

**A Resolution to Recommend the Amendment of
the Macalester College Student Handbook Indecent Exposure Policy**

- Whereas, Section 5.26 of Campus Policies and Protocols in the Student Handbook reads “Members of the Macalester community should be aware that nudity in a public place is in violation of state law. The College has expectations related to appropriate behavior and reserves the right to impose disciplinary sanctions when behavior does not meet these expectations.”; and
- Whereas, This current policy reflects Minnesota Statute 617.23: Indecent Exposure; and
- Whereas, Indecent is defined as “not conforming with generally accepted standards of behavior or propriety.” Exposure is defined as “the revelation of an identity or fact, especially one that is concealed or likely to arouse disapproval.”
- Whereas, The current policy’s attempts to define general standards of behavior, and
- Whereas, The inclusion of this policy is not a necessary reflection of the values of Macalester College and its community.
- Whereas, Obscene is defined as “(of the portrayal or description of sexual matters) offensive or disgusting by accepted standards of morality and decency.”
- Whereas, The term “Obscene Exposure” may better encompass concerns related to accepted standards of behavior.
- Whereas, A new policy will allow for discrete, yet public, spaces for the positive expression of the body, given intent, preparation, and community awareness.

Therefore Be It Resolved by the Macalester College Student Government that,

Macalester College Office of Student Affairs ought replace Section 5.26 (Indecent Exposure) from the Campus Policies and Protocols portion of the Student Handbook with the following:

“5.26 Obscene Exposure

Members of the Macalester community should be aware that offensive, non-consensual nudity in a public place is in violation of institutional guidelines of conduct and behavior. Nudity that is consensual; has the intent of positive, free expression; is not accompanied by explicitly, invasive sexual behavior such as inappropriate gestures or language; and is respectful of the health standards of the space (i.e. hygiene and sanitary health codes) will not be in violation of this policy. The College has expectations of appropriate behavior and reserves the right to impose disciplinary sanctions when behavior does not meet those expectations.”

Be it Further Resolved that,

Copies of this resolution (R0002) shall be distributed by the Macalester College Student Government Executive Board to the following members of the Macalester College Community:

President Brian Rosenberg
Provost and Dean of the Faculty Kathleen Murray
Vice President for Student Affairs Laurie Hamre
Dean of Students James Hoppe
Associate Dean of Students Lisa Landreman
Assistant Dean of Students Robin Hart Ruthenbeck
Director of Campus Activities and Operations Joan Maze
Associate Director of Residential Life Coco Du
Director of Environmental Health, Safety and Security Terry Gorman
Director of Facilities Services Nathan Lief
The MacWeekly Staff