

Student Union Assembly
Tuesday, 1/22/13

Meeting called to order at 6:06 PM by DT Amajoyi (Chair).

DT: Most of the colleges sent me their new representatives and I'm going to verify them. Actually, before we get to the reps, I would like to address a quick issue. I want to set ground rules in terms of setting times. We keep extending time; I know it's great for discussions. If you are wishing to extend time, I propose that when you extend time, say where exactly is the time coming from. This will hopefully encourage everyone to say everything brief and concise. If this convo can be continued later, please say it. Or if you extend time, including your proposal, say you just want to extend everyone minutes to stay later. Does that work for everyone? Does everyone understand what I'm trying to do? Let's just be concise.

Roll Call 6:10 PM

Assembly Members Present: DT Amajoyi (Chair), Shiku Muhire (CAA), Rocio Zamora (COD), Max Hufft (Crown), Alexis Bartels (Crown), Giovanni Maldonado (Crown), Louise Cabansay (Eight), Roshni Advani (Eight) Ian Berstein (Eight), Victor Velasco (EVC), Shaz Umer (IVC), Lyle Green-Nickerson (Kresge), Kelsey Rousseve (Kresge), Maria Jennings (LL), Vanessa Morales (Merrill), Michael Liber (Merrill), Carlos Ocampo (Nine), Iden Yekan (Nine), Shanna Ballesteros (Nine), Sindy Ramirez (Oakes), Kayla Oh (Oakes), Melody Aguilar (Oakes), Kevin Huang (OD), Shingo Brann (Porter), Mick Del Rosario (Porter), Steven Hernandez (QSU), Tem Ysmael (Recording Clerk), Guillermo Rogel Jr. (Stevenson), Kevin Troxell (Stevenson), Samantha Vega (Stevenson), Megana Kunda (Ten), Rebecca Brown (Ten), Eric Rubin (Treasurer), Brittany Smith, Nicky England, Adrianna Gonzales, Lila Blackney (Stevenson) Jessica Veklerov (Ten), Michael Betts (Porter), Daniel Lewis (Porter), Jordan McClanahan (Stevenson), Chris Cuadrado (COD Intern), Michael Amster, Michael Barney, Erica Ayon

Assembly Members Absent:

Jocqui Smollett (ABSA), Norma Vasquez (APC), Omar Bravo (APISA), Jacob Rios (Cowell), Arina Voronina (Cowell), Corbin Hall (Crown), David Nguyen (Merrill), Ruben Barron (Porter), Charlsie Chang (Stevenson), Goran Klepic (Cowell), Beatriz Baez (Nine), Saam Keshavarzi (Ten), Amore Winkle (Kresge), Daniel Law (Kresge), Marceline Ramirez (Porter), Jack Rogers (Porter), John Alcala (Oakes), Alberto Rodriguez (Oakes)

Approval of the Agenda

Shaz: **I motion.**

Mick: **Second.**

DT: **Moved.**

Reading of the Previous Meeting's Minutes

Lyle: **Motion** to approve minutes.

Mike: **Second.**

DT: So **moved.**

Announcements at 6:20PM

DT: Any announcements?

Roshni: Western Regional still needs volunteers. It'd be great if you bring this topic up for your senates. January 30th. The website is wrqc2013.com

Victor: EVC going to have a sign up party to discuss the SLC and talking about general information. Any specifics will be discussed. For USSA, we are lobbying the national dream act and talking to our legislator about the student loan issue. 4-6 this Friday at the fireside lounge.

Shaz: This Saturday, there will be a bounce house, 3PM to 5PM this Saturday Kresge town hall, balloon animal making, raffle, this is for our student government.

DT: Any other announcements?

Rocio: My office is hosting at the town hall, due to the budget cuts, our resources will be restructured, and these resources are being paid by student fees. We need some input to see how the process is going to go. It's on January 30 from 3PM to 5PM.

Steven: Tabling from 11PM to 2PM at quarry plaza, getting the word out for western regional conference.

Shiku: I have a couple of announcements, Kinetic poets next Wednesday.

CJ: Dope festival, next Wednesday, there's a lot of dope speakers; Rainbow is going to be featured. Come check it out.

Shiku: Voices against violence vigil, next Wednesday from 6:30 to 9:30 please come in and please attend, we will have some dope speakers as far as speaking about mental issues and gun violence. We will also have some spoken word artists as far as others. At 9 o'clock, we will have a candlelight vigil. Last week, this is also in unity with UCLA because they are hosting and have the same platform. UCB might help us out. UCD is hosting a huge rally tomorrow in collaboration with other communities. This is a really dope event, we want to see a lot of folks and have people pay their respects. Work party

is from 5 to 8, also two other ideas. One was creating a video that we actually got from Victor; I will be videoing at 2PM Friday.

Maria: Hi everyone, as I mentioned last week, the applications for SLC are up and running. It was originally February 15th but now it's February 8th. If you have any interest, apply. I really encourage everyone.

DT: It's a great conference to attend to.

Mick: Tomorrow, there is UCSC Police Department conference at Porter Hitchcock lounge; please come by if you have questions. 6PM to 8:30PM.

Kevin: January 31st, there is going to be a huge action at the quarry plaza at 11:30AM, we are going to be marching to the chancellor's office to kick off the contract fight for service works. In the past it was the PCT workers, the workers we are fighting for are the janitors and dining hall workers. We are trying to improve the lives of the working class.

DT: Please take the survey that I'm passing around, all the UC's are passing it around. As college reps, please inform everyone.

Daniel: **Point of clarification;** when was the location and time Victor?

Victor: 4PM to 6PM at the Redwood lounge.

UCSA Field Organizer (15minutes) by Julian

Report Backs

UC Student Association for 20 minutes (Maria for the 1st half, Kevin for the 2nd)

Jessica: Is the governor's budget different from the president's budget?

Maria: The assembly and senate make their corrections; the final budget is approved together.

DT: It is important to note the influence the governor has a big influence.

Eric: I have a question about the unit cap; it was put in place to focus on their students. How it would affect classes that aren't a part of my major?

Maria: The student cap is in place, if you wanted to take it for fun, you would have to fill out a waiver, the UC would either pick up the cost or you'd pay. You would be charged for classes that aren't a part of your major. It makes people try to stop avoid loan debts because they stay in school longer

DT: What about the 270 units? How does that work?

Kevin: The unit cap affects if you are trying to take an entire year of credits after.

Maria: It's a lot of extra classes.

Kevin: It gives the impression that students are screwing around yet on the other side, people really want to learn other things.

Rebecca: I had the same question as DT.

Kevin: The governor literally just put the budget, not specifying whether it affect semester or quarter. Faculty is really against it. The governor is choosing his form of education vs. actual teachers.

Brittany: **Yield.**

Shiku: I was wondering about the students who don't know what major they want in the beginning.

Kevin: It's the governor's way of telling students to graduate. It's his "push".

Maria: The government is set his thought of a reason time to graduate, if the unit cap stays in the budget, it would be a concern for the UC and high schools.

Louise: Do they account the credits for community college? And a comment, there is a unit cap at a UC and the difference between the UC and the governor is that the governor will pull funding for that student.

Kevin: That is still in the process of discussion.

UC Presidents Council for 5 minutes (DT)

DT: The UCPC group has all the presidents of before. The purpose of this space is to talk about what goes on in the other UC's. We talk about certain victories and advice. The president of UCOP will come soon. I want to keep you all in the know of what is going on. Just to let you know, this is a space that greatly compliments UCSA. The president helps to push the initiative on campus and on the local level. We are talking about the UCOP tax referendum. The chancellor said you won't be taxed on certain referenda. For example, the upcoming elections, if we want to put a referenda on the ballot for ice cream for justice, every Tuesday, every student will pay 3 bucks , what the UCOP tax does, there is also an additional tax. Let's say we are going to tax ourselves for the library to be open longer because that is important, we are taxing ourselves even though the school should be paying for them ideologically, in addition to that tax, there is an additional 2% tax, students are being taxed on things that are already being taxed on. What students are saying, this is something we definitely need, and we should just tax ourselves. My issue with that is that it becomes a problem, library then buses, etc. it's a dangerous pattern. It

is a lot for students to be paying for, what this means for UCSC, everything you see on the ballot, there is additional 2% tax. The reason for this is because the departments have no ability to absorb these costs. They did that before and they covered it, this year, we will be getting taxed, that is what it means for our campus. Does everyone see this problem? The extra tax goes to the UCOP operations, the UC is reworking the payroll system and payroll changes, some people are being paid more (admin). That is why it is more of an issue. The only way to get this to stop is from the top, president. Next thing coming up is the UC online education, Kevin and Maria touched on this briefly. This is a command from the top, governor, we are kind of in a lucky standpoint, UCLA pushes a lot of classes online, and UCSC are using this as an online supplement instead. UCLA, everything is online. There are arguments good or bad. I got a lot of reservations about it. OP is saying that we are archaic; this is the future, UC of the future. Reservations of UC students are saying that UC education is better than online teaching. Campus climate survey, going on all across campus, and the end of the campus survey, this is for us to set goals for the next year. The campus then has the opportunity to set as a goal to meet for next year. Lastly, campus wide email, President Yudolf has stepped down. He is going to be lecturing law at UCB. Do you have any questions on this brief update? As things progress, I'll give you the updates.

Rebecca: Is there any way online classes can be talked about?

DT: February 30th, 2PM, different faculty will learn how post stuff online.

DT: One of the advantageous points is that online education who can access the curriculum. You have to account for things such as extra accommodations or certain type of curriculum to cater how to learn, TA's on campus, there is a lot of factors. How do you assess for cheating or how do you even know the person enrolled is actually the student taking the test? Those are important questions.

Shiku: How long do you want the stack?

Max: Committee on educational policy have been having nonstop discussion, other than just tech talk for the faculty, I can tell you a thousand different things about online classes in my opinion, it can get there.

Daniel: They are trying to cut library hours, do you have an official group or something that is working on this?

DT: We got the reports back; I could connect you to that. That will happen in this space. That is the update.

United States Student Association (Kevin and Erica)

Kevin: I serve on the UCSA board of directors.

Erica: I am also on the board.

Kevin: With this report back, we will inform you about what we've talking about and the board meeting that happened this last week. Real quickly, we had the board meeting in this room, folks across the nation. If you all haven't heard, I've done a couple presentations: passing the dream act, student loan debt, and shared governments across the state. It doesn't mean Yudolf has power over everyone, it means student and faculty have power. The dream act is a huge topic right now. Student loan forgiveness act, that was a huge topic, Hanson Clark lost his primary race so he can't be put that up. What we went over as the board, instead of congressmen or woman first. We decide to write our own bill, never been done on the national level. We went off as the problems and solutions we have as students. Forgiveness, increasing bell grants, taking away unsubsidized loans; we need the redefining of financial aid. Student loans are not financial aid, only grants and scholarships are. Look out for that, this is the actual bill we are fighting for at LegCon, it's going to be really exciting.

Erica: Folks in New Jersey, they aren't just pushing for registration, they registered people at their high school, and they are doing work. SLAP is student labor action project, they organize economic justice campaigns. One of the big campaigns they are working on right now is Wal-Mart. A lot of different campuses are trying to kick Wal-Mart out; we are working on local jobs for justice. That is UCSA.

DT: We have access of all the resources from these organizations. It is really accessible. Can I make a quick suggestion to **motion** that we utilize the time from closing remarks to check in?

Kevin: So **moved**.

DT: Any objection?

Mick: I **second** the move.

DT: Can anyone tell me the definition of problem versus issue?

Daniel: Maybe that a problem is already in existence? The issue is potentially going to be a problem

Rebecca: Problem is quick fix; issue is a big thing.

DT: student representation is a problem on the board of regents. There is another rep that doesn't have voting rights. Let's say as students, we wanted to push a campaign for more student voices. Not every staff on the board has a background on education, mostly business. An issue is regent reform. Let's apply this to UCSC. It can be local or statewide as well.

Problem:

Jessica: No major student led organization that advocates students with disabilities. It's not one of the big six. There is no central leadership that advocates for them.

Rocio: Lack of space for the ethnic resource centers.

Rebecca: A subset, cost of Webassign, no way to subsidized it, you got to pay to do your homework.

Louise: I don't like how the campus to generate money, turning double into triple, they generate more money having a triple.

Steven: I think we should have gender neutral restrooms available.

Rocio: UC is prioritizing outside companies vs. student led organizations. They get charged for going pass 10PM.

Mick: I don't like have some students have to sit on the stairways, that is a safety issue for everyone. There are broken chairs even on the first day.

Sindy: No section for my physics class, so there are 40 people at office hours.

Rebecca: I don't like how our campus deemphasizes liberal arts and social sciences. We can't get proper TA's for these classes so it seems like we are losing quality education

Victor: the first one is the financial aid office, we have to take a number and it is very rushed. Like a game to see who can get out fastest. The lack of days and times for advising is a problem. For my major, there is a cut in staff and funding, at the same time, what if I can make it at those times?

Cameron: Fixing how SOAR works, only two advisors, one advisor has half of all the orgs, and even before there were 3, which is a lot of orgs to deal with. It's hard to get advising from orgs.

Michael: I have a huge problem with student athletes, they don't get a say of who their coaches are.

Kevin: I don't like...how top admin get paid a lot of money while we are still facing cuts, our resource centers are getting cut, dining hall workers replace, top admin get 300k, while dining halls get 18k a year and not much after they retire. People get paid way too much on this campus.

Eric: Question, have we set a time for the retreat?

DT: The finalized time will be ready by Thursday.

Kayla: How do we get things fixed like the Oakes path or the path up to Merrill? Is there any way to fix lighting?

DT: Believe it or not, we actually made improvements, but there needs to be more.

Michael: Massive renovation for Merrill, they are going to work on cracks in the pavement and lights.

Daniel: More energy saving programs, turning off the lights at 2 AM, it's a huge waste and we are paying more than we have to. Also, do we have access of all the e-mails?

Shingo: Water fountains are dirty; it'd be nice if they were clean and drinkable.

DT: Those are the last ones? We will be talking about this at the retreat. Motion to do anything else?

Shiku: **Straw poll** to stay 10 min after.

For 10 min after: N/A

Next week: N/A

(Too close to count).

Shaz: **Motion** to postpone.

Lila: **Second.**

Shaz: **Motion** to adjourn.

Sindy: I **second.**

DT: **Meeting adjourned** at 8:00PM