Dear UC San Diego Students,

March 2, 2015

One issue that has defined this term for the Associated Students (AS) and the Graduate Student Association (GSA) has been that pertaining to CHE Cafe.

Both councils formed committees composed of undergraduate and graduate students that worked through the fall and into the winter quarters. They met with both University administrators and CHE Collective members to address issues related to student involvement, safety of the space and funding necessary repairs.

Debate in both Councils led to a compromise solution calling on the CHE Collective to re-integrate with the UC San Diego student community before any student-fee funded renovations and repairs are made to the facility.

We’d like to help them in this process, for that reason we formed the CHE Cafe Campus Integration Committee (C4). This committee will work with the CHE to program at different facilities on campus, help them advertise to the student body at large and facilitate any disagreements with the University. At the end of the 2015-2016 school year, the success of this re-integration will be evaluated and the possibility of returning the Collective to the CHE Café will be considered.

We request that the CHE Collective embrace this proposal and work with us to demonstrate that they can serve as a student-centered organization. We implore the members of the Collective to demonstrate good-faith in these efforts by vacating the CHE Café facility during this re-integration period so that safety concerns with the building can be addressed.

We acknowledge the rich history of the CHE Cafe on UC San Diego’s campus and ask that the University make no changes to the existing facility during the interim re-integration period.

Finally, we would like to thank the dedication of all of the representatives to both the GSA and AS Special committees, who worked tirelessly on this issue. These students took hours out of their busy schedules to help find a solution to a difficult problem. We can only hope that both the Administration and the CHE Collective will honor our recommendations.

It is time for our Councils to get back to addressing other pressing issues that affect students such as the rising cost of tuition, food insecurity on UC San Diego’s campus and improving academic and professional development opportunities for students.

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