

MCSG Meeting Minutes

10/27/2015

- Attendance Blaise Yokoyama, Dan Yee, Joan Maze, Peace Madimutsa, Suveer Daswani, Taneeya Rele, Marco Hernandez, Jensen Vu, Gordy Moore, Jim Hoppe, Caroline Duncombe, Cami Garcia-Flahaut, Merrit Stüven, Cole Ware, Aarohi Narain, Andrea Grimaldi, Jolena Zabel, Jeffrey Lyman, Samuel Doten, Colin Casey, Carl Liu, Luke Bower, Ian Calaway, Johannes Davies, Jack McCarthy, Harrisonford Daswani, Nita Chai, Nikhita Jain
- Guests Review committee, Alexander Dangel, Caitlin Toner, Cecilia Mayer
- Ian I'm sure you all have been involved with some meetings, we have special guests back here who have been involved in many meetings. Thank you to you all for being here tonight. Hopefully this will be a riveting meeting. Thank you all and thank you to the LB members. At the end of the meeting since it looks like we'll be done early we're going to have time for the LB to talk to you guys without the exec here. Does anyone have any questions or concerns with regard to the review?
- 7:01
- Luke Next order of business- review of green dot training over fall break- anyone involved want to speak about it?
- Merrit It was a really great experience, I really enjoyed it. Everyone is a little apprehensive when they hear how long but it didn't feel long at all. It was very engaging, talked about power based personal violence- what it is, warning signs. Talked about ways to intervene practicing intervention
- Suveer One thing I really liked is that it was very interactive and engaging, and 8 hours didn't feel like 8 hours at all. This just felt like one meeting rather than a whole school day. The facilitators did a great job
- Harrisonford Training was great, interactive. We also watched this video that was very realistic and showed things that happen that could become red dot situations, and ways you can prevent red dots from different angles.
- Jensen I believe that everyone who has attended has made it our mission to tell others to come and spread it, so sign up for the one in November.
- Jolena I attended one of the pilot green dot trainings when I was a sophomore and I'd say that everyone should do it- sounds like they took some of our critiques, so that's great.
- Ian Does anyone know when the next allies training is?
- Luke Thanks for those who shared. I'll try to make the next one.
- Gordy So I'm in the process of writing a mac weekly article about a sustainability initiative from the sustainability officer perspective. Had a good talk with Suveer and Jack. Been talking to Kendrick Brown about electronic course evaluations, also meeting with Nathan Leech soon about sustainability in facilities and bike storage.
- Blaise So this coming friday campus activities and operations is putting on the halloween party at 9pm in the campus center. this year there won't be a haunted house but lots of ranges of activities- Hocus Pocus in JBD, dance that's usually in the first floor of the campus center. Halloween night showing Sinister 2 in JBD at 8pm which will be scary and lovely. Following monday nov 2 - fall concert in the Loch. Mac alum band "Bad Bad Hats" as well as a touring band the Swings, a local band Tony Peachka. Following wednesday nov 4 we have a hypnotist coming, in Kagin Ballroom. In terms of Winter Ball we've set bus schedules- 4 times. Again this year it will be 7-11 pm. There will be an after party in the campus center put on by campus activities and operations
- Harrisonford Will we have to sign up for a time slot for a bus?
- Blaise 4 time slots for tickets- 650 715 730 745.
- Suveer Are there any specific changes to winter ball this year? I remember reading something in the mac weekly
- Blaise I don't think there's much different from last year- from two years ago, it's intentionally early so that the night's not over afterwards, it won't be the end of the night. Also will be staggering the food this year
- People who do green dot training will be able to receive free tickets for winter ball, are encouraged to be "winter ball hosts"- if you see red dot situations potentially happening, try and step in, make winter ball a safe space for everyone involved.

Budget report- this one just highlights the events that pb has put on this first half of the semester. Pretty basic- it has the event, date, estimated attendance, cost, cost per person. Summary of what we've done, good picture of what was successful, what was poorly attended. Sometimes that's just chance of the night, for example avengers was surprisingly poorly attended

- Ian Was there any event that has really increased or pulled back in attendance
- Blaise Bingo for books has become more and more popular- this year we ran out of boards even after buying more last year. Field day was new, people didn't know about it but walked by and liked it
- Another budget sheet- This one shows all the events we've done- the red bar is the present- everything above it has happened, everything below has been budgeted for. An idea of what we're planning on , not everything has been budgeted for . Highlighted in purple is remaining budget for the semester that hasn't been allocated. Also how much we have left with the rollover from last year. Gives a snapshot of what we're doing & the budget
- Luke So not everything is budgeted for?
- Blaise Correct- there are some events that have not been planned for
- Caroline You said this year we have significantly less money than last year/= what was the difference
- Blaise Right- we realized quickly that we have less cause we had a couple big events and it cut down more quickly on our budget.
- Ian Last year pb also had a 10,000 rollover and that wasn't there this year
- Merrit SSRC Update- the community forum on mental health policy will be nov 10 4:45 - 6:15 in the chapel. Finalized the format- it will include some student presentation from leaders of VOices at mac . Will include a panel of staff and maybe faculty representative. Will be panel time and student discussion time in small groups. We're going to draft a resolution beforehand , have a chance for students to contribute to that. Time to come together and debrief at the end. So we encourage you all to come and help spread the word. One of our community chest events happened today
- Harrisonford I attended the community chest event today- million artist movement exploring asian american identity- it seemed very successful in exploring asian american identity in the black lives matter movement and vietnam war movement and how that translates into how asian american activists do. Professor talked about how america is biggest perpetrator of violence. Performers- tried to decolonize whatever struggles they were feeling through dances. And there was food.
- Merrit And the survey is currently being looked at by the IRB, will be sent out 2nd week of november
- Ian Can you send me previous SSRC survey results?
- Jolena They're not in any of my documents.
- Jim They should be on the shared drive.
- Ian How many questions is the survey/
- Jolena 23 questions, easily done in 10 minutes- only one is a textbox.
- Want to emphasize attending and promoting the forum. MCSG should go to MCSG's things. This is an important event, a lot of people have approached MCSG about it. Put it on your calendars, and we'll remind you in the coming meeting.
- Peace FAC Update- we discussed amnesty international- asking for movie screening rights- requested \$120 - we approved that fully. Caribbean students association- they were asking for food - to go to a restaurant and have a meal with their members \$120- FAC denied that- the request was submitted too late and also we realized that they were asking to take out members of their organization during a school break, and we try to fund events that serve more students in the school- we usually ask to go to flexi funds for that. It was also 120 for 10 people so that was over the \$10 for food limit. \$14,243.76 left in the funds.
- Ian One thing Jim and I talked about is we're getting a lot fewer additional allocation requests than we normally do- I don't know if that's because budgeting is working a lot better- I hope so. We have some flexibility with how we spend that- maybe encourage orgs to think about events that they could add
- Dan For anyone who writes down the number we give every week- we had a clerical error last week so that's why the number might be the same as last week
- Caroline We have a bill that we're proposing. But first today I talked with the max center tutors and 12 of the 15 volunteered to take part in the writing program as writing tutors, so now we'd like to find 12 people who would like to take part.

Suveer So we have a guest here from the anthropology club - name, pgp, role model

Cecilia Cecilia, senior, she her hers, grandmother

Suveer She's going to be introducing the charter from the anthropology club. This week is just an introduction and next week she'll come back for the charter to be voted upon.

Cecilia I've been told that anthro club did exist, I was asked to bring it back. Goal is to provide a space for students of anthropology to meet and talk and connect and network and have more formal events- movie nights, guest speakers- alumni- post mac experience, what they're doing with anthro, would like to be separate from the department- student run, want first year and sophomore students so they can take control next year

Suveer We all voted to recommend the club

Luke Why was it closed in the past?

Cecilia I don't know, but the department has tried to do some things- Anthro tuesday - but I'm guessing interest was lost

Suveer You've spoken about a prospective alumni event- speak about that/

Cecilia We're connected with the alumni in the anthro dept - we'd like current students to see what they're doing first hand. I've been talking to recent grads, will be talking to less recent grads. Like to skype with them, ask them to come talk with us if they're in town.

Luke You mentioned you want to keep the anthro club separat- no advisor?

Cecilia We've asked the department coordinator to be the advisor

Jolena Thanks so much for being here- sounds great. Do you have an idea of a usual budget?

Cecilia No exact numbers, but copyright funds for movie nights, food/snacks for events. That's all I can see for now

Ian Two things in the charter- small changes that I think should be made. The way you ask officers to step down- make stepping down be more formal- have a vote. Also you have amendments with 3/4 vote- it's typically 2/3, but you could keep it 3/4 but the typical thing for amendments is 2/3. Overall looks well done.

Luke Thanks so much for coming in and we'll have you back next week for a vote.

Ian One more surprise guest- Nudl's gonna come, talk about how nudl can interact with MCSG.

Andrea I want to start by saying that I'm not really happy talking about this because none of you have seen it before now. I'll talk a little bit about it but If you have questions I'd rather them be based on you reading the bill. Textbook program has been successful. So we documented how to decide a good book to buy based on not only how many people taking the class, but textbook impact score, what is useful for the student population, once we provide the books that most students need how can we move forward into buying other books? Also, we don't want to be the ones purchasing textbooks before the semester starts- AAC char has done that in the past, but we want to hand that to the library because they know how to purchase books, more effective.

Caroline When you guys look at this- section one was changed- the way it worked before hand is we receive 7% of rollover but every year we receive a sum total of 10,000 . Instead this would be \$10,000 plus rollover. A way to have a nice surprise- invest in something like graphing calculators & Put more money into the textbook reserve.
Also, Impact score was created last year, works well. A lot of times the AAC's discretion is taken into account. Outlined the places aac can get information. ONE last thing we're changing - the library has to give us permission - it's been taking longer for the library to agree- they agree to receive textbooks, but they haven't yet agreed to purchase them. Would simplify the whole process, still figuring out those details

Ian I think it would be very interesting if you were to make a document - what books are currently in the program, what majors they serve. If we just get econ textbooks and it's just helping that demographic- might be beneficial to have something in the equation to help majors outside of that

Andrea We thought a lot about how to include that in the equation. One thing is majors like english have small books, change every year- makes it hard. We try to buy textbooks that will be useful for a long period

Cole I believe - I was in the AAC last year- there are mechanisms which try to diversify the departmental representation- traditionally the idea was to get at minimum five different departments represented, in practice it was more than that. Something to review once we can look at the document

Caroline Impact score- equation multiplying cost of textbooks, enrollment. Once you hit two books in a department, you would only take the top book. Until you hit the tipping point you wouldn't purchase that department textbook. That's a way to guarantee diversity of departmental representation

Ian Once you get the equation, have math professors look at it

Luke Do you know if you're analyzing what majors are the most requested? Most active?

Caroline I have the numbers

7:47 Luke Moving back to SOC- more guests- Nudl

Suveer Not SOC- co-founders of nudl

Alex Alex Dangel- senior econ major, he him his, steve jobs

Caitlin Caitlin She her hers

Ian Invited nudl tonight- Alex has been working on Nudl for a while- a meal sharing group on campus- not an org- founded by two entrepreneurs - taken the campus by storm. We see this opportunity to combine mcsG and nudl- mcsG reps host class nudl events. It would be a way for us to diffuse info to average student and get feedback- strengthen our bond

Alex So at demo day we set an ambitious goal- we want every single student to eat at a mealshare once a week- right now we're at 5-10% - hoping to collaborate and get your help. Have conversations, open social spaces- not a formal intentional conversation, but an opportunity. I don't know how we want to move forward with it, but if someone is willing to host or be a part- we can write this is for the junior class or sophomore class

Luke One way we can do this is q&a
I know you've talked about becoming a student org- have you considered advantages or disadvantages

Alex We have talked to suveer and ian- we came out of mac startups- we're a student run company and our goal is to create a product that works- I think our lens is more sustainable. We didn't even use the money that we got from mac startups. It's run entirely socially

Caitlin I think it's interesting with discussions last year with the strategic plan. I think we're a guinea pig - entrepreneurship on campus. We've talked about becoming an org but it would change our business model and it would be hard to do what we want

Andrea So I understand that so far you have small dinners- 6ish people. If we were to start thinking about hosting class events that might need more people- first of all think about what kind of places. I don't know if you have any ideas for larger groups

Alex in terms of scale the majority of mealshares are 5-7 guests plus hosts. I hosted 40 people at my house this weekend. We want to provide the opportunity for orgs and groups to host bigger mealshares. we've been in conversations around campus about that

Jolena In terms of as an MCSG member I feel a degree of hesitancy about them needing to pay about that. We have other venues that are free, but I am hesitant. But I am willing to host a pilot version of this. Serves our mission really well. Possible for MCSG to cosponsor? Pay as you can thing? Solutions that may feel more accessible to students

Cole If I were to do this, what would the process look like? Junior class is planning a dinner of sorts for constituents- what benefits would nudl bring to that type of event if we did it through nudl?

Alex We just launched our website. If you want to host a mealshare, you fill out a form. Guests would sign up through website- know exactly who's coming, it's on the calendar. We have big ideas for integrating payment as well so it's less of a hassle. There's work to be done but an easier process than organizing through email.

Colin I'm having a hard time distinguishing what kind of relationship we're trying to establish. Not chartering you as an org- what kind of relationship- long term? What are we looking for?

Alex For us a consistent product is important- weekly, biweekly, monthly. Maybe before you make a decision on something you could meet with your constituents to make sure the student body is in line

Ian From MCSG side it allows us to institutionalize this means to spread information. We don't have a system in place to make sure that a semester event would continue. MCSG is slowed down relearning how to host a meal. It would be nice to have a system in place. If one class hosted a meal share once a week- that's a lot of students- think of this idea of having a system in place where we're reaching 228 students across different classes- that would be really powerful and improve our image and also we would get real feedback from people we don't normally get feedback from.

Colin MCSG lacks means to connect with constituents. Nudl has that and is lacking the arm to reach everyone it wants to reach.

Dan I'm a little fuzzy with how nudl works especially with funding

Alex Idea is to make cooking more convenient and more affordable and healthier. Makes more sense to cook a meal and have 5 people show up and eat. Up until now it's been google docs- set a price 2 - 6 dollars, guests would sign up. Gather data on how the experience was. We collect 50c. per guest from the host.

Dan Do you want the people who go to mcsg events to pay or us to pay you

Alex Open question- we still want to be sustainable in what we do- we still need to run

Jeffrey One thing we talked about was having orgs use nudl as a means of attracting new members and reaching out to the broader community. Making people pay to show up at an event is an issue. Any ideas for how to facilitate that? Make an exception in the bylaws?

Johannes I think Jeffrey has an interesting point of orgs using it to access new members- flexifund is used for funding org centric events. I can't see why nudl would not fall into that category. I could envision afrika or maseca saying we want a nudl event, we'll cover everyone's costs out of the flexi funds.

Ian What happens is - I'm going to have a mealshare. My ingredients cost \$20, having 5 people- set price at \$4 per person. Then could add .50 per person onto that so we end up with 22.50 So the payment students are making would be for ingredients and a 50 cent payment to nudl for administrative fees. The way I see this working with MCSG is i don't see using mcsg funds to do this. I'd say I'm hosting it as an mcsg member and I'm going to charge this amount cause this is how much the ingredients cost. I understand - jolena brought up a good point in terms of who is this accessible to- but \$3-5 is fairly reasonable. If you wanted to have an MCSG mealshare it would be most ethical if you're only covering the cost of ingredients and then 50c. I'd see it as us as reps hosting mealshares- not MCSG

Jack Who would be footing the bill? If we paid students would feel more incentivized to come

Nita Orgs using mealshares to recruit new members- do you have statistics for underclassmen who are on the meal plan?

Alex Typically 5-10 underclassmen, over fall break it was around 20. there is a demand for it to get out of cafe mac

Nita I feel like there are two different ideas- nudl framework is there, mcsg reps are encouraged to sign up and be there casually, or explicit MCSG nudl

Alex I don't think it should be too explicit- there have been mealshares where there's a go around question at the beginning. Some there's not. I think with mcsg there will be meaningful conversations about a school topic without explicit agenda.

Nita I don't want it to feel like MCSG is encroaching too much on your idea

Jensen There might be people who sign up and don't come- how do you deal with that? Also is there an option to choose which guests

Alex There have been very few mealshares where more than one spot is left open. There's more of a supply of people who want to eat than people who want to host. Moving forward we'll have to do a better job- reserve your spot, commit by paying. And then we haven't experienced a problem with attendees or hosts having a problem.

LUke Going to exhaust the speaker's list- let's refrain from going over questions that have been asked

Alex I spoke with them over break & this afternoon. We did think about ideas to reach out to other orgs, opportunities for org leaders to collaborate. We did come across complications that could make it more complex- first is limited space- so if an org hosts a nudl would they be limiting space? Second if we have an org hosting a meal share would we want the members attending the mealshare to pay for that meal? We'd be asking a member to pay for a meeting of the org which isn't how we want it. Could that be through flexi funds? Orgs should be open to all without any payment. Also if we have orgs host mealshare through flexi funds- would that work based on financial code? One idea is maybe having a mealshare focused on a particular issue/topic- environmental justice for example- have a rep from an org attend- no funding involved. But allow the member from that org to spread awareness.

Caroline it is stated in the bylaws that the FAC can't pay students. Discuss what that would mean. Have you approached c house, other spaces on campus where there are nice kitchens? People could reserve spaces.

Alex We've talked to the chaplain, interfaith house, c house. Exploring those options. Reaction has been mixed

Dan According to our guidelines we can't charge fees at events that are org events. I might still be fuzzy on rules of nudl so correct me if I'm wrong but if nudl is a facilitator which sounds like a great idea, in terms of mcsg hosting, if we buy the food and pay an administrative cost- why should we go through nudl?

Alina Nudl has a good reputation, they've reached a lot of students

Ian It doesn't have to be formal- even just being there and saying these are things we can talk about

Jolena This is getting serious and technical- I think a good way to do this is a trial run.

Luke Further questions or comments after the meetings

8:22 Jim Next green dot is Nov 14, allies training Nov 20. Quick feedback, mac space plan

Jolena Got brought up today in my honors colloquium- don't totally

Jim College is doing a strategic review of all the space on campus- we've hired a firm from boston to help us figure out how to understand how space is used. Looking at reservations, occupancy records, use patterns. THis week they're on campus getting info about what we like in space, what we wish we had, what's underutilized, what we don't like. We wanted something to give the average student a chance to respond. Send a pic of your favorite space, space you think is underutilized. I ask each of you to take a picture of a space on campus and tweet/hashtag it. On thursday 3 different times - morning in harmon room, cc at lunch time, smail gallery in afternoon. Gallery walk of different types of spaces- go through gallery and put stickers on things you like, things you don't.

Harrisonford As a preceptor for a 60 person class I think it's hard to utilize rooms in OLRI- there's a reservation issue- as a preceptor we can't reserve because we need to be an org. We're just jumping from room to room to find place to host office hours

Joan Faculty can reserve it

Jolena I'd suggest a facebook event

Ian Motion to adjourn