

## **September 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.

### **Officer Training w/ Dean of Students**

I participated in the SUA officer trainings given by the Dean of Students Office. Through those trainings I learned more about the procedural and technical aspects of being an officer and the background preparation necessary to pursue the projects for the year. As officers we also formulated goals to pursue as group and identified projects we could collaborate on between individual offices.

### **VOTE 2014**

During the month of September the EVC office has been focusing on meeting our voter registration goal of 4000. We have been registering students to vote via dorm storming, clip boarding, and class wraps. Volunteers have been recruited and I've been working to make coalitions of different student organizations in regards to vote. The EVC office hosted a thorough 2-day training for vote during September 20th & 21st, lead by myself and a staff member from UCSA, USSA, and Calpirg. Currently planning a candidate forum to take place after the voter registration deadline (October 20th). I've also been reaching out to different events on campus about having our volunteers table or clipboard so that we can have more effective visibility. The office is also currently planning events to spread awareness and educate students about the items on the November ballot, specifically prop 47.

### **Lobby Corps**

This month I've been working with the lobby corp structure in order to set up a more permanent system for the years to come. Currently there will be a Local, State, National, and University Affairs component to lobby corps, each led by a member of my staff and populated by volunteers. I hope to outreach to different student groups in order to make this space more effective and representative of student needs. I am attempting to create a 2-unit internship program so that I can build leadership and increase the effectiveness of the office, leading to more campaign progress. Currently Lobby Corp is scheduled to meet on Wednesdays from 8-10 in Cervantes Velasquez starting on October 8th. For fall quarter I will be focusing on outreach and training for the group. I will be inviting guest speakers from units on campus (SAFE, UCPD, etc), our affiliate organizations (UCSA, USSA), and other speakers (Calpirg, Regents, the Mayor etc) to come meet with lobby corp and any interested students before the legislature resumes its

sessions. I have also been creating new graphics for the office and the campaigns. I hope that this would serve to increase the visibility of our campaigns, which will hopefully facilitate more student engagement on campus. Lastly, SUA Chair Justin and I met with UCSC's University and Government Relations representatives to introduce our roles and the work we are planning to accomplish. I hope to send student representatives to any legislative visits UCSC's administration plans to have and I hope to work with them regarding City of Santa Cruz community relations.

### **UCSA September Board Meeting at UCB**

On September 6 & 7 UCSA's BoD met at UCB. This was our first full BoD meeting after Congress so a majority of this meeting was spent planning the structure and specifics of the UCSA campaigns for the year. I was elected Vice Chair of the Undergraduate Committee and Abraham Galvan Sanchez (EVP UCR) was elected as chair. In this role, I will helping to facilitate the progress of the undergraduate campaigns, mainly IGNITE and UConsent, on a system-wide level. We created a backwards plan for each campaign for the fall quarter, which included letters to be sent to decision makers from UCSA, dates for days of action on the campuses, and other goals for us to establish by the end of the quarter (mainly choosing pin points and outreaching and educating our campus populations.

I also presented to the UCSA Board a list of asks to be sent to USSA. These asks specifically outlined expectations UCSA wanted from USSA ranging from short term goals, to long term structural changes. In doing so, I hope USSA will become a more productive and accountable organization to its membership so we can work together to achieve results nation-wide.

### **Collaboration w/ UCSA's Field Organizer Julian Martinez, USSA's SLAP Coordinator Beth Huang, and CALPIRG's Rob Smith**

All three staff members came to UCSC to help train our core VOTE volunteers in a 2 day training session Sep 20 & 21st. A majority of our volunteers are freshmen so it was exciting to see so many new and inspired faces. I also met with each of the staffers to discuss further collaborations throughout the year and planned more frequent visits from UCSA and USSA staff. The EVC office and CALPIRG will be working closely in regards to the VOTE campaign, hopefully collectively we will be able to register over 4000 students on campus to vote.

### **Outreach and Coalition Building**

Starting from my election into office in the spring, I and volunteers have been compiling a list-serve of students interested in external affairs work. From this I've started a newsletter/periodic updates of the office in regards to its activities and any opportunities to get involved. Since then, I've seen the active participation of new individuals in the EVC office. I hope to continue these updates and also expand this transparency via org and senate visits and also through other media channels such as CHP.

The office has begun preliminary outreach efforts to several organizations on campus, especially in regards to VOTE. I hope to also work with these groups to bring the campaigns of UCSA and USSA back to campus, while also engaging the UCSC community with the city of Santa Cruz. My goal in this collaboration would be that each organization would apply the campaigns to their spaces in ways most relevant to their communities. I plan to meet with point people from different organizations along with my outreach and engagement coordinator to continue this dialogue and collaboration throughout the year so that the office stays transparent and so we can continue to advocate for the issues that our campus wants us to.

### **Areas of Improvement**

- **Time Management:** It was more difficult to complete EVC work this month than months previous since RA training took place from 9am to 5pm Mondays to Friday, and this specifically limited the time I could meet with units on campus (such as staff and administrators). I was able to schedule necessary meeting during my lunch breaks, but at times this wasn't sufficient. I hope this issue will relieve itself when my schedule becomes more schedule as the year starts. It would also be helpful to be able to delegate matters to staff once hired.
- **Internships:** Once again, I'm finding it more and more necessary to hire a staff and/or assemble a core group of volunteers for the EVC office during the summer, a practice seen at all other UCs. I will work to institutionalize these changes for my successor so that the EVC offices continues to grow and deliver better results.
- **VOTE:** We had some difficulties implementing the move-in arrangements for VOTE organized by the previous EVC. There was a lot of miscommunication, mostly about finances and whose budget early move-in would come from (Chancellor/Housing/SUA). We were able to work out an arrangement, but it would helpful for a more thorough transition process with supporting documentation or MOUs.

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

Sincerely,

Louise Cabansay  
External Vice Chair