



Student Union Assembly (SUA), Office of the Chair

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

December 8th, 2014

Dear Student Union Assembly,

Under my duties as Chair of the Student Union Assembly and Article III Section A.1 of the SUA Constitution, I present my November 2014 monthly report and evaluation to the Assembly.

Activities for the month of November 2014

One-on-One Meetings

I've met one-on-one with several members of the Assembly throughout the month of November. Some meetings were at their request; some were at mine. Having these meetings has allowed me to have discussions and build bridges that otherwise would not have happened in regular Assembly meetings. Some of the discussion topics have included:

- The relationship between SUA and its constituencies, specifically those that have felt silenced in the past
- My role as a facilitator, and how I can guide the representatives
- Issues that I can use my influence to address with campus administration

I encourage any member of the Assembly or the campus community to contact me at any time if there's any issue they want to discuss.

Meeting with Chancellor

President Napolitano's tuition proposal was announced hours before my meeting with the Chancellor, so that took up the bulk of the discussion. I learned that the Council of Chancellors was hardly consulted on the proposal before it was put forward. We also discussed SUA's progress towards fixing our budget, and the resolution we adopted from Take Back the Tap.

Registered Student Organization Funding

I convened the first Student Organization Funding Advisory (SOFA) Committee meetings of the year to hear funding proposals from registered student organizations. I was pleased with the turnout, from both representatives and organizations; nearly all of the SOFA representatives attended the meetings and we heard requests from 19 organizations. Debate in the following SUA meeting was lively and to the point. Excluding two organizations that were disqualified due to event timing, SUA funded all eligible organizations at some level.



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Academic Senate Meeting

Along with Commissioner of Academic Affairs Max Hufft, I attended this month's Academic Senate meeting to get updates on current academic issues at UCSC and give a short presentation about what SUA has done so far and plans to do this year. More details will be found in Commissioner Hufft's report.

Interviews for Treasurer and Communications Director

I posted my staff positions in the summer to give students plenty of time to submit quality applications. My Chief of Staff, Kelly Herron, and Recording Clerk Elaine Wong served on the hiring committee for Treasurer and Communications Director. I chose to hire Franchesca Finnigan as Treasurer and Andrea Diaz as Communications Director. Franchesca was later confirmed by the Assembly, as required by Article III, Section A.1.j of the Constitution.

Emergency SUA Meeting

I had initially planned to not hold an SUA meeting on Veteran's Day, but President Napolitano's tuition proposal prompted quick action. I convened an emergency meeting in the SUA office to discuss the tuition increase and possible actions. College 9 representative Shubhankar Sharan introduced a resolution on the tuition increase that was later adopted, and money was taken from various officers' programming line items (including mine) to help fund buses to the UC Regents meeting where the proposal would be voted on.

Take Back the Tap Meeting

Take Back the Tap brought a resolution to SUA in October that we later adopted. Part of its call for action included me drafting a letter to campus and system wide administration calling for the end of the sale of single use plastic water bottles on the UCSC campus. I attended one of Take Back the Tap's meetings to share a draft of the letter and discuss how SUA and Take Back the Tap can collaborate in the future.

SUA Advisor Search Committee

I am currently serving on the search committee for the SUA Advisor. The SUA Advisor will be the only staff position in SUA, and will serve to assist the officers and the Assembly with financial transactions, travel documents, paperwork, advising, and many of the roles that are currently performed by the Assistant Dean of Students. We discussed and reviewed the remaining candidate for the position, and will conduct phone interviews in December.

Meeting with Director of Housing

I met with Dave Keller, Director of Housing, to discuss SUA's meeting space and student housing issues. I had previously negotiated with Colleges, Housing, and Educational



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Services (CHES) to have SUA use the Alumni Room every Tuesday from 6:00 PM–10:00 PM. The time was inconvenient for many members of the Assembly, so Dave helped me modify the terms of the agreement so that we now have a reservation from 8:00 PM–12:00 AM. We discussed the issues caused by the current shortage of housing in Santa Cruz, both on and off campus, as well as housing issues specific to trans students that were brought to me by Queer Student Union representative Haedyn Christie.

BBQ w/ Badges

Earlier in the quarter, I met with UCPD CUIP¹ Intern Tony Milgram to discuss a joint event between the police department and the Office of the Chair to build community between the police and SUA. The police department and my office split the cost of food and materials. Members of the Assembly and the chairs of the college governments and voting organizations were invited. The event was largely successful in promoting positive relationships, and allowed for important discussions about the role of the police on a college campus.

UC Regents Meeting Protest

I attended the protest against President Napolitano's tuition proposal held in front of the UC San Francisco medical center during the UC Regents meeting. My main concern was student safety, and I was mainly there as an observer. Though the protest was unsuccessful in shutting down the meeting, I think a lot of productive dialogue was had among the students. Thankfully, no UCSC students were arrested or seriously injured.

CSO Supervisor Meeting

I attended one of the meetings of the CSO² supervisors to learn more about the program and convey student concerns. I plan to survey students in December on their impressions of and experiences with CSOs.

Suggestions for improvement

- When SUA meetings began this year, I was impressed by two things:
 - The most active and vocal members were those who were new to the space, which brought new voices and perspective
 - Partisan conflicts were set aside so that discussions could center around the issues at hand

However, I've noticed that several members have been putting politics before student issues. I ask that everyone in the Assembly be mindful of the constituencies you represent and focus on advocating for their needs, rather than advancing your own political career.

¹ Chancellor's Undergraduate Internship Program

² Campus Safety Officer



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- As in my last report, I encourage the representatives to bring more business to the Assembly. So far, the agenda has been mainly set by me and a few other members.

If you have any further questions about my activities for November 2014, please contact me at suachair@ucsc.edu or visit my office hours.

Sincerely,
Justin Lardinois
Chair, Student Union Assembly