

# May 5, 2014 Meeting Minutes

People present: Katie, Eric, Alex, Tash, David, Arjun, Rachel, Emma Storm, Nick Valencia (representing Chaz for SUA), Shui Hei, Jim, Alan Wong

Introductions

Didn't meet quorum (1 short)

\*The constitution has now been changed to have a treasurer on the e-board - we need to discuss whether the treasurer should receive a stipend, and if so how much. Right now the treasurer only receives a \$100 stipend like the other board members. The suggestion is that they should receive \$250 to be the same as VP. To be discussed by executive board.

Travel grant report: There are two new rules by the GSA such that 1) For each quarter all applicants will receive a fixed amount of \$300 (or less) rather than dividing the total funds by the number of applicants each quarter and having variable amounts given out, 2) Applicants must now attach a conference program with the application. So far there has been ~\$21 000 spent, with a total estimated amount for the year of ~\$36 000. The travel grants went to 31 people in the winter. The GSA is asking for the \$9000 allocated from GSC. We will vote on giving the promised funds when we next have quorum. Straw poll - unanimous yes.

Social Committee Report: We had an alumni event on April 25th - decent turnout (~80 people) but less than we could have been because people were required to pre-register. Protesters showed up but it was handed smoothly. Cinco de mayo party was great, people liked the tacos, lots of beer left over (~200 bottles). We won't need to buy beer for the next First Friday. Upcoming events are the board game night (May 14) spearheaded by Sean, an outing to the Giants game (May 15) spearheaded by Arjun, and the Arrorro Seco camping trip. David is interested in leading trips in the future, possibly a "Napa tour". We should look into organizing summer activities.

Finance Committee Report: See Eric's spreadsheet for details. We had an \$80 000 roll-over from last year and are looking to end the year (without loans) at ~\$53 000 with some more payouts from other things - anticipating this to go down significantly. There are potential future savings via not buying arrowhead water and instead buying a water filter - officially recommending using \$1000 from reserve funds to install a water filter (1 time cost of \$1000 compared to our usual expenditure of \$1000 every year on bottled water). Straw poll: unanimously in favour.

Draft for next year's budget:

- Big change = projecting increase in revenue due to increase in grad student population. - One time funding from SFAC for only one year plus permanent increase of ~\$40 000.
- Expenditures: Officially paying Rachel for the full year.
- Broke up meetings and entertainment now to be more specific. Outside events are events that are non-academic or those held in the building that we want to support financially.
- Suggestion to permanently drop travel grant funding with possibility to drop it even further in the future. Logic behind that is to fund events that are more social, professional development, etc, because there are fewer other funding sources. Perhaps we could trade the GSA and take some of their social events in exchange.

Facility committee not present. Rachel: Working on making a procedure for things such as do we lock study rooms over the weekend, etc. Still working on sustainability fund.

Jim: Request extended hours for Saturday - will vote by email since we are not at quorum

E-board Report: Elections next meeting! You do not need to be a board member currently. Positions include President, VP, Social Chair, Treasurer / Finance Chair. For those interested in joining the board next year, come to our first meeting in September.

