Merrill Student Government Meeting Minutes November 14th 2013

Meeting called to order at 7:04 by Chair

Roll Call

* Aura Walmer (Chair)
* Justin McClendon (Vice Chair)
* Marin Gamboa (Treasurer)
* Gillian Rooker (Merrill Activities Council)
* Margret Esguerra (Public Relations)
* Maria Garcia (SUA Rep.)
* Alexandra Kasper (SUA Rep.)
* Priscila Rodriguez (SUA Rep) ---Only spelled with one l
* Victor Garcia-Zepeda (SCOC Rep)
* Kamran Ali
* Kristen Weaver (Advisor)

MSG Bulk Email-Draft

Aura: Here is the draft with changes already to the bulk email address. Alexandra: I personally do not like the exclamation points, they feel unprofessional.

Marin: I like the amount !s there is. It adds an exciting tone.

Aura: I did not want it to seem to boring and they brightened it up.

Justin: We already have three SUA reps, so can we strike that?

Aura: Yes, sorry about that. We still need to a designated Alternate, so I will add that. Wanted to make the letter fun and exciting.

Gillian: I like it when things look fun cause it makes it look less boring.

Victor enters the meeting.

Alexander: Something that might draw students in would what we have been working on.

Aura: If you were to include that where would it be?

Kristen: We can totally put it in the description.

Aura: The only concern with that is that it expands it into a larger paragraph.

Justin: I recommend adding it as its own section.

Marin: Should there be descriptions with the open positions.

Aura: We didn’t want to add the entire paragraph but should we add a link to the constitution?

Marin: Yes that would be helpful.

Aura: Anyone else have a comment on the Opening Statements?

Alexander: I feel like there needs to be a comma after organizations.

Kristen: No, there shouldn’t

Aura: Is the link pretty visible?

Kristen: What I probably will do is format it in the email to have a hyperlinks.

Aura: we can the same thing for the links. Anything else?

Funding Request for SAFE

Kristen: This is a funding request from last week and they asked for $200.00 for sweatshirts for SAFE.

Paige and Erica: Representatives from SAFE, Paige is the CUIP Intern for SAFE.

Paige: We have a huge dedication of volunteers and we would like to reward these volunteers and give them independence. We are today to make a proposal for sweatshirts four our program, have it as an extra advertisement from our program for students to learn about and what not.

Erica: Having volunteers we have them splinter them off into groups and for example tabling #Noblurredlines event. Another Volunteer put on a workshop about Rape Culture. These sweatshirts can definitely unite the volunteers.

Aura: Would another aspect be for promoting SAFE all over campus and how would be students finding out about SAFE from the sweatshirts.

Paige: These volunteers are well versed in questions and answers so they are capable of paying for them.

Kamran: Is there an outline for the sweatshirts.

Paige: Currently no because we are going to pay for the artist to make the logo.

Aura: When are the sweatshirts going to be ready?

Paige: Definitely by winter quarter.

Aura: Thank you for coming in and we will let you know via email!

Budget Conversation:

Alexander: I think we should definitely fund them.

Motion to fund SAFE Sweatshirts by Alex and seconded Victor.

Justin Objects and calls to a vote.

6 yes, 0 opposed, 2 abstentions.

Aura: Now numbers for funding!

Marin: In our ethos we are taking issues out to the public and this funding goes with that.

Aura: I am leaning more towards more than $150 and they included other factors than just the simple asks for funds and I think it would something for Merrill to support.

Alex: I think they are a great conversations starter, and I think it’s great for awareness.

Maria: I agree with all the comments, and I think it is important to support things are going on campus and since they are fairly new as well.

Gillian: I think we should fund them for the full amount.

Victor motions to fund the SAFE funding request for sweatshirts for the amount of $200.00. Seconded by Marin.

Aura: Any Objections?

Justin: Object for the reason I work with SAFE.

6 yes, 0 no, 2 abstentions.

Officer Reports:

Academic Senate: NO Report , meeting tomorrow.

Core Council: No Rep

SCOC Report Back

Victor: Getting a new logo, and just saw the preview of it yesterday. It says SCOC and looks like the UCSC logo. We also talked about C4. We did appointments as well for the ACFCS, ITSC, Regulation Committee, COT, T9AC, UCAL, and the UHIP.

SUGB: No Rep

Public Relations:

Margret: My phone correct meeting to netting. I have been talking to some of the freshmen I know and they do not want to join MSG because there isn’t enough Merrill College Pride. In the core course we talked about that Merrill wasn’t their first choice they were just put into that college. I wasn’t sure if it MSGs job to fix that.

Kristen: It’s a stigma that has been here for a while and I think the Construction has contributed to that.

Aura: I do think its not all the construction and that we do need Merrill pride campaigns and events. I am totally open to having a discussion on that.

Victor: Maybe one week next quarter we can do a Merrill Pride Week featuring different events.

Aura: That could be effective because it is not a one-time event.

Victor: Also, maybe can we get more raffle events and more shirts for students.

Hannah Arrives

Kristen: Yes we totally can!

Gillian: Why don’t people like Merrill?

Marin: It is the hill.

Justin: Maybe we should focus why we love it not hate it.

Victor leaves

Kamran: Hopefully when the construction is complete, Merrill will be more appealing. I lived here two years ago, its just the first thing people here, they kind of stick with them and those stereotypes. It just depend son who you meet as well.

Gillian: I think there should be more nice pictures of Merrill, because I choose my college based on the pictures so more beautiful pictures would be awesome.

Alexandra: I have a friend who can take photos, can we do that?

Kristen: Only for the Merrill website.

Priscila Arrives.

Margret: In core, something that kept coming up was other college perception of Merrill Students, “The Merrill Look” or the “Sorry you are at Merrill.”

Student Union Assembly

Priscila: We had a couple presentations, we had the Chief of Police come and do a Q and A for SUA. We had a short presentation for reports rules. We had Alfonso, a rep from Oakes, some students who were with him did a diversity presentation and talked about that students on campus have been discriminated against and do not feel that it is a topic of conversation. Diversity conversations need to start, and half this presentation was from AFSA-African Black Student Alliance, FSA-Filipino Student Association. Then we had a resolution presented to support dropping the work “illegal” when discussing undocumented students. I do think it is important for us to support it. “Therefor be it resolved clauses read”

Vanessa Arrives.

Discussion on the resolution:

Marin: I think its an important campaign because it is person is illegal, the person itself is against the law, and being here is a wrongness in itself doesn’t sit well with me.

Maria: We should definitely support it and even consider adding Alien. Illegal I sued to describe objects not people.

Vanessa: The last let it be resolved is about media, we can always ask for media to not publish it, but media is a form of free speech. Clarification question on what media consists of.

Priscila: We do represent the undergraduate students, and we need to support the not use of the work illegal. Some folks just use this word because they have yet to be educated on this word. Sometimes people just don’t understand why. There is a difference between educating folks on why not to use it instead of just yelling them. I think we should try to educate folks if this resolution is passed here at Merrill.

Aura: I agree that there is that distinction and I think that really sets this resolution apart and is worth while. Any other comments on this resolution?

Most members agree with the resolution.

Priscila: We also had a presentation for a funding request and a sponsor for the Bone Marrow Day Event. They asked us to sponsor as much as they could and primarily for a banner.

Vanessa: They want the money primarily for the banners on both entrances of campus. Its $650 for the banner, and to put up at the west side of campus.

Vanessa: They have asked for the processing fee and this year the company doesn’t care so they are asking for outreach funding this year.

Priscilla: Hundreds of students have registered and she is very passionate about this event.

Justin: This Company is also very gay friendly despite the FDA rules and regulations and allows for students and people to sign a petition about same sex relations and gay regulations.

Aura: Do people have comments on sponsorship?

Priscila: I think it is a great event, and I went two years ago. I think our campus cares about it, and at the event there is a lot of information about being a donor as well as the petitions against asking discriminating questions. I think we should sponsor it.

Straw poll: all want to sponsor it.

Monetary aspect:

Priscila: They were asking for the banner but we can fund them as much as we want.

Marin: I feel comfortable in funding them for the banners, for the new one and to put up.

Priscila: They are selling the t-shirts, but one thing they said in the presentation, was that the profit from the t-shirts will go back to the donors.

Aura: I feel comfortable funding the $650 for the banner. I feel like that is a good base amount to cover.

Maria: She mentions that she needs the funds for the banner before Thanksgiving.

Kamran: What is the full amount? And the total amount of recommendations?

Aura: The priority is the banners and hanging in them up.

Vanessa: It goes towards their outreach and what not.

Aura: Our discussion has reached a stopping point. Raise your hand if you are in favor of funding them for $650 and both Banners, everyone agreed.

Priscila: The end there was announcement that each representative need to make a quarterly report and have office hours.

Secretary: No rep.

Treasurer: No report

MAC:

Gillian: On Tuesday we had our finger painting activity, it was fun with only two people, myself and the other MAC member. Probably because of rescheduling. We are still planning on having the movie on December 5th I think. That is it.

Vice Chair:

Banner has passed with the updated picture.

Justin: I want anyone to voice his or her concerns about he construction, as well as updates on the budget with Seth will come by soon, but the conversation has started.

Chair:

Aura: I did receive a message from Tony Milgram from the SUA. The SUA week of action is happening next week. Recap on the email draft.

Advisor:

The Envision council folks who wanted to volunteer for that.

College Night has been rescheduled due to the AFSCME Strike. Rescheduled for Tuesday December 3rd. If you are hearing messages from students about the pushback, I would encourage you all to engage in the conversation about who is AFSCME. I think it is really important to remind students support AFSCME workers. The least we can do is support AFSCME by postponing college night (her personal opinion, not speaking for MSG)

Priscila: Can we have an MSG table at the college night to inform students about MSG.

Announcements:

Vanessa: Next week Shaz will be Tigger!

Justin: Many Announcements

Maria: CJP will be showing a 30 minutes documentary by Phillip Risk.

Motion to adjourn by Marin and seconded by Vanessa at 9:06.