

UASRA GA Meeting 2018.11.28

Start: 7:07pm

End: 9:12 pm

UNIT REPRESENTATIVES					
Sepulveda A	Linda Castillo Sanchez	P	Keystone	Traci Ramirez	P
Sepulveda B	Magdalena Cline	P	Mentone/Clarington	Aleksandar Kondic	P
Sepulveda C	Natalija Markina	P	Rose Avenue	Michelle Luna	P
Sawtelle A	Sufia Sadaf	P	Sawtelle C	Talya Cohen	P
Sawtelle B	Miranda Chichetti	P	Sawtelle D	Ali Savas Zorlu	P
			Sawtelle E	Leila Ensaniat	
OTHER UASRA OFFICERS					
President			Helena McDermott		
Vice President			Negar Omidakhsh		P
Secretary			Marbet Munoz		P
Treasurer			Tracy Martison		P
Website Editor			Rob Farley		P
Event Coordinator			Umut Tok		P
Community Center Coordinator			Lukas Smith		P
Community Center Maintenance Coordinator			Deevi Soumyasri		P
Sepulveda Maintenance Coordinator			Position Vacant		n/a
Green Coordinator			Lauren Seaman		A
Community Gardener Supervisor			Faeze Nateghi		A
Safety and Health Delegate			KT Bender		P
Management & Visitors					
UAS Area Manager			Leslie		n/a
Area Facilities Director			Regis Mesko		n/a
Residential Life Advisor			Addae Jahdai-Brown		P
Residential Life			Josh O'Connor		P
UCLA Transportation			????		
UCLA Transportation			???		

1. Meeting intro: community update and meeting goals, welcome new team members
2. Public comments (not to exceed two minutes)

- **Study Rooms**

- Residents: Sarah and Dwight Lawrence shared that the study rooms are a critical part to their success at UCLA. Sarah expressed that the medical school doesn't provide adequate study space and has often relied on the Sawtelle study room. Other concerns shared included: occupancy being high, so that not everyone can use the space and that UCLA should be looking at solving that too and in regards to the new location- increase in noise, bathroom etc.
 - i. UASRA President shared with GA, that Sarah's FB post/ testimonial was shared with Shirley, and that Shirley had indicated that final floor plans/ specifics have not been made.

- As far as the reason why this is happening- it can be speculated that these 2 apartments are being thrown into the rental pool- to increase rental income for UCLA Housing
 - i. UASRA President shared that Peter is really focused on the individuals that are the waiting list and takes that seriously. Perhaps it's being seen as helping 2 additional families- at the cost of many other families.
- Sepulveda is significant downgrade going from the apartment to the tiny Sepulveda Resource room.
- Audit – no administrators should not be allowed to live here
- GSA organization and president (Michael) offers their support –recommendation why we want the study room- send letter to daily bruin and focus on voicing the response etc.

- **New board position proposal**

- Lara proposal written by 2 other residents in which they would like a new position at UASRA board that would be in charge of diversity and inclusivity
- 1-2 events about the anti-blackness
- request to add anti-blackness in the bylaws and its unacceptability

- **Rent Increases and displacement of Rose residents**

- Cory Mengual current resident at the Mentone building- affordability.

Housing and gas prices are increasing. How much of a graduate's income should be spending on rent. Shared some stats such as spending 30% of one's income puts them in a "crisis" and spending 50% or more it is "severe crisis". Over 80% of the units- has rates that are more than 50% than the resident's income.

- When moved from Rose to Mentone- rent has increased by 12%- the response he received from housing was: "our rate is less than the what's in the market"
- Is it reasonable to meet the affordability – and should the university be benefiting from student's pay checks. Public budget documents- there isn't the details of the profits and losses as they truly are. If there's 1-2 million in revenue
- is it acceptable that there isn't an income metric ?
- should the dean of students be allowed to live in housing when they can afford elsewhere? Ultimately comes down to- they do this because they can etc.
- Eviction defence network- threaten with a rent strike. Proposes that they escalate student involvement such as grassroots efforts. Press etc and that demanding a rental decrease and initiate with a strong ask and then turn towards mobilizing

3. AC Report- new reps both first year a US,

- Termite sightings let them know- work is programmed for next week
- Clogged sinks – please call. Reminded GA about the hours of operation. Reminder: **Service animals- UASRA President asked if is it required that service animals walk along the sidewalk? (making sure that we are ADA compliant)**

Unit reps- you don't need to wait to fill out request forms. Let maintenance know

4. UCPD report – not present

5. UAS Management Report – not present

6. Officers' Questions and reports to management (General Officers and Board)

7. Current issues:

- Anti-blackness and racism work at UCLA
- Housing budget 2018/19 and housing affordability meeting
- Relocation of Rose residents to Mentone and associated rent costs
- **UV study room repurposing**
 - will be email peter & susan - in regards to the UV study rooms and make them aware of what the residents feel in regards to this issue.
 - Feel free to email them directly about the study rooms
 - UASRA doesn't have the capacity to mass email students
 - If we have something that we would like to share with everyone that is something that has to be submitted to then have the message to everyone
 - What's going to happen about the study rooms and can commit to getting a message
 - No study space will be taken away until another one is created
 - No meeting is set up yet- but it is in the works – should be in the next weeks
 - UASRA will get signs up on the study rooms

- Include what information we currently have
 - Timeline- beginning of winter qtr
 - Get as many ppl involved asap
 - Community would like to know why this is being done
 - Residents are not supposed to post anything on the complex UASRA was working on – no one having an approval to post. Unfortunately housing admin has removed things that have been posted before
- **New board position proposal**
- Article 4. H and Article 6 G referenced of the UASRA bylaws which allow for the creation of any position. Part of proposal included that perhaps Reslife could fund such position. Josh went into the specifics of what the candidate would need to be like- if paid by UCLA. Such as- they would need to be a grad student and would need to undergo the whole HR process and this would exclude DACA etc due to citizenship VS if its funded via UASRA it can be anyone not just a student etc.
 - Addae was implied that he'd be taking on a bigger role about diversity and inclusivity as the liaison between UASRA and Reslife. In addition, Josh shared that the are providing training in regards to social justice and diversity
 - Having an internal and external individual
 - UASRA President: We can create the position and re-budget the UASRA funds
 - Reallocate the current funds to this important which is also important
 - Idea of having the Health & Safety delegate turned into this position
 - Take advantage of events put on that are funded thru Reslife can help ease the burden of funding this new position
 - Event coordinator handles a \$8,000 budget and unit reps get \$12,000 to host events, Reslife may need to be held more accountable in their aid w/ events
 - Aelix Mentone rep- organized all events w/ 20% of budget-. He recommends that reducing the budgets and becoming more creative etc.
 - Events are an important part of the community; this may may lead to residents feeling unwelcome in the community
 - Laura Unit rep at Venice/ Barry- events are important
 - Stipends can be in line with the level of work etc.
 - Proposal to create the position- and then worry about the financing
 - Need the creation of the bylaws which can be done by the board and would love the help of those who are truly interested in creating position
 - Being present at the meetings is important
 - What other things can UASRA can provide those “gaps” we provide food, & child care etc.
 - In- house babysitting can be paid for on a case by case basis
 - Can Reslife be included in the cost sharing for events etc.
 - Josh requests that we put a real proposal that shows the need, the wants, what are you doing. What more do we need to focus on.
 - Lauren makes motion to change the health and safety delegate as the community health and inclusion delegate. Dwight seconds motion.
 - UASRA President administers the voting. Results of voting-
 - Agree: 23 Oppose: 2 Abstain: 1
 - UASRA President commits to drafting the bylaws for the next meeting next GA meeting in January
 - Residents would like to know know: What is the income/budget spent on?
 - Rents goes to UCLA housing
 - The funds go into the managing of the property, debtors, bond, insurance, payroll etc
 - **Auditing-** the dean of students lives at the UV, many feel that this is unjust because the housing should be students, who are low income and actually need the housing
7. UASRA Recognition
8. Officers’ Questions and reports to UASRA (General Officers and Board)
9. ResLife update

10. Unit Rep updates and reminders
 - UASRA Vice-President - updates & reminders: thank you to all unit reps who have volunteered- please send the pre-walk thru forms
 - Garden document- once a month needs to go and see if the plots are being used
 11. Events Coordinator: Halloween recap and Snow Day planning, volunteering
 - Snow day event will be moved to the basketball court due to logistics with equipment. There will not be a volunteer photographer
 - Need volunteers
 - Set up- UASRA President & UASRA Vice-President
 - Santa Line
 - Snow line
 - Camera for pictures
 12. Recreation class planning
 - UASRA Community Center Coordinator- recreation class planning: any ideas that aren't just fitness related
 - Restorative yoga vs meditation , Painting , Dancing/ salsa, Ping pong/ table tennis, Art classes, Cooking meatless etc.
 - UCLA rec needs to have an approved teacher to teach the class
 - UASRA- has in the past past ppl w/ skills to use their skills and teach others
 13. Fee increase proposal and timeline- not discussed
 15. Workshop item: community through the holidays
- Meeting concludes