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Student Union Assembly (SUA), Office of the Commissioner of Diversity

November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013

1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064 Student Union Assembly 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, c/o Soar

Dear Chair S. Umer,

Under my duties as Commissioner of Diversity of the Student Union Assembly and Article III Section D of the SUA Constitution, I present my August 2013 monthly report and evaluation to the Assembly. I will outline all of my events, logistical planning, activities and constructive criticism with areas of improvement in hopes of providing a detailed account in this month's report.

Goals and projected timeline for the month of August between pay periods of October 27, 2013 – November 23, 2013.

Plan for Student of Color Conference at UCLA	November 2013	November 15-17
Attend Student of Color Conference	November 14 <sup>th</sup> -17	November 17th
COD Office Meetings	October – June, 2014	Summer 2014
Begin planning IGNITE Campaign for Winter Quarter	November - March	March 2014
Get Interns through hiring process	November	Spring 2013 (Weekly meetings)
Mental Health Campaign	November-January	August 2014
Meet with e^2	Bi-Weekly Check In	Spring 2014

#### Completed projects, campaigns, events, or activities

## **Student of Color Conference**

We planned the last portions of the logistics of the conference. I flew down the night before the delegates and the bus were leaving so I could make sure the hotel was ready to take nearly 100 students.

## Queer People of Color, "Coloring the Woods"

The Queer People of Color event which sought to bridge community took place at the Arc Center was extremely successful. I felt it as extremely informative and community bridging because it brought people together in a safe and fun environment. With the idea of perhaps bringing the Womyn of Color Conference back, it was nice to be able to talk with students that were really interested in planning it and seeing the conference happen. In addition, the event itself was well decorated and a lot of hard work was put into it.

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### **Engaging Education Check-In**

I met with the Co-Chair of Engaging Education for a check-in to meet about the upcoming Board of Directors Meeting. I think it was a productive meeting and we will be able to move forward in the future for planning events, etc. I also met with a Program Coordinator, Victor Velasco, to debrief about the Student of Color Conference, talk about e^2 day and a possible mixer between the Resource Center Interns, the e^2 coordinators, and SUA.

## **IGNITE Campaign**

Ivan and I met with our committees during the SUA meeting and we were discussing the institutionalization of the Student of Color Conference perhaps through university fees. In addition, to work on the different UCSA campaigns, we will be outreaching to CAs, NAs, and RAs in bringing forth an all encompassing event.

Total number of hours worked: 94 hours

# November review and areas of improvements:

- Ivan and I to the best of our ability planned the Student of Color Conference and the logistics and travel for 100 people. At the debrief, there was a lot of animosity about the logistics of the conference. For the most part, I recognize the difficulty of keeping track of a thousand students visiting a different campus, but because of the enormous cost of housing, many campuses had to stay pretty far away (15-20 minutes) which made it difficult for the sense of "community" between the different UCs. Though I commend the efforts of the conference and the work put into it, we had several issues with the conference. Unfortunately, there was some lack of communication between UCLA and ourselves. Specifically:
  - We had sent the registration payment, but UCLA had not received it. We had no control over how quickly accounting would process the funds or that because UCLA had not been used in our system for over five years, the payment would be delayed.
  - 2) At the delegation leader meeting, we were informed of the wrong place for the opening ceremony. Because of this delay, all of our shirts were given out and our delegates only received L or XL shirts. When this issue was addressed, all we were given was the answer, "mistakes happen".
  - 3) We had individually registered all of our students, but UCLA did not take this into account, and instead used our draft list for diversity requirements and took that into consideration instead which made a lot of the nametags inaccurate.
  - 4) When we were unable to find certain parts of campus, for example, we were informed to park at Lot 32 (the lot off campus), we were often times informed to "just find it" or "you'll find it" which is difficult for people trying to plan a conference in a city we were not used to.

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Issues with our Delegation and Possible Solutions for the Future:

- -Delegation in workshops
- \*Difficult to keep people accountable, but make sure to emphasize that you are here when other students wanted to be.
- -Driver's Training
- -People dropping out last minute
- \*Give deadline to drop out and give yourself enough time to find replacements (1 week minimum)
- -Funding
- \*Institutionalized conference with administration and funding from other sources and not just SUA.
- -Debrief
- \*More structure, differentiate times for highs and lows and put a number to it (i.e. positive, negative, positive)
- -Delegation Meeting
- \*Pre-mixer to the conference and pair new students with returning students perhaps even during the conference
- -Drivers
  - \*Driver's Training
- -Based on Sayo's availability

In conclusion, I provide this summary as my detailed report for the month of November 2013. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

Charlsie Chang Student Union Assembly Commissioner of Diversity