**Merrill Student Government April 24, 2014**

**Meeting called to order by Justin McClendon at 7:05pm**

**Roll Call**

* Brian (American Indian Resource Center)
* Lana (American Indian Resource Center)
* Alexandra Kasper (SUA rep)
* Patricia Gonzalez (secretary)
* Maria Garcia (SUA rep)
* Marin Gamboa (Treasurer)
* Margret Esguerra (Public relations)
* Hannah ( Academic senate)
* Victor Garcia (SCOC)
* Chris Coon (Vice Chair)
* Kristen Weaver (Advisor)
* Justin McClendon (Chair)
* Priscilla (SUA rep) 7:42pm
* Michael (member at large)
* Mary (Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center)
* Vanessa (member at large) 7:20pm
* Louise

**Funding Request**

**American Indian Resource Center**

**Lana:** On April 26th POW wow, the third annual Sofia Garcia Robles who worked at financial aid and helped anyway she could. She died tragically and in honor of her memory we are putting this event for her family as well. Hopefully next year we can have it even bigger.

**Brian:** This event is opened up to anyone and is great experience to learn about Native American culture.

**Lana:** Native American culture. Not traditional Native American Indian thing. It is helping those Natives feel at home because they aren’t from California. If you are a POW wower annually that’s how you make more connections. In our event we will have different jewelry, baskets, food and dances. It is just to help diversity and realize it still exists (Native American culture). It will be held in Oaks lawn.

**Alexandra:** How much funding have you gotten so far?

**Lana:** Not enough. Our goal is $8000 to bring the dancers and porter potties.

**Chris:** How have you advertised this event?

**Brian:** Posters, flyers, on bus stops and redwood lounge.

**Lana:** We advertise downtown to stores to try to get donations. And Facebook and fly at the Cory Plaza. We also sell earings and when people come up we tell them about it.

**Justin:** We will let you know tonight.

**Deciding to fund**

**Alexandra:** I motion to fund the Third annual Sofia Garcia Robles Memorial Drum Feast.

**Victor:** I second.

**Motion approved by Consensus**

**Victor:** They are asking for $200?

**Justin:** Correct.

**Victor:** How low are they in funding?

**Marin:** I motion to fund the third Annual Sofia Garcia Robles Memorial Drum Feast $100.

**Margret:** I second.

**Victor:** I object because I feel like they need a little more because their event is this Saturday. I say we should fund $150.

**Marin: I** amend it to $125.

**Victor:** I object.

4-3-2

**Motion fails**

**Victor:** I motion to fund the Thirds Annual Sofia Garcia Memorial Drum Feast $150.

**Alexandra:** I second.

4-3-2

**Motion fails**

**Maria:** I motion to fund $135.

**Victor:** I second.

5-3-2

**Motion fails**

**Marin:** Since their event is soon then I think that $135 is good.

**Alexandra:** I think we should fund according to how important the event is rather than how well the information is presented. I think that they deserve the funding regardless.

**Chris**: Leadership and management skills.

**Michael:** What did u think of last year?

**Justin:** I loved it.

**Victor:** I motion to fund $135.

**Maria:** I second.

7-1-2

**Motion passes**

**Justin:** We are funding the Third Annual Sofia Garcia Robles Memorial Drum Feast $135.

**Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center**

**Mary:** I am an intern at the Asian American Pacific Resource Center. The month of May is nationally recognized at Asian Pacific month. Completion of the transcontinental rail road. Achievement of Asian American Pacific. Large scale calendar posted on every bus stop. The cultural celebration night (asking for funding) colorations with colleges. The South west community teenage pregnancy etc. API community spread awareness. Another event in May key note speaker who grew up in America but got involved with the wrong crowd, undocumented issues. Our budget is $9000. We have confirmed funding from A purge $800 and also received $500 from another organization.

**Vanessa:** Why is it a $12 per person cost but not ticketed?

**Mary:** Yeah it is an estimation.

**Marin:** I motion to fund the Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center event.

**Victor:** I second.

**Motion approved by consensus**

**Marin:** I motion to fund them $115.

**Victor:** I second.

9-0-1

**Justin:** We funded them $115.

**Decide to hear Queer fashion shows**

**Justin:** No Merrill students are involved because the production team can only consist of 4 students. All identities, fashion, dance. Empower and bring together the queer allies. Ticketed. They have a face book page and flyers to the housing office. Event is at Merrill. It is about empowering the performers and audience. 30-40 Merrill students are expected to attend.

**Victor:** I motion to hear them.

**Marin:** I second.

**Motion approved by consensus**

(Hear them next week)

**Possible Merrill SUA Elections Voting Event**

**Victor:** On May 3rd at midnight people can start to vote for the candidates.

**Presentation and Decision on Endorsement of Louise Cabansay**

**Louise:** I am running for the external Vice Chair for the SUA. Third year Bio chemistry major. Coach air of college 8 senate. Independent candidate. I am a student I struggle to pay my education. I work two jobs. Quality and diversity of education. I wouldn’t be here if I didn’t have the help that I have right now. I have been working with SUA since fall quarter of SUA. An Outreach program told me to come to this campus and they knew that I wanted to get involved so I became a volunteer for SUA Sophomore year and helped with voting registration rights. We were able to register 52,000 students. Second year working in the vice chair external office. I been actively working to recruit members to tell legislators why it is important to fund higher education. 15 members who come every week. Basically it is a continuation to continue doing the work that I am doing. You should be aware of the issues that students face. 970 bill that consults with students before raising tuition.

**Justin:** Any candidates can come and ask for an endorsement. So discussion.

**Maria:** I think we should endorse Louise based on the plat form and its reflection of Merrill.

**Alexandra:** I love Louise but I don’t feel that we should be endorsing candidates here. It can divide our space. I feel like we should be neutral.

**Hannah:** How does endorsement work?

**Justin:** We could pull out but we have to notify everyone involved.

**Vanessa:** Did u make any choices before voting came? (NO) I would like to suggest that we invite all candidates if they choose to and then make an informed decision because I think that is the most fair thing to do.

**Chris:** The past 2 years we invited all the candidates to come and speak at the space.

**Priscilla:** I think that she is very qualified. But I don’t think that this college should decide. I am uncomfortable with endorsing anyone.

**Michael:** What would you guys define endorsement?

**Justin:** I sign a paper and it will say the individual candidates and who they are endorsed by.

**Michael:** Instead we can endorse anyone who we think is qualified and who proves to be so.

**Marin:** I love her plat form but I feel like we would be imposing out opinion on Merrill students. I motion not to endorse and to make the space neutral.

**Priscilla:** I second.

**Hannah:** If we pass this does this mean that any candidates after won’t be able to be endorsed?

**Vanessa:** We can vote to be neutral that we don’t want to endorse anyone but let them come in if they want to present knowing that.

**Priscilla:** I still think that endorsing anyone is problematic. If we endorse a candidate and Merrill sees that we endorsed them we may have an influence on them. If we want people to come here and talk about their plat form that’s fine.

**Justin:** Motion by Marin seconded by Priscilla

7-2-1

**Motion carries endorse no candidates.**

**Justin:** Endorsing Ballot referendum. I have not been contacted. Only one week until that starts.

**Marin:** I say we wait.

**Priscilla:** I think that it would be smart to have a bottom line. Whether we should consider endorsing or not?

**Hannah:** Forever?

**Priscilla:** Just for this academic year.

**Justin:** We already sponsored some referendum. When voting this is a fee and then this is who it is supported by. Do we or not want to endorse?

**Chris:** I think that we should endorse referendums while students can make their own decisions.

**Priscilla:** I motion to not endorse any referendum.

**Maria**: I second.

5-2-3

**Motion does not pass**

**Maria:** How can we really represent what our students think? I think it would seem contradictory to sponsor one and not another.

**Chris:** The body is not only for funding but more to represent the body.

**Priscilla:** Half or more of the referendum increases student fees. Endorsing candidates I don’t think that we should decide what student should pay.

**Michael:** I think that its distressing that we are supposed to be the representing the body and we don’t have enough communication. We just fund according if they fit the Merrill ethos. I don’t think that we should shorten meetings. Our function is to represent the Merrill voice but I still think that we aren’t telling people how to vote but we are students who believe something.

**Marin:** I am agreeing with Michael that as a body we can make a choice to endorse referendum and or candidate but with referendum it is technical. I think that if considered each one we should let the Merrill body know.

**Michael:** When you think of the people and how much time they spend reading the referendum, if we aren’t willing to put the time to it then who will?

**Marin:** I motion that we hear the referendum giving us a presentation with potentially endorsing.

**Chris:** I second.

5-3-2

**Motion fails**

**Marin:** If we don’t make a decision then everything…

**Chris:** I motion to close discussion.

**Michael:** I second.

5-0-5

**Motion does pass**

**Officer Reports**

**Academic Senate**

**Hannah:** No report.

**Core Council**

**Chris:** We discussed when to meet for last spring meeting.

**Public Relations**

**Margret:** Heroes is the theme. Sign up!

**Student Committee on Committees**

**Victor:** We talked about the event that is on May 30th from 5-7pm on top of the Bay tree bookstore. Then the IVC pay and eventually the chair/SUA and discussed that we shouldn’t fund the IVC and that was his opinion but we are still discussing that but at this point I don’t think that we are going to have a formal proposal from the SUA. He said that it’s the SUA’s responsibility. Most colleges said we should fund the IVC. A college agreed that there should be a contract that is renewed every year. If we keep on funding we might not have enough money. College 9 and 10 event free food, frozen. That was it.

**Vanessa:** Was the IVC factored this year?

**Justin**: Yes.

**Student Union Assembly**

**Alexandra:** We went over the SOFA funding recommendation. African student Union requested $1000 and we decided to fund them. Scientific slugs $1150,Student organization $160, American Red cross $250, SI Alfa Delta $1000, UCSC orientation water bottle discussion tabled, Kresge Pride presentation, Vietnamese $1200 and received.

**Vanessa:** We decided to table the UCSC orientation water bottle discussion because it turned into an SUA opinion. It would have gone away from the original organization.

**Priscilla:** The conversation turned into whether paying for bottles is a good investment. People didn’t know if they wanted to use it as marketing. But I didn’t think that SUA was trying to purposefully be self-centered.

**Maria:** Another point regarding the water bottles was why to fund something that is going towards students that are not paying those fees.

**Vanessa:** The student fees from this year would be used for incoming students next year and isn’t going towards current students.

**Chris:** It’s better to give water bottles the first day of classes rather than orientation.

**Marin:** I think that sustainability is important.

**Justin:** $14,992 for 4000 water bottles.

**Victor:** A lot of things for next year have to be decided this year.

**Priscilla:** I see the logic in water bottles and it’s a cool thing to get in orientation but because it is a large sum of money it would be smarter to promote SUA in a different way because students would not look up SUA because they have it on their water bottle. If that is the purpose of the water bottle then I don’t think that that is effective. Why aren’t we putting the money for other resources?

**Chris:** Welcome week is very important. Whether or not we want to institutionalize the water bottles for next year, incoming students might not look it up but recognize the logo.

**Justin:** I am closing the discussion.

**Gillian:** I think that water bottles are a good idea. I am for the water bottles.

**Alexandra:** We also had a kresge pride sponsorship request.

**Priscilla:** They are asking for $4500. Then a student from LALS made a presentation to bring awareness on issues. Short term: LGBT immigration policy, program geared towards non-native language. Felt that EAP should be able to tell them if their host family should be accepting or if they are safe as queer identified students. He argues, why we can’t create programs that fit every student.

**Justin:** 150 have different contracts they aren’t held by UC requirements that why you can’t test into it.

**Priscilla:** Not a formal resolution. He wants to gather support from the SUA to contact administrators and get back with resolution.

**Secretary**

**Patricia:** I am taking minutes on what has been discussed in the space.

**Treasurer**

**Marin:** We decided to fund the American Indian Resource Center event $135 and the Asian American Pacific Islander Resource Center event $115.

**Vice Chair**  
**Chris:** No report.

**Chair**

**Justin:** Ethnic Bowl. Community agreements. I am just here to reaffirm the community agreements. Also the EVC office was supposed to come and present but if you want to help register students you can get the contact information from me. Snacks we talked about this and if people want to bring snacks or if you want funding for snacks also.

**Advisor**

**Kristen:** Moat Day. Merrill it is looking like there will be a community project. The standards RA booth, tie die, friendship bracelets, etc. Hamburgers, turkey, vegie. Shorter than usual. Sign up for a shift. And also ushering for May 2nd for Fo’ show. There was an original conversation about the budget presentation May 8th but requested by Seth it will be held May 15th but that is college night so around 7:30pm.

**Justin:** It is only going to be clarifying questions.

**Hannah:** Are we tabling at college night?

**Kristen:** Yes. Faux Shaux is from 5:30-7:30pm.

**Priscilla:** I think its fine that the meeting is after college night but we might stay longer to discuss SUA Etc.

**Kristen:** Faux Shaux is next week sign up for ushering.

**Announcements**

**Justin:** Doodle for the constitutional committee

**Michael**: Last year MSG we did a special meeting.

**Justin:** Still planned.

**Kristen:** The last business meeting is on May 29th

**Adjournment**

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

**Victor:** I second.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:17pm**