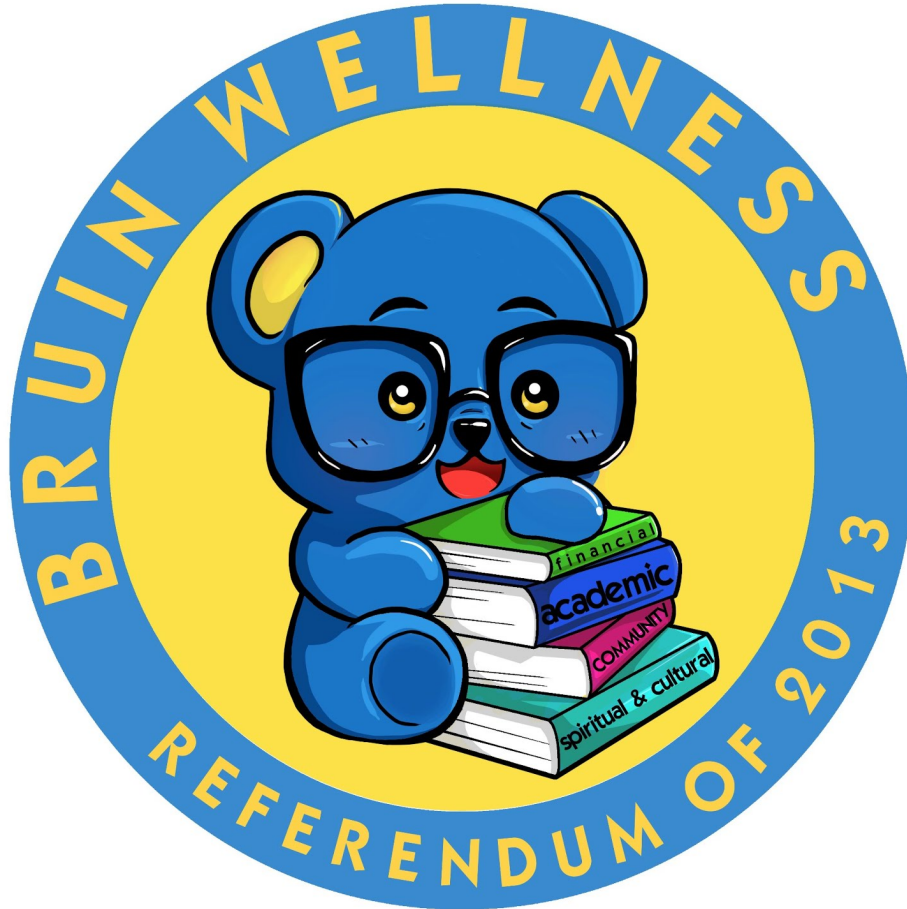


Bruin Wellness Referendum of 2013



Shall the Undergraduate Student Association support the efforts of student-initiated community service, college preparation, student retention, and on-campus programs which strengthen the student body's academic, community, cultural, physical, and spiritual wellness by supporting the development of university resources and services through augmenting the Undergraduate Students Association membership fees by \$9.98 per undergraduate student per quarter? (Allocation of the fees would be as below.)*

_____ YES

_____ NO

The approval of the referendum would provide:

- A. \$0.25/quarter to the **Academic Affairs Commission Graduate/Professional School Preparation Fund** that will help to support the academic wellness of students by funding graduate and professional school preparation courses and required graduate school admission examinations for students in need. Many students at UCLA often decide to pursue graduate and professional school soon after they graduate from UCLA. However, the rising cost for the required exams and exam preparation courses hinder students from low income and non-traditional backgrounds from pursuing these options. With the support of the Financial Aid Office, an application process will be created for students to access these funds. This application process will meet all UCLA policies and procedures, and the fund will be allocated by a student committee that will be appointed annually by the USAC Academic Affairs Commissioner.
- B. \$0.25/quarter to the **USAC Academic Affairs Commission Academic Travel Mini Fund**, which will support the academic wellness of students who are seeking to further their collegiate and professional aspirations by attending academic and leadership based conferences. These funds will help support the cost of conferences and other academic-based travel, including but not limited to, registration, flight, and room and board. Funds will be administered by the USAC Academic Affairs Commission through a student committee, which will be appointed annually by the Academic Affairs Commissioner.
- C. \$0.25/quarter to the **USAC External Vice Presidents Office (EVP)**, which will support the community wellness of students by providing for advocacy on behalf of UCLA's undergraduate student body. The USAC EVP office is responsible for advocating on behalf of student interests to entities such as the UC Regents, the California Legislature, California Governor, and the U.S. Congress. The EVP Office works with the University of California Students Association (UCSA), which provides advocacy to administrators UC-wide and the UC Board of Regents, which make decisions regarding undergraduate student fees and academic policies. EVP also works with the United States Students Association (USSA), which provides grassroots organizing workshops, conferences, information on legislation, and an entire staff based in Washington D.C. whose sole mission is to advocate on behalf of students on Capitol Hill. These funds will be paid directly to the United States Students Association (USSA) to cover membership fees for UCLA students to allow a greater participation in all USSA conferences and developments that promote advocacy amongst students.
- D. \$0.25/quarter to the **Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Campus Resource Center (LGBT Center)**, which, in collaboration with university and community partners, supports the community wellness of UCLA students by providing direct services such as student counseling and programming for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, same-gender loving, and ally communities (LGBTQQIASA). The LGBT Center also provides a comprehensive range of educational workshops, training seminars and advocacy resources to create and maintain an open, safe and inclusive campus

environment. The LGBT Center supports twenty LGBT undergraduate and graduate student organizations.

- E. \$0.45/quarter to the **Fitness Improvement Training through Exercise and Diet [FITTED]** program, to support the community, cultural, and physical wellness of the student body. [FITTED] is a student-initiated, student-run program focused on the overall health and wellness of students. The program, which is administratively supported by the Community Programs Office, specifically works on ensuring that student leaders and students from communities disproportionately affected by health conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol and heart disease, are given the tools to succeed in their physical wellness. [FITTED] provides individual and group workout programs as well as nutrition classes and team building sports activities. The overall goal of the [FITTED] program is to graduate participants who utilize the knowledge and skills they learn from [FITTED] over the course of their lifetimes.
- F. \$0.50/quarter to the **Center for Community College Partnerships (CCCP)** to support the academic, community, and cultural wellness of students by promoting transfer initiatives geared towards ensuring that UCLA remains committed to diversity and equal opportunity. Students from low-income areas in California are increasingly attending community college and require the support of UCLA in ensuring that they feel UCLA is a place for them. CCCP initiatives include summer bridge programs, outreach conferences, and transfer student mentoring programs with the goal of providing stronger transfer support. These programs ensure that community college students from non-traditional and disadvantaged backgrounds have the resources they need to successfully transfer to UCLA.
- G. \$0.50/quarter to fund the **Greek Life Programming Fund (GLPF)** to support the academic, community and cultural wellness of Greek life students by assisting the 68 national and local Greek-letter organizations in their cultural and leadership endeavors. Greek Life students represent 15% of the undergraduate population and are committed to academics, community service, leadership skills, creating a supportive campus, and addressing the need for affordable student housing. The GLPF would be allocated by a committee composed of members of the Asian Greek Council, Intrafraternity Council (IFC), Latino Greek Council, Multi-Interest Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and PanHellenic Council. The GLPF will be administratively housed in the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Relations.
- H. \$0.50/quarter to the **Community Service Mini Fund** to support all areas of student wellness by strengthening resources for student-initiated, student-run community service programs. These community service efforts focus on improving the lives of the people of Los Angeles and result in intangible benefits to students that are involved. These benefits include the facilitation of student learning, personal growth, pre-professional development, multicultural competency, and to ameliorate differences that may exist in the community.

- I. \$0.50/quarter to the **Cultural and Spiritual Wellness Fund (CSWF)** to support the community, cultural, and spiritual wellness of the student body by providing financial support to increase and strengthen programs and activities of registered campus organizations that promote these efforts throughout the UCLA campus. These cultural and spiritual programs promote a vision of the UCLA student body that values mutual respect between students, cross-cultural collaboration, and each student's spiritual identity and traditions. The CSWF, which will be distributed (in the exact same way other programming funds are currently distributed) by the Associate Vice Chancellor of Student & Campus Life, will be allocated on a weekly basis and will fund all aspects of student programming including, but not limited to, honoraria, facilities, cultural food, parking, advertising, and graphics.
- J. \$0.50/quarter to the **Community Programs Office (CPO)** to support all areas of student wellness through twenty-three student-initiated, student-run volunteer community service projects that provide academic, cultural, and health related services oriented towards improving the lives of underserved communities throughout Los Angeles. The CPO also supports several important paid leadership development and pre-professional programs, which are open to all UCLA students, including the First Year/Transfer Internship, Technology and Creativity Team, and the Leadership Externship program. These programs serve to promote the development of skills while engaging students on issues of diversity and social justice through collaborations with campus partners and local community organizations.
- K. \$0.75/quarter to the **USAC Contingency Programming Fund** to support the general wellness of the student body by providing student programming funds that will support the nearly 1,000 student groups that exist at UCLA. The focus of this student programming fund presently includes social, political, educational, leadership development, and community service activities that serve to create an environment on campus that fosters creativity and a well-rounded student body. The USAC Contingency Programming Fund is presently the most utilized student funding source at UCLA and funds are constantly being strained with dependency on the USAC surplus funds. With the extra support to the USAC Contingency Programming Fund, there will be a stable source of funding to protect and strengthen all student programs.
- L. \$1.30/quarter to the **Campus Retention Committee (CRC)** to support the academic and cultural wellness of the student body. The CRC funds student-initiated and student-run retention projects that work to increase UCLA student graduation rates. These projects' services centralize the academic success and individual wellness of historically disenfranchised students through peer counseling and mentorship, writing services, study hall, evening van services for commuter students (within a 30 mile radius), exam files, paid internships, free computer and printing services, and liaisons with AAP, Financial Aid Office, and the UCLA College of Academic Counseling. All of the CRC's services are open to all UCLA undergraduate students.

- M. \$1.50/quarter to the **Student-Initiated Access Committee (SIAC)** to support the community and cultural wellness of the UCLA student body by providing funds for the various student-initiated, student-run projects that promote community development by increasing access to higher education for students attending under-resourced K-14 institutions. Approximately 200 UCLA students provide academic services such as peer counseling, tutoring, educational workshops and college tours for over 1,000 high school and community college students at 20 different sites, on a weekly basis, throughout Los Angeles and Orange County. The student body is enriched by the collaborative nature of these programs since they create interaction between UCLA students and underprivileged and historically disadvantaged members of the Los Angeles community. The ultimate goal of these projects is to increase the number of high school and community colleges from these communities who are admitted and enrolled at UCLA.
- N. In accordance with University policy, 25% of the amount collected from this referendum (\$2.48/quarter) will be returned to UCLA students in the form of undergraduate financial aid
- O. This fee will be subject to a Los Angeles County Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment factor (as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor) every year in order to address changes due to inflation and any rise in the cost of living.
- P. This fee will be assessed each academic quarter including each Summer Session term starting with Summer Session 2013.

**Bruin Wellness Referendum of 2013
Supplemental Ballot Language**

Academic Affairs Commission Graduate/Professional School Preparation Fund

History:

Standardized exams have been in place for over 60 years as an admissions requirement for higher education, namely undergraduate, graduate and professional studies. Identified as predictor of students' abilities in any given field, standardized tests are required costs for students that want to further their education.

Problem:

For students who want to further their education, the costs of steps to simply applying to graduate or professional school has skyrocketed since its beginning. In addition to the cost of the standardized testing itself, comes the additional price of courses meant to prepare students to achieve higher schools. These courses can average out to about \$1000, setting limits for students with limited funds. While there are some opportunities for partial scholarships, trials, and free courses, those funds and spaces are limited. This fund would allow for more students to benefit without taking funds from other students needs and fees.

Conclusion:

This money is being requested to allow more students to utilize the services and tutoring for standardized exams. The fund will be housed under the AAC to which the 2013-2014 commissioner will appoint a committee who oversees its funding.

USAC Academic Affairs Commission Academic Travel Mini Fund

History:

The academic affairs commission has been part of the Undergraduate Student Association Council since 1982 as an avenue for the student voice regarding academic affairs at UCLA. Since then, the commission has worked on countless issues affecting student academics.

Every year, there are numerous amounts of conferences for students to attend that compliment their academics. Including opportunities for leadership development and building a stronger network, these academic conferences provide students with the opportunity to utilize their academic outside UCLA, preparing them their post-grad lives.

Problem:

The price tags on these conferences include registration, flight, and room and board, which can average to 1,000 dollars or more depending on the location and longevity of the conference. Because of these rates, the opportunity is lost for some students who cannot afford it. While there is an EVP travel grant, the grant only funds conferences that are in nature meant for student advocacy work or work with different external campaign issues. However, there is no fund for purely student professional, networking, and/or leadership gains as many of these conferences pertain to.

Conclusion:

This money is being requested for students to have the opportunity to subsidize or have paid for the cost of these academic and professional conferences. If approved, it will be housed in the Academic Affairs Commission, to which the 2013-2014 commissioner will appoint a committee to oversee its funding. Without a fund like this, students will continue to pay out of pocket for these conferences. Any travel associated with lobbying, UCSA, USSA, the USAC EVP office, and student group association conferences will be ineligible to receive these funds.

USAC External Vice President (EVP)

History:

As the official advocates of undergraduate interests, the USAC External Vice President's Office is charged with advocating on behalf of student interests to entities such as the UC Regents, the California Legislature, the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Congress. Further, The EVP Office works with two student government coalitions in fighting for educational affordability and access: the University of California Student Association and the United States Student Association. Every year, this office coordinates student delegations to conferences where student issues are discussed and acted upon including the UCSA and USSA Student Congress, Student of Color Conference, Student Lobby Conference and the USSA Grassroots Organizing Weekend and Legislative Conference.

Problem:

As economic issues continue to threaten affordability through the rise of student fees and accessibility through continuous cuts to enrollment, it is critical that the EVP Office has a budget large enough to be effective advocates at the local, state, and national levels. Student organizations are finding themselves in financial strain as the university grows, while funding remains the same. Many organizations on this campus strive to advocate for particular issues that are also agitated with growing economic strain. One of the main organizations through which the EVP Office advocates on a national level is the United States Student Association. The United States Students Association provides grassroots organizing workshops, conferences, information on legislation, and an entire staff based in Washington D.C. whose sole mission is to advocate on behalf of students on Capitol Hill. Right now, membership dues for USSA are paid through the EVP Office and take up a substantial amount from the overall budget. As economic times worsen, advocacy efforts must increase so that the student perspective is heard at all levels.

Conclusion:

As the United States and California spiral into economic uncertainty, student fees are consistently increasing, as are the barriers to access for different communities. Therefore we are requesting an increase of \$0.25/quarter to be allocated to the EVP office to pay USSA Membership dues.

Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Campus Resource Center (LGBT Center)

History:

The UCLA LGBT Campus Resource Center was officially started in 1995 at UCLA, following over 20 years of LGBTQQIAA activism and advocacy on campus. We honor a long history of queer activism at UCLA, from Evelyn Hooker's research in the 1950s to the formation of the Gay Liberation Front in 1969 and the first Gay Awareness Week in 1974. Also in 1979 a gay film festival was held at UCLA, organized by alumni John Ramirez and Stuart Timmons, and grew to become OutFest, the largest LGBT film festival in the world.

In 1997, the center moved from a small closet in Haines Hall to 440 square feet in Kinsey Hall. In 1998, the first UCLA Lavender Graduation was celebrated. In September of 2003 the UCLA LGBT Campus Resource Center moved into a 1600 square foot space in the Student Activities Center. Thanks to the support of the University, generous donors, and grants, the UCLA LGBT Campus Resource Center now includes the David Bohnett Cyber Center (first of its kind in the country) and the Rae Lee Siporin Library (the largest campus-based LGBT resource library in the nation). Over the 18 years, the Center has provided nationally recognized programs, critical services and ensured LGBTQQIASA student support at UCLA. Since LGBTQQIASA youth have high rates of depression, suicide and trauma, the LGBT Center provides free counseling with CAPS counselors, wellness workshops, confidential chat programs, ally trainings, career exploration series and other necessary programs to support holistic LGBTQQIASA development.

Problem:

In 1995, the LGBT Center opened with an operational/programming budget of \$25,000; eighteen years later our campus has doubled in population yet the Center's operational/programming budget has decreased to approximately \$13,000. In other words, for every dollar spent on a student in 1995, we are currently struggling to support four students. As the population of students exploring sexuality and gender identity becomes more complex and more visible on campus, this funding cannot meet the needs of our students. The requested \$0.25/quarter would increase our funding and return us to our funding levels 18 years ago and will substantially increase our ability to enhance programs and services on campus to support LGBTQQIASA wellness, visibility and awareness among the campus community. This funding will ensure we can support the holistic wellness of our community.

Conclusion:

We are asking for \$0.25/student/quarter for the LGBT Campus Resource Center to be able to enhance programming and services in support of the LGBTQQIASA Community at UCLA.

Fitness Improvement Training Through Exercise and Diet [FITTED]

History:

Fitness Improvement Training Through Exercise and Diet ([FITTED]) is a student initiated, student run, health and wellness program founded in 2010. Founded Fall 2010, [FITTED], was created in order to direct the focus back to students' health so that they are able to complete UCLA's challenging journey with less health complications. Today the program advocates for student leader wellness so they can better serve the community and perform to the best of their abilities in their academics, personal, and extracurricular activities. [FITTED] is a program designed to raise and retain consciousness of holistic health by providing free fitness and educational services to student leaders on the UCLA campus.

The program does this through the initiation of dialogue between diverse groups as well as collaboration and partnership to create a welcoming environment that promotes personal growth amongst students and ultimately influencing them to permanently incorporate the themes of the program as a way of life. [FITTED] collaborates with the Community Programs Office (CPO), UCLA Recreation, Arthur Ashe Student Health and Wellness Center, Facilities & Management, and the Bruin Resource Center (BRC) and is also part of UCLA's Healthy Campus Initiative.

Problem:

Research has shown that routine physical activity increases academic performance. At [FITTED], we firmly believe that "a healthy Bruin mind starts with a healthy Bruin body," and in order to carry out daily routines, physical and mental health is vital. Fitness and nutrition are two of the most critical elements to a person's physical and mental health and they are essential to a healthy lifestyle. Unfortunately, this idea has become one that is difficult to achieve because of its lack of prioritization in our nation. Students have increasingly become overwhelmed with academic workloads, financial burdens, stress levels, and other commitments making their physical well-being a last priority, especially recently in the era of increased fees and budget cuts. However, it is necessary for our wellbeing that we recognize the importance of physical activity and nutrition awareness in our everyday lives.

With recent budget cuts, the [FITTED] program faces potential cut backs to the organization, possibly resulting in loss of assistance and affordable programming, which has the potential to alter the accessibility of the [FITTED] program to underrepresented UCLA student leaders. As is, the [FITTED] staff is strained with increased workloads and is under paid for the quantity of hours the staff puts in, in order to provide free services to the UCLA community. Of the six members, three are certified by the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) and are not compensated for the certifications that they possess. The allocation from this referendum will give [FITTED] the opportunity to have a permanent space on this campus and to continue to provide wellness activities and services for the benefit of the UCLA community.

Conclusion:

In order to sustain our program and keep it accessible for UCLA student leaders, we are asking for **\$0.45/quarter**. This allocation is necessary for the program to not only sustain itself but also expand. We believe that through physical fitness and nutritional education we promote all elements of a student's wellness!

Center for Community College Partnerships (CCCP)

History:

The Center for Community College Partnerships (CCCP) is responsible for developing and strengthening academic partnerships between UCLA and California community colleges, particularly those with large underrepresented student populations. CCCP works to increase transfer rates and success of underserved community college populations by holistically equipping students with skills and knowledge in order to empower them to become self-advocates and leaders in their communities. Through a multi-faceted approach with efforts at the student, faculty, and administrative levels CCCP works to increase the academic preparation and competitiveness for community college transfer students, particularly those who are first generation, low-income or underrepresented. The Center works closely with UCLA Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Academic Advancement Program and other campus offices to assist transfer students through all stages of university life. CCCP has always strived to ensure that the transfer student pool that applies for undergraduate admission comes from diverse academic, social, and economic backgrounds.

Problem:

Given the recent increases in college tuitions and the difficult economic times, many students are forced to seek admission to four-year institutions by attending a local community college rather than entering as a freshman. With an increase in the number of students in the community college system and a decrease in state funding, potential transfer students are seeing a decrease in resources to help them in their journey to transfer. Community College students are finding it harder to obtain the resources to help them transfer. These circumstances have made it critical that CCCP is able to provide the necessary services to the community college population. CCCP would like to expand its current Summer Intensive Transfer Experience (SITE) program to incorporate more students as well as do more programming for the UCLA transfer students.

Conclusion:

Therefore, to give more resources to one of the most underserved populations at UCLA we are asking for \$.50/quarter to help support CCCP and its programs such as the S.I.T.E. program and on campus programming for the academic year.

Greek Life Programming Fund (GLPF)

History:

Greek life at UCLA has been present on campus since the 1920s, and has provided a vast amount of resources to undergraduates in the areas of academics, cultural awareness, community service, athletics, leadership, career development and networking.

Not only has Greek life provided tools that benefit the members of these Greek organizations, but they have also provided resources to communities in need through philanthropic fundraising. Furthermore, fundraising has not been the only way of helping communities. Greek organizations have also held various conferences that benefit low-income students from the K-12 educational system.

Problem:

Much of the philanthropic donations, conferences, and community service site visits have been taken place in large part due to Greek organizations utilizing the resources they hold. However, due to rising programmatic and operational costs, Greeks are finding it more difficult to hold events without exhausting their current available resources. Furthermore, the exhausting of resources leads to a bigger emphasis on resource acquisition, whereas that time could be dedicated to program development instead.

Having access to extra funds will pull Greeks away from focusing time on their exhausting resources, and allow them to allocate that time to community outreach, which increases the overall visibility of the UCLA campus. The availability of this fund will further provide the adequate financial resources to increase the quality and size of these events to help them reach their full potential. These events help support the True Bruin standard dedicated to Service.

Conclusion:

\$0.50/quarter will fund the Greek Life Programming Fund and help promote academic and community wellness through community service. All Greek organizations under the six councils (Asian Greek Council, Intrafraternity Council, Latino Greek Council, Multi-Interest Greek Council, National Pan-Hellenic Council, and PanHellenic Council) will be eligible to access the GLPF, which would be allocated by a GLPF committee. The GLPF committee will be comprised of the current president of each respective council, or a proxy. A Greek advisor will be part of the committee, providing an advisory role.

Community Service Mini Fund

History:

With the passage of the Undergraduate Academic Success Fund (UASF) in 1993 and then subsequently the Community and Retention Empowerment (CARE) Referendum in 1999, the Community Service Mini-Fund was created to provide support to community service projects that aid in serving underserved communities through the Los Angeles community. A student community service program is defined as a student program, activity, or service, which contributes to the elimination of poverty and social problems; and/or provides direct services (such as educational and health related) to disadvantaged groups. Under these guidelines, community service includes, but is not limited to, outreach programs designed to both educate UCLA student volunteers, and expose students in underrepresented communities to UCLA opportunities otherwise inaccessible. Through this work, students are able to develop holistically with an emphasis on leadership skills, a wide knowledge of diverse communities and become experts on the policy issues facing the communities they serve. Community service efforts reach thousands of UCLA undergraduates and play a fundamental role in aiding in their retention at UCLA as well as their overall experience at the University.

The fund is overseen by a student majority committee, appointed by the USA President and made up of five undergraduate students (one Chairperson, two representatives from the Community Service Commission and two representatives from the Community Programs Office), and the ASUCLA Executive Director and his/her designate. The fund allocates once a quarter and serves as a supplementary fund to projects. Funds primarily go to transportation, food for service recipients, and supplies necessary for projects programs or ongoing activities.

Problem:

As the economy struggles to recover, the need for community service is stronger than ever. Students have seen a growing need in the community and have committed over the years to address it. Yet while students work to solve social and economic disparities, the cost of running a service project continues to increase.

As gas prices have skyrocketed over the years, the cost of renting vehicles and buses to go to site has increased yearly and takes up around fifty percent of projects total budget. Without transportation funds, projects are unable to get to the community and thus cannot serve the community. While transportation encompasses a large portion of projects total budgets, other line items, such as food for service recipients, special supplies, facilities, equipment, advertising and clerical supplies, continue to increase as well. As projects are run by student volunteers, it is essential that project costs are covered by University funding sources so that students do not have to sacrifice their own finances to serve the community.

Conclusion:

In order to support the needs of student initiated, student run community service projects that aid in fulfilling the University's mission of civic engagement, the Community Service mini-fund is requesting an additional \$.50/quarter to provide administrative and logistical support to these projects.

Cultural and Spiritual Wellness Programming Fund

History:

Programming and developments that promote cultural and spiritual wellness challenge students to interact with various communities on a campus, local, state, national, and global level. This type of programming encourages the campus to explore various cultures and identities, creating more open-minded students who are more knowledgeable and tolerant of other heritages. These cultural and spiritual programs promote a vision of the UCLA student body that values mutual respect between students, cross-cultural collaboration, and each student's spiritual identity and traditions.

Problem:

The rising cost of facilities and operations has made it increasingly more difficult for student organizations to maintain the quality and quantity of culturally and spiritually-based student programs on campus. As the number of student organizations increases each year, student funds are constantly divided and sparsely dispersed. Thus, such programs are inhibited in their ability to promote cultural and spiritual wellness and awareness within the student body. This lack of awareness produces a climate of insensitivity that manifests itself in acts of hatred and intolerance. Such examples of this can be seen in the slandering of the Vietnamese Student Union's office in Kerckhoff and on a Latina student's apartment door on Landfair.

Conclusion:

On a campus that prides itself on diversity, it is important that programs that highlight and celebrate this are kept to a high standard. The "Cultural and Spiritual Wellness Programming Fund" will support programs that provide students with the adequate resources to understand the historical, cultural, spiritual, and political contexts of various communities and heritages. This fund would help to bring about a safer campus climate that is more inclusive of the diverse student population that is unique to this campus. In the event that the Office of the Associate Vice Chancellor of Student & Campus Life ceases to exist, or that the Office decides it no longer has the capacity to allocate these funds, all funds will be remanded to USAC, which will establish a committee, appointed by the USAC President, whose task will be to develop a funding calendar and to allocate funds on a regular basis.

Community Programs Office (CPO)

History:

The Community Programs Office began in 1970 as a collaborative effort between concerned students, staff and alumni focused on providing services and resources to the underserved populations in the greater Los Angeles community. The office currently houses twenty-three projects focused on education, health, and social justice endeavors, which allow students to develop personally and professionally. By raising awareness for underrepresented communities, these projects channel individual experience and leadership skills to community empowerment ultimately providing the groundwork for a better future.

In this manner, students can see the root causes of any particular issue in these communities and utilize their collective power to make social change. Students are also encouraged to engage in their work with respect and an open mind, increasing opportunities for life-changing experiences. With these principles in mind, project directors and volunteers work year-round to provide a plethora of social, health, and youth services to underserved communities throughout the greater Los Angeles area and beyond.

Through their hard work, dedication, and compassion, students at the Community Programs Office hope to make the dream of a “better tomorrow” a reality.

The Community Programs Office Student Association (CPOSA), the student governing body of the projects housed in the CPO provides operational and programming support such as summer training workshops, Project Director meetings for personal and professional development, recruitment/orientation fairs, and administrative assistance. This Student Association also acts as an official voice of community service with University administration to affirm that through community service theoretical curriculum instruction must be coupled with action to transform theory into practice.

Problem:

As the CPO projects continue to grow, great needs have surfaced to help assist the committee and the projects. Three main areas of need include transportation, special supplies, and quarterly community town halls that showcase the work of the projects to the UCLA and the Los Angeles community. Committee expenditures such as transportation, board retreats, stipends, meetings, workshops and general administrative support would benefit from such an increase. As the need for service continues to grow, the CPO strives to adequately support the projects that do vital work in the community.

Conclusion:

We are asking for \$.50/quarter for the CPO to be able to provide operational and programming support for the diverse projects that are doing the much needed and vital work in the community.

USAC Contingency Programming Funds

History:

USAC Contingency Programming Funds helps to support the general wellness of the student body by providing student programming funds that will support the nearly 1,000 student groups that exist at UCLA. The focus of this student programming fund presently includes social, political, educational, leadership development, and community service activities that serve to create an environment on campus that fosters creativity and a well-rounded student body. This fund has served as a funding source for hundreds of student organizations over the years.

Problem:

USAC Contingency Programming Fund is one of the most utilized funding sources on campus. The student groups that apply to this funding source increase in number every year. However, the Contingency Programming Fund is largely created from USAC surplus funds. Thus, the amount of available funds from this funding source is not only unstable and difficult to predict, but also very limited considering the growing amount of student groups that seek to benefit from it. Therefore, referendum money is beneficial as it guarantees an expected revenue every year thus giving more reassurance to student groups worried about the future of funding options.

Conclusion:

\$.75/quarter will go to the USAC Contingency Programming Fund to help to provide a more stable funding source for all student groups that utilize the Fund. This will allow UCLA to continue to showcase a student body that is culturally, educationally, and socially diverse. Moreover, it will ensure greater leadership development and community service activities.

Campus Retention Committee (CRC)

History:

The Campus Retention Committee (CRC) was established in 1988 to augment university run retention programs that were not meeting the needs of students. Since its creation, the CRC has addressed the low retention rates of underrepresented and underserved students through a unique approach to academic empowerment through holistic development. Through the “Each one, Teach one” motto, students benefit in their UCLA career through a three-pronged approach: individual peer counseling, collective mentorship, and leadership through internship.

Over the past 20 years, various services have been developed by students through the CRC to meet the needs of students not met elsewhere: Peer Counseling, Mentorship Programs, Wellness Programs, Gender & Sexuality Counseling, SRC Leadership Internship with course credit, Paid Internship Program, Computer Lab with *free* printing services, Study Hall with van services for commuting students, Student Initiated Seminar with course credit in four Ethnic Studies departments, liaison office hours with representatives from campus-wide departments, and a Test Bank. With increased visibility, ads in Daily Bruin, and tours for incoming students, our center continues to overflow with students demanding our services.

Problem:

The growing population of communities that have been historically damaged by low graduation and retention rates, in conjunction with the growing population of the entire undergraduate student body has increased the need for CRC services. As many of these services are at capacity, it has become increasingly difficult to meet the needs of students with stagnant services. While projects have been innovative in creating new components and programs to address rising student needs, such as programs focused on Wellness, Fitness, and Transfer retention, the current CRC budget does not allow for these programs to be successfully carried out and maintained, as there has been no increase in revenue. Additionally, allocations towards our full-time Project Directors have risen to address the cost of living increases over the past 5 years, as well as annual benefits cost increases. The CRC has been forced to pay for these increases to accommodate the full-time staff, while the CRC’s revenue has remained constant. Paying for the cost of living and benefits increases and range adjustments have taken away from the ability of the projects to grow because the money is going towards paying mandates, instead of going towards project growth. It has also caused the center to focus on sustainability while our target populations, and the general undergraduate student body, continue to grow.

Additionally, our Writing Success Program (WSP) service, one of the last writing services on campus, has seen huge increases in the amount of students requesting their services. With new components forming in WSP to address the diverse needs of the UCLA population, such as services specifically targeting English as a Second Language (ESL) students coming from international backgrounds, WSP is becoming one of the widest used services on campus. Although the WSP Staff grew this year with the addition of an Assistant Director position, the WSP Staff has overworked to address the writing needs of undergraduate students from across the campus, meeting 150% of their student objective for the previous two quarters. With the growing need for WSP, the CRC is expected to support the project and contribute to its potential growth,

however this is difficult with the revenue of the CRC remaining constant with no increases.

Project Director cost of living and benefits increases combined with the greater demand from students for our services, due to increasing student populations and changing needs, urge the CRC to continue its work in serving students and helping them graduate, yet our stagnant revenue does not allow us to do so. The CRC has paid more than \$200,000 over the last 4 years to meet these demands. This has caused deficits, which in turn have caused reallocation of funds. The CRC also had to cut items such as supplies for staff, transportation for events, and graphics for project. Projects have also had to cut staff members in order to ensure the sustainability of the center to continue to meet the needs of students. Given the current climate of the economy and the cuts in student services, it is vital that services offered through the CRC are maintained to ensure that all students at UCLA are retained.

Conclusion:

We are asking for an increase of \$1.30/quarter for CRC to be able to provide every student with the necessary support in order to increase the retention rates on this campus.

The Student Initiated Access Committee (SIAC)

History:

The Student Initiated Access Committee (SIAC) was created in the spring of 1998 as a means of funding student- initiated and student- run K-14 outreach programs. The impetus for its creation came in the wake of the dramatic drop of underrepresented students in the UC system, due to the passage of Proposition 209 and SP-1 and SP-2. Prior to SIAC's 15 years of history, student- initiated student-run efforts doing similar work had existed at UCLA for over 20 years. For students at UCLA with a history of low admissions, there had been an historic lack of adequate outreach services and relevant educational support in institutions of higher education and in K-12 education. Hence, students have continuously addressed these needs by providing relevant, culturally sensitive and institutionally challenging student and community services.

SIAC is the latest in a long line of collaborative student-initiated programs such as those provided by the Student Retention Center (SRC) and the Community Programs Office (CPO) that offer leadership development to all economically disadvantaged communities in need. The program works at different levels to encourage students to take their academic and life goals into their own hands. SIAC also uses the holistic empowerment model to promote student and individual growth. It provides the tools students need to understand themselves and their identity. In better understanding themselves, high school and community college students can analyze the effects the community has and how these issues affect them on a personal level. The projects of the SIAC include: Students Heightening Academic Performance and Education (SHAPE), Xinachtli, American Indian Recruitment (AIR), Samahang Pilipino Advancing Community Empowerment (SPACE), Higher Opportunity Program for Education (HOPE), Mentors for Academic Peer Support (MAPS), and Pacific Islander Education and Retention (PIER). SIAC programs are open to all UCLA students that are willing to become positive role models in the lives of the underserved communities.

Problem:

The current California fiscal situation has had a negative impact on the SIAC budget. The state funding that SIAC receives has been reduced drastically over the last few years thus shrinking the overall SIAC budget. The SIAC's dependence upon state funding as a stable source of funding has meant that during periods of state cuts the SIAC has to reduce its services.

At the same time, the current state of our economy has led to the university holding each department accountable for covering the benefits of their full-time staff. The SIAC has to account for the benefits for seven (7) project directors. This unfunded mandate has drained our resources away from student services, since the SIAC has not received funding to cover the additional cost. Thus, SIAC has covered the benefits increase through their budget, diverting resources that could be otherwise spent on serving students.

SIAC has built numerous relationships and partnerships with low-resourced communities who often count on the projects as their only form of college exposure. Despite continued efforts to supplement our funding shortages – principally by seeking external funding from the local community, school districts, and fundraising – we are still unable to stabilize our fluctuating budget. Our budget woes are exacerbated by project loss of external grants, largely due to reductions in city and school board funding.

Conclusion:

The Student Initiated Access Center and committee is requesting money from the students in order to continue its service to not only at risk high school students, but also to UCLA students involved in the 40+ projects that access its funding. SIAC is able to provide jobs for more than 60 students, but without receiving funding through this referendum, this and many other parts of the SIAC office will be negatively affected. The SIAC will incur a deficit that will require it to cut back its services year after year, leaving it unable to service students in great need of services. Without SIAC's work, 1,000 high school students would not receive needed academic preparation as well as social advancements and development. The paid student staff and student volunteers will lose an invaluable opportunity to build on their education at UCLA from the potential life changing experiences gained from working in the community. SIAC needs an increase of \$1.50/quarter in order to stabilize its unique and much needed services. Without your support, the SIAC faces the risk of not having enough transportation for its projects to go to site, not having basic supplies and graphics for day to day operations, having to lay off student staff, and having to eliminate projects altogether, an alternative we never want to have to turn to and, with your support, we will not have to.