

Attendance: Charlie, Micah, Ayana, Kit, Amber, Kashvi, Eva, Daniel, Katie, Colman, Mariah, Sofia, Tom, Joel, Jonah, Heaji, Kody, Rebecca, Nibia, Jordanella, Karsten, Maddy

Land Acknowledgment (We are on Indigenous land) ~ *Jordanella*

Settling In/Introductions

Jordanella

- Announcements
 - Not going over election code by-laws bc legal issues with anti-discrimination by-law

Voting for Speaker of the House ~ *Jordanella*

Rebecca

- Bobbie and Anna dropped out of speaker race

Mariah

- Was a part of MCSG last year → knows how meetings run
- Thinks everyone being heard and keeping things organized are important
- Thinks being speaker of the house would be really fun!

Micah

- Various experiences with governing and Roberts rules of law
- Newcomer but outsider perspective is positive
- Fresh eyes can better serve interests of LB
- Commitment is an important quality of the speaker

Rebecca

- Form to submit vote linked in the agenda
- Issue based officers and class reps can vote, chairs cannot

Jordanella

- Elected speaker = Mariah

Rebecca

- Will lead LB as speaker tonight, Mariah starting next week

Interest Group Discussion

Katie

- Dissolving interest groups
- Best for the sanity of SOC and campus in general
- Student org chartering process used to be very inaccessible
- Proposed by-laws attempt to break down barriers in chartering process
- Main difference between orgs and interest groups is they don't get flexi fund
- Currently no interest groups

Joel

- How recently have there been interest groups?

Katie

- No record of interest groups - katie doesnt have access
- Pool club rented loch two years ago

Laurie

- Interest groups also cannot request funding from FAC
- Since law was passed for interest groups, there have been about five
 - Students for bernie, students for elizabeth that did not seek any funding

Mariah

- What are plans to make chartering an org more accessible this year?

Katie

- Sitting down with orgs and having conversations
- Working with the DML to hold office hours across campus
- This discussion came from coming up with anti-discrimination for interest groups and orgs

Ayana

- Are there any potential detriments to getting rid of interest groups?

Katie

- Writing club is an example of interest group who eventually just wanted to be an org
- Hopefully students who dont want to be an org have other resources on campus

Kody

- Main concern: having interest groups around election periods
- Sanders and Warren interest groups couldn't be orgs possibly because of national association

Katie

- Still allowed to exist even if nationally associated
- Anyone can reserve a room or space

Kody

- Could there be an issue with supporting some candidates and not others?

Katie

- By-laws dont allow for SOC to deny a candidate based org based on personal beliefs

Kit

- Could an interest group be you and four friends talking about anything? You don't get anything besides people talking. Is that simplifying?

Katie

- No it is not. That is accurate.
- Not a lot of knowledge campus wide about interest groups
- Only difference is orgs go through auditing and training events
- Interest groups cannot receive funding and can only be for Mac community

Rebecca

- Can groups in support of candidates become chartered orgs?

Eric

- Cannot charter for a specific candidate

Katie

- Where does it say that?

Eric

- Section in the charter that requires org to have wide enough interest as opposed to just one person

Katie

- Rebecca, I'll get back to you on that. Post it in the slack.

Break

Committee Updates

Rebecca (FAC)

- Approved three additional allocation requests in FAC meeting

Tom (AAC)

- Mid-term coffee and donuts are coming
- Textbook discussion finished by October

Katie (SOC)

- Met last week to go over everything
 - Some newcomers in group
 - By-laws, what they do, how charter process works
- Going to assign liaisons to different orgs

Jordanella (SSRC)

- At-large applications are out get people you know
- Discussing changes to open pantry
 - Check it out in mac daily
- Planning to reach out to health/wellness center for concerns about insurance and cost

Eric

- Addressing discrimination ad hoc
- Establishing concrete plan for short and long term
- If anyone wants to get involved, contact Eric in the slack

Katie

- **Bon app ad hoc**
- Met with executive chef, general manager, and other officials
- Scottys has halal chicken
- Cafe mac only has seven full time employees
- Ad hoc trying to make bon app more desirable position for student workers
 - Cannot raise wages bc of student employment
- Meeting with bon app next thursday if interested

Kody

- Did AAC bring up wellness days?

Tom

- Working on bringing up wellness days complicated bc wellness days are attractive but course load of semester is fixed and more days off means more course load
- Realistically professors have their own arrangement
- For spring some of the classes are decided
- For now wellness days are still in progress

Katie

- On the campus life committee with board of trustees
- In board meeting, reminded everyone that wellness days took up spring break in the past and not to do that again

Kody

- Cannot accept that wellness days can't happen
- Believes that wellness days are essential
- We should do something

Open Floor

Mariah

- On income and inequality commission and decision about textbooks is coming soon

Colman

- Any updated changes?

Mariah

- Seems like they are thinking more about blanket \$800
 - Thinking about a gradient

Ayana

- Ad hocs can have members from outside of MCSG
 - There are people out there that are interested in them
- Roon and Ayana to meet with the provost next week, let them know if you have anything

Jordanella

- Is this meeting about anything specific?

Ayana

- Provost wanted to follow up with some experiences that were shared as black students on campus

Eric

- Looking at mac sustainability in a class and particularly community gardens, green spaces, other initiatives
- Suggesting the potential for a sustainability ad hoc

Kashvi

- We can talk about the projects that the sustainability office is working on. There are about 15. Ex: bike share, green spaces, etc
- Should think about sustainability ad hoc goals

Rebecca

- Continue the conversation about financial compensation for student government and other unpaid jobs
- Spoke with Andrew Wells who is the interim director of student affairs
 - If MCSG were to be compensated as work study positions, it would change the relationship between stud gov and administration to employer/employee
 - Could potentially undermine advocacy for student body

Daniel

- Is there a way to get paid by someone else then?

Rebecca

- No

Katie

- Changing money wouldn't change the position because we already have staff in here
- Last year ayana and katie started a student coalition to be completely separate

- Would argue that MCSG is already connected to college
- Interesting point is that if MCSG was paid they couldn't split award with preceptor for example
- Could be interesting to explore stipends in financial code

Rebecca

- Staff members who are paid in MCSG are not elected
- Not separate from college bc sanctioned
- Ultimately student body is our boss
- Would bring us more under the thumb of administration to be paid by them

Jonah

- The whole campus already views us as part of admin so it is not a relevant talking point to argue that it would change the relationship

Laurie

- Tax and financial implications that we need to explore further
- Come to Laurie with questions and concerns because job of advisor is to bring ideas to life
- Some of the concerns katie mentioned are challenging but not insurmountable
- Good idea: here is another small liberal arts college that pays their student gov't
- Having MCSG as a paid position would require clocking in

Joel

- Some student leaders who have been doing unpaid work with cultural events for the campus need to be included
- What can be done to support student volunteers who do cultural life work?

Ayana

- Rethinking financial code for how we do stipends is a good idea
- There's should be a way for MCSG, RAs, OLs to come together and think of solutions
- Looking at price tag of presidential transition, there's money in places

Micah

- Looking at national democracy, this is not a good idea
- Built into our democratic constitutional framework of this country to not write its own paycheck
- Paying MCSG opens the door to corruption
- How do we tell the people we are responsible for that we are doing this for us and not them?

Jordanella

- As much as student body is our boss, they are not in a position to pay us
- Don't want stipend to be an additional thing that makes us have so many commitments

Katie

- Being a preceptor for credit is still possible
- There is an ad hoc on this topic and please join

- Not saying that we should decide our stipend , but that our time is worth something

Kody

- Important to acknowledge that this is a campus student-wide movement for unpaid labor to be recognized
 - Not just us trying to get something

Colman

- Despite the fact that there are a lot of bureaucratic hurdles to jump through, if the motivation is there to jump through those hoops we shouldn't let them stop us
- All the work that people do in various places around campus needs to be recognized
- Concerns about being forced out of potential opportunities bc of lack of compensation
- Worth trying to see how far we can take this idea

Joel

- Having to restrict work study hours to be at MCSG is a financial burden
- Within MCSG, LB, Exec board unpaid work creates disproportionate opportunities for people to be here

Sofia

- Question about where Mac will get money is irrelevant because of endowment
- It's a question of equity

Jonah

- This campus would be so much less vibrant if unpaid workers stopped working
- Reflect on the role of unpaid labor on this campus
- We need to pay club leaders
- A college that has a billion dollars can spare money and stipends for these leaders
- We should prioritize other leaders before us

Ayana

- Equity issue that people have to choose between work-study and here
- Proposal is for the whole campus not just us
- As far as comparing us to national gov't, the national gov't gets paid
- Not about exploiting anyone but about adhering to mission and values

Eric

- Being involved in ad hoc committees is very time consuming
- When you're getting paid for something, you will probably do better work
- This is an inequality issue
- Reason why we don't have campus committee applicants is because they don't have the time
- Essential to keep identity collectives to foster the environment we want for the college

Tom

- If we want multiculturalism represented in the LB, we need our work to be more appreciated
- Measuring the payment is somewhat difficult

- Getting paid will not hurt our integrity

Micah

- Supports paying people who aren't in the legislative body
- Advocating for ourselves to receive money will blur the lines
- Our sense for what is ethical and moral is blurred
- We should not advocate for ourselves to have a stipend because it would blur the lines of our integrity
- Congress receives a paycheck because it is their entire job

Rebecca

- We are reaching time, but we can vote to extend the meeting

Colman

- Copy what the US gov't does and add a clause that any changes to our wages would kick in for the next election cycle

Mariah

- When deciding to compensate ourselves for our time is actually advocating for people who can't afford to be in MCSG
- There are lots of colleges that do this already
- Why isn't this the same thing as a work study job?

Laurie

- Student employment website has average calculator that says a job is 9.9 hours per week

Katie

- If i could get payed for even 9 hours of my time, it would be worth it
- There are so many positions people can hold with MCSG that they may not have the opportunity to financially

Eric

- Was on three ad hoc committees last year which added at least two or three hours weekly
- Ad hoc heads and chairs do so much more work
- We are still students and are time should be valued

Ayana

- As students we are already expending ourselves
- Significant amount of time that equals out to basically a job
 - If there was a job there would probably be violations with how much we work
- Not voting to give ourselves money, just digging into this idea

Kit

- If the issue is about time, we could do a tiered payment
- Other schools pay LB 1,000 dollars a year
- Tiered payment could also bring up some issues

Rebecca

- We are going in circles

Sofia

- Being on student government should not stop us from voicing our opinions about being compensated
- We pay to be at Macalester, so they should pay us for our time

Announcements

Jordanella

- LB Members for JED Campus Liaisons
- Suicide prevention program that Mac is enrolled in
- Looking for 2-3 members to join, if anyone is interested send a message on slack
- JED comes October 26th to LB to meet and chat with us

Katie

- Was a student rep, if there are questions

Mariah

- How much of a time commitment is it?

Jordanella

- I don't know. I'll get back to you. Anyone interested, please raise your hand.

Charlie

- Check the Slack!