



UCSA Statement Addressing Anti-Blackness

To the participants of SOCC 2018 and the Black Caucus,

We, the UCSA Board of Directors, as representatives of both the individual UC campuses and of the collective UC student body, are addressing you all today to discuss and apologize for the anti-blackness that has been displayed throughout this conference and throughout the history of UCSA.

This anti-blackness was made apparent in last night's UCSA Board Meeting. Black Caucus members and members of the Black community shared their grievances during last night's public comment. Students recounted their experiences at UCSA both inside and outside of SOCC. There is a recurring pattern of negligence on behalf of UCSA.

The need for a change in SOCC and UCSA has consistently been made known. The frustrations surrounding the board were especially made known last night. UCSA came up short in addressing the very systemic and pervasive issue of anti-blackness that is pervasive in all communities. It is important for us to bring that all to you now.

As a board, and as a team of individuals that contributed thoughts, ideas, critiques, and labor to this conference, we recognize it is our responsibility to ensure that both our member associations and UCSA itself prepare students through raising critical consciousness and granting them the necessary tools to address anti-blackness. But we also understand that, despite our intentions and because of our capacity, addressing anti-blackness will be a lifelong process. By accepting that we have failed Black students as an organization, we will continue on the lifelong process of learning and striving to adequately provide a safe and respectful space for black students and students of color. Therefore, we acknowledge our peers' experiences and commit to improving as an association.



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