

Harmon Room - Library

October 19, 2023. 12:00 PM CST



MACALESTER COLLEGE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Legislative Body Meeting Minutes

[Land Acknowledgment](#) (We are on Indigenous land) ~ *Reagan Kimzey* ~ 2 minutes

Acknowledgement of Last Week ~ *Emma Kopplin* ~ 3 minutes

- Last week, we did not meet quorum because $\frac{2}{3}$ of our elected members were not present at the time that we called the meeting
- We all were elected to represent the student body, it is important to show up

Committee Updates ~ *Committee Members* ~ 3 minutes

- Eliora: FAC approved two requests, denied two, and sent back one with a condition
- Mikayla: SOC met with new three orgs, all of which are up for vote during this meeting
- Mathilda: CEC has been very successful with Legislaytion Week, preparing for Kagin on Friday
 - Reminder that it is important to show up for our own organization
- Tristan: AAC has put out the GSAT application, (graduate school application program), offering \$100 to cover costs of this application
 - Working with Lorenzo to increase participation with this
 - Reformatting program to increase usage
 - Still waiting on answers about Barnes and Noble Contract
 - By next week, there will hopefully be more information to share

Presidential Updates ~ *Mariah Loeffler-Kemp* ~ 5 minutes

- Every meeting, Mariah will try to speak about meetings she has attended in the last week
 - Goes to a lot of separate meetings every week, attending faculty meetings, etc., wants to be transparent
- Faculty Meeting on Tuesday
 - Big issue right now is background checks
 - In 2016, Macalester made all new hires do background checks as a part of the hiring process
 - This year, the school announced that insurance is requiring all employees, new or returning, to complete background checks every five years
 - Everyone received emails saying that they will have to complete these checks or they will be put on leave and then fired
 - Staff and non-tenured profs have completed these because they don't have the job security of tenured professors
 - 30% of faculty has not completed the background check, largely for political reasons
 - Background checks harm a lot of people
 - This was a change in the faculty handbook without communicating with faculty
 - Faculty and staff are frustrated with senior leadership
 - This doesn't impact the students directly, but we want to be supporting our staff and faculty through these issues
 - Mariah can point us towards several faculty and staff who are passionate about this issue
 - Check out the Mac Weekly for more information about this
- Speaking to President Rivera and Kathryn Kay Coquemont about the C-House
 - Told that the plan will not be announced to the student body yet, seems to have been postponed indefinitely
 - Has been getting more headway recently, but still doesn't know much
- Will update every week with what she finds out

Cabinet Updates ~ *Cabinet Members* ~ 5 minutes

- Cabinet just finished Cabinet Carnival for Legislaytion Week
 - Thank you Mathilda and Sylvia for organizing the carnival
- Made liaison pairs last week, will be collaborating on projects, making sure they are talking to one another
- Emma Rohrs: Health and Wellness Liaison

- Talking with Title IX and Hamre Center about projects that can be implemented
- Working towards voluntary trainings about mental health
- If you have issues with the Hamre appointment system, they can't change it unless you report this problem officially, they are working on it
- Jordan Galloway: Athletics & Recreation Liaison
 - Working with student leaders in athletics and NCAA
 - Planning Scot Ball in April
 - Met with Donny Brooks
 - Talked about issues with athletics
 - Let Jordan know if people are interested in better merch for Mac Pride
- Minori Kishi: Infrastructure & Sustainability Liaison
 - Get Macalester on certified habitat program
 - Working with Kate at CC to facilitate use of grant
 - Speaking with Megan from Sustainability about a tool library
 - Students check out tools to use and return
 - Working with Rola about infrastructure
- Yosephine Manihuruk: International Student Liaison
 - Identified issues that need to be addressed with freshman international roommates
 - Working with Philomena and Kyle Flowers, as well as Kathryn to make rule for next upcoming freshman
 - Setting up culture-oriented event
- Philomena Shuffleton-Sobe: Residential Life & Dining Liaison
 - Working with Kyle Flowers about housing
 - Housing issues for first-years
 - Conversations about increasing RA pay and compensation
 - Room and board rather than room plus stipend
- Rola Cao: Belonging and Accessibility Liaison
 - Identifying and meeting needs of trans students
 - Brainstorm good ways to reach out to the community
 - C-House
 - Announcement was promised at the end of September and was delayed, people are confused
 - Make sure that school is aware that students are expecting a replacement
 - Disability Service Office changed to CDR, Center for Disability Resources

- Surveys about disabilities services, the priority of these surveys is much higher, and the school is working on it
- Office will have a new open house
- For disability office, the person who encountered the issue should directly reach out
- There is a lot that Rola can do, but personal privacy info makes this more difficult
 - Emma K: If I see an issue that doesn't directly impact me, can I still report it?
 - Rola: This is less about infrastructure, and more about faculty and issues in specific classes/settings

Feedback for Sesquicentennial Merch ~ *Mariah Loeffler-Kemp* ~ 5 minutes

- Next year is Sesquicentennial, 150th birthday of the college
- Admin and communications/marketing are trying to do fun stuff for this
- We were asked for input on merch for the college
- Unofficial vote of interest in merch
 - Soccer scarves
 - 21
 - Embroidered patches
 - 2
 - Archival stickers (vintage)
 - 5
- We asked for t-shirts and sweatshirts, they said that would be more difficult because it would require different sizes

Org Chartering ~ *Mikayla Giehler* ~ 10 minutes

- Links to each org's charter are in the LB Agenda
- [Pagan+](#) (Mikayla)
 - The person starting the org couldn't be here
 - This is a group for people who are pagan or want to discuss pagan ideas and events
 - Read for two minutes and then ask any questions
 - Jordan: Most orgs that charter have multiple people in leadership positions. Will this org recruit more leaders later?
 - Mikayla: This is difficult because only one person is starting the org, but SOC has made it clear that this will have to change next year

- Emma K: There is some contradictory wording here. The charter mentions that there will be at least two work days with a minimum of three. What does this mean?
 - Mikayla: the acolyte only has to attend two, but the organization will hold at least three
 - Emma K: Is there any direction for what the advisor will do?
 - Emi: The advisor will receive a handbook with this information
 - Mikayla: We are working with them to get an advisor when it is necessary
 - “If you want a good pagan community, you have to have an advisor”
 - Sean: Do they have ten people in the club?
 - Mikayla: yes
 - Vote:
 - Cooper: motion to approve the charter of Pagan+
 - Mariah: second
 - In Favor: 20
 - Opposition: 2
 - Abstaining: 0
 - Reagan: With that, Pagan+ has been chartered
- [Macalester the Gathering](#) (Redding Sauter and Aidan Stekloff)
 - Started as a small play group of Magic players two years ago, but the group has quickly grown and has been working to create opportunities for play space through Mac at Night
 - Don't have the financial resources or responsibility as an unchartered org to handle as many as 60 people for play spaces
 - Can't reserve space for an evening
 - There are parts of the game that do cost money, and we want to be inclusive of members who can't pay this
 - Now, when we play or take people to cons, we have needed to pay for gas and materials
 - With this charter and funding, we could be more inclusive to members
 - Questions:
 - Aditya: Are there opportunities for members who have never played before to learn?
 - Aidan: yes, we have a lot of playgroups and resources, try to be as accessible as possible

- For people who don't have decks, experienced players will bring as many as 5 decks to loan to people
 - Vote
 - Jordan: motion to approve the charter of Macalester the Gathering
 - Willow: second
 - In favor: 22
 - Opposition: 0
 - Abstaining: 0
 - Reagan: with that, Macalester the Gathering is chartered
- Voices in STEM (Delilah Acosta and Liam Acosta)
 - Liam: Having attended a PWI for entire life, we want to create a space where POC can have support
 - Nurture community with study nights, mental health retreats
 - For those coming from non-PWI backgrounds, we also know that it is difficult to adjust to new, different environments
 - Since getting charter revised, the org has gotten over 15 members
 - Questions:
 - Mahkai: Would you guys try to work with faculty and departments if there are students that need a little bit more help?
 - Delilah: Will have preceptor work with the org, as well as Voices in Mental Health and Hamre Center
 - Networking with other STEM groups
 - Vote
 - Diarra: motion to approve the charter of Voices in STEM
 - Emma K: second
 - In favor: 22
 - Opposition: 0
 - Abstaining: 0
 - Reagan: with that, Voices in STEM has been chartered

Ava Buchanan Sesquicentennial Grant ~ *Mariah Loeffler-Kemp* ~ 5 minutes

- \$10,000 grants handed out to orgs to put on events for the sesquicentennial
 - MCSG could get one
 - Looking for group of people interested in putting on an event, working with CEC
 - Does anyone feel excited about this? Make an ad-hoc committee with Mariah
 - Event could be serious or silly, could do another Kagin
 - Raise your hand if you are interested

- Eliora, Diarra, Reagan, Mikayla
 - Send an email to Mariah
- Reagan: Will this be Spring 2024 or the Fall?
 - Mariah: we were elected to serve this school year, things will change next year so it is better to do it this spring

Working Groups ~ Emma Kopplin ~ 20 minutes

- Last week, broke into three groups based on feedback from google form
- We will meet again this week, focusing on action steps
 - How will we collaborate with cabinet liaisons?
- Is there anything that doesn't feel covered by these groups?
- There is a brainstorming document that Ryan will re-send to Google Space, write down your action steps
- Take ten minutes in these groups and report back at the end
- We want to keep people in the same groups throughout the semester, but if you weren't here last week, join any group
- Mariah: since Mac Weekly couldn't come into these sessions, we will report back
 - Campus Community Group
 - More groups for studying and sleeping on campus, card access to spaces like Sounds of Blackness for students that don't live on campus
 - Residential Life and Dining
 - Spoke about issues of accessibility, Kirk laundry stairs
 - Talking more about Gluten Free options and other dietary restrictions
 - Mental Health/Hamre
 - Harm reduction is an ongoing conversation with Hamre
 - What has changed and what hasn't
 - Appointment scheduling online, what works and what doesn't

Announcements ~ 2 minutes

- Legi-Slay-Tion Week ~ *Mathilda Barr*
 - Everyone is expected to attend, everyone else is needed at 7 to set up
 - Tell your friends to come
 - Dress spooky
- Mariah: tomorrow, Pizza Palooza from 11:30-1:30
 - Every semester we put on a townhall for people to talk about the issues that they are facing
 - There will be Toppers!

- Mikayla: October 27 is deadline to reach out to SOC about starting a new org
 - Email by next Friday