**Merrill Student Government**

**October 2, 2014**

**Meeting Called to order by Victor Garcia at 7:07pm**

**Roll Call**

* Kinley (member at large)
* Patricia (secretary)
* Gillian (treasurer)
* Victor (Chair)
* Hannah (MAC)
* Michael (member at large)
* + 30 students

**Introduction to Merrill Student Government**

**Hannah:** We are trying to get a swing dancing event to happen soon. You should try it even if you don’t like it. Welcome to Merrill student government. First year (half). Supper senior? (Hannah speaks to herself… No one)

**Victor:** First of all thank you for coming. I’ve never seen so many people here before. Merrill College is the only one whose student government is known as student government. Every other college is known as senate. In MSG we want to hear your input and want to make sure that everyone’s opinions are heard. We are hoping that we can have a meet and greet. MSG is a body where we discuss contentious issues and hear funding requests and decided whether to or not to fund them. Our decision usually depends on whether or not they fit our ethos. Feel free to ask.

**Student:** Where does the funding come from?

**Victor:** The advisor gives us the budget. This quarter we have $3,000 which we can use towards things like funding requests.

**Hannah:** The money comes from student fees. Everyone is paying into it regardless of on or off campus

**Student**: logo?

**Michael:** bird, phoenix… it can be whatever you interpret it as…

**Hannah:** Only Merrill has the Merrill bird. We are special.

**Victor:** Moving along these are the current officers. Chair me Victor Garcia, Vice chair: Marin Gamboa, Treasurer: Gillian Rooker, Secretary: Patricia Gonzalez, MAC: Hannah Tuong, SUA Rep: Alexandra Kasper. Usually your officers are chosen by Merrill except the SUA is partially is but it is also decided on by the whole campus.

**Victor:** MAC is fun you get to plan out college nights and you can help out in movie nights.

**Hannah:** Next we will be showing the Merrill page and where to find the minutes (Hannah Demonstrates)

**Michael:** Any questions? (NO)

**Student:** How do funding requests work?

**Victor:** Funding they sent in a funding request and we decide as a space whether or not we want to hear them out and then if approved they come in and we hear them out and decide whether or not to fund them and how much.

**Michael:** This might be intimidating but I encourage you to come in and see how the meeting actually works.

**Gillian:** The Treasurerresponsibilityisto keep a track of the money and how much we give to each group.

**Victor:** The Vice Chair’s task is to take over any position if it is not filled. Like going to meetings and that’s pretty much what they do. I am the chair and I am just in charge that the meetings move smoothly.

**Student:** How are they filled up?

**Victor:** Usually we have a vote at the end of the year. Normally for elections you have to campaign for them and declare your candidacy and in a time frame of 2 weeks everyone at Merrill votes. Although right now we are trying to amend it so that the people in the space vote. But still looking into that.

**Hannah:** The officer positions are elected in the spring and these are the positions that are important for the meetings to keep going.

**Victor:** We need a couple of position still. Academic Senate Representative, core council, public Relations coordinator, Student Union Assembly (2), Student Committees On Committees and designated Alternate. Core council gets a lot of the funding they decided whether or not to fund the organization but their meeting times vary, Public Relations you update our Facebook and Instagram and you get to run relay for life where we run for full 24hr whose purpose is to bring awareness for cancer. Student Union Assembly Representatives go to meetings every week and take notes and bring back to the space and we need 3 votes to count in the space so we need 2 of those I will sent out an email for that. Student Committee On Committees that’s my favorite because that was my position last year its campus wise overlooks all the committees on campus, $ 100 per month also a great way to build up your resume also other committees within that also get paid. Designated Alternative is one that is supposed to take on vacant position. They require you to take notes all these positions. But you’ll have enough training for these positions.

**Hannah:** Any questions.

**Student**: What are the benefits of SUA?

**Victor:** You get to known about all the issues, all fun events, represent the campus, and go on retreats every quarter.

**Hannah:** Also it is a resume builder, talking to other colleges, “oh dang you the homie” Roberts rule of order. Be professional and it’s an experience.

**Michael:** They make a huge difference on campus. They have tens or thousands of dollars to make a difference on campus. Intimating but be bold!

**Victor:** They are also looking for interns.

**Student:** experience?

**Victor:** You don’t need it you gain the experience

**Gillian:** You don’t have to have a position to be a member of MSG

**Victor:** But you have to come for 3 meetings in a row to get voting rights.

**Michael:** You get to say what you think.

**Student:** How can one apply?

**Victor:** Last year it was an online election but we need to work that out right now.

**Student:** How often do they meet?

**Victor:** They vary but it’s usually during the week but usually at night because we know that you have classes.

**Student:** How much is the time commitment?

**Victor:** Like 2 hours a week it depends…

**Hannah:** but biggest commitment is our meetings on Thursdays at 7pm.

**Student:** meetings here?

**Victor:** Yes. The only time it might change is if we have an event happening or holiday. Some of these positions do have additional meeting places.

**Michael:** excuse me I have school.

**Victor:** We are lenient at least have to come for half of the meetings but only if you have class. We need at least 5 voting or members to have a meeting more for voting purposes.

**Gillian:** If you miss a meeting you can look up the minutes online.

**Victor:** You can look at the positions online. Qualities and experiences to fulfill these positions.

**Student:** Can we run for multiple positions?

**Victor:** No you can only run for one. Prepare like a paragraph statement by next week so that we can have those position filled in quickly. Questions? (NO)

**Students:** events?

**Victor:** Merrill spirit week, bounce house, scavenger hunt, donuts

**Hannah:** You get to pick what you want to happen for the events. We don’t have any traditions so if you have any ideas go ahead.

**Victor:** questions you can email me.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm**