

MEETING MINUTES

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN DIEGO

(SPECIAL MEETING)

Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2020
Time: 6:00 P.M. PST
Location: via Zoom

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

1. Discussion of policing in the context of UCPD & UCSD PD, 8 Can't Wait & 8 to Abolition, and Black Lives Matter.
2. Discussion of establishing a Senate leader/head to increase accountability in the AS Senate.
3. Passing of AS's "AS Resolution Advocating to Immediately Defund the UCSDPD and Committing to Abolish the UCPD" (referred to as L10 in this document).
4. Zoom privacy concerns and plans to find alternatives for Summer Session and the next academic year.
5. Congratulations, new Senators!

Order of Business

MEETING STARTED at 6:02 P.M.

Roll Call

Public Input

Special Presentations

1 Special Presentation by Dan Park and Matthew Mock regarding Ongoing Litigation Advisement

- Kimberly Giangtran: Motion to table this presentation indefinitely
- Seconded and approved

Reports of External News

- VP Alisha Saxena
 - Policing
 - On the UCSA side, a letter was drafted in cooperation with the African Black Coalition, the president Varsha Sarveshwar who drafted it wants feedback
 - Letter covers initial demands to Board of Regents in abolishing UCPD and what we expect from the UC system
 - Email regarding the administration and Napolitano's view on policing

- President Napolitano’s view on 8 Can’t Wait doesn’t work, need to shift to 8 to Abolition
- Banning chokeholds and strangleholds really a cosmetic change because there is no accountability
- Police fail to de-escalate and continue to incite violence
- Warning-before-shooting fails and fails to be enforced — ensure that they cannot shoot to begin with
- Tear gas is banned in warfare by Geneva Convention yet police still use it against peaceful protesters
- Bottom line is that current legislation has not worked and 8 Can’t Wait promotes only the use of legislation
- 8 to Abolition: defunding the police, removing police from schools starting with K-12, repealing laws criminalizing survival, safe housing for everyone, investing in care not cops
- President Napolitano and many members of the UCPD believe 8 can’t wait is a solution, appalling that it was not an adequate solution, failure to listen to black voices
- Promoted 8 can’t wait meaning black students are not being heard
- 8 can’t wait is not an adequate solution

Reports of Senator Projects

Reports of AS Senators

- Senator Bradt
 - Looking for alternatives to Zoom due to concerns such as lack of encryption and privacy measures
 - Zoom is limiting encryption to only those who pay a subscription
 - Efforts to look into different solutions in online remote learning
 - Whether it could be for summer session and Fall quarter instruction
 - If anybody has concerns, reach out to the campus privacy officer, Pegah Parsi (pparsi@ucsd.edu) as she seems receptive to student concerns
- Senator Lam
 - Concerns about Zoom; has done research on Zoom’s privacy policies and security concerns
 - Zoom isn’t being transparent about the privacy policies
 - In the progress of writing an informative report for students and faculty
 - Realizes that UCSD has contract with Zoom so it may not be feasible to not use Zoom because of the contract

Reports of AS Offices

- VP Saxena
 - CA budget and UC Cost Expenditures from COVID
 - SB 74 (Budget Act of 2020): Restores governor’s budget to increase general fund support for the UC operations by 5%
 - However, budget cut for the UCs is not out of the picture, not happening yet
 - 4 million one-time general fund to provide aid for students

- Lost money due to cancelled programs, events, housing, stores being closed, patient visits going down
- UCSD has the 2nd highest expenditures, face a lot more financial impact
- FC Nick Butler
 - Working on compiling the summer budget
 - Meeting with various AVP offices
 - Draft of the budget should be seen by Friday evening (6/19/2020), Saturday latest
 - Hosting extended officers on Tuesday, ask questions about the budget
- VP Kreitman
 - Worked on hiring new senators
 - Hired a Records Officer and Advocate General
 - External Committees: Will send a Google Form for committees
 - Goal to have committees appointed by Week 0 of Fall Quarter, but we do have more than 100 committees
 - Goal of creating an online form where committees on campus can request a representative AND student groups can request a senator to come in
- President Giangtran
 - Updates from the Educational Continuity Task Force
 - Looking at what Fall is going to look like
 - Goal of communication to students every month because of the feeling of being left in the dark
 - Trying to get decisions out by HDH, guaranteed 2 years of housing and after that you can go on an interest list for housing
 - People who don't have guaranteed housing will find out late
 - What if students go home for Thanksgiving and come exposed to COVID and put everyone at risk? Is it feasible for those you don't have to return home? Asking the question if that's fair to ask students to not go home or not come back home?

Question Time

- Senator Levine
 - What work is done for underprivileged students with housing and food, some may not come from stable households?
 - **VP Kreitman:** Basic Needs Committee, a team that handles the issue of students who are from unstable households and can collaborate with to combat the issue of food insecurity and related issues
- Senator Saraf
 - How is housing going to be handled?
 - **President Giangtran:** HDH opened up an interest list and once they hear back from people with guaranteed housing (primarily 1st and 2nd years), spots on campus are then opened up to those on the interest list on a first-come first-serve basis
- Senator Cheng
 - Relief Fund of \$1M that AS passed during the last term: any updates on people on whether people applied to get these funds? How about international and undocumented students? And for housing guarantee, for first and second years not coming back and other students, are there guarantees for year-long housing?

- **President Giangtran:** \$1M was project of the last executive team, money has been allocated, 250K allocated to the Basic Needs Center and started to be distributed to students, no information for international students but will get that information; housing guarantees are for the entire year, not for a quarter/part of the school year
- Senator Saraf
 - Response to **Cheng:** Basic Needs funds, being used for housing, food, other basic necessities, not for tuition
 - International students have to apply through the International Students and Programs Office
- Senator Taneja
 - Any updates for Summer Session?
 - **President Giangtran:** Summer Session's deadline for Pass/No Pass and Drop to Week 4
- Senator Quiroa
 - Question directed to VP Kreitman: Is there any way to see the committees you were talking about?
 - **VP Kreitman:** Google Form that was sent out had the list of committees, but since not all the senators signed up yet, the form will be sent out again.
- Senator Lonc
 - P/NP deadline for Spring Quarter, push to make a retroactive grade changing option, is there a possibility?
 - **President Giangtran:** That actually failed; when the P/NP deadline was changed, our hope was that professors would work to get grades out immediately.
- Senator Levine
 - Who here has the authority to change grading deadlines?
 - **President Giangtran:** AVP of Academic Affairs, approve by the Senate Education Committee

Reports of Standing Committees

- VP Kreitman moves to discharge bills L1-L10 to Senate Floor, seconded
- Motion to amend L9 to say "Appointment of Quang Dao as Records Officer", seconded and approved
- Motion to approve items from L3-L9, seconded and approved
- Motion to amend L1 to say "Appointment of Dalton Wiggins as the AVP of Enterprises and Services" and L2 to say "Appointment of Luke as the AVP of Student Organizations"
- Items L1 and L2 are amended, seconded and approved

Reports of External Committees

- VP Kreitman
 - Convocation — looking at different platforms to host this
 - Suggestions to have some faculty for an academic entrance to the school

Committee Question Time.

Discussion Items

1 Senate Input on the Establishment of the Senate Leadership Position & Election of the Senate Leader. Sponsored by Hannah Kreitman & Mihir Pandya.

- Senator Pandya
 - VP Kreitman and Assistant Director Weng discussed responsibilities to the Senate leader position
 - Senator taking on an active role with senator projects
 - Get feedback on idea of Senate leader taking this one and whatever responsibilities they should take on
 - Expectations and goals for this position
 - Elect a Senate leader/chair to get started on this work
- President Giangtran
 - Senate leader position description has much overlap with current VPCA's responsibilities that are outlined in standing rules
 - How does one anticipate those two rules overlapping — what does that leave for the VPCA? Would there be something that would be changed in the standing rules?
- Senator Pandya
 - There could be a change in the standing rules
 - Position could be trialed, felt out, and then we can formalize the language
- Senator Lonc
 - Senate should be accountable
 - Prioritizing things like attendance and being on top of senators' projects
- VP Kreitman
 - Real point of this was to create an internalized position for senators?
 - Huge benefit to have someone that would strengthen self-accountability within the Senate
- VP Saxena
 - New Senate should get a chance to breathe on its own
 - New Senate should settle first and see how they interact
 - There should enough transparency that they wouldn't need this position
 - Resonate with idea with Senate with discussion on the position
 - How is the person picked for the Senate leader, who gets to decide?
- FC Butler
 - Would there be a stipend change for a person in the role?
 - Upheld to the same standing rules?
 - Trying to elect one tonight is too soon, wait a minute and figure out the Senate first
- Senator Quiroa
 - Recommendation to come back to the idea that we could come back to this later on
 - Ask: any reason for only one person to be the Senate Leader? Could have an external committee even
- Senator Pandya
 - No plan to increase stipend
 - More functional and efficient to have only one person leading
 - Having an internal committee that oversees Senate functionality, that's an appropriate proposal

- How to pick the position, Senate would get to choose
- If we wait, problems to start to arise and we try to remediate mid-term
 - See the merits for waiting, but also waiting could bring the same problems
- Senator Pandya
 - Tension between VPCA and Senate members in regards to Senator Projects

STRAW POLL 1: Do you believe we should have a Senate leadership position?

YES: 12 NO: 5 NEUTRAL: 10

STRAW POLL 2: Would you like...

...the position to be elected and then delegate positions over summer?

11 VOTES

...the position elected in fall and have informal conversation over summer?:

21 VOTES

...either (indifferent to timing):

2 VOTES

- President Giangtran
 - Experience with being a senator, didn't know what was going on at all and there was a steep learning curve
 - Electing someone for the Senate leader position would be unfair to new senators because it is not a position they would go for immediately
 - New senators would be drawn to those who has experience in Senate, and there are only 2 returning members to Senate
 - No fair shot to go for the position which is not appropriate — Giangtran supports the position but there is no need for it now as there are no Senate meetings in the Summer
 - Unknown how this position would be taking action, it could wait until the fall
- Senator Quiroa
 - Support for revising the time frame
- Senator Blackshire
 - Understood that a senator's accountability must be enforced, but there's going to be a totally different system
 - Would be supporting this more if it was 100% that Fall Quarter in-person, there needs to be time to figure out a timeline of how we're going to do this, should be more time to plan this out as timing is a bit off
- Senator Pandya

- Thank you everybody. It should be noted that input that was received from other senators so this decision is not unilateral but will respect the decision to delay this position to the fall.

New Business

Reorder to Report of Standing Committees

Senator Bradt

- **Motion to approve L10, seconded but *objected***
 - *L10 refers to the AS Resolution Advocating to Immediately Defund the UCSDPD and Committing to Abolish the UCPD*
- Speaks on motion
- Resolution drafted, worked with VP Saxena to address some of the wording in it
 - Petition going around among UC students
- Focus on trying to increase transparency and accountability in the UCSD PD and UCPD; some cities in the U.S. have redirected funding from police to other sectors
- Need to demilitarize our police, create a less violent police force, resolution includes condemning anti-Blackness and racism in UCPD
- UCs should invest in campaigns that are more ethical
- Prioritize work with Black Student Union and other similar organizations
- Effect change in the UCSD PD
- Students should see where money is going to see priorities in where money can be redirected

Senator Lonc

- Speaks on objection to motion
- Support everything that L10 stands for
- Wanted to have a discussion on what we're moving forward with
- Few problems with some of the language on not being very precise
- This resolution that we have to sign as AS UCSD because we are the petition, students can also have their voice heard through representation

Senator Lam

- Question about divesting funds - what happens to security, some of us live on campus (e.g., we call the police to open our doors after hours)
- What happens when someone may rob me on campus? What happens when funds are diverted or the police are abolished? What are the alternatives?

VP Saxena

- Need to discuss resolution, yes, starting on publicizing the records to give a chance to see how students want to change funding?
- Campus safety should still be a priority
- Petition is just showing our solidarity with the idea
- Goal of creating a report to show to UCSD PD

Senator Cheng

- Few concerns about the petition regarding its focus on the three main points
 - Abolishing police, addressing anti-blackness, and giving land back to indigenous communities
- Also a concern of acknowledging other racial groups that are marginalized

VP Saxena

- Right now, there is a problem of compliance in keeping indigenous artifacts
- Minority task-force will expand on *all* minority groups, given right now, emphasize Black students right now and ways to support them

Senator Bradt

- The resolution is non-binding and actually much more limited in its scope

Senator Levine

- Highly supportive of the current movement, stands with correct historical injustices
- Issue with the proposal suggesting that we completely abolish the police department, too sudden, not a deep analysis on what the implications would be
- Definitely there's fault in the police departments, but there's a need for police departments
- Reform police, more oversight to increase accountability
- There should be more thought into this

Senator Quiroa

- State at large realizing that injustices against Black people has long existed
- Too many actions on the document, possible changes on the document?
- Concerns for performative activism

VP Kreitman

- Resolution to abolish police department, lot of ideas in this resolution
- Have separate resolutions for each issue covered in the document
- Opportunity to amend this as just as a solely UCPD topic

Senator Allen

- Multiple issues are included because they provide context
- Requesting the President to sign this, as the new AS, incredibly effective thing to put across
- Not a binding resolution to request that the President signs a petition
- Not forcing anyone to do anything
- Point of this is to communicate a message, there is no reason to not support this

Senator Zekowski

- Primarily focused on BLM and over policing
- Not heard a voice against the ideal of the document
- Obligation to act on this, merely stating what we want to accomplish

Senator Bradt

- Directed to Lam — who we turn to, for example, when we're locked out of our dorm/apartment on campus, there should no reason for that to be handled by an armed office
- The resolution is not concrete as there is no real actionable thing — specific clause is about signing onto the petition and how we want to act on as AS
- There's criticism that the resolution is too broad, but the issues are a lot more connected than a lot of people think because by saying that we stand with these people, by agreeing onto this, we will commit to these in the future.

Senator Lonc

- It seems that the concreteness not agreed on
- Recommend that we add some type of commitment to make this happen depending on how we're feeling on how specific we want to be in regards to abolishing the police department
- Right now, we have a resolution in front of us that needs to be hashed out

- Need to decide if we will commit to putting some investment to policy advocacy to abolish UCPD and replace with something better or abolish it in first place
- More precise we are, more powerful this resolution is

Senator Lam

- What if violence happens on campus?
- Not the right time to bring the issue about Israel
- Even if it's not a policy proposal, it should not be clumped together
- Mainly about BLM and abolishment of UCPD, it should be only about that
- Because it's about racial injustice in U.S., just keep this resolution about this
- **Motion to Amend resolution by striking out the clause relating to the divestment of funds from companies that profit off Israel's colonial occupation of Palestine.**

Motion for Amendment of L10

Senator Pandya

- Petition itself compels the President to sign
- Striking it from the resolution will not change anything

Senator Bradt

- The clause about Israel are from the petition! Actionable phrases are exactly from the petition, they're there to give context to what the petition does
- Believe it should stay in the resolution, necessary context

VP Saxena

- Not an actionable clause
- Stating plain facts on what the petition is talking about

Senator Ben Lonc

- Amendment is not really doing what the intended purpose was

Senator Lam

- Wondering if it was possible to make our own new petition

Senator Quiroa

- This language is completely for the current events
- Specific line about Israel, discussion not the best place now

Senator Blackshire

- Most important now to make a statement right now
- Movement going through many things right now, including multiple lynchings, homeless people shot by police, etc.
- Get this resolution out soon as possible
- No time to hesitate, right now black students are waiting for a message to be sent out; I understand why other issues should be mentioned, but we need full attention on Black Lives Matter — the sooner we do this, the better and the sooner we can talk about other things

VP Saxena

- Voices rejection to the amendment

Senator Bradt

- Voices rejection to the amendment

Senator Pandya

- We should vote NO on this and return to the main conversation

ROLL CALL VOTE ON AMENDMENT OF L10

- Vote on the amendment of removing the clause relating to Israel
- Amendment is *not* approved of a vote of 21-1-7

→ BACK TO THE MOTION OF APPROVING L10

VP Saxena

- Please read carefully the language of the resolution
- Directs the AS president to sign but doesn't require her to
- Violence on campus is a valid concern, but this resolution should allow students how to approach defunding and abolishing UCPD
- Yes, ensuring campus safety: address it still without it being unresolved
- Petition was, again, created by UC students
- Look at the resolution as a whole

Senator Zarucki

- Although the Israel issue provides context, it shouldn't be mentioned in the letter as it is excluding a group of people who are against the language

Senator Blackshire

- We are turning back to normalcy again as evident by social media; we need to figure this out
- Issues that are not related to US issues shouldn't be included, currently we need consistency

Senator Pandya

- President is compelled to sign it but does not have to
- **Propose to amend to strike out sections regarding the petition and last section compelling the ASUCSD President to sign the petition**

Motion for Amendment #2 of L10

Senator Allen

- The point of the resolution is to send a message
- This is the first step to support the Black Lives Matter (BLM) Movement
- Leave the resolution as is

President Giangtran

- We would need a Senate vote to have President sign on half of ASUCSD
- No one is allowed to speak on behalf of AS

Senator Zekowski

- Petition is the teeth of the resolution

Senator Bradt

- Biggest issue that people are concerned about the clause about Israel
- Wanted to echo that bulk of the petition is about BLM in the United States
- Petition is part of how we assert ourselves in the larger space of things
- The reason that the other issues are a part of this petition is because historically they are a similar situation in terms of systemic oppression
- We need to continue our advocacy on BLM and related issues
- Keep these clauses in the resolution

Senator Lam

- I support this amendment because it emphasizes our stance about the BLM and police brutality

Senator Cheng

- It's talking about Black lives and should only talk about Black lives
- This is not a good idea to sign
- As we are compelling the president to sign, she could be impeached
- We shouldn't put this petition out there; we should say that we support BLM and that's a simple and clear phrase to tell the people and our community

Senator Pandya

- Voices favor of this amendment

VP Kreitman

- In favor
- Stronger stance on supporting our Black students
- Approving this amendment, it's a good compromise!

Senator Jung

- Giangtran has the power to not sign, there are bigger consequences if she doesn't!
- Current wording of it doesn't provide that much agency

Senator Ben Lonc

- Who is ASUCSD? — representing UCSD students
- But we already knew that, petition is getting many signatures
- We're hung up on the idea on sending a message on how we support the BLM, we can do this without signing onto a petition, ASUCSD can do more outside the petition

Senator Zarucki

- For this amendment, it would just be more direct
- Does not take away from the message

Senator Levine

- Something more actionable should be done
- No place for Israel and Palestine in the resolution because it's fundamentally different from the BLM and police brutality issues

Senator Allen

- Three only actionable items in this resolution
- Statement about Israel everyone is hung up on
- Stance that the petition is taking is that it's militarized policing
- Gist of this proposal is that Black Lives Matter

Senator Zekowski

- "As a student body, we do not support..." is the message
- It is advising (not compelling) the president; it would allow the President to sign; it should not allow grounds for impeachment

Senator Lam

- This petition is just a small part of the resolution
- Removing it will not be detrimental
- Still shows support of Black students
- Keeping the petition detracts from the message about BLM movement
- Not representative of every member in ASUCSD

Senator Bradt

- Wanting to be a voice that supports the cause and make it loud as possible

- ASUCSD is recognizable and reputable, there is a point of having ASUCSD sign on the petition

Senator Pandya

- Notion that we *need* these is incorrect
- Main discussion is the extent that we send the message
- Suggest to vote YES for this amendment
- Move to a Roll Call vote

ROLL CALL VOTE on REMOVAL OF CLAUSES RELATING TO (1) THE PETITION and (2) DIRECTING THE PRESIDENT TO SIGN THE PETITION ON BEHALF OF ASUCSD

Passes with vote of 19-6-4.

→ BACK TO THE MOTION OF APPROVING (AMENDED) L10

Senator Alex Levine

- Resolution should mention plans on how to help minority communities

Senator Thompson

- Someone signed on UCSD AS — just to let the Senate know and be aware

President Kimberly

- No one is allowed to sign off as ASUCSD without a vote; will check that out

ROLL CALL VOTE ON ITEM L10

Item L10 passes with 28-1-0.

Reorder back to New Business

Motion to approve items 1-5: seconded and approved.

Open Forum

VP Kreitman

- Congratulations to the new speaker and new senators. Budget meeting is next week. For new senators, get added to the new Facebook group! October 17-18th, AS Retreat. Also, everything we do will have some virtual aspect to it. Everyone should be able to participate without being physically present. Will be resending out Google forms for committees.

Senator Zarucki

- Hope to make long-lasting change for the transfer community.

Assistant Director John Weng

- Assistant Director, any questions, especially relating to Robert's Rules, to direct to him, office hours are made accommodate international students also

Roll Call

MEETING ADJOURNED at 9:58 P.M.