

Legislative Liaison February Report

- I have continued facilitating weekly Lobby Corp meetings on Wednesdays from 8-10pm in Hahn Student Services 245 with the EVC and National Affairs Director. During this month we lobbied on issues that affect students on the National level such as Student Loan Debt, Pell Grant Funding, and Trio Programs.
- Currently reviewing and researching the bills introduced during this CA legislative session. Bills of interest are those that are relevant to Higher Education, IGNITE, FUNDtheUC and CMED. UCSA Legislative Committee has also selected specific bills for review, those that we have currently chosen to support are:
 - Assembly Bills: 1549, 1558, 2168, 1433, 1800, 1862, 1927, 2247, 2350
 - Senate Bills: 836, 841, 845, 967, 1017, 1105
- The EVC office is currently planning and organizing our two legislative conferences: LegCon and SLC. LegCon will take place in Washington DC on March 14-17. We have chosen and met with the LegCon delegation members for preliminary logistics. I will be working with the National Affairs Director to educate and prepare the delegates on the history and current status of National Higher Ed issues before the conference.
- The office is currently in the process of finalizing our delegation for SLC. SLC will take place in Sacramento on April 5-7. I am currently in the process of scheduling lobby visits for the UCSC delegation, co-coordinating logistics, and preparing our delegates.
- I attended the event Appetizer's with Administrators on 2/5/14 and spoke with the Chancellor about UCSA, USSA, and Lobby Corp. I explained to him the priorities of students, and the reasoning behind our goals. I also explained to him where SUA needed support for a 2014 Voter Registration Campaign. The Chancellor and Regent Ruiz also explained the current research being done on alternative funding models for the UC and plans for undergraduate tuition.
- From March 3-6 the offices of the EVC office will be conducting a FUND the UC week of Action. We will be collecting signed postcards from students to show support for Prop 13 Reform and an Oil Severance Tax to fund Higher Education in California. There will be two film screenings related to our campaigns. On Wednesday 3/5/14 we will be showing Electoral Dysfunction in SocSci2 Rm 071 from 7-9pm and a discussion with Santa Cruz Mayor Lynn Robinson will be held on the importance of voting. On Thursday 3/6 from 7-9pm in SocSci2 Room 071, the film Do The Math will be shown to explain the impacts of fossil fuels on the environment and why divestment is needed.

February Review and Areas of Improvement:

- Lobby Corp has been developing really well. Attendance is consistent and the members are active and engaged. Many lobby visits have been conducted and more are to come.
- The SLC application turn out compared to LegCon was less than expected even though the level of outreach was the same. More needs to be done to outreach to and engage students.
- Going on lobby visits without concrete bills has been a little difficult. Yes we are vocalizing the priorities to students, but it would be more productive to have bills on hand. Fortunately, bills have recently been introduced in CA and UCSA has taken official stances. Now we will go into March and Spring Quarter with clear objectives for state-wide lobbying. Unfortunately, we do not have bills yet on the national level.

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

