

Student Union Assembly

SUA Mailstop: SOAR, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz CA 95064 • P: 831.459.4838
suapres@ucsc.edu • sua.ucsc.edu

Dear Student Union Assembly,

Under my duties as President of the Student Union Assembly and Article III Section A.1 of the SUA Constitution, I present my December 2015 monthly report and evaluation to the Assembly.

Cross Committee Communication Caucus -

- Student Committee on Committees had its first Cross Committee Communication Caucus (C4). This was great, because students showed up to share what they learn or worked on in their committees. The Internal Affairs Vice President tried to do enough outreach to bring in other community members of the campus to hear updates, but it was only representatives who attended.
- The purpose of C4 is to share information. I think it would be more effective if we tried something else in the future. C4 was created by the Internal Vice Chair around 2003. It was a great idea, but with technology nowadays, I think it would be effective to explore other options of spread information across to the student body. I would also like to see C4 evolve into a day long conference.

Student Organization Funding Advisory Committee -

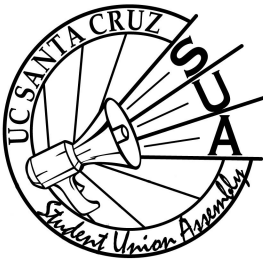
- The allocations recommended by SOFA were passed by the Assembly. For the future, I think it would be better if SOFA representatives were elected so they could decide for themselves how the allocations are made. Otherwise it seems like a waste of student time since it changes so dramatically in the SUA meeting anyway.
- After they were passed, I met with the Treasurer to send funding award letters and allocate out the money. In the future, the SUA Advisor should be doing this work and be more involved in the process. It is really something that should be administrative budgetary work.

SUA Meeting -

- For the last meeting of the quarter, I was very sick and I missed the only SUA meeting this month. I stayed at home in bed, but still assisted very email and text message when questions came up. Because there is a Parliamentarian this year, the meeting can still happen just fine without the President. The budget got passed, which was great. And the SOFA allocations were passed.

Student Regents Visit -

- The Student Regents came to visit UCSC and I had a long discussion about housing issues. I am hopeful that next year the Student Regent will take up housing as their major issue. It affects UC Santa Cruz so much, it is the number one issue I talk with campus administration about and in statewide UC meetings. I wish more students turned out to speak with them, because they did try to do thorough outreach to the student body and meet with multiple groups on campus.



Student Union Assembly

SUA Mailstop: SOAR, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz CA 95064 • P: 831.459.4838
suapres@ucsc.edu • sua.ucsc.edu

Elections Preparation -

- I met with Lucy Rojas from the Dean of Students Office and Jennifer Teschler from the Graduation Student Association to talk about the elections process. There was concern about the differences in requirements between the graduate student ballot and the undergraduate ballot. Undergraduate fees require a minimum voting threshold for undergraduate referenda to be valid is 25%, with at least 65% of the voters voting yes to pass. The graduate student fees only require a 25% voter turnout and a simple majority. There was a concern that this would be difficult to calculate with a joint undergraduate and graduate measure on the ballot. It was my recommendation to not change this, because I do not feel it should be easy to tax students.

Transportation Advisory Meeting -

- The Transportation Advisory meetings have been happening all quarter. We met in December to review the parking fee proposals. These minutes should be online, or available by request to the committee chair, if any student wants to review them. We have not come to any conclusions. Most of this time is just learning the TAPS budget and the reason for the fee increase. I have a lot of experience with TAPS from the last few years, so this has really all been review for me. I would be happy to talk to any student that wants to discuss further.

SUA Advisor -

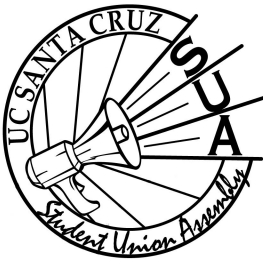
- I have meetings with the Dean of Students, Alma Sifuentes, to help ensure the SUA Advisor is making progress with fixing the budget concerns I had. We are also getting more policy advising the Dean of Students to ensure that SUA is not breaking any major laws.

Student Success Steering Committee -

- The SSSC met this month to talk about and Learning Support Services report back. They were trying to connect with more students and experiment with LSS. I disagreed with some of their approaches, because I felt they were asking too much of students who are already busy doing school and work, and everything else they need to survive with tuition fees being so high. I am realizing a pattern with administration trying to address academic issues without recognizing that student basic needs must be met first. They need to address the issues of food and housing insecurity before addressing academic issues. "Student success" cannot happen when we have so many other issues we need to address.

Beach Flats Garden -

- The Beach Flats Garden fight has been ongoing all quarter. SUA passed a resolution in solidarity earlier this quarter. Since it was winter break and most students are gone, I have time to spend at City Council Meetings. I went down to a Santa Cruz Planning Commission meeting to speak about the resolutions and my personal beliefs about saving the Beach Flats Garden. This put SUA in the news:
<http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/article/NE/20151217/NEWS/151219715>



Student Union Assembly

SUA Mailstop: SOAR, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz CA 95064 • P: 831.459.4838
suapres@ucsc.edu • sua.ucsc.edu

This is a summary report for December 2015. If there are any questions, concerns, or thoughts, feel free to contact me at suapres@ucsc.edu.

Cheers,
Julie Rachel Foster
SUA President