To the Student Union Assembly,

Under my duties as Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion of the Student Union Assembly and Article III Section D.4 of the SUA Constitution, I present my September 2015 monthly report and evaluation to the Assembly. I will outline all of my event, logistical planning, activities and constructive criticism with areas of improvement in hopes of providing a detailed account in this month’s report.

Student of Color Conference:

Transportation

This month most of my work has focused on preparing for the Student of Color Conference. I began by working with the Organizing Director, Art Motta on getting charter bus quotes for the conference. After receiving a few quotes from different companies, we decided to go with El Camino Charters. We also decided that since we would be taking about 80 students we would rent three vans from TAPS in order to allow for more flexibility for folxs to leave at different times of the day.

Hotels

After a wide search, I was able to book the Rodeway Inn in Berkeley which is a few minutes away from UC Berkeley and it was able to house our whole delegation, we were also able to get the hotel for a reasonable price.

Funding

I will be presenting a funding proposal to the Assembly in order to be able to come up with the necessary funds to make this conference happen. We began accepting applications on September 28th, 2015. We were able to flyer to some of the Senate meetings.

Logistics

I have been working with the Organizing Director and since I won’t be able to hire any interns yet he has been helping me with some of the Logistical planning of SOCC. This month I did a lot of research in making the SOCC application better. In the past, most SOCC applications have contained a section where people have been able to provide a space for how they identify. I researched out to the organization MESH (Mixed Student Headquarters) because I know that they have a inclusive list of identities that they have worked on with housing. I was able to incorporate this list into the list of identities to make the SOCC application more inclusive. I also added a question to the list of questions that are being asked in the application so that the selection committee gets a more wholeistic view of the applicants. The question that I have included is the following:
Define coalition(s) in your own words. What is the importance of coalition building in a movement? Do you believe that coalition building plays an important role in a movement? How would you build coalitions if you had the opportunity to?

This question is important to this application because I want our SOCC to build coalitions because this plays a role in our ability to organize as students. I think that by providing this opportunity I am encouraging people to be able to build long lasting relationships to with each other. The application part of the conference is crucial because it allows people who apply the ability to be able to give us an insight of themselves and it becomes very apparent when students really want to go to the conference. The application was sent out September 29 and will close October 16 at midnight.

Budget
I have also begun working on a budget, since I have begun looking into booking hotels and a charter bus to take participants. I plan to finalize the budget as soon as the hotel and charter bus gets back to me.

SUA Outreach
Since instruction begins in late September we got to do a lot of outreach through the OPERS festivial! Which was really great because I got to talk to a lot of students about SUA and I was able to encourage them to become more involved on campus whether it was through the various Internship opportunities that SUA has or through their college governements. OPERS Fall Festivial is one of my favorite events of the year because you really get to talk to different students and engage with about issues that may be important to them while trying to get them more involved with SUA. The SUA officers also planned a SUA welcome instead of the first SUA meeting so that we are able to engage with students who are intrested in becoming a part of SUA. It was also a great opportunity to meet people who were intrested in being involved with my office.

Job Descriptions of Interns
I am starting to assess what the goals of my office are so that I am able to create job descriptions for my interns. The reason why I am doing this is because I want to be able to hire interns that help me in the areas in which I am not as strong in so that I can create an efficient team.

In conclusion, I provide this summary as my detailed report for the month of September 2015. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

Sauli Itzel Colio
Vice President of Diversity & Inclusion