

Harmon Room - Library

March 28, 2023. 12:00 PM CST



MACALESTER COLLEGE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Legislative Body Meeting Minutes

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

-take quote

- So the first thing we're going to have is a couple committees coming in, so this will be the Provost Student Advisory Committee and the Dining Advisory Committee
- 5 minutes apiece

Campus Committee Presentations ~ *Ryan* ~ 10 minutes

- Having two more committees come in like this until the end of the semester
- Goal to make face to face contact, points of reference

- Provost's Student Advisory Committee

- Hi I'm Felicia, sophomore, she/her pronouns
- I'm Lizzy she/her, junior
- Isabella, she/her, first year
- There's one other person who's currently studying away
- Basically what we do is every month we meet with the Provost and we bring up issues that we've found in our communities on campus and questions or issues, general things of concerns of the student body and we talk to her about it, she responds at a meeting, sometimes sends us an email
- Sometimes she has questions about what the student body feels about things
- Small sample of student body that meets with her for around an hour and we chat

Eric: Are there issues you can share with us that you've discussed?

Felicia:

- Talked about a wide range of things; students who want an ice skating rink on campus, students not happy with textbook prices
- Can vary based on what we've been hearing or experiencing, what we've seen at Mac

Lizzy:

- She does a really good job of laying out structures of power, things that fall out of her jurisdiction
- Some stuff things that you guys have been working on, that the college is aware of, want to reiterate what students are feeling

Felicia:

- Last year talked a lot about mental health, want more resources, students want wellness days,
- As students that meet with her, she knows that these are still concerns, reiterating these issues, making sure she's hearing them from multiple angles

Mathilda

- Any things that have resulted from these conversations?

Felicia

- I was sick for the last meeting but I talked to her about creating more positive campus culture around winter, which I think is a huge issue
- Want to be more positive about it
- There were a few events like that
- If you have any issues she should hear about, shoot us an email
- If you have anything you would want us to bring up shoot us an email

Tristan

- What are ways you directly communicate with the student body, getting more student input? Ideas? Done anything?

Response: we have not but that is a very good idea

Austin

- Time for one more question

Joel

- Just want to say that if there is any way we can help you that is useful, just let us know, want to make it easier for you all to get student issues to the provost

Austin: awesome

- Ryan can send out contacts
- Macalester Dining Advisory Committee

Alec

- We are MDAC or Macalester Dining Advisory Committee
- We aren't the only students but the ones here today
- Want to focus on two big things we've focused on throughout the year
- Specifically we've focused on sustainability and dietary restrictions
- Sustainability: working with Sustainability Office on Race to Zero Waste
- Evaluate how much waste the college produces relative to other colleges
 - Macalester dining 3.0, 2.0, not sure
 - Been doing pretty well compared to other colleges
 - In the top 5 range in amount of food recycled because of animal farm, measure the amount of waste that goes in and goes out
- Also been focusing on reducing the amount of beef offerings, increasing plant-based
 - Lot of tempeh, reduced amount of burgers but increased number of burger specials
 - Reduces amount of beef but ensures consumer base is satisfied

Anneke

- More options for students with dietary restrictions
- Working with CRSL for more options for students with Passover and Ramadan, more halal and kosher options, more options for students with dietary restrictions and food allergies
 - More gluten free, vegan, vegetarian options
- Get cafe mac to give wider range of options for students with food restrictions
- Having special food days to increase student engagement
- Ingredient spotlight days
- Black history month celebrating plant-based cuisine, working on planning more events like that
 - One for Earth day which is coming up next month

Alec: any questions?

Tristan

- Most sustainable food practices come from Indigenous cultures
 - Have you had conversations about that when sourcing food?

Anneke

- We have not

Alec

- Yes
- Well not specifically Indigenous, talk about a variety of food providers
- Bon Appetit has the farm to fork initiative, tries to ensure local producers are nearby and at least take a certain percentage of our food from them

- I don't know if there's specifically an Indigenous farm in the works

Anneke

- We haven't specifically talked about Indigenous practices but talked about how Bon Appetit tries to locally source things

Eric

- Is meal swipe and how that system works on the committee's radar at all?
- Like just how meal swipe transfers for student

Alec

- We had a brief discussion of reducing the cost for the meal plan to ensure flexibility because not all people want to meal swipe in a certain amount of times
- Bon Appetit says that's what the commuter's plan is for
 - Had a discussion on the change
 - It won't-it's not going to happen in the next year

Sofia

- This is really really low on the priority list but has there been talk about getting quesadillas back on the grill option? Has that been brought up?

Alec

- There has been talk; I know that Bon Appetit has been changing the way they've done the grille, has made it harder for them to do this
 - Have heard a lot about quesadillas

Austin

- So next we have Bobbie introducing Brayden

Staff Introduction ~ *Bobbie* ~ 1 minute

- [Social Media Addition Form](#)

Bobbie

- We have a new staff member, that's very exciting
- Brayden if you wouldn't mind standing up and waving or something
- We have Brayden Coronado joining us as the new Media and Outreach Coordinator
- We have linked the form for submissions to social media
-

Ryan:

- It's closed; we'll open it

Bobbie:

- Please throw details in there and Brayden will get it on our social media

Brayden

- I think that it will be really fun; if you do have anything to throw into that form, if you have info about style (photo versus video) or something that's more specific than a general post that would be great, other than that

Austin

- Now we have Eric to lead us with a couple of org charters

Org. Charter ~ *Eric* ~ 5 minutes

- [Men of Color Collective](#)

Eric

- We have both representatives here, they will be leading

Men of Color Collective Representative

- Hi my name's Victor Wright, senior, he/him
- Myself along with three others are all current facilitators for the Men of Color Collective
- We're trying to bring it back to the Macalester community
- We were a student initiative that was part of the DML, kind of lost traction because of Covid
- Viable part of our experience here at Macalester
- Before my class graduated, wanted to bring it back because we were the last group that formally got to be a part of this organization
- Want to give it a bit more structure, resources so it can prosper and folks down the line can continue with this organization
- We can talk about membership; Macalester outlined that we can't be discriminating along any identities, don't anticipate doing so
- Plan to promote our membership, open up membership, on Macalester resources
- Intend for events to be open to anyone want this to be a resource that will provide resources to Macalester community, targeted community
- On Sunday began doing recruiting, posted on social media, asking people to complete a google form to allow them to become official members
- Plan to do a social media photoshoot, introducing members, plan to do recruiting during the school year, folks will become more interested and every event we'll open our doors to anyone who's interested
- Membership removal: anything along the lines of conduct, want to emphasize calling people in rather than calling people out
- Don't want to perpetuate toxic cancel culture but there are times when people need to be removed, want to have a talk with people who need to be removed, how they will or will not be moving forward with this organization
- Operate on a horizontal leadership method, not hierarchical, all facilitators, want to allow for flexibility, want to be supporting one another in personal

lives, want to be able to step back when need to, to make sure that whenever someone needs to focus on athletics, school or family matters

- Also have this thing that is unique about facilitators' responsibility post-grad
 - Want to emphasize networking, want to have people maintain relationships with the club past graduation to allow for networking, want to make sure that once you leave this space you're able to stay connected

Austin

- Need to pick it up

Victor

- Oh sorry
- Elections: there won't be elections, each year do interviews for new facilitators
- Resignation: pretty straightforward

Eric

- You can skip over the rest

Victor

- Currently our advisor is Sedric, every year planning on asking someone else good enough to work with the student or
 - Facilitators will host 4-6 meetings per month, doesn't include social events
 - Want to make sure people are proactively involved
- Finances: still trying to become a student org so we don't have very many [finances] to deal with, facilitators deal with one member of board, once funding granted anticipate that facilitators will decide what to do with the money
- Anyone is allowed to propose an amendment to our current charter, open to official members and officiating board
- Sunset clause

Austin

- Sorry we have a lot of stuff

Heaji

- This might be more of a question for SOC - how does it differentiate between an identity collective and a student org?

Eric

- They want to change from an identity collective to become a student org which means they can't limit membership, although it's called Men of Color Collective, they can't really limit membership; that's the main difference

Victor

- We don't intend on limiting membership. Any other questions?

Austin

- Bobbie

Bobbie

- Motion to approve the Men of Color Collective as a registered student org

Tristan

- Second

Laurie

- Use your placards!

Vote

Approve: 16

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion passes

- [Complementary Medicine](#)

Alec

- The goal of this organization is to ensure that we have a space for alternative medicines that are Indigenous, non-western, focus on herbalistic practices, acupuncture, etc

Tristan

- As part of the organization, oftentimes conversations around the decriminalization of some drugs specifically around psychedelics, or more focused around things that are currently legal?

Alec

- Not really advocacy yet

Sofia

- Will there ever be a time in which you're performing alternative medicine on students?

Alec

- We'll try

Laurie

- Let's talk about that
- Who's your advisor?

Alec

- Liz Collin for now, not sure how that's all going to work out

Austin

- Apparently there's a conversation that needs to be had but we will vote now

Eric

- Motion to approve complementary and alternative medicine

Joel

- Second

Vote

Approve: 15

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: Alec (1)

Charter passes

Austin

- In the future, if you are a member of MCSG and bringing in a vote, you have to abstain

Joel

- Really? You have to?

Laurie

- If you're a member you have to

Give to Macalester Day, Abbey Kamin ~ Ryan ~ 20 minutes

Abbey

- Hi I'm Abbey Kamin
- I work in Mac Fund, assistant director

Michael

- he/him, sophomore
- I'm a student supervisor for Mac Fund outreach center
- Do calling for alumni, fundraising
- I've been working with Abbey to provide student insights and doing other stuff

Abbey

- He is THE student supervisor
- We'll talk about Give to Macalester Day or GTMD, little acronym
- Starts tomorrow, goes through Friday, annual fundraising campaign and used to be one day, last year we tried 5 days, a little long, this year we're trying 3 days; biggest push for fundraising, offer matches to increase donors

Michael

- Go over what GTMD achieved last year since I was one of the people pretty heavily involved
- Last year our goal was 2000 donors in 5 days, got 2190 donors to give to macalester during the 5 day period
- Got 49 states except for Kansas
- If anyone knows anyone from Kansas let us know, we'll call them and text them

- Total amount of money donate: \$878,163 that includes \$200,000 from the board of trustees for breaking 2000 donors mark
- All money raised last year, this year goes to student experience at Macalester
- Different designations
- Different places you can donate
- You can click other, can fundraise or donate to specific major, specific athletic team, donate to specific student orgs
- Student org donations aren't tax-deductible
- Goal again is 2000 donors
- Focus more on donor number than money because important to get everyone involved
- GTMD is one big day a year
- We really try to fundraise for Macalester fund, major chunk of fundraising
- All of that money goes into things you do everyday
- Like Macalester connect trips, Michael has gone on

Michael

- Really hits home, Bobbie went on a trip to DC, funded by alumni donations
- Initiatives that can only be funded using alumni donation money, remind people about giving to Macalester and getting in that habit
- If not happening, if missing money then 24 less students would have the opportunity to attend macalester
- Mac continuing mission of accessible education for underrepresented people
- Talking about professors, anyone here taking classes from departments that are really understaffed?
- Would be like taking 3 professors away, eradicating a whole department from Macalester
- Goes into funding for classes, 180 less spots for classes at Mac, would mean less money to offer classes or hold classes at Mac
- Thinking about for some departments, overcrowding of classes, effects quality of education
- All in all, those numbers put into context how important holding GTMD is

Abbey

- Reading crucial for Macalester slide
- Want to cultivate sense of philanthropy
- How can you all help, we're here to tell you
- A lot of things you can do
- Very big social media campaign with regular Macalester social media campaign, you can share on social media, post, share how your Mac experience has been and why you love it here, can see stuff in the Mac daily, spent a lot of time and effort

- On Thursday is on-campus day, from 8 am to 5 pm we'll have a hub in the Campus Center, from 8-? have a hub in the LC, can win prizes
- I'll be spinning cotton candy, if you want it at 8:30 in the morning you can get it, we're starting it then
- Having a little building competition, building a structure that we have on campus, can enter to win two Lego prizes that I kind of want to win but I can't because I set it up so that's a little bit awkward

Michael

- For current students if you donate at least \$5 we'll automatically match \$100 from board of trustees, sounds like a retirement plan as I always say
- Addressing a lot of student issues, general climate of student body, I believe that financial wise if we have strong finances for MCSG solutions will come quicker

Abbey

- The one day you can turn \$5 into \$105; donor gets to choose the organization money goes into
- The \$5 goes into the organization but the matching fund goes into the support-it-all fund
- Matches go into wherever the donor specifies as well, just to make it clear

Austin

- Bobbie you have a question it looks like

Bobbie

- Thanks so much for coming, I was a class agent last year
- \$5 does turn into \$105 and that's super cool, I don't know anywhere else in the world that can happen
- If I were to put MCSG as a student org...

Abbey

- Just had a question about if MCSG is still a student org, it is, just not tax deductible

Laurie

- Have to click other and then designate to MCSG

Abbey

- Get an email that will have a little tax-deductible thing, but if you do that next week you'll get another email that says jk
- It won't actually say that but that it's not actually tax-deductible

Michael

- Can be for every one

Abbey

- Some matches like student or young alumni match which are the same, forensics match, parent, athletics, dollar-for-dollar match

- If we get to 2000 donors this year we get another \$100,000 from Board of Trustees so you really want to get there

Abbey

- Thank you so much

Austin

- Ok so now we have Mathilda leading us in a goal-setting exercise

Goal Setting ~ Mathilda ~ 10 minutes

Mathilda

- Ok I thought today would be a good day to touch back on the short-term and long-term goals we discussed at the retreat, as well as return of things brought up earlier on
- We have about a month left, this is the final push, time to regroup the things that we've discussed, figure out how to smoothly transition our terms

Bobbie

- Mathilda introduced it well, want to just say ok we're approaching the end of the year, what are some things we haven't tied up yet, what small things?
- Exec board, speaker all do transition docs with the hope that some groups will continue into the next year but not all of it is going to carry over
- What can we do in our last few weeks as this group of MCSG to tie this up?
- Going to go into small groups, mostly tables, tables should work here
- And just chat for 4-5 minutes and then we'll come back and share and take notes
- Mostly for us to know that you're going to go do this; not you giving us things to go do
- Something that you've just been thinking about, want to make sure you're not all doing the same things

Small group discussions

Bobbie

- Clapping a lot
- Okay hello hello um Mathilda can you take notes of what people say?
- We're going to go table to table, literally less than or about 30 seconds

Ghaicha

- I've been thinking about working on having shattafs in some bathrooms to have ways for people to clean themselves, was talking with Chaplain Kelly, talking about having conversations with Facilities, planning to meet again
- And if it doesn't happen this year would like to have a discussion to have at least one in the CC or one per building because it won't be very expensive
- Want to see prayer rooms, very possible, those are two things

Ikran

- Dining restrictions, dietary restrictions, probably something to do with dining liaisons and SSRC restructuring this year

Sherezade

- Talk about sustainability stuff, trying to get a survey out next week, especially in the fall when planting and gardening happens

Sofia

- Talking about karaoke night

Mathilda

- Will has something to say

Will

- uhh

Mathilda

- Will needs to work on split ticket program which I've been asking him to do all semester

Bobbie

- Table at the back there

Willow

- Making the first year orientation experience better, improving MCSG's presence, people knowing about MCSG, having one of those orientation lectures of us introducing ourselves to the first years, what we do, how we can help them if they're interested in joining

Bobbie

- Uncanny! We are planning it, super helpful thank you
- This table?

Tristan

- Continuing to meet with Tiger from Health Promotion about fentanyl test strips, will hopefully be in by the end of the year
- Wanting to create kits of harm reduction materials in residence halls

Bobbie

- Cool well Mathilda's taking notes on all of those so please honestly go and do them, a lot of different things hitting different parts of the schools

Committee Updates ~ *Committee Members* ~ 2 minutes

Austin: AAC?

Joel

- Oh sorry I'm never ready come back to me come back to me

FAC?

- Heaji's not here [right now]

Cooper

- Budget bonanza

Emi

- Orgs across the board are currently looking, across the board had to do a 17.5% cut across the board because had to cut a lot
- Some of the stuff supposed to come back as additional allocation requests in the fall
- Orgs have until Thursday the 30th to appeal, have to specify what line item they are appealing specifically
- FAC did a ton of work this weekend, in here for 16 hours working on everything, it is a monumental task

SOC

Eric

- We are finishing up or we've basically finished up all of the orgs, even the ones that have had some complications, in the next few weeks will push more to LB
- Summarizing check-in process and will be ready to present that

SSRC

Will

- Last meeting approved community chest requisition for 75 grand (the website)
- Not affiliated with Macalester or MCSG
- Updates on affinity lifting group, [something about hunger]

Austin

- For some reason I thought the amount was 75 grand

Joel

- Saving some things for announcements, one of the things is we put out a call for submissions for textbook reserves for fall 2024

Sofia

- Planning SLT student leadership event, going to work with Brayden about newsletter, yeah

Diversity/inclusion officer

Ghaicha

- a bunch of things, DIC looking for new hires, CRSL looking to hire new people too, institutional equity division looking for equity specialist, also in the racial justice project fund which is a place where people bring in ideas for events around racial justice and have approved some events such as the Adelante exhibition this evening
- Also planning a lot of events like lavender graduation and maybe a queer prom, working on a mural for the CC
- I would say those are the main things, one change that people might not know about is that the C House will be under LSE, working to have a FYC residential-type housing there

- One last thing, comprehensive campus planning still looking for students with marginalized identities

Sofia

- Going to be tabling for the election on Friday, someone please join me, going to be cold, I'll have candy

Austin

- Procedurally if you're running for office you should not be involved

Sustainability office

- nothing this week

Announcements ~ 3 minutes

Ryan

- PB Applications out for next year
- Tell people to apply

Bobbie

- Election engagement: could be another activity
- Please do get people to engage with this election, filing is over however let's still get people to vote
- One contested candidate position so far, make sure that people still vote for uncontested elections, important to show that people care

Emi

- If not studying abroad in the fall or graduating, apply to be an OL
- Have an info session today at 5pm, in Humanities where FAC is, applications close Friday at noon, super easy application, record a video about reasons you want to be an OL besides hanging out with Laurie and I before school starts

Ryan

- Form is working now for social media

Joel

- Outstanding educator and educator of the year run by AAC, will be presented on Wednesday April 19th and if you want to submit, deadline is midnight March 31st
- That is a short turnaround but that is due to me waiting a while on the email from Student Affairs
- Update on Residential Life and Housing Advising Committee which I'm on for some reason
 - Getting detachable shower heads for one floor in each residence hall this year

- People wanted these for several different religious practices, not a perfect solution but working adaptation that will make this easier for some people
- GSTAT subsidy grant for juniors or seniors, get people to apply to this for this year, have \$100 reimbursement grants for people who are taking grad school entrance exams
- Why are textbooks so expensive? If you want to know more about the mechanics of the textbook economy, please consider showing up at noon in the Harmon room right here on Thursday, 12-1 in the Harmon room, presentation with me, Louann from the library and Britt Able who wrote free online German textbooks
- I'm not in charge of managing time Bobbie
- There will be snacks and drinks please be there