Official Undergraduate Student Government
Senate Meeting Minutes
7:00 pm, TCC 350
March 26th, 2019

I. Call to order
   A. Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

II. Reading and approval of minutes
   A. Senator Geschwind moves to approve the minutes
   B. Senator Gupta seconds
   C. Minutes approved as read

III. Approval of the agenda
   A. Senator Crane moves to strike Item (B)
   B. Senator Bwerevu seconds
   C. Voting
      1. Motion approved unanimously (9-0-0)
   D. Senator Crane moves to strike Item (E) and (H)
   E. Senator Sherman seconds
   F. Voting
      1. Motion approved unanimously (9-0-0)
   G. Senator Crane moves to add Code of Ethics Resolution, Endowment Resolution, and Bylaw Amendments to the agenda
   H. Senator Murphy seconds
   I. Voting
      1. Motion approved unanimously (9-0-0)
   J. Senator Sherman moves to approve the agenda
   K. Senator Tan seconds
   L. Voting
      1. Agenda approved unanimously (9-0-0)

IV. Open Forum
   A. None

V. Reports of officers and directors
   A. Keisuke Fujiwara, Senior Director of Programming
      1. SDOP
         a) Assemblies -- election for the incoming ED/AD
         b) Transition with Montana who will be my successor
Meeting 2-3 hours weekly to hopefully prepare her for the role

c) Bylaw Amendment -- a couple edits that I wanted to make personally
d) Building transition documents

2. Personal
   a) Had my last midterm ever as a college student
   b) Really just trying to enjoy and appreciate the time I have left as a student at USC

3. ACA
4. APASA
5. BSA -- lot of events, HS leadership conference coming up
6. ESA
7. ISA
8. LSA
9. PSA
10. QuASA
11. SSA -- Rainn Wilson event this Thursday
12. SAGE
13. Concerts
14. Speakers
15. SEC
16. TP
17. Just wanted to say thanks everyone who made this experience great for me. I will not forget this year ever. Thank you for being a part of my life this year.

B. Matthew Crane, Speaker Pro Tempore
   1. Personal Updates -- hanging in there, going to med school soon
   2. Work -- I’m doing a lot of Bylaw amendments, incorporating best practices, did a survey over spring break of what we could adopt
      a) Got a few resolutions, particularly how to use our endowment in a new way, still working on stuff with Jillie and Diviya on Bystander Intervention Trainings (really great opportunity to pilot it).

C. Debbie Lee, President, State of the USG
   1. Good evening, everyone. One year ago, I stood before you as the newly elected President. Time really does fly by, and I am grateful for this opportunity to share my reflections and thoughts as I now prepare to transition out of this role. There are no words that can fully encompass my gratitude for my time in this organization and for what this year has brought. For nearly three years, I have crossed paths with some of the most incredible people on campus who have deeply imprinted my life. These folks are individuals who demonstrate what it means to be in full service of others, to live selflessly and unapologetically, and to persistently
work towards a vision of empowering the community. Their unwavering passion and dedication to their work and their respective communities have been sources of inspiration for me daily. To everyone who has allowed me to be a part of their life through USG and at USC in general, thank you for teaching me and showing me what it means to be someone of compassion, resilience, and courage. When Blake and I first decided to run, we joked that all campaign slogans, regardless of the one we ultimately chose, were cheesy. But we felt a deep conviction and landed upon the phrase, “forward together.” As I reflect upon our accomplishments, hurdles, and growth as an organization, I recognize that much of our progress manifested when student leaders and campus partners moved forward together. This year brought forth many opportunities and victories, such as the establishment of the Food Pantry, a resource that now serves and supports over 800 graduate and undergraduate students. While we still have miles to go before eliminating food insecurity and homelessness entirely, I am hopeful in knowing that there is university-wide effort to ensure students who often go unseen are fully cared for and have the resources to meet basic needs. Another notable milestone was the pilot of OT 299, a first-year wellness course that gives students the opportunity to reflect upon their personal thriving and change the conversation of what well-being means on this campus. From events to resolutions, I am grateful to have been a part of this team that prioritizes tangible results and impact. However, it would be an understatement to say that this term, for USG and for USC as a whole, has been filled with its fair share of challenges. With a nod of appreciation for Dr. Austin, Chair of the Board of Trustees Rick Caruso stated in his announcement of Dr. Folt as USC’s next president that, “These last nine months have been the most turbulent in the University’s 140-year history.” As the governing body for the 19,000 undergraduate students at USC, we have felt the breadth and intimate depth of each one of these challenges. Even before the slew of national headlines, we were grappling with some of the most difficult questions of our own that have always existed and perhaps still remain to be answered by future leaders of the university—how do we protect our students and maintain a safe learning environment while upholding rights to free speech? What does it even mean to truly create a safe space for every student on this campus? While we strived to come up with solutions, it quickly became clear that our university as a whole must have also been struggling with soul-searching all this time. Let us be clear that trust was broken—more than a few times. As USG, we have always operated under the assumption that our university was doing what it believed to be its best to maintain academic integrity, provide the highest quality healthcare, and be transparent about its efforts to do all of the above. At the same time, my most humbling and
inspiring experiences have been from learning from individuals, across all
departments, buildings, and offices on campus, who work day-in and
day-out for the well-being of students and all members of the Trojan
family. While it is difficult to see on the front page, there are students, in
and outside of USG, faculty, staff, and administrators who devote their
time, efforts, and even their lives to advocate for students and to work
toward a university that is values-driven, to do what is right and what is
just no matter the severity of the consequence. As the university embarks
on a new journey of transition, students deserve a restoration of trust. But
my hope is that we too, as student leaders, would first learn to overcome
misunderstandings and conflicts with civility and grace, to remain
steadfast in our purpose of serving others, and to not point fingers at the
other person but instead uplift one another, regardless of differences. I
am confident that USG will continue to be a platform for student voices,
but I also hope that this organization would find new responsibility in
rebuilding the broken bridges and pieces given to us this past year and in
amplifying the value and power of student partnership in university
decision-making and culture-shaping. Before I conclude, I would be
remiss if I did not take time to thank some of the most important people
in my life I am also forever indebted to my parents, who saw the good,
bad, ugly, and all the in-between. To Blake, there is no person on this
planet who could take your place in my heart. Thank you for being my
anchor, friend, and partner-in-crime for the last 8 years. Just as you have
refined me, I hope more people can experience and learn from the fullness
of your warmth, integrity, and empathy. To the members of USG, I thank
you for your hard work and constant diligence and perseverance. Thank
you for allowing me to learn from you, to hear your stories and narratives,
and to work passionately alongside you. And to everyone who has shown
me kindness when I didn’t deserve it, supported and encouraged me, and
challenged my way of thinking, it is because of you that I will always look
back at this crazy, growth-filled year with the utmost appreciation. Our
community begins to thrive when the deep sentiment of care and candor
becomes the hallmark of this university. As student leaders, I hope that
we can each participate in encouraging this sentiment. I am so excited to
see what is to come of this organization during this critical time, and it’s
truly been the greatest honor. Thank you so much, and Fight On!

VI. Presentations

   A. Will Sherman, Senator
      1. Project Updates
         a) Continuation with ESA
         b) Director of Advocacy of ESA so I will be back in this room
         c) Otherwise as a student
            ○ Passion projects
Words of Wisdom
- Make sure everybody knows a resolution before it’s presented
- Communication and transparency with everybody
- Be proactive about community-building
- There is no such thing as too much denim

B. Jacquelyne Tan, Senator
   1. Personal Updates
      a) Spring Break in Portland
      b) Interning in Singapore over the summer
   2. Project Updates
      a) Viterbi Wellness -- piloting program
      b) Academic Affairs -- meeting professors on Academic Senate
      c) Course evaluations -- been trying to publish course evaluations, stay tuned for my resolution later

VII. Unfinished business and general orders
   A. Ascend Funding Request
      1. Senator Sherman moves to approve Item (A)
      2. Senator Chong seconds
      3. Debate
         a) Senator Murphy -- This is funding for an event that’s already happened, correct?
         b) Senator Crane -- So what happened was, since we cancelled last week’s meeting, they asked SAGE to cover the money for them? The money will go back to SAGE who spotted them that money.
         c) Senator Sherman -- Because the funding is now in a different place, do we have to make an amendment?
         d) Senator Crane -- It’s going to the same place. She will IR it over to SAGE.
         e) Senator Chong -- From my understanding, it’s $304, correct?
         f) Senator Crane -- So the presentation was made for $300. Since she presented for $300, the approval is for $300. This is more a sample for what that $300 would have gone towards.

      4. Voting
         a) Item (A) approved unanimously (9-0-0)

VIII. New Business
   A. 2019-2020 USG New Hires
      1. Trenton and Mahin -- We had a couple hundred applications. We had applications due, came to our decision on Sunday, and informed people over the next couple days.
         a) For Advocacy, we have these. We did co-directors on certain ones. For External Affairs, we want one on Government Relations and one on Community Affairs.
For Communications, we are proposing an amendment to remove the Technology team. Business Relations is changing to Strategic Partnerships.

c) For Funding, we had a ton of awesome applicants.

d) Legislative

e) Programming -- Montana couldn’t make it but this is our list

2. This roster will be posted later today.

B. BSA Request for Senate Allocations Reserve

1. Thank you for cancelling the Senate meeting last week for Victor’s memorial. It is definitely a very trying time for our community and we are doing what we can.

2. We are asking for money for Mahogany Ball. It’s basically Black College Prom.

3. Why?

   a) It is a celebration of black successes, our final hoorah before conclusion of semester, one of our most expensive events, and recognition of community involvement. We give out awards that are voted on collectively.

4. When?

   a) It is an annual signature event that happens the last Friday of the semester. It will be at The Fields LA.

5. How Much?

   a) Our packages are anywhere between $7K-11K. It is inclusive of venue and food. I put Senate contribution of $696. If there is $700, that is what our request is. All that contribution would go to the total cost of Mahogany Ball. Based on our proposed funding and expenses, BSA is in the red and have not gotten our Spring Reallocation yet. Even with that, we still have to make a $3K contribution to Black Grad.

C. Updated Terranea Resolution

1. Senator Murphy -- We got a confirmation from GSG that it passed through GSG Senate. We were asked that. We got rid of that section. Right now, it is just explicitly asking that USC end its relationship with the resort. That’s really the only change that’s happened. We’re hoping to represent it in this form as the co-sponsored resolution.

   a) Adding in “that the University of Southern California terminate its relationship with Terranea Resort through revoking sponsorships and any conference and hotel room bookings.”

D. Learning Experience Evaluations Resolution

1. Senator Tan and Divya -- Recent studies from Innovative Higher Education and St. John’s Law Review show significant gender and racial bias in student evaluations, with terms such as “intelligent” and “chill” more frequently used to describe men, terms such as “bossy” and
“annoying” more frequently used to describe women, and terms such as as “boring” and “passive” used more frequently to describe professors of color. In acknowledgement of this, USC transitioned into a tenure and promotion review process that relies mainly on peer-review with student evaluations reflecting student engagement, rather than being viewed as an assessment of teaching ability. as recently as 2014, students were previously able to access data from past student course evaluations as an extension of the Provost website.

2. In 2018, USC “Student Course Evaluations” were replaced with “Learning Experience Evaluations” to include broader questions that cover more aspects of students’ experiences in the classroom.

3. The professor evaluation platform RateMyProfessors has displayed the biases stated above in evaluations and has limited regulation of post content, among other issues of outdated feedback, inconsistent and subjective scoring, and absent feedback for many professors. Many evaluations on the platform attack the character of professors and do not address specific aspects of how professors engage with students; and such examples (with names redacted) include:
   a) “DO NOT TAKE THIS CLASS EVER. she is a good person but a very bad bad teacher”
   b) “DO NOT TAKE. She is awful and I have never done so bad in a class in my life”
   c) “If you want to commit suicide then take her class. Otherwise avoid this sad excuse for a professor at all costs”
   d) “This might very well be the worst class at USC and [Professor] seems out of touch with reality. Do not take this class.”

4. Despite such flaws, RateMyProfessors remains the chief online platform available for USC students to view peer feedback for professors and the courses that they teach. Other universities such as Columbia, Stanford, Yale, and UCLA have implemented student-accessible platforms to provide and examine course and professor evaluations. The USC Strategic Plan 2018 includes “Embracing the Inclusive Spirit”, making a commitment to prioritize diversity and inclusion across schools and promote an inclusive classroom environment. The publication of learning experience evaluations may incentivise students to participate more fully in self-evaluation of their education and provide useful and constructive feedback for course instructors. Now, therefore, the Undergraduate Student Government of the University of Southern California does hereby resolve that the results of learning experience evaluations be published on a student-accessible platform to provide an informed background in course selection. Be it further resolved, that the responses to student evaluations be moderated by the USC Learning Evaluation team in conjunction with the USC Center for Excellence in Teaching, and
facilitation from other administrative entities on campus with overlapping missions to uphold and improve upon USC’s core teaching values. Be it further resolved, that a link to student evaluations for a professor be included on Web Registration or Schedule of Classes under his or her class. Be it further resolved, that USC reaffirms its commitment to providing a world-class education with other top research universities in the United States in providing students with honest, trustworthy, and useful data to rate instructors with.

E. VKC Flag Resolution

1. Senator Murphy -- The University of Southern California Mission Statement boasts that “USC is pluralistic, welcoming outstanding men and women of every race, creed, and background. We are a global institution in a global center, attracting more international students over the years than any other American university. And we are private, unfettered by political control, strongly committed to academic freedom, and proud of our entrepreneurial heritage.”

2. The USC UPC Campus’ Von Kleinsmid Center serves as the epicenter for International and Public Affairs and is uniquely situated to make different communities and students feel welcome and represented.

3. James Grant, a university spokesman commented on the case with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam’s flag in 2008 that “The university displays the flags of nations from which our international students come to attend USC.” He also said that “These flags represent nations recognized by the United Nations and the U.S. Department of State.”

4. Per communications with Jinah Sinh, the Office Manager of the Strategic and Global Initiatives Office, the current policy is “The 108 flags at VKC represents the countries of the USC international students… For those countries with one international student, we rotate them. Last year USC had students from over 130 different countries. Unfortunately, due to the number of flag poles, there will always be countries where their flags will not be there.”

5. International students comprise roughly 23.8% of USC’s student body, making it a rich and diverse community.

6. To have a lack of representation of different international communities when individuals from those regions are students at USC is inherently non-inclusive.

7. Despite numerous attempts to acquire the list of countries represented on the exterior of VKC, the administration has failed to uphold its commitment to transparency. Therefore, the Undergraduate Student Government of the University of Southern California does hereby resolve, that the University of Southern California take active steps to improve the visible and explicit representation of the states and regions of the world which have been historically left unrepresented in this space, and
8. Be it further resolved that one of these active steps be adding the flags of any states and regions that have not been historically represented at USC to the exterior of the Von Kleinsmid Center.

9. Be it further resolved that, abiding by the current policies in place by the Office of Strategic and Global Initiatives, any flags not placed in rotation on the exterior of VKC be placed on display in the VKC library.

10. Be it further resolved that the list and location of all flags represented on the exterior or interior of the Von Kleinsmid Center be available and accessible to all students, such as being displayed on the VKC Libraries website.

11. Questions
   a) Senator Sherman -- In terms of flags that go inside the library, are there existing facilities in which they maintain flags? Are there standard sizes for the flags?
   b) Senator Murphy -- My best guess is that right now because we know that, with 108 flagpoles and at least 130 countries from which we have students failing from, for the flags that are in rotation or are going to be in rotation but haven’t been rotated yet, they wanted to make sure that somewhere in VKC, they be put on display. My best guess as to why specific language is not used is that they didn’t want to restrict or make too firm or explicit or narrow a policy recommendation to the institute, leaving it broad enough to be a conversation with this office.
   c) Senator Sherman -- When you refer to not previously represented, you mean those which have the quota of 2 students represented but don’t have the flag up.
   d) Senator Murphy -- Yes.
   e) Yusuf -- I’m a senior here at USC and Middle East Studies major. It’s recently come to our attention that some are not represented, specifically, from George Zeidan who is a Fulbright Scholar from Palestine. I reached out to administration and found that while there are 108 flagpoles, there are not enough that represent every country at VKC.
   f) Senator Chong -- If this resolution were to be passed, is the Office of Strategic Global Initiatives in charge of purchasing the flags?
   g) Yusuf -- Because they didn’t send us the list, we don’t quite know which flags they do have and which they don’t have.
   h) Senator Halperin -- Did they tell you if it was proportional in the way that the flags were picked?
   i) Guest -- The first five are the most densely populated of students, and the rest are determined whether there are 2 from that country and those are always on the exterior of the building. The countries
where there’s only one international student are put on rotation but it’s unclear where physically on VKC that rotation takes place.

j) Senator Sherman -- In regards to the part where you reference indoor flags, I was wondering if you had to spoken to the libraries and if there is standard or smaller size flags?

k) Yusuf -- I think that size matters.

l) Guest -- Assuming that would be the flag size.

m) Senator Geschwind -- I know this went through revision. There are specific ones that were mentioned in the previous one that were omitted in this one. Are there any that you think are not being represented at all? Right now, in its current state, there are not any countries listed. If you have specific ones, which are those and would you consider adding that?

n) Yusuf -- We don’t want to run into the issue of erasing other people’s identities. We decided to omit the countries so we could use it for people who want to have it represented, as a stepping stone and way for them to start working on it.

o) Guest -- Just because we don’t have a list, we don’t want to erase identities. We want to push for greater transparency by obtaining that list.

F. Responsible Investment Resolution

1. Senator Murphy -- A bit of background on this, something that was on my heart and a lot of others was how can we not only be reactive but also have a proactive approach moving forward. Something that came to mind was having some sort of explicit Responsible Investment Policy so they can make future funding decisions.

a) The University of Southern California does not currently have an official Responsible Investment Policy. The USC Mission Statement currently reads “USC has played a major role in the development of Southern California for more than a century and plays an increasingly important role in the development of the nation and the world. We expect to continue to play these roles for many centuries to come. Thus our planning, commitments, and fiscal policies are directed toward building quality and excellence in the long term.” Transparent, explicit communication and financial reporting are key elements in rebuilding trust between the University of Southern California’s administration, student body, and the wider community. The following peer institutions have developed Responsible Investment Policies: Columbia University, Brandeis University, Johns Hopkins University, Boston University, Stanford University, Yale University, Georgetown University’s Socially Responsible Investing Policy includes the salient consideration to “use reasonable efforts to
avoid investments in companies that have demonstrated records of widespread violations of human dignity....including companies that are directly and significantly involved in the production of weapons that are intended to be used for indiscriminate destruction and companies that are engaged in activities having an extremely deleterious effect on the environment.” USC lists the following as asset allocation categories for its endowment: Global Equity, Global Fixed Income, Absolute Return, Venture Capital, Private Equity, Natural Resources, Real Estate, and Cash. More specific details of the aforementioned categories, that address the human rights and environmental concerns shared by our peer institutions would be effective in promoting a culture of transparency. The USC Code of Ethics states that “as members of the USC community, we treat everyone with respect and dignity”, and that “we do not misappropriate the university’s resources... nor do we permit any such misappropriation to go unchallenged” and that “as faculty, staff, students, and trustees, we each bear responsibility not only for the ethics of our own behavior but also for building USC’s stature as an ethical institution”, and that these ethical commitments be reflected in the University’s investment policy,

b) Board of Trustees Chair Rick Caruso emphasized the importance of transparency in University leadership, stating, “Every committee should be transparent,” in an interview with the Daily Trojan. President-elect Carol Folt emphasized her commitment to transparency, stating, "I think if you've been in the classroom and working you're with people and used to the questions that are going to come from that, you cannot be anything but transparent."

c) Therefore, be it resolved that the Office of the Provost assemble a task force composed of students, faculty, and administrators to create an explicit policy regarding responsible investment by the University of Southern California, specifically articulating principles and ethics by which funding decisions must be guided by. Be it further resolved that the University work to avoid investing in firms or other entities that profit from, or are otherwise engaged in, acts resulting in environmental destruction or violations of human rights and dignity.

2. Senator Chong -- Under the Task Force section, can you elaborate on how you plan to execute that?

3. Senator Murphy -- What we didn’t want to do with this resolution was to make too firm or narrow of a policy recommendation to the university. We wanted to make sure this was collaborative and a conversation. There are only so many voices included right now. Because these are decisions
that affect not only undergrad and grad students but also faculty, staff, and the broader community, a task force that would be assembled by the Office of the Provost with relevant stakeholders would maybe be a more appropriate place to hammer out the exact specifics of what this framework should look like moving forward because it’s a pretty large step and something that would hopefully impact a lot of decisions being made in the future, making sure that this is not a rushed framework but one that includes a lot of different stakeholders from around the USC campus. That’s why this specific ask was for a task force to come up with this rather than asking the administration to adopt policies that would be listed in this resolution.

4. Senator Crane -- Do other universities publish those frameworks?
5. Senator Murphy -- They do. If you want, I can add all of them as footnotes.
6. Senator Crane -- I was going to suggest putting them in as appendices.

G. Sanctuary University Resolution
1. Senator Murphy -- This is a conversation that has been happening around not just USC but peer universities for a while, specifically undocumented students. In conversations with administrators thus far, since Los Angeles is a sanctuary city, USC will abide by that. However, we don’t have a policy in place that defines exactly what that means.
   a) Professor George Sanchez, Director of the Center for Diversity and Democracy at USC, estimates that there are 100-200 undocumented students at USC, in addition to a few hundred more who come from mixed-status families; and an estimated one in 190 undergraduates at USC faces potential deportation.
   b) A memo from Provost Quick sent to the USC Community in March 2018 asserted that “USC unreservedly supports its students, faculty, and staff of all national origins and immigration status. We will continue to push for a permanent resolution to this issue...to ensure that everyone in our community – regardless of status – can continue to thrive at USC.”
   c) A pop-up DREAMer Center was developed by faculty and students to provide resources and support to undocumented undergraduate and graduate students, but the initiative lacks key foundations necessary for providing enduring support, such as: a permanent designated space on campus, full-time recognition, and dedicated staffing,
   d) USG Resolution 0204172018, “Resolution for A Permanent DREAM Center for Undocumented Students” previously requested that these operational requirements be fulfilled through allocation of additional University resources.
e) The American Association of University Professors formally defines the parameters and importance of the “Sanctuary Campus” movement, acknowledging legal requirements while still providing extraordinary support to undocumented students.

f) The following peer institutions have declared themselves as “Sanctuary Universities”.

g) The University of Southern California maintains an explicit commitment to efforts of diversity, equity, and inclusion, articulating this message in its core mission statement.

h) The ideals of pluralism and academic freedom, as well as the appreciation for global perspective and community, must engender a commitment towards providing safety, protection, and ample resources for the undocumented students of the University of Southern California.

i) We must continue to affirm and celebrate our support for all students, faculty, staff and their families—regardless of national origin, race, religion, gender, sexual identity or immigration status;

j) Proposed and current immigration policies and practices of the current Presidential Administration of the United States put at risk the safety and well-being of undocumented students and students of mixed immigration status.

k) Therefore, be it resolved that the University of Southern California follow suit with peer institutions to identify itself as a “Sanctuary Campus” by formal statement of senior administration and through maintaining key protections for undocumented members of the University community.

l) Be it further resolved that these protections entail, at minimum and to the fullest possible extent under the law:

- (1) Actively protecting the safety and identities of undocumented and mixed immigration status members of our University community;
- (2) Mandating that information regarding citizenship or immigration status not be collected unless essential to University operations;
- (3) Ensuring that the Department of Public Safety refrains from collaboration with ICE for purpose of immigration enforcement;
- (4) Refusing voluntary information sharing with U.S. Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement and U.S. Customs and Border Protection;
m) Be it further resolved that the University of Southern California evaluate and provide permanent support for the DREAMer Center in the form of dedicated staffing and physical space of campus.

H. Constitutional Amendments

1. Truman -- This has already been submitted to Gabe Valenzuela for his approval.

2. Senator Crane -- Changing “Speaker Pro Tempore” to “Speaker of the Senate”. The Speaker of the Senate is technically Blake right now but the Speaker of the Senate does not have to be the chair of the Senate.
   a) Senator Crane -- Whoever holds the Presidency and Vice Presidency should be someone who is elected.
   b) Senator Crane -- This just clarifies that Senators cannot get other stipends.

3. Truman -- Changing the name of “Business Relations” to “Strategic Partnerships” to liaise with RSA,
   a) Truman -- Also removing the Technology team.
      o The role has been historically updating the website. Those roles would be absorbed within the Marketing team.

4. Senator Crane -- This used to be there and then got taken out. The process for amending the Bylaws happens the same way as the Constitution, so this is just raising the bar.

I. Bylaw Amendments

1. President Lee (referring to the document) -- The logic is that you learn a lot after a year. Most of them are cosmetic, spelling and grammar, as well as name changes.

2. Mahin -- One of the biggest changes we’re making is adding Assistant Directors for each of the Directors.

3. Trenton -- There’s been issues with the delegates. We also want to improve Advocacy’s relationship with Programming.

4. President Lee -- There were a lot of scheduling conflicts. The process for appointing Justices is done by the Chief Justice, but we felt like limiting to just one Executive Officer would make the process smoother.

5. Trenton -- We changed the number of hours for the Vice President to 20 hours per week. We wanted to just equalize that role.

6. Truman -- We figured just saying “all incoming USG members”.

7. Hunter -- Before, there was a monthly meeting but with the introduction of the budget meetings, that is no longer necessary. Also, formalizing the Bylaws that if the account holder fails to attend, the Treasurer is empowered to freeze the subject account.

8. Truman -- This is clarifying that the SDOC appoints the Communications Directors.

9. Trenton -- It formalizes the SDOP’s ability to meet with assemblies and committees.
10. Trenton -- We just wanted to expand that to make sure there were specific people this report went to.
11. Mahin -- A lot of the confusion for the election of the Speaker of the Senate, we decided it would be better if we put it into the Bylaws that it would happen during the first Senate and happen through a secure ballot.
12. Senator Crane -- The Speaker Pro Temp can be removed the same way as any Executive Officer. It’s being kicked out of the organization. If someone feels differently, please talk to me.
13. President Lee -- If someone is not doing their job as per the Bylaws, they can be removed. This is just codifying it and holding everyone to the same standard.
14. Senator Crane -- As far as external office hours, this just gives Senators the power to dispute delegated responsibilities.
15. Senator Crane -- Tardiness from the pre-meeting will be a 0.5 absence.
16. Senator Crane -- The President right now cannot remove the Secretary or Parliamentarian so this gives them the power to do so, as well as for Senate aides.
17. Senator Crane -- If you miss external office hours, it counts as 0.5 absence.
18. Senator Crane -- We had issues about wanting to exercise the power of Senate outside of Senate. If you want to be able to issue a statement over the summer, for example, that is what this is for. Decisions are subject to vote by the President.
19. Truman -- This was left over from when we had constituencies.
20. Senator Crane -- This matches peer institutions, that they have the agenda public. As necessary, these may be digitally recorded.
21. Senator Crane -- By Robert’s Rules, you can’t yield time, so this makes that be able to happen. This also takes out discussion. If people really think it serves a role, we can motion to give people more time, so I don’t see how it serves a purpose. The way that it was put in I didn’t think was necessary.
22. Senator Crane -- If Blake doesn’t show up, I wouldn’t be able to vote. This is just making sure that the Speaker is not a Senator.
23. Truman -- This is just clarifying Robert’s Rules.
24. Senator Crane -- As far as resolutions, this requires that there are now two sponsoring Senators. The idea is that you have more conversations and you have more lines of contact for administrators.
25. Senator Crane -- That’s just about resolution formatting.
26. Senator Crane -- Each Senator can only have one proxy.
27. Senator Crane -- We don’t have recall elections anymore.
28. Trenton -- It didn’t say who Exec members have to send goals and objectives to.
29. Mahin -- We are changing up the Advocacy Branch, as we mentioned.
30. Trenton -- In the event that there is co-Directors, we wanted them to know how many hours they need to be doing. We codified the responsibilities of the Assistant Directors.
31. Hunter -- This codifies when we finalize funding delegates, it gives the Director and AD to sit in and hear funding applications and process things necessary when they don’t have a Board.
32. Hunter -- This codifies that it’s whichever date comes first for funding.
33. Mahin -- A lot of confusion comes over when to submit, so this clarifies that it’s whatever comes prior.
34. Truman -- Adding in “Strategic Partnerships”, changing “Associate Directors” to two positions. This is just clarifying what SP will do in the future. They will work to find partnerships. This is removing Technology.
35. Truman -- This is clarifying when the Elections Code needs to be published so it’s not right before the Intent to Run is due.
36. Truman -- This has to do with external office hours.
37. Truman -- These are the responsibilities for Assistant Directors.
38. Truman -- This is giving external office hours for providing media coverage.
39. Truman -- This is changing to Associate Director of Marketing (Operations) and Associate Director of Marketing (Special Projects), and delineating those responsibilities.
40. Trenton -- A lot of this is standardizing it and making sure it’s in the right order. She also removed language about “Program Board”. She also standardized the 8 hours requirement for Directors.
41. Trenton -- This is all for assembly incorporation.
42. Trenton -- For Productions, this is changing the role of Productions Director.
43. Truman -- There is no Council advisor or Senate advisor.
44. Truman -- This is language left over from constituencies, so not relevant anymore.
45. Senator Crane -- This says we don’t know what happens in the case of a tie.
46. Truman -- There is no mandatory candidates meeting right now.
47. Keisuke -- This is something I wanted to add for the Allocations Committee. There is no way for the incoming Allocations Committee to access the previous spending. It’ll really help the next group on making decisions. The report will be submitted to the advisor and Allocation Committee. The redacted version will be made public because that information is often sensitive.
48. Trenton and Mahin -- As we approached this, there’s been a lot of talk about pay disparity. For co-Directors, they’re often paid more. I do want to address that we don’t want to look at it in hourly terms. We realized that Director positions were paid different stipend amounts. The average
pay for a general member comes out to be $11.24. We decided that $11.25 was the average pay rate. There’s a $7K disparity that was overallocated for various reasons. This includes decreasing the President and Vice President’s roles. We did office hour changes and then equalized it. You end up with a lot of the positions changing. I’ll send this out. We are proposing to pay AD’s a $1K stipend. On top of that, we see that the AD roles are often a lead-in. If they’re not able to access USG from an entry point, it would be much more difficult to get involved. This is a way to compensate for that.

49. Questions
   a) Alec -- Can you command+F the section on felonies again? My concern is that, in many states like Arizona, it’s a felony to possess any amount of marijuana. I’m just worried about the possible ramifications of that.
   b) Senator Crane -- It’s while you’re an officer.

J. Code of Ethics Resolution
   1. Senator Crane -- This is our Code of Ethics. It only applies in a small number of cases. We are an inclusive organization, you are supposed to behave professionally.

K. Endowment Fund Resolution
   1. Senator Crane -- The Undergraduate Student Government previously utilized a rollover fund for unspent annual budget assets, classified as a CR account throughout much of its existence. This rollover account was removed beginning in FY18 in favor of a CU account, and any unspent resources of Undergraduate Student Government may now be re-allocated by the Vice President of Student Affairs at the closing of the fiscal year. The purpose of the Student Programming Fee, which all undergraduate students are charged with enrollment in the university, should be to fund Undergraduate Student Government and enable a broad mission of improving the undergraduate experience at USC through programming and advocacy. The FY19 USG Allocation for Student Stipends was $238,200 and the FY19 USG Allocation for Staff Salaries was $54,000, for a total of $292,200; representing a substantial ~12.4% of the FY19 USG budget prior to over enrollment increase. All funds allocated towards these necessary above-the-line budget items represent tradeoffs with student programming and advocacy projects. Be it resolved, that the unspent budget at the closing of each fiscal year now be allocated towards the Undergraduate Student Government Endowment, to be used for future funding of Undergraduate Student Government operations in line with the stated purpose of the Endowment: “given as a first year scholarship to incoming undergraduates with substantial leadership backgrounds upon their enrollment at USC; for leadership development which may be in the form of workshops, publications, or leadership
events, or for general needs of the USC Student Government and/or student body.” Be it further resolved, that the dividends of the Endowment be utilized primarily under the mandate of general needs of the USC Student Government, allocating towards existing above-the-line budget items of Student Stipends and Staff Salaries.

2. Questions
a) Senator Murphy -- With this proposed policy, the surplus goes into the endowment and that money would almost exclusively be put towards stipends and salaries?

b) Senator Crane -- It would go to above-the-line budget items first. The goal is that the dividends from the endowment would eventually fully fund student stipends and salaries. Once that happens, then the money can be fed into the USG budget and we can be like other autonomous student governments. The big conversation we had with Student Affairs is about a rollover account. With this, it really goes to the overall student experience.

c) Guest -- I know this is what the administration’s going to say if this gets passed, it creates an incentive for them to not spend any of ProAc’s money so it can go into the rollover fund and they get a bump in their stipend for next year.

d) Senator Crane -- It’s not a rollover fund exactly. A rollover fund, you have access to the money.

e) Guest -- But it would obviously increase the size of the endowment, which would directly go to stipends, not directly funneled to him or whatever person.

f) Senator Crane -- As far as hoarding money accusations, as we’ve all seen, it’s very hard. The Treasurer is very accountable. We end up having very long debates. I’m not too worried about someone packaging away $1,000, especially for an endowment that ends up being a small amount of the annual percentage.

IX. Announcements
A. None

X. Discussion
A. Guest -- I’m here on behalf of a student who couldn’t be here because of class. He is a Palestinian here on visa, and there’s no Palestinian flag. He and a few other Palestinians would love to see a flag so it feels like they’re represented on campus.

B. Parliamentarian Donahue -- We went through 11 items. I just want to remind everyone that we should be reaching out and doing our due diligence, just so we have that open line of communication and we avoid past Senate meetings that have happened.

C. VP Ackerman -- I would like to implore that you all do your homework this week. If you have questions, please reach out. Anyone on Exec can answer any of those questions. Please do your homework.
D. Hunter -- If anyone has questions about the Endowment, please ask me. I can speak to that extremely well, as can Matt.
E. VP Ackerman -- Just please, reach out to your fellow Senators who are not here.

XI. Adjournment
   A. Senator Sherman moves to adjourn the meeting
   B. Senator Geschwind seconds
   C. VP Ackerman adjourns the meeting at 9:12 PM