



Student Union Assembly Monthly Report

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Students of UC Santa Cruz,
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Under my duties as Vice President of External Affairs of the Student Union Assembly and Article III Section A Subsection 2(j) of the SUA Constitution, I present to you a sum of my December 2017 monthly report and evaluation to the Assembly.

Sacramento Trip Dec. 1

- I took advantage of my time in Sacramento and - with Kaia and Talar's help - secured meetings with some of our State Representatives and UC Stakeholders
- Met with:
 - 1) Senator Hernandez
 - Discussed SCA14 (Hernandez)
 - **Summary:** SCA 14 provides the Legislature with oversight of the University of California Office of the President (UCOP) budget and restructures the University of California (UC) Board of Regents by requiring the board to have increased representation from students, faculty, and employees. Additionally, the constitutional amendment shortens regent terms and establishes term limits.
 - We provided our feedback and asked about the bill's development
 - Assemblymember Berman
 - Focused on the Master Plan
 - Assemblymember Berman wants to hold hearings across CA that focus on:
 - Student Needs
 - Current Climate on campuses
 - Student Preparation for the workforce
 - We provided feedback on where we think the next hearings should be
 - One in UC Riverside and one in a Community College
 - Suggested early March
 - Topics of discussion:
 - Affordability - Higher Education
 - Basic Needs: Housing, Food, mental health
 - Campus Climate: Emphasizing the fact that minorities are especially affected by the total cost of attendance!!!

- UC Regent Lark in the Governor's Office - Appointed in June 2017
 - Introductory meeting
 - Discussed expectations for January's conversations around the CA budget and possible tuition increases
 - Brought up the fact that the Governor vetoed SB169, which would have codified Federal Title IX protections into law
 - Explained the importance of providing resources for survivors
 - Regent Norm Pattiz's misconduct
 - Regent Report Cards
 - Invited her to attend a UCSA board meeting! She is interested.

Issue of Increased Enrollment at UCSC

- UCSC's situation has sparked conversations around over-enrollment at the UC's
- I was able to introduce UCSC's Vice President of Academic Affairs to UCSA's University Affairs Committee (made up of all the EVP's), where she discussed her efforts around tackling increased enrollment at UCSC and systemwide
- We were able to gain support from other campuses such as: Berkeley, San Diego, Irvine

UCSA Board Meeting - Dec. 2 - 3

- Attended UCSA's December board meeting in Berkeley
- Agenda provided [here](#).

Meeting with President Napolitano - Dec. 15

- I met one-on-one with President Napolitano on December 15. Below are the takeaways from our discussion: Meeting duration approximately one hour.

1) Tuition

- When asked if UCOP had any indications of what the state budget will look like and its impacts on the UC budget. President Napolitano stated that they are expecting a 3% increase in the state budget, but we will not know for sure until the budget is released in January.

- In addition, as you all know, a tuition increase will be discussed at the January Regents meeting. The Regents will most likely propose a tuition increase and vote on it at the January meeting as well.

- I mentioned that it is procedure to introduce the topic in one meeting and vote on the next (in this case: vote on tuition in March), but the Regents' thought process is: The sooner they vote on a tuition increase, the sooner financial aid can put students' packages together in time for the next school year.

- The increase will be

In-state: 2.5% increase in tuition and 5% increase in fees.

Out-of-state: 3.5% increase in tuition with 5% increase in fees.

This would generate \$77M for the UC and one third of that will be returned to aid.

- When asked for an alternative: Napolitano explained that the Regents are considering possibly postponing this year's tuition increase and instead only increasing fees. If this is the route they take, the tuition increase will occur next year (for the 2019 academic year) and it will be much greater than the 2.5/3.5% proposed this year.

- President Napolitano mentioned that UCOP wants to focus on improving/increasing resources around mental health with the student fee increase. I responded that that was great, but students need to be a part of the conversations that go about making that happen. I also insisted that this applies to all resources and that transparency is important.

2) Enrollment Increase

- Q: Who will be paying for the 1500 extra slots in the UC? The State or the UC? With what money?

A: The UC is paying for the extra 1500 slots with funds from the Office of the President.

- I also talked about UCSA's efforts to increase diversity in staff and faculty (i.e. diverse staff in CAPS), but campuses like Santa Cruz cannot keep folks from diverse backgrounds because the cost of living is too high. So we discussed possible incentives for staff, whether it be affordable housing as well.

3) Emergency Housing Protocols

- I followed up on our previous ask to share Berkeley's best practice of including emergency housing in new developments at the Council of Chancellors' & Regents Meeting.

- President Napolitano responded that she brought up the topic to the Chancellors and that she is also waiting on a follow-up from them. She agreed to bring it up again with the Chancellors and follow up with us.

4) UC Undocumented Coalition

- In our last meeting with Student Affairs (November), Student Affairs committed to discussing how to achieve better representation on the "President Advisor Council for Undocumented Community and Immigration".

-Q: Are you (Napolitano) open to having student groups like the UC Undocumented Coalition in addition to campus staff work with UCOP in handling future selection process for this council?

- A: She seemed opposed to this, but is open to having a selection process similar to that of the Student Regent selection, where the Undocumented Coalition picks up to 3 student candidates and UCOP picks the member(s) that sit on the council from that pool of candidates. Not the best option, but a start to many follow-up conversations!

Finally, the External Affairs Office consists of a staff of four individuals: The Chief of Staff, Executive Assistant, Legislative Director, and Organizing Director. Each individual is required to assist the EVP with different branches of advocacy: University Affairs, Government Relations, and Campus Action. The individuals have put in a lot of work this year, so I've asked them to provide a summary of the work they have done upon hire. Their reports are included below.

EVP Staff Reports

Davon Thomas, *Chief of Staff*

As Chief of Staff, my job is to serve as the right-hand to the Vice President of External Affairs and to help guide the office in her absence and to assist the three interns with their respective work.

Since my hire, I have served as Judith's proxy during the UC Student Association board meetings. Each month, we travel to a different UC campus and discuss UCSA issues, local campuses, and federal and state policies. During these board meetings, I participate in committee breakouts with the "perm-ignite" campaign and report back our discussions to the EVP. I serve as the Undergraduate Representative on the University Committee on Affirmative Action, Diversity, and Equity and the information taken from these committee breakouts allows me to be effective within UCAADE meetings as a representative for students.

Along with the other staff in the EVP office, we hosted a "Know Your IX" for the Systemwide Title IX day. We educated students on Title IX rights and how to contact their legislators about the horrid anti-Title IX from Washington D.C and the federal government.

I facilitated office meetings while Judith was away dealing with UCSA issues. During the last UCSA Board meeting, I spoke with the Student Regent, Paul Monge about providing him a list of UCSC admin that we wanted him to talk to on our behalf. In the last SUA meeting, I proposed this to the assembly and asked them to provide names of admin and the issues they wanted the student regents to advocate on their behalf for. We will be hosting the Student Regent on the first week of school and I will send the list before they arrive.

Kaia Partlow, *Executive Assistant*

This year in the EVP office I assisted the President in attending a variety of important meetings and edited speeches regarding for the UC Regents meeting and the California Student Aid Commission Meeting. I also prepared and researched important aspects of these meetings beforehand. All in all my first quarter as Executive Assistant was a large learning experience as I was trained to constantly adapt to the new environments I encountered.

Rachel Jung, *Organizing Director*

Since joining the EVP office as the Organizing Director mid-quarter, I've been lucky enough to be a part of a variety of actions and event organizing both at UCSC and systemwide level. The first event we organized as an office was the Title IX Awareness action. We tabled at the Quarry to inform the public, engage them with a creative art piece, take signatures on petitions, and provide resources for them to get directly involved with their local representatives. We also collaborated with the CARE office to the best of our offices' abilities to connect our on-campus resources with students. We are currently in the midst of planning for two more systemwide actions: another one regarding Title IX (in relation to requesting the removal of UC Regent Norman Pattiz) and one regarding tuition hike up for discussion in the January Regents meeting in Riverside. On our campus, Judith (the EVP) and I met with the co-chairs of MEChA, Brenda Gutierrez Ramirez and Oscar Montiel. It was a much-needed opportunity to renew our connection with one of the biggest ethnicity-based organizations at UCSC and have a constructive conversation on our roles for our students and future collaborations.

Vignesh 'Viggy' Iyer, *Legislative Director*

Here's a summary of what I have done holding my position since November.

I have held this position for 1 month and 3 weeks, and in that time done the following:

- Actively represented UCSC as a non-voting board member at the UCSA Board Meetings
- Participated in discourse relating to campus-wide issues and UC campaigns.
- Argued in favor of legislation positively affecting UCSC students within the Government Relations committee within UCSA.
- Organized, as part of SUA EVP's staff, a Title IX advocacy event on campus; facilitated the signage of 48 petitions in an effort to let our legislators know about SC's support for the codification of Title IX.
- Began preparations to re-launch lobby corps for winter and spring quarter 2018, opening up Legislative Assistant applications to all members of the student body.

SUA Thoughts and Improvements

I look forward to what 2018 has to offer and am excited to continue the work we've been doing, while engaging more students in the process.