

**SFAC Spring Meeting #1**  
**3/30/15 8:00AM-10:00AM**  
**Student Services Center Room 400**

**Call to Order**

**Present:** Paul Tchir, Jackie Markt-Maloney, Ellen Kim, Ashraf Ramzy Beshay, Darlene Nguyen, Akshay Tangutur, Jennifer Huerta, Norienne Saign, Ivan Evans, William McCarroll

**Absent:** Prasad Radhakrishna, Mihiri Ukuwela, Andrew Thai, Mukanth Vaidyanathan, Sylvia Lepe-Askari, John Hughes

**Motion to approve Winter Week 10 Meeting Minutes by Akshay, second by Ashraf**

**Discussion of Budget Recommendations**

1. GSA Fund Manager Discussion
  - a. Paul: GSA Fund Manager as a campus engagement tool for graduate students, who may benefit less from the other initiatives we support.
  - b. Darlene: This request is very specific.
  - c. John: Concerned that we say we don't support FTEs who don't directly benefit students but we support funding this position.
  - d. Bill: We can qualify our position on FTEs with an explanation, such as with a comment on how graduate students may not benefit as much as undergraduates from other initiatives. At the same time, it is important to note that we do not exclude graduate students, and many programs are open to everyone.
  - e. Norienne: But the programs are not frequently targeted to graduate students. We could make more of an effort to engage them.
  - f. Friendly amendment accepted to make the language reflect these ideas.
  - g. Jennifer: Graduate students may not take advantage of programs because they can be targeted primarily to undergrads.
2. GSA Travel Grants Discussion
  - a. Ellen: Traveling is valuable to graduate students because it helps develop speaking skills.
3. Emergency Communication Discussion
  - a. Bill: We should discuss this at a time when we are more informed about existing emergency communication resources.
  - b. Akshay: It is good to address a tangible program in our report, such as the blue call boxes, to bring up related ideas about safety.
  - c. Ellen: This section of the report is good, especially considering recent safety concerns.
  - d. Bill: We should also consider the upcoming arrival of the light rail.
  - e. Quorum was lost at 8:50am
4. ICA and Recreation Discussion

- a. Paul: Students may not understand the difference between Recreation, ICA, and Sports Facilities.
  - b. Maybe we should raise student concerns and values and then say we need to investigate more the funding allocation among these three.
5. Food Pantry Discussion
- a. Ellen: The Food Pantry is a good resource for students.
  - b. John: The VCSA allocation was one-time funding for the establishment of the pantry.
6. Study Abroad Advisor Discussion
- a. Paul: Does the committee agree with the current placement of the study abroad advisor in the report?
  - b. Ivan: This may be relevant to student life because of the effects of studying abroad. Studying abroad can lead to personal development and can improve a student's overall college experience.
  - c. Jackie: It can affect both campus life and preparation for the future. It can definitely affect a student's college experience, and it can also help students develop skills that can be used throughout their lives.
7. Transparency Discussion
- a. Paul: Students have expressed concerns about UCSD-specific topics such as Café Roma, Porter's Pub, and the Che Café, and UC-wide topics such as tuition hikes. Perhaps if information on these issues were made more accessible to students, they would feel more engaged and valued.
  - b. Ivan: There is a feeling of disconnect in both communication and responsiveness. We could address these issues in our report and cite specific examples to support our claims.
  - c. Bill: We need to elicit support for change, seek positive solutions, and continue trying to work with administration for improvement.
  - d. John: We also need to be careful about saying some services aren't used due to visibility, it can be conjecture about SSF-funded units' needs.

### **Adjournment**

**Present:** Paul Tchir, Jackie Markt-Maloney, Ashraf Ramzy Beshay, Darlene Nguyen, Mukanth Vaidyanathan, Jennifer Huerta, Norienne Saign, Ivan Evans, William McCarroll

**Absent:** Prasad Radhakrishna, Mihiri Ukuwela, Ellen Kim, Andrew Thai, Akshay Tangutur, Sylvia Lepe-Askari, John Hughes