



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 September, 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.

UC Council of Presidents Retreat

In September, I had the privilege and opportunity of hosting the UC Council of Student Body Presidents retreat on the UCSC Campus, where Presidents throughout the system attended or called in to discuss various initiative, goal oriented, and activities that allowed us to build stronger ties with one another.

The two-day retreat centered on the Council's role in Statewide advocacy, hearing from UCSA and UCGPC representatives on key decision makers we need to influence. We focused on basic needs security, and the Council's vision this year in fighting for the general welfare of our student body. I hosted both the Student Regent, Student Regent-Designate, and the Student Advisor to the Regent to talk about how the Council can collaborate with their goals for this year. We discussed voter outreach strategies, conversed with the Title IX Advisory Board representatives, and had breakout sessions to prioritize specific issues the Council should advocate for this year. From hearing from constituents who are student parents, to undocumented student initiatives and racial justice movements, we organized to prioritize our initiatives.

Residential Assistants Campus Orientation

This year, I was grateful and honored to provide an orientation to all campus residential assistants, as we focused on get-out-the-vote initiatives and how to maximize voter turnout for all their residents. We also discussed what it means to be a leader, how to best impact their students, and offering the SUA as a resource for some of their initiatives and work to promote activism on campus. It was a great talk with engaging questions at the end, and I look forward to working with these passionate students throughout the year.

SUA Adviser Search Completed

After many weeks without an adviser, we hired Maura Noel as a temporary staff person until a permanent person was chosen. After going through all candidate, I met with my Officers to receive feedback, and made my decision to endorse Bao Nhia Moua as the permanent SUA Adviser (in the official name change, the position is titled the Student Development and Engagement Manager). The search committee came to consensus with my endorsement, and we sent Bao Nhia an official job offer. I

am truly excited to begin this new year with a person who will be here permanently, and can be the institutional memory for the SUA moving forward.

Other Completed Tasks:

- Met with UCSC Title IX Advisory Board Representative to discuss ways the SUA can play a larger role in protecting students going through sexual violence and harrasment on campus, as well learn more about the work CAPS, CARE, and the board does in progressing the fight towards protection. This also includes meeting with leaders from Students United with Renters.
- Attended Santa Cruz Commission on Violence Against Women to learn more about the risks of sexual and domestic violence in Santa Cruz, and how it may affect our students on campus.
- Had first introductory meeting with UCSC Graduate Student Body President Randy Villegas to discuss potential collaborations between the Student Union Assembly and the Graduate Student Association.
- Had conference calls with UC Council of Presidents Grad Chair Michael Skiles
- Met with External Affairs Vice President Davon Thomas to focus on voter mobilization initiatives for fall quarter.
- Mentored incoming black students at the Black Academy Resource fair.

Criticisms and Improvements

September was a month of moving around and about. Relationships are seemingly stronger between officers, but communication about when folks have to leave early from meetings need to be stated more in advanced. The officer core used to be very toxic last year, so I have taken note on that and tried to ensure we have as healthy and open channel of communication as possible. School will now begin, and I look forward to seeing how to balance my academics with the job as SUA President.

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.

In solidarity,

Ayo Banjo

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

