

## Weyerhaeuser Boardroom

April 4, 2023. 12:00 PM CST



MACALESTER COLLEGE  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

## Legislative Body Meeting Minutes

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

- We're going to quickly begin with committee updates in alphabetical order

**Committee Updates** ~ *Committee Members* ~ 2 minutes

**Cabinet Updates** ~ *Cabinet Members* ~ 2 minutes

Joel (AAC)

- Accepting community recognition awards
- Student educator honored at community recognition ceremony from 11:30-1:30
- Currently open: applications for GSAT application fee subsidy program
- Submissions for textbook reserve also open, as per email to all students and faculty

Tristan

- Begun conversations with some folks about New York Times subscription and more media literacy

Joel

- Devote some of remaining AAC time this year into looking how we can make GSAT program available to more people and help more people

Heaji (FAC)

- Presenting on what happened during Budget Bonanza, will present appeals, can skip over me

Eric (SOC)

- Game development, put them through this week, were already basically done beforehand
- Selected advisor of the year yesterday
- Same time for awards ceremony
- Finished up the last little bits of our check in progress, out of 26 orgs there were 4 orgs that were not responsive that won't happen next semester
- Pushed 10 orgs through next semester
- Didn't have one more member
- Almost everyone in committee doing double the amount than usual

#### Mathilda (SSRC)

- Spend last meeting working on cabinet transition request
- Approved Arabic House Iftar
- Talk about cabinet transitions
- Meeting with different athletic student groups to talk about moving affinity lifting group forward

#### CEC

- officer not here

#### Ghaicha (Diversity and Inclusion officer)

- A lot of students reaching out regarding new residential life decision to make all-gender bathrooms available
- Communication wasn't enough, had conversations with different engagements about that

#### Shaherazade (Sustainability officer)

- Another meeting with Megan, sustainability director this Thursday
- Talking more about planning for the fall and summer
- Continuing to plan some events for later this week

#### **FAC Appeals ~ Heaji ~ 20 minutes**

##### Heaji

- If you're an org leader, a lot of this stuff will be repetitive
- Mostly for LB
- Can confidently estimate about \$312,000 for operating
- Capital is usually a fund that doesn't get strained
- Based on expenses, estimate off-the-top expenses \$160,370.70
- Set aside \$18,000 for Flexi for orgs
- Have \$133,629.30 remaining to allocate for next school year
- Retained around ~\$80,000
- Approach to funding decisions
  - Rejected items requested against Financial Code, transportation and lodging requests

- Snack requests for orgs that requested over \$500 referred to Flexi
- Food during travel, had to postpone until additional allocation process
- With food requests, considered the contribution and enhancement of the org's mission
- Went down to \$157,342.38, dramatically decreased the amount of operating
- Still didn't meet budget
- Had to do an across-the-board cut of 17%
- Leaves us with \$3,032.59 for appeals
- Important for LB because we're looking at the appeals brought in by orgs today, but it's okay because the amount of appeals requested is ~\$1500
- Won't be voting on appeals or final budget today – next week
- If you have any questions throughout the process for me or org leaders, please do that now because they won't be here next week to speak
- Start with Vietnamese Cultural Organization, we'll let the leaders expand on the importance of these items for their org

#### Vietnamese Cultural Organization

- Hello my name is Na I'm here with all the other org members of VCO, appealing two lines of items for snacks for events, talking about specific traditional event hosted by Macalester
- Hieu
  - For the first line item want to appeal for \$300 for snacks for [*sp chat mun*] event, very important, historically important event in Vietnam
  - Was first organized in the Ly dynasty in 1075 and marks an opportunity for excellence of scholars, compete for a position in traditional government
  - Scholars would travel everywhere around country, pack a lot of food to prep for the exams
  - Planning on catering different kinds of food
  - Bamboo pork with sesame seasoning
  - Went to Hmong market, \$5 each for each bamboo rice stick and estimating 40 people
  - Next food: Hmong bean sticky rice, cost \$50 in ingredients, planning to cook by ourselves for that
  - Candied preserved fruits \$50
  - Red bean sweet dessert would also cost us \$50
  - In total appealing for \$350 in total because realized as we were going through the snack expenses, we realized that it would cost us \$50 more than our budget request
- Na

- For the context for the event, we were expecting to host 40ish people to come together, each would compete in trivia to spread cultural awareness so everyone can participate in this examination
- Traditionally a 3-day event, bring a piece of that to Macalester campus and our students
- Food traditionally here [at this event] is the food you eat before an examination because it's considered a lucky food
- Second item, like to appeal for photography for our senior event
- By no means a VCO exclusive event, encourage all students and faculty to participate in our senior event
- Try to introduce honoring and welcoming back our scholars
- Would like seniors to extend the invitation to their professors, family, friends to participate
- Traditionally VCO scholars haven't received much recognition for diverse values and hope to use photos as a way to achieve that, sharing Vietnamese achievements with the community, collaborating with PB to post photos to the school's social media account
- Want to use as a way for VCO to express gratitude
- Want to hire Mac digital arts major looking for photography experience, trying to invite everyone to participate in every way that they can so we can express gratitude and celebrate seniors
- In total after evaluating everything and going to the markets in Minneapolis and Saint Paul to look at pricing, the snacks for [*sp chat nam*] event are \$350 and photography is \$120 to pay 1-2 photographers
- In total requesting \$470 dollars today
- Happy to answer any questions
- Heaji
  - Thank you
  - Important that I set something straight
  - Appeals process ended March 20th so can't make any changes to the cost so has to stay at \$420
  - Otherwise if no questions we'll move on to YDSA
- Young Democratic Socialists of America
- Heaji
  - Requesting ~\$1125
  - I don't know why I added the zeroes after that so sorry about that, just take off the zeros, that's what they're requesting
- Teo
  - Hi I'm Teo I'm one of the co-chairs of Mac YDSA

- Has biweekly meetings on Monday nights 5-6:30, put on events about labor organizing, trying to connect Mac students to organizing in the community
- 15 meetings a year
- This reflects that
- We're asking for 16 events, generally tend to get 20-25 people per event
- 5 Dominos pizzas, 2 slices per person, comes to around \$1100
- Delving a little bit more into our reasoning as to why this would support the messaging of the club
- Have these on Monday nights
- Typically coincide with dinners
- A lot of people have Monday night classes they have to go to after our meetings
- Hold these on Monday nights for availability meetings and also for YDSA people, regular working-class people and this is when they can come
- Can come after their work is done
- Want to be able to provide food so that people in our club and at Macalester,
- For example last night we had around 50 people show up, some city council members came and spoke with us
- Thankfully DSA were able to foot the bill
- Not Flexi funds, not sustainable
- Need to do this to get people to come to our meetings and hear the speakers
- DSA isn't able to do this every time so need to do this
- Heaji
  - Any questions?
- Eric
  - Are these types of events.. in my mind I'm thinking about the CEC events
  - Are they similar in any kind? Is it possible to collaborate with them?
- YDSA
  - That would be great, would love to collab
  - We are not affiliated with CEC, haven't put on an event together
  - But if you guys want to I'd be down
  - Also our meetings tend to have a lot of different things, I think that a lot of our meetings we have a little bit of a difference

- Definitely open to working with CEC in the future but not for every biweekly meeting would we be able to get money
- Austin
  - Stuff since they're technically a political party so limitations for what the college can do
- Heaji
  - Emmanuel
- Emmanuel
  - I'm just gonna speak loudly
  - So I'm trying to find a good way to phrase this
  - If we gave money for every org's weekly meetings for food we would blow past our budget
  - What specifically about your org that needs it for attendance more than for other orgs if that makes sense
- YDSA
  - All the food things you all did approve, numbers in the thousands for food you did approve, for student government had food approval for money much over what we had
  - Even for other clubs with slightly smaller requests, wasn't able to see any justification
  - We're doing organizing and stuff
  - Level of importance given that we're helping juniors in our club are helping organizing off campus and helping to fund housing that is affordable and gives people good connections with landlords that aren't going to screw them over
  - Things that are genuinely affecting people's wallets and their lives
  - Tenant organizing, they need to be able to come in and have a meal to actually attend our meeting
  - If there's not food there they're not meeting
  - For certain events need food to actually get people to come to these meetings
- Austin
  - One more question then we need to move on
- Joel
  - My guess is you all have some food approved, I'm curious how this specific appeal would affect the totality of what you had I guess and wondering what proportion of food was approved
- YDSA
  - We had no food approved, had separate things that were approved but not this

- which is why we're asking
- Austin
  - Thanks for stopping in, voting on appeals and rest of budget for next week

**Student Org Chartering** ~ *Eric* ~ 10 minutes

- [Macalester Game Development](#)

Austin

- So we're going to have game development first, brief 2 minutes, don't need membership, just what the org is and what it does, anything super abnormal compared to a normal org charger
- so can someone from Game Developers give a statement

Rep

- I'm someone
- Representing game developers at Mac
- Here to fill the void because don't have a career-focused game development org right now even though many students interested
- Basic function of the org will be to have workshop events, many Mac alums who work at game development at the moment, would like to bring in people to give presentations
- Provide organizational creative framework to help prepare people in these communities, develop their portfolios to enter the game industry

Austin

- Any questions?
- Any motions?

Joel

- I motion to approve the charter of Macalester Game Development

Austin

- Is that a second Bobbie

Bobbie

- Yeah sure

Austin

- Going to have people raise placards
- All in favor please raise placards

Approve: 12

Opposed: 0

Abstaining: 0

Motion passes

Claps

- [Macalester Street Journal](#)

Austin

- And now we've got Macalester Street Journal, same deal

Ella

- Can you first go to [macalesterstreet.org](http://macalesterstreet.org) our website
- Hi I'm Ella I use she/her pronouns
- We are a political science and economics journal that publishes work from political science and econ fields
- Have been guided by Sarah West and [London journal of economics?]
- Scholarly publications should be and are scrutinized for reputability, ethical standing
- Implementing review process, standards for review board
- Ethical review status that corresponds with
  - Misconduct, authorship, complaints and appeals, ethical journal management, creating a sufficient oversight committee in terms of making articles stand
- Besides that if you go to our website there's a lot of information
- We're well into our first issue, currently have over 100 pages of content
- Hope to publish at the end of this semester

Austin

- Any questions?

Joel

- (Cough) sorry
- Have you all reached out to Louann the digital initiatives and scholarly communications librarian or looked into the library's Open Educational Resource Publishing Resources

Response

- Will reach out when we have a full issue, in terms of indexing, would like this to be indexed in the library and in scholarly resources

Joel

- That was just a suggestion

Austin

- Any more questions
- Do I hear a motion

Eric

- I motion to approve the MSJ charter

Mathilda

- Second

All in favor please raise your placards

Approve: 13

Opposed: 0



Abstain: 0

Charter for Macalester Street Journal passes

**Tom Halverson Visit** ~ *Bobbie* ~ 20 minutes

Austin

- Now going to have guest Tom Halverson come up

Bobbie

- You can stay there or do anything
- Hello everyone today we are joined by a very special guest, Dean of Faculty Tom Halverson
- You know Kathryn Coquemont very well as Dean of Students, he does a lot of work with faculty, a lot of work we don't see so really nice to have this space, revisit questions
- Tom I'll hand it over to you, first thing we'd like to know is your role: what do you do and what do you oversee

Tom

- Thanks for letting me be here, I'm Tom Halverson and use he/him pronouns, still member of MSCS and have been teaching for 30 years, used to be department chair
- In January became Dean of Faculty
- used to have a single person who was Provost and Dean of Faculty
- President Rivera split it, hired Lisa Anderson-ILevy who is Provost
- Combine academic and student affairs into a single line
- Dean of students, and dean of faculty which is my job
- Meant to be someone who is a member of the faculty and stays a member of the faculty
- Go back and teach math after 3 or possibly 6 years i'll go back to the department
- Wanted someone who will continue to be and hasn't been out of the faculty lines for a long time
- One of the main jobs is on senior leadership team to say what will faculty think about this
- Big thing I do is oversee hiring especially for tenure and tenure track faculty
- Oversee faculty arriving, getting acclimated, going through tenure process
- Oversee hiring and tenure of all visiting professors
- Departments usually do that work alone but oversee approving those positions
- Meet with department chairs, look for things we can do for development
- Work closely with them and think about managing departments
- All 247 faculty report to me, intermediates are department chairs
- On EPAG with Joel, do curricular work

- And allocations, sign off who gets new positions
- One of the things that I oversee
- I spend a lot of time, faculty call me up and are struggling with something, I email the most, go to meetings the second, and then listen to people a lot
- Meet with students and faculty who are having challenges

Joel

- I could ask a question
- I don't have that list

Bobbie

- I'll ask it
- For context, the exec board came up with questions revisiting LB conversations
- How do different faculty bodies function together, how does shared governance work in general

Tom

- Committees have very specific tasks
- EPAG educational policy and governance
- Faculty governance issues, if want to change handbook or bring motions it goes through that way
- Curricular work: adding/subtracting courses, changing majors, allocation of new tenure track
- If someone retires, that line goes back to college
- Often super boring, often sit and feel bad for Joel but you guys do a lot of that too
- FAC is personal committee, decided if people get tenured or promoted
- Have a very specific task
- Highly functional committee
- Very high stakes, whether faculty members are going to stay here
- Committee members at their highest level
- The higher the stakes the best selves we bring to
- SPA not a member of, strategic analysis and planning committee
- Has faculty, staff, students so does EPAG
- FAC is super group
- Elected faculty member from each of 4 academic divisions and those reps will have meetings of their divisions, president and provost come, show up each week and say here's a hard thing that's' going on, really valuable outreach week
- Can do very formal Robert's Rules when need to do something big
- When hard decision, multiple committees will think about it
- EPAG might bring something,

- Bring things one meeting and vote on them another meeting
- Super valuable to have students on committees when we can
- My 5th-6th year we had student reps at department meetings, a game changer in terms of what we can do in the department
- Turns focus where it should be: back on the students
- The more that we charge students with taking on initiatives the better it's been
- Same thing with faculty committees
- That's big governance structure

Mathilda

- What do you see as the role of students in Macalester shared governance?

Tom

- This is my first time to see MCSG
- Kind of a shame I've been here for 30 years probably all faculty should come once or twice to see how it works
- Student voice is very powerful,
- Go to board meetings and most are alumni
- They get really excited to see and get to know what's going on
- Grassroots work is most powerful, decisions that happen in department are most impactful
- Talk about what sections to offer, intro courses, how to build community
- Half the time on EPAG Joel's time could be better spent, but the other half of the time is important and really crucial
- I've had the privilege of getting to work on a lot of committees with students and staff
- Change as campus citizens once get a change to realize how amazing faculty are
- Strategic planning really saw it
- At tables with alumni, students, faculty, staff, students
- Would leave most impressed with students
- Being involved in structure of what we do is crucial to me

Joel

- Super quick follow-up to you laying out these committees, is it accurate that EPAG allocates tenure lines to departments and FAC is more responsible for maintenance of tenure lines?

Tom

- Someone retires, gives up tenure track to college
- Departments write up proposals
- Allocations makes decisions
- Haven't been sleeping because been having really hard conversations

- Do a review after 3 years, tenure decision after 6 years promotion to full professor
- About actual people, not the lines

Alec

- Quick question about grassroots movements, how we can create a community [?]
- Regarding a course like STAT-155, requirement for 70% of majors, thought process behind that?

Tom

- In MSCS department meetings, talking about how big sections should be, should have big ones with fewer sections or the other way around?
- Students are in the meetings, on hiring committees as well
- Don't know which questions specifically
- Content of course - teach course in whole department
- Which other departments on campus require it, up to the other depts but a lot of conversation between MSCS and econ, requires it, biology, often communicating with them about content

Alec

- Worried about lots of sections, have to have staff that demands that section, ton of demand for MSCS to support that course
- Where is thought process/allocation?

Tom

- During time I chaired that department, doubled in size, number of CS faculty is doubled
- Always behind in situations like that
- Driven by student enrollment
- Remember one year I was like we'll never need more sections then the next year they were filled
- A delay in higher education
- Really painful to have someone in humanities retire and reallocate the tenure in MSCS department
- From student perspective moves at a glacial pace
- Short term and longer term decisions
- How many sections do we need next year, can we even find someone
- People who teach stats can make a lot more money not teaching stats
- Listen to students in departments
- Really valuable work for department reps

Tristan

- In these conversations about hiring faculty, specifically tenure track faculty
- Significant issue between looking at total pay between female/male faculty

- More higher paid faculty are male
- Process for meeting more equitable pay? Comparatively we are ranked pretty poorly

Tom

- Every other year we do an analysis of tenure track faculty, more women now than men but happened more recently, older faculty are men
- Strongest determination of how much you make is how long you've been here
- Once take into account time at Mac no difference in pay
- More women who take non-tenure track and visiting positions
  - Childbearing, societal stuff
- Pay visitors less than tenure track faculty
- Real difference to me is who's in tenure track line than non-tenure track line
- Considerably more women than men on tenure track positions
- Many more women than men on faculty at mac
- Appreciate the question

Martin

- Appeared at orientation, way for students to know what you do
- Advice for students to reach out in departments or more specifically

Tom

- I probably could do better
- Had Donuts with the Deans arranged on snow day, interested in seeing ways that they could come find me
- Students in departments want to talk about an issue, certainly always open, don't know what the right way it is to communicate availability to students
- don't have enough time to accept all invitations
- Sit in meetings all week long
- It's the thing I miss the most about my old job is interacting with the students

Bobbie

- I've been on MCSG for a few years now, has come up
- Course registration and how that works
- Discussion about moving away from credits to what year you're in in Macalester
- Update on where you're at in that discussion, moving at all?

Tom

- Interesting question
- Sitting on EPAG
- From faculty perspective, somewhat indifferent
- Really want to make more significant
- Standard measuring by distance of credits

- Which is measuring distance to graduation
- Really get inequities
- Looking into cohort model
- Register according to year you started
- Gotten mixed signals from administrators in registration office and from students
- Really trying to make sure we get the right info
- Will take some software information
- Cautious
- Could see it happening as soon as next year
- Unsure whether we're hearing from all the students or not, or hearing from small set who care deeply one way or another, a question the committee has, kind of put in on Joel but that's a lot of pressure
- Do people get the issue? Have thoughts?

Alec

- As a first year registering, my name is last on the list
- might be part of small subset, couldn't get into any of the classes wanted to but trying to go pre med and hard to make sure getting into classes need to because certain requirements for classes need to take
- Very stressful to get through that process, trying to get registration and overrides, got into some of the classes
- That's how I feel about it
- If people are on certain tracks when need to take certain classes maybe that gets considered

Joel

- I'll be quick I want to say that the position that I'm representing is based on my understanding of what the student body wants and my personal understanding
- Advocating to moving from credit-based to year cohort-based system
- seen most support for because of disparity in access to kinds of transfer credits like dual enrollment or AP/IB/etc
- This is something, people correct me if I'm wrong, would take effect for future year cohorts because of the way the student handbook functions as a contract when you enter the college

Mathilda

- Don't have position either way, can see inequalities credit-based requirements have
- Main problem is the lack of clarity regarding registration process when coming in
- Taking FYCs not necessarily affiliated with what planning to do

- Bigger problem with course registration moreso than other situations

Tom

- Something we're thinking the hardest about
- The time you need most help registering is when you get it the least, when you're not at Macalester
- Trying to improve registering that first time

Austin

- Thank you so much to Tom Halverson for coming, thank you for your questions

**Announcements** ~ 3 minutes

- Program Board applications extended to Wednesday

Austin

- All right
- Who's making first announcement
- Is anyone going to comment on PB thing or should I just say PB apps extended to Wednesday
- Election engagement tabling ~Mathilda
  - If not doing anything between 3-4:30, need to be at a table on second floor in the CC to answer questions that people have about positions

Tristan

- Will this happen again once filing is open

Mathilda

- Filing is open
- Karaoke night

Bobbie

- I don't know if someone's supposed to be doing this

Brayden

- Working on it, in contact with Sofia and Else and Mathilda
- In process on getting the word out
- On April 14th on Friday in the Loch
- Else just emailed me about Mathilda wanting a signup form to see if we wanted to use any money to go towards food

Bobbie

- We'll sort that out
- April 14th 9-11 in the Loch
- Getting funding from the CC

- Election update~Bobbie

- Election update and that's why we can answer questions now
- Exec board elections are done, waiting to be approved by Student Affairs then sent out to student body
- Have new exec board taking over in the fall
- Starting same day, starting filing for class reps and liaison positions
- In next hour, hoping you're going to get 2 emails closing the last election and opening the next one
- Thing Mathilda announced, chatting about elections etc if people are interested
- Can reach out to EPC or anyone in MCSG if have questions
- If thinking of running, go ahead and file, really want to try to boost engagement

#### Mathilda

- If someone's on the fence or don't know what MCSG does, send them to the atrium from 3-4:30 today

#### Austin

- Good job Bobbie facilitating a peaceful transition of power somehow