Merrill Student Government Meeting Minutes 1-30-14

Call to Order at 7:20 by Justin McClendon

Roll Call

* **Justin** McClendon (Chair) ☺
* **Victor** Garcia-Zepeda (SCOC Rep.) ☺
* **Alexandra** Kasper (SUA Rep.) ☺
* **Margret** Esguerra (Public Relations) ☺
* **Kristen** Weaver (Advisor) ☺
* **Chris** Coon (Member at Large) ☺
* **Patricia** Gonzalez(Member at Large) ☺
* **Hannah** Tuong (Academic Senate) ☺
* **Vanessa** Morales (Member at Large) ☺
* **Marin** Gamboa (Treasurer) ☺
* **Gillian** Rooker (MAC Rep.) ☺

**Song of Choice: Pump-Up Jam:**

- Disco Pogo (German)

- I Like Eggs (there’s a video).

**Funding Requests** – to decide to hear   
**El Nuvevo Hombre:**

**Justin:** Asking for $200, March 13th, in Merrill Cultural Center (evening),

**Victor:** Should still hear and ask for clarification on what they request of us.

**Coon:** Rather have them resubmit a more clear

**Alexandra:** contact them and not see them next week …

**Kristen:** Having them resubmit them

**Coon:** This is an application progress; if we feel they were lacking, then we have the right to reject them. This is a learning progress. We should have them resubmit as a learning progress.

**Justin:** shouldn’t deny them based on having a lacking documentation (failed to mention specific program, if there is one).

**Coon** motions to table the discussion

**ISO Representative**

Hamma Copley, member of student requesting funding for annual spring fling. International Student Organization, provides one

Tends to focus inward on their members;

Open and western way of spreading their culture; one a quarter; make this a way to reach out to the UCSC student body.

Requesting as much as we are wiling to give. Estimated budget of $2,500, venue is $350, extra costs for DJ (traditional/Bollywood/western music mixer)($800)/Food (feeding 300, food from Sitar $450)/Police ($400)/Decoration ($500).

Targeting individuals who know not so much about Indian cultural; wanting to make it an experience for everybody

**Coon:** Winter formal or spring fling?

**Copley:** Wanted to make it February, but it will be in March.

**Coon:** What is your spring event?

**Copley:** They usually were able to co-op with other groups (e.g. FAFAS)

**Kristen:** Is this a spring or winter quarter event?

**Copley:** March, winter quarter.

**Coon:** how many people are in your group? And attended last quarter?

**Copley:** Estimated 75-100, had 175 actually.

**Justin:** Have you decided on a location yet?

**Copley:** Not yet, but probably Stevenson Event Center.

**Coon:** this is a ticketed event?

**Copley:** all ticket goes to breaking even. Charging $4-7; gradient ticket (prices increase as

**Justin:** what other funding have you received from other folks?

**Copley:** trying not to go to other places they do not favor; they haven’t been to much place else!

**Justin ……….**

**Marin:** L.O.V.E. for her presentation. We usually don’t see that from others presenters. Would be in favor of funding them, even though not that our college.

**Victor:** Should fund. It is aligned

**Therefore Victor motions to fund ISO.**

**Seconded by Alexandra.**

**Coon:** Very insular event. Just a thought.

**Marian:**

**Margret motions to fund the ISO’s spring fling $100.**

**Seconded by Victor.**

Put to a vote:

8 (YAY!) -0 (NAY!)-3 (ABSTINTION)

Motion Passes!

**Alexandra:** should not hear next week (they don’t have things together) as it is our time and

**Coon:** agreed.

**Marian:** Propose to be a liaison to talk with this group.

**Justin:** Funding request is unclear of what their project is. Not a ticketed event, but it does not mention if there is even an event.

**Marian:** As treasurer, proposes to be liaison to get in touch and “have a discussion” with them in part with what they are trying to request.

**Victor** motions to have the treasurer contact the group and then bring back the information to the body.

Seconded by **Alexandra.**

**Kristen**: typically point of contact, make sure to CC.

**Justin**: (Reading Funding Request) Ticketed Event ($10\*\*not actual, but a projected number); projects 30 Merrill Students to attend; itemized (lengthy) Budget of $11,775; at Porter Dining Hall; Event to happen in March

**Coon:** Interested

**Alexandra:** we should hear them!

Motion by **Alexandra,**

Seconded by **Vanessa.**

**Coon:** Odd list of individals to ask funding from.

**Kristen**: For this large scale event, they are going to everybody.

**Approval** by consensus!

**Justin:** NSBE Convention- (Reading Funding Request) Ticketed Event, $857/person; Open to everybody; advertise mainly to NSBE but recruit members constantly; international group; a national convention; potentially 3 Merrill students will participate; asking for $200; in Tennessee; taking 15 students total; looking for $2,355 more (have already acquired $10,000).

**Marian:** What are we funding them for?

**Justin: Funding them to go to the convention.**

**Alexandra:** It aligns with our ethos. We should hear them.

Coon: small number

Marin: should hear, but definitely make a note

Motion by **Victor**.

Seconded by **Vanessa**.

8 (YAY) – 1 (NO) – 2 (ABSTINTION)

**Merrill College Pride Week**

Justin: 5 individuals came; got to together.

Gillian: the week of our college night (which was a Tuesday). Start the week with college night. Wednesday: rent out cultural center with carnival (bouncy house, pillow fight, cotton candy, popcorn … maybe). Thursday: Open House meeting with donuts and snacks, for folks to come ask questions and eat food (make space more open). During the day, hug an “animal” day.

Alexandra: Hug a “goat day” … but get a goat that doesn’t bite.

Justin: Open house: Not a formal meeting, but

Gillian: Friday: Open mic night. On the weekend have a scavenger hunt.

Kristen: Talk about finer detail points. Pillow Fight is a NO-GO. Talked to Alex and Seth: pillow fight is potentially dangerous and exceedingly problematic. We cannot have students

Justin: rule one, NO. GLITTER.

Gillian: Renaissance Fair, that plank game that fights each others.

Kristen: Let us move away from physical games. We have the Bounce House (for free).

Justin: and the cultural center?

Kristen: we have that reserved for us.

Chris: Free of charge?

Kristen: Free because we are affiliated with Merrill. We also have snow cone machine, cotton candy machine is a hefty to clean, and we have popcorn machine with no popcorn. We can have face paintings and balloons. We have agreements with keeping them. Next study break, bounce house will make an appearance, and it will fall on 3/14, PI day, thus pie will be served. Will be unlikely to have an animal on campus, but idea can be saved for later events

Alexandra: Can we still have something during the day?

Kristen: CRE’s have dogs, so maybe we can already ask those with dogs to come up to .

Chris: Puppy night?

**Vanessa:** CAPS does that at the Library.

Kristen: open mic, crown/Merrill open mic night is the same night as the semi-formal.

**Justin:** just have the Semi-formal be a part of Merrill Pride Week.

**Alexandra:** Can we even add the dance to be apart of our pride week?

**Kristen:** we can definitely ask! Contact Jackie Lord.

Justin: We may be short on hand power. Cannot ask RAs.

Kristen: RAs are capped on hours, but they can “volunteer”

Justin: hosting this event will largely require lots of help; we will need to reach other to others to help.

Justin: Victor, please tell us about the scavenger hunt!

Victor: Will start off in Merrill Cultural Center, be with the group (give a history/information) about the locations: apartments, kzsc, back through a dorm to pottery coop, then through b dorm to basketball court, then to dorm b dungeon, then \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, then meeting up with a CRV dorm, going to garden, back up to Merrill circle, and then go through programs office.

**Alexandra**: Is M.A.S. on the list?

Victor: where is the

Justin: Ming Ong has a very emotional and special history with Merrill.

Kristen: It is a memorial space.

Victor: MSG Meeting space is the last scavenger hunt space.

Kristen: All spaces are ON A MAP. It is intended so that anybody can participate.

Margret: Pottery dorm in basement of A Dorm.

Kristen: Everybody to complete gets a T-SHIRT; winner or winning group can get gift card, etc. A DVD.

Justin: Should there we another meeting? And bring back to the group.

Kristen: There should be weekly meetings.

Victor: Good idea to have PR work on a slide show for Open House.

Kristen: we need to be conscious of our budget. We need somebody to keep track of our spending.

Chris: what about our programs office?

Kristen: they advise, rather than funds MSG. We need to collectively decided on what to do.

Marin: When is the Merrill College Pride Week?

Justin: WEEK of February: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Kristen: will not be here, so we will need to get Seth into the loop of planning.

Justin: confirmed tabling for this Wednesday and Thursday night 5-7PM; have confirmed 2 candidates; midnight tonight is the deadline. Margret to put together a flyer to explain MSG and tell about the election. Real talk: dining hall has really strict rules. Can anybody help first of all:

Vanessa: i-Pads and laptops can be checked out from library for 4 hours at a time!

Justin: cannot approach anybody, but can do drive-by shout outs as people come on in. Go into the dining table; then give information and then ; cannot throw fliers at people; be respectful in explaining and information; allow for write-in candidates on the ballot;

**Chris:** Have that been allowed in the past?

Justin: Cannot be there Thursday (because that’s )

Victor: Oaks/Eight: Spring Break Vegas Night Dance; Nine/Ten, Dance Group/Rock Band/Drawing Night

Coon: What movie:

Victor: Porter/Kresge, carnival night. A lot of stuff. It’s a carnival. Crown/Merrill: happening next week. From 6:30-10:00. Free food. Ticket will grant you three prizes. Will also be a drawing (big prize is an i-Pad, Movie DVDs, etc.). Will need a lot of help (sent out e-mail). If you can help, GREAT! Will need help this Sunday to prepare for this event.

Coon: At ten am Sunday?

Victor: Super bowl is Sunday! Waiting on lots of POs, devoted on getting movie and lots of other stuff.

Justin: And then SWAG?

Victor: This is the new logo and new water bottles, and a lot of free swag. GO. They have a lot of leftover money that has accumulated for the last 10 years. Have a retreat, but that’s for them.

Margret: Going to make posters and fliers for the election. Got a new like on facebook (yo welcomed). new follower on Instagram from Finland. And tabling on Wednesday.

Alexandra – SUA: Had presentation from Chancellor Blumenthal (didn’t have quorum at time). Talked about Envision plan, they are in stage one (collected data), soon at stage 2 (looking at Data). They were prepared to make big moves

Maria: Talked about fundraiser, goal of $3 million (they are half-way there).

Justin: Capital Finance Plan….

Chris: Money.

Alexandra: Concerns that this might privatize the institution even more; but, basically, we don’t get enough private funding as other

Vanessa: We aren’t old enough, and as we started as a liberal arts, we haven’t had an alum base that’s really connected and or old enough to donate back to the school.

Alexandra: Officer’s reports. Commissioners positions are available. 7 applicants (anybody who want tot apply, the deadline is soon!)

Chris: Merrill picks our college’s commissioners, no?

Justin: we are deciding that on February 13th, that meeting.

Alexandra: went into the election’s timeline. Leg Conn Application. Budget revealed that only 13 would be able to go (as opposed to the wanted 19). Talked about Ivan Mercado …

Justin: He was a STEM major, he was Porter College, recently passed this last weekend; Giving $5,000 and asking to match or something and

Vanessa: $10,000 was voted upon to make this foundation money to go towards this scholarship. A Memorial scholarship, for transfer students, ideally for STEM students.

Alexandra: Voted upon making a committee to making this send a request to Porter College.

Vanessa: Committee is to send a recommendation to Porter, even though they already have the

Alexandra: 25% can pass with 2/3 voting yes.

Vanessa: In recent years, the threshold was 33%, but now it is 25% with the condition that least 2/3 having to vote yes.

Alexandra: Internship tax credit, didn’t actually completely finish that discussion. Discussion was tabled for next meeting.

Marin – Treasurer:

Allocated some funds today: $100 to ISO Spring Fling.

Wanted to get some input regarding what was lacking so he can discuss with the funding request and, if need be, walk them through the process.

Alexandra: have more information about what they are requesting.

Chris: Attach a contact form if there are question

Marin: We are not hearing their funding request for next week.

Justin: We will decided to hear them after they send a proper form.

Marin: will contact asap.

Justin – Chair:

Called a council chair meeting with all other chairs AND sua, an almost 2 hour conversation (Thursday, today). Merrill’s constitution is very problematic and very outdated. Good news: we are not the only one in that boat and ours it not very rigorous to change. Looking to change the constitution by end of winter quarter of by start of spring quarter. We can change it here (as opposed to other constitutions that have to be changed by elected amendments)

Chris: I thought the idea was to amendment, not write a brand new one.

Justin: Amending would be reorganizing; it is currently very redundant and unorganized. And it needs to be understandable to not just MSG but as to other students who will look at it. Amendment to be reorganized and little changes here and there. Will work with Seth regarding these changes; will bring back all changes to the body. Last quarter, the idea for a committee wasn’t receptive, so this is best.

SUA reps will get another e-mail. Conversation of Budget. Hope to get enlightened with our budget soon! SUA updates take up a good portion of their time! Especially regarding the SUA reps needing to know how to messenger ideas between spaces.

Next Week, we will have a meeting, but we won’t be voting on anything because we can keep everybody in the loop via e-mail. MLK Convocation if you choose to go, it will be an excused absence. Either we have a meeting with voting, or not meeting

Vanessa: sponsorships, reconsidering, election commissions interviews next week (prepare for a meeting that ends at 1AM). Election Committees interviews and appointments.

Justin: Will have enough members for a quorum… meetings will be held. Look at minutes for updates. MSG elections will end the 7th, and thus

Kristen: funding requests?

Justin: will be held, because we have quorum. Looking at today, we are supposed to start at 7:00, but had to sit around and chill until

Kristen – Advisor:

Family Day! Have folks coming in from out of town (cultural center, tour of res halls). Cowell/Stevenson, UCSC’s got talent, in the evening, this weekend. Help the LOST of UCSC. Be nice and accommodating to parents.

Chris: Lectures?

Kristen: Tony Hoffman and \_\_\_\_: talking about something, as stated on the website.

Justin: Announcements!

Kristen: May possibly be last meeting, Seth coming back

Victor: Apparently we have a Lucy Corazon;

Justin: not required to come back to senate meeting. SFAC does not have to come back here as stated by our constitution.

Chris: SFAC?

Vanessa: Student Fee Advisory Committee.

Chris: Committee with

Justin: largely impactful. Student input on where our funding goes.

Alexandra: $500/quarter. Weekly meetings. Position will open at the end of the quarter.

Justin: Tonight, last night to apply for Leg. Conn. Extended to tomorrow. Apply! Last day to apply for alternative spring break – go to NY (help build houses, etc.). Also, any questions about Dean of Students, please contact Justin.

Vanessa: SUA is hiring executive assistants, 5-6 students at $9.50/hour (maybe $12/hour). That is one the career employer site.

Victor: What do they do?

Vanessa: Office administrative business. Special HR jobs, records, moving documents, organize.

Kristen: CUIP, open until February 13th.

Justin: Student Regents coming tomorrow!

Marin motions to adjourn meeting.

Seconded by Victor.

Meeting adjourned by 9:11PM.