



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 November, 2018 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.

SUA Healing/Reform

As the Assembly recovers from a heated and tense month of October, I found it crucial to have a moment for all Assemblymembers to breathe and have an open dialogue about the ways we move forward. Much of the SUA meetings here centered around recognizing our joint responsibility to serve our undergraduate student body accurately and with authenticity and transparency. After our first November meeting, members seemed to be on the same page and felt much more comfortable in terms of taking the lessons we've learned this past month to ensure we don't repeat them in the future. SUA will slowly evolved from a solely funding space to an organizing space, a method I will see through by removing funding from the Assembly floor and into SOFA meetings, giving SUA much more time to focus on the issues affecting students on campus.

Chancellor Search Protests

As proceedings for the Chancellor search took place on campus, students protested the valid feelings of being unheard by the UC Office of the President. As tensions rose between protesting students and UCPD, the search committee was asked to leave the chamber where we heard from different campus constituents. I was asked to follow, but instead headed toward the protesting student body, where clashes were approaching more and more closely to unretractable violence. I quickly headed to the students, and as all students quieted down, I sternly signaled to the police to step back and allow the students to ascend the chambers where the committee was initially held. To my surprise, the police officers cooperated with my demands, and stepped out of the way for students to ascend the stairs. Although UC President Napolitano had already left, students had the opportunity to speak with campus leadership and UCOP representatives about their dismay for the lack of resources and retention of their campus community, and much more. I had never felt more like a Banana Slug.

Other Completed Tasks

- Served on the Long Range and Development Plan Executive committee, to discuss the layout of UC Santa Cruz through 2040.
- Held the first Student Organizing Funding Advisory Meeting, where I chaired and facilitated the funding requests of over \$80,000 dollars
- Met with UC President Janet Napolitano in an interview to review the process for selecting a Chancellor and what students should expect throughout the duration of the search.
- Met with Sarah Latham to receive \$2,000 grant for houseless student initiative, presidential travel expenses, and a student leadership summit.
- Met with the new Vice Chancellor of Information and Technological Services to discuss the vision for student's UCSC portal.
- Attended almost all College Student Government meetings in an effort to ensure transparency and allow for college senators to ask questions about the concert and funding process, as well to repair relations between the SUA and College Governments.
- Met with some representatives from the Big 5 ethnic organization to discuss in detail their asks, and how the SUA can further support these identity organizations on campus.

Criticisms and Improvements

The SUA must learn to come together, rather than antagonize apart, when dealing with difficult situations. There will always be pressure to act on emotion. But as the student government, we must learn to act on responsibility, morality, dignity, and empathy. Each representative must embody their own sense of duty and obligation to serve in a space that values their voice as much as the Officer core.

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