"To UCSB students:  
Hello everyone, I know that the events during the past few weeks have   
deeply affected many of us. I wanted to take some time to speak from my   
heart about what we are all experiencing, both from my experience as a   
woman of color on this campus and also as your External Vice President.  
As a woman of color and as someone who’s been observing the past events   
in our country, I am scared of what Ben Shapiro’s dialogue will entail   
for our campus. This isn’t free speech, it’s hate speech, and what we’ve   
clearly seen recently is that hate speech can and will incite violence.   
What people don’t realize is that Santa Barbara County is predominantly   
conservative, and the possibility of outside people coming to our campus   
is, in my opinion, is extremely dangerous to certain communities. With   
the rhetoric and dialogue that is circulating our country right now, I   
think it’s absolutely wrong to bring such a controversial speaker on   
campus. I stand in solidarity with the communities that feel threatened   
by this speaker, and I will do everything within my abilities to make   
sure you all feel safe on this campus.  
As EVPSA, I’ll say it clearly and unequivocally: Our students fees   
should NEVER go to people or events that contribute to the   
marginalization of people and communities. That is something I stand by   
completely. And this is something I challenge Finance and Business to   
address: comprehensive financial reform and transparency. And this   
reform can be done in establishing clear guidelines that are set in   
Regental Policy on this. In the Regental Policy, specifically Policies   
Applying to Campus Activities, Organizations and Students (PACAOS), in   
clause 86.30 it states that there is a case of viewpoint neutrality, but   
there are no specific guidelines that establish this statement. Right   
now the terms are extremely open-ended, and they obviously need set   
guidelines that determine what makes an event legitimate or not to be   
funded by student fees. What we need is regental change; I will be   
working with the access and power that I have to make sure that that is   
established. But in my own power as an executive of ASUCSB, I want to   
ensure that I do everything in my jurisdiction to empower communities   
and ensure that they have the resources to amplify their voices. I ask   
senators to join me in this process, and with their access to resources   
on campus and my access to the state-wide policy level, we can come   
forward with a list of guidelines to add to regental policy.  
These are hard and trying times. I know as students, individuals, and   
leaders, we are all disappointed in our community and country. When they   
say UCSB is a microcosm of the country, I’d like to think that’s true,   
with all the diverse representation of communities all over campus. But   
election night’s results proved to me that UCSB has much more potential   
than what our country has shown. So in our own space that we have   
control over, let’s at least try to establish an atmosphere of love and   
acceptance, so we can move forward with a plan that can better the lives   
of marginalized communities. Let’s increase talks of policy change when   
something affects our peers in a negative manner. Because if even if our   
efforts are not heard nationally, we can still start organizing and   
changing in our community where we still can.  
Thank you,  
Neha Nayak  
  
Random Updates:  
  
Tuition Rollback: With the tuition freeze that is ending by this year,   
UCSA is asking all campuses to plan a pre-emptive action to bring   
awareness to the increase at hand. The EVPSA office is working with   
Student Activist Network to plan a walk out of classes on Nov. 21.  
  
Working to get the Federal Advocacy program groundwork established."