



ASUC Student Union Board of Directors

Agenda & Minutes

Tuesday, December 8th
3 PM | Virtual Meeting via Zoom |

<https://berkeley.zoom.us/j/97818661135?pwd=dHJpV2FldmJlUdJVzR5RUc4bHE3UT09>

Title	Name	Present
ASUC Student Union Board Members		
Title	Name	
Chair	Brian Zhou	Yes
Vice Chair	Michelle De Guzman	Yes
ASUC President	Victoria Vera	Yes
ASUC Executive Vice President	Melvin Tangonan	Yes
GA President	Luis Tenorio	Yes
GA Internal Vice President	Liz Lawler	Yes
Undergraduate Representative	Kevin Yi	Yes
Graduate Representative	Martin Siron	Yes
University Representative	Emily Liu	Yes
University Representative	Fabrizio Mejia	Yes
Faculty Representative	Greg Aponte	Yes
Faculty Representative	Jennifer Miller	Yes
ASUC Student Union Executive Director	Bahar Navab	Yes



Community Agreements

- Everyone participates, no one dominates - share airtime
- Honor time limits; staying on schedule is everyone's responsibility
- Speak your truth without blame or judgment
- Articulate hidden assumptions; challenge cherished beliefs
- Listen for understanding - inquire (ask) before you advocate (persuade)
- Remain open to outcome and innovation
- Critique ideas, not people or actions
- Recognize participants' contributions
- Be fully present at meetings and prepared
- Have fun!

Call to order at 3:00 pm

- I. Approval of the Agenda and Minutes 1 min
 - A. Luis moves to amend the agenda to vote in January on the LRC Proposal; Greg seconds, no objections
 - B. Martin moves to approve the agenda as amended; Greg seconds; no objections
- II. Public comment 5 mins
 - A. We have a [doc for written public comments](#), which will be transferred to this agenda once the meeting is concluded. We will have 5 minutes for spoken public comments; with 1 minute allocated per person.
 - B. Ana Medel: Debating giving public comment because of limited time. Here to show support for the LRC proposal as an individual and as a member of an organization. The place where they received the most support was from their communities.
 - C. Chaka Tellem: Wanted to come on as the Black Community endorsed



ASUC Senator, wanted to attest to the importance of having these types of spaces for communities. Imposter syndrome is prevalent in some communities, and resource centers are important for retention

- D. Andrew Phuong: Member of the Chicanx and Latinx community and a PhD student. This space will be transformative and critical for so many communities who can be brought into one space. Served on the HSI task force, and this will be critical for creating a space to help these students thrive.
- E. Evelyn Rojo: Assistant Dir. Commend the amazing work to get the proposal in. Being able to grant these students this space is a step in the right direction. This space will be essential in supporting Latinx and Chicanx students on campus.
- F. Mateo Terrico: ASUC Senator; more often than not spoken to members of the Latinx community who feel like Cal is not a place where they belong. This space is a step towards helping Latinx students feel like they belong here.

III. Chair updates 3 mins

- A. Most of what we discussed recently was about the proposals on the table for this meeting. Ask that people keep in mind that the particular vote in January is about the LRC proposal itself and not the space.

IV. Executive director updates 5 mins

- A. Looking to spring to see what might or might not be reopening. Outdoor



study space in Lower Sproul is a possibility as well as continuing everything else we currently offer.

B. Noelle Nunez won Best in Show for her Black Lives Matter mural, and Kalelia won best website.

C. Requests to amend agenda to move item 3 to be after item 8. Liz moves to amend the agenda; Martin seconds

V. Budget updates 5 mins

A. Working on proposed budget schedule for spring. In January will be sending out financial reports from the first and second quarter

VI. Reports and recommendations from committees 10 mins

A. [Organization & Governance](#)

1. Did not meet

B. [Business & Finance](#)

1. Recommendation in favor of the Bear's Lair proposal

2. No proposal about LRC

C. [Operations & Facilities](#)

1. Proposed a couple questions about the LRC proposal

2. Also discussed the issue of a broker vs RFPs. Ops recommended a broker.

VII. [PMC proposal](#) 5 mins

A. Fabrizio motions to approve the proposal; Michelle seconds; Melvin objects



1. Melvin wants to postpone this until the January meeting in order to ensure that ASUC Senators are informed, and that ASUC Chartered programs have a say.
 - B. Melvin motions to postpone the vote; Jennifer seconds the motion; no objections
 - C. Vote is postponed until January
- VIII. Direction on 4th floor MLK (vote required): 10 mins
- A. Current LRC proposal
 1. Bahar requests giving 2-3 minutes for Oscar Dubon to speak
 2. Oscar: Shared a letter with the Board to express commitment to this project and has a few concerns he would like to share. First is resourcing; continuing to fundraise in order to gain additional resources. This is a practice that has been done before, and this is a chance to express our commitment to becoming an HSI. Another concern is about the transition 6 years from now. Although we cannot project about 6 years from now, the plan is to continue construction of other capital projects that will provide additional space for communities in need. In about three years, we would have a pretty good picture about where the LRC could move in the next three years. We are asking for a very specific time to place the LRC here, and this will allow us to move during this space crunch time to make sure that the LRC has a space



until a permanent space is available. We plan to work together and not move forward with anything that the Board does not agree with.

- a) Luis: Asking for confirmation of a donor that they were okay with the money going towards rent or maintenance, rather than programming. Also, your timeline was a little different from what has been heard in the past; would you be open to a different timeline?
- b) Oscar: Yes the donor is aware of how these funds will likely be used. Donor has seen the budget and a draft of the proposal. In terms of a shorter timeline, it's hard to say if 6 years is what is necessary to get these new buildings up, but that was the timeline that we were given. We are open to a shorter MOU with a possibility of extension. We need to do something that we are all comfortable with that is based on transparency and meeting expectations.
- c) Greg: Would like to ask about campus accountability, to ensure that we aren't reliant on space that might not be there. Are there multiple options in case the original plan does not work? Has campus looked to see if there is a need for this central space, whether this space may already exist elsewhere, and if there has been



consideration about a completely central location? Would you be willing to give the Board updates about the progress of the project as construction is happening.

- d) Fabrizio motions to extend time; Jennifer seconds; no objections
 - e) Oscar: We are planning to report updates to you all more often than annually, likely every semester at least. In terms of funding; the funding is the reality. This is the current environment we have, so we need to use all of our resources to make sure we have multiple funding streams to support this project. We need to plan for that and be transparent about that. In regards to other alternative spaces, to be honest I don't know. Agree that the nature of space right now might change what space looks like in the future. How can we be nimble when allocating spaces?
 - f) Jennifer: I would like clarification what is Oscar's position on the LRC proposal
 - g) Oscar: Was part of a group that co-created it. Supports the proposal.
3. Jennifer would like clarification on what Oscar said. Would like clarification about the additional context and how that impacts the current proposal



4. Fabrizio: There are multiple other projects going on and so just explaining that this is a piece of a bigger project. Also helps explain that it's hard to confirm timelines, since this is part of other projects.
5. Luis: Those other projects will also need surge space while waiting for project completion
6. Martin motions to extend time by 5 minutes; Fabrizio seconds; no objections
7. Steve Sutton: There are so many space needs on campus, it is hard to look too far into the future. How we are looking at space has really changed in the past year. Finding space for the LRC proposal is something that is particularly important for the Chancellor
8. Jennifer: Still really unclear on how these details might impact how we might take a vote.
9. Luis: It's also talking about risk and not just financial risk, but also what this means for people 6 years from now when we'll have a completely different Board, likely a new Chancellor, other new staff. That's why I asked about flexibility in case we need to go longer or shorter than 6 years.

B. Alternative: Event Space



- A. Victoria moves to go into closed session; Brian seconds; no objections
 - B. Victoria moves to keep the Directors and Sarah in closed session;
Fabrizio seconds; no objections
 - C. Bear's Lair Rent Revision Proposal
 - D. Panda Express
- X. Closed Session Ends
- A. Greg moved to extend closed session by five minutes; Luis seconded
 - B. Martin moves to end closed session; Luis seconds
- XI. Votes following closed session:
- A. Motion by Luis to move into developing a contract and issuing a letter of intent if needed with Panda Express; Liz seconded; 8 yes, 1 no, 3 abstain
 - B. Martin has moved for the Student Union to engage a broker; Fabrizio seconds; no objections
 - 1. 12 yes; 0 no; 0 abstain
- XII. Meeting adjourned: 4:17pm

Useful links for today:

[Minutes from SU Board vision meeting](#)

[PMC Letter of Intent](#)

[LRC Proposal](#)



STUDENT UNION BOARD PUBLIC COMMENT 12/8/2020

Hi, please enter your public comment below. Please add your name, and (if desired) any organization you are representing. We will then copy all public comments over to the end of the [Board agenda](#) for documentation purposes. Please note that public comment will close at the end of the Board meeting (4pm).

NAME	ORG AFFILIATION	COMMENT
Alexander Alvara	Society for the Advancement of Chicano/as and Native Americans in Sciences (SACNAS) Grad + Undergrad, President	On behalf of the Society for the Advancement of Chicano/as and Native Americans in Sciences (SACNAS), I adamantly support the LRC Proposal to keep it as a place to allow for Latinx students to congregate (both undergrad and grad) in order to have a place that reflects their importance and representation on campus. As UC Berkeley is attempting to become an HSI, it is imperative that UC Berkeley establish a space that students can gather and meet to not only experience the safe space that provides community and resources but also to advance themselves and their sense of belonging as academics and professionals in their field at UC Berkeley.
Andrew Estrada Phuong	Chicanx and Latinx Standing Committee (CLSC); CLSC representative on HSI Taskforce; Graduate Student Instructor for <i>Computer Science 370: Adaptive</i>	As a PhD Student and member of the Chicanx and Latinx Standing Committee, I fully support the Latinx Resource Center (LRC) because it can promote a greater sense of belonging and a community space that's supportive of all students. This space can amplify the voices and success of transformative spaces that have advanced student success such as EOP, the Centers for Educational Equity and Excellence, CLSD, and many more. I have had the opportunity to be a part of the HSI Taskforce and I believe that this space is very beneficial for fostering an HSI thriving institute that supports everyone's success! The LRC can bring together so many communities into one place where everyone, regardless of background and identity, can be uplifted. As a Latino and Vietnamese student, I wish this space existed when I was an undergraduate at UC Berkeley. Such a space is critical for advancing equity



	<i>Instruction Methods in Computer Science</i>	<p>and inclusion on campus.</p> <p>With the increasing numbers of Chicanx and Latinx students who have been admitted to UC Berkeley, the LRC is timely and key for creating a welcoming community and promoting a transformative culture of equity and inclusion at UC Berkeley.</p>
Carolina Flores	Latinx Caucus, Co-Facilitator Internal Development Department	<p>Hello, we wanted to update from last night's community Latinx Caucus meeting and how our community was surprised to hear about the last minute changes the SU Board made. Specifically, regarding the limitations on public comment, & the shift of the vote to January.</p> <p>We recognize that as a community our advocacy to the SU Board is novel, and we are still learning to navigate your space and how you all run your meetings. However, considering the advocacy put into this initiative and getting folks here today, such last minute changes reflected a lack of intentionality towards community rooted initiatives. Additionally, we hope that you work towards being a more transparent and accessible space, so that community members feel comfortable coming into your space to raise their voices regarding community initiatives, and not feel unsure if the SU Board will listen to them.</p> <p>We ask that moving forward the SU Board be more intentional of our community's time and labor, as we are working to advocate for ourselves and the Latinx Resource Center.</p>
Kimberly Solis	CLSD Intern/ Casa Magdalena Mora Fellow, Latinx Caucus Intern	<p>I'm a 3rd year student and current intern at the Chicanx Latinx Student Development Office as a Casa Magdalena Mora Fellow working to retain and support 1st year students in this theme program. I was a Casa Mora resident during my freshman year and benefited immensely from the program. I want to express my support for the LRC proposal as presented and urge the</p>



		<p>board to vote yes for the proposal during the January SU Board meeting. As a past Casa Mora program resident I felt safe and welcomed in the program at the time when I started school at UC Berkeley which as a university has historically for the most part been racist and hostile towards students of color. Being part of Casa Mora was a unique opportunity to live in Latinx specific housing and be part programming that retained us as students and took care of our wellness holistically. I see this LRC proposal as functionally being part of the same retention work and commitment to the latinx and underrepresented communities on campus.</p> <p>Voting yes on this proposal is just one step the board can take to help the latinx community on campus in order to assure that we are given a permanent space on campus in the future. The success and work from programs such as the Casa Magdalena Mora Theme Program show that a Latinx Resource Center is vital to the retention and recruitment of the diverse latinx community on campus to best suit our needs, especially considering that all programing and content of the LRC will be based in community decision making processes such as the current surveys being created that were brought up during the last SU Board Meeting.</p> <p>Voting against this proposal will only expose your lack of commitment to underrepresented latinx students and your disrespect towards the student and community led efforts that created this proposal. You cannot call yourself an ally to the Latinx community if you vote against our interests.</p>
Ellis Spickermann	ASUC Senator	As an ASUC senator representing both the Engineering community and the student population as a whole, our senate office strongly encourages the Student Union to vote in favor of the Latnix Resource Center. Providing this space would benefit so many students and is essential to fostering an inclusive campus for latnix students.



Ruchi Shah	ASUC Senator	As the South Asian Community Endorsed Senate office, we encourage the Student Union to vote in favor of the Latinx Resource Center. It's important that we provide spaces for marginalized students on campus and we hope that the Student Union recognizes the work and initiatives led by Latinx students to make this proposal possible.
Aasim Yahya	ASUC Senator	As the ASUC MEMSSA (Middle Eastern, Muslim, Sikh, South Asian)-endorsed Senator, our office is enthusiastic to support the LRC proposal. While I don't identify as Latinx myself, over the course of my last years at Cal, I have witnessed the persistence and determination of Latinx community members and leaders, as they have fought for space on campus. In short, a LRC space allocation is long overdue. As someone who is leading his own community's effort for a resource center, I recognize how vital it is to foster safe and community-centered space on campus. This is a great opportunity to support a community that attempts to exist on a campus that was not traditionally designed to uplift communities of color.
Ronit Sholkoff	ASUC Senator	As the ASUC Senator representing the Jewish Community, as well as the greater student body, our office encourages the Student Union to vote in favor of establishing a Latinx resource center. Spaces that affirm identity and foster community are essential to student health and wellbeing, even more so for students from historically marginalized communities. Our office hopes that the Student Union listens to the voices of the Latinx student activists who put this initiative forward.
Cruz Grimaldo	Co-Chair Chicanx Latinx Standing Committee	Dear Student Union Board of Directors: We write to you as the Chicanx Latinx Standing Committee (CLSC), formed under the executive sponsorship of Vice Chancellor for Equity and Inclusion (VCEI), charged to advise the Chancellor's Cabinet and the campus community about campus equity, inclusion, and other matters that may affect the experience of Latinx faculty, staff, students, and alumni at UC Berkeley.



	<p>The Chicanx Latinx Standing Committee wholly supports the Chicanx/Latinx community's proposal to use the fourth floor of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Student Union to temporarily house the "Latinx Resource Center." The campus and the Chicanx Latinx community are currently negotiating an adequate permanent location and we look forward to establishing an enduring home outside the MLK Student Union. The Chicanx/Latinx community has taken a measured and thoughtful approach to requesting a designated space for nearly a decade and although we understand this is not the Student Union's responsibility, the Board is in the unique position to make a transformative impact by adopting this proposal. We therefore urge the Student Union Board to support and approve this proposal.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Members of Chicanx Latinx Standing Committee:</p> <p>Laura E. Pérez, Professor & Chair, Latinx Research Center; Chicano/Latino Studies, Department of Ethnic Studies, Co-chair</p> <p>Cruz Grimaldo, Asst. Vice Chancellor & Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships, Co-chair</p> <p>Jennifer Alpert, PhD Candidate and Graduate Student Instructor, Department of Film & Media</p> <p>Yvette Flores, Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor for Educational Partnerships, Committee Staff</p> <p>Gabriel Gonzalez, CIO and Assistant Dean, Instructional and Information Technology & Services, Berkeley Law</p> <p>Francisco Hernandez, Alumnus and Former Dean of Students, UC Berkeley and Former Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, UC Santa Cruz and University of Hawaii</p> <p>Ivan Hernandez, Undergraduate student</p> <p>Roberto Horowitz, Chair, Department of Mechanical Engineering; Professor of Mechanical Engineering</p> <p>Isaac Naranjo, Undergraduate Student, President of The Undergraduate Political Science Association</p> <p>Kurt C. Organista, Professor, School of Social Welfare</p>
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		<p>Andrew Estrada Phuong, Graduate student, Chancellor's Fellow, Instructor, Consultant, and Program Developer Harumi Quinones-Austria, Director of Student Services, Department of Psychology Sahvannah C. Rodriguez, Undergraduate student Evelyn Rojo, Asst. Director, Chicanx Latinx Student Development Miguel Samano, Graduate student Michael Trevino, Executive Director, UC Berkeley Chicanx Latinx Alumni Association</p>
Jason Dones	Community Engagement Associate, Office of ASUC Senator Chaka Tellem	<p>As a Black student on campus, I've become accustomed to being the only Black student in my lecture or discussion section, and I understand when my Latinx friends and classmates say that they don't feel like the spaces on campus serve them adequately. The isolation associated with being part of an underrepresented group on campus shouldn't, logically, plague a group that represents 14% of undergraduate students, however, it persists because significant efforts have not been made to address the needs of the Latinx community. This University and the ASUC Student Union, in particular, have a role to play in centering the experiences of Latinx students and this proposal gives us the opportunity to do that.</p> <p>While many students with very different experiences are grouped into spaces like the EOP, I have found the most certainty, community, and lack of isolation within spaces tailored to my experiences and needs. Although I enrolled during COVID, my friends tell me that the</p>



		<p>Fannie Lou Hamer Center has been essential for them in navigating Berkeley as Black students. We should affirm that Latinx students deserve the same opportunity to succeed.</p> <p>While many options for an LRC are being discussed, I support this proposal in particular because these students deserve peace-of-mind and certainty, and the 6-year timeframe ensures the longevity of the space on campus, protecting it from encroachment by whatever future uses arise.</p>
Ana Medel	Representative of Mariachi Luz de Oro de Berkeley	<p>As a first-gen, low-income poc, part of getting myself to speak up will always be a struggle due to the impostor syndrome that comes with being here. I'm here today to show my support for the LRC in MLK, both as an individual and as a representative of Mariachi Luz de Oro de Berkeley. As an individual, I struggled immensely to navigate the white spaces at this institution, from financial aid to dealing with my mental health for the first time. I am also in contact with numerous first-years from the Raices mentorship program that are still struggling with the same issues I came in having, because there is still no place for us to feel safe enough to go to.</p> <p>The place I ultimately received the most assistance had to be through my organization and the connections/resources that my upperclassmen had to share with me. With that being said, as a representative of an organization that continues to do more retention work for my community than this school has ever done, I am urging the board to please recognize that a LRC would be so beneficial, and to also note that space allocation and other intricacies tied to the LRC will be decided by the voices of the community through SEVERAL surveys that will go out.</p>



Apoorva Prakash	ASUC Senator	As a student of color, I know how important it is to have a community on campus: I'm very lucky that the South Asian student population is so represented here at UC Berkeley, and I hope we take strides to create more spaces for other communities of color and marginalized folks on campus. I urge the Student Union to recognize the great work done by Latinx student leaders, and to vote in favor of the LRC.
Laura Cristal Magaña	GA Delegate - EHS, SACNAS	I support the LRC and a space for Latinx students. I completed my undergraduate degree at Oregon State University, which had a designated space for Latinx students. That space was a home away from home, a networking center, cultural space, an environment that provided academic support throughout my undergraduate career. As an alumna, I still attend events at this space years after graduating. I see the LRC as having a positive impact on undergrad students as well as graduate students. I am currently the only Latina PhD student in my department and I deal with isolation, imposter syndrome, and microaggressions. Currently there is no space for me as a Latina Graduate student that meets my needs. It would be nice to have a space where I can just exist and not have to be resilient all the time. I also enjoy mentoring undergraduates that are interested in pursuing a graduate degree, particularly in STEM.
Lupe Gallegos-Diaz	Director Chicanx Latinx Student Development (CLSD) and Co-Director of the Latinxs and the Environment Initiative	As the director of the CLSD for over 20 years and the person who will be in charge of overseeing the new Latinx Resource Center for undergraduate and graduate students we/CLSD will assure that the specific needs of the Latinx students will be addressed in our programming. The mission of the CLSD established 1991 is four fold: 1) advocating for students 2) empowering students 3) creating community for students and among the Latinx communities on campus 4) giving back (administrators, alumni and community members) We are currently working on a survey to be rolled out in January 2021 that will be asking students (undergraduates/graduates) of what they want to see



		<p>within a Latinx Resource Center. Myself and our assistant director Evelyn Rojo (professional staff and experts in student development) are in full support for the LRC proposal and look forward to working with the SU/ASUC and the various partners from across campus (staff/faculty and administrator) and off campus (Latinx alumni) to meet the needs of our Latinx undergraduate and graduate students.</p>
Jaqueline Ortiz	Senior Vice President of Internal Affairs at the Latino Business Student Association	<p>On behalf of the Latino Business Student Association (LBSA), we are in full support of the Latinx Resource Center. We serve over 200+ members, most who are Latinx and first-generation college students. For over 20 years, LBSA has provided our members with the necessary professional tools to successfully transition into the Haas School of Business and more importantly, corporate America.</p> <p>Our members have struggled to navigate this institution that has failed to provide the necessary and basic inclusion initiatives to retain and allow Latinx students to thrive at Cal. The limited resources Cal has provided to our community contributes to the systemic disadvantages that negatively impacts the well-being and overall success of our students.</p> <p>The Latinx Resource Center will uplift our community and is a step towards advancing the integration and retention of Latinx students who struggle immensely with imposter syndrome and finding a support system. We strongly believe that this space allocation is essential towards raising awareness of social, political, economic, historical and cultural realities of the Latinx community. The LRC will empower and support Latinx students to succeed in higher education by equipping us with the opportunities, services, and resources we need to make the most out of our university experience, as well as to develop professionally, academically, and personally. Recognize that Latinx organizations and community members continue to be the main actors for retaining Latinx students and as the Student Union, you are in a position of power to hold this institution accountable for</p>



		<p>providing the equitable resources needed to serve all students. We strongly urge the board to support the LRC proposal as it is a community driven initiative that is long-overdue and urgently needed on this campus.</p>
<p>Arlyn Moreno Luna</p>	<p>Co-Chair Graduate Association of Latinx Students</p>	<p>I strongly support the “Latinx Resource Center” proposal for undergraduate and graduate students. As a first generation college graduate and now doctoral student at the Graduate School of Education, I believe that this space will allow for students to have a sense of belonging on campus. In addition, I believe that this space can support students who might struggle with imposter syndrome, therefore increase Latinx retention. I urge for the vote to no longer be postponed beyond January.</p>
<p>Adan Steve Martinez</p>	<p>Co-Chair of the Graduate Association of Latinx Students</p>	<p>As one of the co-chairs of Graduate Association Latinx Students, along with Arlyn Moreno Luna, a first generation graduate student, and now doctoral student at the Department of Political Science I wholeheartedly support the “Latinx Resource Center” proposal.</p> <p>Approximately 80% of Latinx undergraduate students are either first generation or low-income. However, there is a clear, longstanding unmet need for retention initiatives in the Latinx community. The limited resources and access to staff that Latinx students are forced to deal with has negatively impacted our well-being and academic performance. As a result, continuous systematic disadvantages and limited academic preparation continue to act as a barrier to success. The approval of the Latinx Resource Center proposal represents a clear and tangible commitment to supporting the largest underrepresented minority community on this campus.</p> <p>Of great importance to us, the integration of a resource center would create space for undergraduate and graduate community, along with faculty, staff, and alumni, to demystify higher education while building community with one another. Having access to a space where we can congregate with people who look like us and have similar life experiences is imperative for</p>



		<p>student retention. The Latinx Resource Center would be sustained by the interactions between Latinx students at all levels of their educational careers, from undergraduate to graduate school and beyond.</p> <p>Lastly, among the many reasons we support this proposal, is our strong belief that approval of this proposal has the potential of directly affecting Latinx student enrollment, a crucial aspect of the strategic plan to become a Hispanic Serving Institution in the next 7-8 years. A Latinx Resource Center would fulfill the spirit of inclusion and equity of experience and ensure that students have the support to achieve excellence in their academic and professional goals.</p> <p>We will hold the ASUC, the Student Union, and the administration accountable for a “Latinx Resource Center” proposal vote by the end of January. We refuse to be used as political pawns for other people’s purposes. You’re all in a position of power and your responsibility is to serve the students of Berkeley. Do your job!</p>
<p>Evelyn Rojo (she/her /ella)</p>	<p>Assistant Director, Chicanx & Latinx Student Development (CLSD) Office</p> <p>Member of the Chicanx and Latinx Standing Committee</p>	<p>I strongly support the “Latinx Resource Center (LRC)” proposal. As the assistant director of the CLSD Office, I serve over 250-300 Chicanx and Latinx students committed to making UCB more diverse and inclusive. Our students need adequate space to continue to build community with one another and to feel valued at Cal. The CLSD Office is not enough for our students. They need additional community space and staff support to continue to survive at Cal and then be able to thrive at Cal. Supporting this proposal is a step in the right direction.</p>

Continue below:



<p>Ariana De La Fuente</p>	<p>Community member, Communications Lead for the Chicax and Latinx Student Development Office (CLSD)</p>	<p>Given that this is for the largest underrepresented minority on campus, I strongly support the LRC Proposal and believe that it is long overdue.</p> <p>As UC Berkeley moves towards HSI status, it is more important now than ever to make sure that the university can best support Latinx students in order to retain them.</p> <p>There are so many Latinx-based clubs and organizations that would benefit greatly from the space and resources that an LRC would offer.</p> <p>I have been active in the Latinx community and advocacy around the LRC since my freshman year alongside my passionate peers. During these past 4 years, it has been clear that Cesar Chavez 242 is not even close to being an adequate amount of space for students to organize, work, and be in community with one another.</p> <p>Going through with the LRC Proposal</p>
<p>Stephanie Wong</p>	<p>Academic and Professional Opportunities Executive for the ASUC Office of Senator Chaka Tellem</p>	<p>Hi everyone, my name is Stephanie Wong, and I serve as the Academic and Professional Opportunities Executive for the ASUC Office of Senator Chaka Tellem. On behalf of our Office, I strongly urge the board to support the LRC proposal.</p> <p>This issue is especially striking for Chaka's office, seeing how Black community centers and spaces have been crucial to the well-being of Black students on this campus. We strongly believe that the LRC proposal could provide the same social, mental health, and academic security that Latinx students have been asking for from the UC Berkeley Administration and the ASUC for a very long time.</p> <p>Needless to say, the proposal for adequate space for the Latinx community has been long overdue. The question now is not whether we should approve of a resource center, but rather, how we would go about.</p>



		<p>We all understand the red tape, the risks, the budgetary restraints associated with moving forward with this project. This will be a herculean effort, especially during the time of Covid. But it is precisely now, that we are in a pandemic, that we need to move forward with the LRC Proposal.</p> <p>When students return to campus, it will be a difficult transition no doubt. Current freshmen who will then be sophomores will have little perception of who to reach out to for resources; students who have been isolated for months will have a difficult time building community. It is then imperative that we, as an Administration and ASUC, examine ways to begin the recovery process.</p> <p>One way we could do that is by setting up the Latinx Resource Center, providing a safe haven for students who are not only of color, but many of whom are first generation and low-income. Such a hub will be absolutely necessary to making students feel physically and mentally secure, socially connected, and academically prepared for when we return to a campus that needs recovery more than ever.</p> <p>It's unfortunate that we could not have taken steps to prevent this Pandemic. Otherwise, this Administration and ASUC would have already done so. But what we can do is control our response. Part of that effort will require us to rebuild our community. This begins with allocating space and resources to Latinx students-both currently enrolled and incoming-who have repeatedly asked for support.</p> <p>On behalf of the ASUC Office of Senator Chaka Tellem, we demand that the Board and Administration seize this opportunity during the Pandemic to plan and pilot the LRC Proposal well, in order to provide Latinx students with the support they deserve. Thank you.</p> <p>- Stephanie Wong Academic and Professional Opportunities Executive for the ASUC Office of Senator Chaka</p>
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Natalie Fierro	Latinx Community Engagement Associate of ASUC Senator Rodriguez	<p>As a Latinx Community Engagement Associate and a freshman student living in the Casa Magdalena Mora Theme Program on campus, I strongly support the LRC proposal.</p> <p>I believe that the LRC will provide a place of community, belonging, and resources that will strongly support in my next years at Cal. I am currently living in the Casa Magdalena Mora Theme Program on campus and this theme program in itself has given a community of people of latinx descent who have now become a second family to me-- a family at Cal. This theme program has made me feel welcomed at Cal and with no doubt helped with my transition into Cal. This environment and community I have found within this freshman latinx theme program makes me believe that this impact and support can be provided for all latinx students on campus with the LRC. I believe that the LRC will be a space of support, resources, community, and identity for the many students who suffer from imposter syndrome. I hope you see the impact the LRC will have on the Latinx community at Cal and vote with the needs of latinx students in mind rather than its financial gain.</p>
Lydia Vásquez-Trucios	Community member, Co-Lead Student Facilitator for the CLSD Leadership Seminar	<p>Although I am a new student at Cal and have not physically been to campus in that capacity, I know how imperative it is to have space where I can build community. My Latinx identity is pivotal to my existence and finding other latinx students who are in the same situation as me at Cal would not only help me but allow me to thrive. As a seminar lead, my students have expressed the same sentiment. The LRC is long overdue at such a prestigious university like Cal. I strongly support the LRC Proposal and echo the sentiments of my colleagues expressing there comments here as well.</p>
Liz Toledo	Community member, CLSD Office Management intern, Co-	<p>I came from a high school where the top 1% of students were convinced I was only admitted into Berkeley for being Latina and the teachers closest to me did not believe in Latinx Recognition ceremonies. When I came to Cal, I knew it was going to be up to me to learn more</p>



	<p>Director in Office of ASUC Senator Rodriguez</p>	<p>about myself and not just be told what is significant to life and how I experience the world. I applied to be in the Casa Magdalena Mora Themed Housing Program, and I was not admitted, yet I found myself meeting peers and friends because of the sense of community and security it gave me. I had to really go out of my way to search for spaces I could feel most at home in and thrive in. It was in my first year that I began learning about what an LRC is and what it could be. I understand the discussions around wanting to feel as secure as possible when taking this decision, but I think in times like these I would especially want someone to take a risk for me and students like me right now and years to come. There is no legacy as long as there is no intention for impact first.</p> <p>As Cal continues to move towards an HSI status, it is important that not only students feel welcome and supported, but also feel like they can feel like they can succeed in their education. This is a movement, effort, and place that is</p>
<p>Verania Valdez</p>	<p>Community member, MALCS co-lead</p>	<p>As a first-generation student trying to guide other women of color on this campus, it has become more evident that we are in need of a centralized LRC. With the many intersectionalities within our community, students are left with the need of having a space they can go to outside of their orgs. During my time as the co-lead of MALCS and volunteer at the CLSD, we have advised many other students like myself to seek out spaces that make them feel like they belong. Unfortunately, we cannot tell them that there is a space like the LRC, but a small room in Cesar Chavez that will help make them feel more comfortable. I stand with the proposal to move forward with the LRC which will bring a more fruitful campus climate for everyone.</p>
<p>Norma Garcia Galvan</p>	<p>Communications and social media Chair for ASUC Senator Rodriguez</p>	<p>I strongly support the Latinx Resource Center Proposal. As a current Freshman, I feel that a Latinx Resource Center would significantly help me as I move forward in college. Currently, I am living in the CASA Mora Theme Program and I can only imagine how other students could benefit from having a designated space on</p>



		<p>campus. I feel that campus climate would significantly improve knowing that all students feel like they have a home away from home. For the next three and a half years at Cal, I hope to see an increased support for our Latinx community that goes beyond the surface.</p> <p>I hope the Board decides to put student's needs over profits.</p>
Brisa Rodriguez	Mental and Emotional Wellness Associate for the ASUC Office of Senator Rodriguez, community member	<p>Hi my name is Brisa Rodriguez and I strongly support the creation of the Latinx Resource Center for underrepresented Latinx students such as myself. Coming from a small town in Northern California with virtually little knowledge of UC Berkeley as my high school offered few resources to prepare students, I have experienced the difficulty in lacking the support to prepare for higher education. Entering UC Berkeley was an endeavor of its own, as I was one of three students that had the opportunity to attend UC Berkeley and a first generation student coming from a low income household. Feeling welcome and having the ability to find a shared space to meet students that shared similar backgrounds as me was not afforded through the institution, but rather I sought this out by joining clubs on campus. A place like the LRC would prevent this from occurring to future students and would work to support the retention of newly admitted Latinx students that the campus has begun to acknowledge are necessary for a diverse student population. Increasing the amount of admitted Latinx is half of the job, retaining is required to keep our students here and the LRC will set the framework to accomplish this major goal to make UC Berkeley a more inclusive campus.</p> <p>With Berkeley working towards becoming an HSI, it is important to continue this strive of supporting Latinx students and broadcast a community wide message of implementing the LRC.</p>



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