

## Weyerhaeuser Boardroom

September 19th, 2024 | 12:00 PM CST



MACALESTER COLLEGE  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

### Legislative Body Meeting Agenda

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#### Land Acknowledgment ~ *Ryan Connor* ~ 2 minutes

- We are on the land Dakota people.

#### **Introductions** ~ *Joel Sadofsky* ~ 8 minutes

- Everybody introduces themselves with: Name, pronouns, position on MCSG.
  - Joel: Have some new people here which is excellent. It is the preferred result of the election cycle.
    - We'll go around and say names, pronouns, and position on MCSG.
  - Ryan: Could everyone who just got elected raise their hands?
    - [Hands raise and there's lots of claps!]

#### **Board of Trustees Liaison Visit** ~ *Joel Sadofsky* ~ 8 minutes

- Gabe Karsh
  - Joel: Gabe is our Board of Trustees liaison this year. There's a selection process done by ingoing/outgoing MCSG presidents. They're advised by Vice President of Student Affairs Katherine Coquemont. Going to pass it off to Gabe.
  - Gabe: BOT is the big governing body of the college. They have hiring/firing power over the president and other members of the Senior Leadership Team, have to approve the budget every year, vote to allow the senior class to graduate every year. Mostly alums and parents, Mac's BOT is a little more class-diverse than other schools.
    - My job is represent student concerns to the Board, issues they are relevant to their work. Upcoming meeting mostly will talk

about Mac for Palestine proposal. I have lots of opportunities to interact with MCSG members and committees. If there's anything that you guys want me to raise to the BOT now, this is an opportunity for that.

- Joel: Process for how we do this for the first years. Ryan is currently interim speaker. In general, Ryan is managing time and flow of questions, we all have placards, look for Ryan and will add you to the speaker list. Will make it so we can use our time together productively.
- Catherine: Would you be able to share what the current temperature of the BOT is on divestment?
  - Gabe: Have not spoken to all trustees so far, can't speak with much confidence on how they feel but they're not voting on September 27th. They want more time, to meet with SRC and authors who wrote the proposal. At some point soon, they'll vote, not sure how they're gonna vote.
- Yamalí: I want to focus on plans for C-house. Are there any updates and what is Mac's direction towards C-house and any other plans for the campus plans to change different projects, cafe mac, etc.
  - Gabe: Talked with Katherine Coquemont last week and was told that a decision could come out a few days from then and then nothing came out. Not sure when they're gonna make a decision. Interim location options are set and have been told there's a goal to set some sort of permanent plan for where c-house will be.
  - Tristan: You want increasing transparency around BOT and call for increased transparency for Mac for Pal. You have 5 minutes to talk to BOT, do you expect to have conversations about transparency with them?
    - Gabe: Don't think I'll have time to talk about that at the business meeting. Want to change that I can be removed by Katherine Coquemont, President, and BOT but can't be removed by LB which is crazy because I was elected and represented students. Want to make this position more accountable to students, but won't have time on the 27th.
      - Office hours 2:30-4:30 today if you have anything you want to talk about. Can always set up a g-cal invite or yell my name on campus and I'll appear.

## **Speaker Elections** ~ *Ryan Connor* ~ 7 minutes

- Speaker is an elected member or liaison. Will lead meetings like I'm doing now.
  - Selection process: I will be soliciting names today.
    - Will have to attend exec meetings from 3:30-4:30 every Monday.
    - Next week we'll take a secret ballot which is an anonymous voting system. Week after that we'll announce a new speaker, and the week after that they'll take over.
    - Any nominations at this time?
      - Aditya: I nominate David.
      - Cooper: I nominate Tor.
      - Elizabeth: I nominate Liv.
      - Chloe: I nominate Cem.
      - Ryan: Ok, I will send out an email with info to nominated members, will consist of 2 mins to make a statement of why you think you should be speaker, then will go to secret voting.
        - If you cannot go to an exec meeting it's preferable you do not run.

## **FAC Beginning-of-Year Presentation** ~ *Luke Evans* ~ 5 minutes

- Luke: FAC is an MSCG committee that makes student org funding decisions. Tor, Cooper, and David are also members of FAC. Weekly meetings are on Tuesday 11:30-12:30. In Mac Daily you can find the application to be an At-Large representative. Would sit in meetings and have voting privileges on initial application requests.
  - Financing Overview:
    - These numbers are the projected numbers of how much money we'll have to spend this year in the three funds. Funds come in Travel - events student orgs want to go to, Capital - physical items lasting more than 3 years like speaker, table cloth, Operating - most drawn from, for things that aren't supposed to last more than 3 years.
  - Travel we project will have \$74,000, \$14,000 in Capital and \$68,000 in Operating. Need to project money everyone gives to school through their student activity fee. Comes in two different disbursements - one this semester of \$130 and next semester of \$100. Projected based on what we think we'll receive from students that are enrolled. Will be a

little different from what you're seeing now because we've already allocated some money to student orgs. Questions?

- Sean: Why would LB vote on something?
  - Luke: In financial code, any request made by a student org that is over \$4,000 needs to come to LB to make sure that a small committee is not making a decision so financially impactful. Today, we have such requests to vote on.
- Laurice: Do you also get a say of overall college finances?
  - Luke: No, not in charge of overall finances only receive money allocated to this budget every year. In budget bonanza, we anticipate how much money we'll have and how much money we can budget for student orgs.
  - Laurice: Who determines how much money we get?
  - Luke: We as MCSG control the student activity fee and can vote to lower or raise the fee. Proposal and discussion would have to occur, then if MCSG comes to a decision it has to go in front of BOT. Some of the pool of money goes to us, some to community chest fund (cabinet controlled) and PB, too. If you ever have questions you can direct them to me, anyone on FAC, or Garrett.
- Gem: Can you explain more about the chest fund?
  - Philomena: Managed by cabinet. Pool of \$10k - money that is able to spend on any group that is not affiliated with a student org. For example, a group of students who want to put on an event. They can request money from the chest fund.
    - Marina: Is that affiliated with money for CC After Dark programs or separate?
    - Philomena: Separate.
- Yamalí: How do individuals apply for the chest fund?
  - Philomena: A form you can fill out. Will talk more about it in cabinet meetings.
- Luke: Want to gauge people's understanding of LB's role in FAC. Hold up your thumbs.
  - [lots of thumbs up]

**FAC Additional Allocation Requests ~ Luke Evans ~ 25 minutes**

- [Climbing Club 1](#)

- Luke: As we go over the request, if there's a question I can't answer, I'll refer to the rep from Climbing Club. This request has been approved by FAC, have gone through line by line and found it aligns with all purposes and regulations of FAC, so just know it's passed the first run. This is one of two requests from Climbing Club.
  - Luke: Asking \$4,500 to increase the number of people they are able to take to weekly climbing meetings. Currently can take 9.5 people but want to take up to 15 people on twice weekly trips.
  - Climbing Club Rep: Historically we've been taking 20 people per week. Our sign up usually fills up in seconds and due to budget cuts we had to decrease to 9.5 people.
  - Jordan: 9.5 people? Is this an average?
  - Luke: Yes, an average.
  - Catherine: Is this still a decrease from last year?
  - Rep: Yes.
  - Luke: Request is to be able to take people up to the climbing gyms Vertical Endeavors and Minneapolis Bouldering Project.
  - Tristan: Motion to approve \$4,500 for Climbing Club.
  - Ryan: When we vote, the speaker will go through for, against, abstain. Please raise your placard for what you're voting for. If you're involved with the org, it's up to you whether you abstain but typically asked to do so.
- Vote:
  - In favor: 24
  - Opposed: 0
  - Abstaining: 1

- [Climbing Club 2](#)

- Luke: This is a travel request to rent Mac vans to take people to climbing gyms. We just passed this and in total this is a request for \$4,304.
  - Tristan: Does the increase to 15 change how many vans you need?
  - Climbing Club Rep: We did the math and it would be the same for 15 people.
  - Cooper: I motion to approve the request.
  - Luke: Is there a second? [Yes]
- Vote:

- For: 24
    - Against: 0
    - Abstain: 1
  - Ryan: When you are motioning please repeat what you are motioning for.
  - Luke: Ok, the motion is passed.
- [West Coast Swing 1](#)
  - Luke: This request is an operating request to fund event tickets for West Coast Swing's Swing city event in Chicago which they attend yearly. Requesting money to pay for tickets for this event because they didn't receive enough money after budget cuts.
    - West Coast Swing Rep: Traditionally we do this as an additional allocation. Last year we sent 24 people, this year we're only sending 16.
  - Luke: Request total out of operating fund is \$2,400. Questions or comments?
    - Sean: Could you describe why both requests are less than \$4,000?
    - Luke: So, obviously this request is only for \$2,400 which does not meet \$4,000. However, West Coast Swing submitted an additional request from the travel fund which together is over \$4,000. Traditionally, because it's two separate requests from two different funds we like to refer to LB.
    - Laurice: Currently with this budget, how many people can go? And with this money how many more people could do.
      - West Coast Swing Rep: Currently 0 people could go, but with this money 16 people could go.
    - Liv: I was looking on the website that says there's a student discount rate, was that the \$2,400?
      - West Coast Swing Rep: Yes, so we've been emailing back and forth with the people who are in charge.
    - Samantha: How many years have you been doing this trip?
      - West Coast Swing Rep: A little complicated, there's usually two events that happen at different times in the year so last year we went to the one in the spring and this year we're going to the one in the fall. We've been going longer than I've been here at Mac so, at least 4 years.
    - Chloe: How do you choose the 16 who are going?

- West Coast Swing Rep: We put out a poll to try to get a list finalized as soon as possible. We go off of class seniority and attendance of weekly events. We prefer to take seniors and juniors but if a senior who doesn't attend regularly wants to go, we'll will typically give that spot to a sophomore who does attend regularly.
  - Philomena: Motion to approve \$2,400 to West Coast Swing.
  - Vote:
    - For: 23
    - Against: 0
    - Abstain: 2
  - Luke: Motion passes.
- [West Coast Swing 2](#)
  - Luke: So this is the travel request of the ticket request from the operating we just approved. It's for \$2,300 to rent Mac vans to attend this request. Any questions?
    - David: One thing I'll say is we just approved this request and the hotel that they're staying at is 5 minutes walking away which is cheaper so they're already taking a budget cut to make things cheaper for Mac.
  - Tristan: Motion to approve \$2,300 from travel fund to West Coast Swing.
  - Vote:
    - For: 24
    - Against: 0
    - Abstain: 1
  - Luke: Request passes.
- [Model UN](#)
  - Luke: Ok, there are no reps from MUN so if there are any questions, Cooper, Tor, David, and I can give some light on the request. Every year Mac MUN attends national collegiate MUN teams in NYC. They came to us this year a little earlier than they typically do to give us some relief during the budgeting process. Total of the request is \$6,380 to pay for travel to the event, food, etc.
    - Sean: This event is for the spring?
    - Tor: Just to clarify, this doesn't include travel to New York does it?

- Luke: This is the registration and the daily stipend for people who'll go and this is the operating request for this event.
- Tristan: This has \$50 allocated for personal transportation. Should this be tacked to the travel fund?
  - Luke: This would be the funding for a metro pass, transport to and from the airport, hotel, and from Mac to MSP. We did talk this in FAC? The metro card costs \$34 for weekly pass but they were also requesting funds for ride share services. Typically in the financial code this is discouraged but, in our discussion with MUN reps we came to understand based off their explanations that it would be logistically difficult to bring the amount of people they have on public transit either in Minnesota or NYC. Because they'll be there for so long and will have so much stuff, it will be inconvenient for them to take public transit due to the unreliability.
  - Tristan: Can the travel fund not be used for rideshare services? I guess my question is why is this coming from the operating fund and not included in a later travel fund request?
    - Luke: This is a good question. Garrett or Emi?
    - Laurie: I think it's because it's clumped together and they're probably struggling estimating how much it might be? You could drop it slightly and tell them to do the rest in travel.
    - Tristan: Could we motion for this request minus the \$50 times how many students there are?
    - Luke: It's possible to grant that request for that reduced figure and have them put that travel request when they come to us for the travel fund.
    - Emi: You could also vote to move those funds over to the travel fund and still approve the rest.
      - Luke: Yes, that would make it a lot easier.
  - Marina: Where is hotel accounted for in this? Is it \$150 for an entire week? Says \$200 per school, \$100 per student, and \$365 for the whole week? This is for the whole week in an NYC hotel? I'm just expecting to see another couple thousand for hotels, so I'm confused about that.
    - Sean: Sometimes that's requested in travel.



- Tristan: As FAC chair, do you see value in tabling this to next week so we can give more clarity on this?
- Luke: If that's the desire of the LB we can do that. Based off our discussions with them as FAC we felt comfortable to move to LB but if you guys don't feel comfortable that is well within the right of LB to do so.
- Luarice: Can we motion to accept this?
  - Luke: So you want to motion to approve or move the money over to travel?
  - Laurice: So motion to approve the bill and move over the amount that needs to move over to the travel.
- Sean: Just to make it clearer I motion to approve \$5,780 which is minus the \$50 per student.
- Vote:
  - For: 25
  - Against: 0
  - Abstain: 1
- Luke: Motion passes.
- Luke: Thank you for those questions on this request, it's very good that people wanted to know more about the request and didn't just pass it straight out. I'm also new to this role, so looking back at this now I realize there was more room for more questions so I appreciate your guys' patience in my responses.
  - David: Are we going to be looking at the Mac First Aid?
  - Luke: At FAC meeting on Tuesday, we voted to table Mac First Aid request. It was just a miscommunication between me, Else, and Ryan. Sorry about that guys.

### **Committee Updates** ~ *Committee Chairs* ~ 4 minutes

- Ryan: Every week, we'll have people from every committee updating. It won't always be the chair.
- Mena: CEC has been working on planning the SLT event on October st in the JWall lobby at 11:30.
  - Ryan: Could you say a little bit more about what is the SLT event?
  - Mena: It'll be an opportunity for the student body to know more about who and what is the SLT.
- Tristan: AAC has not met yet, so I don't really have an update.
- Sean: SOC also has a packed meeting, lots of chartering, a lot of prospective org review. Tomorrow we will talk about a prospective neurobiology club

and a club called the Furbas. They have both edited their charters. We'll talk about a club we met with called Scots in the Cities volunteering club and how much they overlap with CEC. Will be meeting with 2 new prospective orgs which just finished drafts for charters, pre med and pho club.

- Luke: We just saw FAC update. Apart from that we approved requests from other clubs, some were tabled that won't be in front of this body but more info will be available. Against, the At-Large app is live. Please apply!
- Philomena: Cabinet has not met yet, we're working on finding a meet time. This week I also went to the Admissions and Financial Aid committee where they shared a lot of info about first year class and financial aid.
- Joel: On Tuesday, Ryan and I met with the Dean of Students Javier Gutierrez and we spoke about ideas of how students would feel that there's transparency in changes to the student handbook. We articulated some ideas that were brought to us last year and recently and it will be an ongoing convo, but his office was really open to any suggestions we might have. If you have any suggestions, please share them with me.
  - Ryan: We will be bringing those changes over to LB later on in the semester.

### **Announcements ~ 2 minutes**

- Retreat this weekend ~ *Ryan Connor*
  - September 21-22
  - Meet outside Weyerhaeuser at 9:25am
  - SIGN THE WAIVER FORMS
    - Ryan: I sent these in the email and is being passed around! The retreat is a really important time for us, especially for people like first years who have not had a lot of experience in this setting before. Please bring the waiver on Saturday morning. And also please sign the waiver form that you got in your email.
    - Email subject line: Info Needed for your participation in - MCSG Retreat on 09/21/2024
  - Ryan: We are adjourned.