



Student Union Assembly (SUA)

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

March 4, 2015

To: Alison Galloway, Campus Provost/Executive Vice Chancellor
Alma Sifuentes, Dean of Students

Subject: The Temporary Relocation of the Student Union Governance Board
Tenants to Lot 111

We are writing to formally notify you that the Student Union Assembly has unanimously passed a resolution titled “Resolution to Support Alternative Spaces to the Tenants of the Student Union and Redwood Buildings”. As the officer core of the Student Union Assembly, we are also expressing our support beyond this resolution as we wish to continue working alongside our fellow tenants in a space that is both central and productive to our work.

Many groups on this campus from students organizations, administration, and even the residents of Crown and Merrill Colleges have deemed the “Crown Pit” unfit for a vital student space. It is out of the way from the main roads and there is no convenient access to bus lines or transportation and the area itself is poorly lit. As a result, safety is a huge concern. The closest emergency phone is up a hill from the location and away from any public areas. Also, due to the recent and on going break-ins plus the fact that students work at all hours of the day and night, we are extremely concerned about the safety of students. Relegating SOAR, E2, and numerous other essential student organizations to the “Crown Pit” also sends a bad message to the student groups that work in the Student Union. It tells them that the work they do for other students is nonessential and that they don’t deserve the basic safeties and utilities necessary for them to function.

We believe that more suitable spaces exist that meet the non-negotiable requirements that SUGB has presented other than the Crown Pit. Such examples include, but are not limited to, the under utilized spaces in Kerr Hall and The Baytree Building. There has been a lack of commitment from the administration on researching for available spaces next year or student consultation regarding possible alternatives from when the situation first arose. We are now passed the deadline to find alternative spacing and administration is looking into alternatives last minute.

Lastly, we want to emphasize that the Student Union Assembly does not accept preferential treatment in relocation. We want all student organizations that are tenants of the Student Union and Redwood Buildings to be treated fairly and equally. As such, we firmly support the Student Union Governance Board’s recommendations and non-negotiables in finding a space that allows all our organizations to function at full capacity and continue serving the student body.



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We appreciate the work that the Dean of Students office does for the plethora of student services on campus. However, we want to see more cooperation from the Dean of Students and Executive Vice Chancellor offices in securing quality temporary or permanent spaces for all of the Student Union Governance Board tenants.

Respectfully,

Justin Lardinois
Chair

Kaysi Wheeler
Internal Vice Chair

Louise Cabansay
External Vice Chair

Israel Molina
Commissioner of Diversity

Max Hufft
Commissioner of Academic Affairs

Brad Mleynek
Organizing Director

CC: The Student Union Governance Board
Student Union Assembly, University of California, Santa Cruz
College Student Governments, University of California, Santa Cruz