



# Student Union Assembly

## Monthly Report

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Under My duties as Vice President of Internal Affairs of the Student Union Assembly and Article III Section A Subsection 2(j) of the SUA Constitution, I present my August 2016 monthly report and evaluation to the Assembly. I will outline all of my events, logistical planning, activities and constructive criticism with areas of improvement in hopes of providing a detailed account in the month's report.

### **Completed and ongoing projects, campaigns, events, tasks, or activities for the month:**

- **Strengthening relation between Academic Senate and SCOC (8/1 – ongoing)**
  - After reaching out to Academic Senate staff, we scheduled a lunch to further discuss relations. On 8/22, I met with Dean of Students Lucy Rojas, Academic Senate Chair Olöf Einarsson, and Senate Director Matthew Mednick. We discussed ways for senate members to improve the student experience on Academic Senate committees. It was a very productive meeting that led to many action items which I hope to accomplish in September and October.
- **Considering mandating SAS attendance for AS Student Reps (8/2 – ongoing)**
  - The Student Academic Senate Chair, Jessica Xu, reached out to me, asking if I would consider mandating SAS for students who sit on academic senate committees. I think this is a great idea, they are supposed to be present but we have no way of ensuring they will attend.
  - VP of Academic Affairs, Tias Webster, and I debriefed regarding where he and Jessica are in terms of plans and ways to mandate SAS attendance. We have decided to add report backs to SAS as mandatory and attendance should be at least bi-weekly. I emailed Mario from the Dean of Students Office to make changes to the ER position to reflect that.
- **SCOC Check in (8/4 – 8/6)**
  - I sent an email to the E board to see when everyone would return to Santa Cruz so we could all meet. At this time, I am looking into seeing if we can and should try to appoint a Crown SFAC representative before the full steering board exists,

mainly due to the learning curve of SFAC and importance of having a full and representative committee.

- I checked in with a former VP of Internal Affairs and he said that we can make temporary appointments for the steering board to confirm once we all convene around August. I will try to schedule a phone meeting before SFAC's orientation on September 24. (Note, we met and appointed a rep on August 26, 2016). See Note on Conference Call a few bullets below.

- **Student Outreach** **(8/16 – ongoing)**
  - A few more students have emailed me with ways to get involved, specifically, many are interested in TAC, the transportation advisory committee. I provided students with the necessary resources to learn more about student committees and how to apply.
  - I have heavily outreached for applications for the Crown SFAC Rep and we received a total of seven (7) applications.
- **SCOC Executive Board Conference Calls** **(8/26 and 8/31)**
  - I called the Executive board to review the applications we received for the SFAC Crown Representative. We discussed applicants and narrowed it down to two (2) applicants who we are asking follow up questions and reaching out to their references.
  - On our follow up meeting we selected an applicant and they accepted the position on SFAC.
- **Officer Meetings** **(8/25 – ongoing)**
  - The officers had 2 meetings this month, both of which were really productive. We all shared our completed and current projects, took questions, and made suggestions which were helpful. We decided that our ER edits will be due Sept. 2<sup>nd</sup> and launched about a week before classes start so we can outreach for job positions collectively. I am in charge of placing swag orders for fall fest and the SUA open house next month.
- **Ordering Swag for OPERS Fall Fest and SUA Open House** **(8/31 - ongoing)**
  - I proposed different swag orders to the officers and we selected a package. I placed the orders to arrive in time for tabling at our upcoming outreach events.
- **Review and Finalization of CAPS Feedback Summary** **(8/26 – 8/31)**
  - In June, I solicited feedback from students, *specifically* asking for negative or critical feedback of CAPS. While I understand this creates a biased picture of the

service, it was my intention to look for trends and patterns of negative experiences with the unit. I received 47 testimonies and found a handful of patterns, which I plan to share in a future meeting with CAPS Director Gary Dunn.

- At the moment, I regard CAPS services to be more reactionary than preventative and am working with VP of Academic Affairs Tias Webster to develop a student wellness survey. This is the first step of many and one component of a larger goal: to challenge the methods of CAPS services by illustrating their system may not be the most effective on our campus.
- VP of External Affairs Judith Gutierrez and I met scheduled a meeting with Gary Dunn, CAPS director to talk about Let's Talk and feedback I got from students. Please see my September 2016 results for details.

- **General Website Maintenance** **(8/1 – ongoing)**
  - I am still the main contributor and editor of the SUA website. I uploaded officer reports and have been working on some typos and linking problems on the website. SUA President Ray observed some areas that may need rewording, which we are working on.
  - I updated committee availability for SCOC on the website.

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### **Areas for Improvement**

- I would benefit from the officers being more on the same page in terms of our personal projects – it would be easy, then, to share the work we are doing and help each other if and when applicable. A lot of our goals overlap, and it would be beneficial in those cases to work together.
- Other officers should get WCMS training ASAP. At this point, only Tamra and I have access to website edits and hope that all officers will contribute to the SUA website.

In summary, I provide this monthly report for July 2016. For comments and or questions, free to contact me via email [suavpi@ucsc.edu](mailto:suavpi@ucsc.edu), or visit my office hours.