

Resolution in Solidarity with UCLA Mother Organizations Regarding Concerns with Community Programs Office

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Author: Nina Long

WHEREAS, UCLA's student-run and student-initiated retention programs under the Campus Retention Committee (CRC) provide academic support, mentoring, and development to improve the student success and graduation rates of marginalized students, and;

WHEREAS, CRC is housed within the Community Programs Office (CPO), composed of administrative professional staff, and;

WHEREAS, following a review of applications for the SEA CLEAR (Southeast Asian Campus Learning, Education, and Retention) and SPEAR (Samahang Pilipino Education and Retention) Project Coordinator (PC) positions and subsequent interviews, the student members of both hiring committees reached consensus on the candidate to hire for the open positions; and,

WHEREAS, these decisions, however, were not supported by the CPO Representatives sitting on the student hiring committees; and,

WHEREAS, according to the 2020 Project Coordinator Hiring Policies and Procedures created by the CPO, the Department designates itself to be responsible for hiring Project Coordinators, and as such, applicants shall not be given the impression that they are officially hired by any entity other than the Department; and,

WHEREAS, this is an overt overreach of CPO authority as the CRC Statement of Understanding (SOU) states that hiring decisions are contingent upon the hiring decision of the sponsoring student organizations; and,

WHEREAS, these recent hiring experiences and others demonstrated over the years clearly capture CPO's overreach and disregard for the principles and history of student power in which the CRC was founded upon; and,

WHEREAS, the actions taken by the CPO have rendered the CRC unable to serve its priority function of retaining marginalized students on campus; and,

WHEREAS, among the UC Student Association's highest budget priorities is SAPEP (Student Academic Preparation and Educational Partnerships), of which funds are funneled into student access and retention programs like CPO.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the UC Student Association adds its signature of support for the UCLA Mother Organizations in their demand that an investigative committee, composed of the Chancellor and UCLA Student Affairs, the Mother Organizations, and USAC, conduct a formal investigation of the hiring practices of the Community Programs Office (CPO) Department.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the UC Student Association will, to the extent possible, support efforts to prioritize student representation and oversight in the distribution of SAPEP funds.