Monthly Report (February)

Shubhankar Sharan College Nine Elected Representative <u>shsharan@ucsc.edu</u> (510) 258-2559

Under my duties as a college representative to the Student Union Assembly and according to Article III Section A. 11 of the SUA Constitution, I present my combined October and November monthly report and evaluation to the Assembly. I will provide an update on the happenings of my college, College Nine, updates on ongoing SUA projects I am involved with, and constructive criticisms of the SUA for the purposes of improvement.

Senate Activity

- After funding the Film Production Coalition, we discussed incorporating them into the SUA movie event being planned. I suggested that we could show their films before and in between screenings. The idea was very enthusiastically received and I think we'll move forward with it.
- We signed a letter of support for SUGB's efforts to avoid relocation to the Crown Pitts.
- We met several times with SUGB to discuss their efforts to move into the Community Room by the 9/10 apartments. It seems like the general sentiment among senators is that the community room should stay how it is since it's the only lounge area for apartment residents and the orgs that would move in would take the entire space.
- Barrios Unidos has stopped responding to our quote requests so we will move forward with a different vendor for apparel.
- We decided to approve the newspaper readership program we had last year. The program had gone AWOL but our advisor managed to track it back down.
- We elected Rohit Dhar, Austin Brown as SUA alternate reps.

SUA Activity

- Worked on the survey some more. Andrew Paolini lead three survey meetings and we were able to decide on the exact wording of the questions with OD Brad Mleynek's assistance.
- Allocated money for buying prizes for the raffle being run with the survey.
- Waiting on the new SUA logo so we can push that out with the survey.
- OD Brad Mleynek also suggested having the movie event in the classroom units because it's more practical and could possibly be repeated better. I reached out to ADOS Lucy Rojas about how to go about reserving the classroom units and I will be working on assembling a budget and timeline to propose to the student body.
 - Students have also suggested that we have shops and food vendors from downtown come up to campus during the movie event to attract more students, involve the clubs.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ



BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • MERCED • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

• Met with IVC Kaysi Wheeler to discuss progress over certain event ideas and how we can best develop the ambassador program to best help student orgs.

Ongoing Projects

- Simba and I met with David Turner, who is the project manager for ITS's new project for a student app. Their app is web based and seems like will take a long time to develop. They seemed excited by what we did and offered to give us any data access we need (within reason) and also have connected us to the people we need to talk to to get server space on university servers.
- Sam Shaw and I are working on a potential crowd-sourced UCSC online magazine. We are going through a couple ideas of what it could look like at the moment.
- We are also looking into bringing back the Space Music Concert event from last year and improving on it to generate more turnout.
- The UCSC Spring Congress (senate conference) is currently being planned for April 25 in the MPR. Council of Chairs met to finalize a schedule.

Criticism

- There has to be some way to get the reps more involved in campaigns. Right now, the officers seem to be handling most of their own projects with their staff but the reps don't have much in the way of structured responsibility.
- The SUA needs to dramatically ramp up its outreach to our student organizations. This is the most efficient way for us to meet the student body and gauge what they need and want. We have a reputation issue and we need to work to mend that starting now. This is still a concern from last quarter.
- We need to work on re-establishing out relevancy to our students and focusing on things we can do to make their UCSC experience better. We don't have to just focus on event programming. There are a lot of things that need fixing around school and we can start out by figuring out what students want the most.
- We should write "Public Comment" on our agenda so that visitors know they can speak during announcements.
- We need to establish some sort of guide to procedure for when we have visitors who aren't familiar with our process. I fear we come across as intimidating and hostile when we shut them down. We can think of some system for being more welcoming.