

Associated Students of the University of California, Merced

**Bill # 33**

**Funding for UC Merced College Republicans to Attend the Conservative Political Action Conference**

*This Bill will sponsor the UC Merced College Republicans to attend the Conservative Political Action Conference in Washington D.C.*

Introduced By:

Jonathan Fuentes, ASUCM SHAA Senator

Authored By:

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**Bill #33- Conservative Political Action Conference**

**Background:** The College Republicans at UC Merced was founded in 2008 by a handful of conservative students and was the first political group to form on campus. Today, the club represents a diverse group of students with a variety of viewpoints including conservatives, libertarians, independents, and occasionally democrats. Although meetings, events, and discussions often center around a conservative message, different viewpoints are always welcome and even encouraged as the club advocates for removing barriers to constructive conversations and echo chambers in addition to pursuing bipartisanship among members of the UC Merced community. Throughout the years, we have actively campaigned for local and national Republican candidates and held numerous events on campus. Such events include hosting the only 2013 Merced City Mayoral Debate, the Free Speech Wall, the 9/11 Never Forget memorials, on campus rallies for Republican candidates, and hosting prominent political speakers such as Republican strategist Karl Rove, the most widely read Latino columnist in the nation Ruben Navarrete, and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julian Castro (a Democrat). ASUCM has funded travel of varying numbers of members to CPAC four times in the past. The club has 15 active members and intends to send 8 members to CPAC.

CPAC began in 1973 in Washington, DC, and has grown into the premier conservative conference in the country, drawing big name conservative and Republican speakers from across the nation, hosting seminars about the state of the country as well as public policy, and providing a massive networking experience for young Republicans and conservatives. Past year's events included headliners such as Ted Cruz, Rand Paul, Chris Christie, Mitt Romney, and many other conservative leaders. Free time during the trip will include meetings with government officials, Capitol and White House tours, and networking events.

**Purpose:** To provide funds for transportation and hotel to the College Republicans at UC Merced for the Conservative Political Action Conference held from February 22<sup>nd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> in Washington, DC.

1 **Whereas:** It is the purpose of ASUCM “to encourage effective student participation by providing services and coordinating activities”; and,

2 **Whereas:** It is the purpose of ASUCM “to advance the development of leaders that will serve and make a difference in the present and future; and,

3 **Whereas:** It is the purpose of ASUCM to provide an efficient and equal representation for the expression of students’ views, clarity of opinions, and interests in recognition of the rights of the students in this university community; and,

4 **Whereas:** The College Republicans at UC Merced members will gain networking opportunities by meeting with many other young conservative groups attending the CPAC; and,

5 **Whereas:** This is the fifth time the College Republicans at UC Merced will be attending this event with ASUCM funding, which was funded last year; and,

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6 **Whereas:** The members of the College Republicans at UC Merced attending will also have the chance to tour a congressional office and the Capitol, White House, and national monuments while in DC, meeting staffers and politicians in order to learn about politics and policy at its highest level, and,

7 **Whereas:** The members of the College Republicans at UC Merced will be paying for their own registration, meals, transportation to the airport, and other costs. (See Appendix A.)

**Be it enacted:** That the ASUCM Senate allocates \$5,750.00 from the 2016-2017 ASUCM Senate Bill Fund to the College Republicans at UC Merced for transportation and hotel expenses to go to CPAC 2017, from February 22-25 in Washington, DC.

**Appendix A**

Hotel	\$140.00 x2 rooms x5 nights (4 people per room)
Airline Tickets	\$468.75 x8 (flying Delta Airlines)
Transportation/Parking	\$0 (~\$100.00 club funds/members)
Registration	\$0 (\$60.00 paid for by members)
Total	\$5750.00 (or \$5150.00 for nonrefundable hotel deposits)

\*Travel accommodations were researched as follows: airline ticket information from Delta Airlines flights from SFO to Ronald Reagan National Airport and room prices were based on refundable deposits at Holiday Inn Expresses in Alexandria, Virginia.

The Associated Student of the University of California Merced

**Bill #33 - Conservative Political Action Conference**

Date Introduced: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted Senate Committee(s):

Date Settled: \_\_\_\_\_

Budget and Finance

Student Advocacy

Veto Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Activities

Academic Affairs

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Comments/Recommendations:

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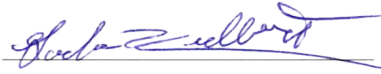
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Senate Action:

Approved

Not Approved

Senate Chair Authorization:



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Gabriel Hulbert, Internal Vice President

President Action:

Approved

Not Approved

President's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

automatically approved

Date: 01/26/17

Katelyn Fitzgerald, President