



Student Union Assembly

Monthly Report

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Dear Assembly,

Under Article III Section A of the SUA Constitution, I am required to present a monthly evaluation to the assembly. This monthly evaluation of July, 2018 will report the initiatives I am taking on as SUA Vice President of Diversity & Inclusion and constructive criticism in areas of improvement within the SUA. In the following are the projects, meetings, tasks, constructive criticisms and improvements of this month.

Completed Tasks

November 1 - Staff meeting and Office hours

- Met with the team. Rachel and Miguel updated on their projects. Rachel is finishing up her Pumpkin Patch project and Miguel is working on 3 flyers and their Queers unpacking whiteness group

November 5 - Campus Inclusive Climate Council

- Miguel and Rachel went to this meeting on campus climate because I had farm work during this time. They told me it was interesting but also awkward with some of the admin. They took notes. I believe this meeting is about once a quarter and there will be a new one coming up, I hope it'll work with my schedule.

November 6 - Officer Meeting and SUA general assembly

- Had an officer meeting before the general SUA meeting. During the SUA meeting, I brought up completely dismantling SUA to turn it into something actually democratic and more like an actual student union but folks don't seem interested in taking that on. At the end of the day, this is their school and I'm passing through so it's up to them to make these decisions. I just hope SUA can stop being such a toxic and hierarchical place.

November 7 - MLK Convocation planning committee

- Attended the MLK convocation planning committee, Melissa Harris-Perry will be the keynote speaker for the event. I suggested having an event to add more

context on her role in media and political discourse as well as the books she's written. I'm not sure how many people my age watch MSNBC.

November 7 - Undocumented Students Planning Committee & UndocuCoalition update

- Attended the undocu planning committee. We discussed future funding and places where we could focus on our money. I brought up the efficiency of past town halls and brought up the idea of splitting up times when we're informing staff about issues and updates and when students want to know what staff can do for them. The last Kresge Town hall meeting felt really pointless and made students feel disillusioned with the lack of help the school can provide during scary times in immigration. We also discussed funding for a therapist that specializes on undocu students. I met up with one of our two UndocuCoalition members, Erimar Luna to discuss what was up with the group. So far it seems like UCOP is dragging its feet to figure out times for students to meet. They're still trying to push for an undocuSummit and I want to help make this happen.

November 8 - Office hours/Staff Meeting

- Had my regular office hours as well as a meeting with interns to update on how they are doing on their projects. Our events are coming up at the end of this month so we're working hard to get everything together for Cafecito and the Pumpkin Patch.

November 13 - SUA Meeting

- We had our weekly meeting for SUA. Still going over budgets and discussing events of this quarter. We're very close to discussing the IVP process.

November 15 - Snail Movement

- Myself and four students that sleep in their cars met with EVC Marlene Tromp, Vice Provost of Student Success Jaye Padgett and DoS Garrett Naiman to discuss their needs. Once again the trauma mill needed to be used and students had to disclose why they live in their cars and what has lead this to be their main way of operating. Honestly the response from admin was pretty dismal, they kept saying that there are a lot of moving parts and i understand that but I told them to face this issue with the urgency of someone that is living in their car. They're supposed to reach out to us again with some more ideas but I'm going to email them soon.

November 15 - Office hours

November 16 - Change-Makers: STARS Public Lecture Series

- I was nominated to speak at this lecture and i received an award for transfer excellence. I spoke about SUA and the myriad of other ways available to get involved on campus. My speech was pretty bad tbh, i need to prepare better and I drank a coffee before so i was hella jittery during it.

November 16 - Chancellor Search Committee

- I was invited to take part in the search committee for the new UCSC Chancellor, when I entered this lady kept telling me to go to the dining hall and I was like no I'm supposed to be here and she put herself between me in the door it was weird. Anyway we got some demands from students and I presented them to Janet Napolitano and a few regents. I told them we're tired of seeing white faces in positions of power that continue to replicate the same outdated systems of power. I also said that Janet specifically needs to hold herself accountable for aiding in Obama's deportation machine and creating the program of DACA that has everyone's information and was passed onto Trump to do whatever he wants with. We heard students chanting from outside and then inside, it was getting louder and at a certain point a secret service looking man with a gun whispered into Janet's ear and told everyone that we had to leave. There was a panic and all the secret service looking men directed people towards the emergency exit. Ayo and I were like why does everyone sound so scared? They're just students outside. We started to go out the opposite way to see the students but the secret service looking men told us to go back with everyone. Ayo and I went out to see the students anyway. There were a lot of students and they were being pushed by the police, I saw photos later from Twanas Press and there is direct evidence of them hitting my friend in the face and choking them with a nightstick. This was brought up again near the end of the night with Jaye Padgett and Garrett Naiman. They spoke with students for about 3 hours in the area above the college 9/10 dining hall. Overall it was a long day and students showed their power but I think it could've been organized differently and admin needs to not be scared of students and run away so we can actually get stuff done in this school.

November 20 - SUA Office hours/ SUA LRDP

- Had regular office hours and had a very small SUA meeting that was informal. Talked about Long Range plans for SUA and where we want to steer things.

November 21-25 - November Break

November 27 - SUA Meeting

- Had our weekly meeting, there a lot of discussion about the budget and some weird robert rule's stuff.

November 28 - Cafecito Sin hielo

- Today was the day of an event I've been working on since the beginning of the quarter! Cafecito sin hielo, No ICE'd Coffee. The California Immigrant Youth Justice Alliance presented on the Abolition of ICE and how communities defend against racist institutions that work together like the police and immigration enforcement. It was very well attended :) over 40 people showed up. There was hella bread and coffee for folks

and CIYJA sold some of their shirts. Overall it was a really great time. It was depressing at the beginning but they did a great job of leaving stuff on a hopeful note. Students really liked it and I definitely want to invite them back to have another event.

November 30 - Pumpkin Patch/Anakbayan Open House

- After work on Friday I attended my intern Rachel's event Cruzin' for a day in the Patch. There was food sold with proceeds going to the River Street Shelter and orgs tabled. We had hella pumpkins to give out. It was well attended and folks had a nice time! I'm going to debrief all these events with my interns and talk how about how they're feeling about the quarter during week 10.

Criticisms and Improvements

This month was productive! And we're setting up November to be full of fun events. Admin has been sort of difficult to get a hold of and are taking forever to get back to about the Snail Movement stuff but it's not a big surprise. I need to work on managing my time better and keeping track of my school work with all my other work. As far as the concert budget goes now I know that it's better to speak up against having the concert than stay quiet because you don't want to ruffle feathers. I take responsibility for that. I knew early on in the summer that I didn't want a concert but I didn't speak up. Everything felt rushed over the summer and that contributed to that. I've also learned more about how the SUA constitution works and from what I've seen it doesn't seem very democratic at all. It'd be great if we could stop replicating these same systems of governance that keep people down and work to build something new. The event I lead went really well and I did a good job advertising for about 3 weeks. As far as advocacy projects are going I would like to start more in the winter, maybe meet with CAPS to talk about how they can hire more POC therapists etc. I also need to get better at updating my website, I didn't know I had to update it myself but I'll figure out the training so I can do it. This quarter was rough and very long but I'm excited for the next one.

This concludes my report. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at suavpd@ucsc.edu and I'd be happy to have a discussion with you. My office hours are Tuesday/Thursday 3:30-5

Best,
Enrique Yarce
VP of Diversity & Inclusion