

BSC Meeting					
10/02/2017	5:03 PM – 6:34 PM	BSRB 483			
Presidents:	Aaron van Loon & Chantle Edillor	Secretary/Note taker:	Alex Chubick	Treasurer:	Jennifer Tribble
Members Present:	<p>Alex Sercel (MBI), Macrina Cooper-White (Psychology), Alena Egner (Psychology), Mako Tanaka (Psychology), Wendy Christensen (Psychology), Kaley Woods (PBM), Geoff Provost (MBIDP), Tev Dincel (Bioinformatics), Jazlyn Mooney (alternate Human Genetics), Tiancheng Fang (M&M Pharmacology), Christian Msaon (Biomath), Gabriela Sendek (IBP), Thanh Phan (MCIP), Catherine Schweppe (Neuroscience), May Bhetraratana (alternate Molecular Toxicology), Joe Bedree (Oral Biology), Lara Bideyan (Career Liaison), Alex Chubick (Secretary), Jennifer Tribble (Treasurer), Chantle Edillor (External President), Aaron van Loon (Internal President)</p>				
AGENDA:					
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call to Order 2. UCLA Student-Worker Union: Jonathan Koch 3. Review responsibilities of BSC representatives 4. Health & Wellness Liaison 5. Review 2017-2018 Budget: Jenn 6. Nomination/Election of GSA Representatives 7. Request by AWiSE for Funding 8. BSC Goals for Fall Quarter 9. Review of BSC Constitution 10. Requisitions 				
Topic 1	Call to Order				
Procedural	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal President calls meeting to order at 5:03 PM 				
Topic 2	UCLA Student-Worker Union: Jonathan Koch				
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Background:</u> Jonathan Koch the elected Union Chair of the UCLA Student-Worker Union requested to speak during the meeting to give the BSC an overview of the goals of the UCLA Student-Worker Union and how it relates to the biosciences. • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jonathan started by informing the BSC that the UCLA Student-Worker Union was in the process of bargaining a new contract for 2018. The new contract would mean that subjects such as wages, healthcare, cost of living, parking, tuition remittance for international students, and sanctuary campus were on the table for negotiation. The reason that these kind of negotiations are possible is that TAs are a large portion of the instructional staff (~46%) and the Union knows that TA wages set the “floor” for every other academic job on campus. The success or failure of these negotiations heavily relies on the size of the Union’s membership. The Union’s membership is currently ~39% which is enough to defend the rights that TA’s currently have but not enough to get much more. With these negotiations Jonathan was interested to hear the bargaining demands and the kind of university the BSC would like to see (see next bullet point for input from BSC representatives). ○ Issues that the BSC brought forward that we would like to address: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does the Union only negotiate with UCLA? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Union is capable of negotiation both with UCLA and the UC System. ▪ How much power does the Union have bargain with UCLA and the UC System? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Union has influence to organize around any issue but the power to negotiate depends on the difficulty of the subject (i.e. can depend whether it requires the unionization of all UCs or just UCLA). ▪ Is there anything that the Union can do to address the TA shortage on South Campus? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This issue exists because there isn’t enough people in some departments to fill the need for TAs. A possible solution to this issue is to hire undergraduate TAs but if graduate level TAs are required to manage the undergraduate TAs then our teaching workload should be lightened or our wage increased. ▪ Is it possible to negotiate the expected amount of hours a TA is expected to work in a week? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAs are only required to work 20 hours a week but there are some professors 				

	<p>that expect there TAs to work beyond these hours (the 20 hour work weeks is seen as being flexible). There are also issues of students having to TA classes that they haven't ever taken which adds more time to their work week because they have to learn the class material. Jonathan explained that the solution to this issue is to organize a "Know Your Rights" event to provide TAs with the information that they need to defend themselves in these situations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another suggestion that was given to help address this issue was to distinguish which classes require more time and have more responsibilities. If a student is assigned to TA this type of class then their wage should be increased. ▪ There were reported cases of students not being paid the full salary of working as a TA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A wage cap exists that prevents students from earning more than a given amount in a year. The BSC reps were interested in whether this cap could be negotiated or removed through negotiations by the Union. Jonathan was unaware of this issue and would look into it. ▪ Concerns of not receiving any financial benefits (paid sick days, workmen's comp, retirement). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The answer to this issue is addressed in the next main bullet point (unionization of GSRs) ▪ There was interest of whether the Union could negotiate with UCLA to provide access to financial counseling to help students better organize their funds (i.e. help with taxes and other financial issues) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are certain laws/regulations that prevent UCLA from offering tax advice to students due to liability. Although this is a difficult issue to work around it is a resource that the BSC thinks is worth negotiating for and would benefit our constituents. ○ Jonathan also informed the BSC that the UCLA Student-Worker Union's GSR campaign. The Union's bill passed the California Assembly which means that if Jerry Brown signs the bill that California law will finally recognize GSRs as workers rather than apprentices giving them rights under the Educational Employment Relations Act (this includes the right to unionize, be paid on time, collect workmen's comp, and etc). ○ Jonathan also asked the BSC about an open date to host a "Biosciences Bargaining Forum" that would bring together biological scientists (all grad students, not just TAs) to talk hear what the BSC constituents are interested in bargaining for. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The BSC suggested that the Union host the event during the 4th Week of the Fall Quarter. ▪ Jonathan would follow up by sending out a Doodle poll to establish a specific date to hold the Bargaining Forum. ▪ BSC representatives should encourage their constituents to attend this event to ensure that their concerns are being heard. ○ Jonathan ended by passing around a sign-up sheet to the BSC representatives for the Union to visit their department to inform their constituents about their rights as TAs and GSRs.
Topic 3	Review responsibilities of BSC representatives
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Background:</u> With the start of a new academic year and the introduction of new representatives the BSC officers wanted to review the responsibilities of being a BSC representative. • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ BSC representatives are asked to introduce themselves through e-mail to their constituents. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In this e-mail a representative should explain who they are and what their responsibility to their constituents are. ○ The responsibility of being a BSC representative includes the following duties: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) E-mail constituents about events <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is recognized that some representatives are not always able to control this process as some departments need their SAO to approve e-mails sent out to their departments and that some representatives e-mail their constituents in bulk. 2) Talk with constituents to ensure that their cares and concerns are being heard and to learn how your department is serving its constituents. 3) Attend meetings! It is important to attend meeting because it can effect your department's funding.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4) Representatives should inform their constituents that they are able to attend BSC meetings. o Updating the BSC representative contact list: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The BSC officers wanted to confirm that the BSC representative contact list is correct to ensure that e-mails are being sent to each departments primary representative or the departments alternate representative. A department should establish an alternated representative if one hasn't been assigned. ▪ Aaron (Internal President) will send out a Doodle poll to confirm who is the primary and alternate representative of each department. The Doodle poll will also help to confirm that e-mails are being sent to the correct people. o BSC representatives are asked if e-mails should be sent out to just the primary representative or both the primary and alternate representative. • <u>Decision:</u> BSC representatives decides that e-mails should be sent to both the primary and alternate representative and that representatives will communicate to ensure that constituents aren't being e-mailed the same events multiple times.
Topic 4	Health & Wellness Liaison
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Background:</u> At the end of the 2016-2017 Academic Year Geoff Provost (MBIDP Representative) was interested in amending a new officer position to the BSC. The suggested officer position was titled "Health and Wellness Liaison" and the responsibility of this officer would be to focus on the Health and Wellness of the constituents that the BSC represents. • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Geoff explained to the other representatives that after attending a Behavioral and Wellness Workshop he realized that there was an issue with raising awareness of the various resources available to graduate students. If this officer position were to be created their responsibilities would include sending out monthly e-mails to inform constituents about different events and resources on campus that promote health and well-being and to also spearhead health and wellness associated events (e.g. hiking trips, climbing, SUPing, and etc). The creation of this position could provide more opportunities for our constituents to take care of themselves and provide a fun and social atmosphere while also fostering interdisciplinary spirit of the BSC. o There was general support for the creation "Health and Wellness Liaison" but there were some concerns that representatives wanted to address before considering the amendment of this position to the BSC constitution, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There was a concern that there may be a lack of interest in these kind of events and that the attendance of these events could be low. Representatives were concerned whether their constituents would participate due to their schedules. ▪ There was also a concern of how events promoted by this position would be funded. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An additional responsibility of this position would be to seek outside funding. • The Healthy Campus Initiative was suggested for seeking possible funding. o Due to the concerns brought forward by the BSC representatives Aaron suggests that a committee be formed instead of an officer position. The purpose of this committee would be to see how our constituents will respond to events that promote health and wellness and if there is a positive reaction then we will return to the possibility of amending the new officer position. • <u>Motion:</u> Motion to make a committee devoted to promoting health and wellness by Geoff Provost • <u>Decision:</u> Unanimous approval to form Health and Wellness Committee • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The following BSC representatives volunteered to head the Health and Wellness Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Geoff Provost ▪ Chantel Edillor ▪ Kaley Woods ▪ Gabriela Sendek ▪ Thanh Pham • <u>Motion:</u> Motion to approve members of the Health and Wellness Committee by Chantle Edillor • <u>Decision:</u> Unanimous approval of committee members
Topic 5	Review of 2017-2018 Budget: Jenn
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Background:</u> Jennifer Tribble (BSC Treasurer) wanted to briefly review the budget for the 2017-2018 Academic Year and to describe how funds are allocated and divided among each department in the BSC.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jenn explains to the representatives that 80% of the fund allocated by the GSA are split among the departments in the BSC with each department receiving funds proportionate to the number of constituents in their department. The remaining 20% of the funds allocated by the GSA are placed in the BSC's general funds. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Before the meeting Jenn e-mailed the budget to all BSC representatives (the roll over from the previous year was included in this budget with each department being able to carry over 25% of its budget from the previous academic year). ▪ The values in the budget are likely to increase Winter Quarter because these are only initial values provided by the GSA. ○ Jenn addresses some of the issues with rules and regulations that exist in the BSC Constitution that pertain to a departments funds/budget. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An example of these issues comes from a rule that states "Missing 2/3 of meetings forfeits a departments funds for that quarter and then those funds are added to the general fund". The problem with this rule is that nothing prevents a department from spending all of its funds at the start of a quarter then skipping meetings. ▪ Suggested solutions to these issues: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Penalize the next academic year but this solution could also be unfair to any new incoming representatives. 2. Freeze a department's funds until the department's representative attends a certain amount of meetings. 3. Put a spending cap on each quarter. ○ Review of current and previous budget: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The starting budget for this year was ~\$5700 ▪ We are expected to spend ~\$1000 on the Welcome Back Party and ~\$2500 on the End of the Year Party meaning we will need to budget accordingly to ensure we have funds for these events. ▪ ~\$1,000 carry over from the previous year • <u>Decision:</u> BSC officers will present solutions to issues with rules that pertain to funding in the constitution at the next BSC meeting and we will vote on a solution (Note: These issues are further addressed in Topic 9 "Review of BSC Constitution" of the minutes). Jenn will also try provide representatives with regular updates on the budget.
Topic 6	Nomination/Election of GSA Representatives
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Background:</u> Section V of the BSC constitution states that the BSC shall have representatives to the General Assembly. With the start of the new academic year the BSC will need to nominate and elect new GSA representatives. • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At least two formal representatives need to be nominated and elected. It was also suggested that more be nominated and elected to serve as alternate representatives. ○ Nomination of GSA representatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aaron nominates Catherine Krebs (Catharine served as a previous GSA rep) ▪ Christian Mason nominates himself (Christian served as a previous GSA rep) ▪ Chantle Edillor nominates herself ▪ Aaron van Loon nominates himself • <u>Motion:</u> Motion to vote for nominated GSA representatives by Aaron • <u>Decision:</u> Unanimous approval that all four nominees will serve as GSA representatives with each representative rotating the GSA forums they will attend.
Topic 7	Request by AWiSE for Funding
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Background:</u> AWiSE is a program created by UCLA graduate students in response to the observation that while women comprise a significant percent of the student population in science and engineering graduate programs, they are underrepresented in leadership roles in academia and industry. AWiSE aims to provide a forum for candid conversations to address these concerns and offer training, education, and mentorship to encourage graduate students who enter the professional sector to value diversity and its impact on innovation and ultimately break down existing gender barriers. • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ AWiSE request \$250.00 from the BSC General Fund. The requested funds will be used to rent the Botanical Gardens and purchase food and drink for an event to recruit new members and to promote AWiSE.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ \$70 will be used to reserve the Botanical Garden ▪ \$180 will be used to purchase food and drink ○ The BSC has previously provided AWiSE with funds for their events. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AWiSE was funded with \$100.00 from the BSC to purchase beverages for the “AWiSE Beyond Your PhD: Careers in Academia” event. ○ Questions representatives asked about funding this event: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Representatives asked if there were any available spaces that could be reserved for a lower amount of if there was a space that could be reserved for free. For the most part all the other spaces that AWiSE was looking at reserving fell around the same price point. ▪ Representatives asked how AWiSE was publicizing this event. AWiSE is currently promoting this event through Eventbrite and through fliers. AWiSE will provide BSC representatives with an electronic version of their flier to send out to constituents. • <u>Motion:</u> Motion to approve funding for AWiSE’s event by Geoff Provost • <u>Decision:</u> Approval to fund AWiSe event won by majority vote (more than 2/3 of representatives). No votes were cast in opposition to funding the event but a single abstention was cast.
Topic 8	BSC Goals for Fall Quarter
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Background:</u> The BSC is currently committed to holding two events for its constituents which consists of a “Welcome Back Party” at the start of the Winter Quarter and an “End of the Year Party” at the end of the Spring Quarter. This leaves an event open to be held in the Fall Quarter. • <u>Discussion:</u> Last year the BSC collaborated with the MPSC to host the Wine and Whine event and representatives were asked if there were interested in doing this again or doing something else. • <u>Decision:</u> The representatives were interested in reaching out to the MPSC about collaborating again this year to hold a similar event. Aaron will reach out the MPSC to see if they are interested in collaborating with the BSC. In the case of no collaboration the BSC is interested in hosting its won Wine and Whine event or at least host event that will provide the opportunity to introduce and better promote the BSC to our constituents.
Topic 9	Review of BSC Constitution
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Background:</u> The officers wanted to review the constitution with the representative to see if there were any suggestions for amendments to the constitution. • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sub-section A of section VI in the constitution (responsibility of the president) needs to be amended. With this academic year the BSC introduced the positions of Internal and External Presidents. The responsibilities of each president needs to be define and amended to the constitution. ○ Section IX in the constitution states “To properly provide for the regeneration of this general fund, any money which is not spent within two fiscal years of its availability shall be placed in the Council general fund, and present year department allocations shall be used before using the remainder of the previous year’s department allocations.” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The issue with this rule is that the BSC hasn’t been following it and that it is a difficult rule to enforce. This rule was most likely introduced into the constitution to prevent departments from sitting on their funds and to make sure that a department’s funds are being spent on things that its constituents need. ▪ A suggested solution to fix this rule is to only allow a department to carry over 25% its base allocation (budget allocated at the start of the academic year). ○ Currently 20% of the total allocations received from the GSA is put into the general fund with the remaining 80% being split between department accordingly but this is not stated in the constitution. • <u>Motion:</u> Motion to remove the two year roll over rule from the constitution by Jennifer Tribble • <u>Decision:</u> Unanimous approval to remove the two year roll over rule from the constitution. • <u>Motion:</u> Motion for a department to only carry over 25% of its base budget by Jennifer Tribble • <u>Decision:</u> Unanimous approval to amend rule that allows a department to carry over 25% of its base budget • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Currently 20% of the total allocations received from the GSA is put into the general fund with the remaining 80% being split between department accordingly but this is not stated in the constitution.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Motion:</u> Motion to amend a rule to the constitution that states that 20% of the total allocation from the GSA will be placed in the general fund by Jennifer Tribble • <u>Decision:</u> Unanimous approval to amend rule of adding 20% of the total allocations to the general fund • <u>Discussion:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There are rules in the constitution that can negatively effect a department's funding if a representative misses a certain amount of meetings. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Missing 2 or more meetings in a quarter results in a department forfeiting its funds for that quarter and those funds are transferred to the general fund. ▪ Missing 3 consecutive meetings puts a freeze on a departments funds until a representative attends another 3 consecutive meetings • <u>Decision:</u> It was agreed that rules pertaining to attendance and funding are both strict and complex and that they should be change to a certain extent. The officers will discuss how to adjust these rules and present an amendment at the next BSC meeting to be voted on.
Topic 10	Requisitions
Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jennifer Tribble, BSC General Fund, Science Policy Group \$95.65 + \$24.34 = 119.99 (Total) • Catherine Schweppe, Neuroscience Department Fund, Neuroscience Department Welcome Back Party \$81.81 (Food) + \$71.70 (Beverage and Snack) = 153.51 (Total) • Tev Dincel, Bioinformatics Department Fund, Bioinformatics Career Networking Event \$43.48 (Food) + \$32.00 (Beer) = \$75.58 (Total) • Katie Leap, BSC General Fund, Undergraduate Networking Event \$96.07 <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion to approve requisitions by Geoff Provost <u>Decision:</u> Unanimous approval of requisitions</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Motion to end meeting by Jennifer Tribble <u>Decision:</u> Unanimous approval to bring meeting to an end</p>