



Student Union Assembly (SUA), Office of the Internal Vice Chair

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

September 10, 2014

Student Union Assembly,

Under my duties of Organizing Director of the Student Union Assembly and Article III Section A Number 6 of the SUA Constitution, I present my August 2014 monthly report and evaluation to the Assembly. I will outline all my events, logistical planning, activities, and constructive criticism with areas of improvement in hopes of providing a detailed account in this month's report.

## **Activities for the month of August 2014**

### **Officer meetings**

We had several officer meetings during the month of August. I was very pleased to see Chair Lardinois call for the meetings and be able to run them efficiently. The first meeting was just after IVC Wheeler had taken office. I facilitated the meeting since I was the one that called for it. We talked about our individual goals, as well as our group goals for the year. It was extremely productive, and I believe the group bonded over common goals and interests.

### **UCSA Congress**

This conference made me realize how proud I am to be a Banana Slug. UC Santa Cruz showed up with one of the smallest delegations (24), but had some of the loudest voices, and of course most spirit at this conference.

I missed the first day due to summer session, but I still was able to meet the delegation, and network with other UC students later that night. This conference introduced me to new students, not only from my school, but also from all across California. It was truly inspiring to see so many passionate and educated students discussing topics from mental health, sexual assault, the master plan for higher education, net neutrality, and more.

I was very impressed by two incoming 1<sup>st</sup> years, who I will not name since I have not asked them for permission to do so. These two students worked day and night on the Net Neutrality campaign, and even though they did not present at the conference, they made a very clear cut plan of steps they needed to take to show



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that this is an issue that not only effects students, but just about everyone. If you would like to learn more please come see me at the SUA office or send me an email.

During the three active days I was there, I acted as an observer and a leader. I went to workshops that were held by fellow Slugs to show my support, as well as provide input when I thought it was needed. There was a large time block for Open Spaces in which I sat down with about 30 UC students to discuss and brainstorm for the Master Plan of Higher Education campaign. Though not selected as this year's campaign I'm very interested in bringing back the information I learned in this space to educate students here on the importance of revising this master plan.

The campaign that was voted for this year was UConsent. This campaign is about sexual assault/violence prevention and awareness. It seems that Chair Lardinois and EVC Cabansay have taken a strong interest in this campaign, as they have already started talking to SHOP (Student Health Outreach & Promotion) on implementing this campaign on campus. The IGNITE (Invest in Graduation Not Incarceration, Transform Education) campaign has been renewed and revamped for a 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

To learn more follow these links:

<http://ucsa.org/action-alerts/help-fight-incaration-and-reclaim-education-f-i-r-e/>

<http://7000insolidarity.org/uconsent/>

## **Planning my Events/Programs**

Over the month of August I researched other UCs to see the different ways they get students involved with their student government. One way that really struck me was a fellowship program. I was already in the works of developing a ride-along system for students to participate in in order to evolve into strong student leaders. I plan on implementing this system into a fellowship program. As the students develop so will the program, and hopefully it will turn into something that will continue for years to come.

I am also planning on having a Campus Clean-Up day during the year to bring awareness to the Tobacco/Smoking ban that was implemented January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, and to also form a stronger relationship with different environmental and sustainability groups on campus.



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## Interest List

I have created an interest list for students that want to participate in the SUA whether it be through college/organization representation, internships, volunteer opportunities, attending conferences, etc.. If you would like to be place on this list please email me your name and college affiliation.

## Suggestions for Improvement

- There is room for improvement in separating personal life with professional life. If the two are intertwined, it can lead to not only a problem between two individuals, but also the entire group. I would like to see the officers attempt to be more open, and willing to hang out with the other officers outside of SUA business. A strong officer core will lead to an easier and more successful year.
- Furthermore, communication has been lacking amongst the officers. It is hard to offer help on certain events/programs when I don't know what fully is going on. In tune with communication might be more transparency within the individual offices.

In conclusion, I provide this summary as my detailed report for the month of July 2014. If you have any questions, concerns, criticism feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

Brad Mleynek

Organizing Director, Student Union Assembly