

Student Union Assembly Monthly Report

SUA Mailstop: SOAR, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz CA 95064 • P: 831.459.4838 suavpds@ucsc.edu • sua.ucsc.edu

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 January, 2019 will report the initiatives I am taking on as SUA President 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.

Due to the time restraint and for accommodation purposes, I will utilize bullet points as my main report back form for this report.

Completed Tasks

- In conjunction with the SUA Advisor, we launched 3 retreats at the beginning of the year. One retreat centered on the bonding of the SUA Executives. The second retreat focused on the team building of the Student Union Assembly Members. The third retreat pivoted on healing, expressing concerns folks had with the space, and working together to come up with action items that would allow us to have a positive and impactful year. In a follow-up to the housing statement released in December, I launched proposal to create a Basic Needs scholarships and Emergency Housing fund, operated and ran by the Student Union Assembly. I also advanced the second proposal for hiring a full-time lawyer to provide legal aid services, putting both proposals to a vote by the Executives of the SUA.
- Joined with my counterpart, External Affairs Vice President Davon Thomas, we attended the African, Black, and Carribean Conference at UC Merced. We joined other Universities to collectively organize with black students across California.
- Continued my commitment to representing over 17,000 undergraduate students on the Chancellor search committee. In an effort to ensure transparency, our office held a town hall on the Chancellor Search.
- Initiated Live-stream recordings for SUA meetings.
- We begun a hiring search for the new Treasurer.
- Met with Executive Vice Chancellor Marlene Tromp in regards to the lack of confidence in the Division of Student Success, initiating a Division review.
- Spoke at the Academic Senate Meeting in regards to the lack of transparency from administration, in reference to the housing process and student's outcry on not having their voices weighted heavily throughout campus-wide committees.

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- Transitioned the new Internal Affairs Vice President, Citlalli Aquino, to get her office running
- Held Student Organizing Funding Advisory meeting
- Created the SUA Conflict Resolution Protocol

Criticisms and Improvements

- 1. We need larger turnouts at the retreat. All officers were present at the Officer retreat. Only about a third of SUA members were present at the retreat.
- 2. Retreats should occur at the beginning of every academic year instead of the winter quarter. I will create a retreat line item at the beginning of budgetary talks for next year.
- 3. Officer communication has improved, has much more ways to be exceptional, but is currently healthy.

This concludes my report. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at <u>suapres@ucsc.edu</u> and I'd be happy to have a discussion with you. My office hours will be updated in the Winter by appointment.

In solidarity,

Ayo Banjo

"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced" - James Baldwin