

University Centers Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

Fall 2021, Week 2

October 5, 2021

Opening

The regular meeting of the University Centers Advisory Board was called to order at 2:05 pm on September 5, 2021 by Casey Lee on Zoom.

Attendees

1. Casey Lee (UCAB Chair)
2. Gopika Yallapragada (UCAB Vice Chair, Warren College Representative)
3. John Payne (Associate Director) - ad hoc, non-voting (filling in for Sharon)
4. Samir Nomani (AS Representative, Muir College Representative)
5. Anush Ghoogasian (ERC Representative)
6. Clarissa Elbo (Sixth College Representative)
7. Skye Zhang (SSC Representative)
8. Jessica Lieban (Greek Life Representative)
9. Emily Trask (Staff Association Representative)

Public Input

- None.

Approval of Minutes

- Motion to approve minutes from Week 2 of Fall Quarter as amended: Gopika.
 - Seconded by Samir

Special Presentations

- None.

Chair Report (Casey)

- Open Positions
 - Commuter Student-At-Large
 - Student-At-Large
 - Graduate Student-At-Large

- Transfer Student-At-Large
- If anyone would like to take the position, email ucabchair@ucsd.edu.
- International Student Experience Adhoc Committee
 - Please fill out Doodle
 - Will be discussing “The Exchange” and the survey that was previously discussed
 - Meetings will be held biweekly
- Antiracism Workgroup
 - Time TBD
 - Monthly meetings will be on zoom

Vice Chair Report (Gopika)

- Space Allocation
 - May have student orgs move out by Week 3 or 4 **if they want**
 - Email to CSI out soon
 - Committee TBD
- Office space will be open to UCAB members

Director Report (John)

- The COVID-19 Response: UCSD was the only UC to stay open the entire academic year. They secured areas and kept a limited amount of capacity. They had signage for COVID-19 protocols, as well as stanchions everywhere to direct consumers. They reduced staffing and changed schedules to make it safer, and some staff worked remotely. They allocated PPE for staff, including masks and gloves and learned new safety protocols. It was scary at first. The first instance of contraction of COVID August 2021. The amount of furniture they had to move and the stanchions they had to set up was a lot. They also had COVID testing site open. Sunshine market and bookstore were both open but only their service windows were open. Target opened Fall 2020, 2 computer labs opened, in PCE and Sun God Lounge, with only 6 seats available in each. Campus bike and skate store eventually opened. The food vendors that were open were Burger King, Starbucks, Santorini, Tapioca Express, Subway, and Blue Pepper. Other staff were there for food vendors and construction. Amazon was open and was busy. Some challenges included guidance changes and compliance with masking (20% of consumers had masking issues). They had no indoor dining for a while. Another challenge was budget uncertainty. They had to freeze construction projects, including capital projects. Once things were okay in February 2021, they started up with construction. They kept staff healthy physically and mentally and had them get tested weekly. They also kept them in a positive frame of mind. They moved a lot of furniture and still have some hidden because they are not yet at totally full capacity. They pre-ordered hand sanitizer, gloves and masks before the curve. They kept the student union open and provided services.

New Business

- **Charter Language, Stipend**

- Did not reach quorum

Motion to Table Discussion Until Next Week: *Approved.*

- **5949 Price Center West Food Court Renovation**

- Casey: Were there any questions from your constituencies?

- Discussion/Questions:

- Clarissa: students emphasized expanding seatings especially between 11 am and 12 pm. She also said that long lines hinder tunnel ways, and students would like to have more open spaces. Sixth College would also like more flat ground instead of stairs (more straight lines not diagonals) and to add trees to reduce the concrete look of the plaza. They also wanted to keep hammocks.

- Samir: AS were generally neutral about the project, but happy to see what UCEN thinks is best for the plaza. AS generally supports renovating the area in some way.

- Skye: SSC wants an increase in lighting for visibility and security. She asked, will study lounges on the green pavilion have electrical sockets? And is a solar powered project/campus a possibility? She also was supportive of widening the stairs and leveling it out. She also brought up prioritizing drought-resistant and/or native plants, and said SSC supported keeping the trees. Moving trees seems like a waste of energy.

- Gopika: students wanted to see an active nightlife scene in the plaza. Some suggestions were music at night and expanding seating, particularly comfy seating. One of the WSC members had an idea, a centralized electric publicity board. Overall, Warren was generally supportive of the renovation.

- John Payne detailed the Renovation project process: phases 1-3

- Casey assisted with aerial images of the plaza (from Hector Reyes' presentation)

- Jessica: What will happen to vendors during construction?

- John: They will stay open during the entirety of construction. During summer, there will be access to vendors from 11 am - 3 pm.

Motion to Table Discussion Until Next Week: *Approved.*

- **International Student Lounge/Gameroom “The Exchange”**

- Casey: Former Shogun space will be transformed into an International Social Lounge/Gameroom called “The Exchange”.
- Discussion/Questions:
 - Clarissa: A suggestion by Sixth College was an affirmation board for international students (similar to the wall in the Tapestry building in Sixth). She said that Sixth didn’t want to fully replace news, but rather she suggested to show international childhood cartoons, movies, and TV shows, instead. People liked the vending machine idea. She also mentioned a suggestion box for how the space can make students feel more comfortable.
 - Gopika - Warren liked the idea of international board games, and they suggested board game tournaments every other week to boost ISL engagement. Warren liked the idea of intl food vending machines and also rotating food vendors (one or the other is enough), She emphasized that Warren wanted the food offered should be unique and not overlap with the cuisine offered at HDH dining halls and Sunshine Market.

Motion to Table Discussion Until Next Week: *Approved.*

Old Business

- None.

Member Reports

- None

Open forum

- updates: Jamba Juice (today), Uncle Italian (thursday), and Rubios (friday) opening up this week

Announcements

- None

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 3:04 pm by Casey Lee. The next general meeting will be held at 2:00pm on October 12, 2021 on Zoom.