



Student Union Assembly (SUA), Office of the Commissioner of Diversity

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

November 9, 2014

Student Union Assembly,

Under my duties as Commissioner of Diversity of the Student Union Assembly and Article III Section D.4 of the SUA Constitution, I present my October 2014 monthly report and evaluation to the Assembly. I will outline all of my event, logistical planning, activities and constructive criticism with areas of improvement in hopes of providing a detailed account in this month's report.

### **SOCC Logistical Planning**

Lucy Rojas and I finalized all the necessary logistics for the Student of Color Conference in UC Merced. We finalized the payment to the charter buses, the UCM registration fees, and were waiting for the Merced Comfort Inn to return the paperwork to be put in our system so that we could directly pay them. The online application for the conference closed and I convened a selection committee to review the applications. My committee consisted of Ivette Torres from SNAI, Shadin Awad from A/BSA, Bradford Mleynek the SUA Organizing Director, Justin Lardinois the SUA Chair and myself. We all reviewed the approximately 200 applications separately with the names of the students redacted so as to minimize bias. Each of us scored each question on a scale of 0-5 and then moved our top scoring candidates through, with only room for 100 it was a difficult process that took over 7 hours.

### **Ad Hoc Budget Committee**

After Chair Lardinois presented to the assembly his *Fall 2014 Budget Report*, detailing the SUA budget deficit and providing some recommendations he later convened an Ad Hoc Budget Committee outside of the SUA space to look into the budget and provide recommendations on what line items to cut. This committee comprised of the Chair, approximately 10 SUA representatives of alternates and myself. We first recommended that we move unused funds from the SUA assistant line item and one month's pay from the IVC pay, which cut our deficit in half. We then moved onto recommending cutting from different line items that we felt might not need as many funds, always keeping in mind that we had to prioritize minimizing the affect on the student body. We finally created a list of alternatives so that the assembly could have options when making cuts.

### **ACCCCI Meeting**

I attended the Chancellors Fall Advisory Council on Campus Climate, Culture and Inclusion and the bulk of the meeting was the presentation of the various subcommittees recommendations that the Chancellor should implement on campus and the recommendations that Chancellor Blumenthal should send up to the UC Office of the President. The undergraduate subcommittee came to five areas of improvement after



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reviewing the Undergraduate Student Survey from the Diversity and Community Building Survey. The first was to improve campus climate for students with disabilities, secondly to train faculty to enhance their positive impact on individual student experiences and campus climate, to improve the campus climate for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender students and to improve the campus climate for African-American/Black students. Finally they recommended Visibility and Institutional commitment to diversity, this was particularly interesting because not only was it framed in an intersectional way, but also its main recommendation was to create a “First Year Experience Program”. This program is in direct correlation with the “Cultural and Identity Competency Program” that I want to work with administration on. I plan on meeting with the woman who presented these recommendations and with Jay Padgett, along with CoAA Hufft.

### Meeting with Sheree Marlow

I also met with Sheree Marlow this month to better understand her position in the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. She recommended several resources for my office and suggested several opportunities to work with each other. She also detailed her plan to highlight the *Principles of Community* on our campus, by encouraging colleges to take up a single principle of community every year and create programming surrounding that principle. Sheree also suggested that I met with Jay Padgett to talk about the *First Year Experience Plan* because he has done most of the work on it.

### October Review and Areas of Improvement

- I have noticed that it has become more difficult to balance work and my studies as the year has picked up. I need to hire my staff as soon as possible so that they can help me with the workload.
- Communication amongst the officers needs to improve. Often it seems like we are not in the loop on what everyone is doing and it is important to be able to step up and help each other when we need it. I think that the officer meetings should be more collaborative and focus on issues that we all discuss rather than only giving officer reports for the week.

In conclusion, I provide this summary as my report for the month of July 2014. If you have any questions please contact me at [suacod@ucsc.edu](mailto:suacod@ucsc.edu).

Respectfully,  
Israel Molina  
Student Union Assembly Commissioner of Diversity