

# MCSG Meeting Minutes

9/15/2015

	Attendees	Attendees: Jim Hoppe, Joan Maze, Dan Yee, Harrisonford Fauni, Peace Madimutsa, Saakshi Daswani, Cole Ware, Jack McCarthy, Sam Doten, Andrea Grimaldi, Colin Casey, Ian Calaway, Luke Bower, Kira Downey, Hawi Tilahune, Gody Moore, Blaise Yokoyama	
	Suveer	Last week we introduced, continue the discussion, then I'll move to charter	
	Kira	Thanks so much for approving us to be at the org fair on Friday- we got 95 people to sign up, I've gotten a few additional people every day who want to take classes. There's a lot of support in the student body. Response to Harrisonford- that's a goal of the group- want to figure out how to include it. Maybe at beginning of classes, or when we have practice sessions together	
		Hispanic studies department liaison is a go	
	Ian	Is there anything other than us approving the charter that you would like from us as you start? Support wise- how can MCSG help you start a good org?	
	Kira	I appreciate the suggestions of ways to make it more inclusive, cultural ties. Otherwise, I need to work on getting a space and a lot of those are full, so I'm going to be working with somebody, we'll be applying for additional allocations in a few weeks. Other than that if you don't have additional suggestions, I feel good to go.	
	Suveer	I motion to question	
	Luke	Any objections? All in favor? Opposed? Abstaining? Motion passes.	
7:06	Ian	No computer, no phone policy. First charter passed of the year!	
7:07	Luke	Involvement fair recap- suveer	
	Suveer	Taste of service and involvement fair- fri- about 100 orgs, 15 campus committees, 15 CEC	
		Very popular event, good feedback. MCSG exec faces shaving cream. Kira representing Mac Tango.	
		Also had SOLO- held on Saturday- very informative, successful event- 9-12:30/45. Almost all organizations were represented. Orgs that didn't attend won't have access to p cards until they complete online module.	
		Joan Suresh- thanks for organizing, making it successful.	
	Luke	Dan	
	Dan	Financial code revisions- took out crossed out, changed red to black, made pretty. IF ratified, this will go on financial affairs website. Added/discussed all comments we got. 9-2 vs 9-13- this is the pretty version	
		Motion to approve	

	Luke	When we have something to pass/ratify- first, someone needs to make a motion to approve whatever it is. After the motion has been made, we discuss the bill/document at hand. After that, a second motion needs to be made to move to question. No discussion- just question of whether it's going to pass or not.
	Ian	You can move to amend it- move us to discussion to amend only- next week we'll go more in depth when the rest of us are here.
	Dan	Motion to approve
	Luke	Second? Move on to discussion
	Peace	Move to question
	Luke	Vote- in favor of approving changes? Opposed? Abstaining- Motion passes
	Ian	Big thanks to Dan and Joan, whoever else worked on it. Revisions were well thought through, they'll get rid of some of the more grey areas of additional allocations, budgeting overall
7:13	Luke	FAC
	Dan	Nope nothing
	Luke	AAC
	Caroline	We've decided the date for the alumni fair- started two years ago. Basically we wanted to get ahead of the curve, find a date. Feb 25- Thursday, in Kagin Ballroom.
		Other general updates- talking to students, gathering ideas for big projects- selecting projects this weekend
	Cole	What is the alumni fair?
	Caroline	AF was - a lot of departments have different alumni relations within department connecting majors to people in their field. A lot of Mac students enter a field different from their dept. AF gathers people from all different fields, mostly from twin cities area. Has been mostly for juniors/seniors, could open up to first years/sophomores.
7:16	Luke	SOC
	Suveer	Chris Pieper- hoping to charter new org called Mac Progressives- just an introduction like for mac tango- we don't need to discuss it right now- that'll be next week. Hopefully you've had a chance to look at the charter

Chris	<p>Progressive political affiliation- not other. A new org- basically the main progressive political org on campus. Grassroots term, not affiliated with any political party in the US. Policies considered left of center. Policies- access to education, health care, income inequality, social change. Dynamic grassroots movement. 4 main aims- discuss issues, community organizing, issue based advocacy, electoral politics. Discussion each meeting a couple of issues, invite speakers to come to campus to share their perspectives- both with just org and entire campus down the line. Community organizing- have an impact on issues- mostly here on campus, petitions, projects- will be determined by what org members want to do. Also focused mainly on issues rather than party platform. Emphasis on collaboration with other orgs to promote their activities- Mac CARES for example. In general bring different issue focused orgs together. Electoral politics- not politically affiliated, but promote specific issues, get out the vote campaign- register people to vote. Uniqueness at Mac- big progressive movement this summer on the left side- there isn't one that fits what they have in mind. Unique- not affiliated with an outside org (unlike Mac Dems) not affiliated with an outside activist group like MPIRG. Brings activism to Grassroots mac centered. Ideologically between Mac Dems and Mac Socialists- but not affiliated with any party. Spirit of org is collaborative- want to reach out to other orgs, work together with them. Welcome any questions or suggestions</p>
Harrisonford	<p>Would you think about putting a specific title for exec board?</p>
Chris	<p>We don't want to be far removed from members- grassroots</p>
Johannes	<p>What are the benefits of not being tied to an outside activist org?</p>
Chris	<p>The benefit of having it as an independent grassroots org- we can talk amongst ourselves about the issues without pressure from outside group to follow their ideology- we want ideology shaped by what people bring to the table- not official platforms. For effectiveness, that will come from working with other orgs. We can achieve similar things</p>
Sam	<p>I want to make sure that- a lot of ideas laid out so far are similar to other orgs- I want to make sure that you're not stepping on toes and the work that's already been done. Hoping to coordinate all groups for get out the vote</p>
Jack	<p>Intended interaction with Bernie sanders campaign? Mac for Bernie facebook group</p>

	Chris	MacProg org - long term forum for working on issues specifically, not associated with an election cycle. Some students are organizing a mac for bernie group and a lot of those students are affiliated with mac progs but that's just a subset- it's not what the group is. Might start meetings with an announcements like if you're interested in supporting this candidate- here are some resources, here are things you can do
	Jack	If there's a bernie event in the tcs focusing on those policies, would macprogs get involved
	Chris	Making sure that we don't remain tied, but we will tell people about it
	Ian	Where do you see this org in five years?
	Chris	If all goes well, it'll be a strong grassroots political movement- large hopefully, influential grassroots political org promoting important issues
	Suveer	They did secure more than 10 members, we met with them and we did recommend it
	Johannes	Realistically is this org going to coalesce with a party or candidate? Isn't there a space within mac dems to challenge the party platform from within? If that space exist, what additional things will macprogs do?
	Chris	MacDems is tied to the DFL party and as much as we can try to shape things from within, there's only so much impact we can have as a small group on a larger party. This gives people a chance to shape their own platform and see things they want to say.
	Sam	I'm involved- I've talked to mac dems- want to respect official rules of dnc- don't choose a specific candidate to support before chosen. I think macprogs is a great place for someone who doesn't support the parties themselves.
	Luke	The only thing that I'm worried about is redundancy- there might be three other orgs on campus working on income inequality- why would mac progs add to already hectic- how can they help with that
	Chris	Reach out to other orgs, help support them in what they're working on with progressive identified issues. Also get people who are doing those specific things, inform them about other progressive issues that are going on. Get everyone together, expand issue focus. Synthesizing different programs and events. Not trying to compete with what other orgs are doing- rather work with them
	Suveer	Just an intro- if you have any other questions/comments/concerns- email. To be mindful of time. They'll be coming back next Tues
7:33	Ian	Hawi, were you here last week? Introduce yourself
	Hawi	Hawi, she/her/hers, liaison to board of trustees
7:34	Ian	Ongoing election- interesting debate
	Suveer	First year debate- maybe same amount of people, seemed less attended in JBD- classroom seemed crowded and overfilled this year

	Harrisonford	They proposed rice cookers in café mac- I support it
	Ian	Other election things- voting ends tonight- encourage people to vote. I haven't looked at turnout yet.
	Chris	When will results be made public
	Ian	Registrar has to validate them, hopefully tomorrow morning.
		Hopefully this will be the last election with confusing election code- we're changing them.
	Suveer	What's happening with the class of 2017 rep?
	Ian	Option of writing in candidates for fall or spring- there was one student who ran a write in campaign
	Luke	Blaise PB
	Blaise	Sorry I'm late- just chose first year reps. Sundaes on Sunday- incredible turnout. Mad Max on Saturday- people enjoyed it.
	Ian	Attendance at Mad Max?
	Dan	Not completely full, but at least 3/4 full- food was all gone
	Blaise	Probably around 80 students
	Luke	Retreat with Jim
7:40	Jim	Buses will leave at 5 from Macalester St. Bring change of clothes, clean socks, water bottle, bedding. Camp Edenwood- Eden Prairie- 30 min from campus. Only group there. Bring pen & paper, some snacks. Can't bring drugs/alcohol. Representing college on official business. Back at 2 on Sat.
	Ian	Drugs & alcohol- unnecessary to what we are and what we represent
	Jim	Campfire- bring an object that's significant or signifies you- share
	Ian	Updates- Income Inequality Commission- application closes tomorrow- 8-10 students have applied, all seem very interested. Established by next week in terms of students- staff and faculty too.
		Next week proposing the omnibus bill- execs look at bylaws and try to fix/update them - lots of inconsistencies, things that don't apply, it's too long. Maybe separating specific sections (e.g., election code could be its own document)
		All next week- look through it closely. Essential that you read the bylaws

		Scheduling of MCSG review- 26th and 27th- any questions on what is happening? Jim & I have been talking- most student gov'ts are reviewed ~ every five years- two Jims from other schools come in along with other committee members and SG provides them with a self-study/evaluation of themselves- how they function, what their structure is, they meet with students. Review, give criticisms. MCSG has never been reviewed. Give us an opportunity to review what we're doing wrong, more importantly it'll lay a foundation from which we can create a strategic plan that will transcend the high turnover rate of execs- with only one year long term it's hard to have a long focus.
	Cole	A strategic plan sounds great. Are we planning to have that evaluation be an internal or public document?
	Jim	Up to you- pros and cons to both. Maybe create a summary to present of what you've learned from it that could be public.
	Ian	Maybe something that we should vote on. Biggest concern with making it public is that it might alter the way the committee reviews us- I want the most honest review as possible.
	Jim	Last one I was on they didn't make it public for that reason- we were specific in our feedback
	Sam	Will there be some sort of committee formed to study and follow up on the results afterwards?
	Ian	Something we could think about
		Schedule- Two non-Jim Jims (two advisors from other schools), a staff member will be the chair, 2 faculty members, a staff member now (but was a Macalester student)- feedback on what it was like as 1 student, is like now as a staff member, 2 students affiliated with MCSG, 2 students unaffiliated.
	Luke	How much of the responsibility of writing the report is on the committee's shoulders? All just the two Jims or everyone?
	Ian	Whole committee. Deadline for us is October 10th - self-set. Reaching out to individual committees in the coming weeks. If you ever have an idea about ways to improve- let me know. Page of ideas we're thinking about trying in the future
	Jim	Tentative schedule- review team on Monday night, dinner with context & charge- sit with exec board. All day Tuesday- series of different meetings- just FAC, PB, other committees, student leaders, different MCSG advisors, faculty/staff who work with MCSG- business, activities & operations. Then dinner on Tuesday- big space- pizza, invite any student to have an open forum to give feedback, then meeting on Tuesday night. Then submit report back. Each of you will be invited to spend some portion of the day with them on Tuesday- hard with class schedules
	Cole	Will we have someone working on publicity for the town hall-like meeting?

	Jim	Responsibility of the mcsng students on the review team
	Gordy	Mac weekly may be interested
	Sam	When and how will mcsng and non mcsng students be selected?
	Ian	Within a week or two, intentional- someone who has a lot of mcsng experience, someone who doesn't have a lot.
	Jack	Dates?
	Ian	October 26th and 27th
		Mac Weekly will run an article about MCSG in general next week- they recognize that a lot of our focus this fall is on the review. Trying to get the Mac Weekly to have a Mac Weekly person in here. My first year and sophomore year, there used to be a mac weekly person writing in here every meeting. Didn't happen last year, hoping to bring it back.
8:00	Luke	Other questions?
	Gordy	In the process of meeting with the chairs, Jim, Joan- if anyone has any other ideas, questions about my position- email me, talk to me- flexible position.
	Ian	Forum time- does anyone have anything they've heard/thought about in the past week? Reflect on school issues
	Joan	Tomorrow's Piper- Kagin dance sign up-groups will have a chance to sign up for dates. Rather than first come first serve it'll be by lottery. To encourage orgs to cosponsor, they'll get a lottery entry per org. If people have questions all the requirements are in the form.
	Luke	Props to Joan- big thing last year with MCSG communication- people didn't know what was going on- good for Joan for making this public in first weeks of school
	Johannes	I know of certain orgs that are under the impression they've received a date for their Kagin
	Joan	One- Afrika- they've been planning it all summer- the 25th
		SOLO was good- some people commented that it was very long- switched off after a certain point. One suggestion made to me- two solos- one first semester one second semester. Reviewing how much meaningful information leaders can take in in one situation
	Blaise	Talk in PB about how many Kagins PB should sponsor - usually do first one back in spring semester (Beyonce) if we want to do more- do you think pb should do more? Fewer?
	Chris	What's the new system
	Joan	We will pick dates and staff- there is one exception- if you can find a full time staff member willing to be the staff member on duty who would be willing to come to the kagin- in that case you can have a kagin
	Blaise	We were thinking possibly one per semester

	Suveer	Question for Joan- will there be a deadline for student orgs to sign up?
	Joan	Next Wednesday, just for this semester
	Chris	Suggestion for Suveer- at the org fair Jordan and I were thinking- it's hard to get new org members when you don't have a table. Maybe have a pending orgs section? SOC could have a booth too
	Suveer	Have talked to Suresh about that- hard to have prospective orgs cause of space. Complicated- get chartered now or later. Keep that distance between already existing orgs. I think it has happened in the past
	Luke	Robert's Rules- direct response- you can override speakers list.
	Jim	Chris is that can green? Direct response is yes that can is green
	Jack	SOLO- I was the only member of my org able to be there for solo- if no member of an org is able to be at solo- on a case by case basis is it possible to meet one on one?
	Suveer	Late in the summer send out reminders about solo- we expect that people can because we emphasize that it's important. If you can't you meet with SOC chair and there's a module on orgsync. Won't have access to p card until you meet with SOC chair and complete the online module
	Sam	SOLO- attendees were told that it would run from 10-12, didn't end till 12:45- should stay on schedule, respect time. MacPIRG is having fall kickoff meeting- Tuesday 6pm artcom 102. Pizza. Issue areas- economic justice, environmental justice, racial justice, gender
	Cole	SOLO- Some org leaders have been here many times, it's long to sit through again, already know that information. Wanted to relay that information, a challenge to address it. Also timing & being on time- important- I was there to prevent on behalf of CEC but couldn't present because the other person had to go and it was 40 minutes behind schedule- that burns bridges with other departments. That reaction could be more negative if I didn't have a relationship with people were organizing it. That's a long time to go over
	Ian	Starting at the retreat we'll have 8 new people here. Reminder that being a first year in these meetings is scary. Make sure we're being welcoming & encouraging when first years/new people are speaking
	Johannes	Kagins- how many did we have last year, how many are we anticipating this year? That's a question that will come up- are they trying to kill Kagin
	Joan	Two a month that we schedule & staff, accounting for Winter Ball & Founders Day - fewer those months



	Suveer	SOLO- we realize we didn't follow the time . We all had a lot of information, apologize for the timing problem. I've been talking to Suresh- We'll think of new ideas for next year- maybe workshop format- not having all org leaders stay for the entire solo- make sure they have the information they require specifically. I apologize for the time we crossed and we hope to make it up some way or another
	Sam	I move to adjourn
8:19		