strong. So we are hoping we'll have extra tents to provide shade for people. We did have quite a few people throwing up and you don't want to do that in the sun.

Ganesh

- Really thankful for all of your work. It's crazy how much the law is affecting us. I am really thankful for you guys. I stayed away from the tent because I thought the police would be there. I hope your successors are just as good as you guys are.

Zha

- The whole senate shares the appreciation of your great work
- But we do have around 7 agenda items to do, and we only have 1 more hour

Owen

- Feel free to email me if you have any additional questions.

I-7) Senator Representative Reports-

I-8) Administrative Reports-

J) Committee Report

J-1) Standing Committee on Finance -

J-2) Standing Committee on Outreach -

J-3) Standing Committee on Liaison -

Ganesh

- I'm the chair of the Liaison Committee for this year. I'm the one who sent the email out. In the email, there was also a feedback form, and I feel like more

transparency. I have to read this feedback out. I won't read all of it. There's a lot, but kind of my job.

- Okay, so one of the first questions was, what are your concerns or complaints?
- Most people in the responses as of within like eight hours, I've got like three people responding. One person feels that this is a complete overstep of Senate power. Why should senators get equal say on the hiring process? This is unfair to the BCUs that have already begun their hiring process.
- Another question was about public recruitment. Publicizing recruitment is a necessity. Most people said you could just insert BCUs to do things and make sure they do it.
- The senate approves appointments, not COC, not Senate bill and recruitment process and or other comments.
- Another comment was, If you're going to propose a new adequate time, more time is needed for this process, and I feel like the senate plan does not have adequate time to understand what BCUs are looking for.
- Someone said, Thank you for receiving feedback.
- Now I would like to clarify certain things here. I feel like the email has been misread as the Senate jumping in and taking all BCU autonomy when it comes to hiring.
- Another thing most people are not understanding is not all BCUs are functioning at the same level as one would want them to. Some BCUs really have their shit together, some BCUs are struggling. That's okay. We have a very high turnover rate. Some of them are just barely appointed as chairs.
- This is a process to help BCUs who need that help. We are not going to overhaul recruitment and completely strip autonomy. We will check in with every BCU. And if we feel that said BCU needs to, needs help with it, more importantly, if this is an association funded by student fees, publicizing jobs to all students is an absolute necessity. We cannot not publicize jobs.
- You know, BCUs need to understand that there's a difference between click and the community. This is a bottom line that I will like to emphasize again and again.
- Publicizing to everyone in the student body is an absolute necessity. If your personal BCU, and individual BCU has already done that process, taken those measures in hiring people through that process, very good.
- This is a measure to make sure all BCUs are able to operate on the same level. A lot of people are misreading this is for the next year, 2025, 2026, not this year.
- A lot of people email me that they are hiring for this quarter. You can do that and continue to do that. That is totally fine. This is for the next academic year, and I will take questions. Thank you

Khorsandi

- What exactly is the purpose of pausing appointments?

Ganesh

- We are just wanting to check in to all BCUs to see how recruitment is going. If it is not going well, we will be having a comprehensive plan, we will be taking it on.

Most people are understanding pausing as hiring for spring quarter but that is not it. We are not touching spring quarter

Siddiqui

- The reason for pause is that every single BCU is doing a different hiring process
- We cannot make sure everyone is doing one that is equitable and up to legal code.

Ganesh

- The pause is not trying to hinder the recruitment process that has started, think about it as a check in. I would like to say I'm having office hours. I'm having extensive office hours tomorrow 8:30-10am and all of Friday for 8:30-2pm. Next week office hours will be equally extensive. They will be sent out by email. Please come to my office hours. Liaison committee meetings are also open to everyone 5:30pm AS main on Mondays. Please come to ask questions and feedbacks

Khorsandi

- Thank you for clarification
- Given the feedback from BCUs and public forum
- How do you plan to proceed with your plan?

Ganesh

- This is not my plan. This is the senate plan.

Iden

- Point of order. You do not speak for the senate executive committee. You can't speak for the whole senate unless there is a motion made. I do not agree with a lot of this, I ask you to refrain from making assumptions.

Ganesh

- This is not my personal plan either. I wish I had that much power. My job here is to collect inputs from BCUs about how they feel about this proposed plan.
- I do not want to make the 74th senate's mistake. If BCUs feel that they want more communication from us, we shall give it to them.
- A big portion of BCU actually needs this help that we are putting into action. As someone who's been in a lot of these same meetings, I'm saying not all of them operate on the same level,
- I feel like a lot of people who do have their process very streamlined are feeling that we're going to come and take autonomy. That is not the case. That's something I want to reiterate again. So based on this input, I feel like we will proceed with BCU consultation as was always our plan, as is intended in the email.

Khorsandi

- Can I make a recommendation that another follow up email is made clarifying everything for BCU that was not here. Everything said was clarifying for me who read the email. I'm sure a lot of people who weren't here need that clarification as well. Just to summarize everything you said here.

## Ganesh

- Emails are what gives misinterpretation. This is why we have office hours. We want people to come for consultation. If the senate feels that another email is required I can send that out.
- Last thing is that If you are funded by student fee, you are advertising your jobs to all students

## Idea

- So like our why is that our hirings are not equitable to everyone on campus right now. I think that's kind of like our primary point of contention, correct?
- Okay, so my thoughts are, why are we doing all of this? Why don't we just start setting some harder like clarifying guidelines for recruitment, that your appointments aren't going to be valid unless you do this.
- Also, like having this happen again, I know the sentiments are going to keep coming back up, like week two of spring, when we're hearing BCUs have already been doing recruitment since winter. Just screams negligence to me, on like, if we were to go through with this and just like, kind of completely ignore, without hearing from everyone, we've heard from three BCUs tonight.
- If you want to go through with the decision that was, like, announced today, it's just, I don't think that's a great way to show consideration for the members of our association.
- Again, also, if the reasoning is, is, like, equity. What's the data on that? How do we know it's inequitable? How do we know, like, students aren't getting these opportunities? Like, if anything, in my mind is just, Oh, it wasn't advertised, so it is an equitable I don't that's not necessarily true.
- A lot of these BCUs, they work really hard, and they really work to cultivate members and like us saying we know better than you isn't the way I think we should go about it like we were going to do something like this, we should have begun winter quarter
- So we want to pause hirings, and then Senate leadership COC liaison and outreach committee are going to conduct recruitments for hundreds of positions that most of us really have no idea what takes to fill, or the qualification like factors for those positions as a lot of us don't interact that closely with these BCUs.
- And then we have a three week timeline of advertising these positions after we create these applications, you know, ads for these positions we really don't know anything about.
- And then we have a three week advertising for these positions we don't know anything about and then interviews begin week seven, and then the new Senate turns in week eight, all fresh faces to the association, and they're going to have to finish that process of interviews.
- And you're planning on conducting hundreds of interviews between week seven and week eight, if you want to keep it in this 75th like Senate, or if you want to put

onto the 76th who's now just getting thrown into this entirely new process with new procedures.

- I'm not for this at all, and that's kind of my thoughts on that. I think it's strange, it's just that the timing of it's extremely strange. It's inconsiderate.
- And if you're going to show consideration to BCU, we don't do anything about this tonight, and we can pass this on. Set up these procedures for the rest of our quarter, the rest of our term. Set up a nice system for the 76th Senate, and then they take the torch and they can implement it

Siddiqui

- A few things
- Senator, with all due respect, a lot of the things that were said, I think, contradict exactly what was said in the email.
- First of all, the interview process is not week seven, week eight. It's week seven throughout multiple weeks of the summer. And it's not hundreds of positions. It's only the chairperson positions or equivalent, that would be way less than 100 probably the maximum is maybe 35 maybe 40.
- That would take place over a series of two months, one month, six weeks. That's the first point.
- Second of all, the point was made about, why aren't we seeking a longer term solution to the recruitment process? The answer is that we are, there's legislation in the works right now to address that issue.
- It's not been introduced because it's not nearly ready yet, because we want to go through an expansive consultation process. We are trying to find a long term fix.
- Another point I want to bring up is that the association here is that because there wasn't enough time to consult the BCUs and get them on board for this multiple weeks in advance, we should throw away this entire recruitment plan, do business as usual, and then set up the system for the 76 Senate do recruitment correctly.
- Realistically, if we want to create a more equitable association, if we truly want this association to be open and accessible to everyone, If we want to increase murder turnout, it has to start with the Senate, for lack of better words, having some balls and taking action that needs to be taken.
- The 74th Senate was the first Senate to cut into rollover. And if all of you remember who were there, that action was very controversial. Now, when we discuss the concept of rollover, there is not nearly as much controversy around it because we've done the work of explaining it and doing the messaging.
- I agree that the consultation and the timing of this email was way too late. I also want to say that in the conversation I just had with my senators, I was the first person to say that I don't think we should come to a decision on this today anymore. I think it should wait until next week.
- But what I do want to emphasize is that I believe the Senate's role for the BCUs in this process is to ensure that every single BCUs is engaging in a recruitment process that has objective standards that all BCUs adhere to.

- We don't want the Liaison Committee and outreach committee and senators going in and doing these interviews and individually picking the people.
- That's not what's described in the email. That's not the intention of the plan. The intention of the plan is to ensure that every single BCU as of now, start the president for now, makes the recruitment open to all students, and then for next year, we have a formula system in place.
- That's the idea behind it. It's not going to be perfect, Sandy and Suuck are gonna have to work their asses off like they have been. And I'll be there to help them, and my office will be as well.
- I truly invite anyone else here on the Senate who would like to help out of this process and work with the BCUs.
- But I believe this is a necessity. I believe that if we do this correctly, if we take it slower, if we incorporate all the feedback and we really work with the BCUs, I think this has the potential to be by far, one of the most important things we've done this quarter other than the active allocation act. Those are my initial thoughts on it. I just wanted to put that out there.

Malhis

- I agree with a lot of senator Siddiqui's points.
- Senator Iden you said a lot on Senate being unequitable to the BCUs
- It is true that we don't know if they are equitable
- But this is just a check in
- To see if they need help
- There are a lot of BCU that are doing great, they know exactly what they are looking for their executive office positions, so we don't need to intervene
- But there is a big gap of communication between Senate with BCUs
- So this is a way for us to show that we care about them
- If we do not understand policies and how to run things
- We can be there for help them with their recruitment process
- So I see this as a way to assist them rather than intervene

Lala

- I think the central issue is, if there's multiple things going on here and they're all similar enough that we're all getting confused
- It's always difficult to try to bridge that gap in a way that has a positive tone to it, rather than being seen as an intervention into a ground where usually the Senate shouldn't be stepping into
- So I think let's deal with them one by one.
- I think the two main things are the advertising process not being open enough, and this applies to no matter the level of the function of the BCU. You could be a Napoleon level organizer. It's still extremely important that you advertise it openly, because it is an open and public position.
- And the second, of course, is BCUs seemingly not functioning to a standard that the student body would be satisfied with. I think that's the key definition.

- There not Senator X, Y or Z wouldn't be satisfied with, the student body wouldn't be satisfied with
- I think there's real issues in this process which are legitimate for BCU representatives to bring up, timing, of course, being chief amongst them
- Not only the email being released prior to the meeting, which is a serious issue, but I think it wouldn't really make much of a difference in the long term.
- I think the key concern is more to the tune of what Senator Iden was saying, that BCUs have started this process a long time ago, and there's a real incongruence there, that we're beginning now when much of this work has already been done.
- And I recognize that as well.
- That being said, issues with this process, deep reform is absolutely needed, and I think that's the most important takeaway here.
- Sometimes in order to get to a better new structure, bull in a china shop situation
- I think this was to drag people into it, make them pay attention, and then bring enough minds together that we create a sustainable way to move forward from it.
- So a sustainable solution at the end of the day, not a way to antagonize one another unnecessarily.
- So what I'm thinking here is what outcome would make this process worth it, what would be a tangibly positive step forward from all of this,
- In my view, that would be in discussions today and hearing from all of you today and throughout this process, and hopefully making this decision come next week,
- So by next Wednesday, we would have a clear definition of what we mean by open advertising, a clear understanding of the kind of function that we expect, not we as senators, but we as representatives of the student body expect from all BCUs, and through that to establish a system that functions well into the future and not just just a term ahead
- So I think the thing that grabbed the most attention was the concept of the hiring pause and all the rest of it.
- But I think what really matters, and what we should get out of this and build towards is a system of the advertising and of communication where the Senate is able to see whether all BCUs are up to the standard the students expect from them well into the future, and not something that you have to be scared of from us, that we are stepping in to take BCU's power away

#### Iden

- Jump back in on some points.
- No one's saying don't do reform, keep the current system as it is.
- No one's saying that.
- If anything, I think that we all have a shared sentiment of let's get this opportunity to as many people as we can.
- That's our guiding idea. We want this to be as equitable as the process to everyone.
- If we're trying to be equitable and we're trying to be fair, throwing this in BCU's faces in Spring week 3 is not the way to do it

- Cramming it into the last week of fall quarter of this plan to pause hirings then implement this procedure that isn't ready or written yet, that no one knows anything about before we even go ahead and do it isn't the best way to go about it.
- If anything, we have the procedure set up, and then we'll follow it later.
- We don't just stop this right now and then we're going to fix it
- I don't know if students are super upset that they're not in the BCUs, that's why you need that period of data gathering

Amin

- The other thing I think this is going to work really well is because the goal of what we're doing is not to take power away from BCU
- This is where the miscommunication
- The only analogy I can think of is the great depression, where they closed all the banks
- And then they slowly open the ones that know what they are doing
- The ones that know what they are doing won't need our support but the ones that do need it will get it
- For example, COSWB don't need our support
- But people who need our support will get that support

Pinto

- One relevant point I want to mention because my office has been working on this and is something I would like us all of us to think about
- We have staff advisor for all BCUs
- What is our collective expectation for staff advisors?
- We don't have streamline and standardized trainings and lack procedural understanding for how BCUs interact with the Senate and with AS in general
- These are things we need to consider in these conversations moving forward

Ganesh

- That is a big legislation in the works, we did have a meeting with the advisors about this
- Two things to note is that everyone is talking about timing, I acknowledge that the email should've been sent earlier
- It should not have been the day of the senate
- Another thing is that we should've introduced this winter quarter
- The thing is, the liaison committee as it stands
- This is our first year existing, it takes a minute to figure out what I'm doing
- If the constant argument is you should not introduce anything last minute
- What is last minute?
- We are in the quarter system, our terms end in like 3 quarters
- By the time we figure out what our jobs are, it is over
- That should not stop us
- If we noticed a genuine issue in the association, we should not be scared to reform

- We are sitting standards here of equity
- Think about it like an election
- I had no AS experience, i came from an RCO background, I became a senator
- You are allowed to do that
- This is the same standard we are setting
- You are advertising chair positions to apply and everyone have the right to get involved
- Someone give me feedbacks that BCU boards should decide chair positions
- That is still going to be the case
- BCUs board will still decide their chairs
- Is just that instead of the same 5 faces they see everyday, they will have more applications
- We are not taking away autonomy
- BCU boards have a say
- There's also this sense of false hierarchy in AS
- Where to be a BCU chair, you have to be involved with the BCU before
- That is not what equity is about

#### Siddiqui

- I want to address one central question of why are we doing it so soon
- Why are you doing it like this?
- Why aren't you taking it slow and doing deeper reform?
- I think it would be helpful for you all to know
- I was a BCU chair last year
- When discussion about rollover happened last year, it felt like you are coming in and are trying to take that money
- As I've stepped into this position, I think I've kind of forgotten a lot about what it is like to be a BCU chair
- It's very hard to see each other's perspective
- I think when all of us are operating at a high level like this, in an association putting so much of our own personal time and effort into these roles, and I'm prefacing what I'm about to say by saying that when I'm saying I want to address the reason why there hasn't been reform to the recruitment process before, as Senator Ganesh mentioned, the reason why there hasn't been reformed to the recruitment process before is because the way this association is set up and designed, where people who end up in positions, a lot of the times, whether it be chair positions or regular board positions or senators, are not given the adequate training or the adequate resources about how to do their jobs, about how the association works.
- For example, the Committee on committees, as we discussed with advisors earlier, has essentially not been able to complete all of its functions for years on end.
- Now, I will remind you all, we have multiple staff advisors who work with COC, and right now it's our Assistant Director of Governmental Affairs.

- We used to have a legislative liaison position that would work with the Senate and would take on some of the work of the assistant director for governmental affairs.
- That position was removed from the AS wide staff work chart.
- We have a huge issue with recruiting and retaining professional staff to train students on how to do their jobs.
- What we're doing right now, it's not going to be perfect.
- I think there's going to be a lot of hiccups in the way, but it's because we're at a tipping point, on the horizon of change
- And we're trying to fix a broken system.
- We want to set up a system that works.
- We could say let's just go over the long, hard, deep reform and try to do it next year, but then that's a whole year of students who missed out on the opportunity to potentially get involved when they could have.
- And me, personally, I'm not willing to throw away a whole year of opportunities for this.
- I'm willing to make as many amendments to this plan as needed. I'm willing to put in as much time and effort as needed and make as many compromises needed, but I'm not willing to throw away

Ganesh

- We're not making a motion on this tonight.
- The form is open.
- We're doing office hours
- We want to hear about this.
- Thank you Senator Iden for all your feedback.
- I will continue to hear from you but I don't want to shy away from reform plans
- Through the nature of my job, I noticed that a lot of BCUs are generally struggling with recruitment and with retention
- We are pretty understaffed and asking whatever amount of staff we have to do so much is not very fair to them.
- They have nine to five, a lot of BCU meetings are pretty late into the night.
- This is just streamlining a process where there's more involvement, more help to make a more equitable association.

Suuck

- It's worth noting that this is till a conversation
- If you guys don't like week 7, we can change that
- We don't like the nature of a pause, we can have that conversation right now
- It is not yes or no
- It could be yes but let's change it this way based on this feedback
- We should also be talking about not just yes or no, but if we do move forward with this, how should we change this

Zha

- I fully agree with the sentiment and spirit brought up by Senator Lala, Senator Siddiqui and Sen Ganesh, its association founded upon equity, which couldn't stop our pursuit of those principles.
- However, speaking as someone who is a board member for the global cultural commission for three years. I also see the BCU's perspective
- Sometimes we get email from the Senate, we're scared, we don't know what is happening, and we're very powerless.
- So I'd love to join the conversation and contribute my perspective as a BCU experience, and hopefully we can draw out a set of concrete standard

#### Iden

- Change isn't bad.
- Change is good when it's slow, especially when you have the data, especially with how many BCUs we have, they're all very unique.
- We can still do the change, but just do it slow
- I'm not saying a month, I'm saying let's spend time talking to every BCU going into next year
- It's fine if it gets pushed back.
- I'd rather have a system set up that is ready for 10 more years than a change that we think might work to solve this solution
- Going slow is fine
- I want to train the next Senate as well as I can, and I know a lot of other people share that sentiment, and I don't see the harm in setting up this really cool system. This process of us interviewing BCUs and then doing the reforms

#### Amin

- Just to piggyback off of what Senator Iden was saying
- If we want to talk to every single BCUs, I think that's a great idea.
- I think one way to make that process a little easier is you can send out a BCU sign up sheet and have X amount of BCU to come to our Senate meetings before our last meeting
- They can come speak to us about their concerns
- I just think that's the most realistic way to get this done in our setting.

#### Siddiqui

- I just want to go off of what Senator Amin and Senator Iden said, I believe reciprocate and agree with the notion of getting consultation done with this.
- I think the idea of having BCUs come to Senate may not be the most effective
- I think perhaps a better approach would be getting the Liaison Committee to individually talk to the BCUs over the next week, because the plan is already communicated.
- Because a lot of BCUs are operating at a different level, right?
- Some BCUs badly needed. Some BCUs have already done their recruitment process and they're fine.

- And Liaison Committee has a more in depth understanding of who needs help and who doesn't, but we don't.
- So I think, just for time sake, over the next week, and potentially even the week after that, Senator Iden, exactly what you suggested is exactly what we want to do before we come to a final decision, meet with all the individual BCUs, figure out where we need to make exceptions and then go forward with the comprehensive policy.
- Hopefully by next week, I think we can get it done by next week
- I'm free pretty much all Friday, and I'm willing to help out as much as possible. If not next week, then after that

Iden

- To confirm, I requested you have to meet with every BCU

Ganesh

- I want to do that as well
- A weeks time, i dont have enough labor
- Also, if they don't respond, I can't stalk them
- I want to meet with them as much as possible
- But I want to be honest that I need help
- I really would welcome help
- Especially if there are BCUs different senators are more close with

Amin

- That is exactly why we should bring those BCUs here
- If we tell them to come in person, they are way more likely to respond
- It doesnt work
- Then let's try something different

Ganesh

- I do agree
- If senate has a particular way they want to direct us to move, i'm open to suggestions

Siddiqui

- I agree we dont need to give you a former directory
- Liaison committee can do it
- I trust the leadership

J-4) Standing Committee on Advocacy -

J-5) Group Project and other Temporary Committee Reports-

K) Minutes and Allocations:

 To Be Approved

***Motion to bundle and approve all minutes and allocations.***

***Zha - Ganesh***

***Called to question - Amin***

***Passed at 10:59PM.***

L) Discussion Items

AS Food Bank at 8:47PM

Siddiqui

- There was an emergency email vote scheduled after winter quarter to give tens of thousands of dollars to an executive, which was one in an impromptu manner
- So we don't have the money in Senate unallocated to grant your full request
- We have to pull money from reserves and do it next week
- You can still come and present and say everything you have to say today, and we can preliminarily make decision
- We can preliminarily make decision

Iden

- Do the presentation, it will be taken into consideration in budget deliberation

Pinto

- This is us telling you the logistics of where the money has gone and where the money will be pulled from

Gabby (operations student coordinator), Jasmine (specific programs & outreach student coordinator), Suditi (administration student coordinators)

Suditi

- Overview of our snack station
- Which is what we are going to focus our presentation on
- Some testimonials and cost breakdown

Gabby

- Our snack station program
- This was initially funded by the FSNB, the food security and basic needs task force
- That is where we have been getting the funding from
- It started as a small project, now there is 17 snack stations
- Some are off campus too
- We are trying to target high impacted areas where students frequent, just offer them free snacks, they do not have to qualify for anything
- This program is not fully absorbed by food bank yet, but we do maintain and provide staff that help to maintain the stations

- We are not currently paying for them
- But funding will be cut off for the next fiscal year, the funding ends this week
- Due to financial reconstructing
- So either the food bank has to absorb the cost, which is about 20-25k
- Or we have to dissolve the program because we don't have the funding to continue with purchasing the snacks and provide funding
- So we are asking for \$50,300 from CCAAJJ dissolved budget
- Which will help to sustain this program for 2 years while we look for long-term solution

Jasmine

- There's some data that we pulled from people who visited the stations
- There is a sign-in form
- Over 665 visited it
- Just some testimonials from people sign in and give us feedback, you can see how helpful these snack stations are to people
- A lot of people don't have access to food on campus
- And these snacks help them feel energized, keeps them motivated in school, helps them focus in class
- They are also healthy nutritious snacks.
- So you could tell how helpful it is to the student population when they're on the go and they're on campus all day, it keeps them nourished

Suditi

- So this was our grant funding that we received from basic needs.
- So our 22 to 23 budget, it's \$22k
- Then it decreased to \$19k
- Then it's almost \$21k for this fiscal year.
- However, due to their own financial procedures, we're going to have to stop spending money by April 15, which is very soon
- After that date, we'll have to spend money out of our own budget, which is already allocated to other things.
- So we're going to have to decrease either the amount of snacks that we can provide for this program or the diversity of things that we can get for our own pantry.
- The budget for each year includes summer and until mid April

Jasmine

- We know words have to be backed up by evidence.
- So we actually took some pictures of the snack stations when they were filled.
- So if you go to the next slide, you can see the day that we filled up the snack stations.
- We hit all 16 of them on the same day in two different groups.
- The next picture is the next day when the snack stations are hit in popular areas like El Centro, ELP office, the Health Center and they're wiped, and we don't have an opportunity to rebuild these snack stations until that Friday.
- So that's three days where students don't have access to these snacks through the snack stations.

- And who knows where they might be getting this food from if the food bank doesn't supply through these stations

Suditi

- So this is basically a breakdown of how much we spend.
- We order from Cisco and Costco, and since we have to use the budget very efficiently, we order bi-weekly in order to stretch out the budget and have enough snacks.
- Cisco we spend about \$1,200 and then Costco about \$700 so totaling about \$1,900 bi-weekly

Jasmine

- This is an outline of the labor that we are providing from food banks. Specifically for these snack stations
- We will have to have people receiving deliveries from Cisco at Shim Green. We need students to go physically to Costco to pick up these snacks. And we don't really have a flex card, which means that we also have to grab someone from basic needs to go with us,
- And then we do our refills on Tuesday and Friday, that is two separate shifts with two students.
- So we need 8 people each week

Suditi

- I basically broke down our labor for every two weeks.
- So ordering: one person orders takes about one hour per vendor. So that will be \$35 bi-weekly
- And then pick up and organization Friday. Pick up from Costco is two hours, need two people, because we do have a lot of things to load.
- And then the snack station retail, as Gabby mentioned, it's four people per snack station two days a week. So that's \$231 in total, \$563 for every two weeks.
- So that's how much we spend bi-weekly.
- So assuming we spent that much bi-weekly for an entire year, it would go up to \$37,000
- And clearly, we don't get that much money. So we have to make some adjustments in terms of labor, whether to ask our staff to work faster, which is unfair to them, or to cut down the diversity of snacks or how much we can order

Gabby

- And in our last meeting, we heard your concerns. They were very valid. We didn't anticipate responses, so we just wanted to touch on those.
- We acknowledge that we have rollovers
- Let me restart, actually
- Last meeting that we attended, we got our lock in fee increased, and we were asked if we can allocate that money towards the snack stations.
- But we do have renovations that are planned, and we have to allocate for that
- which would come with refrigeration, would come with higher operational costs.
- We also plan to reopen on Tuesdays, which means that we need more money for staffing, more inventory.

- We would like to increase the volume of food that we're able to provide and the diversity, so that students can have a tangible answer for where their money is going.
- And this program also functions as a grant, this is a promise to use the funds we use from CCAJJ for this program specifically
- The arbor is the only place that accepts EBT
- EBT is not accessible to everyone, it is a long and tedious process
- Whereas snack stations are free to everyone across campus
- We target high traffic areas, underrepresented students
- We are running low on money as the Food Bank

Suuck

- Sorry you are giving this presentation for the third time

Ganesh

- Thank you guys for your relentless work on this and thank you so much for having a meeting with us. I would just like to remind the senate that the last time they presented with us, there would be a drop in a bucket. Clearly, there have been a lot of drops and a lot of buckets. There was a request for data and they gave us a comprehensive labor, cost, time breakdown. There's data on how many students use the program and how frequently they use the program. There is a reason why they kept coming because mid-April, the funding runs out, and I think hopefully we can help them right in the nick of time. Because clearly, this is something the student body needs, appreciates, and likes and there's something in the food bank that is diligently working. There is no better use of our money, I would just like to say thank you.

Lankarani

- Thank you for coming consistently and coming in multiple times. I'm really glad that you guys are passionate about helping our students. I can't think of a better way to use that money. I really appreciate the work you guys do, and I'm just really happy you guys are working hard and you guys are here.

Iden

- Would you mind copying that presentation and sending it on the agenda email sent out so we can look at your figures? Then we can timeline how much we can extend it by until deliberations.

Ganesh

- I can do that right now

Pinto

- Do you have editing access?

Ganesh

- No

Pinto

- Do you have access to the agenda?

Siddiqui

- Thank you for re-doing this. I know it is not easy to redo something you already did. I think it's perfect now. I'd like to see this get passed next week.

- I was the one who originally brought this project so thank you liaison committee for taking over for me because I did not do a great job of communicating. So really sorry about that, but I really think this is like the definition of what we should be doing. We took an empty government unit that was collecting student fees and transformed it into a tangible service based operation that is directly addressing students' basic needs. This is like, if I could give an example project to the 76th senate, it would be this. Thanks for your hard work on this, it's incredible.

Suuck

- In terms of logistics, this won't get decided right now so I'm sorry about that.
- I am going to email you all next week and I'll have an answer for you. I'm not going to make false promises. Something is going to happen. Thank you guys for staying with us.

***Motion to enter a 15 minute recess until 9:21PM.***

***Zha - Lankarani***

***Called to question: Malhis***

***Passed at 9:06PM***

AS Long Term Financial Continuity

[W Report On AS Longterm Financial Continuity.docx](#)

Zha

- We are allowed to talk about 18 million dollars that AS is bringing
- But that's not actual
- 7 million goes to campus departments
- We have a 11 million dollars, out of that, only 4 million are undesignated, the other 7.5 million goes to BCUs
- Only have access to 4 million
- Out of that 4 million, we pay for infrastructure, maintenance, emails
- We pay the budget of the non lock-in fee BCUs
- To everybody who does not have a lock in fee
- It comes out of the 4 million, also pays for staff salary
- It's just not enough
- Right now, we have about 20 vacant positions
- Don't have money to have them
- There have been 7 million dollars made from now launching this budget
- Only 2.35 million dollars have be recommended
- And then it's roughly around 1 million dollars of reserve
- Our current financial situation is out of the number, we are going to run out of money
- District reports recommend amending allocation policy, with additional consideration to the allocation policy of AS, to offset dedicated and partially dedicated professional staff to BCU, along with consideration of central operation professional staff allocations

- Report drafted by me, Aryaman Singh and David Jr. Sim
- Reviewed by finance team of AS

***Motion to invoke the privilege granted to the Senate by ARTICLE VIII SECTION 5, B 4), asking the Judicial Council to render an opinion on the legality of the recommendation made in Report On AS Longterm Financial Continuity, amending the allocation policy of AS to offset dedicated and partially dedicated professional staff to BCUs, along with the central operational professional staff % allocations.***

***Zha - Singh***

***Call to question - Amin***

***Passed at 10:58PM***

***Motion to approve Report On AS Longterm Financial Continuity and submit the report to the AS Judicial Council as Amicus Curiae and appoint Senator MingJun Zha as the Senate's representative in this matter to the AS Judicial Council.***

***Zha - Lankarani***

***Called to question: Ganesh***

***Passed at: 10:59PM.***

#### **UCSB Armenian Heritage Month Proposal**

***Pinto***

- Reads out email [UCSB Armenian Heritage Month Proposal](#)
- I directed her to academic senate and a couple other administrator responsible for scheduling

***Brinderson***

- I think this is a great idea, would love for the admin to take a look at this. Maybe we can write some resolution to recommend this. Best way to acknowledge all genocides is to do them one by one. Not denying people's struggles and oppressions, this is a step in the right direction. This is a step in the right direction.

***Lankarani***

- This looks fantastic, we should get to writing a resolution. As Senator Brinderson says, we can start one step at a time.

***Zha***

- Thank you. I'm very touched by the story Lian shared about the journey and many people have gone through. And genocide is no doubt a very dark chapter of the history. However, I felt compelled to point out that when last year, since Senator Sean now proposed the idea of, I mean, the agenda said, remembrance day, the Turkish students community at UCSB was furious. So well. I do appreciate the attention of registering the genocide. I do believe for international politics, we should consult our stakeholder before we choose action at AS.

Kadah

- I share the sentiments that Senator Brinderson said. I want to offer myself as a resource, if the author happens to be watching.

Lala

- This is an extremely powerful statement. Unfortunately, there is only so much we can do. The decision is not up to us. Best route is to connect authors to several senators who can work on it.

Khordandi

- I was at the meeting that MingJun was talking about where a former senator brought up the resolution, and then I believe the president of the Turkish human Association came in, and he was fuming so mad.
- I just think it's important, if we do proceed with this resolution to ensure that we focus on the Armenian perspective rather than bringing in other perspectives. I think the resolution talked about Turkey a lot, which is fine, because it's part of the history, but we want to be careful to not alienate or cause trauma to other students. But like, if it is brought by a student, I think we should highlight that and hear out their concerns. Because, I mean, obviously we don't want to silence anyone's voices, but we do need to tread lightly. I would say, focus more on the Armenian perspective, if it is coming from an Armenian, in order to not ostracize or alienate any Turkish students because he was really upset.

Brinderson

- Yeah, just a comment on that. I think, you know, with all due respect to Turkish students on this campus, the Armenian Genocide did happen, and no one can really deny history. There's a very deep and expansive historical record that documents the rural genocide of these people, displacement and housing.
- So, you know, I think this is an important thing to go through. And unfortunately, genocide is political, and it will turn heads and upsets people. The idea of mass murder is contentious. It's still essential that we get this through. I don't want to rile anyone up or hurt anyone's feelings.

Pinto

- I'd like to move on

Malhis

- Similar to what Senator Brinderson and Khrosandi said. I have Turkish in my family, it is important to focus on values of humanity. Of what it means for genocide and why it is bad. Not focus on harming Armenian or Turkish students on campus. It's not about the past governments of the world. Well, it is about the past govornemt of the world but not individual students or government.

Zha

- I wish her the best of luck in their journey with having the genocide recognized.

- However, my point being, AS is not a proper channel for discussing international politics with deep history.
- If we do a resolution on Armenia genocide, we opening the possibility for responsibility to also do one of the rape of 19, the genocide, the massacre that they have done to China, as it half East Asia,
- if I do that and outsource, they are just hypocrites. Students are not helped by doing international politics.

Pinto

- I just ask that we provide trigger warnings. Please

Suuck

- With respect to the BCUs, there are a lot of BCUs here. We are in a public forum.

Pinto

- No we are not.

Iden

- I was given a request by IVTU and the Attorney General wants to speak at a public forum. If that's okay with you

Pinto

- Public forum is past

Iden

- I'd recommend we reopen public forum if we want feedback from all the BCUs

Pinto

- Out of respect to everyone's time, we will reopen public forum

***Motion to add food bank CCAJJ proposal on discussion items.***

***Ganesh - Iden***

***Call to question: Lankarni***

***Passed at 8:43PM.***

Food Bank CCAJJ budget request

2025 - 2026 Board, Commission, Unit, and Committee Recruitment Procedures

M) Appointments

Black Women's Health Collaborative

Kharys Ebert - Co-Chair

Amina Ahmed - Administrative Director

AS Food Bank Committee

Anughra Tamang - Treasurer

Ximena Gomez - Public Affairs Coordinator

COSWB

Resignation of Caitlin Joyce as Women's Health Coordinator

*Motion to add resignation of Kharys Ebert as Co-Chair and Amina Ahmed as Administrative Director of BWHC.*

*Siddiqui- Ganesh*

*Called to question: Lankarani*

*Passed at 11:00PM.*

*Motion to add Anughra Tamang as Treasurer and Ximena Gomez as Public Affairs Coordinator of the Food Bank Committee.*

*Suuck - Lankarani*

*Called to question - Ganesh*

*Passed at 11:00 PM*

*Motion to add resignation of Caitlin Joyce as Women's Health Coordinator from COSWB onto agenda.*

*Ganesh - Gerson*

*Called to question - Lankarani*

*Passed at: 11:02PM.*

*Motion to bundle all appointments and resignations.*

*Gerson - Suuck*

*Called to question - Lankarani*

*Passed at 11:02PM.*

N) Remarks

O) Adjournment

*Motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:03PM.*

*Lankarani - Ganesh*

*Call to question - Gerson*

*Passed at 11:03PM.*