

**Settling In** - 5 minutes

**Land Acknowledgment** (We are on Indigenous land) ~ *Austin* ~ 2 minutes

Introducing Dr. Kathryn Kay Coquemont (Dean of Students) ~ *Bobbie* ~ 1 minute  
Bobbie

- Welcoming one of our special guests
- Dr. Kathryn Kay Coquemont is DOS and incredible ally to all of us on campus and our work

Dr. Kathryn Kay Coquemont

- Nice to be introduced with credentials, but you're welcome to call me Kathryn
- I am a good ally but it's important to acknowledge that I don't always see eye to eye with students
- I hear the meetings are open and there's pizza!
- Excited to see how LB operates because I've never been to a meeting before

**FAC Additional Allocations** ~ *Heaji* ~ 10 minutes

Heaji

- [Macalester First Aid](#) - \$5,424.80
- [Fresh Concepts](#) - \$4,504.86
- [Macalester West Coast Swing Dance Club](#) - \$6,656.32

- Three requests over 4,000
- Cannot be prerequested in annual budgets or budget bonanza
  - That's why they come to LB
- Macalester First Aid first
  - Representatives could not come
- The request is for MSE conference in Boston
- Requesting round trip plane tickets
- Asked them one question - did it have to be that flight?
  - Might have been cheaper alternatives
  - But only two flights can accommodate nine people
- Questions about that request?

Kalid

- Does FAC have budgets for travel separately?

Heaji

- Yes

Bobbie

- What is FAC recommendation?

Heaji

- Because we're bringing them to the LB, we do recommend we approve it

Mariah

- Motion to approve request for \$5,424.80

Emmanuel

- Second

Austin

- Vote to approve the request for
- Yes: 20
- No: 0
- Abstaining: 0
- Passed unanimously!

Fresh Concepts

- Request for annual trip to Chicago to see shows and decide what to work on in shows and what to teach community as a whole

Austin

- Questions for Fresh Concepts?

Heaji

- In our meeting on Wednesday, mentioned that this is the only request that they do as their annual thing

Kalid

- Motion to approve request \$4,504.86

Austin

- Voting to approve the travel request
- Yes: 20
- No: 0
- Abstain: 0

West Coast Swing Dancing

- Club on campus that provides lessons and opportunities to connect with west coast swing
- Requesting travel funding for Swing City Chicago event over Spring break
- Trying to get 16 folks from the club to go
- Requesting plane tickets and hotel rooms
- Have been approved for 16 event passes already
- Last year they went to a different one bc swing city was cancelled for COVID
- 16 people last year and more who wanted but already approved for 16

Heaji

- Any questions for the leaders

Tristan

- Are you planning on taking a plane or a bus?

Heaji

- Offered alternatives in initial request but plane is the most efficient and cost per person is pretty good

Kalid

- 16 people every year, how do you choose who goes?

West Coast Swing

- Before we took 5, last year was the first time we took 16
- We send out a form and it's first come first serve
- If people cancel, there's also a waitlist

Austin

- Just a reminder that we need to motion with the dollar amount

Emmanuel

- Motion to approve the funding request for \$6,656.32

Austin

- Vote to approve
- Yes: 19
- No: 0
- Abstaining: 1
- Motion passes

### **Congress to Campus Discussion** ~ *Bobbie*, ~ 20 minutes

Bobbie

- Thank you to our guests for coming
- Congress to Campus is happening next Monday and I will let guests explain event itself
- There are large student concerns that this event is taking place so I thought I'd reach out to them to give us the context
- Thank you Elise and Bea

Bea

- Macalester is working with an organization/company called Congress to Campus which is a national organization
- Bringing two former congresspeople to campus: a former democrat and republican to discuss the topic of Roe v Wade being overturned (macalester chose this)

Elise

- It's going to be an hour long

- The questions are going to be vetted through forensics
- The questions will be around personal, ethical, religious perspectives about abortion rights in the US
- Saw the first listing for the event in the MacDaily
- In a class on ethical research under community and global health
- Seemed like the event was focused on political science instead of community global health
- This is a community healthcare concern
- I was directed towards professors Latham and Harris and Bea
- Expressed concern with framing of the event as a debate and having very little student input (feedback, contribution, etc)
- Posted little flyers around campus with an anonymous survey about student feedback on the event
- Got 50 responses in two days
- The survey had valuable results

Bea

- Talked to people walking by about the event outside the CC
- Main goal of doing that was bringing student responses to meeting with professors Harris and Latham
- At the meeting when we delivered student suggestions about changes, they stated that nothing could be changed about the event because they had signed a contract that had mandated all of those things
- Professors willing to put on an additional event after the event where students could voice opinions
- Did the same thing as the meeting itself, providing space for student opinions but not caring enough to do anything about it
- Professors admitted that no student input was given

Elise

- Apparently one alumni came to President Rivera and gave funding for the event for the next five years
- Professors intentionally chose the court case Dobbs which led to Roe v Wade being overturned
- Chose it to be controversial intentionally
- All of this happened over the summer with no chance for student input
- When Roe v Wade was overturned, it was too late to change the event

Bea

- Stated goals of the event: to allow students to consider contentious viewpoints will not be accomplished
- Organizing an open letter to President Rivera
- Want a public physical protest on the day of the event

- Trying not to spread anger
- Want to express that students were not heard and the framing of the event is not appropriate
- We would love to have your support

Elise

- Open letter that we want to send
- We're asking for two categories: acknowledgment and apology for mishandling of event planning (no student input which was inappropriate) and concrete evidence for plan going forward to involve student voices for this event for the next five years

Bobbie

- Can we just give these people a round of applause?
- Thank you for taking the time and energy to present to us
- Powerful for us to hear your perspective
- I want to give context to what MCSG can do
- Not exactly a unanimous event - there are people who think it should not happen and people that think it should
- Enbridge Energy Divestment proposal was pretty unanimous so we wrote a statement
- RA compensation was easy unanimous decision
- We probably wouldn't be able to get a unanimous decision on this
- Looking for suggestions, comments, suggestions

Cooper

- This is a contract for five years... will this be the topic for five years?

Elise

- It's going to change
- Professors have said that there will be a steering committee possibly

Cooper

- Could we exit the contract?

Bea

- Professor Harris said it's out of our hands and we can't go back on this

Emma

- How do other campuses incorporate student input with Congress to Campus?

Elise

- We have not
- Not sure where to find that but a really good idea

Question Asker

- Is it student questions?

Bea

- There was a competition to submit questions and the “best” were chosen
- At the end, limited open mic

Elise

- Some questions about ethical beliefs, federalism, and religious beliefs

Alec

- If we had the ability to change the event, what would you do?

Bea

- We had so many suggestions
- But since we were basically told we can't...

Elise

- One idea was for interdisciplinary event involving local organizations bc Macalester has partnered with speakers and groups that teach in the past around communicating across differences
- One representative in a bipartisan set up and a group of panelists for more ideas

Alec

- If you match their proposal with a proposal and a cost benefit analysis it could be more successful

Elise

- We went into the meeting with changes and were point blank told no
- Even location meeting can't be changed

Kalid

- Why does this concern us? There are none of our resources being used
- Its a liberal arts school so trying to provide us with information
- This should be happening
- I encourage that MCSG not get involved in this topic because it is not our place because none of our money is involved or anything that concerns us

Joel

- This is entirely our place with student interests
- Lots of precedent in supporting student movements

Jean

- Involved in forensics and political science
- My understanding of this event is it's supposed to be a simulation of Congress
- Personally, I think two white men should not be discussing this
- But this event will actually reflect Congress
- Beneficial for students going into that field
- Opportunity for students to see this dialogue could be beneficial
- Because it's an optional event

- Allowing students who can benefit from the way politics and conversations about controversial things happen
- As MCSG we should not make a decision about whether we support or do not support this event
- Individually we should do actions but not collectively as a whole body

Elise

- Also of the opinion that teaching people how to communicate across difference
- Length (1 hour), scale (congressmen who haven't worked in Congress since 90s) suggests that it won't be a simulation but people from parties sharing their opinions
- We are concerned with actual event planning
- To have all of this happen over Summer, when no student input was received
- When the event was made public, there was no chance for input

Bea

- Did not ask them to cancel the event
- Asked them to work with us to achieve the goals that the event had laid out

Austin

- At this time, am I allowed to motion?
- Motion to move Omnibus Bill discussion to next week

Mariah

- Second!

Austin

- Vote to table
- Yes: 19
- No: 1
- Motion passes

Bobbie

- We don't agree
- There are people who are going to be hurt and impacted and these people are representing those students
- We want actual event and planning concerns to be represented
- I want people to come here and go away feeling able to voice concerns and that we put effort into reducing this harm that will be created
- Want to speak with you all later about how to plan for the future
- Focusing on how can we support those who will be effected and how to plan for future events

Kalid

- How sure are you about student involvement?

Elise

- 100% there was no involvement

Kalid

- Whether we like it or not, this conversation is happening
- Just because we are in a bubble doesn't mean we can forget what is happening
- How can students make an informed decision and how can you rebuttal when it's your time to shine
- No one is coming here to force their opinion
- It's up to you to take opinions however you want to look at it
- President Rivera is taking it in the way of how can you be successful and hwo can you deal with controversial issues
- Decisions are not just coming from emotional place but more informed place
- Not a good thing or a bad thing but coming at the right time because we've seen a lot of people getting hurt
- How can we as future policy makers think about what comes next?

Willow

- What I'm hearing is you want an apology and how to prevent this from happening again
- How can we put policies in place to include student voices in bigger events
- Perhaps an ad hoc committee
- We could form a committee
- What kind of student engagement are you looking for?
  - More meetings with President Rivera
  - Specifics to facilitate for you

Bea

- Not going to claim to know how to do this

Elise

- You all as student leaders know more than we do

Tristan

- I want to get in touch with you after this about this dialogue

Bea

- Email us anyone who wants to

Elise

- [Esexton@macalester.edu](mailto:Esexton@macalester.edu)

Bea

- [Bgreen@macalester.edu](mailto:Bgreen@macalester.edu)

Kathryn Kay Coquemont

- What does shared governance look like?
- How are we sharing governance between you all and the people that you represent on campus?



Austin

- Thank you Bea and Elise
- We really appreciate you taking the time out of your day
- Bobbie will be in touch

### **Community Engagement Ad-Hoc** ~ Jean ~ 3 minutes

Jean

- Dissonance between students and MCSG body
- Want an ad-hoc for a more permanent structure for planning events
- Trying to plan for connections between MCSG and student body to help them voice concern
- Goal = working with students on issues they care about
- Motion to create Community Engagement Ad-Hoc

Willow

- Second

Austin

- Motion to create committee
- Yes: 20
- No: 0
- Abstaining: 0
- Motion passes!

Jean

- I'll be chair so email me if you have any interest
- It would suck if I was the only one

Austin

- I think that can't happen with the by-laws

### **Committee Updates** ~ *Committee Chairs* ~ 5 minutes

Kalid

- Conducting formal check-ins for orgs that were pushed to the spring
- Making progress
- SOC office hours Monday 3:30-4:30 in CC 214

Joel

- AAC has filled out the application form for the GSAT fee subsidy
- For juniors and seniors who have not received grants
- If you haven't gotten email, let me know
- Applications close friday
- Office hours 4-5:30 tuesday except for today

Emma

- Mathilda is gone so I'll talk for SSRC
- Tabling friday outside CC at 11:30
- Working on menstrual products

Ellen

- Also from SSRC
- Approved at large members

Heaji

- AAC office hours 1-2 Tuesday in MCSG office
- Had first meeting with at large members

Bobbie

- Motion to extend the meeting by five minutes

Joel

- Second

Austin

- Motion to extend meeting
- Yes: 18
- No: 0
- Abstaining: 0
- Motion passes!

### **Announcements ~ 5 minutes**

- [Campus Committee Appointments](#) ~ Bobbie
  - Exec met yesterday and applications closed on sunday
  - 12 people applied
  - Happy to say, eleven got their first choice
  - People are listed in doc linked in agenda
  - You can see how many people are in each committee
  - Since we've done two rounds, we are open to people joining them if you'd like to
  - Since we've gone through two rounds, MCSG members can join
  - Reach out to either me or chair
- Strategic Planning & Analysis Group ~ Jean
  - Committee working to change academic requirements
  - Originally on this committee, but need someone to replace me
  - Meetings are tuesday
  - Email me if interested
- Newsletter ~ Jean
  - All chair members please fill out the form by this saturday at 12pm
  - I need things for the newsletter so community is updated