**Merrill Student Government Minutes February 20, 2014**

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

**Roll Call**

* Patricia Gonzalez (Secretary)
* Hannah Tuong (Academic Senate Representative)
* Margret Esguerra (Public Relations)
* Kristen Weaver (Advisor)
* Alexandra Kasper ( SUA representative)
* Chris Truman
* Sophia Sebre
* Kayla ( Chief of staff)
* Priscilla Rodrigues (SUA)
* Vanessa (member at large)
* Maria Garcia ( SUA rep)
* Victor Garcia (SCOC rep)
* Kinley ( member as guest)
* Katie Roth ( member at large)
* Marin Gamboa ( Treasurer)
* Chris Coon ( Vice chair)
* Justin (Chair)
* Max ( Internal Vice Chair of Student Committees)
* David (Director of student life)

**Referenda Sponsorship Presentations**

**Campus Student Government Fee Increase**

**Justin**: The floor is yours.

**David**: A free increase to measure 8. Fee first enacted 1881.. trying to change the way that SUA is seen in the student campus… 48 percent of the current budget..

**Kayla:** allow to fund more student organizations ..allow for more freedom… having more funding allows more visibility

**David:** Valuable in what student government offers their students and in what students offer government..Open up to questions

**Chris:** How was the survey conducted?

**David:** Through email. It is a sponsorship not endorsement. We asking for sponsorship

**Chris**: Did u ask for cost or…?

**David**: Would you be in support for..

**Chris:** Were those 500 counted in the amount given

**David:** They were.. in the total responses of yes no possibly they are accurate

**Priscilla:** Programming and student life large percentage of budget

**David:** A lot of events on campus happen during the spring quarter…

**Kayla**: Having influential people is important..budget not set in stone..see how it is spread

**David:** drafts and price

**Justin**: any conversation into putting into the draft?

**David:** yes

**Justin**: language

**David:** hypothetical table, if funds are passed they will be allocated

**Chris:** all budgets used …San Jose

**Max**: couple ..position in SUA if something happened like in measure 7..full positions have cost escalated

**David**: most relative to our area

**Marin:** This money would be going to?

**David:** Registered student funding, increase a lot of SUA budget.. less selective in sending people to conferences, a lot more of the on campus programming…looking to do things to bring colleges together

**Marin:** hear a lot about events not so much about Student organization…

**Justin:** Moving on we will hear the next presentation and then make our decision on whether to sponsor or not sponsor the Campus Student Government Fee Increase.

**Slug Shuttle Fee**

**Kayla:** Slug shuttle, we are trying to be on the ballot. We are asking for a $1.50 per student per quarter for the express shuttle from campus, meant to fund buses, gas, and maintenance from winter and spring break. Last year we successfully transported students to the airport. Each shuttle carries 25 students. We are not able to use the school shuttles. The Slug Shuttle would have more expensive system because it is not manual. But it is the most affordable option for students and the student can opt out if it becomes too expensive for them. It would allow fellow students to use this service as well. The cost escalates we want it to be inexpensive.

**Marin:** Free service?

**Kayla:** Well you pay a fee per quarter.

**Chris:** Did not reach the voter ratio?

**Kaya:** No

**Chris:** How do we go about the fee?

**Kayla:** There is a long process

**Justin:** Student services, Han. Are you limiting it to a specific number of students? 200? 300?

**Kayla:** It’s first come first serve but can request specific time. The bus runs about 4 times. Last year we came up with four times once people made their reservations and as the demand increased we had flexibility.

**Chris:** Will the funds for the last trail run for previous years?

**Kayla:** They don’t get all the money, get a very small amount mostly goes to the police, not sustainable because there wasn’t enough parking for students. We are looking at a small sacrifice for the greater good. The need is out there for a lot of students. For everyone. Also the slug shuttle can take you from campus to the airport in 45 minutes. This is a much more convenient and time efficient alternative.

**Justin:** We will decide on the sponsorship at the end…

**Library Referenda**

**Vanessa:** Library Referenda, the library hours would be extended to 24 hours 5 days a week. It would only be $4.25 for students per quarter. We plan on starting this extension on the first floor, clearing it out, and having more study space for students. When the 24 hour hits students will need a key. These extra hours are directed towards the undergrads.

**Chris**: So is this greater than the three year fee?

**Vanessa:** That was $3.60 only for midnight before it used to close at 7 or 8 and it didn’t open on the weekend. Administration decide wouldn’t be part of that student fee…try to convince them that it’s something that the students should not have to pay for. With the key card access we will be able to see how many students actually use it.

**Justin:** Any other questions?

**Hannah:** I sometimes forget to bring in my card…

**Vanessa:** Per card swipe its individual you have to have your ID card.

**Hannah:** What about grad students?

**Vanessa:** Most don’t..

**Justin:** You would need your ID because only UCSC students can use the 24 hour and also to attract the usage of the library. Also to ensure security for UCSC students.

**Chris:** What if they use those devices that liquor stores use to measure traffic flow?

**Vanessa:** That wouldn’t accurately represent how many students actually use the facilities. Instead it what just determine who just comes in and out.

**Alexandra:** Do you know what the security system will look like?

**Vanessa:** Like the dorms.

**Alexandra**: Couldn’t a bunch of students go to library and only use one ID card?

**Vanessa:** Security will be there to make sure that there is one person at a time making sure only students go in during those extended hours.

**Justin:** Any other questions? Okay, with that another presentation by Max with the change of measure 16.

**Changes to Measure 16**

**Max:** Its straight forward.. changes to measure 16. Funds students on student on committees… At first got close to be on the ballot. Hopefully we are able to change percentage and guideless. It’s the same language as before supported largely by the student governments. At the begging 60,000 hoping that this will slowly die down.. having more events to help.. hoping for sponsorships….means that it looks good and that students should vote on it. Any questions?

**Justin:** Form?

**Max:** Thank you for your time have a great evening.

**Justin:** 15 minutes before the next presentation. We can look at the Ethics Bowl or go back to the agenda

**Marin:** Sponsorship

**Justin:** Campus Student Government Fee Increase.

**Marin:** The presentation was mostly about putting on events and they did not expand upon…SUA dramatic changes…I am suspicious about the funding and the reason?

**Chris:** Yeah they want more internal events..and issue of priorities..want these events that promote SUA.. I feel like they can do better with the funds that they already have.

**Priscilla:** I just wanted to address the chart about other student fee… Some schools are much larger than us and the control over more things is why there is more money. I did want to address that each officer has funds within their own office which is enough to help fund those events.

**Justin:** SUA revisits budget..officers have to pay for their interns .. different funds.. The way that the budget is split up is through the constitution. It can’t really be messed with some fees are stuck in glue.

**Priscilla:** I think that our campus does a lot of programming and so to see that 41.1% going to programming that wasn’t planned for.. We don’t know what that means?

**Alexandra:** I’m wondering if the actual form will be on the ballot…

**Justin:** No just the language and the table.

**Marin:** I feel that the chart that was given was pretty skewed ..just to me makes it feel like a scheme to put on a music festival...means to an end.

**Priscilla:** The survey that I know about had three questions regarding the spring concert.. That’s not a student programming survey…another point...come back to me..

**Alexandra:** I don’t think it’s a secret scheme. I also don’t think that they are trying to be sneaky about it.. I feel like they are just trying to increase student life.

**Priscilla:** ummm..I ..let me think about it…

**Chris:** Yes they want to increase student life...SUA determines where the fund will go? Not sure how this will play out.

**Justin:** With that we will take a break

**Language Support Services**

**Martha**: I brought some power points.

**Justin:** You have the floor.

**Martha:** Have you guys used any of our services. I am one of the tutors for special…I’m sure that you guys are concerned...trying to increase fee $12 a quarter on the ballot.. so basically provide help for students like writing everyday, subject tutoring try to accommodate tutors, MSI student gets to go to lecture and take notes and meet with student. Math and Chemistry more students…during midterms get more students...trying to increase fee because we are being underfunded. In 2007 measure 30 allowed to increase funding which allowed us to get 64 to pay tutors. Measure 2 took away 20,000 from our funding. We Serve EOP students but open to undergrads etc. our tutor salaries had not increased despite decreased funding. Some of the programs that we haven’t been able to keep is the sophomore academy. Our office tried to support to prevent those student from dropping out but unfortunately we were forced to cut those services. Chart shows that those students who took advantage of out services performed well academically. I too have benefitted from the services that are offered. The Tutors take their job very seriously. Tutors take classes to ensure that they are prepared. Also serves as experiences for those tutors who are aspiring teachers. Trying to raise funds to $12 per quarter which will help our offices. 157 tutors will be able to be kept if this fund were to go through. Oaks, Stevenson and Cowell have supported us.

**Justin:** Measure 7 used to support other services on campus.. with that are there any questions?

**Katie:** Class that has MSI tutor...if that fee passes would that policy change?

**Martha**: I am not sure.

**Chris:** Will the return for aid for student fees allocate for Student wages?

**Martha:** No

**Chris:** What do you mean by the demand?

**Martha:** If we don’t provide a tutor for a specific subject we will look for one if more students request one for that subject as well.

**Justin:** Any questions?

**Martha:** The fee is only for undergrads.

**Chris:** What kind of service is offered for Grad?

**Martha**: Subject tutor. Some of our tutors are grad students.

**Justin**: Thank you for your presentation.. I will email my response by tomorrow. Sponsorship is just putting it on the ballot for students to vote on. Priscilla resume?

**Priscilla**: Yes, I have several comments…incredible misleading ..For Campus Student … towards the end it says that it will provide events...discussion on issues? I didn’t get having awareness from the presentations.. because a fee that affects only one particular … When this was presented I felt that a big part of the justification is to increase student pride. In my opinion you have pride when your academics are very good. I feel like the concert which is part of this I don’t see it necessary to subsidize the student concert. If students want to attend they should pay like the price for it or something.

**Maria:** The way it was presented I felt that it was an SUA outreach. They should make sure that the students want this as well. I fear that people will bluntly vote on it. And also going off with that the fact that they used the festival with responses of not a good turnout.

**Hannah:** Back to the ballot thing.. how do you find out what the ballot means?

**Justin:** It states that this is sponsored by so and so then there are the pro letters “I support for these reasons” and then the students vote yes or no.

**Hannah:** How many pros and cons are there?

**Justin:** like 3?4?

**Priscilla:** If I remember.. the amendment had the yes and no thing you don’t have to read it to vote.. if you have questions about the ballot there isn’t anyone really there to help you out. Not really an informational setting.

**Justin:** Motion?

**Priscilla:** Based of the language I don’t feel comfortable on having this on the ballot. I motion to not sponsor the Campus Student Government Fee increase.

**Marin**: I second.

**Justin:** All those in favor of not sponsoring Campus Student?

**9 (YES)-0(NO)-3(abstain) motion passes**

**Slug Shuttle fee**

**Katie:** one thing that I was skeptical about was the ..I agree with the safety

**Kinley:** I’ve taken it and I thought it was safe.

**Priscilla:** I’ve never had any problems just takes along time.

**Alexandra:** I feel like it can be dangerous for females. It would scare me to take multiple transitions and on my own.

**Justin:** I know safe statics. There was a sexual assault that happened in a transit but it was in San Jose but it was reported for UCSC student.

**Hannah:** I don’t have problems with safety but even for males it is also scary but having something convenient is nice.

**Justin:** Let’s have a conversation about the language.

**Priscilla:** We had this presentation on SUA and I know.. what percentage would benefit from this? And the answer was 12% of the student government but also got another answer to .. my point is it is a small population of the student body. I feel like this is a service that is a luxury and not a necessity and considering that not a huge population benefits from this in the future if you vote and don’t get to go on the slug shuttle wouldn’t be…

**Alexandra:** Yes, if they don’t have the capacity..

**Priscilla:** The shuttles that go to San Jose are very small. It’s understandable that they can’t accommodate everyone.

**Chris:** We won’t be able to meet the demand.

**Justin:** We can’t use the loop buses because it is a safety issue.

**Maria:** The language is misleading. The fact that they didn’t put how many students the bus can hold is misleading. Regarding the elections students aren’t going to want to read all the language and it is thus misleading.

**Hannah:** I don’t want to have our name written on the ballot.

**Justin:** Motion? Another point?

**Katie:** I motion to not sponsor the Slug Shuttle Fee.

**Hannah**: I second.

**Justin:** All those in favor of not sponsoring the Slug Shuttle?

**8 (yes)-1(No)-3(abstain) the motion passes**

**Justin:** We are not sponsoring the Slug Shuttle to be on the ballot.

**Library Referenda**

**Victor:** I am not a big library user. But if you live in the dorms you need more quite space. Having the library open for 24 hours is beneficial for the students.

**Marin:** I would be happy to increase this for 24 hours and it could be a great.

**Kinley:** Isn’t the library open before finals?

**Justin:** No

**Chris:** I used the library for finals and I didn’t feel like it is enough time. It is a shame to have to pay student services to pay for those extra hours but..

**Victor:** I motion to approve sponsorship for the library for 24-5 hours

**Alexandra:** I second.

**Justin:** All those in favor of sponsoring the Library Referenda

**8(YES)-2(NO)-2(ABSTAIN) the motion passes**

**Justin:** With that the motion passes to putting the Library Referenda on the ballot.

**Learning Support Services**

**Chris:** This measure seems to be a measure from the institution… asking us to grant them the authority to do what’s right for the student government.

Marin: Fee? Change?

**Justin:** Not changing the fee. The fee is for outreach committees.

**Marin:** Victor, would this amendment be helpful?

**Victor:** Yes, because the money has been set aside for the committees. We want to bring the money back to the students and to the committees.

**Chris**: Unlocking a pile of Student fees that they don’t have access to ..Bureaucracy?

**Justin:** The way the fee was worked out…the measure says what percentage of the money is spent for what. It is preset for them.

**Priscilla:** SCOC chose where money goes to.

**Chris:** In order to pass it, it should have a good summary.

**Priscilla:** If SCOC thinks it’s productive I think we should support it only if it gave more info on what it was about.

**Kristen:** what was confusing?

**Priscilla:** how specifically it would change… my concern wasn’t really addressed. Okay you want to change initial percentage guidelines well what does that mean?

**Kristen:** Its all the way at the bottom.

**Marin:** I motion to sponsor the measure 16 amendment.

**Alexandra:** I second.

**Justin**: All those in favor of measure 16 to be placed on the ballot

**7(YES)-0(NO)-5(ABSTAIN) motion passes**

**Learning Support Services**

**Victor:** I think that it is a very beneficial service. I feel like this is a service that can satisfy students’ needs

**Alexandra**: This unlike the others is something that can benefit all students or at least could. It is a fairly straight forward thing.

**Chris:** I find it disturbing that LSI had to come to Students referenda. There’re going to need these services the most.

**Victor:** Is this service open to all students?

**Justin:** that is correct.

**Marin:** the problem with measure 7?

**Kristen:** What she meant was that that money was taken away due to measure 7.

**Chris:** the cost increases?

**Justin:** Just because there are more students in the university it doesn’t mean that more money is going to these programs because the cost of living is going up the roof.

**Justin**: Motion?

**Maria:** I wanted to point out that it is a service that is open to all students. And for those classes that don’t offer TAs it’s a great opportunity.

**Victor:** I motion to sponsor amendment to measure 30.

**Maria:** I second

**Justin:** all those in Favor of sponsoring amendment to measure 30

**9(YES)-0(NO)-2(ABSTAIN) motion passes**

**Justin:** So the one funding request that we do have is for the Ethics Bowl. This is a group of students who are going to Florida for a national tournament.

**Ethics Bowl Funding Request to Decide to Fund**

**Priscilla:** I think that we should fund them. I think it’s cool that they want to do outreach at Merrill.

**Justin:** We have to give them the funding prior to the tournament. Thus, we cannot hold them to that outreach.

**Priscilla:** How much are they asking from us?

**Justin:** 200

**Hannah:** I motion to fund the Ethics Bowl.

**Maria:** I second.

**9(YES)-1(NO)-2(ABSTAIN) motion passes**

**Justin:** The motion passes now let’s talk numbers.

**Gillian:** $120?

**Chris:** $50

**Priscilla:** I feel like $100 or less but more than $50.

**Marin:** $100

**Alexandra:** I like the idea of $75. Who’s with me?

 **Alexandra:** I motion to fund the Ethic Bowl $75

 **Gillian:** I second.

**8(YES)-1(NO)-2(ABSTAIN) motion passes**

**Justin**: We are going to fund them $75. Moving on Merrill Spirit Week Updates. We need people to sign up to help set up. So I have Katie, Victor and Hannah for tabling.. with that being said…

**Kristen:** Do you want to get additional people for announcements?

**Justin:** Tuesday night is college night and the carnival Wednesday and Thursday is the open House. We are going to do posters with description of the positions, we are going to have donut holes and we are going to have donuts for that night (open house). Kristin and I talked about dress attire. If you can you could dress in semi-formal attire? That would be nice. On open house we will give small presentations etc. it is going to run less than 2 hours.

**Victor:** Is there going to be another planning committee?

**Kristen:** We will talk about that.

**Justin:** Margret and I have to make flyers and they have to be done this weekend.

**Kristen:** Should make signs like arrows to indicate location and also direct students to the DONUTS!

**Justin:** Friday night is the Semi-formal Winter formal. In advance it is $2 and at the door it is $5. And Saturday is the scavenger hunt. Those who haven’t signed up should. Also if you can go to the dance you should because it would be nice to show MSG representation and the money does go to the donation of your choice.

**Officer Reports**

**Academic Senate**

**Hannah:** international education. They amended something. What planning on increasing summer session. More classes. They want to identity impacted classes and see how they can better. The spring music Festival..

**Core Council**

**Chris:** Met yesterday and heard 14 proposals. Low and high or underfund some of them. Mat Servi gave them 300, match space 500. Vietnamese association thinking of giving them 1395? for their banquet. So the Jewish Student Union throwing a Shabbat? Thinking about giving them 1000? Eyecandy Film Journal thinking of giving them 3000? Also hoping to cover the.. Deta Pi Sigma gender neutral.. we asked them about the registration fees. We were hoping to fund them for three rooms. The relay for life against Cancer we were hoping to cover the costs of Opers and also to fund an additional light tower. They asked us for 3000. The journey through India (Indian Student Organization) do a showcase. The cost to use the main stage has been increases with year. So the arts and drama program increased costs continually. So are there any questions?

**Victor:** What is rushing?

**Chris**: It is open to everybody. A Greek life host an event to give information and hopefully receive an invitation.

**Justin:** Are there any questions about Core Council funding?
**Chris:** basically our constitution limits us to funding OPERS, art. It used to be that colleges would match the funds but now not. Doesn’t hold any affiliations with the college but..

**Justin:** Are there any other questions?

**Public Relations**

**Margret:** We got a new like on Facebook. It was Marin. I am making posters. Relay for Life. I emailed Phil

**Hannah:** Sweet Phil

**Margret:** I really good email. Do you want to do Relay for Life?

**Everyone:** YES!

**Margret:** It is an event on the east field. It is a 24 hour event that raises awareness and money for Cancer (American Cancer). So we are going to camp out there and sleep in the tent.

**Kristen:** You need a team and you would stay there the whole time.

**Justin:** Merrill was the only college to have someone on the track the whole time. It is a ceremony to share memories and pay tribute to someone special to you that you have lost due to cancer.

**Margret:** Team captain?

**Marin:** When?

**Margret:** May 31 to June 1st

**Gillian:** I would like to be team captain or vice-captain

**Margret:** We have to do fundraisers

**Justin:** It is job of the captain to come up with fundraisers

**Margret:** It is a $10 per person registration fee

**Victor:** Do we pay?

**Justin:** You could pay out of your pocket or fundraise. The $ 10 is just for the registration

**Margret:** Should I make a team?

**Justin:** Yes.

**Student Committee on Committees**

**Victor:** Appointed two. One to regulations and to COT one person. And then we did the Sister College updates. Ex: College nine and ten are showing the movie Frozen.

**Student Union Assembly**

**Priscilla:** We talked about everything discussed here. Thus, it is unnecessary to go over everything again.

**Maria:** All the stuff we discussed last week was put aside for next week.

**Treasurer**

**Marin:** We allocated funds for Ethic Bowl. And have $60 left.

**Vice Chair**

**Chris:** I did my core council report.

**Margret:** I’m doing the slide show for the open house! Get your faces ready!

**Justin:** So we aren’t having a meeting next week. But we are having an open house but still everyone has to come. If you cannot show up let me know in advance. Kristin will not be here the 6th so Seth will be here. So our last meeting of the quarter is the 13th.

**Advisor report**

**Kristen:** Pottery Co-op will be up and running. Seth will be here for two weeks. I would like to thank all those who went to the retreat. You should all take the personality test if you haven’t already.

**Justin:** We talked about funding the Ethic Bowl. Do we want them at the space or at an event?

**Priscilla:** I think an event like at the Baobab lounge.

**Chris:** I agree.

**Announcements**

**Justin:** Are there any announcements?

**Maria:** Next week meeting at the same time?

**Justin:** Yes.

**Maria:** Also the Intersection of Social Struggles session is on February 27th at 7pm at Social Sciences 2 room 179.

**Kristen:** College night Tuesday the menu looks really good!

**Justin:** Student lobbying Applications are due tomorrow.

**Priscilla:** El Centro annual event Pachanga it’s really fun there will food and dancing etc.

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

**Hannah:** I second.

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:45pm**