

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Time: 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Meeting Date: Fall 25, Week 5, 10/28/25

Meeting Location: Warren College Room

In Attendance

Jess Huang, Holly Menninger, John Payne, Scott Strong, Camila Anaya, Shreya Nangunuri, Gabriela Ayala, Julianna Ybarra, Britney Nguyen-Bui, Tianlai Huang, Vanessa Baba, Aditi Parthan, Nitin Pramnath, Grace Gibson

I. Call To Order

- The meeting to elect the Chair and Vice Chair of the University Centers Advisory Board was called to order at 2:03 pm on Tuesday, October 28, 2025, in the Warren College Room.

II. Approval Of Minutes

- Tianlai Huang - Motions to approve meeting minutes
- Elijah Cheng - Seconds the motion

III. Public Input

- N/A

IV. Special Presentation

- N/A

V. REPORTS

A. Chair Report

- New members that will be rolling in this meeting and next meeting
- Slack reminders to stay on Slack and keep up to date especially with meeting changes that we will have
- If you have HR problems please notify Scott and he direct you with the appropriate people, delayed pay or not getting paid at all

- Schedule changes, next meeting Veterans day so it was moved to 11/18 and then the meeting that should've been after that is now moved to the second of December, same time slot

B. Vice Chair Report

- SCSE X CMAA SE Day career Fair approved for \$480
- Mr. and Ms. AXO approved for \$500
- They have both been approved
- If you need to be added to the tech fee subsidy review channel just let Holly know!
- Tianlai - I was able to add myself into the channel by looking it up, that might also be a solution

C. Executive Director Report (Interim John Payne)

- Taco Bell is having construction issues which means they will need 2-3 more weeks, non-UCSD issues just internal issues, there's progress but not quite down..
- Lucky's Hair Design, they have repainted the space they will be opening soon within a month or less, might even do facials
- Graffiti Art Park, a couple weeks ago we had some images and words that were very upsetting to some folks, some considered hate speech what's come out of that has been working with assistant chancellor and others to probably tighten up the rules with the boards, no vulgar words, hate speech, won't be a free for all moving forward so we work with campus attorney to verify we are doing it the right way
- Yarn vending machine is now operational, check it out
- Across from Target the former chancellors complex which has a fence around it, physical demolition will start over the next few weeks will make it a "park" putting down mulch until future use gets determined for that piece of land, schedule shows that at the end of March all the fencing comes down
- Shreya - Where is the yarn vending machine?
- John - First level price center between Santorini and Tapioca

D. Member Reports

- N/A

VI. BUSINESS

A. Old Business

- AS proposal
- Zaid, Sixth college senator, regarding contemplation lounge need for space on campus supported by variety of orgs on campus
- Catholic and Christian groups have also supported resolution which shows need for space, beyond one group
- Urge UCAB to find a space for
- Camila transfer student, has been taking advantage of contemplation space goes when she is just stressed out compared understand that we are well around it is a priority
- Jess - There was a subcommittee created for this issue and wanted to know if there was any specific thoughts/opinions
- Gabriela - Students asking if there were space that was localized and centralized, first years barely getting to know, increase and centralize the capacity of the space especially for students who do live off campus or farther away would be ideal
- Shreya - As a commuter student I agree it is better to have a space on campus where people can unite and find nearby
- Julianna - Hopefully next meeting we can have more direction and once again just reach out to me and you can be added to the subcommittee
- Jess - If you guys wanted to talk to John just to be able to gather more information on trying to establish a place like this, he would be a good resource
- Britney - Sixth college has overall expressed their interest in supporting
- Jess - John can give us context to the creation of a place like this
- John - The current contemplation lounge was first the AS meeting room, in 2008 when we expanded PC East AS moved to its current location and that nook because it was a connecting hallway ended up to be a void. It was always quiet, the director at the time had the idea of creating a contemplative space in the building for individual contemplation prayer, once we decided we added that glass wall and glass right above the walkway to kind of isolate it a little more. It wasn't long before Muslim Student Association was interested and asked if we could thicken the carpeting in there so we installed an extra large rug in the middle of the space and then they asked if we could add a shoe rack system so an individual could come and pray. Some of the female Muslim members came as well and asked to get a partition so we added that foldable partition that could be pulled out if needed to separate females and males while in time of prayer. Over time some students would start to treat it as a lounge and hang out there and become a study space, and then some items started getting left and

continue to get piled up over time. A board that was put up to write the prayer times does not have that it is just messages, has kind of morphed into something way different than the original space was for. Recreating what exists now but just in a bigger form and that is a discussion with the committee, we will have to go back to the original intent meaning that we will have to start staffing it so that people aren't just studying there, hanging out, and storing things

- We don't have space to give and there are lots of different groups that advocate for more space and they will have a strong argument as to why they want it
- So little space on campus and more on campus students and everyone is still around price center and recreation and facilities, too many students not enough facilities were trying to be proactive
- Really think about what the future entails the best way to do this is to always have a quality example from another public university of what we'd like to see because then everyone can quickly connect and ask questions about it and get feedback, the other way is to have multiple departments who can connect to that and also see value for that department to be associated with it and they can help push and advocate for space as well
- Tianlai - I remember last time we talked about how space was used as study space. Did we have a solution? Maybe hiring someone?
- Vanessa - I think it was stated that AS would have to check back, to hire students would cut his budget but it's in the works, it depends if we do grant the space
- Julianna - Those details would be worked up once we get the space but it is definitely something we can include in proposal, I'm christian and I go there just to contemplate, yes there is the issue of people studying but that is almost everyone on campus, it is something that happens in any space but another point was that the things in the cubby are all just Muslim related things not just random things from what I have seen another important point was the partition, the separated walls so what I've seen is that there will be Muslim brothers outside and the sisters will be inside, the partition is not enough so they have to take turns, that's why crowds are happening and that goes to show we do need a bigger space to solve all these issues
- Shreya - I do not mind the room being used as a study space because when the room is used it is already successful but I will say that Darkstar has been asking for space since 2 years ago and asking and I feel bad because for almost 2 years we have been saying no but they definitely need space
- Aditi - What is darkstar
- Shreya - They are a science fiction library and club, located in old student center
- Nitin - What were they asking for, more space?

- Shreya - They need more space to add more stuff inside
- Tianlai - I like the proposal and considering the needs of students from different cultures but I would like to see students of different religions to kind of give a testament and show evidence that we as UCAB can back up this proposal, someone proposed hiring someone and then seeing if we can organize and if it doesn't work then we can move to proposal
- Julianna - we can definitely bring in more students but the hiring process makes it more complicated, it is a valid point if UCAB does contribute to this proposal we can still get someone hired from here or even having someone who works for price center coming to check periodically
- Tianli - I like your point, it might be wasteful having a student the whole time but the board used there for prayer schedule can help someone periodically following the schedule and help the problem of overflowing
- Julianna - I don't think it would stop the push for a larger space
- Jess - If we were to go on with the proposal would it still be called a contemplation lounge or does the language of what that room is called need to be changed?
- John - If there was a new space what would be more reflective of what it needs to be, we can't use religious terms, you have to really find an example of a space that is being utilized in a way that makes it feel accessible to all, is it the room people are expecting, foot washing stations need to be there so does that make it an attractive space, it's more than just asking for a bigger room what are the amenities that make it attractive and what additional things need to be there?
- Aditi - I know that Davis and Berkeley have a space like this and call it a "Meditation space" and UCLA has a "Reflection space" I don't know how effective changing the name would be, students might still go in and use it however they want
- Holly - UCI also has one called a "Meditation space" it can be an example of what they are asking, both in a public University and UC system
- Juliana - Thank you for those examples, just wanted to remind everyone that were asking if you agree with the direction that were heading in and if you want to join the train of this proposal planning, not really asking for details like a foot washing space, etc
- Shreya - So if we pass the motion how would we word it? Because that might clarify the decision
- Julianna - The wording is important and will be more general like "we support this movement" because that is what the other councils have been doing

- Aditi - I agree that you want our decision but to form a proper opinion we have to go through pros and cons
- Tianlai - Not in details like you said but UCAB as a whole cares about the success so the details need to be well-sorted out, I felt like something that might help us in decision is if the subcommittee can make a detailed plan of how you will organize the room and how it will be used to actually know how it will go
- Holly - More information before we can form a opinion but before asking a space we wanted to see more research is done and if space is in jurisdiction we also wanted to see more research done cross campuses about their lounges and how they were established, to have throughout plane to make proposal so we know what you're talking about
- Shreya - Would it be possible if we get people of religious groups as well, any exacts from these people advocating for this space?
- Julianna - Thank you and if you're interested join the subcommittee and yes these are all things that I have mentioned with everyone, having people come, looking into other campuses, pros and cons, the presentation that we had presented was sort of meant to be deep information did rally a lot of supporters will be presented through subcommittees presentation student leaders supporting

B. New Business

- N/A

Open Forum / Announcements

- New member: Grace, ERC representative

The meeting was adjourned at 2:54 pm on 10/28/2025. The next meeting is scheduled to be at 2pm on 11/18/2025.