Called to order: 6:00pm

Justin: As you saw on the agenda, Chancellor Blumenthal will be giving a presentation. Just a couple of things before he does, I want to welcome the new members to the assembly. Later on in the meeting we will go around and just introduce yourselves. And since we have new people here I want to remind everyone of our community agreements which we adopted at the beginning of the year to promote a safe open and productive space. So they are all up on the projector right now and I think they are pretty simple agreements. And also I want to remind everyone that this room is being provided free of charge thanks to dining services so please no food or drink, that’s one of the rules we have. Let’s see, okay so this room has a capacity of seventy-two so just for safety reason, it doesn’t seem like its going to be a problem right now but if we have more guests we will just need to keep that in mind. And the Chancellor is going to give his presentation and take questions at the end and the way that works just raise your hand and I’ll take down your name and call on people in the order they raised their hands. So we will go right ahead and Chancellor you have the floor.

Chancellor Blumenthal: Thank you for inviting me and I’m thankful to be here always happy to come if you want to invite me again. I’m always happy to come to an SUA meeting. Going to keep my remarks very brief so that everyone can ask questions, and you are welcome to do that. But I did want to begin with a few things. First, you probably have read about it but I’m really pleased that the application figures are up by 10% from last year and last year was a record year. I’m very pleased about that. And that’s up from California students we also have 25% increases of non-California resident. So UC Santa, I believe our diversity numbers are continuing to improve which a good thing so all in all numbers look good for people wanting to come to UCSC. However, be aware that whatever happens with enrollment I suspect UCSC rates will be around 40 -45% based upon the enrollment numbers but I don’t even know what enrollment we are aiming for. Second issue that I think you all know about this is our 50 anniversaries as a campus. We will be celebrating the whole calendar year there will be a number of events throughout the year that you might find interesting and want to participate. We are really making an effort to have a lot of events throughout the year to celebrate the last 50 years. The ones that are coming up in January, we have one this week throwback day dress like its 1965 where people are encouraged to dress like they would have in 1965. And in fact one of the people of Madmen will be judging a contest in quarry plaza to see who has the best costume. Also have the MLK convocation this years speaker is Angela Davis who was a professors here for many years and a talk by Anita Hill in February and this was the person who brought sexual harassment to the national attention 20 years ago. Not everyone in your generation knows who this is but I assure you everyone in my generation knows who this is because she really, with great personal courage, brought this to national attention. And then throughout they year there will be lots of interesting and exciting events that I encourage you to be involved with.
Third, what’s going on with tuition and budget and all that stuff? And the answer is I don’t know what’s going on unless you have been asleep for the past three months you know that the UC President and the Regents have voted for the tuition plan for the next five years that will include 5% increase in tuition. Assuming the state will not allow funding, the Governor has not really responded and its not clear what he will do but it is my understanding that there are continuing discussions between Jerry Brown and Janet Napolitano but I don’t know what’s going to end up and its unlikely to be resolved until May but this is not official I would remind you that the issue of whether or not there will be a tuition increase next year is going to depend upon the state, if the state buys it out, and the President has expressed her interest in actually limiting the tuition increase as long as the state provides the support. But I would like to emphasis something, a lot of attention has been devoted to oh the Regents did it oh the President did it etc. but there are some realities that we need to be aware of. Number one, I don’t think anyone likes tuition. When I was a student back in the 60’s and 70’s tuition was virtually free. Today instate is about $13,000 and that’s a huge difference and the reason that this change has happened is because of this decrease in state support. When I was a student the cost of educating the student at UC was virtually paid for by the state of California. Today when you look at the cost of education and the cost of your education, it becomes roughly 60% from tuition and 40% from the state. If the state of CA funded students the way I was funded tuition would be. How willing is the state to fund higher education and its really important for students, not just at UC but also at CSU, to make sure that the legislature and governor are aware that you know that there is ultimate responsibility to provide higher education. And access to higher education in California really does rest on the government to provide adequate funding so students don’t end up with loans. The real issue is in Sacramento and that’s where this issue will be resolved, whether May next week next month. But ultimately that decision is in Sacramento by legislatures. We can argue about this but our budget is an open book. Go to the website for planning and budget and on our website there’s a link to the UC Santa Cruz budget please look at it and read through it I encourage you to do that the budget is transparent we were the first campus that were going to do that online and that’s a place where you can read about it what is going on. Enrollment I don’t know what that looks like for next year but that s connected to the issue budget and until the budget gets resolved I’m not sure…so I suspect you will have more questions. One of things we’ve been trying to do at UCSC is raise more private money for the University and we have a campaign going on for that and last year was a record for UC Santa Cruz we raised 50 million dollars and we have a number of goals that are related to student interests. One of the goals and something I want to thank you for is the student experience I think its very likely that we will be able to complete the fundraising so that we can do Phase A of quarry project to reopen the Quarry and the bulk of that money is coming from the Student Fee Advising Committee but we also raising some private money we are close enough that this s going to happen. So I’m, with that I’m going to finish my remarks and open it to questions.

Justin: Okay first off I would like to welcome all our guest but I’ve just been notified that we are ten to fifteen over capacity because this room does have a capacity of seventy two so for safety
reasons I’m going to have to ask that ten to fifteen people step out. Our community agreements are on the board and if you want to ask the Chancellor a question just raise your hand and I’ll take you down and call on you in the order that people raised their hands. So we will move forth with questions.

Adham: Chancellor you were recently given a 20% paid increase in your salary and your salary now is about $400,000, which is the salary of the President of the United States. Can you justify this?

Chancellor: No I can’t. This is not my decision this was made by the board of Regents. I would remind you that I am the lowest paid UC…

Unknown: I am paid lower. I made less than [unknown] last year.

Justin: Please if you want to speak, raise your hand so that you can ask a question.

Chancellor: I am the lowest paid but it’s not a justification. But it is not my decision. In the eight years that I have been here I have never received an increase.

Unknown: Hi you were saying that it is up to the state to decide on tuition increase but you talked about re opening the quarry with fundraising money but would it be possible…why is the money being put towards quarry when money could be put towards student fees?

Chancellor: That’s a really good question and the answer is complicated. But when we raise money from private donors most of the time, and when I say most of the time I mean 98% of the time, that money is specified in terms as to where it goes. A donor might give money towards scholarships for students, and we do give a lot of money out for scholarships but only about 2% is unspecified so we don’t have the freedom to put money here or to put money there. We tend to raise money for specific projects or specific ideas or scholarships. In terms of the quarry it is an important campus priority and a vast majority coming from SFAC, which students have voted to make a priority. We are trying to raise the money privately so that we can add to that and move the project forward. So in fact that is why we are specifically targeting that. But it’s a fair point and your right why don’t we raise money for tuition but it does really work that way because people give money for a specific project.

Justin: I’d like to ask our guests that when you ask a question you please state your first name so that we can record it in the minutes. Any other questions for the Chancellor?

Shubhankar: You’ve states that nobody like increasing the tuition but how are you helping us specifically?

Chancellor: Several things we raise money for scholarships if you look at what we do on this campus we do a pretty incredible job and anyone from a family making less that 80k, they do not
pay tuition. Tuition is covered. Let’s be honest here tuition increases don’t affect lowest-income students they affect middle class students…

Unknown: Not sure if that’s true.

Justin: I’d like to ask that if you want to speak you raise your hand and get on stack.

Chancellor: On top of all of that we do raise a large amount of money for students. Second thing that I think we have really accomplished is that when I began, as Chancellor the tuition money you paid to Santa Cruz did not come back to Santa Cruz it went back to other campus. I fought for years that our campus got the money paid it and I think that was a really great change and a shame to see our money goes towards other UCs. We are trying to do as much as we can for work-study and jobs for students on campus as well. We are pursuing some ideas so that students can take more control of their own destiny.

Vanessa: How will the lack of funds that the UC is asking for from the state, if the UC does not get money how will this affect faculty and staff and down the line?

G: Let me rephrase what you said so that I can better understand, what is it going to mean for students faculty and staff?

Vanessa: Yes specifically the faculty and staff.

Unknown: Not much.

Chancellor: Ok so lets first talk about faculty. Two issues with regard to faculty on this campus one is the number of faculty and how much they are paid. In terms of the number of faculty when we underwent the significant budget cuts one of the ways we dealt with that was not filling positions. At one point we had 125 vacant seats on this campus we had the position but not the money. Things are a little bit better now but for the last couple of years we have been hiring more faculties to try to refill that hole in positions. I don’t have the exact numbers but we are trying to build back and that’s important to students to keep classes small and have advisors. Faculty salary, that’s been a big issue on this campus. When we did a study eight years ago we discovered our faculty are paid well below the other faculty amongst the UC system. As a result of that study we undertook a new approach to faculty salary so that they are comprehensible to UC system. Roughly speaking today, after six years of the program, our faculty is pretty in line with other UCs except Berkeley and LA and SF we are pretty much in the mix of those campuses. So we have really reached that goal of paying our faculty. What would happen if there were budget cuts? It would affect the number of faculty we would hire. I don’t think it would affect the amount we pay faculty. With regard to staff, staff I think they will continue to get small regular salary increases but again it goes to the number. Seven years ago the numbers were decreased dramatically. We cut 40% of budget from administrators 39% academic support unions and tried to keep the cuts away from academic departments. But as a result of that some
of our staff are very overworked so I don’t think they would be able to work with even less staff that would be devastating for them. With regard to students I think that the main impact will be will we be able to hire enough faculty to offer the courses our students need to graduate. And that remains a big priority. A few years ago when the budget crisis first began, we had trouble getting the entire course so we needed so that students could graduate. We made a major effort to realign some resources so that students could take the courses they need to graduate so that they wouldn’t have to stay here any longer but that still happens. I don’t want to be doom and gloom one year does not make a crisis. If this continues we will run out of resources and if you look at the bottom line of our budget this is not a financial stable campus.

Shubhankar: I had a question about budgeting and finance more specifically to UC system overall. Whenever we talk about raising money for essential things otherwise the quality of education will decrease. I have questions about the other priorities in our budget why is spending money on what people deeming unnecessary new construction projects when they sent out furloughs the next month….

Justin: Please only snap when people have finished speaking that is our community agreement.

Shubhankar: 1.3 billion in construction projects were announced and that has continued to carry on with more campus expansion on other universities. None of this stuff is necessary especially a lot of campus expansion plans when right now people can’t live on campus…they are homeless. Can you speak to the priorities of that when we could be spending that money to offset?

Chancellor: Great question and the answer is again complex so I apologize for that.

Unknown: We can’t handle complex.

Justin: Please, just one person at a time.

Chancellor: Until a couple of years ago the money, in the 2009 time frame, the money that was used was completely distinct from the money for salaries and to pay for your education. The money we got to build came from state bonds and could only be used to build buildings, not salary or tuition, If I had gotten that money and spent it on something else that would be illegal I would have gone to jail. So there’s a clear distinguish between them money we could use to build buildings and money for other things. The money we go from the state we could have used for anything. We try to raise that money privately. Until a couple of years ago, what happened then is this money ran out and there was no new bond money. The university is spending money on buildings but not a lot. If you look at the program, it’s only a small fraction of what it was. But I won’t say it’s not zero, because the university does borrow to build a building, but its small. The coastal marine center is a building that will be financed and paid for. Until about a year ago…university will float bonds but those got paid for by a different funding streaming. A year ago, the state adopted a new law putting those moneys that we used to pay but gave UC the
obligation to pay off. But we refinanced and we got a better interest rate because our credit rating is better than the states. And that extra savings, a part of that, has gone to the state building program today. The UC building with state funds is much smaller and financed differently. Its also true UC could have decided to build no new buildings but we chose not to do that.

Unknown: I think there’s going to be further clarification on some of the things you just mentioned and some of the things you decided to omit and sort of the story about UC construction. I’m really excited to see you skirt around that question too. The question I have is to draw attention to your claim that there is a shrinking budget from Sacramento that’s motivating this increase in tuition this 27% increase you are putting on students. Despite the fact that you and other UC Chancellors decided with the board to transition to a tuition system. I’m more interested in some of the more recent decisions you’ve made. In the same time that you claim the state has shrunk its own kind of fiscal obligations, you’ve raised tuition. You have raised it in the magnitude of billions of dollars more than you’ve actually lost from the state. My question is where is that money going? Actually that’s not my question I know where it’s going …

Justin: Please no snapping.

Unknown: …hire more administrators in every single department. The rate at which administrators are hired…

Justin: Is this a question?

Unknown: Yes.

Justin: I just want to remind you that the speaker’s list is very long.

Unknown: I think that context is important. Administrators have been expanded more than any other increase in university hirings across the board. My question to you is why is your own admin decided that the best way to make a sustainable university is to hire more administrators in places like the arboretum. In places that disrupt the learning and work the University is doing rather than turning over that money to make this college more affordable. Why is admin, why is your job…towards building a better working class America for lower-income people and for people of color?

Chancellor: I agree with you about the first priority for our campus and for our admin and me am to benefit our students and their education but I would disagree with statements you made. For example you made a comment that admin is growing but if you add up the number of Vice Chancellors and deans and provosts the numbers are smaller than it was. So I think its fair to ask what is the role of our administration but our budget for admin has declined faster on our campus during cutbacks than any other part of our campus.
Unknown: And there haven’t been growths since then?

Chancellor: That period ended a few years ago and there have been hires and people have left. I don’t know what the total number is but during the times of cuts admins are cut the most on our campus. The amount of decrease in state support versus the amount of tuition increase and there is fair amount of truth but it ignores one other important factor and that is the cost to university. You can say the cost is all my salary but my salary is a trivial part of the budget. The cost increases have come from salary increases, from collective bargaining increases, however…it’s a legitimate cost. These are real costs. The cost comes from faculty… well I actually don’t know the cost of our police force salary and I’m sure it has grown and that’s because there’s a need for it. You may disagree with that but the fact is there has been an increase to the cost of university. The largest cost is the increase in pension cost of our faculty. Decrease in sate support is roughly equal to the added tuition but if you add on to that with the increased expenses to the university that is what we have offset.

Unknown: The crux of my question which you didn’t answer is that to the extent that there have been administered increases and the large portion of budget to admins what is your justification and why is that more important than affordable campus?

Chancellor: When you talk about admin and you draw up the numbers for administration I want to draw an important distinguish between administrators who are involved in the education and research portion of campus versus administration that’s involved with other activities on campus who’s salaries don’t come out of state support. For example, as enrollment goes up the number of people we have in our housing offices and the reason is that there is more students staying in housing and we need more people to administrate the housing that money does not come out of state support that money comes out of housing costs not tuition and not state support. Another example is research expenses. We collect approximately 150 million dollars a year from the federal government for research grants that employs students but some of that goes to administration and that number has grown in recent years but I don’t necessarily accept that its the part of our administration. I don’t know what bottom line is but the total number has increased as research grows which isn’t from state support or tuition its supported by outside grants.

Unknown: So if its not supported by tuition and its not supported but the state than your raising tuition…

Chancellor: No, it’s supported by outside grants by the federal government. The justification for raising tuition is the increased cost of education…

Unknown: And you pointed to these administrations and the ones administrating research grants that are leading us to raise tuition.
Chancellor: I’m sorry maybe you are not hearing me and I’m not being clear. We hire these admins to administer research grants but they are paid for by out of these research grants they are not paid for by tuition or state support. We cannot use the money to support teachers for example because that’s not what that grant is for these funds are complete separate and does not affect your tuition.

Rachel: The money that the UC budget comes out of from the California state which is not a sustainable method and has grown exponentially in the past ten years, what is the university address that in future to support low income/students of color because more work-study and scholarships cannot sustain with increased tuition.

Chancellor: So I don’t agree that it can’t be done the way the University, when we collect tuition the university sets aside 1/3 of all money to go back to financial aid. The amount set aside is always there if tuition is increased than the fund is increased and that’s why we can have the blue and gold plan. That is how the University is able to afford to these students tuition. Raising tuition does not mean the poorest students will be affected I think it means the middle class students will be adversely affected. I’m not saying that’s good I’m just saying it won’t impact the lowest income of student?

Dylan: Why do you and administration think it’s appropriate to use the rhetoric that a large portion of students don’t pay tuition when these individuals are frequently forced into taking out student loans and can be financially crippling…especially in light of the national student loan debt.

Chancellor: That’s a fair question. First of all, the students I was speaking of don’t pay tuition but that doesn’t mean that they don’t have financial issues. Student loans and student debt are issues and are serious issues and I don’t mean to dismiss them at all. My comment is related to tuition increase only and if you look at the statistics of all the students and how they are fairing with students loan we are below the national average in terms of student debt. If you are a student with a big loan this statistic doesn’t help or make you feel any better knowing that’s the case. So we need to find models that are better for those students without the burden of long-term student loan debt.

Unknown: This is a public university.

Justin: Please, if you want to speak raise your hand so I can put you on stack.

D: Why are you saying that these peoples aren’t paying? When you just said they take out student loans just some of those student loans we can’t track that money. I’m sure a lot of those loans are directly linked to the tuition increase. Why are you using that rhetoric? Students have to take out loans and can’t go to school anymore and that’s a real impact for students that they get stuck with.
Chancellor: So I think that we have fundamentally disagreement that its tuition driving all student loans for all students because we do have a plan, if you are low-income, you don’t pay tuition period. You still may have student loans for dorms or books or food but it’s not for tuition and if that’s painful those loans still don’t go to tuition. I agree that student loans are an issue. But there are people who do not pay tuition and that’s a fact.

Dylan: In the last few years the university has also increased the cost of getting housing on campus, why am I paying 1300 dollars a month for a spot for a triple, what justifies that cost why are they going up with tuition. All those things are causing me to take out student loans I’m going more and more into debt and I just don’t think its justifiable.

Chancellor: It’s just the financial system. I don’t think that justified its just the financial model we build dorms and beds by taking out loans cost is related to how much we have to pay back to build dorms…there are new dorms old dorms that need to be remodeled, all of those costs are financed and we use the income to pay back those loans that’s the reason not a justification. The rent is associated with how much it will cost to pay back the loan we took out to build the dorms. That’s not a justification it’s a reason. We try to keep it as low as we reasonably can and I don’t want us to be the highest price I want us to be the lowest price campus for housing we are trying to do as much as we can. There only so much we can do.

Ghandi: I’ve heard the tuition rhetoric a million times. One big concern I have here is the grad students here on campus because they are so little on our campus the concern I have is the plans for expansion specifically the silicon valley plans and plans that will take away resources here at our school. But that’s going to be taking away from our resources when they could be spent here…that could be grad students mentoring undergrad students. And on top of that when they are admitted they aren’t multi year offers but their financial aid or grant has been pulled. So how is building something that is going to be taking away from our campus or is out of reach for our students going to affect our campus. It’s not going to benefit us or the grad students on this campus.

Chancellor: The issue that you raised about multi year offers we are actively discussing to help them get multi year offers to get better support and financial stability and that’s a bigger discussion. Your basic question was about Silicon Valley and making investments is that taking away from the quality of education on this campus. If you look at the numbers we actually make more money in Silicon Valley from our contracts than we send over there so that is our cash cow essentially for our campus. In particular as we create programs in Silicon Valley so those programs will provide opportunities for our students…a lot of our grad students having the opportunity to have internships can lead to jobs and training to make them more saleable in the workforce. There are some real advantages right now as we contemplate our next few years we thought about putting some resources in Silicon Valley but we will not have a significant among in terms of faculty.
Jeb or Jay: So I’ve got kind of three questions, the first one I want to pin you down you did kind of a slippery move with construction funding, where you said that there was this moment where the University decided to take one route and you took yourself completely out of that. Up to this point you have been saying we a lot and all the sudden it it’s the University so was that a mistake the University made? Were you opposing to it? And you can’t just say no, what did you do to oppose that. Second piece is when your talking about the UC being able to refinance these loans because of their high credit rating I want to say its because we can raise tuition its because we can at any time so our creditors know if we are in a tough financial spot we can raise tuition again so I want you to speculate on that connection. If you were not opposed how does that impact that need we now have to raise tuition. The third piece is about the general tuition and you keep saying that for families that make below 80k year tuition is free I want to hear something abut sticker shock. When you have first generation students looking at the cost and see UC tuition what does that do to the diversity of this place and the cost it puts on outreach administration to try to reach out to these students and our declining diversity.

Chancellor: Sticker shock, I agree and I think it’s a real problem and we want UC to be an option for all students in this state who have ability regardless of their family’s income. Sticker shock is also cultural so some cultural will take out loans more than others I agree with you. Sticker shock is a big deal and affects the University and the willingness of kids in high school to come to UC.

Jeb: But you can’t just turn around and tell Dylan that tuition is covered for poor people, but there’s a real big impact here that aid doesn’t fix.

Chancellor: There is an adverse psychological effect but I was trying to point to a different set of issues when I was answering Dylan’s question but I think it’s a big issue. I sometimes use, in this meeting, we when I’m speaking about the University or our campus and I am only one voice. Sometimes I’ve been talking about the campus but sometimes it’s my decision. So that’s why I use the term we in that context. There was a university decision, ultimately by the presidents and the regents, and I supported it. The amount we spend no is a fraction of what we used to spend. So it was splitting the baby, some went some way some went other way. I did this because on our campus specifically we are underbuilt. That the decision to build nothing would mostly adversely affect our students and I knew that within a few years we would get another new building on campus paid for by the system. So that was my reasoning. It was a compromise but that’s my position. Your second question had to do with tuition being a key to credit ratings. When you do credit ratings for a university or for a state of course they look at all your sources of income and how stable you are and whether you are able to pay back your loan. If you get a loan on car or house the bank will look at your salary. What is the income stream for the University?
Jeb: I understand what credit ratings look like and how they work but you support construction projects here and there how do you justify that when these construction projects involve borrowing that gets us trapped in this loop to raise tuition.

Chancellor: the amount of building, I don’t know that numbers off the top of my head but under this regime its is minuscule than what we were doing when we had bond funding. In terms of our campus I felt that there was justifcaiton of using a portion of those funds because I felt that our campus would benefit from it because there is a space crunch on our campus so I thought that was justified. In a sense, I was making a compromise.

Jeb: You say compromise but we’re the ones that our paying for that.

Chancellor: Well, but it is a part of the cost structure of the University. In terms of the 5% tuition increase. I don’t know the answer to this but what percentage would have not been necessary if we had not built, I think it would have been small.

Jeb: If we had a different attitude towards borrowing money, our tuition is changing the way we think about this. It’s not just this construction project; imagine a university where we aren’t just borrowing against a student’s willingness to go into debt. What have you done to make that system? Make that a University that we want to be apart of.

Justin: Chancellor I know you have a meeting to go to in fifteen minutes.

Dylan: Motion to extend time by 15 minutes.

Chancellor: I cant because I have to be at another meeting.

Chant by guests

Chancellor: I have a meeting with other students I bid you a goodnight and I willing to come back thank you.

Roll Call:

Art Motta (MEChA), Haedyn Christie (QSU), Nazareth Velazco (SANAI), Yang Kong (Cowell), Seamus Howard (Cowell), Colin Hortman (Stevenson), Kyra Brandt (Stevenson), Andrew Paolini (Crowd), Michael Markson (Crowd), Aykezar Adil (Crowd), Chandler Moeller (Merrill), Kartik Ashok (Merrill), Alexandra Kasper (Merrill), Dylan Quitiquit Hoffman (Porter), Adham Taman (Porter), Serene Jneid (Porter), Winnie Sidhu (Kresge), Gul Taneri (Kresge), Jackie Rogers (Kresge), Tamra Owens (Oakes), Roshni Advani (Eight), Ray Inoue (Eight), Geovanna Moreno (Eight), Sam Shaw (Nine), Rachel Kirkwood (Nine), Shubhankar Sharan (Nine), Ramneet Bajwa (Ten), Daniel Iglesias (Ten), Vanessa (Ten), Brad Mleynek (OD), Max Hufft (CoAA), Israel Molina (CoD), Louise Cabansay (EVC), Kaysi Wheeler (IVC), Justin Lardinois (Chair).
Assembly Members Absent:
Jose Cadenas (Cowell), Ricardo Sainz (Stevenson), Suini Torres (Oakes), Kiana Coleman (Oakes), Sergio Velazquez (Ten).

Approval of the Agenda:
Shubhankar: **Motion to add 10 minutes after announcements to talk about SUA’s role in general.**

Rachel: **Second.**

Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, **motion passes.**

Dylan: **Motion to move the Resolution of No Confidence to right after announcements.**

Adham: **Second.**

Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, **motion passes.**

Art: **Move to strike removal of at large SFAC member resolution from the agenda.**

Dylan: **Second.**

Rachel: **Objection.**

Brad: Just because we remove it from this agenda, we still have to vote on it, striking it would just push it to next week.

Colin: I’m objecting because I don’t have information on why we would strike it.

Chandler: Are there members from SFAC here who are in question?

Seamus: I want to say that Lila voluntary stepped down as SUA rep to allow other people to be the representative.

Colin: I would like to say that Lila took it back when we were both reps and our college fully supported the issue.

Vote to strike:
In favor: **3** Opposed: **21** Abstentions: **1** motion fails.

Shubhankar: **Motion to approve.**

Roshni: **Second.**

Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, **motion passes.**
Reading of the previous meeting’s minutes

Shubhankar: I would like my whole name in the minutes.

Colin: Motion to approve the minutes.

Michael: Second.

Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, motion passes.

Announcements:

Officer Report backs:

Brad: My office is starting to do SUA outreach starting tomorrow from 9-1 in the quarry as well as Thursday and Friday. We encourage you all to be out there to talk about your experience with students so that others will know about how SUA is. I’m closing on a date for the campus cleanup day, we are working with the zero waste team and we will be working on outreach this week and next week. We are trying to do some kind of carnival or fair and we are trying to figure out how to make it as fun and how to get students to participate. Last Friday I met with students to discuss our first funding request about student action and we approved 3 funding requests, one request was for megaphones, one was for art supplies, and the last one was to hold workshops on teaching the budget which would be held off laurel downtown. That will be once a month and I’m working on the details of how that would work out.

Dylan: Do you know when the megaphones are going to get here?

Brad: I submitted the order today.

Art: What was the total amount awarded and why wasn’t there an email sent to SUA reps?

Brad: The second to last meeting of the quarter, a sheet was sent around to everyone who was interested to be part of the committee that would be formed and I emailed that list. Each request was about $350. The total amount was $354.49 + $357.92 + $375. There is still 2000 in the pot for the next 4.5 months.

Shubhankar: How did you decide for the time for the meeting?

Brad: It was put in my hands and I made it clear that the meeting would be called 24 hours after the funding request. I give a time and place and its up to people whether they show up or not.

Art: Can this be sent out to the entire SUA next time?

Max: I heard back from the academic analyst and reports of which professors would see a large change in the grade distribution. I’m also working with the class survey and it has a lot of different scenarios that gathers a lot of information. We will need volunteers and we really want
to give back to the senate. If you can want to say hi, my office hours are Mondays 1230-2 in the SUA office.

Israel: The women’s center is finally hiring the director and she is getting acclimated and trained and her tentative start date is January 22nd. AAPIRC is hosting a disorientation comedy Jan 30th at 8 PM at the MPR is holding a something Asian Americans talking about their experiences. Finally there is an assistant professor from the psych department which records peoples’ experiences with microaggressions on campus and it is anonymous and she is testing it out right now, so let me know if you are interested. Tracey Sugawa is starting to set up a one stop shop for complaints because before if you had a complaint against a staff person it would go to different offices. She is currently working on a single unit where you can file a complaint. The app records microaggressions, I imagine it’s a type of Yik Yak thing but I’m not sure.

Kartik: When could we meet with this professor?

Israel: Right now it’s just the beta version and she is just testing it. Her name is Charity Byrd and she is assistant professor for psychology.

Roshni: How is Holi festival going?

Israel: I had my first meeting with TKE and ISA and the Dean of students office and it’ll be around April 3rd.

Justin: Tomorrow I’m going to send out a draft of my letter for the tuition increase and my office is starting to work on campus elections which are held every spring quarter and I am going to start hiring the elections commissioner for this. Next week I will be giving a presentation on how elections work and how we’re going to move forward with this. I am going to have the next SOFA meeting next week and give all the RSOs a week to get their funding requests in. I want to do more outreach this quarter as well.

Dylan: Motion to extend time by 2 minutes.

Adham: Second.

Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, motion passes. In addition, I’m working on having fireside and town hall meetings to get more people connected with SUA.

Public and Assembly:

Serene: Porter Senate asked to express their opinion on funding requests that because our meetings are earlier in the quarter and we have a different funding request system that everyone who is asking us for funding to not abuse our system.

Adham: What she meant by the abuse was that we were the only college that was asked for funding for an event that was for all the colleges.
Dylan: People were angry that Porter was the only one asked since we were the only government that had met before the event was held.

Shubhankar: At College Nine we are doing more outreach and to build relationships across various college. If you would not be opposed to C9 students attending, you could always come to us and get funding from us for your event.

Dylan: There’s this event called Funk the Regents and the title is Why Isn’t Tuition Like it was in 1965. It appears to be a noise protest near humanities and people are instructed to bring instruments and any noise maker.

Haedyn: QSU is sponsoring the queer mixer at the Cantu Queer Center tomorrow at 7PM.

Brad: I brought this up last quarter but it ended up getting postponed but it was about the UC Santa Cruz principles of community, and like I said last quarter, Crown and Merrill were given diversity as their theme and that workshop is happening next Thursday the 22nd at the Merrill cultural center at noon.

Israel: Last time that they did it, they had a lot of faculty and staff but only like two students so we would like more student involvement, so she’s trying to stress that it is for students. This time its going to be mostly workshops. There will be snacks and light refreshments.

Dylan: Point of information, are we allowed to propose changes to the community agreements at any time?

Justin: Yes.

Dylan: I think that within the SUA we are respectful of others like with procedural things like call to question, but I think this body is mature enough to handle snapping while people are talking. I want to make sure that there is no snapping especially when there is someone talking. **Snapping in agreement while someone is speaking is allowed unless there are more than 12 non voting members in the meeting.**

Colin: **Second.**

Seamus: **Objection.**

Brad: So I like the idea, I already know where that comes from, this is one of those things that is more personal. But I think that it is important that we show our support for students in a respectful manner. My thing with this is that I can’t hear what people are saying if there is a lot of snapping going on. I support this.

Seamus: I would just get flustered while talking, so I think that it is a valid form of expression but I think it would foster something.
Kartik: I think it’s important to show people you support what they say but at the same time it is disrespectful because they can’t finish what they are saying.

Serene: Would it be a violation of someone’s rights if someone was snapping and we couldn’t hear what that person was saying?

Justin: There has actually been a lawsuit about SUA rules, it’s called Greenwood versus Students for Conservative America. SUA is considered to be an extension of the state of California so we do have to respect peoples’ first amendment rights. However, I can ask campus council about that.

Sam: I think if we follow the deductive reasoning that snaps represent more of a popular opinion and that less snaps represent less of a popular opinion, I don’t want anyone to feel additionally uncomfortable about saying a less popular opinion.

Adham: **Motion to extend 2 minutes.**

Roshni: **Second.**

Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, **motion passes.**

Andrew: I feel like this discussion is beating dead horse, but I feel like we should just keep it as it is.

Michael: I would like to think that everyone in this space and I’m not sure why we have to have this snapping thing in the first place and that everyone should use their own judgment and I don’t understand why we have to micromanage snapping.

Max: In my 4 years here, I have seen snaps bring people up and bring people down, but I know that if you allow snapping in agreement, but you could just be snapping someone else down and it is a vague line.

Vote to amend the language of the community agreements:

In favor: 5 Opposed: 17 Abstentions: 7 **motion fails.**

**SUA’s Role**

Shubhankar: Something they said about the legitimacy of the space and that no one voted for anyone here and that we don’t have a right to tell anyone what to do. This is rhetoric that has been repeated over and over again and I have had an issue with this as well and I have a hard time convincing myself that we don’t matter but realistically speaking, we are mostly irrelevant to most of the students on campus. But I strongly believe that we don’t do enough for most of our students. On the front page of our SUA website it says that the SUA is a campaign driven group. I say on this campus we have a lot of campaigns that we bring outside to our campus but
there are many things that are happening on our campus that we are just letting us pass by and I would like to see some campaigns adopted that not just benefits our students. I have some ideas that I’ve been kicking around with some people and some things that we can do. We can ask a survey of what these students want us to do for them. Our student life experience is one of the biggest concerns. Many people say that nothing happens here and that they are bored. Dylan brought this up right now with adjusting community agreements with snapping. I know that people don’t want to not have snapping because it is rude, but when people are coming from outside it seems like we are telling them to shut up because they don’t understand the rules here. There are a lot of different orgs on campus, and we have decaying or nonexistent relationships with groups that are more connected closely better than we could ever have. We are losing by not reaching out and I would like to see regular correspondence with these groups and send reps to other meetings. I would just like to put a face to ourselves so that people know that we are a resource. If you have any ideas on how to make SUA more relevant please come to me. In the next 4 minutes any ideas are appreciated.

Rachel: I would really like to see U Consent brought and worked on this campus. Second of all, when it comes to other students, this is supposed to be an open space for everyone and just because someone functions a different way. I don’t think that just because people act a different way it is not an insult. When we have a group of people coming in, I think we should be able to suspend our bylaws so that we can have some type of regular forum.

Brad: I, too, have similar feelings about this and I think that Shubhankar hit it on the dot. I thought about it and I realized near the end of the quarter I realized that I wanted to change my focus and I realized that I wasn’t spending enough time on campus issues. I want to change this campus. That is why I started working on other things, and that is why we are working on winter quarter outreach because we are not out there talking to students and just being open out there to be seen is one of our biggest problems. With that said, this isn’t like a one time thing, I’m hoping to do this more during finals or midterms and I’m also preparing what Shubhankar was saying so if you want to hop on and work with me, I’m working on a survey about how students put in $7 per quarter and where they think that should go and where their priorities are for that money. We need to do more to bring unity for this campus.

Dylan: **Motion to add 10 minutes.**

Brad: **Second.**

Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, **motion passes.**

Dylan: I think if we’re looking at the role of SUA is to look at our own role here. This is a mandatory made group paid for by student fees and we as individuals exist in this space as a way to return that fee to students. I disagree that we haven’t had steps going to that goal. Last year we funded buses for students to go and we did that with less than a week of funding. We funded student action and we funded a lot of events that helped with the movements. There are people
talking about how they appreciate SUA and how they feel like SUA has stepped up. Compared to last year where a lot of party politics came into play, we have come a long way past that to help with this movement. We at UCSC are gifted to have a protest culture here and we are sharing that with other UCs, they are bringing other things to the UC, and today we are going to be voting on a no confidence resolution which is a message from the SUA on behalf of the students and I am confident that we are going to be in support of further actions. Fighting the tuition increases is a good campaign, Uconsent is a good campaign and potentially supporting #BlackLivesMatter.

Shubhankar: I just want to say that I agree completely but I meant specifically campaigns for our campus.

Max: I’ve been thinking about this since freshman year and the space changes a lot. But when I first came in here it took me forever to figure out why everything was so complicated and I just came in as a college rep and there is a lot of discussion about what SUA does. Sometimes I feel like I’m saying a lot sometimes I feel like I’m saying nothing. Some of us are college reps and some students want to make a difference, some people want to represent their college and some are sent just to be sent. It points to what we want to do internally and externally. We don’t have purview over the colleges. The reps go back to the meeting and they go back to their college. On the flip side, there are the actual interns that work on campaigns and there are many students who come into student government who want to do a lot of things.

Andrew: Point of info, SUA programming that can be used by any member of the assembly?

Justin: The way that works is any member of the assembly can request funds from general funding.

Andrew: I feel like programming funds are something that should be there but we are college reps who are not exactly encouraged to use the funds. We should encourage people to use them more.

Kartik: I was gonna comment on how we interact with other organizations I felt like we were very courteous to them and at many points we made points to the chancellor and they were snapping. Do you feel like that was a positive experience?

Sam: **Motion to add ten minutes.**

Dylan: **Second.**

Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, **motion passes.**

Shubhankar: Yes I believe today was a positive interaction with another group and everyone was able to express themselves. I like the idea of suspending Robert’s rules when there is another group in the room.
Sam: I think that the SUA falls victim to a lot of stuff at our college and we forget that there is a difference between putting something up and advertising well. One is that we don’t communicate outside the space and our Facebook is a little dry and my point is that this is the demographic that is most responsive to social media. The other part is that we need to let people know we are actually doing things.

Justin: I have a communications director who I am working with to outreach more with social media.

Vanessa: I think the overall sentiment of making a good space for everyone. As an active student I would reserve someone else’s right to create an ad hoc committee to do exactly what we are doing right here. I think everyone wants to make this a far more effective space, and I think that possibly creating some space where students can have a leadership role in this space would make things more creative.

Ray: I would like to mention that another person in the US government such as the vice president, who may at times feel like he is completely useless. The question here is if we want to me doormats or matadors. We want to actually go out to the people and one thing that they talked about was the use of survey and I think that anyone should be able to do and we should make it ridiculously easy for anyone to do. I think we should use the Facebook survey and I think we should definitely use the campus survey so that we can make SUA more effective so that we can turn it into a matador not a doormat.

Rachel: I think SUA is most exposed during elections and all people see is the brutality between candidates. SUA’s code doesn’t recognize parties and I think that it is difficult to represent the students and we need to let students know that we can change things if they are elected into here. One effort that SUA needs to do is to make people know that they can create change in any way they would like.

Shubhankar: I’m passing around a sign up sheet right now so that we can talk about more programming ideas later.

Adham: I think the core of a lot of these issues are how we view ourselves compared to the students. We kept saying that people were coming into our space and we need to get off our high horse and realize that we are just students in the end.

Andrew: I think that there are not that many groups that are supposed to be represented.

**No confidence resolution**

Dylan: Reserve my right to make a motion. It came up to me that a lot about this line “student regent-designate Abraham ‘avi’ oved” is something that is an issue at other schools and I think that that is something that we should not be grappling with. There is a bigger issue of the student
voice not being heard. **I move to strike out “and student regent-designate Abraham ‘avi’ Oved.**

Adham: **Second.**

Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, **motion passes.**

Brad: Reserve my right to make a motion, I think that most of us should be in favor of this, and I think its really important that all the UC campuses stand with this and we all get on board with this. **Call to question.**

Shubhankar: **Second.**

Art Motta (MEChA) **Yes,** Haedyn Christie (QSU) **Yes,** Nazareth Velazco (SANAI) **Yes,** Yang Kong (Cowell) **Yes,** Seamus Howard (Cowell) **Yes,** Colin Hortman (Stevenson) **Yes,** Kyra Brandt (Stevenson) **Yes,** Andrew Paolini (Crown) **Yes,** Michael Markson (Crown) **Yes,** Aykezar Adil (Crown) **Yes,** Chandler Moeller (Merrill) **Yes,** Kartik Ashok (Merrill) **Yes,** Alexandra Kasper (Merrill) **Yes,** Dylan Quitiquit Hoffman (Porter) **Yes,** Adham Taman (Porter) **Yes,** Serene Jneid (Porter) **Yes,** Winnie Sidhu (Kresge) **Yes,** Gul Taneri (Kresge) **Yes,** Jackie Rogers (Kresge) **Yes,** Tamra Owens (Oakes) **Yes,** Roshni Advani (Eight) **Yes,** Ray Inoue (Eight) **Yes,** Geovanna Moreno (Eight) **Yes,** Sam Shaw (Nine) **Yes,** Rachel Kirkwood (Nine) **Yes,** Shubhankar Sharan (Nine) **Yes,** Ramneet Bajwa (Ten) **Yes,** Daniel Iglesias (Ten) **Yes,** Vanessa (Ten) **Yes,** Brad Mleynek (OD) **Yes,** Max Hufft (CoAA) **Yes,** Israel Molina (CoD) **Yes,** Louise Cabansay (EVC) **Yes,** Kaysi Wheeler (IVC) **Yes.**

In favor: **34** Opposed: **0** Abstentions: **0,** the resolution is adopted.

**RSO Funding Stipulation**

Brad: We talked about this, and I said I’d bring it so I brought it. [Reads bylaw language] I saw that the red wheelbarrow put our logo on that. I’m really against us putting that rubber stamp on literally everything we give funding to, and I think recognition is enough. This bylaw doesn’t say that we have to put us on their printed materials and they can do whatever they would like. That should be enough for us. This could start changing SUAs image in a more positive way.

Justin: We are just hearing the amendment tonight, just asking clarification from brad. Would this apply to events we have already funded?

Brad: Since most of the groups haven’t had their events yet, I think that bylaw should apply.

Seamus: I totally agree, would this require any record of recognition?

Brad: I think it’s just kind of been something of just recognizing your supporters. I want to avoid the fact that we are rubber stamping and putting our name on something but at the same time if
someone gave me money for lunch I personally think that it would just be rude for me to not thank them.

Serene: Would the recognition be a public one, like “thanks SUA for contributing” or like a thank you card to SUA? Is the recognition private or public?

Brad: I was hoping to talk more about this next week for amendments. I’m not expecting an extravagant thank you, anything that shows their appreciation is good. We just shouldn’t expect our name on every printing material.

**Resolution Calling for the Removal of “At Large” SFAC member**

Max: Last time we met, I gave a respective history of what happened at the end of last year and what happened this year. Last year I was the chair of SCOC and I saw most of this come out. The College Ten SFAC member was up for reappointment and they decided not to reappoint that member. At that point, a new person was appointed to that committee and throughout the quarter, that person was made a weird position was paid something just to be a position and paid the same amount as the vice chair. I don’t personally know what that position was created for and I see where this resolution is going but I don’t agree with most of it and I would rather have it about a position not a person. I sympathize with some of the words and if we could just say that we don’t agree with this position instead I would be okay with that. Those are my overall thoughts and I would like a better relationship with SFAC but I really don’t think that this position isn’t necessary since we already have a position of that.

Adham: I think that symbolic votes are good but we are basically telling this girl fuck you, we don’t like your position and this is a personal attack and the person who put this resolution together knew it was their last meeting and just dumped this on us.

Shubhankar: We talked about the position not working out but we were very against the targeting of this person and we basically saying that she sucks and that’s very petty. I motion to remove any mention of her name. **I move to modify the 3rd, 4th and 7th whereas clauses and the first therefore clause.**

3rd Whereas: Change “College Ten Representative Noora Almajid” to **“College Ten Representative”**

4th: Change “appointing Noora Almajid” to “appointing the representative”

All gender pronouns changed to “they”

7th: Change “at large representative Noora Alamajid” to “at large representative they have”

Strike the first “Let it be Resolved”

Israel: **Second.**
Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, motion passes.

Serene: Point of clarification, since we are striking the first therefore clause, are we still asking her to step down?

Justin: We are asking for SFAC to abolish the position. As the resolution stands, and we pass it, and they choose to take no action, then at my discretion unless the assembly decides to take further action.

Shubhankar: Can we tell SFAC what to do?

Kaysi: SFAC has their own handbook and their handbook says that they have 14 members which represent student groups, and it is up to the members to impeach Noora but it is up to SFAC in the end.

Justin: Another thing I’m going to do is meet with the executive vice chancellor and to see which document showed how they got into student fees and see who can do what about what.

Max: Motion to add five minutes.

Kaysi: Second.

Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, motion passes.

Kaysi: For those of you who didn’t receive the email, I choose not to respond to Erik Green because I thought it was immature and disrespectful. I take responsibility for not communicating enough, but the situation has gotten out of control and he has overstepped his boundary as chair of SFAC but that is just my opinion. I see the position that they have created as a big waste of student fees and we have someone who read the whole handbook of SFAC and went in and out of the rules and SCOC cannot do anything about it except to give advice and to recommend but the SCOC student board still stands by the advice that they gave and they will be writing a letter to SFAC to get rid of Noora and the position totally. I believe Noora is just an innocent pawn in this game between SFAC and SCOC but Erik has overstepped his boundary and even told them to stop taking minutes so that he could do off the record voting. There are a lot more shade behind this that we don’t even know.

Dylan: Reserve my right to make a motion. It seems like there’s a lot we don’t know about the situation and there may have been some shady shit that went on and we don’t know if we have any authority in this situation or if we’ll be ignored or if we’ll get an angry email sent to all of us and this is SFACs business and their internal politics is not really something that we should dilute our power to pass resolutions with and something like no confidence is very powerful, and that telling a body that we may have no control over is a completely petty issue for us and we have to consider the documents personal issues that we shouldn’t dirty our hands with. And because of that I motion to postpone indefinitely.
Adham: **Second.**

Seamus: **Objection.**

Andrew: **Motion to add 10 minutes.**

Seamus: **Second.**

Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, **motion passes.**

Vanessa: Why is it a bad thing that we have an at large position from a student who represents undergraduates? If we keep this position it could be potentially useful.

Shubhankar: I don’t like motions to table indefinitely and it seems like a shady political move to avoid an outcome that you don’t want. If you agree vote yes, if you don’t, vote no.

Rachel: I’m in SFAC and I can say there’s a lot of off the record intimidation. The reason why I objected to this not being discussed. My personal opinion is to vote no on the resolution.

Tamra: This is a huge portion of our money and it should not be wasted on an arbitrary position.

Colin: I agree, and I think we should vote no on tabling indefinitely and we should vote no on the resolution. Vanessa: I don’t think that we should just say no on this resolution based on someone’s personal opinion and I just want to lay out the position and can we at least show the good things of this new position.

Kaysi: **Motion to add ten minutes.**

Max: **Second.**

Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, **motion passes.**

Rachel: Just to clarify, this position is not permanent just for this year. The next year there would be no position, it’s for a specific person.

Vanessa: Would someone else have to include that in the resolution?

Justin: Any one can motion to mention that the position is only for this year.

Kaysi: Point of clarification, this position is only viable because they have to suspend Robert’s Rules and they have to reinstate their position every meeting.

Max: There’s this overall idea of this position not being a bad idea but the appointment and the lack of structure for the position just doesn’t make any sense to me and we shouldn’t have positions that don’t have structure.
Vanessa: Point of info, so there’s people on SFAC from colleges, can you be on SFAC from the SCOC applications?

Kaysi: The 10/14 positions are from each college and are appointed by SCOC.

Vanessa: Is there any way to get to SFAC via SCOC?

Kaysi: To be a rep for SFAC for your college you have to submit an application. Anyone can apply but you have to apply through SCOC.

Justin: College reps on SFAC are required to report back to their colleges. In Summer 2013, there was a vacancy for SFAC and I applied for it and I was appointed.

Art: This resolution is saying that we don’t want another undergraduate representative or a womxn of color is representing the undergraduates. I would like to see a call to question.

Serene: Point of clarification, I was under the impression that we removed the name for her protection, and not a hiding of her cultural background.

Art: It’s obvious she’s a womxn of color and if you can’t see that that’s on you.

Adham: Call to question.

Roshni: Second.

Adham: I call for a roll call vote.

Tamra: Second.

Seamus: Objection.

Vote to vote:

In favor: 14 Opposed: 11 Abstentions: 6 motion passes, go into a roll call vote.

Art Motta (MEChA) No, Haedyn Christie (QSU) Abstain, Nazareth Velazco (SANAI) Abstain, Yang Kong (Cowell) Abstain, Seamus Howard (Cowell) Yes, Colin Hortman (Stevenson) Yes, Kyra Brandt (Stevenson) Yes, Andrew Paolini (Crown) Abstain, Michael Markson (Crown) Yes, Aykezar Adil (Crown) Yes, Chandler Moeller (Merrill) Yes, Kartik Ashok (Merrill) Yes, Alexandra Kasper (Merrill) Yes, Adham Taman (Porter) No, Serene Jneid (Porter) Abstain, Winnie Sidhu (Kresge) Yes, Gul Taneri (Kresge) Yes, Jackie Rogers (Kresge) Yes, Tamra Owens (Oakes) Yes, Roshni Advani (Eight) Yes, Ray Inoue (Eight) Yes, Geovanna Moreno (Eight) Abstain, Sam Shaw (Nine) No, Rachel Kirkwood (Nine) No, Shubhankar Sharan (Nine) No, Ramneet Bajwa (Ten) No, Daniel Iglesias (Ten) Yes, Vanessa (Ten) No, Brad Mleynek (OD) Yes, Max Hufft (CoAA) Yes, Israel Molina (CoD) Yes, Louise Cabansay (EVC) Yes, Kaysi Wheeler (IVC) Yes.
In favor: 20 Opposed: 7 Abstentions: 6 the resolution is adopted.

Justin: One thing I wanna say before we end the meeting, there were some question about the legitimacy of SUA and people not voting for me. The system is only as legit as the voters bestow upon it. SUA needs to get the vote out.