

## Merrill Student Government Meeting Minutes May 25, 2017

Meeting Called to Order by Chair Kimberly Runyan at 7:34 pm

### Roll Call

- Karina (Treasurer)
- Erin (MAC)
- Amber
- Lily Green (SUA)
- Hannah
- Eric (SUGB)
- Regina (SCOC)
- Itai (Parliamentarian)
- Thomas (Elections Commissioner)
- Jay
- Brian (Community Service)
- Amanda (Core Council)
- Erin
- Yessi (RA Liaison)
- Nicolas
- Hector
- Andrea
- Vero (Advisor)
- Kimberly (Chair)
- Angel

### Deciding to Hear

**None**

### Funding Request Presentations

**None**

### Constitutional Committee Meeting

**Kimberly**

- Changes to the Constitution because there are issues in MSG
- Goals of the proposal is to distribute responsibility over the core members
- Too much power for the chair
- Decide what to do for the college fund
- Create more flexible positions
- Don't exactly follow parliamentary rules
- Want first years to be more comfortable making comments in the space
- Funding presenters come in late
- Other senates hear funding requests right after introductions
- No more than ten minutes per discussion and cut down time for funding requests
- Want MSG to focus more time on sub committees/sub councils
- MAC, MAG, PR, Vice Chair
  - PR
    - Be in charge of social media
    - Run like MAC where every member has their own duty

- Create outreach publicity events
    - Advertising, participation, relationship with committee
  - MAC
    - Get  $\frac{1}{3}$  of members to go to MAC
    - RAs can attend the space
  - MAG (Merrill Action Group)
    - Put on more educational events
  - Chair and Vice Chair
    - Oversee all the committees
    - Main meetings with funding requests
- Treasurer and Secretary
  - Roles remain the same
  - Organize funding

## Discussion

**Lily:** What happens to MAC Rep because no one is running for it?

**Kimberly:** Hold nominations for MAC Rep during Week 9.

**Yessi:** Has other senates done something similar to MAG?

**Kimberly:** College 9 changed their Constitution. Have done a lot of events like this (call your senator, town hall, etc.). MAC needs to meet every week. Logistics are not ready, but will be if it is agreed on.

**Hannah:** What positions would it take away?

**Kimberly:** Community service rep, elections commissioner will be chosen by the PR Committee because elections take too much time. Parliamentarian will be given to the Vice Chair. Only things that have changed are the Chair and the Vice Chair. Vice Chair will oversee all the action committees and be in charge of social events and hold office hours, which has never happen. Secretary changes include creating the agenda and organizing funding requests. SUA Rep will be optional for move-in. Constitutional Committee will meet one an academic year because not a lot of people attend and it is a lot of work to make the Vice Chair organize it. MAC wasn't in the Constitution and should meet at least once a week. Purpose of MAG is to organize events and the Vice Chair will oversee the committee.

**Itai:** Constitutional Committee should meet bi-annually. The problem with one time is you can't change it. Would MAC or all committees work on Relay for Life?

**Kimberly:** MAC and MAG, mainly, but everyone should work on Relay for Life and other community service events. It is already specified in the Constitution.

**Eric:** Are movie screenings under MAC or MAG? It is usually for MAC.

**Kimberly:** It is just an example in the Constitution, but it will be more specific.

**Hannah:** The Vice Chair should do the Constitutional Committee twice a year because a lot of people haven't attended. People ran on a platform that has changed, but the people who get elected might not agree.

**Kimberly:** Everyone will vote on it.

**Vero:** If you are running in a position that has changed, you can pull your name out.

**Lily:** If MAG is doing bigger events and MAC is doing smaller events, I wonder how the res hall groups factor into it because they also do event planning.

**Kimberly:** MAC doesn't do smaller events and they usually do fun, community-bonding events. MAG, however, does student awareness events, such as writing a resolution. I want it to focus on student activism and change. We can change the language in the Constitution.

**Karina:** Res halls are regulated by themselves and by RAs. They only stick to their halls, where MAG does college-wide events to benefit the community.

**Lily:** There is an issue between what happens in MSG and the res halls. How would the gap be bridged?

**Vero:** Chris mentioned how the res hall models don't work at Crown/Merrill due to the lounges, etc. We are meeting in the summer to distinguish jobs for each office and what they can do for the community. College Advising also does programming, so we hope defining the lines will bridge the gap more.

**Yessi:** Program office meetings are happening, so res hall councils may not be meeting next year. RA Liaison will bridge this gap.

**Erin:** If res hall councils continues to exist, the RA Liaison should be in charge.

**Kimberly:** RAs should be required to run res hall council, but not all of them are res hall leaders. They should be in all spaces and attend the meetings. RA Liaison should be able to provide what is happening in the res halls. It is ok if we don't have two positions, but they must be aware of what is going on.

**Eric:** Res hall can fall under MAC. It was brought up in A Building. A separate person should be assigned in each res hall and be considered a sub committee of MAC.

**Kimberly:** Getting into conversation not into our jurisdiction. Should the RA Liaison be the communication between the res halls and MSG? We should only have one RA Liaison who is responsible for communicating to the res halls and MSG.

**Thomas:** MAG reminds me of how the provost has an event of what they want to see in the Merrill space. I see why community service rep position is gone because there is no structure to the position - MSG should have a weekend morning where they go out and do community service. PR can handle the job, too. New PR groups has events, like Lip Dub. PR has to work close with MAC to put on the events.

**Kimberly:** We can put community service under PR.

**Nicolas:** MAG overlaps with Community Service Rep, so it should be more flexible.

**Thomas:** Community service should be put under MAG, not PR. If we get rid of positions, we need to change the Constitution, in terms of quorum.

**Itai:** Community service needs a committee to be effective.

**Thomas:** If MAG is run by Vice Chair, they should have a position within it. It is the group to do community service.

**Kimberly:** People like having community service under a committee, just we don't know which one, but not MAC.

**Eric:** I think MAG because it relates to activism and it falls under that group.

**Thomas:** I agree and it intertwines with MAG and MAC, but not PR.

**Hannah:** If we put it under PR and someone has a position for it under PR, it would be more effective.

**Thomas:** Community service should do one thing a month, such as a beach clean up and figure out transportation.

**Lily:** I agree that community service should be in MAG, but I feel like everyone has made arguments for why community service belongs under each group. Can someone be in charge of community service independently? A lot of groups can focus on community service and not limit it.

**Eric:** Should not spread community service between each group. Instead, one group should have jurisdiction for it.

**Voted:** MAG in charge of community service.

**Kimberly:** Should have people in committees. Not just learning about what we do with our money, but more, such as social media and marketing, reaching out to people, be friends with the provost, programming, etc. The current SUA Elections Commissioner doesn't know how to program.

**Eric:** If you are a full member of MAC, you should participate in one of the sub committees.

**Kimberly:** Focus on dialogue in the Constitution will be worked on by the core positions and the advisor.

**Hannah:** When we motion to fund and it fails, that needs clearing up.

**Kimberly:** Preamble is switched out. Almost the same, but is updated to sound nicer. Don't know if it's in the Constitution. Not a lot of facilitation of the meetings is in the Constitution. When we motion to fund and it fails, we automatically don't fund. We have to do another motion to fund.

**Eric:** Abstentions are tricky. We should do a majority vote instead of a 50 + 1. If both motions fail and we end up not funding, we should disregard because it's a vote to not vote.

**Kimberly:** We count abstentions. When voting, abstentions should not count in the total denominator. Took out voting on budgets after discussions.

**Thomas:** Should mention funding requests in the first hour. Can limit it to one or two a week.

**Hannah:** Agenda should be timed like SUA. Speakers get 15 minutes each and someone has to make a motion to extend the time.

**Lily:** Some people repeat what others say, so we should time it. Do we follow parliamentary meetings for the first half of the meeting?

**Kimberly:** Implement a time, but also speakers should have time to talk. Encourage talking in working groups. Can work it out later. Should do 3 max funding requests at a time because we get backed up.

**Lily:** Agree because we will go into committees. Put a cap on funding requests.

**Thomas:** Committees of next year should finalize Constitution.

**Kimberly:** Can table discussion and vote on Constitution next week or vote on it now.

**Karina:** Vote on it now to implement some ideas.

**Kimberly:** Voting on changes to Constitution. We used to have a Constitutional Committee meeting outside of MSG.

**Karina:** I motion to approve the changes made in the Constitution.

**Lily:** I second.

Motion to approve changes made in the Constitution passes.

## Officer Reports

### Student Union Assembly (Lily)

Science and Engineering destruction

40% of library intact

Alison Galloway ordered destruction

Items removed were journals, not books and were not high value

Bottom floor might be a study space

Town Hall yesterday

Books destroyed based on how often they were used

June 2 @ 8:30 PM: SUA Revision Committee

Campus police told TAPS that their system is confusing because lots have permits, but at different times

Maintain existing system and charge people using East Remote or require permits for all lots except on lower campus or require permits for all lots 7-8:30 PM

First option, but no compromise

Committee formed in response to graffiti in Humanities Department with allegations against certain professor - sexual assaillant

Humanities professors sent emails with victim-blaming language

Committee tomorrow at 3 PM in Cowell Community Room for drafting of resolution

Emails said students shouldn't have taken action in terms of Title 9 action

Faculty encouraging coverup

GSA resolution in Team Drive

### Elections Commissioner

Hope everyone voted

Results will be emailed and posted online

### Student Fee Advisory Committee

### Academic Senate

Absent

### Core Council

Nothing to report

### SCOC

Housing event tomorrow at 6:30 PM in Cervantes and Velasquez Conference Room

### SUGB

New furniture

Wifi sucks, so router will be moved out of closet or will buy a new router

Energy and Sustainability Department to get ACs or fans

New window blinds are \$4,000

June 10-11 @ 10 PM: Study Jam

June 2 - Undocumented Stories in Student Union. Need art for art show to display struggles undocumented people go through. Submit by May 31 in Undocumented Student Services

### Community Service Rep

Nothing to report

#### RA Liaison

Sunday, June 4 @ Merrill Plaza - Give, Grab, Grub - Get rid of stuff, donate, and grab cool stuff

June 4 @ 10 - 4 PM: End of the Year Study Hall - Reserve dining hall to study

#### Public Relations

Absent

#### MAC

Nothing to report

#### Secretary

Minutes will be posted

#### Treasurer

Nothing to report

#### Vice-Chair

Absent

#### Chair

Senate Mixer

Voting will close on Sunday, results public on Thursday

#### Advisor

Facilitating a conversation about Literacy - white supremacy flyers in Crown, Merrill, 9, 10

Meeting cancelled due to security

People on campus identified as white supremacists

Merrill Programs collaborating with Cantu Center: Queer-eoke on Tuesday, June 6 @ 6:30

PM

More OL positions available

#### Announcements

Next Thursday @ Merrill Plaza 12-4 PM : Power ports charged by solar panel, smoothies available

Food Pantry: Amber's artwork in Food Pantry, need grocery bag donations

Zoot Suit drama show next week

Volunteer for Food Pantry by emailing VP of Student Life

#### Adjournment

Motion: Itai

Second: Regina

Meeting adjourned at 9: 45 PM