SUA Meeting 1/20/2015

Assembly Members Present: Nazareth Velazco (SANAI), Jose Cadenas (Cowell), Yang Kong (Cowell), Seamus Howard (Cowell), Colin Hortman (Stevenson), Kyra Brandt (Stevenson), Andrew Paolini (Crown), Michael Markson (Crown), Aykezar Adil (Crown), Chandler Moeller (Merrill), Kartik Ashok (Merrill), Alexandra Kasper (Merrill), Dylan Quitiquit Hoffman (Porter), Adham Taman (Porter), Serene Jneid (Porter), Winnie Sidhu (Kresge), Alternate Karina (Kresge), Jackie Rogers (Kresge), Suini Torres (Oakes), Kiana Coleman (Oakes), Tamra Owens (Oakes), Roshni Advani (Eight), Ray Inoue (Eight), Eric Yuan (Eight), Sam Shaw (Nine), Lance McNeil (Nine), Shubhankar Sharan (Nine), Ramneet Bajwa (Ten), Daniel Iglesias (Ten), Vanessa Sadsad (Ten), Max Hufft (CoAA), Israel Molina (CoD), Louise Cabansay (EVC), Kaysi Wheeler (IVC), Justin Lardinois (Chair).

Assembly Members Absent: Art Motta (MEChA), Haedyn Christie (QSU), Ricardo Sainz (Stevenson), Gul Taneri (Kresge), Brad Mleynek (OD),

Approval of the Agenda:

Shubhankar: Motion to add an hour and fifteen minutes to agenda for initial presentation and questions, 45 minutes for committee breakouts and 15 minutes for debrief after new business.

Chandler: Second.

Colin: Objection. What’s the presentation on and what does it regard?

Shubhankar: This is following up from last week about having a relevancy committee to talk about things we could do about SUA so we will be talking about things that we can do and then we will split into committees and then come back together.

Vote for this motion:

In favor: 25 Opposed: 2 Abstentions: 5, motion passes.

Colin: Motion to approve.

Chandler: Second.

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

Reading of the Previous Meeting’s Minutes:

Colin: Motion to approve the minutes.

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

**Announcements:**

*General Assembly:*

Hello everyone I’m from Cowell, there is going to be a Page and Louise Smith conference on Jan 31st celebrating these two great people and how they helped to make an education. In this conference they will be talking about experience back then. We would like to invite people to this vigil to come and comment on the video because they don’t know much about what’s happening. If you do apply, you will be talking to people before and after the conference. We will be made aware of the problems of the UC system. Please sign up. If you volunteer you will also be kept in contact for future events.

Ghandi: Stevenson is hosting Rock and Roll on the Knoll where we celebrate different types of bands or artists and we are trying to get applicants. We are looking to fill over 15 spots, and two stages. Applications for artists will open soon as well. We are also looking for people to design the logo.

Dylan: How long of a set time are you looking for each band?

Ghandi: About half an hour, if less than that then no, but if more than we’ll work with them.

Rachel: Is it free?

Ghandi: It is a ten hour festival we are trying to work more with it.

Justin: SOFA meeting for the quarter is tomorrow at 6PM. About 8 organizations have applied. The meeting will be in McHenry 4360. The Job descriptions for the elections commissioner will be going on the ER system soon and the letters that I was mandated to write have been written and sent out and have been posted on the SUA website.

Jose: This quarter, Faye Crosby is doing this program called Chill out with Chili every Tuesday from 11-2 PM there is free chili. House closest to OPERS. There will be vegetarian/vegan options.

Louise: Office of External Affairs will be having a week of engagement and we will be trying to bring back workshops. On Monday 26th will be an open forum, student regents will be coming to campus it is open to anyone which will be 230-330 at Cervantes and Velasquez, also on the 26th we will have a teach-in about the state of emergency campaign hosted at Kresge lounge from 7-8 pm, Tuesday we will be having the power structure of the UC, location TBD. Wednesday is who is Janet Napolitano will be at 8 at Fireside Lounge at Stevenson. Most of these things will be finalized tonight.

*Campus Elections:*
Justin: This presentation will show what we do in this process. Every Spring Quarter there is an election. There are the SUA officers, elected reps on the ballot and possible SUA constitutional amendments and referenda and/or opinion polls. To oversee this process, we have an elections commission. They are the ones to set the rules of the game and being a mediator between candidates. They can also remove campaign materials and they hold hearings. They can sentence convicted candidates and make additional rules. The commission consists of the SUA Chair, Elections Commissioner and Associate Commissioner as well as the College Elections Commissioners and the Campus Elections Commissioner. We will be appointing the Elections Commissioner and the Associate Commissioner. This body will vote on who we want for our elections commissioner. To get on the ballot a referendum has to get 2/3 of SUA or 2/3 of the colleges or 10% of Student Body. Sponsorship isn’t necessarily that SUA supports it, it’s just that we want to see it on there. For constitutional amendments, 20% turnout and simple majority yes, fee referenda is 25% turnout and 2/3 majority yes. That rule is set by chancellor, on recommendation from SUA. Every candidate has to submit the elections packet 20 working days prior to the deadline of petitions for candidacy. Commissioner can’t be a candidate but there is another bylaw that contradicts that. There was a rule made in Spring 2013 wherein candidates could not campaign in classrooms. Voting isn’t one day and during the week of voting, the assembly had set a week before that where candidates could campaign. So the question is can a candidate start asking for endorsement before a campaign period. Any questions?

Roshni: When it says 2/3rds is that 2/3rds of the people that voted or the whole population?

Justin: for that, the 2/3rds of the people that vote.

Dylan: So the candidates are released after the elections commissioners are elected, so that second bylaw is redundant.

Colin: Is a college commissioner the same as an elections commissioner?

Justin: The SUA elections and associate commissioner are appointed by SUA and the college commissioners are voted for by each college.

**New Business:**

**RSO Funding Stipulation Bylaw Amendment**

Justin: This changes the stipulations for organizations that receive RSO funding. Bylaw amendments take a 2/3rds vote to pass.

Alexandra: Merrill was very in favor of this but we want an amendment that says that they shall publicly recognize the SUA as a sponsor.

Alexandra: **Motion to amend to add a word after shall of “publicly”**.
Shub: **Second.**

Serene: **Objection.** Last meeting we discussed that a simple thank you would sufficed.

Alexandra: As I remember, he had never stipulated and that we could.

Shubhankar: I understand the intent of this, but having us being recognized at the event has two reasons, and one is to let students know we exist and it is a reminder for other groups to remember that we are a funding body. We are taking away from the value that we could offer other students.

Ray: I agree, but while we want to put our name out there, but it makes it a very corporate way of seeing it, just imagine that a guy or girl took you out on a date and then after a nice dinner they asked you to tell Facebook and Twitter and tattoo their name on your forehead, that sounds a little ridiculous. That might ruin our relationship with the organizations and we want to have a positive relationship. If we want to publicize it, we should really give them their own option.

Max: I just wanted to touch on the original intent, but we’re just trying to make sure that we don’t rubber stamp anything. By giving them these vague guidelines, they are still able to make their own decision.

Sam: I just want to say that I’ve been asked a lot what SUA does, and I think that at least some form of public recognition would be nice.

Andrew: I think that in terms of colleges like Crown, we don’t have any stipulations; we just ask how they will advertise our name. Normally people are pretty friendly about it.

Roshni: **Call to question.**

Colin: **Second.**

Vote on Amendment:

In favor: 17 Opposed: 9 Abstentions: 8 **amendment to amendment passes.**

Colin: I personally think that getting rid of rubber stamping is really great and I like that it is vague so that they still have flexibility.

Shubhankar: Reserve my right to make a motion. If we work with these organizations after we fund them then we could avoid these conflicts. **Call to question.**

Chandler: **Second.**

In favor: 33 Opposed: 0 Abstentions: 2, **bylaw is adopted.**

**SUA Relevancy Campaign:**
Shubhankar: Students don’t know us because we don’t do much to affect their day-to-day lives. We are ineffective. It’s very difficult to speak with us or for them to understand our procedures. How do we change this? I’ve narrowed down four different aspects: Programming Board & Events, Publicity Board & Outreach which would publicize our events, Student Resource Campaign, Student Government Survey, which will focus on getting tangible data from the students and what they want from us. So when it comes to the programming board there are a couple questions. Is it open to the public? What is the process for soliciting ideas and where do we get money from? What are our strengths and weaknesses? Events ideas that we have are things like campus wide capture the flag and setting up each college as a base. Photography contest, where we could have a monthly thing where we have a theme and winner gets their photo displayed. An SUA logo contest? We might want to update that. Movie events are also an idea, which seem pretty popular. I’ve spoken with the Boardwalk about getting their blowup movie screen. Rotating DJ or music series. Also Chalk Art is an idea. TEDxUCSC speaker conferences as well. For the publicity Board that is for us to get our name out there. I don’t think tabling works. I think we need to redo our social media presence. We need to have a constant stream of media. We can’t expect other groups to learn our language because we haven’t reached out to them. We could have an ambassador thing going on. We need to show how we can be a resource. The student resource campaign where the SUA reps could get hand books so that they could see the things that SUA does as an introduction. We could help orgs how to apply for funding and how to make their applications more attractive. We were thinking about the housing website reform as well. It’s horrific navigating through that. UCSC Student App. It would be really cool if we had an app that could stream events that are happening around campus and a working campus map. Also access for Ecommons and our portal through a mobile experience. We are also thinking about SUA internships which could increase our reach and gets more people involved for less of the cost. These internships are also more campaign specific. We could work with the CS/CE departments for developing apps. We would work with the Film and Media departments as well. Last is the Student Government Survey. All the ideas that we are throwing out right now we need to ask our students. For example, how familiar are you with SUA? What do you want our priorities to be? How do you want us to spend this money, and how much would you be willing to pay for a certain service? That’ll give us some data on what we need to focus on. The timeline for this may seem rushed but I just want to get something rolling. The survey could be written by the end of the month and the survey period lasts the remainder of the month and we need to offer a raffle or a small token prize for completion.

Roshni: **Motion to extend time by 5 minutes.**

Seamus: **Second.**

Justin: Are there any objections? Seeing none, **motion passes.**
Roshni: I really like the survey and you talked about the speakers, and if we were to have a fee from each student would that necessarily guarantee them a spot in seeing a certain speaker and where would we have that event?

Shubhankar: It depends on who the speaker is. It might also be first come first serve.

Dylan: I liked everything except for splitting up jobs because interns are already being paid like 300 a quarter I imagine our interns are working more than 33 hours a quarter and I think that if we’re going to be reasonable in offering jobs to students I think that’s an important part of SUA. I think we might even need to allocate more money to make more positions.

Justin: Interns are actually $900 per quarter. But we do have issues with the recent minimum wage increase. And when officers get to make a position they get to choose whether its by agreement or by hour.

Kaysi: We can’t pay interns more than 19.5 hours a week anyway.

Seamus: With the internships, couldn’t you work with the IVC since that is a lot of that position?

Shubhankar: We have already clarified with the officers.

Seamus: I really like the idea of the app as well and maybe incorporate a bus app.

Roshni: Motion to extend by 5 minutes.

Chandler: Second.

Max: If we are discussing SUA in general, I do not appreciate any language that is derogatory to our space because there are a lot of people who put in a lot of time into this, and simply saying that we are ineffective in some spaces. Beyond that I am interested in the Programming Board.

Ray: I think that the idea of TEDxUCSC is great but there was this one time where UC Berkeley hosted a particular speaker who was yelled at off stage by a bunch of protestors so if we are going to do speakers we should do something that’s not likely to get protested the shit out of and if we have a lot of student input on who they want to speak that would be a fantastic idea.

Chandler: I just don’t know if this is possible but we could possibly monetize some of these things because we might not have enough funds for this.

Sam: I think the survey expects some kind of buy in from the students for how much they would like to pay for a certain event.

Shubhankar: So there are four different sections here, I would like these committees to break off.

-Committee Breakouts-
Justin: We have 15 minutes on the agenda to talk about debrief.

Suini: For Programming Board and events, we talked about having a subcommittee with the SUA reps and it would be an actual programming board itself. We had some ideas of different events we could plan.

Alexandra: For the Student Resource Campaign, we talked about doing booklets for new SUA reps and at the first meeting having that being an orientation for SUA reps about Robert’s Rules and advice about the meetings. Acronym cheat sheets and what their duties are and how they can write a resolution and what the process for that is. And then resources for how they can make an impact on this campus and if you’d like to help out with that. The next thing was making a resource list for orgs on campus and help them to plan events easier and collaborating with SUA easier. In that, we talked about funding and making it really clear about what we expect in SOFA, and we talked about having a video orientation for orgs that explains all the funding bodies on campus. Then we talked about the UCSC App and we want to put fun activities that they could do, the bus routes and the dining halls, calendar events where you can click on a building location and the hours of that and student resources like CAPS and the Health Center.

Justin: I’ve had a few meetings with the housing director and he’s really receptive for how things could be improved.

Andrew: Our group was surveys and there was no one best idea that we had, but we did have an idea of massive email but most people might pass that. We could also have leaflets at the dining hall and have these things in college lounges. And do people even know SUA? Another thing is, what would you like to see SUA put on or fund and we have checkboxes with different events. We also want to make sure that our emails look good. I plan on sending out an email with all the people sent from Justin. I want to try to see what time works for the most people.

Justin: With the dining hall, another person I know is Scott Berlin and he is very excited with working with SUA, so he is definitely good for that. Also when you have ideas about something and you need to talk to a different department or organization, reach out to us. We are here to help with that.

Sam: I was doing the outreach group, first we started with the shortcomings of our current outreach strategy, which is like tabling tactics and minimal social media presence and class wraps. How do we optimize our presence on campus? The first step was looking at peer to peer interactions. Should I put that thing in the minutes…and we can incentivize people with school supplies. Then as far as class wraps, we wanted to put more emphasis on class wraps since they have proven to be very effective and they don’t take very long. Then we were talking about the Ambassador program, about a reciprocal relationship with organizations and creating a rapport between SUA space and theirs and one that is contingent on understanding the norms of each space who will be representing both groups and who will gain knowledge from both sides. Finally, the social media we would move from current meeting information and change that to
something that is more representative, like videos and original content. We should also utilize Twitter, as well as Instagram. I think it should be fairly easy.

Roshni: The presentation that you gave earlier If we were to get a lot of survey responses like a water balloon fight, and we wanted to make that event happen every year, would that timeline fit in accordance with when we would need to put things on the ballot?

Shub: First off we need to establish a level of trust with the students so we might want to work on a couple of small things that we can afford.

Andrew: I’m going to try to email everyone and get a meeting time going.

Sam: I think we should wait until Friday’s meeting so that we can consolidate things.

Shub: Most people replied that they could come on Friday at 630. But I think I might change that.

**Closing Remarks from the Presiding Officer**

Justin: SOFA meeting is tomorrow at 6PM.

**Adjournment.**