**Merrill Student Government Meeting April 10, 2014**

**Meeting called to order by Justin McClendon at 7:04pm**

**Roll Call**

* Alexandra Kasper (SUA rep)
* Katie (member at large)
* Victor Garcia (SCOC)
* Margret Esguerra (Public Relations)
* Maria Garcia (SUA rep)
* Marin Gamboa (Treasurer)
* Patricia Gonzalez (Secretary)
* Kinley (member at large)
* Chris Coon (Vice Chair)
* Kristen Weaver (Advisor)
* Justin McClendon (Chair)
* Hannah (Academic Senate rep)
* Karla (GAIA magazine)
* Michael ( Member at large) 7:17pm
* Gillian 8:20pm

**Funding Requests**

1. Deciding to Fund
2. GAIA Magazine

**Karla:** I represent GAIA student run environment magazine. We accept submission throughout the year etc. essays. Distribute once a year in spring program. This year we have an internship program, regarding things like animals and environment and they are student run. We accept artistic submission. We hope to distribute 1500 magazines around campus and around the Santa Cruz community. In the past 9 years we have distributed 9,000 copies. For students involved in this magazine there are a lot of opportunities even for those who don’t want to write in it doing things like editing work. It are a lot of valuable skills that we have learned. I am ready to answer a lot of questions. We are printing next week we are in the final process, but we do CSC grant and applying to all the different student governments because we are the only magazine that is student run.

**Chris**: What do the additional funds do?

**Karla**: Funding goes towards the website, team for the videographers and it all goes to printing costs because our big goal is to get it all in color and high gloss. We are printing it with the local community printer. We just want to have the best quality.

**Marin:** Is this only for UC Santa Cruz? How many Merrill?

**Karla:** Yes. I don’t know but we have a variety from different colleges.

**Chris:** Do you pay your interns?

**Karla:** No they just receive 2 credits.

**Justin:** Any other questions? (NO) You will get an email tonight from Marin.

**Discussion: GAIA Presentation**

**Katie**: I feel very conflicted because the presentation didn’t include information that we really need to know. Not knowing the number of Merrill students for example. I felt there was a lot of not knowing.

**Marin:** Didn’t hear any Merrill Students. No notable staff from Merrill College or Merrill students.

**Hannah:** Did we do dumb goof?

**Justin:** It was my mistake we were supposed to hear them last meeting but the meeting was canceled and I forgot to email them about when to reschedule their presentation.

**Chris**: It doesn’t make any difference because they are already going to print.

**Alex:** I think they did say that they were short.

**Justin:** The cost is for the website and printing in color.

**Chris:** I think there is a lot of general concern from the body of no Merrill staff.

**Michael**: Did they said how many student Merrill students are able to read?

**Justin:** They just said that they are distributing at the different colleges.

**Marin:** Since I see no explicit Merrill involvement I motion not to fund the GAIA magazine.

**Katie:** I second.

**Motion fails**

**Justin**: Discussion?

**Marin**: I like to hear from abstentions.

**Kinley:** I think it helps build resumes.

**Alexandra:** I feel like it would benefit Merrill students. Just their presenter wasn’t very informed about how it would do this. I say we should fund.

**Chris:** I feel we should not fund them.

**Marin:** Whether or not we fund them they do have money to print and distribute to the other colleges.

**Hannah:** I don’t don’t want to fund them. But I feel like our fund won’t have much impact.

**Chris:** We don’t have to fund every organization. We should think about how impactful it would be.

**Michael:** How much money do we have?

**Marin:** 1000

**Justin:** We will suspense the current discussion for the People of the Island presentation

1. People of the Islands

**Nicky:** Our goal to celebrate Pacific Islander culture and while educating others. The scholarship fund is aimed to help in higher education. At the end of the year we hold an event on April 24 where dancers from schools as well as musicians come. We are aiming to strengthen diversity on campus. We think this event will be a safe and fun space to represent the People of the Island. We are requesting $500. I took a class regarding this and I was very interested and it made me want to learn more.

**Victor:** Where is the event held?

**Nicky:** Stevenson event center but it is not set in stone yet.

**Chris:** Will you be charging?

**Nicky:** the food tickets are for the people who want to buy food and the dancers should be included in the price.

**Chris**: What kind of food will you have?

**Nicky:** Ponos Cater and we will be selling it in the Cori plaza on Tuesday.

**Katie:** Are you collaborating with any ethnic org?

**Nicky:** Yes we have talked about it. We want to reach out to other orgs on campus.

**Marin:** How much funding are you asking for?

**Justin:** $200. Any other questions? (NO) We will email you tomorrow.

**Discussion: GAIA Magazine continued…**

**Alexandra:** I decided not to fund them.

**Marin:** I motion to not fund the GAIA magazine

**Katie**: I second.

**8-0-4(abstentions) Not funding GAIA magazine**

**Discussion: People of the Islands**

**Katie:** I amimpressed that it would be an educational event. At Merrill we like educating people through programs.

**Michael:** This falls into Merrill’s ethos big time.

**Marin:** I say it fits Merrill’s ethos.

**Alexandra:** I motion to fund the People of the Island event.

**Victor:** I second.

**Approved motion by consensus**

**Justin:** Let’s talk numbers.

**Marin:** I say $100.

**Alexandra:** $150.

**Maria**: I motion to fund the People of the Islands $ 100.

**Kinley:** I second.

**Justin:** All those in favor?

**10-0-1(abstention)**

**Motion passes**

1. Deciding to Hear:
2. Kresge Pride

**Justin:** There are no Merrill students attending their meetings. Yearly celebration, free food May 31st. Not tickets for everyone and is free. Advertise through flyers and tabling in Cori plaza. Working with the Cantu center to help with the event. LGBTTQQIAA cultural identity pride celebrated worldwide. Merrill student participate. Asking for $200. Total $12,925 spending.

**Michael:** I motion to hear Kresge Pride.

**Chris:** I second.

**Motion approved by consensus**

**MSG Spring Elections**

**Justin:** Elections are coming up. Allow two weeks per Candidacy and one week of voting online. Advertise at college night. The date May 12-23 to declare Candidacy. New candidates are allowed to join us for the banquet in June.

**Chris:** We should push to get candidates more than voting.

**Victor:** Tabling worked a lot in the voting.

**Michael:** Flyers in the RA boxes. People actually read stuff on the wall. And we should have all the dates on the same flyer.

**Justin:** You are allowed to run for the positions and I encourage it. But you do have to move in early to be part of the orientation move in day week.

**Alexandra:** What are the positions that have to stay?

**Justin:** Secretary, treasure etc. Also I would like to inform you that I will not be returning as chair.

**Michael:** what are you doing?

**Justin:** I will talk about it later. All the positions will be open so you have to run for your position again.

**Alexandra:** During declaration period.

**Justin:** There are a lot of regulations to read.

**Hannah:** Is there a limitation to how many times we can table?

**Kristen:** No not really. Just depends on the voter turnout.

**Michael:** What about Inside banana Joes?

**Kristen:** It is not allowed to hand out flyers around the dining hall.

**Michael:** What if we threw them on the ground?

**Justin:** Sounds like we are going to flyer the week before declaration. Table at college night because it is only Merrill students. The first week or early not before declaration. 3 days long Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Table on Wednesday and Thursday.

**Michael:** What about those in the fall who want to run?

**Justin:** Talk to Kristen.

**Kristen:** They have to be registered as a Merrill student.

**MSG Feedback Survey**

**Justin:** Spend 10 minutes doing the feedback survey. They are anonymous. We will be using this information to make the space better.

**Michael:** I am a TA for the peer leadership class and in our first quiz I asked them what MSG stands for and only two people knew. 14 people didn’t know what it was. We just need to do something about that.

**Alexandra:** What about if we changed our name to Merrill Senate.

**Kinley:** Isn’t there any where we can put a sign MSG?

**Victor:** I remember someone said that we do have a banner. If we have something like that we could move it around.

**Kristen:** It says brought to you by Student government.

**Katie:** What if we had a drop box?

**Kristen**: We have one for programs office we could add MSG to it.

**Justin:** Any other questions about visibility of MSG?

**Chris:** It should be a new mission to take on.

**Michael**: The 9 and 10 dining hall has a lot of signs. We should post our name on more things.

**Officer Reports**

**Academic Senate**

**Hannah:** No report from me.

**Core Council**

**Chris:** Core council should have a meeting sometime to talk about the future.

**SCOC**

**Victor:** Last week we had the sister college event at Stevenson and Cowell and it was a really good turnout. This week there is a Kresge event from 2-5pm at the porter ally apartments. It is going to be free and fun and a lot of stuff. And every event we see what we need to fix for the next time. We really need a lot of help because it is a large event. The event is this Sunday and set up starts at 1pm it is called the Porter Kresge Carnival. Another thing that we talked about was how SCOC agreed to pay 1/3 IVC pay…because the SUA chair miscalculated the budget year back…no contract that SCOC will continue to pay this…this can be used to fund student committees…15000 remaining funding.

**Marin:** I say make SUA should fund the IVC.

**Alexandra:** I meet with the SUA budget committee last night and SUA is having problems.

**Victor:** Since 2010-11 they assume that we will keep paying for the 1/3 of the IVC’s pay.

**Marin:** One time thing for how many years?

**Victor:** Like 3 years.

**Marin:** SCOC should bring that up that this should be the last year to fund them for next year.

**Justin:** Not just SUA stuff but also SCOC stuff. Over the past year IVC has been involved with SCOC events and helping them which is why I think they should continue to pay for it. SCOC is managed under SUA.

**Marin:** How much are they funding the IVC?

**Justin:** 1/3 of the 9,000

**Victor:** The IVC does not put a lot of time into the events.

**Kinley:** Informal agreement? Why?

**Victor:** We don’t want them to think that we are going to fund them every year. Money is already set aside for the SCOC events. Then we talked about the event in college 9 and 10 and the Oaks dance.

**Public Relations**

**Margret:** We got a new like on Facebook. Also there was a Relay for Life meeting on Wednesday and both Gillian and I couldn’t make it. So the relay is on May 31st and June 1st and to get a t-shirt and food we have to fund raise $100 per person or pay $10 for a ticket. We should do fundraisers.

**Marin**: Who do we get the money for the fundraiser from?

**Margret:** From anyone! They can also donate on your page etc.

**Kristen:** Theme?

**Margret:** I don’t think that there is a theme yet. The UCs goal is $32,000 and we have made $2,000.

**SUA**

**Alexandra:** We had two meetings and they are pretty short. First we went through the motions and then we had the climate reach outside team. Actually that might have been canceled. Then we had budget update from the chair and talked about how we were going to have the budget meeting. We talked about planning to have the dunk tank event to advertise the student debt. It is probably going to happen in two weeks. The Bay Tree book store has to approve it and then the dean of students has to approve but both said they’ll agree when the other agrees. And the meeting on this Tuesday Indian student org and culture show on April 18. SUA supports Cow purge. Be able to table to get students to opt in to $5 per quarter fee so they can do stuff on this campus. They helped get students registered to vote. Advocate for text books, environment and consumer protection among other things.

**Marin:** It is unclear. In one sentence.

**Maria**: So their contract expired this year and the only way to get renewed is to get sponsorship. Nothing has changed. $5 dollar fee per quarter per student. If you don’t want to do it anymore then you go on their website and there should be an option to opt out.

**Alexandra:** It issaying that SUA supports their contract being renewed and is up to university to opt for this. We also have a presentation about the UC ship?

**Maria:** Whether or not to continue having UC ship for the healthcare on this campus or Anthem. Want to know if that is something that students would want. UC ship doesn’t include dental and vision or have that also be included in the health plan.

**Justin:** UC ship UC plan to provide everything so it wasn’t a popular thing.

**Chris:** How many campuses still have this healthcare plan?

**Justin:** Like 5-6 campuses. I recommend holding public forms like we did last year.

**Victor:** I have the UC ship and I had to pay for the vision one so I think that we should have it included already.

**Justin:** It is even included for those who don’t have vision problems.

**Chris:** When we add more benefits it raises the costs.

**Hannah:** Would it raise costs across the border? Or vision Problem only?

**Justin:** The cost would go up and you do have to pay a co-pay.

**Katie:** I feel like dental is something where people would try to cut costs. But healthy gums is important to its health. Forcing them to have this would be fulfilling some of those…

**Secretary**

**Patricia**: I took a lot of minutes.

**Treasure**

**Marin:** We funded the People of the Island $100.

**Vice Chair**

**Chris:** No reports

**Chair**

**Justin:** No reports

**Advisor**

**Kristen**: Alumni week. Moat not accessible due to construction. 10 murals voted down and new ones voted to be put up. Typically students who are painting have extra time but this time that is not the case. Often MSG will fund the BBQ and the RAs tie- die section. Free food, music and it should be a lot of fun. We do request MSG representation and staffing the event. This year the provost has funded the cost for the food because MSG doesn’t have to spend money on alumni

**Marin:** When?

**Kristen:** Saturday April 26th. We will be doing rotation sections.

**Marin:** I would like to volunteer for that!

**Kristen:** I will sent out a google doc.

**Hannah:** On Facebook it says that we are able to see the murals.

**Kristen:** During the day but right now blocked due to construction. Following day is the Alumni brunch and it would be nice if MSG showed up. It will be in the Cultural center and inviting folks to talk about their Merrill experience. Also Seth will be coming to do the budget presentation Thursday May 8th most likely.

**Victor:** We should invite other Merrill students to come and see where their money is going towards like they do in other colleges.

**Marin:** I say we let people know a week in advance.

**Katie:** I have a concern because I would feel concern about people showing up and realizing they have no voting rights.

**Kristen:** We can voice that at the beginning of the meeting. Faux Shaux on is Friday may 2nd and MSG ushers the event we will need a lot of people to move chairs etc. Need all the help we can get. Open to everybody and can be many things including sexy. College night is May 15th. Go on Facebook and figure out what they want to eat at college night. Commencement is on Saturday June 14th. Merrill is the first ceremony.

**Announcements**

**Katie:** So I am looking for participates for the experiment that I am doing. Its two different virtual environments.

**Adjournment**

**Hannah:** I motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Victor:** I second.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:50pm**