

## **Legislative Liaison May 2014 Report**

### **Tasks:**

- Facilitated weekly lobby corp meetings. Updated lobby corp on new bills from UCSA, progression of bills through the legislature, 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. We met with Assemblymember Paul Fong twice to talk specifically about SCA 5. He is the current chair of the API legislative caucus and he advised us how to proceed given the negative response from some members of the API community.
- Attended UCSA May Board Meeting at UCSF. We interviewed and selected the top 3 candidates for student regent, passed bylaw reforms that changed the Board Structure and our campaign procedures. The IGNITE campaign will now be a 2 year campaign and continue into the next school year.
- Attended May Lobby Days with other student leaders from the UC system. We were able to lobby the legislature along side the UC Regents and UCOP. The days were very successful and did well to improve relations between students and administration. However, I did notice a disconnect between student priorities and those of the UC Regents and UCOP, particularly when it comes to tuition. While we agree that alternative tuition funding models and payment plans should be explored, there was a disconnect about the level of tuition students should be paying. I noticed that the regents did usually let the students take control of the meetings with the legislature so we were able to express both UCSA's budget and legislative priorities freely.
- I have started the process of streamlining our lobby corp material. Planning to expand on current training's, and creating a database of bills we have supported in the past and how they have fared in the legislatures. My hopes are to create analysis on why certain bills were or were not successful and then to cater our future lobbying and organizing in a more successful way.

### **May Review and Areas of Improvement**

- The year is coming to a close and it has been a great growing experience for Lobby Corp at UCSC. As our first year, there was a steep learning curve and still much more room for improvement. I would like to see Lobby Corp grow to be more representative of the students on our campus and to be more inclusive of the thoughts, ideas, and experiences that our students are reflective of. I hope to visit various student groups to make announcements and circulate a sign up sheet for those interested in joining lobby corp or volunteering to register students to vote.
- I am still 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. We can also incorporate tactics to have relay testimonies/more effective public comments to give at hearings.

For any questions, comments, or concerns please contact me at [Lcabansa@ucsc.edu](mailto:Lcabansa@ucsc.edu)