**Merrill Student Government Meeting May 8, 2014**

**Meeting called to order by Justin McClendon 7:01pm**

**Roll Call**

* Katie Roth (member at large)
* Maria Garcia (SUA rep)
* Margret (Public Relations)
* Hannah Tuong (Academic senate)
* Marin Gamboa (treasurer)
* Patricia Gonzalez (secretary)
* Victor Garcia (SCOC)
* Alexandra Kasper (SUA rep)
* Chris Coon (Vice Chair)
* Michael Liber (member at large)
* Mollie (producer from Film)
* Jordin (from film coalition)
* Justin McClendon (chair)
* Kristen Weaver (Advisor)
* Art
* Priscilla Rodriguez (SUA rep)
* Gillian Rooker (member at large)
* Seth Hodge (CPC)

**Seth:** I am here because I will be presenting the budget next week. Is there anything that you would like to know?

**Victor:** whether or not we will get more funds?

**Seth**: It depends on the number of students that are affiliated with Merrill.

**Hannah:** Is Merrill the smallest college? Or?

**Seth:** Not the smallest college.

**Kristen:** Talked about general transparency and meetings

**Chris:** welcome weeks budget etc.

**Victor:** Will we get a full view of the money Merrill receives?

**Seth:** The money from student fees at the university.

**Michael:** RA money?

**Seth:** I will explain how that happens and why.

**Justin:** Next week our meeting is at 7:30pm after college night.

**Kristen:** Also there is going to be a night hike lead by Opers after.

**Victor:** When we get the budget do we have a week to decide?

**Seth:** There will be a discussion and most years the voting happens that week but if you need a week to talk about it you can have that week.

**Victor:** will you tell us what we have control over?

**Seth:** Yes. And I will also talk about how funding works if we were to fund outside groups for example we would have to lose college nights.

**Funding Requests Presentation**

**Film Production Coalition**

**Jordin:** What we do is we get into groups each quarter (90 people in the Film production coalition) and make short films throughout the quarter and at the end screen them at the media theater. We accept student submission. It is about teaching people interested in film making. It doesn’t have to be film makers. Although it helps film majors.

**Molly:** It was hard to find an outlet to help with skills needed to make films so I found that this program really helped me.

**Trent:** It helps minors too.

**Jordin:** It is good for people who want to get into the business. You need to know how to collaborate. Collaboration is an important part of film making. It is a collaborate organization and helps with creativity. Also there is a festival at the end of the quarter for peers to see the productions. It is free of charge and any one can attend.

**Molly:** It is the weekend before finals.

**Jordin:** $175-200 from each college. T-shirts are important in creating a collaborate atmosphere.

**Molly:** There are no general meetings like last year.

**Jordin:** We are also trying to get a good budget to create an atmosphere. Media Theater is $150 flat rate

**Victor:** Do you have a lot of Merrill students?

**Jordin:** 5

**Molly:** We are trying to expand it because there is this idea that porter students are more creative and that is not the case only. Our goal is to try to have a higher level of professionalism and quality and show people that they don’t have to be a film major to get involved. We are making flyers and advertising through Facebook etc.

**Hannah:** Subject matter?

**Trent:** Each group decides on the story line of their film. We give students the tools they need and let them create their idea.

**Molly:** We get a general idea of the theme and then work together. This year is dark comedy.

**Victor:** Our ethos exploring cultural identity and raising global consciousness, do you think they are addressed in the film?

**Jordin:** This year we did include them.

**Molly:** We are starting to make it clear to stay away from racial stereotypes.

**Jordin:** We make sure not to have those stereotypes and make sure that a certain positive message that gets across through the film.

**Justin:** funding?

**Jordin:** We received $150 from Cowell, $115 from Stevenson, $180 from Crown and SUA hasn’t gotten back to us yet.

**Michael:** T-shirts?

**Jordin:** We have a website which we will get them out on.

**Molly:** What we want to do by getting T-shirts is to rebrand; getting a new logo.

**Chris:** Do you change it a lot?

**Jordin:** No this is the first time in a long time.

**Justin:** conversation?

**Victor:** I don’t feel that our ethos are well addressed.

**Katie:** I know they didn’t say much about our ethos but I feel like they are very in line with the academic part of Merrill and it seems like they do it.

**Marin:** Educational activity, which is in our preamble in constitution. I motion to fund the Film Production Coalition event.

**Michael:** I second.

**Victor:** I motion to fund the Film Production Coalition $75.

**Alexandra:** I second.

**2(YES)-6(NO)-3(ABSTENTIONS)**

**Motion does not pass**

**Katie:** I feel like that is a low number.

**Marin:** I am thinking $100.

**Marin:** I motion to fund the Film Production Coalition event $100.

**Hannah**: I second.

**7(YES)-2(NO)-2(ABSTENTIONS)**

**Motion passes**

**Funding Request to Hear:**

**Phi Alpha Delta**

**Justin:** The Phi Alpha Delta is a fraternity. They have two Merrill members. They are doing a southern California Law school tour. Better understanding. Not a ticketed event. $64 estimated cost for attendance per person. Flyers or email forms of advertising. Global perspective on how people understand the law. They are asking for $200. They have a $2,395 budget. They have received $1500 from SUA. It is a Pre law coed fraternity.

**Marin:** Thee funds could be used to outreach to more students.

**Hannah:** When?

**Chris:** The 23rd and they would take off the next day.

**Katie:** I motion to hear Phi Alpha Delta.

**Hannah:** I second.

**2(YES)-5(NO)-5(ABSTENTIONS)**

**Motion doesn’t pass**

**Muslim Students Association**

**Justin:** They have 6 members affiliated with Merrill. May 18th to 22nd raising awareness of Muslim misconceptions. Answer questions. It will be held at the Merrill cultural center any one can attend. Differences between culture and religion big part of misconception. Not ticketed and no estimated cost per person. Explore the religion of Islam and difference from the culture. 38-50 students are expected to attend. They are asking for $200.

**Michael:** Can we make an exception to hear them next week. I feel like this is something important to hear out.

**Maria:** I motion to hear the Muslim Student Association next week.

**Victor:** I second.

**Decide to fund Queer Fashion show**

**Justin:** We have two tickets for either of the nights for the Queer Fashion Show. We need to choose who will take those tickets to attend.

**Victor:** when?

**Justin:** May 14th and 17th. The dress rehearsal is an open show. Anyone who wants to go super badly?

**Katie:** I am interested but I think that I could make the Sunday night.

**Hannah:** Hannah and victor would like to attend.

**Justin:** Anyone else? (NO) Okay you get the tickets.

**MSG Elections**

**Justin:** We were supposed to start candidacy next week but we want to focus that week on advertising in regards to declaring candidacy. Six position for the spring position, chair, vice chair, MAC, SUA, secretary and Treasurer. If you can make it to welcome week you have to come early. All the other positions are for the fall next year. Margret will make posters and flyers and google doc for tabling. Elections will be on Memorial Day week 27-30th and candidates at our last meeting. So out last meeting is 29th. Only Gillian showed up at the constitutional committee so contact me with your recommendations. I am going to make up recommendations within 2 weeks and then we will discuss them and vote on them.

**Alexandra:** Is it possible to go through them all and talk about them all individually and make it quick?

**Justin:** We can do it however we choose. But with the formatting change it will difficult to get a sense of what has been moved around.

**Chris:** We are hearing the recommendation on the 22nd and voting on them the 29th?

**Justin:** Yes or that same night.

**Officer reports**

**Academic Senate**

**Hannah:** There is a meeting 21st so I won’t be able to attend them in the middle of the day 2ish or 3 at Stevenson but I can get back to you.

**Justin:** I will go in your place.

**Core Council**

**Chris:** We are waiting to hear back from the intern advisor in order to set up when we will meet for the spring quarter.

**Public Relations**
**Margret:** So we need to decide what we want to sell right now they have us down under hot chocolate. Taking away some rules I don’t know. They said it is a SORE regulation.

**Victor:** I was thinking that it would be a good idea maybe have little note cards and have people write something to their loved ones and then we will put it in the banner of Merrill and yeah…

**Kristen:** Relay for life kind of already has that.

**Hannah:** What if we sell glow sticks for the night?

**Kristen:** depends on how much it costs

**Alexandra:** Which weekend is this happening on?

**Kristen:** May 30th to June 1st

**Katie:** If we want to stick with selling something maybe we should do Gatorade or lemonade.

**Kristen:** We already had hot chocolate which is why we were going to sell drinks.

**Victor:** bags of ice and sell them?

**Alexandra:** could you give us a list of the items that are taken?

**Margret:** We can also do a game. So someone is selling chocolate covered strawberries, Aguas frescas, chicarones, esquites. Roader rack is selling snow cones, charm bracelets and fruit cups. Snow cones is their first choice.

**Chris:** lollipops?

**Hannah:** high fives for a nickel!

**Victor:** personal fans!

**Margret:** So the theme is super heroes except they don’t want superheroes that already exist they want all of us to be heroes. And colors and we need to make capes.

**Alexandra:** Aqua man!

**Margret:** Not real ones we have to make up our own.

**Hannah:** orange, blue maybe.

**Victor:** What about a mountaineer’s mascot?

**Justin:** Merrill Magic Mountaineers and have Merrill colors!

**Katie:** There is a Renaissance club and they can make capes for us.

**Alexandra:** We should all have facial hair because I feel like mountaineers have that and a wand because they are magic!

**Michael:** I can grow beers for everyone…

**Margret:** There was another meeting tonight at 7pm but I couldn’t make it.

**Student Committee On Committees**
**Victor:** There was no meetings.

**Student Union Assembly**

**Priscilla:** The budget was presented. Do you want to discuss it today or after it is more discussed in SUA next meeting.

**Alexandra:** I feel like because we want to discuss it next week we would want input to give it to the SUA.

**Maria:** Since next week it is the Merrill budget would there be time to discuss this?

**Justin:** They are just as long… so my first thought is to have a meeting to budget next week. Seth would take an hour or/and hour and a half so we can do it then.

**Priscilla**: Is there any way to get the overview of the budget before it is presented?

**Kristen:** it is not prepared yet but email me and I can share that with him and get an answer.

**Priscilla:** Are we voting that night?

**Justin:** It is up to the space.

**Priscilla:** Based off of last year when this conversation lasted weeks I anticipate that we will discuss it next week so I didn’t realize it was next week.

**Alexandra:** Maybe we can give key points of the meeting.

**Priscilla:** Cut one intern from the chair office, and line item constitution staff summer out, fund the internal vice chair pay

**Justin:** The SCOC is always willing to fund IVC pay but this year spending will not sustain the IVC pay.

**Priscilla:** Recommendation to consolidate IVC interns to one line item, EVC 4 interns. AS of now each intern own line item. Recommendation to consolidate all of them into one.

**Justin:** EVC four options for interns. Different line item for matrix. Recommended interns one line item that way EVC has power to have more (less pay) or less interns (more pay).

**Priscilla:** not stipulations on hours or pay. Next bi law officer discretion in deciding agreement and pay for interns.

**Justin:** Interns paid by agreement not hours and that’s how they get their $100 a month. Give power to the officer when hiring the interns. Flexibility with interns

**Priscilla:** By allowing this to happen EVC can hire as many interns as they want to. Line item of student staff benefits was cut because it isn’t used this year and no one knew when it was used. As of now we pay for the scratcher permits and so no longer paying for that. Recommendation to cut back from copying. Cut all officer discretional funding $100 per officer cutting $600 of discretional funds.

**Alexandra:** did the discretional funds go into programming?

**Justin:** yes.

**Chris:** limit on officer discretional funds?

**Priscilla:** Yes. Zero women of color conference line item. Past two years has not happened.

**Victor:** Is it their membership for all students?

**Priscilla:** Your campus is a membership school you get a certain number of voted in congress and we also get to send 2 delegations of students.

**Victor:** Do you have to apply to the conferences?

**Priscilla:** At the discretion of each conference. Allows us to send that price if students go to conferences. Chosen through application process.

**Marin:** what does the membership get is SUA?

**Priscilla:** Original field organizer allows us to participate in conferences and lobby.

**Hannah:** does it really benefit us?

**Priscilla:** I think that question depends on your opinion. I went to both conferences and got really involved with USSA for me it was very beneficial.

**Hannah:** Any other way to benefit from it if I wouldn’t be able to attend?

**Priscilla:** USSA lobbyist at the capital when any decision made on higher education they bring it back. Don’t see it very directly on the campus. Along with that decision cuts made to both conference congress $11000 to $300 leg con to $5600. I asked why that happened and I didn’t get a clear response basically we need to send more qualified but less students.

**Justin:** so we cut the congress because it is being held in UC Irvine you can take how many students and only 8 students can be voting members.

**Alexandra:** I think a few of us from the Legcon felt that it wasn’t super beneficial and that money could be used to reach out to more students and it all gave me a trip to DC my personal opinion.

**Priscilla:** So the conference is at UCI which means that it will cost less but we can always send more and I am not sure what the rules are but I can’t imagine people will be excluded for the conversation but we only get 8 votes.

**Justin:** only members of USSA staff and voting members. They can be at the Caucus and not run for the position unless they suspense the bi law.

**Chris:** where does the money go?

**Priscilla:** It is shown at the end of the conversation. Legcon different people different experiences. I would even say that it wasn’t a good time to go because it was snowing and we weren’t able to lobby to the legislator and the national level or department of education. Elections commission kept the same. Added sponsorship funding 10000 for other orgs. Decrease in USSA travel cut in half. Other travel. Assembly retreat 300 and officer by 3000. Increase programming for the officer 200 more funding and chair 1000. Slug vote taken out. Increased general programming. Then line item for general programming through bi law. General fund added. Way programming works anyone can request money for programming from SUA voting members and students. No stipulation how that money is distributed. Based on this information do you all have any questions? Concerns? Comments? I was thinking that we won’t be able to discuss this at the next meeting so I was thinking I write the general points of the minutes of the SUA discussed in the space and you all can get back to me. (YES)

**Kristen:** Eliminated line item for the Women of color conference consider the benefits of it

**Priscilla:** I would say be critical.

**Alexandra:** I am concerned about the Women of Color Conference because if they do decided to have it I wonder whether it will be or not be included in the SUA budget.

**Priscilla:** If the money isn’t used we can offer an opinion of what it can go towards.

**Katie:** when would it happen?

**Kristen:** in the spring I believe

**Justin:** Who bids for it and how much money?

**Maria:** Since it has not been happening for 2 years now I would think that why have we not bid for it? I feel that we had that money this year that that money should be bided for next year and have it here at Merrill.

**Priscilla:** It is used for delegation not for hosting. EVC might not have the money to host it.

**Justin:** Only UC not able to facilitate a large conference.

**Priscilla:** No reason really presented for the Women of Color being zeroed out.

**Hannah:** Do we make revenue?

**Justin:** No. I’m going to hold this conversation for now.

**Priscilla:** Alumni room Tuesday night. EAP nothing done until resolution formed. We funded Kresge pride $4500 with the stipulation they use it with the funding of their budget.

**Vice chair**

**Chris:** No report.

**Chair**

**Justin:** Vote for elections deadline is Saturday at 1am.

**Priscilla:** You don’t have to vote on the whole thing.

**Justin:** Saturday is the violence prevention program here at Merrill.

**Kristen:** There will be a keynote speaker on violence and sexuality and workshops will be held by staff on campus. Starts at 10am and lunch is provided.

**Justin:** Edge of Eden is on Saturday!

**Advisor**

**Kristen:** College night is in progress. Registration for commencement, you should register if you haven’t the deadline has passed but we are making acceptances.

**Announcements**

**Justin:** I brought cookies because it is Gillian’s birthday!

**Maria:** I will forward you the flyer of the events coming up!

**Michael:** I motion to sing happy birthday to Gillian.

**Chris:** I second.

**Adjournment**

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

**Victor:** I second.

**Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm**

Treasurer

Marin: 300 left in our budget