

December External Vice Chair Report

Student Union Assembly,

Under my duties as External Vice Chair of the Student Union Assembly and Article III Section A. 3 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.

Lobby Corp

During our limited December lobby corp meetings we focused on winter quarter planning. Our first debate of winter quarter will be regarding the UC budget and tuition policy. We will also be planning to focus on an outreach and education campaign for early winter quarter. Our first district lobby visits (both state and national) are going to be planned for early winter quarter and our first trip to Sacramento will probably fall towards the end of February. SUA Chair Justin and I are also trying to schedule an introductory meeting with City Councilmember David Terrazas.

SAFE & SUA collaboration

Our office has recognized that the issue of sexual violence is a sensitive topic in which no one on our staff is an expert and so we have partnered with SAFE to see where student government can play a role. We are currently collaborating with SAFE to host their annual Sexual Violence Prevention Convention in the spring as well as to help start a safe slugs video series, primarily to help with funding and logistical planning. We are hoping to secure speakers (TBA) and finish fundraising for both initiatives in the first few weeks of winter quarter. Guillermo (COD) has been the main point person on the EVC staff for the projects.

Local Affairs

The Local Affairs Director (Ray Inoue) has been selected and will be brought up to speed over the break and into early winter quarter. He will be the main point person for the initiatives such as TAPS/Metro improvements, city council, and the local affairs festival. I have been approached by SUA rep Simba Khader about an app he is developing to track both campus and metro busses and will work with him on its implementation.

UCSA Executive Retreat

UCSA's executive board met on December 20th at the UCSA office in Oakland. I attended this meeting in my capacity as the vice chair of the undergraduate committee. In this meeting we discussed the progression of our campaigns, especially since FundtheUC and the tuition hikes have taken a priority. During this meeting we took the interim decision to decline UCOP's and the Regents' offer for joint lobbying, expecting board ratification in January. We also discussed how we in our role as executives could do better to steer the board towards action and conflict resolution, especially considering the contentious issues that will be brought up to the board in the coming months.

UCSA Board Meeting at UCSC

In January UCSC will host the UCSA Board on the 10th and 11th. Initial booking of the venue was Porter dining hall to accommodate for the anticipated public attending to speak regarding the Resolution to divest from companies profiting off of Palestine. This agenda item was instead moved to the February UCSA board meeting at UCLA.

Project Updates:

Winter Quarter Outreach:

Current winter outreach plans include class wraps and presentations during the first few weeks of the quarter. We hope to hold a week of workshops to inform students about the campaigns, the UC Budget, and the power players of the UC sometime in January. One of my goals will also be to increase the media presence of the office and to update the External Affairs Section of the SUA website with more relevant information about the staff, projects, and ways to get involved.

Tax Prep Program:

We are hoping to collaborate with VITA to provide a free tax preparation service to students on campus. These tax preparation days will most likely occur after February 13th due to volunteer certification for VITA's preparation program. I will also reach out to other units on campus such as CARE and the Financial aid office in hopes to make the program a holistic resource event.

IGNITE/State of Emergency (reposted from November report, updates in January after UCSA BOD meeting)

Proposition 47 was passed by voters during the Nov 4th election. The ballot measure will reduce certain drug and non violent crimes from felonies to misdemeanors, while also redirecting funds from corrections to schools, rehabilitation, and mental health services.

- Moving forward in the campaign at the UCSA level we are looking into setting concrete goals for the year. So far we are looking into following and tracking Prop 47 implementation, especially tracking the flow of funds generated. Also proposed is a follow up with Speaker Toni Atkins and the Legislative Caucus Chairs about a bill regarding Affirmative Action in CA higher education, institutionalizing the IGNITE campaign, and general outreach and education about the campaign on a campus by campus level.
 - Campus level goals:
 - Outreach, education, & coalition building
 - Research: Partnering w/ faculty and graduate students who have done/are doing research regarding diversity and higher education
 - Start drafting points for an affirmative action bill and/or UC policies that can be implemented (using research mentioned above).
 - Urge Chancellor or department heads to draft letter of support, highlighting the difficulties of fostering diversity in a post prop 209 environment.
 - The point person for this campaign on staff will be Guillermo Rogel, Andres Pinedo, Arturo Motta, and myself.

Review & Areas of Improvement

I've been very happy with the progress the office has made so far in its projects. I would like to increase the visibility of the projects and initiatives the office is working on and to open up our working groups to any student who is interested. My office hours have had low attendance this quarter and I hope to outreach more, perhaps by spending my office hours sitting in the quarry talking to students. My winter quarter office hours and location will be posted on the sua website.

Student Union Assembly Review

I'm glad to see more people speak during SUA meetings, but I'm also starting to see polarization between representatives during meetings. I think we need to reinforce community agreements during the beginning of next quarter, especially since we will have some representative turn over. I would also like to see members of the assembly (who are not officers or interns) engage in their own projects. I know there are a few current members who are interested in starting initiatives and others who want to be involved in some capacity so I will do what I can facilitate and participate in these projects.

For any questions, comments, or concerns about my activities for November 2014 please do not hesitate to contact me at [**suaevc@ucsc.edu**](mailto:suaevc@ucsc.edu).

Sincerely,

Louise Cabansay
External Vice Chair