

# MCSG Meeting minutes 2/24

Tuesday, February 24, 2015  
6:59 PM

Meeting begins 18:59

59	<p>JM: This is not that formal of a situation. I just wanted to have a time to have a conversation about why I'm here, what I do, who I am and how I come at the work I do. I just want to take some time to talk about that, then field some questions. Campus activities is a newly formed department, combining campus life and departments to form this department. It was formed to make things work together better. Over the last several months we have been talking about who we are, etc. You can see our definition on the website here, on the Campus Activities page. When you talk about student life, activities, we are the hub that facilitates that. We provide leadership development, org development, whenever you want to reserve space, that's generally what we do. Because MCSG is the student voice, we are the ones who help you hold students accountable to the standards you set for them. Even new issues that students bring up, we help implement those changes. We want to be here as a partner. We provide a lot of advisory support, even in MCSG. Because of the fact that we need to help implement things you decide on. One of the main things I wanted to see when I got here was to provide more support and things in general for students. Many orgs have things they want to do and not how to do it. We recognize the needs of these orgs so that's why we're here. We also want consistency and clarity in our policies. These are passed down orally or through example, we need to look at policies and make sure these policies are still relevant. My goal is always to allow flexibility. Going towards specific activities that we do, one, fully using orgsync. It's a very nice, powerful tool. We're not using it for its full capabilities. We're working to find out all its capabilities, working with the staff and FAC &amp; SOC to make org contact easier. You can use it for all kinds of things. There are forms that people can use, it'll be great because it's all centralized. We want the campus center to be a more vibrant space. The wall of orgs is a great example that we're working on. Another thing we talked about was the artwork, maybe we could do a student photo competition depicting student life. Every year this could be the thing we do to make things more experiential. We're trying to do more programming in the Loch. Also Kagin issues, we have a set of kagin guidelines and they're there for everyone to see. However nobody is being held accountable. We talk about ensuring guidelines and allowing for a fun event. This semester we have been going to Kagins. I went to the last one... its just... I wanted to see what was happening. I also wanted to make sure the orgs knew we were there to support them. If there is an issue there is immediate contact. We're finding about many issues that're happening. I've had student let me know that they were glad I was there. After this semester we'll sit down and talk about what we can do. I'll stop talking... any questions?</p>
13	<p>SN: What're some things you've noticed?</p> <p>JM: I don't think its necessarily.. When people say its not safe and dangerous what we've most found out that there are a lot of cracks and crevices to be out of the way. When people are in a corner its harder to see them... when I saw people going into a corner and into bathroom stalls I ask if everyone is ok... usually it gets people flushed out. The water fountain overflows too, that's another good reason why we're there. The security that comes in is also unknown to campus, we don't want them to be over authoritative when we can correct behavior better. If a police or security officer confronts someone that often escalates behavior. I had to ask people to periodically check bathrooms since I can't go in there.</p>
17	<p>RD: What happened to the old tvs? In the CC</p> <p>JM: the tv by the info desk is just being repaired.</p> <p>RD: The reason I asked is because we thought the wall could use a tv</p> <p>JM: Yeah we also talked about adding in a screen, it would be better for changing information and adding information. It could be accessed by orgsync.</p>
18	<p>SD: Haven't there been new tvs in the Loch?</p> <p>JM: Bon app saw the screen and saw that they wanted to be more snazzy with their technology. It just gives them a chance to change things up in a faster way. By the SPO as well they just wanted to have it look more slick. The other two screens is a project by an environmental class, they got money from an org that like energy conversation. They wondered if people being aware of high energy being used in a hall will that be lowered. That's why it goes by halls so people can track their behavior. That's more of a temp use of screen.</p>
21	<p>IC: What org is it? It shows the veggie coop being the most wasteful.</p> <p>JM: You'll have to talk to Kurt in services.</p> <p>NE: This year I've noticed café mac is crowded more this year.</p> <p>JM: When more meal options were added that increased the traffic, the biggest reason is because the space is too small. Next year there was talk about adding new programs for upperclassmen.</p>
23	<p>RD: We talked about including that little area next to grill to café mac, is that still on the table? This is the other thing s, we meet with bon app to talk about these things. We can start to talk about this and how to add capacity... its just such a small space. Other colleges have other spaces to eat at, all we have is café mac. If we could add space, how we could do that.</p>
25	<p>TS: A few of us from enturperneur club is working on an app to order your food and pick it up later. That could reduce the rush. I also want to know if double swipe will be gone.</p> <p>JM: Café mac like the double swipe, we want students to use their mealplans. Also if you have people working on things that may be helpful to us just let us know. We can make things happen quicker. Instead of two people working separately...</p> <p>NE: Didn't geo majors last year try to change things?</p> <p>JH: They talked about having long rows of tables, folks didn't seem to like that.</p>
27	<p>JM: When people go to the atrium people leave their cookies and chips on their tables, maybe we could have a station to leave your uneaten food. This may not be sanitary but.. If you have an idea, I'm the kind of person to ask "how can we". I'm about finding ways to do things, especially when it comes to helping the campus. We can always try to figure out what is relevant.</p> <p>IC: Next is old b with FAC</p>
29	<p>JK: So MGL submitted an app for 1100\$ for their kosher passover celebration. Last year it was covered by someone on campus, this year they're short on funds. They asked for more so more people come. We met the chair and move to approve.</p> <p>IC: Is this the third time they've funded this through an additional allocation?</p>
31	<p>JK: Yeah, this is the first year its partly funded. They didn't see this coming.</p> <p>CW: Will they use compostable dishware</p> <p>CD: We talked to them about this, this price was from the company they're getting it from. The chair said she'd talk to the rest of the group.</p> <p>RD: whats the date on the event?</p> <p>JK: April 3rd. We have a bit of time.</p>
33	<p>RD: Move to table this discussion until next week... further notice</p> <p>22 for, 1 opposed, 0 abstain</p> <p>JK: Sandra Kim is a CEO of a company, she wants to come speak to Mac students. There are a lot of fees they want, however some of those items have problems. Like the gift, we don't fund food. We also don't fund food. All in all we move to rec \$3412. I move to approve... we also talked to them about this. They're clear on all that.</p>
36	<p>RD: That's the \$10 rule for speakers? I thought we should give her only \$20 for two meals.</p> <p>JK: I mean shes a human so she doesn't need a full meal.</p> <p>CD: they were just going to give her money for food.</p> <p>JZ: We usually give them money and allow them to find their own food. This is different than taking them out to eat.</p>
37	<p>JK: We've been talking to speakers about combing a lot of these fees into honoraria.</p> <p>DT: I think its good to have things broken down when funding.</p> <p>JK: We were talking about combing into honoraria, we wouldn't have to scramble in case of plane tickets fluctuating and the like.</p>
39	<p>JK: we don't want to build on things, these speakers can write these things off for business expenses. I think they can spring for that. For air travel, it is a logistical problem. Sometimes speaker book late, they want first class accommodations. It makes it more expensive to fund. It's a better practice and an easier practice than paying for things individually. Cost can really be altered if we have to provide that interaction.</p> <p>KF: M2Q</p> <p>23 for, 0 opp, 0 abstain</p>
42	<p>JK: That's all I have. Next week we'll be looking at a rec for more mountain bikes.</p> <p>IC: Now to SSRC</p> <p>SLK: We met again yesterday, our submission form is going out tomorrow. We're continuing our conversations when it comes to this. We're also finalizing our timeline, the concrete date is April 8th. Its moving forward pretty quickly.</p> <p>AB: We started getting more concrete ideas on what we want to do with sexual assault programming. We're not sure about having a talk as we don't have a date. We reached out to a few staff members and yeah. I also talked to Michelle, she's talked us and wants to help make it so. Any questions? Also the Cchest thing, hopefully you all read it. The AmStudies department is helping to bring in a speaker, a poet who will read from her book. We can see what the honorarium is here, we're approving \$975 for this. Airfare and housing is not in the expenses as she will already be in the cities.</p>
46	<p>JL: Has the concert hall already been reserved? If that's a difficulty let us know.</p> <p>RD: What are the FAC guidelines advertising? Is there a limit?</p> <p>JK: We tend to give student orgs 12\$ for publicity. People seem to be fine with that limit, there is no explicit rule that I know of since it can fluctuate.</p> <p>PM: When people have special needs we grant that too.</p>
47	<p>AB: For cChest we give out more since it's a bigger show, we want to do more than table tents.</p> <p>IC: So we're reducing their funds?</p>

	AB: We're doubling the standard of 12.
	JZ: M2Q
	23 for, 0 opp, 0 abstain
49	JZ: So something I brought up last week, Abaki and steph and I are working on a project for internships, right now there is a limited number of options available. We want to draft a resolution about how to get that submitted. I've been talking with the internship office about possible options. The Mac weekly is doing a spread so check that out. If you have any ideas let us know. I'm excited about it.
51	JK: FAC general updates, we're planning on sending out an email this weekend hoping they'll sign up for the audit. We want to have food counted so we can host it next week. Budgeting is still due on the 27th of march. Should be fun. FAC elections are also on.
	IC: Ian, what are the days people can vote?
	JK: March 2nd and 3rd.
	IC: We need to set up tabling spreadsheets.
	SN: I believe the debate between the chairs will be this Thursday in a classroom.
	RD: If you're not going to be there, let me know. Everyone should be there.
54	SV: The entire school votes? Yes.
	JL: I'll check where it is exactly.
	RD: Tess, please email everyone when it happens.
55	AH: Test optional week is coming up, we have an op-ed in the mac weekly. We want attendance from MCSG at this event, I'll send out an email with the time. There will be a petition next week, educate yourself.
	RD: Any EPAG updates?
	AH: allocation season now... one of the major decisions we've had to make is with concentrations. Basically we need to make it more stringent about how to become a concentration. There should also be a piece in the faculty handbook so that departments will handle funding for concentrations.
	AB: What is the format of the petition going to be?
	AH: We're not exactly sure yet.
	CP: What is EPAG?
	AH: Educational policy and guidance committee. It handles a lot of stuff related to faculty.
	JH: It's the primary governing body of the faculty.
	RB: I was just curious what the staff thought about having online petitions rather than a person to person conversation about issues.
	JH: It shows that more effort was put in.
59	AB: People are more likely to type things out than write them
	JK: For the stapler thing they used change.org which seemed to work well.
	SN: PB, we have battle of the bands coming up soon. Tell your friends to come support student bands. The winner will play at springfest. Speaking of, we didn't get T-Pain but we do have a headliner, we can't tell you yet. The first week after spring break we will have finished up the PB elections.
	AH: Will the pushball remain inflated this year?
	SN: We're going to have a test run and we have a back up plan. This is also a brand new pushball.
	RB: Are alumni allowed at founders day?
	JH: they can walk in through the guest entrance whenever they want.
	IC: The pushball my freshman year popped. The one from last year was much better construction, however it was made of rubber and rubber shrinks in the cold. Regardless whether it pops this year we're going to get another one. As long as its not freezing it should be fine. Maybe we can have a temperature sensitive condition.
04	JM: If you are going to do tug of war make sure you have gloves. Don't hurt your hand.
	JK: Does the springfest headliner.. Have no type?
	SN: I... maybe?
05	IC: the next guest is coming in 10 minutes, we can talk about Mac things.
08	JL: The forum for FAC debate is happening soon, the publicity happens tomorrow. Its going to be in the daily piper.
	CD How many sophomores came to the cake event?
09	LB: Just so people know people have been talking to me a lot about Kagins.
	JK: Can get an annual budget, maybe we can set aside some money to have each class have a class day.
	CW: People have been talking to me as well about Kagins. I think the reason why is because misinformation is being spread and the actual policies are not concrete.
	DT: We shouldn't have anything based on rumors. We're having a first year party on march 2nd, its going to be a cupcake night. We got a lot of our ideas from the soph, we've started publicity as well.
	IC: A few juniors and myself have talked about doing something for our class, this current season is pretty packed with MCSG stuff.
12	NE: More than us just communicating what we want to do, we also need to figure out what they are saying. Its not just what we're saying. I think we should all go around to our class mates and see what they think.
	RB: When is senior class elections?
	CD: 10 people have also asked us about that. Is there any student led things coming around?
	JM: I think from our perspective there are Kagins planned, we've stopped adding more. There were 8 planned at the beginning of the semester, we now have 7. We're not taking any more new ones. I had a meeting with the orgs that are hosting kagins, the orgs want to have these programs. There are issues, but its not kagin culture its mac culture. The removal of Kagins won't change the larger issue. Some of the things you guys are doing are helping to address that. Just centering it around kagins is making orgs feel like they're getting blamed for something that's beyond their control. They're willing to work in these guidelines, but we can't control behavior.
	JL: this is Christian Smith he's here to introduce his new org.
	CS: At its core, this new org will be a homebase for people who don't drink and don't do drugs. I'm thinking to primary goal is to have a space for fun and connections. A secondary goal is to have people who are curious about the sober lifestyle. And the person who really started this is Caleb Easterly, but I think that is the general idea.
	JL: We can open it up for questions
18	TS: What activities?
	CS: There will be a weekly meeting, it will be loosely structured. There will be events for the larger community, dances are thought about but are also provocative. Nights for games, other structured and fun activities. I don't think the activities need to be distinct but the name will give its own ethos.
20	JK: Why "soba"?
	CS: It sounds like sober and its funny. We want to foster a lightheartedness, alcohol and drugs can be heavy when talking about it but doing it is lighthearted. We're trying to send a message of fun.
21	DT: This won't be exclusive for sober people, at the same time will there be a space made to keep some people out in order to maintain a safe space.
	CS: We don't currently plan to have any exclusive meetings.
	PM: This is a suggestion or an idea, since we were talking about kagins we can channel energy towards this. This is a way to encourage responsible use.
	TS: I hope all these discussions won't lead to the group disliking or becoming opposed to people who do drugs and alcohol.
	IC: This is the introduction so we'll see Christian again next week to vote. We can return to the convo we were having earlier.
	TS: Yeah, we're talking about Kagins. People who I know have said that less kagins lead to more off campus parties. I've seen that increase.
	SN: I just want to say that there has been a lot more conversations on campus about sexual assault, so I just wanted to congratulate everyone here on making that an issue. I personally believe there has been more conversation here about this than I have ever seen.
26	RD: I don't want to start an argument here but I want to clear things up. There was talk of a bill about stopping kagins a little bit ago. Parties off campus is not an excuse. The difference is often people get less drunk kagin. My opinion is that by funding kagin we are supporting a culture that supports drinking and a sexual assault culture. Now that people are talking about it I think its good we are talking about options.
29	JL: These are Spencer More and Dex, they have an idea for an org
	SM: Since last year we wanted to make short films and make videos. We want to start an org on campus that will be around short filmmaking and learning more through film and each other. We will meet a couple times a month and have conversations about cinematography and offer our service to make videos. There was a person who wanted us to do a film about how to enter a Buddhist monastery.
	Dex: We hope that after each year we could have a Macademy to showcase all the films. The ACDC film festival is also going on around here, Mac students won before but we haven't been super involved now.
	SM: We'd love to have this org have their own equipment but that's a long term goal.

32	Dex: Pretty much we've been using student cameras and school cameras, there is also a new broadcasting studio. WT: You're interested in working with other student orgs and such? Dex: Yes, we think that making videos for others will be a great way to make ourselves known.
34	IC: I just see this org blossoming into a bigger things, like to DJ club. JL: If you have any more thoughts, visit their charter and we'll get a final version for next week.
35	CD: I agree that the Kagin issue doesn't override everything so maybe we should have a forum. People obviously have their opinions about this. CP: Personally I don't see that the college is sponsoring Kagins and is indirectly sponsoring drinking and sexual assault culture.
37	JM: Going back to my consistent and clear, if Kagin is gone then so is winter ball and founders day. When we have these things we need to be careful and consistent. Students will ask about why some activities get funded and some don't. A lot of orgs that sponsor dances will be affected by this change. Tess: remember to watch your language, we're talking about sexual assault and not staplers.
39	AH: You can distinguish, as an RA, that there is a difference between a Friday with a kagin and a normal Friday night. NE: It seems like people talk about Kagins when it is under threat, maybe people will act differently when this pressure is on. JH: I would encourage about being specific about what behaviors that needs to be changed. People often agree in the abstract. Don't sensationalize it, many people can demonstrate these activities without knowing. This is something that everyone contributes to PM: As reps, our role is to rep students. This argument is constructive, but we need to talk about the steps that we can take in order to stop all these issues. We should send out a message to the student body. JZ: We've been talking about the fact that people are talking about Kagin. We should instead do something concrete.
43	KF: I wrote an email to the SAAC reps, I brought up Kagin because the bill that the rumors are circulating from was brought up during a SAAC meeting. It could affect SAAC issues and programming so I sent out an email to SAAC reps about Kagin. I'm sorry for the confusion, if it came from that, but I'm not sorry for starting the conversation. If banning Kagins is the most important thing that gets people talking about this then so be it. People have been talking shit behind my back as they view me as public enemy number one. Don't think this is going to just happen. We need to be aware of what this is going to take.
47	JL: If anyone wants to have this on an agenda, a future conversation, email me or Tess so that people know it will be coming up. It'll be in our minutes but that's not the best way to advertise that. IC: This conversation has been going in circles so I'll cut off the speakers list.
48	WT: We're confusing Kagin and Mac culture. We have polls on sexual assault on campus but not just kagin. I know there is a lot of individual experience but lets get a broader view. I heard from the building manager that after the first PB meeting there was no PB rep helping out. If that is true or not, communication needs to be opened up. As Jim said, what is it exactly that we want to address. I don't think we have enough information and haven't applied our solutions enough yet. JM: Last semester I sent out a reminder for Kagin guidelines, maybe I can send that out again. It's a way to show people that this is being talked about. Maybe a town hall meeting or a forum will help eliminate conversations.
51	RB: We have talked about what is being talked about, we should channel this into productive ways. We should have a statement in the Mac weekly. We can try to incorporate this conversation into other things that are going on campus, for example the sexual assault forum. DT: I want to encourage all of us reach creative ways to tackle this issue. If we're going to provide information, we should be direct them to real things. Not just making assumptions and claims. We can work better, lets leave this meeting with that energy. IC: The meeting is wrapping up, lets do announcements.

Meeting ends 21:00