SUA Emergency Meeting 11.11.2014

6:02 PM Call to order.

Assembly Members Present: Hayden Christie (QSU), Jose Cadenas (Cowell), Yang Kong (Cowell), Seamus Howard (Cowell), Ricardo Sainz (Stevenson), Lila Blackney (Stevenson), Colin Hortman (Stevenson), Aykezar Adil (Crown), Michael Markson (Crown), Alexandra Kasper (Merrill), Chandler Moeller (Merrill), Alternate Bianca Moncada-Martin (Merrill) Serene Jneid (Porter), Dylan Quitiquit Hoffman (Porter), Adham Taman (Porter), Alternate Juan Calzada (Kresge), Alternate Lyle Green-Nickerson (Kresge), Keante Marshall (Oakes), Suini Torres (Oakes), Roshni Advani (Eight), Simba Khadder (Eight), Geovanna Moreno (Eight), Shubhankar Sharan (Nine), Alternate Rachel Kirkwood (Nine), Ramneet Bajwa (Ten), Brad Mylenek (OD), Israel Molina (CoD), Louise Cabansay (EVC), Kaysi Wheeler (IVC), Justin Lardinois (Chair).

Assembly Members Absent: Art Motta (MEChA), Yang Kong (Cowell), August Valera (Crown), Kartik Ashok (Merrill), Carl Eadler (Kresge), Gul Taneri (Kresge), Winnie Sidhu (Kresge), John Alcala (Oakes), Sam Shaw (Nine), Lance McNeil (Nine), Sergio Velazquez (Ten), Niles Sterner (Ten), Max Hufft (CoAA).

Justin: Are there any motions to the agenda? Reminder that this meeting is for the tuition increase.

Shub: Motion to item under new business for a resolution for ten minutes.

Roshni: Second.

Brad: Could you please email the resolution to the group?

Justin: Yes, are there any objections? Seeing none motion passes. Any other amendments? Is there a motion to approve?

Lila: Motion to approve.

Roshni: Second.

Reading of Previous Minutes:

Brad: Motion to move outside.

Roshni: Second.

[Movement Outside]

Meeting called to order again at 6:11
Justin: Are there any motions to amend the minutes? Is there any motion to approve?

Shub: **Motion to approve.**

Roshni: **Second.**

**UC Tuition Increase Discussion**

*Campus demonstration/strike:*

Rachel: I was just wondering if you all thought it’d be a good idea to have campus wide action because it increases visibility and we can get news coverage. If we have mass amount of people it would be good.

Shub: This was discussed at the UCSA board meeting. Tomorrow is a public forum at the SUA office space to educate everyone about tuition hikes. Some graduate students are going to talk about their successful experiences. And we can strategize on how we are going to get our message across. There will be a public discussion session. We will be talking about what do we want to do as UCSC students. There will be a system wide action next Tuesday, all the UCs are doing it. Ours is set at 130 PM. We are working on getting speakers. Our goal is to get 200-300 people out there. We are reaching out to different news groups. Also we need to work on a larger campaign.

Brad: Just to add on to that, there will be flyers being passed out tomorrow so that we can inform students about the actions we are taking. Next Wednesday we will be taking students to the regents’ meeting and those plans will be discussed tomorrow. 200-300 people would be a great number for Tuesday. With that, I am reaching out to KSBW. And they would be interested with a rally and getting interviews with students. Just invite anyone who you know can help and reach out to alumni as well. There is alumni action on Tuesday. If you need to contact anyone, contact me, Shub, Louise, Guillermo for any information.

Rachel: How does someone get involved in the planning?

Brad: Just let us know, text, Facebook message, or anything.

Dylan: So the strike will be figured out tomorrow at the forum?

Brad: Yes, tomorrow. Our campus wide thing is on Tuesday. Every other UC is going to be doing it that day. Tomorrow we will be having suggestions but we do not want to do all these things and burn out, so organizing the strike will be a throughout the year discussion.

Shub: Just picking up on that, we are going to be talking about tactics of escalation since we’re trying to build up and not burn out. If we start up small and keep going, we will have a larger snowball effect. We always want to grow from small to big.
Lila: Are there any plans to bring students up to the regents meeting?

Brad: They have been generous to get buses to us, and if you’re interested just let us know before you leave. Our original plan is 100 people, but that might be too hopeful. November 19th. The time will be decided in the future. Wednesday’s meeting starts at 830 in the morning.

Louise: Do we know for sure about the financial commitments? I want to know who’s giving money to who.

Brad: It seems like AFSCME was funding.

Louise: I would say that we should at least set aside some funds from our budget just in case.

Seamus: I think someone should organize the student orgs as well. Maybe giving some roles to other groups would be helpful to avoid burnout.

Brad: We are doing outreach to the organizations and college senates. We need as many orgs as possible. We are sending an email out soon to coordinate with orgs.

Dylan: Do we have any numbers on the cost of the buses in case we want to allocate money for this meeting?

Brad: We can do a little more research, I wasn’t in charge of that.

**SUA Resolution Against Tuition Hikes**

Shub: This is something I just drafted up, I would like a lot of feedback from y’all, so that next meeting we can pass it. It is right before the regents meeting. [Reads resolution]

Justin: Any further discussion?

Rachel: This is a really well written resolution, but I feel like there is a lot going on and I think we should divide the resolution.

Brad: We do have a lot whereas clauses, and there are two actions here, and that would have to be done next week and we’d have to suspend the bylaws so that we wouldn’t have to wait another week to pass the two separate resolutions.

Justin: Point of clarification, I don’t think we’d need to.

Andrew: Can the SUA only consider one resolution?

Justin: No limitation.

Dylan: Could we have that split and emailed to us so that we can present to our college?
Justin: The actual division of the resolution would have to be done at the next meeting but someone can do it unofficially.

Andrew: I’m just not sure how this would be split.

Rachel: I think we could have the preliminary information and then the resolution.

Justin: We will have a debate on the resolution next week and we still have 110 more minutes on the agenda for the discussion of UC tuition increase.

Dylan: Do we have any numbers yet?

Brad: I pulled up really quick bus rates, right now for a day, there would be a $1000 region, and it carries 50 each. It seems like that would be ideal, but we’ll see.

Seamus: I would check out Michael’s transportation and I think it’s cheaper and based in Watsonville.

Dylan: Also do we have any numbers from UCSA or USSA?

Justin: I looked into that and so far we haven’t been billed for UCSA, but the university hasn’t initiated the payment. I would advise the assembly to not cut from there until we’re sure.

Louise: We did get the preliminary numbers, they are charging us about 30,300, so we should have $1700 extra from the UCSA line item, which is the cost of buses, but it could also cover the rest of the deficit, but we don’t have final numbers right now.

Alexandra: If we get these buses, how will we choose who gets there?

Brad: Probably first come first serve.

Dylan: If the buses are competitive, I think we need to consider who has experience in these kinds of actions and who would be more effective and to go and do that. As well as making sure we maintain diversity.

Justin: I do want to mention to the assembly, that if we want to have a way to designate seats, someone just has to have a motion.

Colin: I am curious on how we would fund that, where would we take money from, would it be from general fund programming?

Brad: I’m willing to toss in some of my programming funds, and my money would be appropriate for this kind of thing. We can’t bank on the UCSA funds, but it would be nice if they were there. We still have money in SUA programming, so we can look in there. We are not going to cut from RSOs so we have to look at different line items.
Bi: I was informed by one of my student government members that it was already voted upon?

Justin: Are you referring to UC budget or SUA? The regents haven’t voted to approve budget.

Bi: What are UC regents?

Louise: They sit on 12 year terms to establish UC policy. There are 26 voting regents and among these regents, there is the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the assembly and others. For any UC policy to be passed they have to vote on it. They are also looking at a mental fee, and if any fee has to be decided on, that’s where they do it. They are appointed not because of their specific qualifications. Any changes have to go through the election process. [On stack again] So I’m going to reserve my right to make a motion. I think we need to make a line item called regent meeting buses. I think all the officers should contribute a bit, and I think my money would be good for this event. **Motion to move $500 from line item 924 to the buses fund.**

Shub: **Second.**

Justin: Any objections?

Israel: **Objection.** I think we should put in more money to it, since the total is $3600.

Louise: The reason I put $500 is that it is a sizeable amount of money and I didn’t want it all to come from one line item.

Andrew: Since the EVC is taking it from their own budget, they probably know if it’s too much or too little.

Israel: It is not necessarily the EVC’s money, it is just managed by the EVC.

Lila: I agree with Israel but I think we should take Louise’s opinion into consideration. I don’t see the harm of taking a few hundred from one line item.

Israel: I’m just suggesting that we put in more into it. I think this might be a very important thing for this year. Personally I don’t know any other national lobbying effort that will affect students.

Andrew: Is this a protest or are we going to the meeting?

Shub: I suggest we go around the table and see how much the others are willing to put in.

Louise: We do have another meeting in May, and since this is a protest and there might be other things that come up during the year, I still want to be able to fund the buses in May.

Brad: I partially agree with some of this, but I am in disagreement that every officer should give something, because it is specifically between the EVC and the OD. Other officers have other things they have planned for the rest of the year. I think putting a line item would be smart.
Andrew: I don’t think that we should take so much out of the lobbying fund.

Israel: **Call to question.**

Shub: **Second.**

Dylan: **Objection.**

Israel: **I rescind my motion.**

Dylan: I think that because tuition increases affect students of all facets of student life, I think that showing the SUA officers supporting this and show unity in funding, that would be a powerful message from the SUA to the student body.

Suini: I have a question, if we’re sending these students, what is the plan for the day?

Justin: We can figure that out after this motion.

**Bi: Call to question.**

Shub: **Second.**

Justin: Seeing no objections to the call to question, we are going into a vote.

In favor: 27  Opposed: 0  abstain: 2  motion passes.

Justin: We have 50 minutes left on agenda.

**Brad:** **Motion to move 350 from organizing director programming funds into funding for buses.**

Israel: **Second.**

Brad: **Motion rescind.**

**Bi:** **Motion to table this so that we can answer the previous question asked.**

Suini: What are we sending these students for?

Brad: Louise and Shub can speak more on this. There were two parties of students, those who wanted to be disruptive, so we are trying to figure out how we want to go about doing this. We will be discussing that tomorrow.

Louise: UCSA has decided on multiple prongs, that if they do have the capacity, they can figure out how they are sending students and we might be blocking entrances to the meeting. Other actions include creating a joint statement so that student from each UC can present that. We are
also organizing with alumni, 50 who have confirmed they will be there. UCSA staff is already organizing for this and there will be something to do once students get there.

Shub: My personal opinion is that from the meeting, people are considering bringing fake money and leaving it there, and some people were considering putting tape on their mouth. The gravity of the situation doesn’t call for symbolic action, and we should be focusing on things that are more effective, like stopping the meeting from happening. That will give us more time to organize more.

Kaysi: I want to motion to give 200 dollars from IVC outreach into bus funding.

Israel: Second.

Justin: Seeing no objections, motion passes.

Israel: Reserve my right to make a motion, I completely agree with Shub and I would like to motion to move 100 from CoD SUA programming to the bus fund.

Lila: Second.

Justin: Any objections? Seeing none motion passes.

Suini: If we are trying to prevent the meeting, how are we going to get the money to send the students again?

Rachel: If you ask students to commit to the meeting, I don’t think it’s fair for us to be wishy-washy about this and we need to contact UCSA to figure out what’s going on.

Colin: I know that the meeting will happen again, but I think that the symbolism and the attention of it will help our case a lot. People will start paying attention. At least we’re doing something.

Louise: Part of the reason that not everything is finalized is because we didn’t know the layout of the regents meeting, and we are also waiting for the other UCs to tell us how many students are coming. Also by being able to disrupt the meeting, you generate mass media, and you can also bring the attention to where the money is being held. The governor is against this, and by being able to cancel this meeting, we can also bring our arguments to the table.

Adham: I think that also by postponing the meeting, not only we are disturbing the meeting, we have more time to organize things on campus. It does give us a longer time to put a message out there.

Serene: If you think that a strike is not reasonable is there any other way to achieve the same goal?

Alexandra: My question is directed to Louise, is the UCSA accepting suggestions from students?
Louise: We came to the meeting and moved items forward but things can still be adjusted. We have scheduled calls for this week to finalize things. The first thing is how we can block the meeting. UCSA will also send specific members to the regents meeting which will be the more professional side of our action.

Suini: I’m for the strike, but I feel that we shouldn’t spend so much money on this.

Brad: We might just be taking 50 students, but we’d still be able to send students up there. It would be competitive to get up there and we’d have to figure out something like an application process. If y’all are down to do one bus instead of two, we can continue focusing on what can happen on campus. The organizers will also be responsible for all those students, and taking less students might ease the stress of that.

Dylan: I think that in terms of this meeting, we need to set aside the money for two buses, but this is also with the consideration that AFSCME is funding us. And we need bodies on the ground. Having less students there will not be the way to go.

Louise: That is kind of the point, also we are looking at different funding sources, and I just want to make sure that we can take 100 students. The money might not be used at all or some of it will be used. If we wait for other commitments, it might be too late by then.

Colin: Just reiterating what has previously been said, I think it’d be great if we had much more people and we are quite close to the regents meeting, it may be harder for other schools to send students.

Alexandra: Is there away to organize students who can drive?

Suini: I think 100 is a good number for Santa Cruz as well as driving, not only that but maybe occupying one of the admin buildings, so that we can do something big here and something big there.

Rachel: If we do want to do student drivers, could we set aside money for gas reimbursements?

Shub: I like the rideshare idea, personally I have a car and we could set up a Google spreadsheet. Also in terms of occupying buildings, there was a plan that I had in terms of escalation that I would like to discuss later.

Seamus: Could there be a joint action here at the same time, where we have another group of students at the quarry or near Blumenthal’s mansion?

Lila: In terms of trying to get bus money, could we ask students to donate $2, because that could easily cover the costs. Also in terms of storming Kerr hall, it might be symbolic when the committee of something meets.
Shub: I’m not sure if there is a way for us to fund that because I’m not sure if we have policy to collect general money.

Brad: Reserve my right to make a motion, not sure how I feel about asking students for money, since every student pays $7 a quarter to SUA. In terms of occupying admin buildings, I think it is a really good idea and during the meeting, there should be live stream from each campus, and that should be shown at the regents meeting. If we did that at Kerr hall, that’d be great. There is a very good chance that I will be on campus since there’s shit going on, and we need organizers on both sides. **Motion to move $300 OD student power line item 1300 to bus funds.**

Roshni: **Second.**

Justin: Any objections? Seeing none **motion passes.** We currently have $1100 in the bus fund.

Dylan: Just a few notes, in terms of effective organizing, we probably don’t want to mention specific details, because the reaction would be able to organize around that, and I think we should keep the talk to more vague terms.

Alexandra: I wanted to comment on the driver Google doc, I don’t know how easy it is to have a mass Google doc. How would we spread that around?

Brad: I think we’d just have one person in charge, and not giving access to everyone and having drivers email the person in charge with the amount of people they have in their car. We can organize that way.

Adham: I think it’s a good idea to go into admin buildings but not that day, because we might need more time for planning.

Louise: As far as planning for other things on campus, we could do that tomorrow at the forum or groups at the forum can figure that out. There will be other student groups coming as well.

Bi: Question for Brad, I wanted to know why Kerr Hall?

Brad: That’s where all the admin are.

Bi: I also realize that we are doing a lot of what if situations right now, we should focus on what we can do.

Dylan: To what extent does the bus offer have a briefing time? Should we try to push the buses as much as possible?

Simba: Just to make things clear is that we need to stop the regents meeting, and since we’re taking so many people to this meeting, it doesn’t make much sense to have a half-assed thing going on here, I think it would be good to have everything have full power to keep things organized. Some things might not have the full effort and I think it would be a good idea to make
sure every event is complete. Also regarding the rideshare thing I think we should have a
surveymonkey thing go around for people to fill out.

Shub: How much did we cut from Chair’s programming.

Justin: I don’t think anything was cut from the chair’s programming.

Shub: I would not make this motion, but I would like to suggest that since the chair doesn’t do
much programming, that the chair could contribute some money to that.

Justin: As chair I don’t feel comfortable making the motion, that’s what’s holding me back.

Israel: Point of inquiry, how much would the chair be willing to put in?

Justin: I think the assembly should decide that.

Lila: Based on previous conversations with the chair, I motion to move $200 from line item
300 to the bus fund.

Roshni: Second.

Justin: Any objections, seeing none motion passes. Just saying that that money was a reasonable
amount, and I am okay with this.

Roshni: I think a really good idea for the ride share and bus people if everyone met at the base of
campus at a certain time, and we could do a debrief beforehand, and another idea is just telling
everyone that can drive to come and just send people into cars.

Israel: Point of personal privilege, there is a car blocking Nick’s car. Also point of inquiry, has
the EVC put any money into this bus fund?

Louise: My programming is kind of tied up, but can I motion to move $200 from slug vote,
which is our line item for the election this year.

Roshni: Second.

Justin: Any objections? Seeing none, motion passes.

Israel: Point of information from Lila, I think she said line item 300, it is 1300.

Justin: Bus fund is at 1550.

Dylan: Do we have any plans for off campus students? The buses don’t run that early.

Shub: Since we have a couple minutes, I would like some input from others of things that we can
do for this tuition increase. I have my escalation idea, and also the idea of a class walk out, where
everyone just leaves class at a certain time. Another thing is holding textbooks and blocking the
way to class. Also I would like to do occupation of different buildings. I know that at some point we blocked Kerr Hall for 3 days. Another ambitious idea is that a lot of people are bending around the concept of tuition strike, an ultimate protest, I don’t think that is feasible. Another idea is a general strike, just refrain from going to class.

Rachel: As far as visibility, a lot of students are murmuring about complaining and does anyone want to do class announcements tomorrow?

Louise: Guillermo and my other intern are already on that and they are recruiting people for that.

Israel: As commented before, this issue affects all of us, and it has been suggested and moved that every one of the officers should pitch in their program money. I would like to ask for a little bit more information of where the EVC funds are tied up.

Louise: I did put in $700 already.

Adham: I think the walk outs are a great idea in the future but we need to get TAs and teachers on board to announce things to the class.

Shub: We are talking to GSA about including TAs in this.

Dylan: I think that given that the officers have each contributed from each of their office to funding these buses, in the case that there is additional money needed, I think that we should allocate more money from SUA programming.

Israel: Also in addition, SUA funding is split into tiny subsections, so you might have to find that.

Justin: I think he was talking about the SUA programming fund that comes out of the carry-forward.

Dylan: I motion to move $300 from SUA programming to bus fund.

Juan: Second.

Bi: What is SUA programming for?

Justin: After putting money into reserves, we put 30% into SUA programming.

Shub: Point of information, how much do we have in SUA programming?

Israel: It is $2854.30.

Justin: Any objections?

Aykezar: Objection.
Andrew: I would like to remind everyone that we still have a deficit of over $1000, the more we cut from line items, the more we’ll have to cut from other line items.

Simba: With all due respect, I think this is quite important, and this is for the students. I have yet to hear one student tell me they are for the 5% increase.

Colin: Responding to the deficit, if certain bylaws are amended next meeting, we’ll be close to $200 for this bus thing.

Andrew: I think that since this is an SUA program, I think taking money from programming that would make sense.

Dylan: **Call to question.**

Shub: Second.

Justin: Any objections, **call to question passes.**

Main motion to cut $300 from SUA programming into bus fund:

**Yes: 27 opposed 0 abstain 1 motion passes.**

Shub: How much is in this line item?

Louise: 1850.

Simba: It was mentioned that we could have a classroom walk out, I feel like that is against the point, but I do have an alternate thing to do, take a money bill and tape it to your mouth and don’t say anything I feel like it could be symbolic of how we are just money to the state.

Rachel: Do we have any means of making ourselves more visible?

Dylan: I don’t think that we should be afraid of this escalation to block off campus and to shut down campus. I think that in terms of escalation and really showing that if our demands aren’t met, we should show how much we care.

Roshni: **Motion to extend time by 20 minutes.**

Seamus: **Second.**

Bi: **Objection.**

In favor of extending time:

**Yes: 11 no: 5 abstain: 11 motion passes**, we have 20 more minutes to discuss the tuition increase.
Geovanna: I wanted to address Rachel’s question, but I realize that there are a lot of students that don’t know what is going on, what are some things we could do to make sure students are getting involved.

Shub: In regards to walkouts, the meaning is that we are being forcibly removed, and the other idea is that we could alert the press and conduct interviews there. In regards to education students, I know that we are looking into creating flyers and tabling is also another thing. I would like to look into contacting RAs and emailing them our pitch.

Mike: I understand that walk-outs have been strong in the past, a lot of people (off campus students) have resented this.

Suini: I see a lot of drawings in chalk and I think that would be a good idea.

Brad: Point of information, we can’t actually chalk the school.

Colin: I agree with Shub, we can represent at our colleges and it is our job to make the body bring that back to the residential colleges and getting the councils involved as well.

Aykezar: I like the ideas going around, I think in terms of the public forum tomorrow, there are already a good amount of students going, and we can get ideas from them as well. I think it’s important for us to be around as well to tell people about it.

Rachel: I was going to ask Louise, how soon are we getting the class raps?

Louise: I have a class rap on here, my computer is dead. I can send it out to the SUA space.

Adham: Just in regards to the walk out, I think a lot of other reasons the strikes in the past were contentious that students couldn’t even get onto campus if they wanted to, students didn’t know what was going on, and this is something that affects all undergraduates. I think we should also alert the press.

Shub: Someone made a suggestion of using Fund the UC as a way to further this. I think that we should hold off of a bit, and this is an issue that would affect all students. If we prevent people from going to class, whereas if the tuition increases, there will be many students who will not be able to return in general.

Louise: Another thing we could do is cross off the UC in “fund the UC” and just write “Fund Us.”

Alexandra: I reserve my right to make a motion, I feel like our conversation is going in circles, and all these things are things that we can talk about via social media. Motion to adjourn.

Roshni: Second.

Justin: Any objections, seeing none motion passes.