



# Student Union Assembly

## Monthly Report

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Hey Y'all!

Under My duties as Vice President of Student Life of the Student Union Assembly and Article III Section A Subsection 6(1) of the SUA Constitution, I present my July 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 TASKS**

**July 1<sup>st</sup>**

#### **Transition into Redwood Building**

The SUA office was temporarily located at a trailer by the Cowell Provost house as the Redwood buildings were being seismically retrofitted during the 2015/16 school year. Now that construction is done, the officers and I are able to move back into our permanent location on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of the Student Union. Upon arrival on July first, the office was littered with boxes and trash but after a week of organizing and cleaning, the office is functional and tidy.

#### **Office Orientation**

The officers, excluding the President who is absent, had a meeting with the building manager of the Student Union, Francisco Galvan, to discuss expectations, safety procedures, code of conduct, and general information of the building. After we all went through the orientation, we were each issued keys to the office.

**July 6<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Check-In with Ray**

The phone call was a time to ask any pending questions and to update Ray on what I plan to be working on. The biggest question I had was in regards of the Stevenson Coffee House. The SUA set aside \$20,000 in the 2016/17 fiscal budget to acquire the space, however, I have heard of no update of what has happened, and President Ray had no definite response as to what has happened with the project.

**July 19-28<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Summer Orientation Outreach**

I tabled at every Slug Night with the exception of two nights due to work conflicts and I gave a speech during the morning announcements every orientation day to the incoming students and their guests about the assembly and how to get involved. I was unable to table during lunch because I was working as a Summer Orientation Leader on top of my duties to the SUA.

**July 21<sup>st</sup>**

**Meeting with Interim Dean of Students - Lucy Rojas**

I met with Lucy Rojas to discuss any needs around the office and the goals I have for the upcoming year. The biggest gains from was that I was able to set up future meetings with Rosalinda Gallegos, Dean of Students Coordinator, to discuss Slug Support and the efforts of Global Food Initiative and with Jose Reyes-Olivas, the Events & Facilities Manager, to discuss my ideas for programming throughout the year. I inquired Lucy about the Stevenson Coffee House at this meeting and she informed me that when she asked President Ray Inoue about it earlier that week, he responded that he'll do more research and try to back to her.

**July 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Meeting with CAPS Director - Gary Dunn**

I scheduled this meeting with Dunn in order to gain more information about CAPS and how the SUA, and my office, can collaborate in the upcoming school year.

The Let's Talk program, which is essentially drop-in counseling, has not been taken advantage of partially due to the fact that there aren't consistent times and places. CAPS has also lost three spaces around campus that have been taken over by different departments which makes finding a place for Let's Talk this upcoming school year to be more difficult. Unlike CAPS, the assembly is able to rent out the conference rooms above the bookstore for free. My plan for the upcoming year is to rent out a room every week, at the same time, for the Let's Talk program in hopes that the consistency will make it easier for advertisement, and for students to utilize the drop-in hours.

I learned the CAPS is currently understaffed by 6 people and they are actively looking for people to fill in those spots. The goal is to hopefully be fully staffed by Winter Quarter. Students are allowed to sit on the search committees however, in the past, CAPS has had trouble finding students who can commit to that duty. Moving forward, I plan to use the assembly to help advertise student openings on these committees because having student representation is critical.

Dunn and I plan to keep in touch and meet up periodically, so if you have any questions or concern that would like me to address to him, please email me! [suavpsl@ucsc.edu](mailto:suavpsl@ucsc.edu)  
*\*Vice President of External Affairs Judith Gutierrez accompanied me during this meeting and Vice President of Internal Affairs Grace Shefcik forwarded a detailed list of questions to ask the Director in her absence.*

**General Meeting with Dean of Students Project Assistant and Slug Support**

I checked in with Mario to discuss needs I have for the office, review ER codes/descriptions for possible interns, and the upcoming officer training. The meeting with Mario was very brief so I had time to meet with one of the Slug Support managers, Erika Pappas, to discuss her role for students and brainstorm ways my office could get involved. One of the projects I'm currently working on for Erika is trying to make budgeting money simpler and hopefully fun! There's a spreadsheet that Slug Support uses to help students budget, however as Erika describes, it's confusing. I'm currently working on simplifying the spreadsheet to make it more user friendly

## Areas of Improvement

- For myself, although I did put in a lot of work into the office this month, I was restricted on how much I could do because of how demanding being a summer orientation leader is. The three weeks I worked orientation, I clocked in 175+ hours in total, and those hours could've been put towards the office. I won't have any job for the rest of my term that will be nearly that demanding so I'm looking to getting to more work done
- Knowing what's happening with the Stevenson Coffee House. There's \$20,000 of students' money that is currently in limbo, which is a little unsettling
- More detailed officer reports. It's nice to mention that meetings were set up and attended, but if there's no detail about the purpose of the meeting, who attended, and the outcome, it doesn't seem transparent. What an officer is doing shouldn't be vague. What we're doing should be clear to all students since it's the students we are serving
- I feel that the officers could be more committed to the job that we're doing. During orientation, I would have to wake up at 5am, lift chairs/tables throughout the day, and even after a 13-hour shift, I would rush over to Slug Night to table for the SUA because that's our job. It was just disappointing to see the lack of participation during orientation because it's such an important time to outreach. Taking frequent vacations and flat out not being in Santa Cruz doesn't show commitment in my opinion since we all should've been aware before accepting this position that this job begins July 1st. I took a greyhound bus overnight and stayed in hostel for a couple days until I transitioned into more permanent housing to ensure that July 1<sup>st</sup>, I was in Santa Cruz and ready to work. The lack of commitment from previous officers is why I wanted this position in the first place and I hope in the upcoming months there's an improvement because it's such a logistical hassle going through the impeachment process

This concludes my July 2016 officer report. If you have any questions or comments, please email me at [suavpsl@ucsc.edu](mailto:suavpsl@ucsc.edu)

Cheers,

Tamra Owens | Vice President of Student Life