

Student Union Assembly
Tuesday, 6/4/2013

Meeting called to order at 6:06PM by DT Amajoyi (Chair)

Assembly Members Present: DT Amajoyi (Chair), Rocio Zamora (COD), Shaz Umer (IVC), Shiku Muhire (COAA), Victor Velasco (EVC), Brittany Smith (CoSoC), Kevin Flannery (Cowell), Linh Ngo (Cowell), Nicolette Johnson (Cowell), Brad Mleynek (Crown), Corbin Hall (Crown), Max Hufft (Crown Alt.), Gina Maschio (Crown Alt.), Ian Bernstein (Eight), Louise Cabansay (Eight), Roshni Advani (Eight), Kelsey Rousseve (Kresge), Aimee Wade (Kresge Alt.), Lyle Green-Nickerson (Kresge), Justin McClendon (Merrill), Michael Liber (Merrill), Vanessa Morales (Merrill), CJ Ocampo (Nine), Iden Yekan (Nine), Shanna Ballesteros (Nine), Linda Moua (Oakes), Melody Aguilar (Oakes), Alfonso Quintero (Oakes Alt.), Shadin Awad (ABSA Alt.), Ivan Medina (MeCHA), Steven Hernandez (QSU), Shingo Brann (Porter), Mick Del Rosario (Porter Alt.), Charlsie Chang (Stevenson), Guillermo "Ghandi" Rogel (Stevenson), Lila Blackney (Stevenson), Megana Kunda (Ten), Rebecca Brown (Ten), Tony Milgram (Ten), Eric Rubin (Treasurer), Brooklynn Ackerman, Michael Amster

Assembly Members Absent: Kevin Huang (OD), Giovanni Maldonado (Crown), Carl Eadler (Kresge), Maria Jennings (LL), Gabby Areas (Oakes), Jocqui Smollett (ABSA), Marinel Yoro (APISA), Daniel Fernandez (QSU Alt.), Nallely Ramirez (MEChA), Stephanie Calderon (SANAI), Varaun Bradley (ABSA Alt.), Daniel Lewis (Porter), Michael Barney (Porter Alt.), Sammie Vega (Stevenson), Adrianna Gonzales (Intern COD)

Approval of the Agenda

DT: Passing around the name tags. Also, I'm passing around the copies of the agenda. Are there any amendments to this week's agenda?

Justin: **Motion** to approve the agenda.

Lila: **Second.**

DT: Any objections? So moved.

Reading of the Previous Meetings' Minutes

Shadin: Spelled my name wrong.

Lila: **Motion** to approve last weeks' minutes.

Ian: **Second.**

DT: Any objections? So moved.

Announcements

DT: We are going to move on to these announcements. There is a lot of side chatter. We cannot conduct the meeting and we will stop.

Rocio: My office has been working. We are working on a proposal. Since EVC Galloway is going about conducting a fundraising campaign. It's in the Ohlone Conference Room above the bookstore.

Ryan: If you are looking for a couple places to study. We are going to have a queer study jam. It's from Saturday to Sunday. There are comfy couches and a lot of computers to use.

Max: I like to take a moment to congratulate the graduate students.

Victor: The deadline is going to be on June 21st and we will be discussing the other date. The link would be on the page. USSAs conference will be in New Jersey. UCSA would be hosted at a hotel in Irvine.

Loose Ends

The first thing we have on our agenda. We are tying up loose ends before we move on to next year. Elections bylaws. Budget stipulations. We will edit it online version after this meeting with all the changes.

Financial Tracking

Lila: How much would it affect this budget?

Rebecca: Can you tell us the exact numbers from what the parking permits changed from

Shiku: Point of clarification, candidates would get a reimbursed amount.

Iden: You would get reimbursed by SUA up to 250 dollars and any money spent after that is your own personal money and donations. This is just for officers. What this bylaw does is that it caps the max you spend in general. Let's say I got 250 dollars and I got a ton of donations and I can afford more on my campaign, we thought it gave more power because of personal finances. It places a cap of \$350 that can be spent in total. It balances it out the playing field so candidates can't spend a ton on a campaign if they are more fortunate than the other. For reps, they can't spend over \$ 225.

Steven: So what is this rule for?

Iden: We are hoping that the people running for elections are truthful and hopefully we can rely on that.

DT: This is the current language online. In order to get your money back, you need to turn I your receipts.

Rebecca: I think it's that we are only raising it 100 and they can only spend\$ \$350 max. The bylaws are guidelines, if you break the guidelines, a complaint can be filed.

Shaz: We don't need to be looking at our budget right now.

Justin: **Yield.**

Iden: I'm going to **reserve my right to make a motion** to pass this bylaw amendment.

Shanna: **Second.**

Ghandi: **Objection**, I agree with the spending limits but I feel like there are a lot of loopholes in the language.

Shiku: **Yield.**

Rebecca: I do see what Ghandi is saying but there are loopholes. This is more to make people to accountable and it's something to refer to if it comes to it.

Justin: I feel like it's a difficult task to watch spending limits. I think this conversation would take longer than 10 minutes. I would like to table it next year to spend more time on it.

Lila: There are a lot of loopholes, we shouldn't actively find loopholes .

Ghandi: What kind of government can we be if we cannot enforce our rules?

Rebecca: The thing is that we can't enforce them. We are not a massive governmental body. We can't watch what every single candidate is doing. It's a fact.

Shaz: **Yield.**

Roshni: **Call to question.**

Lila: **Second.**

Vote: All those in favor of voting:

Yes: 32

No: 0

Abstentions: 2

Motion passes. The body will now vote on amendment regarding financial tracking.

Vote: Motion to pass this bylaw on financial tracking.

Yes: 17

No: 14

Abstentions: 4

Motion fails.

DT: For this year, we are finished talking about this. You are allowed to talk about this next year.

DT: If you all may or may not know, the constitutional amendment has passed. Make sure you made these changes. They will go in effect 2014-2015. Any questions?

DT: There is no new business this meeting so we will move on to old business.

Discussion and Vote: Pathway to Citizenship

DT: This is the new resolution that Kevin had last meeting. Any discussion?

Iden: Last part, how are we going to make sure all these people will get the resolution?

Ivan: Kalwis is a rep in UCSA and he can bring it up.

Victor: Our Leg director and our connections have gotten strong.

Lila: **Motion** to approve this resolution.

Tony: **Second.**

DT: We have officially support our stance on this issue.

Divestment Resolution Vote

DT: I do want to allow time for people to talk. We will see if we need the entire time. I will take stack. If you need to stand up, please project. I would reiterate our community agreements. Use "I" statements. Please critique the idea, not the people. My job as the chair of this space is to make sure people feel safe. It gets frustrating at times, just let me know that and we can slow down so we can all be on the same page.

Tony: I reserve my right to make a motion; I **motion** not to pass this resolution.

Ghandi: **Second.**

Lila: **Objection**, we cannot do this by consensus, we should have a roll call vote.

Iden: The point was just made that we went back to our colleges.

CJ: I and some other folks and we got the resolution, we went around colleges and we went to see if people actually heard about it. We have petitions. We got 100+ names in favor of divesting. I really encourage all to vote no. Really quick, for college 10, there are 38 constituents that are in favor of it. Merrill has 10 constituents. College 9 has 10. Porter is 8. Oakes has 27. Stevenson is 8. Kresge is 5. College 8 is 3. I think this is a really valid point that I need to make. You should know how your constituents are voting.

Corbin: I just wanted to know if you recording “no’s”. I didn’t personally come across anyone personally against it.

Lyle: I had office hours and I met with a student. She talked to about this. She would be all for this resolution if the language was altered if it didn’t mention the Israeli country in anyway. It’s about human right violations. Any mentioning of that should be taken away. Israel is not condoning human rights violation. Israel is not a military state. That is what we talked about.

Rebecca: The reason that Tony, our college said not to pass it. Pretty much what Lyle said. They were in favor of human rights and against the companies but were against the word using Israeli. We did advertise and we had no one come to our office hours.

Shiku: **Point of clarification**, how many people in your senate? Was there any outreach?

Rebecca: We posted on Facebook, we put it on the college page, yes we advertised, and we didn’t do it passively.

Shaz: I just wanted to make it clear; there is a resolution on the table. As officers, the majority doesn’t even know the SUA and we try hard to outreach to them. Let’s go through this resolution one by one if necessary.

Ian: I know it’s going around. As an 8 rep, we voted not to put it in because it’s not representative of the entire community.

Mick: On behalf of Porter Senate, we had a long discussion about this; we as a body felt that it indeed resonate with what Lyle said. It’s targeting a certain country. I too posted office hours and I talked to one person. We had a good discussion. But, I would like to make amendment to strike to the word apartheid and divestment from. So moved.

Shaz: He had to reserve his right to make a motion.

Rebecca: **Point of clarification**, what do you mean remove divestment?

DT: I just want you all to continue your discussion but we can vote on your motion.

Gabby: I am looking this up to be clear. It’s highly orthodox. You vote on a motion. You can’t vote negatively. Motion to not pass a motion is vague. The second point, I agree with Rebecca, it’s a bill about human right violations.

Tony: I **rescinded** my motion.

Ghandi: I appreciate the effort that people did. The reason that Stevenson said no is because of the language and they wanted to see it reintroduced next year. It's easier to say no and to change the language.

DT: You do have a right to make amendments.

Lila: I **reserve my right to make a motion**, I know I did a lot of outreach; we are informed when we make this decision. I wanted to make a motion to remove apartheid. I feel like a lot of people are against it.

Rebecca: We had a big discussion. If it's something that will sway no's to yes, if you are willing to say that, I think we are okay with it.

Iden: **Second.**

Linh: **Objection**, there are a lot of language with negative connotation. There is so much in the resolution that people don't agree with. Cowell doesn't feel comfortable passing this.

Steven: It is going to include the clauses that contain apartheid? Can we make a friendly amendment to strike the clauses?

CJP rep: Is the apartheid referencing the Israeli Palestine apartheid or the African one?

Mick: What I meant to say were not the words divestment and apartheid but just apartheid.

Lila: Apartheid in relation in Israel.

Ryan: I would like to speak for myself. QSU and Merrill talked. Our members were strong to keeping language. Several students expressed the support of including the language. It was important for the foundational. I think very few things are neutral. It's important to take a stance here. We just passed a bill about immigration reform.

Nicolette: Cowell was talking about a resolution called for university neutrality.

CJP: By investing into companies, we are saying divest from companies that are not neutral. To act like the situation UC is neutral is wrong.

Ghandi: If we wanted to change the language, we could do it point by point. I don't feel comfortable changing one word and I don't think a side should change one word for votes. We can't take a whole word or phrase; we should talk about it point by point.

Nadia: I am wondering if folks who talked to their colleges. Is it a removal because it's a false claim or it's because it makes you as students uncomfortable.

College 10 Rep: I talked two of my reps. Point of contention was two major points. The other point of contention was misquoting of the state department. My final point is that I understand that one of the six companies, Radeon profits which leads the military industrial complex. I understand that company but I feel uncomfortable about the other companies.

Tony: Specifically from college 10, the way apartheid is used is giving a negative connotation.

Nadia: If students found apartheid as a falsified claim or if it makes students uncomfortable.

Rebecca: I think that was felt that our college didn't feel like we accurately felt gave them information

Brad: Two weeks ago, we were presented this and it was written like this. Crown student senate didn't have a meeting. I presented and I read word by word to my senate and to the people in the room. I personally would feel uncomfortable to make changes and vote it. I would personally want to go back to my college and know what students are thinking now that there would be changes. I don't think amendments are very fair.

Iden: **Reserve my right to call to question**; this was also a big concern of 9, the language of the big concern in the sense that the word apartheid does more harm than good regardless if you believe it. I do support taking apartheid comparing Israel but we should keep the one in reference to Africa.

Rebecca: Point of clarification, would that change your vote?

Ivan: I think the point of clarification she means is whether that word is point of contention.

Iden: I'm still going to call to question.

Shaz: **Second.**

DT: All those in favor voting on the amendment to removing all the language referencing apartheid in the language.

Shaz: **Point of order**, if there is no objections, does it go straight to vote?

CJ: **Point of clarification**, I just wanted to make sure that we are not just passing an amendment and we still don't know why. Is this going to change the vote? If we are going to change the amendment, there needs to be some basis about it.

DT: It's still on the table.

Vote: All those in favor of voting to vote on the amendment:

Yes: 32

No: 4

Abstention: 4

The body will now vote on the amendment.

Vote: Remove anywhere in this resolution removing apartheid in relation to Israel.

Yes: 8

No: 23

Abstentions: 7

Motion fails.

DT: I'm continuing on with our original stack list.

Lila: **Yield.**

Alfonso: I just wanted to say, when we speak, we don't speak on behalf of our college but we speak in front of our senate. Please say my college senate.

Shadin: I'm am speaking behalf of ABSA. We did a poll and we had a general body meeting and we gave people time to talk. One point of conversation was that we didn't compare to other countries. This is not the oppression Olympics. As a Sudanese, I did not appreciate that they brought that up. ABSA chose to support the divestment.

Ryan: **Yield.**

JD: Many people believe apartheid separates two races. There are Arabs living in Israel and in Palestine.

Mick: **Yield.**

Tony: **Yield.**

CJ: I just wanted to clarify real quickly, I didn't want to respect by doing this outreach. I just wanted to do my own outreach as a college rep, seeing these numbers that constituents were outreached to. There were overwhelming numbers that they were in favor of this. I'm asking as college reps, you are a college rep, not just your senate.

CJ: If we do a little research, we can do constructive criticism.

Brad: **Point of clarification**, I've been told to representative of myself to represent Crown and not just the senate and it's bouncing back and forth and I don't like it.

DT: This is a touchy thing that people don't like being attacked. You can still make the comment but be respectful.

Brad: **Yield.**

Ivan: Reserve my right to make a **motion** to pass the resolution.

Melody: **Second.**

Lila: **Objection**, there are constituents that are really against this bill.

Tony: I'm also **objecting** because talking to college 10 senators, we agree we do not want to pass this issue.

Justin: **I call to question a roll call vote.**

Ivan: **Second.**

Iden: **Objection**, for each college rep, go through and list what the college sentiment is and the organizations should do.

Shiku: Can officers participate?

Ivan: **Point of personal privilege**, I think the purpose of going back to your college is to talk to your college. It's an issue of trust.

Shingo: With that suggestion, we are voting and explaining why?

DT: We are explaining each college's sentiments.

Kelsey: **Point of clarification**, our representatives our going to vote in a general consensus. I feel like we should just vote.

Vote: All those in favor of voting (vote to end discussion).

Yes: 26

No: 1

Abstention: 7

The body will now vote.

Vote: Roll Call Vote to approve of this resolution:

Yes: 17

No: 19

Abstention: 3

The resolution does not pass.

Brad: Quick statement, I just want to thank you guys for coming here for these last three weeks. It was an absolute honor. It was an educational experience. There could be a compromise of some sort. I personally next year would love more discussion. I know college have gone out and they would love to have more open forums. Yes 100 is a big number. And we got 15000. Our whole student body should be aware of such issues. Thank you guys once again. It was a pleasure.

Rebecca: I would like to second that. It was just certain language. I hope we introduce this year. In one way or other, we could have discussion. We were for the first time; we were opening ourselves to other people's opinions and opening ourselves to problems that are really personal.

Justin: On behalf of CPC of Merrill, he would pay for a public forum. I am extending that offer.

Brittany: After seeing you post your office hours, it's really good you are following your constitutional duty. I just want to say that resolutions should always bring back to your meeting. It has to be consistent.

Shiku: I would like to semi-echo, I felt really disrespected that the same respect wasn't giving to the conflict minerals. When African students said they wanted to work with them, I want to shed light that there are a lot of big issues. We just got pushed to the side. I feel much disrespected.

Iman: I do want to appreciate Crown. I am disappointed in some colleges that voted all no. I do thank crown for voting that way and for people to abstain to vote yes or no.

Eddie: I was kind of confused with how colleges got their votes. I guess it comes down to voting as individuals.

Brad: How we came up with a yes or no, we had a paper ballot, we had two things, and we handed to the students in the lounge and our guests. It was about yes on tabling or no, and whether yes or no. the number came out proportional.

Victor: What this resolution did was it opened the door for dialogue. For me, someone learning about this issue, that's what helped me most and helped me on my decision. Know people lobbied, personally I don't feel that effective. It's something that isn't going to go away. I am personally going to invest in and working on actively last year because of the dialogue. It's about the questions I had last week. If anything, I hope you all talk.

Iden: To address a point that you made, I think the reason people voted no is because the fact that the college senates do not completely represent their student body. It's not enough representation.

This has been a really cool experience. This has opened up a good discussion. People on this campus have talked about this. It's been really productive regardless of the outcome. I recommend both groups to talk to bring you a resolution worked together to address the issues. I don't want us to end. I do want discussion next year and possibly a new resolution so both bodies to talk.

Justin: **Motion** to extend time by 10 minutes for the follow up conversation.

Shanna: **Second.**

Eddie: **Friendly amendment**, could you amend it to finish the stack?

Michael: When it comes to bringing people around UCSC for this issue, we should create a neutral setting. Most important thing about this rhetoric is the words used; many of these words will hurt people. I also recommend getting rid of Israeli.

DT: We should be mindful of tone.

Brad: And using the word "you".

Linda: **Point of clarification**, I thought this was debriefing.

Nadia: I think that someone would be willing to open a space. I really appreciate that. Something I would like to say in terms of a constructive dialogue space, I could not speak for the Jewish community, I would like to speak for my Palestine identity. I would hope that would be address to optimize the space in order to create the most potential for results.

Guest: I wanted to thank the SUA space because I know this issue needs more time. The option for dialogue is always there. Going to next year, we are up for further education of this issue.

Rebecca: We knew that this bill was going to be contentious; we wanted to start the discussion. We wanted to have some agenda and we felt that this group did that. I would like to see more communication and more representation for Jewish students for divestment. I also think that, addressing the power dynamic on this campus. I really just encourage people to learn about this. Go do your own research and question what you hear.

Rebecca: In many ways I agree. Everyone has strong feelings about it. This could divide friendships. I think that's a problem. That's something that I liked about this space, I know it wasn't perfect. Especially this conversation, this divides. We should work as a body to make this issue be able to walk on together.

Guest: Thank you again for bringing this issue to the table. I agree with what is being discussed. I agree with dialogue. I am very anti-divestment and I think it's rather dangerous; it takes an extreme stance of the conflict on something that is. I thank you for the open mindedness. I would like to throw out that idea that divestment could be a dangerous thing.

Nora: I never attended SUA meetings. I just wanted to say thanks. I feel unfortunate to shy away from the truth and we see divestment is dangerous. Divestment is anti-human rights and I feel like I wasn't represented. I want people to understand. We showed that we detach ourselves to other people's pain. We are a human. There is injustice aware. It's just unfortunate.

Guest: If anyone wants to talk about this about the summer, you can talk to me. I want to have dialogue and I'm not scary.

Guest: I am really glad that we have this discussion. It should have brought up at the beginning of year. It's important to see both sides of events. It's important to keep yourself informed. I just want to state that there are multiple opinions. Everyone needs to be well versed in this subject.

Jocelyn: I definitely want to talk about this year. More important, all the voting members deserve a round of applause. All the office hours and taking the time to listen. Thank you so much.

Guest: I want to thank everyone who is here. I feel like it was interpreted. I saw it as companies divesting from companies. I want to thank everyone who was here and congrats to who is graduating.

DT: If you want to bring it up next year, you can still do that. It's open next year. Just because we voted on it today doesn't mean we can't talk about it. Honestly, this is the most civil divestment conversation compared to other campus. I commend you all for that. It means a lot. Take pride that this conversation happened and this issue has address. SUA is not a space that is afraid to get contentious. We are not afraid to talk about this. This is the space about diversity and advocacy is put into practice. Congratulations to everyone.

Justin: People are saying all these ridiculous allegations. It's great to post your opinions, just try not to make them hurtful.

Rebecca: I just want to ask not for people to call out groups.

Kelsey: **Motion** to extend time by 20 minutes.

Justin: **Second.**

Justin: **Motion** to adjourn the last meeting of 2012-2013 year.

Brad: **Second.**

Adjournment at: 8:53PM