



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

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

October 6, 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 September 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.

Officer Training with Dean of Students Office

The first week of September the other officers and I participated in a training put on by the Dean of Students Office. The purpose of the training was three-fold, to familiarize ourselves with different campus units, to hone important skills we need as officers, and to get to know each other and create a working environment that we can all feel welcome to. Many of the different segments in our training covered multiple parts at once. In order to familiarize ourselves with different campus units we went over the different departments of school administration and how they are structured and interact with each other. We also met with the Chief of Police Nader Oweis, he spoke about how he has changed the department in order to more closely follow the law and better serve students, he and Chair Lardinois spoke briefly about the relationship between the UCPD and the CSO's on campus and how they can work together to improve interactions between CSO's and students. Representatives from University Relations came and spoke to us about what they plan on accomplishing with the 50th anniversary and to see if there are ways we could collaborate. I hope to connect the queer viability campaign that I am planning, with them. To improve the skills we will need as officers we worked on facilitation skills, budgeting using an online system (especially in terms of travel), event planning and attended a Cruz Buy training. I unfortunately had an appointment the morning that the Cruz Buy training was scheduled so I will have to make it up at a later date. In order to better know each other we did many exercises where we had to work together. One of these projects was a video scavenger hunt where we had to travel to different parts of the campus and take short videos of us accomplishing goals, it was interesting because we got to bond and go to parts of campus some of us had never been to. We also worked on creating community guidelines for the office on how to handle communication and internal problems, that way if there is ever an issue we can refer back to those agreements. Together we also learned about and created SMART goals for us as an officer group. SMART goals are goals that are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Timely. As a group our main goal is to make sure that SUA is a welcoming space for all students so that all students can participate in discussion. All in all I thought



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this training was very important to us as an officer group, we gained skills and bonded in a way that could have been difficult to achieve in a different setting.

MLK Convocation Meeting

This month I attended my first Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation meeting and many major decisions were reached at this meeting. This is the 31st anniversary and it will be the 1st event to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the University. The keynote speaker was still being negotiated on price and hopefully will be confirmed by the next meeting. In terms of entertainment we debated between three different artists and finally chose Alexis Rose a Bay Area singer. The suggestion was brought up that a student piece should also be incorporated into the agenda and we will be looking into possibilities at the next meeting. We are also looking into creating pop up banners with a list of all the MLK convocation keynote speakers to display in the lobby. Someone proposed the idea of having a black student leader do a short speech before the keynote speaker, I brought up that the student could possibly be eclipsed by the keynote speaker and suggested that instead, a black student leader *introduce* the keynote speaker and highlight how the keynote speaker has contributed to African-American student organizations on campus. The SUA chair traditionally introduces the keynote speaker, however we all agreed that this is far more appropriate.

SOCC Planning

This month I advertised for the Student of Color Conference by sending out a campus wide email and EVC Cabansay created a graphic that we used to advertise via social media. We got a lot of applications and will be reviewing them next month. I also sat down with Lucy Rojas to get travel logistics finalized so that we could budget how many students we can take. Renting out two charter buses and reserving 28 rooms for students and bus drivers we can take 104 students. Lucy and I are working to get payments ready for the hotel, charter buses and for registration

September Review and Areas of Improvement

- I was gone for a week and a half this month, which impeded some of my work, but ultimately SOCC advertisement went rather well, especially considering the number of applications we've received.
- Upon my return communication broke down between the officers. I understand that many of us had other commitments during the week, but we should all make an effort to set aside time, even if it is not during the work week, to make sure we are all on the same page and to help each other out on our projects.

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.

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Respectfully,
Israel Molina
Student Union Assembly Commissioner of Diversity