

Legislative Liaison April 2014 Report

Tasks:

- Facilitated weekly lobby corp meetings. Updated lobby corp on new bills from UCSA, gathered input for bill stances, and prepared lobby corp for visits with legislators. This Quarter we have decided to go to Sacramento once a week or every other week to lobby key legislators on relevant committees (Higher Ed, Budget, etc) and to testify at hearings.
- Attended UCSA April Board Meeting. We finalized SLC materials, passed a resolution in support of UAW and our TAs. We discussed how to improve board relations. Official stances on legislative bills were approved and goals.
- Led delegation at SLC. Made sure delegates were on task, and convened delegation meetings to discuss how to bring back conference to UCSC. Some of the ideas included a events put on by delegates, bringing workshops to campus (ex: ACLU, Sexual Assault Awareness, Mental Health, and UC Budget & Student Fee Expenditure)
- In the process of planning events with delegates to bring things from both SLC and LegCon back to campus
- I have started working towards the efforts to update the HERC for this year. The current goal is to keep the status of the supported bills up to date as they move through committees in order to better organize and advocate for their passage.
- Attended the film screening for Electoral Dysfunction with Santa Cruz Mayor Lynn Robinson. After the screening we talked about voter registration and participation in Santa Cruz and how student to city relations have changed over the years. I look forward to working more on local affairs issues within the EVC office.
- Committee hearing are starting to be held on the major bills that UCSA has decided to endorse. Some members of lobby corp (Austin Downs and Michael Amster) attended a hearing for SB 1017 (oil severance) and successfully advocated for its passage out of the Senate Education Committee. Now we must continue the work for its passage through appropriations.

April Review and Areas of Improvement

- SLC went really well, delegates were prepared for their lobby visits and actively engaged in all parts of the conference. We will work with them to make sure all the information learned is brought back to campus and to make sure that these delegates stay aware and engaged in the advocacy efforts for Higher Education.
- Lobby Corp is continuing to do well, students have expressed interest in lobbying other legislators from outside the district. Currently working with the SUA Administrative Assistants to schedule these visits on Tuesdays as well as to update legislative profiles.
- I am working to develop lobby corp members on giving their testimonies so that they are confident, comfortable, and effective at giving 1-2min personal stories on how bill affect them.
- April and May have been extremely busy quarters for the campus, it is getting increasingly difficult to organize to bring this to campus when so many of our members and delegates have conflicting time commitments. I will work with the rest of the EVC staff to make sure we make a continuous effort to make our campus aware.

For any questions, comments, or concerns please contact me at Lcabansa@ucsc.edu