January 12th, 2015

Dear Student Union Assembly,

Under my duties as Chair of the Student Union Assembly and Article III, Section A.1 of the SUA Constitution, I present my December 2014 monthly report and evaluation to the Assembly.

Activities for the month of December 2014

SUA Advisor Phone Interviews
I continued to serve on the SUA Advisor search committee. We held phone interviews for candidates that we had advanced past the paper stage in November. The candidates offered a wide variety of experience, perspectives, and understandings of the position and their potential role if hired. From the phone interviewees, we selected four candidates that will be interviewed in person in January 2015.

Shadow Budget
In past years, keeping track of the current state of the SUA budget has been difficult. While the Assembly does pass a formal budget, and the University keeps track of transactions in the SUA fund, the provided interface (Infoview) is difficult to use, confusing, and breaks down the budget differently than our actual budget document does. I’m working the SUA Treasurer to create a “shadow budget” on Google Drive that keeps track of each transaction relative to the line item it came from, and make the document public so anyone can see how SUA is spending its money.

SUA Outreach Videos
I continued to work with the SUA Communications Director to concept “fireside chat” type videos that I hope can help outreach to the student body and keep them informed on what SUA is doing and how we are working for them. Expect to see more about this in Winter 2015.

Suggestions for improvement
- I continue to repeat the sentiment that members of the Assembly are not bringing enough business to the floor. So far this year, the vast majority of business has been brought by me, almost all of which was mandated by the constitution or bylaws. I feel that the Assembly is merely “going through the motions” (no pun intended); I want to see the space addressing more than just procedural necessities, funding requests, and resolutions. I encourage any member of the Assembly who has an idea for the Assembly to work on but isn’t sure how to introduce it to contact me.
So far, no one has attended my office hours. I’m required to hold them to make me more available; I encourage you to take advantage.

If you have any further questions about my activities for December 2014, please contact me at suachari@ucsc.edu or visit my office hours.

Sincerely,
Justin Lardinois
Chair, Student Union Assembly