



Student Union Assembly Monthly Report

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Students of UC Santa Cruz,
December 1, 2017

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 November 2017 monthly report and evaluation to the Assembly.

UCSA Board Meeting - Nov. 3-5

- Attended UCSA's monthly board meeting at UCI
- Agenda provided [here](#).
- This board meeting was staff's first meeting

Follow Up Meetings - Nov. 6

- Met with UCSC's Government Relations (GR) Director, Melissa Whatley, to update her on what the office's plans for the year are.
- Melissa and I met a couple times during my first term as EVP, so this meeting was essentially a follow up on ongoing projects and new opportunities for growth.
- I look forward to ensuring that both the EVP Office and UCSC's GR are informed and on the same page when advocating for students at the local, state, and federal level.
- After meeting with Melissa, Kaia and I met to review my speech/remarks to the Board of Regents for November's meeting.

UCAN/ UCSA Collaboration

- Those this collaboration is specific to my work as President of UCSA, it does impact our efforts in the EVP Office
- UCAN: UC Advocacy Network
 - Our conversations/ focuses
 - Advocacy and support for undocumented folks
 - Securing federal funding for the UC
 - Title IX
 - Tax Reform
- UCAN's efforts align with UCSA's mission. It is important to build and maintain relationships with different systems of advocacy for the students' benefit.
 - Encompasses all branches of UCSA

- University Affairs - All EVP's
 - UCAN directly works with UCOP
- Government Relations - All Legislative Directors
 - GR tailors its efforts around state and federal legislation as does UCAN
- Campus Action Committee - All Organizing Directors
 - UCAN does a lot of social media launches! They simply ask that campuses help with outreach.

UC Santa Cruz Housing Panel - Nov. 8

- Santa Cruz's Mayor, Cynthia Chase is undergoing her "listening tour" in Santa Cruz County, which aims at collecting a variety of narratives around homelessness and basic needs
- Maxine Jimenez, UCSC's President and Undergraduate Chair of UC's Council of the Presidents, hosted a panel with the mayor and myself
 - The mayor asked for input from UCSC students on Santa Cruz's housing situation and I discussed systemwide efforts around basic needs.
- It was an amazing experience being able to inform students about the external work that is done by students! I discussed systemwide efforts around homelessness, food security, and overall basic needs. It was also very helpful to hear about the work students were doing in our very own city of Santa Cruz. I admire the leadership that was in the room that night and look forward to working together.

Budget Consultation Call - Nov. 14

- Call duration approximately 45 minutes.
- Nathan Brostrom, UCOP's Chief Financial Officer, discussed:
 - Systemwide housing projects
 - 19,000 net new beds for undergrad and grad students in the UC
 - 1500 in Berkeley (~780) and Merced (~700) by 2018
 - Balance between limited project revenue bonds and public-private partnership delivery model
- David Alcocer, UCOP's Associate Vice President of Budget Analysis and Planning, discussed:
 - 2018-'19 Operating budget
 - Mentioned that the budget conversations were pushed to January's UC Regents Meeting
 - *Tuition talks!*
 - \$50 million being withheld until the UC completes 5 tasks - one being the 2:1 ratio

- For every 2 frosh, the UC must admit one transfer student
 - Campuses affected: UC Santa Cruz and UC Riverside
 - Campuses exempt from the requirement: UC Merced, UC San Francisco
- Leads to the issue of increased enrollment and basic needs

* *Headed to SF immediately after*

UC Regents Meeting Nov 15-16 - UC San Francisco

- Pre meeting with Student Affairs
 - Systemwide standard of living
 - Funding for monthly travel - UC Undocumented Coalition
 - Campus Resources – Basic Needs and Emergency Housing Best Practice
 - Follow Up on CARE Needs Assessment and Funding for Preventative Education Training
- UCSA President Remarks
 - “The Student Experience During the Trump Era” - UCSA’s report about the effects of Trump’s election on UC students
 - The launch of Regent Report Cards
 - Pattiz Resignation
 - Per Request:
 - Free Speech v. Hate Speech
 - Tax Bill
 - *The UC stated its opposition for the tax bill at the November Regents Meeting!*
- Offline Discussions:
 - I asked Nathan to talk to UCSA’s Board of Directors about systemwide housing projects
 - Talked about the importance of the regent report cards: transparency and accountability
 - Defining the gray area between free speech and hate speech and recognizing the effects of hate speech on underrepresented communities
 - 2:1 Ratio with David Alcocer
 - Scheduled a meeting with Regent Lark, who is new to the UC Board of Regents - Appointed June 15, 2017
 - Encouraged Regents to attend UCSA Board Meetings and Conferences
 - Regent Lemus showed interest!

DRC Call with Pro Staff – Nov. 17

- UCSA Pro Staff met with Directors of UC Disability Resource Centers

- I introduced UCSA, its mission statement, and set the tone for a discussion around our 3D campaign this year.
- Sparked a relationship between UCSC's DRC Director!
 - I look forward to working with him at a local level, all while exploring different ways we can improve the access and quality of resources to all UC students systemwide.

Title IX Protections Act - Nov. 29

- The EVP Office tabled at the Quarry on the 29th!
- Through collaboration with UCSC's CARE Office, we informed informed students about what is happening with Title IX at the federal level and what resources are available to survivors at UCSC.
- Students signed petitions showing their support for the Title IX Protection Act and some even shared their thoughts and stories.
- The EVP Office was very pleased with the turn out!

CSAC Meeting Nov. 30

- First time meeting with the CA Student Aid Commission Board
- There was representation from Community Colleges, CalStates, and UC's
- I addressed:
 - Affordability - Total Cost of Attendance
 - Our advocacy for the Middle Class Scholarship, DreamLoan, and other programs aimed at assisting students to access and attain a UC education.
 - Introduced our campaigns
 - Reiterated our support for SEARS (Student Expenses and Resources Survey)
- I look forward to working with CSAC to ensure that students have the financial support necessary to pursue a UC education

SUA Thoughts and Improvements

This month was dedicated to reorganizing the EVP Office. It has definitely been very difficult balancing both of my roles as the External VP to UCSC and the President of UCSA. To avoid biting off more than I can chew, my staff and I made sure to prioritize our efforts for the year. We strongly believe that the wellbeing of students is of great importance and that any issue students face - big or small - is worth tackling. That being said, though, it is important to pick your battles. In other words, to focus your energy on an issue important to your community (i.e. homelessness in Santa Cruz) and truly tackling it in good faith before moving on to another issue. I've learned that the more work you pile on, the more difficult it becomes to find a solution

to any one problem. I am thankful for my staff and I look forward to sharing the work, so that we can all focus our energies on addressing multiple issues efficiently.