



University of California Student Association  
1020 12th St., Suite #232  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
510-834-8272 | [www.ucsa.org](http://www.ucsa.org)

---

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** March 25, 2021

**CONTACT:** Parshan Khosravi, [govrelations@ucsa.org](mailto:govrelations@ucsa.org); Joshua Lewis, [grchair@ucsa.org](mailto:grchair@ucsa.org)

### ***UC Student Association Highlights Legislative Priorities in Statements following Statewide Lobby Day***

SACRAMENTO, CA - University of California students organized a statewide Lobby Day on Monday on the tail of the UC Student Association's weekend Student Lobby Conference. Students met with legislators and their offices to discuss a budget request investing \$20M In UC Student Academic Preparation & Educational Partnerships (SAPEP) programs, as well as advocate for AB 367 (availability of menstrual products), AB 524 (transparency for Greek organizations), AB 1277 (CEQA student housing exemption), AB 1456 (Cal Grant modernization) and SB 16 (release of peace officer records).

Leaders from each UC campus summarized their experiences and advocacy in the statements below.

Joshua Lewis, UCSA Government Relations Chair, UC Berkeley student:

*"From March 20-22, the University of California Student Association (UCSA), representing the UC's 275,000 students hosted the 2021 Digital Student Lobby Conference. Drawing more than 150 student leaders from all 9 undergraduate campuses, this year's SLC celebrated the 50th Anniversary of UCSA and 50 years of the national student empowerment movement. Attendees had the opportunity to engage with all three aspects of the conference theme: Our Legacy, Our Dreams, Our Future, and engage with the state's leading legislative student advocates including Senator Steve Glazer, Secretary of State Dr. Shirley Weber, and recent UC graduate Assemblymember Alex Lee.*

*On Monday, attendees lobbied their state legislators on 6 critical student priorities. They asked for a \$20 million investment into the UC's SAPEP recruitment and retention programs, and advocated for AB 524 which would require fraternities and sororities to report on disciplinary actions of SVSH and membership statistics, AB 1456 which would expand and reform eligibility to the state's primary financial aid system Cal Grant, SB 16 which would require all police departments to report data on incidents requiring use of force, AB 367 which would require menstrual products be available for free in 50% of UC bathrooms, and AB 1277 which would allow affordable housing to avoid drawn-out, superfluous lawsuits. At a time when the UC sits at a crossroads of some of the biggest challenges it has ever faced, the voices of students are more important now than ever. As UC students we are honored, proud, and grateful to know that after 50 years, the voices of students are as strong as ever."*

They can be reached for further comment at: [grchair@ucsa.org](mailto:grchair@ucsa.org)



University of California Student Association  
1020 12th St., Suite #232  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
510-834-8272 | [www.ucsas.org](http://www.ucsas.org)

---

Bailey Henderson, UC Berkeley student leader:

*"Students in the UC Berkeley delegation are excited and proud to have represented our campus' over 40,000 students on issues including menstrual equity, police accountability, and financial aid modernization. This pandemic has proved that there are still many laws and institutions that obstruct our path to equal opportunity and racial and gender equity. On Monday, our students shared their experiences with these issues and urged California State legislators to respond to them by supporting UCSA backed bills and budget asks."*

They can be reached for further comment at: [bayjohenderson@berkeley.edu](mailto:bayjohenderson@berkeley.edu)

Francois Kaepelin, UC Davis student leader:

*"Over the course of last weekend, many UC Davis students took part in the UC Student Association's annual Student Lobby Conference. They learned about the importance of lobbying, the policies that shape our college experiences, and how to advocate for the 270,000 students that attend a UC."*

*On Monday, we lobbied our state legislators on a variety of issues, from college affordability to menstrual equity. One of the bills that we advocated for was AB 1277, which was sponsored by ASUCD in response to the severe housing crisis in Davis caused by frivolous CEQA lawsuits filed against student housing projects. As students impacted by the lack of affordable housing close to campus, we are thankful for this opportunity to push for a bill that was made by students, for students."*

*Although the pandemic has drastically changed the way that we push for solutions, our students' voices were as strong as ever."*

They can be reached for further comment at: [legdirector@asucd.ucdavis.edu](mailto:legdirector@asucd.ucdavis.edu)

Victoria Montalvo, UC Irvine student leader:

*"Anteaters from UC Irvine participated in the UC Student Association's annual Student Lobby Conference just this past weekend. Students were able to speak with the offices of several of our state legislators, including two Senators that made a special guest appearance: Senator Dave Min and Senator Tom Umberg. UC Irvine students are extremely grateful for the unique opportunity to make their voices heard on a variety of issues that ranged from mental health to policing. We look forward to more opportunities such as the Student Lobby Conference and thank the Representatives that were able to meet with us."*

They can be reached for further comment at: [legislativeaffairs@asuci.uci.edu](mailto:legislativeaffairs@asuci.uci.edu)



University of California Student Association  
1020 12th St., Suite #232  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
510-834-8272 | [www.ucsas.org](http://www.ucsas.org)

---

Joint statement by Gabriel Feiner and Sarah Wang, UC Los Angeles student leaders:

*"This weekend, UC Los Angeles students had the incredible privilege of attending the annual UC Student Association's Student Lobby Conference. Attendees had the amazing opportunity to attend lobby trainings and advocacy workshops leading up to the final day of the conference, where student lobby teams shared their experiences with legislators on critical issues such as menstrual equity, police and Greek life accountability, and diversity programs for underrepresented communities. As the UC community recovers from the pandemic and various racial justice crises, the UCLA student delegation eagerly looks forward to building its lobbying power and championing student rights using the skills developed over the course of this conference."*

They can be reached for further comment at: [gfeiner030901@g.ucla.edu](mailto:gfeiner030901@g.ucla.edu), [sarwang8@g.ucla.edu](mailto:sarwang8@g.ucla.edu)

Evelin Avila Farias, UC Merced student leaders:

*"During the weekend of March 20th-22nd, UC Merced Students had the amazing opportunity of attending the annual UC Student Association's Student Lobby Conference. Students were able to engage and learn about the different student legislative priorities that many UC students presented. Students were able to engage and lobby with legislators in Sacramento and advocate the legislative priorities. This weekend helped empower the voices of many UC students. We hope that our fellow bobcats enjoyed this conference and will continue to advocate and use their voice to raise student priorities."*

They can be reached for further comment at: [evelinavila55@gmail.com](mailto:evelinavila55@gmail.com)

Joint statement by Lizette Inzunza, Patricia Moreno-Gonzalez, Yulissa Navarro, UC Riverside student leaders:

*"Students at UC Riverside were extremely excited to engage in the UC Student Association's annual legislative advocacy weekend, the Student Lobby Conference, which has historically served as the culmination of UC student priorities in the California State Capitol. By bridging access from students at UCR to legislators in Sacramento, we hope to shape the outcomes of statewide policy to secure critical funding for diversity SAPEP programs for underrepresented student communities, ensure the passage of bills that fundamentally improve the wellbeing of students across higher education, and leave a legacy of student advocacy for current and future UC students to follow as we recover from the crises we have collectively faced over the past year."*



University of California Student Association  
1020 12th St., Suite #232  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
510-834-8272 | [www.uca.org](http://www.uca.org)

They can be reached for further comment at: [linzu001@ucr.edu](mailto:linzu001@ucr.edu), [pmore007@ucr.edu](mailto:pmore007@ucr.edu), [ynava017@ucr.edu](mailto:ynava017@ucr.edu)

David Hickman, UC San Diego student leader:

*"This weekend, students from UC San Diego took part in the UC Student Association's premier Student Lobby Conference. Besides the workshops, panels, and trainings that took place, our delegation will now work to directly lobby our local elected California leaders. We are incredibly excited to make our voices, and those of the 245,000+ students we represent, heard in the virtual halls of the CA State Legislature. We will address inequities and access issues at the UC and will be sharing stories around the urgent need to pave the way for student housing projects, hold campus police accountable, and keep college affordable for all."*

They can be reached for further comment at: [drhickma@ucsd.edu](mailto:drhickma@ucsd.edu)

Alex Niles, UC Santa Barbara Student Leader:

*"This last weekend, students from UC Santa Barbara gathered with peers from across the UC system to advocate a host of student priorities at the UC Student Association's Student Lobby Conference. Students spent Saturday and Sunday training and participating in advocacy workshops and panel discussions. This culminated in attendees taking meetings with much of the State Legislature on Monday, to advocate for student needs including affordable housing, police and Greek Life accountability, high school college prep programs, menstrual equity, and state financial aid modernization."*

They can be reached for further comment at: [avniles@ucsb.edu](mailto:avniles@ucsb.edu)

Soren Whiting, UC Santa Cruz student leader:

*"This last weekend, Banana Slugs from across the state and nation joined their fellow UC colleagues in advocating for a more affordable and safe UC experience at UCSA's Student Lobby Conference. Our delegates not only attended a wide variety of amazing workshops to build their advocacy tool kits, but also took part in direct lobbying of State elected leaders within Santa Cruz county and surrounding areas. For UCSC, SLC isn't just an opportunity to advocate but an opportunity to learn about the power each of our voices hold and use that power to add to Santa Cruz's rich history of activism & grassroots mobilization."*

They can be reached for further comment at: [sualeg@ucsc.edu](mailto:sualeg@ucsc.edu)

###