

SUA Meeting 1/5/2016

Assembly Members Present: Imari Reynolds (Cowell), Bryna Haugen (Cowell), **Alternate** Rick (Cowell), Daniel Bernstein (Stevenson), **Alternate** Jeff (Stevenson), August Valera (Crown), Tias Webster (Crown), **Alternate** Lily Li (Crown), Lara Loesel (Merrill), Morgan Smith (Merrill), Bianca (B) Moncada-Martin (Merrill), Roxanna Gutierrez (Porter), Amanda Kazden (Porter), Eli Guzman- Martin (Porter), Jackie Roger (Kresge), Liza Mednikov (Kresge), Tamra Owens (Oakes), Suini Torres (Oakes), **Alternate** Ray (Oakes), Simba Khadder (Eight), Rohit Dhar (Nine), Katherine Le (Nine), **Alternate** Dante (Nine), Ramneet Bajwa (Ten), Danny Milla (Ten), Tama Semo (Ten), Vanessa Sadsad (QSU), 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: Tyler Papp (Cowell), Gema Rodriguez (Stevenson), Kyra Brandt (Stevenson), Jane Loughboro (Crown), Winnie Sidhu (Kresge), Tara Parcella (Kresge), Kiana Coleman (Oakes), Wayne Ledgister (Eight), Kaimana Carney (Eight), Anthony Gonzalez (Nine), Basheera Ali-El (A/BSA), Theresa Atanoa (APISA), Gilbert Paredes (MEChA).

Approval of the Agenda:

Simba: **Move to strike office of registrar fee presentation.**

Vanessa: **Second.**

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

Art: **Motion to add 5 minute at the beginning of new business to talk about CHEFS delegation.**

Rick: **Second.**

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

Vanessa: **Motion to move old business before new business.**

Jackie: **Second.**

Art: **Motion to add 10 minutes after Robert's Rules Presentation for Labor Conference Budget request.**

Simba: **Second.**

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

B: **Motion to approve.**

Rohit: **Second.**

Approval of the Minutes:

Eli: **Motion to approve the minutes.**

Roxanna: **Second.**

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

Announcements and Public Comment:

Guillermo: We just passed out some flyers for the Lobby Corps meeting at Cervantes and Velasquez. Lobby Corps is a group of students who work on legislative issues and we lobby at Sacramento as well. We are going to be visiting members of the budget committee and making a presence there. Lobby Corps will be kicking off with our goals for the year. Also, we will be learning a lot about the legislative process.

Elaine: I'm passing around an interest list for the Safety Committee regarding the incident at Oakes. We are meeting at 5 PM on Thursday at McHenry 4360.

Guillermo: An idea, I like where we are meeting this year and it's hard to plan an event where we can all be present. We now have the space to have an event outside the SUA space right before our meeting.

Vanessa: Something that I'm working on with the registrar, outside of this tabled announcement, we have seen a lot of our peers have concern when it comes to enrolling and the last two or three meetings I have been in partnership with the registrar and I am working to speed up the process and refine tactics to improve enrollment processes.

Old business:

11.17.2015. Meeting Reflection

Guillermo: I was here when it happened but I think a lot of people this year, I'm not sure if they understood the gravity of the situation cause of the way that the resolution was introduced which was an appeal of a decision rather than the actual topic that would change things on our campus. A lot of people felt that the process was accelerated and overwhelming, especially for our first years.

Simba: There were many motions to table and people could have voted to table but they didn't, which made me feel that people had some kind of understanding otherwise they would have tabled. There were a couple weeks of discussion and I don't know if it's fair to say that people didn't know what they were voting on.

Daniel: The way that it was passed was passed rightfully so, but what resulted in the appeal had a lot more weight than what was initially brought up. The appeal was dealing with divestment which is a completely huge topic. I still don't think that we completely discussed it.

Simba: As was said, everything was done judicially and we are talking about appealing a decision of the chair, but I just don't understand how the Israel-Palestine conflict has anything to do with the Appeal of the Chair's Decision.

Sauli: First off, I want to start by just acknowledging that we are a body together and being respectful of others' opinions outside of this space and inside of the space is important. With that, it leads to how we express how we treat each other in this space. Someone else might not share the same opinion as you and that doesn't mean that we can speak or treat others in a way that can be harming and it goes back to a lot of things and I think that this conversation brings up a lot. This body needs a training and a retreat. Folks in this room come to this space for 2-3 hours a week and we don't know each other. It affects our relationship in this space and it affects the way that we talk to each other. This is something that is really crucial that as a body we need a retreat, some form of event to at least have some kind of team building because I feel that while you may not share similar opinions with others, you can at least respect them and I think that that is something that we need to have in this space. I don't want this space to continue to be an unsafe space. How are we going to move forward for this? This is something that is really crucial and I talked to the officers and I have some recommendations and I'm drafting a letter to send to you all so that we can accept each other's differences better. I am planning on having diversity training and I think that these things need to be addressed. I think that we need to move forward and learn from the past.

Julie: I just want to stress that this is the time to ask questions about something if you're still confused about something. Make sure you get your clarification now.

Jackie: I was wondering if as a body we could clarify the point of this reflection.

Julie: There were a lot of people who felt silenced and very confused and the goal of this was to have people voice their opinions and so this is the time for people to say things if you wanted to say it then but weren't able to.

Bryna: I feel like the biggest thing that I noticed after this is a lack of respect for one another. We are a bunch of young adults who are making decisions in a fun college and the bottom line is that we should all be respecting each other because we are here to make a better community. We are all paying to be here and it's a privilege that we've all been allowed, and to not treat each other even with differing opinions is unfair. We need to create more as a group. I hope that in this coming quarter we can treat each other with the respect that we deserve.

Jeff: I wasn't there but what I'm confused about is that the nature of the discussion regarding the appeal, which I believed to be more of a constitutional question rather than divestment. It seems

to me that there is a constitutional barrier and I guess what concerns me is that this happened 2 years ago and there doesn't seem to be a clear area but if we had clearer constitutional procedure it would have been better dealt with.

Imari: I don't have anything to say about what we voted on. However, in this body people repeat a lot of the things they have said and that comes off as attacking. So if people are more aware of what they have already said and how they are affecting other people, the body can move forward and not spend time on petty items. I hope that this quarter people come here more focused and try to be more beneficial to the committee. I hope that we get more stuff done.

Simba: I think one big reason that we don't get anything done is because we get stuck in meta-talk. **Motion to limit stack after everyone else gets on stack.**

Jeff: **Second.**

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

Guillermo: I was going to say that this is my fourth year in the space, and that this reflection has never happened in this space and I think that it is useful for people to understand and see and clarify. I think that it will help us grow as student leaders. As a body I see people who are ambitious to have some kind of change on campus and I haven't seen that in a couple years. Practically, I don't think that we are there yet but we are almost there. I think that we have potential and instead of how we're doing things, let's just do it, experiment and fail and keep trying.

Vanessa: It seems as though this is an unnecessary reflection but I think that this is outstanding to have. We have had a lot of strengths and weaknesses, and first I want to thank Imari for sharing and I want to bring about something that I've noticed is for folks to recognize your individual membership role which makes decisions on behalf of 15-16 thousand students. You are not just representing the 10-15 people that come to your senate meeting, you are representing your college, organization and all students at UCSC. You are making decisions here and being the power, voice and action here on behalf of thousands of students here. Why are we here? We are not here to just do report-backs. We see these democratic and republican debates and they have delegates that they send. I think that while we are all processing these things I think that we should try to see what we've done in the previous 11 weeks. Unless we are a united body I don't think that we are going to get anything done.

Eli: Regarding things that were said previously in the conversation about a safe space, I think that we need to move to a more respectful space and not just a safe space. We need to be able to critically analyze what we are doing here and we are here to create change in this college campus and I think that that should be the goal right now. If someone attacks your arguments, you need to understand that it's not personal, they are attacking the argument.

Rick: What I have been noticing it is that it became more of a show and an argument place. What we should have done and we should start doing is that we should start learning how to be active listeners rather than thinking about what we think. We should learn how to actively learn and participate to each others opinions.

New Business:

CHEFS:

Art: This will take place in two weeks at UC Irvine. Originally there was an allocation of \$300 to cover 20 students, however in the last week and a half, the folks hosting the conference have waived the fee for UC students. So since that \$300 isn't being used for registration, to use that money to cover an additional meal at the conference.

Suini: **Motion to approve the re-allocation.**

Jeff: **Second.**

Daniel: **Objection.** Is \$15 per person reasonable for a meal?

Art: It would most likely be a group meal.

Daniel: **Rescind my objection.**

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

Robert's Rules Clarification:

Ray: First we will talk about stack and points of privileges and house rules.

Stack is the order that people get to talk in meetings and you say on stack unless the motion is resolved, tabled or postponed. Once a motion is introduced, a new stack is introduced. This does not mean you are removed from stack if you previously were in stack. This just means that we will get back to you once the amendment or motion is resolved. Sometimes stack can be stopped with a call to question.

Point of Privileges:

This gets abused in here a lot. Point of order is when you feel that our procedures aren't being followed like when someone speaks out of turn, or when someone violates community agreements. Community agreements is best judgement, however sometimes people do make honest mistakes.

Point of Personal Privileges: A query you make to bring matters of safety, amplification and comfort to the table. One thing that is sort of iffy, if someone says an opinion and you don't

agree with it, you can say so, but point of personal privilege when you disagree with someone is something I won't allow.

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry is a query you make to ask the presiding officer about parliamentary procedure. If you can do this between people are talking that would be ideal.

Points of Information are made when you don't understand a motion someone is making.

Point of Clarification is question you make when you want to clarify something that is short, like someone's name, pronouns. Nothing politically charged.

Meeting Etiquette and House Rules

1. Just listen, you don't have to like everyone but please listen to what they have to say.
2. Sometimes motions just don't pass. Sometimes you put a lot of thought into a motion and when it doesn't pass, sometimes it just doesn't pass.
3. Don't derail the meeting. If you feel strongly about something, and it doesn't pass, you can take the time to talk to people about it individually.
4. Let's be productive, not destructive, we are here to make progress and not to spite our political enemies. We are here to get things done.
5. Be communicative and make sure information is spread out. The report backs are not clear when I've been to senate meetings, and people aren't clear on what actually happened in the SUA meeting.

We are here to promote activism, civic participation, discussion, debate and awareness of public issues.

Art: Some of the procedure that we've done in here, is that there will be no motion on the floor but people will just start to discuss something. When there is a second on a motion, we should encourage discussion even after the second. I have experience with Robert's Rules at other higher education institutions. I would recommend that to this space. Our discussion on a motion is relevant to the recently made motion.

Ray: If you all have suggestion for what we should do in Robert's Rules, please let me know. We can make amendments.

Daniel: Maybe instead of scrapping Robert's Rules, we can edit the items that are silencing, especially call to questions.

Vanessa: Regardless of Robert's Rules or only using these types of motions, one thing that I recommend is that anyone who brings in a bill that another school uses, that whatever we have that we have recommended actions coming out of the things that we are bringing to the table

here. I do think that we have a lot of discussion and when we have consent, we should have action items, at the end of anyone's resolutions or bills. We need to be clear about what we want to do.

Simba: I think that we're getting off topic and if we want to have a new way of running the meeting we can have a presentation. **Motion to limit stack.**

Unknown: **Second.**

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

Julie: Another way we can do this is that our bylaws supersede Robert's Rules so we can write some in. If there is anything other than call to question that you'd like to see removed, please let me know.

Labor Conference Budget Request:

This is the national labor conference which is happening in February. This is jobs with justice which is a national labor coalition. These are previous students who are now working in unions who are working to make a difference. This is happening Feb 12-14th in DC. It provides students a chance to join this network and leaders at the national level to learn from one another about the work that they are doing. Not only will they be celebrating their victories but they will also be teaching what has been successful for them. They will also be discussing strategies that students will continue to be part of. This request is to be able to send 8 students to DC which will cover a hotel, the registration costs and looking at airfare which is approximately \$330 but it will only keep going up as time progresses. We are asking \$7235.86 (for eight students) which would come from the SUA programming line item. One of the recent wins that we've had in the last few years, there was an assembly bill to raise the minimum wage, called AB10 and minimum wage passed and now in January minimum wage is now \$10. With this being said, these four students must provide a campus debrief where they are able to share what they learned and what they did and how they can bring back concrete ways of how students who weren't able to go to continue their work.

Daniel: How are you getting to the airport?

Art: That's not in the budget, since it would have to be out of pocket, unless that is something that the space would add to the budget. I think that \$150 - \$200 would be a good estimate.

Daniel: I think that that would be good to add.

Imari: How are these students selected?

Art: I will send out a campus wide email with a selection process so that they are selected no later than mid-January. There will be criteria but we won't say that right now.

Jackie: I feel that we are spending a lot (\$1000 per person), I think that for the people that should be selected there should be maximum 1 assembly member because the money should go back to the students.

Tamra: **Motion to extend time by 2 minutes.**

Daniel: **Second.**

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

Seamus: Is this just for students or do the officers already have their line item for traveling? So the four people would be 1 officer and maybe 3 other students.

Tamra: I'm totally down for having a selection committee which should pick 5 people and have them come to the meeting, and if we are putting that much money out, I would like to know exactly who is going.

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

Jeff: **Second.**

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

Ray (Oakes): Just curious about what are the current determining factors of who is on the selection committee.

Julie: It is usually officers, like 3 for each one, and it is the same way you black out names. It is a google form with paragraph responses. For SOCC, there were reps from different ethnic organizations. For the most part it's a group of people who have no idea who is applying.

Jackie: Is there going to be preference given to people who haven't been able to go these conferences?

Art: This is the first labor conference that SUA has been a part of, so there are no previous expectations for labor conferences but we do have expectations for other conferences that we could modify to apply to this conference.

Bryna: In the future, it's helpful to have all these documents in the SUA folder.

Vanessa: I want to echo two things, two things that I have been concerned about, which hasn't compared to previous years. I'm really astounded to see this conference being offered to UCSC. When you have something like the SLC and CHEFS and now this one, it is good for those who are interested in grassroots organizations. It's not about people going for the sake of going, because this is what these people are interested in and it is what they are going to be doing someday.

B: Is there anything for students with disabilities when traveling to these conferences?

Art: In the application process there is usually a line item or question regarding resources from the disability resource center. If that comes up, that will be addressed. The selection is open to all students and students will not be pushed away.

Tamra: Would it be possible to have a Google doc to let the assembly know who is on the selection committee for transparency reasons?

Julie: We actually shouldn't do that until after the selection committee is done because otherwise people could be influenced. I also wanted you all to know that there is about \$20,000 in SUA programming.

Sauli: If y'all have any questions about the selection process for any conferences, you can come to my office hours and I will let you know the process of selecting students.

Vanessa: I agree with what Tamra said about knowing about transparency. Is there a way you can describe the people who are on the committee?

Julie: It is up to the officer who is in charge of the conference.

Vanessa: **Motion to extend time by 1 minute.**

Ray: Are there any seconds? Seeing none, **motion fails.**

Fall Quarter Reflection

Jabari: I wanted to say that how the meetings are going, that we need to have more information provided to not just the senate but also to the college. Hearing what was presented in the spaces as opposed to the information in the Tuesday meetings was completely different. Information should be presented to all the students and not just the college senates.

Suini: One thing is that towards the end of the quarter, most people would leave early or intentionally leave to lose quorum. We had a lot of agenda items that were rushed that should have been discussed further.

Rohit: Overall, last quarter I was disappointed, because I feel frustrated and tired afterwards. I feel like we all need to grow up and we should try to get more things done. I think what's also key is that as we passed the budget at the end of the quarter, this was a big problem because it is a huge priority to have our budget. We kept delaying this and delaying that, and we all want to be done early with this meeting. You should all be here to spend your time for your students.

Ray: Sometimes people have to leave, however, we are all students but I just want to make sure that we understand the difference between wanting to leave and needing to leave.

Rick: What we could have done better is how to move on through motions faster and trying to cooperate better with each other.

Daniel: Something that I was disheartened about was about resolutions and we vote on them but we never really heard back from those organizations. It would be nice to hear that we did something here in this space.

Julie: We can also amend resolutions to have an action item in the therefore clauses. If you have an idea about action items for resolutions, you can email me or Ray or present about it at the assembly. If there are topics that you are interested in seeing, please email me or Ray and we will figure something out.

Simba: I feel like one of the big things is that we want to make things happen, but we end up getting stuck in clarifying questions. I feel like sometimes we get stuck in open ended discussion. And I think that we need to be specific about what we are going to be talking about. I think we need to be more focused and figure out what we want to do and then do it.

Sauli: Again I think that it's reflective of this space just that we need a space outside of the meeting in order for us to come together and to get to know each other. I would like to see a strategic planning retreat. We should be able to have action items and be able to formulate campaigns. I am hearing this whole thing of "yes we want to do more" so let's do it. This is one of the ways that we can do that.

Tamra: There are a couple things that I noticed is that when it comes to attendance, we are students come first, and if school is taking up that much time, it is important for alternates to be recruited. There have been times that we haven't had representation from a whole college. When it came to the SOFA discussions, we took way too long to approve those. People weren't willing to compromise and we all can't get what we want all the time. We need to consider compromise.

Seamus: I want to apologize to the assembly, and I'm sorry if I've offended you. I've been trying to hold back a lot. That being said, I think that what this space needs is an air of tolerance.

Art: We've been doing a lot of reflecting. I do want to say that some officers have been working during the quarter to modernize our website and a lot of our links are broken and I know that last quarter we talked about people's pictures being put up on the website. I'm going to send an email out to all of you to be able to update your information on the website. There haven't been too many resolutions or business items, so those aren't all shared on the website, but we are working on a way for the google drive to be accessed by all students.

Sauli: I want us to take a moment to reflect that there are more folks in the space that come from the colleges but these conversations tend to be dominated by the college representatives, but the folks from the organizations don't usually speak much. I would like us to allow the organizations to have a voice here as well.

Vanessa: I thank you all for coming to each and every meeting and it is great to see what we are doing in comparison to the other UCs and it is great to compare and to work harder to match or exceed the work done of other UCs. We are going to get into an interesting time and we are going to get into more budget talks, more actions and more conferences and elections. We need to see what this body is doing as whole, as one, regardless of individual ambition.

Lara: In Merrill we have a tenet in our community agreement which is called take space, give space, because I've seen the same few voices dominate in the discussion which makes it difficult to participate.

Daniel: **Motion to limit stack.**

Simba: **Second.**

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

Jeff: I think there's a lot of value in comparing ourselves to other students to see what we are doing here.

Imari: I hope that people who don't normally speak become brave and if you don't understand, just clarify instead of objecting. I hope that more people include themselves in the space. I hope that we can get things done.

Rohit: I'm thankful for everyone who provided their reflection, and I felt that this was a time that we were really honest with each other. With that, I'd like to mention that sometimes we dehumanize each other, but we need to remember that we're not perfect, we all make mistakes and we need to grow together and move forward.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment:

Julie: We have a lot of referenda coming in this quarter, so just be prepared for that. Also email Ray before 5 PM on Fridays if you want something on the agenda.