

SUA Meeting 11/3/2015

Assembly Members Present: Imari Reynolds (Cowell), Bryna Haugen (Cowell), Tyler Papp (Cowell), Daniel Bernstein (Stevenson), Gema Rodriguez (Stevenson), Kyra Brandt (Stevenson), **Alternate** Lily Li (Crown), Tias Webster (Crown), Jane Loughboro (Crown), Lara Loesel (Merrill), Morgan Smith (Merrill), Roxanna Gutierrez (Porter), Eli Guzman- Martin (Porter), Jackie Roger (Kresge), Winnie Sidhu (Kresge), Tara Parcella (Kresge), Tamra Owens (Oakes), Wayne Ledgister (Eight), Simba Khadder (Eight), Kaimana Carney (Eight), Rohit Dhar (Nine), Katherine Le (Nine), Anthony Gonzalez (Nine), Ramneet Bajwa (Ten), Danny Milla (Ten), Tama Semo (Ten), Lina Abdelsalam (A/BSA), Theresa Atanoa (APISA), Vanessa Sadsad (QSU), Gilbert Paredes (MEChA), Erica Green (SANAI), Art Motta (Organizing Director), Seamus Howard (Vice President of Academic Affairs), Sauli Colio (Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion), Guillermo Rogel (Vice President of External Affairs), Jabari Brown (Vice President of Internal Affairs), Julie Foster (President).

Assembly Members Absent: Bianca (B) Moncada-Martin (Merrill), August Valera (Crown), Amanda Kazden (Porter), Suini Torres (Oakes), Kiana Coleman (Oakes), Lisa Washington (A/BSA).

Approval of the Agenda:

Guillermo: **Motion to add 10 minutes after Office of External Affairs to have a 10 minute USSA update.**

Daniel: **Second.**

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

Tamra: **Motion to approve.**

Rohit: **Second.**

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

Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes:

Tamra: **Motion to approve minutes.**

Rohit: **Second.**

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

Announcements and Public Comment:

Ray: We are going to try to limit side talk during the meetings. I don't want to have to cut people off. For any points, I do want you to take your time, but please limit your answers to 30 seconds.

Julie: First, tomorrow at 5:30 we have an ad hoc meeting for the budget at the Baytree bookstore. SOFA's application is open and if you need to get emails, let me know. OPERS is also doing a number of referenda this year, and they are gathering students and info for those referenda.

Theresa: Tomorrow at 7-8 at College Eight, room 250, CUSN is a retention program here, and we are going over CUSN so let me know if you're interested.

Jabari: I'm still working with St. Baldricks and looking for volunteers so come talk to me about those at office hours. Other things, anybody who's a part of a subcommittee who wants to be featured in CHP, come see me for that too.

Tias: This Saturday at 11 am, Crown/Merrill are hosting a gaming marathon to support extra life.

Seamus: In SCOC there are a lot of appointments in committees waiting to be filled, so talk to Jabari, those committees are pretty fun and most of them are paid.

Jabari: Dec 4th we are having the C4 caucus which is for committees to come together and give each other updates. It will be 6:30-9:40 at Cervantes and Velasquez Conference room.

Presentations:

Campus Cool Challenge:

The Cool Campus Challenge is a 10 week all UC wide challenge, going until Dec 10th. We are in week five of the challenge and we are in 5th place as a university. We are trying to promote carbon neutrality goals. We are going carbon neutrality by 2025. Right now being in 5th place we are showing UCOP that we aren't doing the best that we can. We are trying to promote the challenge and to show UCOP that this matters. Every point that we make on this challenge is a statement in itself. Get yourselves acquainted.

So far we have done a lot of outreach and we have been hitting local news, radio stations and we want to hear from UC Santa Cruz. We'll be saving money and also helping the environment. We are already seeing the detriments of our actions. We are also using #UCool. We believe that the SUA is the voice of the undergrad body. Other schools are using their student government and their sports teams to advocate for this challenge. We are behind UC Santa Barbara right now and we are trying to promote this since we still have time to catch up. I know that Stevenson is doing really well right now. I know that occasionally you have college council meetings, please do some outreach there. We have prizes involved too. If you want to consider creating a team so if we could get college teams and organization teams. We have lots of resources at our hands here so if we can help SUA promote the CoolCampusChallenge, whether that is manpower or whatever, so we can coordinate on that. The actual competition that you do yourself is to pledge and you essentially show that you are doing something to change the way you live. We are the most sustainable campus, why are we not winning? The most important thing is that you are the leaders of this campus, and you are the ones with the momentum necessary to do this. If nobody

else on this campus cares but you, then our job is useless. UCOP does not make decisions without student engagement and without student voice. Jump onboard yourself and you can make that impact. This challenge is just a friendly competition.

Jabari: How is this being measured? How are we in fifth place?

It's measured based on active participation, whether they are staff or students, it reflects how much we are saving. It's pretty unfair since we have a smaller population to begin with. We have 16000 students, UCLA, UCD and UC Berkeley have twice that. We can get back up there really easily. We aren't far behind but it's more than just signing up, it's also about doing the challenges.

Office of External affairs Update:

Guillermo: I'll tell you where I've been this last few weeks. So, a general sense of what this office does. When you joined the University of California, you joined an entire system. When you're in the system you see different issues reflected in the school. All these issues impact us in some way, whether its tuition or fees. This office works on the barriers to change. The path to change is all these institutions holding back, whether that be UCOP or other legislations. It's not easy to do the change that we want to see. We work during those low periods to represent you in those spaces. Each summer the Office of External Affairs has two conferences that we take students to, such as USSA Congress. We bring students across the nation to work on the same campaigns. We wanted to see what issues we'd be working on at a national level. So the UCSA elections a position like mine on every campus whether that be undergrads or grads. We are here to bring together other school governments together and see what people are facing and how we collaborate to fix those issues. The next conference was the UCSA student congress. We took 18 students to represent UCSC. At this conference, we talk about state level issues and what the steps are going to be. Some of the campaigns are #howareyou, which is a campaign to increase funding for counseling and psychological services on campus. Right now there aren't enough psychiatrists. We are trying to close the budget gap because there was a student service increase, but it still wasn't enough, we want to increase diversity as well so that students feel like they can connect with the people who are helping them. We also want students to know that these resources are available to them. Then there is UC consent. It's to implement mandatory, in person and peer led consent and bystander intervention education training for faculty staff and students at all the UCs are working on rape culture on our campuses. People shouldn't fear for their safety on or off campus and so we are trying to change how we perceive sexual violence. There will be actions happening late this quarter and early next. I represent students at UCSA and USSA, and what my job is to do is to facilitate the issues that are going around. You all need to continue the work that I'm doing so that when I leave you all can continue. This weekend we will be having a UCSA board meeting and I can forward that agenda to you.

Next week I will be introducing the student advocacy governance and engagement fee, which is to adjust the fee of how UCSA is funded. Right now we pay membership dues from our own SUA budget. That supports conferences and such. We also want to hire more staff. I'm going to be starting lobby corps later this quarter so there will be room for you all to go to DC in the next few months if you want to go. I would encourage you all to go when those start up. The fee is meant to change how we are funded. It will become a \$4-6 fee from each student instead of our association paying for this. Currently if I wanted to pull out of UCSA, it would be a resolution through us, but students will be able to opt out of the organization with the new fee. The UCSA President and Communications Director is going to be presenting on this. So I have office hours this Thursday and Friday from 12:30-2, and next Tuesday 12:30-2. I'm looking for the representatives to come here and relay that message back to their association. You can contact me at suavpe@ucsc.edu. I've been gone these last few weeks because I'm been doing campus visits either presenting on the fee or gathering more info on the counseling and psychology services and UC Consent. I have two internship opportunities available still. Membership for each student is about \$1.30. There is a disproportionate in who's paying what. 18/20 associations are in the system. This fee would add everyone into the system instead of whole associations.

USSA Update:

So USSA is the country's oldest, largest and most inclusive national student led organization and we have been around since 1947 and we advocate for education to be a right and free. We want to serve as a pipeline between college students and the nonprofit world. As you all know, UCSC is a member of USSA, and some benefits from this membership are visits from USSA national staff and officers. We are making our way up the west coast right now. With the membership, we also have discounted registrations fees for USSA conventions. We have students sitting on a national organizing body and we do statewide and national campaigns. We also offer grassroots training. You will also have voting rights at our national conventions. We also figure out the campaigns and agendas for those years. You also have a direct contact in DC.

One of our two conventions are National Student Congress, which is where student gather during the summer to re-evaluate our current campaigns and what we are going to be doing next year. This is usually in August. Another time we meet is in LegCon, which is the National Grass Roots Legislative Conference which is in March. We convene in DC and students are able to lobby on the Capitol about issues they have been working on throughout the year. LegCon is where we focus on advancing legislation, national policies, lobby and create plans to advance our legislation. For congress, we have different schools put in different bids to see who will host it. It moves around the coast. We try to keep it regionally diverse.

At our last congress we worked on State of Emergency 2.0 Campaign, which mainly focuses on local work on campus to support that. Whether it is support communities on campus, and making sure that there are multicultural centers on campus. On a national level, we look towards ending the prison to school pipeline. We work on police accountability, sentences for crimes. If you're

interested in State of Emergency, you can talk to me. Another campaign we are working on especially is the National Student Association is free higher education. We are trying to build coalitions across the state. Last year we were working in tuition freezing and we are finally starting to hear higher education as a part of the national conversation. We have four principles we are working on. (1) Education is not for profit, (2) Free college is intersectional, (3) Resorting to democratic governance to our campuses, (4) and Free means free. When we say free, we mean free. We should have federal financial aid that covers basic needs when we have to get 2-3 jobs just to stay in school. Student homelessness and hunger is on the rise. Following these principles makes us believe that we can bring back the students voice.

Bryna: **Motion to extend time by 10 minutes.**

Rohit: **Second.**

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

This is another campaign we are working on, we will be at SOCC and here until Friday. One of the several victories that we have is Raid on Student Aid. Last February, Congress basically proposed 150 billion in cuts to federal aid. However, with the help of USSA, students mobilized to stop the cuts to programs like the Pell grant, subsidized loads, and income based loan repayment programs. As a result Congress passed less than 1% to be cut. We are also working on Ban the Box, so now people who have been incarcerated will not be barred from a fresh start. The Million Student March is something that USSA is partnering with, created by a group of students and parents and alumni. It was inspired by Bernie sanders who said that it would take a million students to delete tuition. About 100 campuses are doing rallies on November 12th.

New Business:

Seamus: **Motion to table SCOC constitutional edits.**

Bryna: **Second.**

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

Library Student Advisory Council

This is a very local level issue. We are here to talk about the Library Student Advisory Council. There was a period around 2008 or 2009 when finances system wide forced the library to close or shrink its hours. You all know that the library is mostly open on midnights. In the past, there were no weekends, and the library closed at 8 PM. It was an atmosphere of a lot of student action. This was also the time of huge fee increases. There were a lot of students who sat in the S&E library to protest the restricted hours. Out of that came a conversation with the library admin and students who were concerned with the library's offerings. In the years following, there were efforts to continue the conversation. The head administrator of the library at UCSC

authorized a group called the Library Student Advisory Council to continue that conversation. We are here to get student voice. We want to hear about suggestions for the design of the library. We work on policy and help to work on student perspective and to improve. We restarted last year to get the council going and we had a productive goal. We are looking to have some projections forward. There are several initiatives that the council is looking at, such as looking for awareness of the council, so if you have input or feedback, you can get in touch with the council. We are advocating too for the library itself for student collaboration, organization safe places, and studying. Outside of that, we work on social issues that we have an enormous reference section for. We want to possibly make partnerships with groups on campus so we can establish policy and get information. We will see things like some different fun programs, like movie night, and those will be to raise awareness of the council, and to see partnerships with other groups. So specifically, aside from just letting you know that we exist, we are here to recruit a representative from the SUA. Seamus is our interim SUA rep, but the council has 8 members. For the time commitment, we have general meetings twice a quarter, usually a half hour or hour or so, with pizza courtesy of the university library budget. Last year we had a movie night, and we showed the Incredibles, The Dark Knight, and Wall-e. It was really fun and we had food and drinks and it was during finals week and just have some relaxation time. We are talking about a potential battle of the bands. We also talked about things like working with other student organizations to work with marginalized groups on campus, such as SOC, QSU, and MEChA, A/BSA and other student orgs on campus that could be involved in the library.

Theresa: How else do students get involved in this process?

We will be working on how to get it known that the council is there and how to get in touch with the council members. There is an application process. If you have ideas as a student, we will have ways to contact a counselor.

Seamus: If you're interested in serving as an SUA rep for this committee, come talk to me and we'll figure it out.

SCOC Constitutional Edits

Jabari: SCOC had their first general meeting last week, and something that came up was edits to SCOCs constitution. From there, once a proposal is made, it goes into a steering committee, which has approved of these edits and I a bringing this to you all so we can vote a later time. A lot of edits that have been made are just names and titles of things. Looking at the Steering Committee, we proposed that change from Steer Council to Steering Committee. And the next one is that "SCOC shall meet every other week" and we are changing that to "at the discretion of the SCOC Officers. Some of the issues with that would be that students wouldn't show up to the meetings. The next one is adding bylaws. As of right now, SCOC does not have its own bylaws, but if you look at the SCOC constitution it mentions bylaws a lot but we don't actually have any. As far as elections, the officers of SCOC are selected by previous steering committees and the

edit to that was to add SCOC officers since those people have an idea of what goes on in SCOC. We added some spelling corrections as well. We also added an amendment “amendments may be proposed in a general meeting and then sent to be approved by the steering committee and then sent to the SUA for ratification.” Most of these edits are just to clarify items in the constitution.

Julie: If they are changing general meetings to be at the discretion of the officers, how many times were they thinking of having meetings?

Tamra: They were thinking of having once a month meetings.

Resolutions:

Resolution to Support Student Advisors to UC Board of Regents

Guillermo: What I am here to introduce is a resolution sponsored by the student regents. There are 26 regents, 18 are appointed by the governor. During these 12 year terms, they set policy for the UC. 35 years ago, there was a student regent added to the board of regents to allow a student voice at the meeting. What we are trying to do is increase student representation on the Board of Regents. We can do this by passing a proposition through getting hundreds of thousands of signatures. This is difficult to do, and there won't be much pushback but it will take a lot of time. So, there are currently 2 student regents. One is a voter and the other is a designate. The designate spends a year understanding the position and starts the next year. The application for student regent is coming in January. What this proposal will do is add a student advisor position. Right now there is a staff and faculty advisor. They are advising on what staff or faculty is speaking. We want a student advisor for students. This position would be selected by the Council of Presidents to see who the student advisor is. The whereas clauses are talking about how we only have one student voting for the 200,000 students in the system. It is critical to have more student voice than that of an undergrad to represent both grads and undergrads. So this resolution calls for the SUA of UCSC behind this resolution in support of a student advisor to advocate for more representation of the students. What we want to do is introduce this at the next Board of Regents meeting, which is November 19-20 at UCSF. They purposefully hold it at a graduate school to avoid undergrads. There is already push back for this but there is going to be a public conversation to see which regents are student friendly and those who are not.

Rohit: **Motion to adjourn.**

Lara: **Second.**

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