



MACALESTER

June 24, 2024

Dear President Rivera,

The Social Responsibility Committee (SRC) has reviewed a student proposal to remove Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the University of Haifa from the Center for Study Away's (CSA) pre-approved list of study away programs; to stop the addition of Israeli universities to the pre-approved list; to establish relationships between Macalester and Palestinian Universities; to create proposals that augment opportunities for learning about Palestinians and their history; and to provide more scholarship funding for Palestinian students.

## **I. Recommendation**

The Social Responsibility Committee (SRC) has reached a consensus that this proposal does not fall under the purview of the Board of Trustees. Instead, given that the College curriculum is mainly the purview of the Faculty, and since study away programs are part of the curriculum, we encourage the President to confer with elected Faculty committees, specifically Educational Policy and Governance ([EPAG](#)) and the Faculty Advisory Council, ([FAC](#)), on the proposal to remove study away programs in Israel from the pre-approved list of programs. After appropriate consultation with Faculty elected committees, the matter may be referred to the Study Away Review Committee (SARC). In making this recommendation, we reviewed the [Faculty Handbook, Section D](#), which outlines the responsibilities of the Study Away Review Committee, beginning on page 76. More information about the SARC process and its criteria can be found [on the CSA website](#). We also recommend that the proposal to create programs that augment opportunities for learning about Palestinians is in the purview of the Faculty, and that working to establish relationships with Palestinian universities is in the purview of the Kofi A. Annan Institute for Global Citizenship and academic departments. We note that Macalester has an existing mechanism through which Palestinian students may enroll and receive financial aid. Palestinian students have enrolled at Macalester in the recent past. Decisions about enrollment priorities are within the purview of the President and do not require Board of Trustees action.

## **II. Process**

The SRC received its charge from you, Dr. Rivera, on April 12, 2024, to review and consider a proposal developed by a student coalition called Mac for Palestine concerning the points outlined above.

The SRC consists of thirteen voting members and one ex-officio member. In alphabetical order, we include: Sami Banat '24, Avi Baron (Information Technology Services), Eric Carter (Edens Professor of Geography and Global Health), Susanna Drake, (Professor of Religious Studies), Teagan Church '26, Karen Codjoe '74, Sonja Erickson '25, Gabriella Gillespie '17 (Associate Director of Macalester Fund, Advancement),

Nanette Goldman (Senior Lecturer and Chair of Classical Mediterranean and Middle East), Duchess Harris (Social Responsibility Committee Chair, Special Assistant to the Provost for Strategic Initiatives and Professor of American Studies), Ezequiel Jimenez '13, Brian Lindeman '89 (Assistant Vice President for Admissions and Financial Aid), Alina Wong (Vice President for Institutional Equity), and Gary Martin, (Chief Investment Officer, ex officio).

The Social Responsibility Committee received Study Away proposals from Mac for Palestine on April 12th, 2024 (preliminary version), and June 4th, 2024 (final version), and met on Zoom June 5th, 13th, and the 21st.

Respectfully,

The Social Responsibility Committee

*Duchess Harris*

Dr. Duchess Harris, Chair



Sami Banat '24



Avi Baron



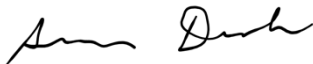
Dr. Eric Carter



Teagan Church '26

*Karen Codjoe*

Dr. Karen Codjoe '74



Dr. Susanna Drake

*Sonja Erickson*

Sonja Erickson '25



Gabs Gillespie '17

*Nanette Scott Goldman*

Nanette Goldman



Ezequiel Jimenez '13

*Brian Lindeman*

Brian Lindeman '89



Dr. Alina Wong