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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

December 8, 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 November 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 November 2014

### **Action Against Tuition Increase**

After the news about UC President Napolitano's long-term stability plan, I immediately planned a meeting for the next day to open dialogue about what we need to do as students to fight this proposal. SUA was able to make connections with Autonomous Students, the GSA, the UAW, and a wide-range of undergraduate students concerned about the plan.

This led to a forum about what actions could be taken leading up to the UC Regent's meeting at UCSF where the proposal would be presented and voted on.

An educational rally occurred on the Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> where students were able to speak about how tuition increase would affect them, learn more about the stability plan, and other issues that affected students on campus.

On Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, approximately 100 students went to UCSF in attempts to shut down the meeting. Though the meeting was not shut down, I believe the message was sent.

On Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, another rally occurred in the Quarry Plaza. After the rally students marched around campus, and reached their destination, the Humanities area. Students marched into the Humanities and Social Sciences building claiming the space as theirs.

Overall, this led to a motion made in SUA to move \$3000 to make a new line item labeled "Student Action: Against Tuition Increases." I will be chairing a committee that will decide how this money is spent based off of funding requests.

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## **BBQ and Badges**

Attended BBQ and Badges with the UCSC Police Department and other members of the SUA. Had a great conversation with the Chief of Police, and found out about many of the concerns that the PD are having this year, a lot dealing with the overcrowding of campus. Was able to talk to former EVC and current CUIP for the UCSC PD, and learn about his current "Know Your Rights" project.

# **UCSA Students of Color Conference**

Attended this year's UCSA Students of Color Conference at UC Merced. We had over 100 students in our delegation, one of the biggest delegations there. Overall, I believe the conference went well, but I do wish there were more spaces made available for all identities. I'm very proud that fellow Banana Slugs stepped up to address their concerns. I think we had a good conversation at the end of the conference about what actions can happen here at UCSC, and I have already seen some new spaces made on campus.

# **Colleges Tour**

With the help of the Director of Engagement and Relations, Annie Choy, outreach has been made to all of the colleges' senates/governments/parliaments in an attempt to talk to students about what the Office of the Organizing Director is doing for the rest of the year, and how students can get more involved with SUA.

# **Planning Events/Programs**

### **Campus Clean-Up Day**

The Assistant Director of Organizing, Rachel Lee, and Annie Choy met with members of our Sustainability team here at UCSC to discuss/brainstorm the campus cleanup day. It is looking like the event will occur near Alumni Weekend, April 24-26<sup>th</sup>. Another meeting will be happening at the beginning of winter quarter to solidify plans, and get moving on preparing the actual event.

I also met with members of the Risk Services team under Jean Marie Scott, to discuss the smoking/tobacco ban that was implemented last year. Rachel Lee and Annie Choy attended with me, and we received a lot of new information that we will hopefully be able to make into a workshop for later in the year.

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#### **SUA Outreach**

It is to my understanding that SUA only does outreach during Summer Orientation and OPERS Fall Festival. This is a problem, and to solve it, I am hoping to create a tradition where SUA does extensive outreach during the first week or two of every quarter. SUA is supposed to represent the entire undergraduate student body, but how can we do that when we are not visible or easily accessible? The Office of the Organizing Director is planning on tabling in Quarry Plaza for the first two weeks of Winter Quarter, as well as, advertising any upcoming events. We have sent out an email to all of the officers and representatives to ask for participation and collaboration to make a collective effort to show that SUA is actually here for students.

## Interest List (Will be open the entire year)

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, year and college affiliation (suaod@ucsc.edu).

### **Suggestions for Improvement**

- The officer meetings need to be more productive, and everyone needs to make an effort to go to them, or even Skype in. We should be in constant communication about what is going on, and I still haven't seen that happening. I'm hoping by being as transparent as possible others will do the same.
- Also, the officer core needs to be attending SUA meetings. I don't think we have had one meeting this quarter where all six officers were at the meeting, and that is a big issue.
- For the SUA space in general, students need to state a reason for objection. It makes it very difficult and unproductive if an objection is made with no reason, and no discussion is had after that objection.
- Also, I have seen a lot of personal wants in the space, and not as much representation as the SUA should have. All officers and representatives should be thinking about their respective constituents when voting and making arguments. No one should be voting off of his or her own personal opinion. We can't afford to be playing the game like those in higher positions that we fight against. It's simply hypocritical.

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

Respectfully,

Brad Mleynek

Organizing Director, Student Union Assembly