

## Board Room - Weyerhaeuser

April 11th, 2024 | 12:00 PM CST



MACALESTER COLLEGE  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

## Legislative Body Meeting Minutes

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

**Conduct Reminder** ~ *Emma Kopplin* ~ 2 minutes

- Emma: Does everyone have chairs?
  - I want to start with a quick reminder about conduct in LB meetings
  - We want orgs and other visitors to feel welcomed and supported when we are hosting them
    - We don't know if this was reflected last week
  - We can be doing a few things to be more welcoming and respectful
    - Be present in LB, not just physically, but mentally
    - Focusing on the task at hand, not doing other things
      - Not having side conversations
    - LB is just one hour per week
      - This is the commitment that we made
    - Ask relevant, thoughtful questions to our guests
    - Be aware of what identities you hold and how that shows up in a space like LB
    - Call out behaviors that aren't acceptable
      - Hold each other accountable

**Dining Advisory Committee Presentation** ~ 5 minutes

- Emma: As you know, we have been having presentations from our campus committees

- We don't have handheld mics this week, so we will have to be loud
- Rep: Eleanor Malcom: she/her, sophomore
  - Eleanor Berkenblit: she/they, senior
  - Our committee talks a lot about sustainability and food waste
    - A lot of progress has been made
  - Eleanor Malcom: Cafe Mac workers don't have a lot of support
    - This hasn't changed
    - Training is the biggest problem
      - Student workers aren't trained, so food safety is not a thing
      - No change has been made on this
      - No concrete plan for training in the fall
        - Training only occurs after workers' first shift
  - Eleanor B: Who has had a bad experience at Cafe Mac?
    - A lot of you raised your hands
    - Bon App has been very resistant to hearing our feedback
    - They tell us to contact them, but students don't know how
    - I am on the committee representing religious dietary concerns
      - Cafe Mac works with us
    - They still have not addressed contamination training
  - Eleanor M: The director claims not to know that students are getting poisoned at Cafe Mac
    - We bring it up and it is not addressed
  - Eleanor B: Hoping for the committee to meet more often or for it to have people who are willing to listen to us
    - We want a student and chaplain, as well as a disability resources worker
    - We want more student feedback
      - QR codes on each of the tables
        - Report when something goes wrong
  - Eleanor M: We joined the committee to make our food experience better
    - We would love a way to make that happen more easily
    - Willing to put in the time and effort to see this through
    - Want to make Cafe Mac safe
- Emma K: We don't have any time for questions, but please reach out to them by email

**Student Employment Advisory Committee Presentation ~ 5 minutes**

- Reps: Ella Skranka and Sylvia Choi

- This is separate from Student Employees
- Other members are supervisors categorized under large, medium, small
- Address concerns from supervisors and student side
  - We mediate
- In the past year, we have planned the student employee appreciation events
  - Nominations for student employee of the year
- We work to improve communication with supervisors and students
  - Google docs form for people to submit concerns and questions
- Working to improve transparency in resource access
- Working for the past two years on improving student employment happiness
  - Increase fulfillment, job experience
  - Using survey data from 2011
    - There have been no changes
- We are a bit different from student employment
  - A lot of questions that came to us were not things that we have power over
- Emma K: Thank you!
  - Any questions on either side can be addressed by email

### **Athletics Department Visit** ~ *Jordan Galloway* ~ 15 minutes

- Jordan: Ladies and gentlemen, Donnie Brooks!
  - He is our Director of Athletics at Macalester
  - He will talk about some changes we've made and open the floor for conversation
- Donnie Brooks: Good afternoon!
  - The Athletics Department oversees Varsity Athletics, Club Sports, with hundreds of students
    - Club Sports and Varsity Athletics care deeply about what they do
    - Recreation and intramural sports all use our spaces too
    - Many of you have gone into the fitness center
      - We try to keep our hours open
        - Opening at 8am on the weekends, when we used to open at 10
    - Fueling station
      - When we raise money, it is not just for our sports teams, but all our operations

- For those of you who like to work out, you can go to the fridge and get a snack
  - At Macalester, these resources are for everyone
  - We want you to be able to refuel
  - We are excited about this and hope that you are using it
- I am excited about the affinity lifting groups
  - Thank you for those
- If you are not participating in Mac Fit, it is a way to learn how to use the fitness center
  - You can be entered into a raffle to win prizes
  - We want to promote this more widely
  - We give away a lot of great things
  - Add to the motivation to get into the fitness center
- I don't know if you all have experienced this, but the football team is working on a culture shift
  - 6am practice
    - This means that there are things that we have to change our focus on
    - This opens up time on the field
    - This helps the team focus on hard, but good things and allows other students to have more resources and access to facilities
  - Sports culture
    - I don't think we should hate Carleton, but we should strongly dislike them sometimes
      - We need school spirit
    - At some other institutions that are a lot like Macalester, the spirit is different
      - We are on the upswing, and we need to bring out the spirit
      - Mac people need to show up at events and learn some new cheers
        - Can't just be about smoking crack
        - We hope to help bring more spirit to Macalester next year
- Any Questions?
  - Student: I think a lot about Athletics Facility Access

- Have we thought about an outdoor basketball court that would allow students to be active and access the courts when the LC is busy?
  - Donnie Brooks: This is a great idea, and thank you for sharing
    - I will bring it back to our facilities team
    - Our basketball coach has asked about this too
- Eleanor Harden: I am a senior, and I think because my class experienced the whole situation with COVID and being separated from athletes, I think a lot of us have felt that there is a pretty significant cultural divide between athletes and nonathletes
  - I am wondering what your ideas are to support bridging that gap between athletes and nonathletes on campus
  - This divide is weird and no one wants it, but it keeps getting perpetuated
  - Donnie Brooks: This is my fourth private liberal arts college that I've worked with, and this divide exists everywhere you go
    - Jen Jacobsen talked about connection
      - There is not a divide, but a weak connection
      - Raise your hand if you are busy
        - We are all busy and have chosen things to focus on
        - We spend hours and hours on activities and studying
        - It makes sense that the connections you make are with the people you are doing your thing with
        - Your thing is your thing, but we want to encourage people to respect other people's things
          - Uplift other people's things
          - I can't say I have the perfect answer, but we want to have unification
          - Our goal is understanding and acknowledging other folks doing their thing
- Donnie Brooks: If you have any other questions and ideas, I am around
  - I am an administrator, but I don't take myself too seriously
  - We care about change, growth, and development, so please bring your ideas to the table

- We want to give this institution a lot to celebrate
- We want the things that you advocate for to happen

### **Chess Club Additional Allocation** ~ *Eliora Hansonbrook* ~ 5 minutes

- [chess-clubs-tournament-request-for-high-rated-players-2024-28-3-135...](#)
- Emma: Eliora will introduce this, and then we will vote
- Eliora: Carlos is here with us today from Chess Club
  - FAC chose to deny this request because it is a travel request and we are only approving travel under extenuating circumstances
- Carlos: We just wanted to appeal because we are a chess club, and tournaments are our thing
  - These tournaments cost money
  - To be a club, we need to compete
  - We have a chess instructor that is helping us prepare for these tournaments
  - We have only had one tournament in the last two semesters
  - We want to get more funding for traveling and including more people
- Emma: Could you explain to us why you are only accepting travel requests in special circumstances?
  - Eliora: We basically ran out of travel funding, and moved some funds from capital, but we have limited funds
    - We asked all orgs to fill out a form to explain their travel reasons
- Questions
  - Willow: Why doesn't Chess Club fit under exceptional circumstances?
    - Eliora: A few weeks ago, Quiz Bowl made it into the national tournament, and we want to leave the funds open for situations like this
      - Chess Club's travel request is only for 12 miles, so this is possible to reach through public transportation
    - Carlos: This would be difficult to reach through public transit
  - Mariah: How much is left in the travel fund?
    - Eliora: We have about \$3500
    - Mariah: And this was only approximately \$300?
  - Alec: What are the club's score ratings?
    - Carlos: Fairly high
  - Liv: Is there a reason the vans are requested for two days when the tournament is 8am to 10pm?

- - Carlos: Because the tournament is the way that it is, everyone ends at different times
    - We want to be able to be flexible
- Vote
  - Jordan: Motion to approve \$390.60 for Chess Club's appeal
  - Willow: Second
  - In favor: 21
  - Opposed: 1
  - Abstaining: 1
  - Emma: With that, the motion passes

**Vote on Final Budget ~ Elicora Hansonbrook ~ 5 minutes**

- Allocate \$178,451.10 to student organizations for the 2024-2025 academic year
- Elicora: As you all know, the FAC spent a lot of time with Budget Bonanza
  - After appeals, this is our final budget
  - Our annual allocations for 2024-2025 academic year will be \$178,451.10
- Questions:
  - Willow: Does the number change after the allocation we just approved?
    - Elicora: No, this was an allocation for this year
  - Liv: How does this number compare to last year?
    - Elicora: This is similar
      - If we could spend more, we would
- Vote:
  - Sean: Motion to approve the final budget for the 2024-2025 school year
  - Jordan: Second
  - In favor: 23
  - Opposed: 0
  - Abstaining: 0
  - Emma: With that, the budget passes

**Committee & Cabinet Updates ~ Committee & Cabinet members ~ 5 minutes**

- International Student Liaison update:
  - International Student Liaison is still having ongoing discussion with MOCO and Intl Students community regarding a project that we had started a couple of weeks ago about increasing safety and spreading

- awareness on possible risks faced by Macalester international students who participate in protests and other political activities in the US.
- As a member of the Search Committee for Director of ISP, I believe that we have concluded the interviewing process, though we have yet to hear any official decision.
  - Joel: GSAT Subsidy Program Applications close at 11:59pm tomorrow!
    - If you are paying for a graduate school entrance exam this semester before the last day of classes, please consider applying for this \$100 funding subsidy
    - AAC is also selecting Outstanding Educator of the Year and Outstanding Student Educator of the Year tomorrow
      - These will be awarded 5-7pm on Tuesday April 23
        - RSVP for food orders by 4/12: <https://forms.gle/pt4QEAHWqeM9HGZLA>
    - SOC has awards too
    - We begin to solicit textbook reserve purchase titles April 15, 2024
  - Mikayla: SOC selected our awards
  - Elizabeth: Belonging and Accessibility Liaison
    - Met with Disability Resources
    - Discussed changes about liaison positions
    - Attended the Happening Place, which is a film about the C-House made by a student
      - Making sure that there is a space that is adequate in replacing the C-House
      - Dropped in on the C-House rally
      - Emma K has been standing in for me in a lot of architect meetings
        - Emma: So far, these meetings have just been people from LSC explaining to the architects what energy they want out of the space, while the architects explain potential physical constraints
  - Elicora: FAC is gearing up for its final meeting of the year this Monday
    - If you want to a request for the year, submit it by 11:59pm on Sunday
  - LeSean: CEC is continuing the work on our year-end newsletter
    - Encourage any liaisons and committees to send us information to put in the newsletters
    - Election filing just came out today
    - Looking for people to table outside of the CC
      - Please sign up
  - Jordan: Athletics & Recreation Liaison




- Scot Ball was last Friday
- This new format made a lot of sense, and people had a lot of fun
- I also arranged for Donnie to come today

**Time to Reflect on MCSG ~ Mariah Loeffler-Kemp ~ 15 minutes**

- Mariah: Today we will do a reflection activity about the year on MCSG
  - Reflect on what we have done so far
  - Next meetings will be very busy
    - Today is our time to do reflection and think about what we have done and what we want to improve on for next year
    - Think about things that need to be figured out for the summer time
    - Put everyone into groups to think about what went well, what we accomplished, and what could be improved
      - What are concrete steps and solutions that we can take going forward
      - I would love if every group could write down what we talk about
        - Have one person take notes
    - Count us into five groups
- Mariah: If everybody could hand me their sheet of paper, that would be great
  - They don't have to make a lot of sense
  - We can do a little more of this at the last meeting of the year
  - Thank you all for participating!

**Announcements ~ 2 minutes**

- Sign up for election tabling (filing and voting)
  -  Class Rep & Liaison Election Tabling Sign-ups (Spring 2024)
  - Emma: If you are able to table, please sign up to do so
    - If you are running for a class rep or liaison position, you are not eligible to table
- Attendance reminder
  - Mariah: Please be here
    - If you are going to be absent or late, please email the MCSG email
    - Emma: Don't tell us in person, we might forget

- Joel: Let me know if you have a strong preference about Weyerhaeuser Boardroom vs Harmon Room for LB next year as we need to make reservations
  - Heather reminded me that we will have to make those reservations soon
- Mariah: Gabe Karsh will be working with MCSG next year as the Student Liaison to the BoT
- Class Rep Filing Open Now!