

Weyerhaeuser Boardroom

November 2, 2023. 12:00 PM CST



MACALESTER COLLEGE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Legislative Body Meeting Minutes

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

- Reminder to stay seated during the first part of the meeting

Institutional Equity ~ *Mariah Loeffler-Kemp* ~ 20 minutes

- Welcome! I hope everyone had a good fall break
- We have four guests from Institutional Equity
 - We will have other senior leaders coming throughout the rest of the semester
- We have a list of questions that we will ask
 - We have limited time with our guests, so please leave your laptops closed and give them your full attention
- We'll start by handing it off to Sophia
- Sophia Norha: Hello! Thanks for coming. I'm a senior class representative, and we're all interested in who you are and what you do. Could you give a quick introduction to each of your roles? What departments do you work with? How does your work impact the student body?
 - Alina Wong: Vice President for Institutional Equity, she/they pronouns
 - Worked in higher ed for 20 years, worked at Mac in the past
 - Minerva Muñoz: Dean for Institutional Equity, she/her pronouns, started in March
 - How does this role impact students?
 - Putting out educational workshops

- Doesn't work with one specific department, but here to serve the whole student body
 - Racial Justice Project Fund to advance racial justice
 - Support Center for Social Justice
 - Work with what students want to happen
 - Laura Creech, she/her, Mac for two years in April
 - Title IX Coordinator & Non-Discrimination Officer at Macalester College
 - Minnesota born and raised
 - Works with people impacted by sexual violence or discrimination for support and reporting options
 - If anyone is impacted by these or knows someone who is impacted, this is a place where you will have autonomy
 - Kelly Stone
 - College Chaplain and Associate Dean for Institutional Equity
 - Works in Religious Life
 - Looking at the practice of changing systems that are broken
 - Oversees Center for Religious and Spiritual Life
 - Create opportunities for learning and growth so that we can inhabit this world in a better way
 - Alina Wong: forgot to mention their role
 - Ran for student government three times and lost, but has great respect for student government
 - Serves on SLT, reporting to President Rivera
 - When there are broad college policies happening, they are directly involved in these processes
 - Role is to make sure that there is an equity and social justice lens throughout important discussions at Macalester
 - Macalester Believes that equity and social justice is a responsibility for all, but Alina makes sure that these policies and practices are taking into account social responsibility
 - Access and intersectionality
 - Thinking about invisible disability
 - Works with Dean of Faculty and Provost in hiring for tenure track positions
 - Working to ensure diversity
 - Do a lot: Laura and Minerva work with biases response
 - Address how to handle biases
- Ellen Patrickson: Hello! I am also a senior representative. How has and how will the strategic plan affect Institutional Equity? Could you specifically

touch on the new plan for the Cultural House and the renovations of the chapel?

- Alina Wong: started with Activate Group, invited faculty, staff, students, parents to give feedback to others
 - Strategic plan supports the work of IE
 - We have had many conversations about this, sometimes institutions write separate plans for social equity and justice
 - We want to make sure that social equity and justice show up in culture, campus, and curriculum, not just one category
 - Constantly involved in the process of strategic planning
 - C-House has been asked about, but we have to give a non-answer
 - Would like to talk with residents in the C-House and students before giving a public answer, but we hope to have news next week
 - The C-House will be taken down to make room for future projects, but we know how important it is in the history and culture at Mac
 - The C-House has moved several times at Macalester, but we have confirmed that after this change, we will stop moving it around for the convenience of the institution
 - We will announce more public information at a later date, but the new location will have elevators and be more accessible
- Kelly Stone: the Chapel is not ADA accessible at this time
 - We know that this space is restorative, and we want to enhance this
 - People love its roundness, natural light, and unique architecture
 - This space seats 300 people, and we want to be able to use it more often
 - Conceptual idea to see what is possible
 - Space study showed that there are many load-bearing walls
 - There will be a next chapter of the Chapel, but we don't know everything yet
- Alina Wong: there will be opportunities for students to provide feedback
 - We also want to think about climate justice, don't want to increase climate footprint

- Reagan: We are unfortunately out of time for more questions, but thank you so much for coming!
 - Alina Wong: Sorry we couldn't get to more questions, but please reach out if there is anything else we can answer for you
 - Mariah: we can briefly extend our questions with quick answers
- Alec Chen: Alina, you are the SLT lead for the new strategic plan initiative to "Create a signature advising and mentorship program for students that engages the Macalester community broadly in relationship-rich practices." Can you tell us the highlights of that initiative and what that looks like more broadly?
 - Alina Wong: Kelly Stone will be a co-chair of this group, but we haven't started meeting yet
 - Faculty, staff, and students will be on the committee
 - The idea is that we won't revise all of advising and mentorship, but we want to think about holistic advising
 - Each student might be able to have three advisors
 - Recognize that at a small university, you will work with many people across campus and we want to make this more intentional
- Philomena Shuffleton-Sobe: Res life and Dining liaison
 - What feedback have you received about all-gender housing? What opportunities exist to give feedback?
 - Kelly Stone: We sat with res life as they brainstormed this process
 - We found that there were some anticipated consequences, fears, and worries
 - Sense is that people have found places that fit their identities
 - Working to assume that not everyone has the same need
 - Constructing gendered floors and restrooms, also working to make faucets more inclusive
 - Thinking about how we can use a more universal design, ability to accomplish more things with one change
 - Alina Wong: hasn't received much direct feedback
 - We welcome suggestions, but we have to partner with res life to implement changes
 - Want to be a comfortable sounding board for students
- Mariah: thank you all for coming, even if it was somewhat short
 - Grab some pizza on your way out

Org Chartering ~ *Mikayla Giehler* ~ 10 minutes

- Starting with Girls Who Code, representative will come speak about the org and then we can ask questions
- Girls Who Code
 - Organization that previously existed, but couldn't continue
 - Bringing it back
 - Club for women or non-binary students interested in tech or STEM
 - Hold networking and speaking events that will be open to everyone
 - Are there any questions?
- Reagan: No questions?
 - Thank you for coming!
 - Reminder that when we are motioning, raise your placard to be called on
 - Is there a motion to approve?
- Vote:
 - Ellen: motion to approve the charter of Girls Who Code
 - Aditya Choubal: second
 - In Favor: 19
 - Opposition: 0
 - Abstaining: 0
 - Reagan: With 19 in favor, Girls Who Code is chartered
- Be The Match
 - National organization that works to run a registry for bone marrow donation, funding research, working with national organization to run drives and fundraise at Mac
 - Mikayla: Are there any questions?
 - Luke Evans: When there are blood drives on campus currently, who is in charge?
 - Rep: when you donate to the registry for Be the Match, it is a cheek swab, not a blood drive, so this is slightly different
 - These events have occurred in the past, but not by an official Mac chapter
 - Vote:
 - Eliora Hansonbrook: motion to approve the charter of Be the Match at Macalester
 - Emma Kopplin: second
 - In Favor: 19
 - Opposed: 0
 - Abstain: 0
 - Reagan: With that, Be the Match is chartered

Committee Updates ~ *Committee Members* ~ 3 minutes

- FAC (Eliora): use the link to view [F.A.C. Update](#)
 - Will quickly go over the one denial
 - Denied money from Outing Club because they submitted their request too late
- CEC (Mathilda): spent yesterday reviewing Legislaytion Week, planning for Fall MCSG newsletter
- AAC (Tristan): finally got a response from Patricia Langer the night before Fall Break
 - GSAT application got extended for a week and got a lot more interest
 - There will be a Mac Weekly article coming soon
 - Equitable Registration has been accepted at Mac, if you have questions, come see Tristan
- Cabinet (Willow): got a Community Chest request, but it came from an org so it had to be taken to FAC
- SOC (Mikayla): chartered two orgs, and are working with seven new orgs

Town Hall Review ~ *Mariah Loeffler-Kemp* ~ 5 minutes

- Ideas from Pizza Palooza event during Legislaytion Week
 - Equal support for social sciences and STEM research on campus
 - Org concerns about streamlining advertising for events, more students using Presence
 - Work with CSLE for that
 - Study Away grading
 - Other colleges allow for pass-fail grading for all classes while studying away, move towards that?
 - Look at how JWall is set up to encourage or discourage group work
 - Ask about C-House
- Please make sure that you're going out and getting feedback from students!

Cabinet Updates ~ *Cabinet Members* ~ 5 minutes

- Jordan Galloway: Athletics & Recreation Liaison
 - Gotten clearer committees on identity-based lifting initiatives
- Philomena Shuffleton-Sobe: Residential Life & Dining Liaison
 - Thinking about ways to get more feedback from students
 - More info about strategic plan and info
- Minori Kishi: Infrastructure & Sustainability Liaison
 - Slow progress, but meeting with sustainability advisor to learn what Mac and other colleges are doing about sustainability
- Rola Cao: Belonging and Accessibility Liaison

- Met with staff from OSC
- Spoke about restroom changes and res life
- Emma R and Rola met with Kelly Stone about CRSL and bringing back things that have changed with COVID
- Ryan Connor: Yosephine (International Student Liaison) isn't here, but working with Philomena about international student housing
 - Will be joining search committee

Staff Overview ~ *Heather Cook* ~ 2 minutes

- Re-introduction of role
 - Take minutes, in charge of name placards
- Name placards
 - Please show up a few minutes early if possible so that I have time to pass out your name placards before the meeting starts
 - Once the meeting starts, I need to be taking minutes
 - If you can't, please come get your name placard from my table
 - At the end of the meeting, please don't just leave your placard on the table
- Emma: where can we access the meeting minutes?
 - Heather: meeting minutes can be found on the MCSG website under the "Meeting Information" tab
 - Meeting agendas can also be found here
 - Meeting minutes can also be found in the Legislative Body shared Google Drive, which most of you should have access to

Working Group Wrap-Up ~ *Emma Kopplin* ~ 10 minutes

- We have been discussing whether or not working groups should be working inside or outside of LB
 - The changes that are happening are often taking place outside of LB
 - We will take the time to exchange contact information with groups to stay in contact
 - We don't want to be stepping on liaisons' toes
 - Moving forward, we will be spending more time in specific class groups, since we were all elected to serve our class communities

Announcements ~ 2 minutes

- Class Night Planning ~ Mariah Loeffler-Kemp
 - The next thing we need to start thinking about is Class Night
 - We are asking class leads to reach out to members of class year to meet before next meeting to plan what to do for class night
 - Friday, January 19?

- Reach out to all members of your grade to plan class nights
 - This is the first week of school, so plan before winter break
- Cleanliness ~ Ryan Connor
 - Be clean!
 - Don't leave your plates
 - Return placards and push in your chairs