

Library 206

March 21, 2023. 12:00 PM CST



MACALESTER COLLEGE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Legislative Body Meeting Minutes

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

Campus Committee Presentations ~ *Ryan* ~ 5 minutes

- Strategic Planning & Analysis

Austin

- So our first thing is we will be having a guest speaker from the SPA team

Eliora

- Strategic planning committee, board of trustees representative
- Looking at strategic plan, looking at public colleges at the strategic plan
- You might have seen the link I put out in the Mac Daily for a student focus group
- We've been generally gathering information
- This fall we've been working on improving the curriculum at mac
- Summarizes what we've been doing in the fall
- It has a lot of the ideas that we've developed and a summary of a 25 page document
- All of these ideas went to President Rivera and these are passed on to strategic plan rep
- Looking into how we are restructuring how we use time at Mac
- Making sure the semester works for everyone
- One student brought up that a lot of people don't like when school starts in August because of leases, subletting

- Another thing we're thinking about is adding a couple days into the semester and would add 2-3 wellness days to match up with religious holidays, would also allow for people to take more time off
- Know that it's a very stressful semester
- Only have 5 days off
- Tons of other ideas
- Not doing a trimester system
- Continuing to analyze possibilities, making a 20-page paper to send to President Rivera which will be sent to Paul Oovervorde and strategic planning committee
- Also on the financial planning committee
 - Really good at looking at cross-campus viewpoints
 - Doing a really good job of balancing everyone's needs, priorities, not overworking people
- Any questions? In the next 90 seconds

Joel

- I know that there's been murmurs throughout various strategic plan sessions about a 4-day work week, or making the week more flexible

Eliora

- We've been talking about this a little bit but lot of concern, for a lot of staff it wouldn't work out very well
- Would have to manage times because we're accredited
- Talked about moving labs around, lengthening classes
- Different experiences for stem students, humanities students
- Talked about moving labs

Austin

- Time for one more question if anyone has it, if not thank you so much for coming in

Staff Introduction ~ *Bobbie* ~ 1 minutes

Bobbie

- Hello everyone we have a new face please welcome Else Gerber

Else

- I'm Else she/her pronouns I'm a sophomore it's nice to meet everyone

Org. Charter ~ *Eric* ~ 2 minutes

- [Pre-Dental](#)

Austin

- We just need to vote on it

- Brief things

Eric

- Apologize for last week, we got the wrong version of the charter sent to us
- Now we actually have the updated one and the main thing is that they updated the language in here
- Again SOC has voted to approve this and our recommendation is to approve this
- Any questions? Very similar to last weeks
- Does anyone have a motion?

Alec

- Motion to approve the charter

Tristan seconded

Austin

- We will now be voting on the motion of the charter to approve the macalester pre-dental society

Vote:

Approve: 14

Opposed: 0

Abstaining:

Motion passes

Bylaw & Election Code Edits ~ *Austin* ~ 13 minutes

- [Bylaw Bill](#)
- [Election Code Bill](#)
- Split-ticket on Executive Board Positions ~ *Tristan*

Austin

- Bylaw and election code edits
- We've updated the bylaw and election code edits to reflect what has been voted to be changed, and then a few minor changes to move exec board elections to after spring break
- You should have had the opportunity to review the changes to the bylaws and election code before, we're just going to briefly go through this now
- Would be nice for people to stay off laptops now
- You can see sections have been added and some titles have been changed around
- We've obviously updated committee where it is; there is a new section for the class lead where it was discussed
- Class reps will elect a lead class rep
- Discussed already in constitutional

- We've changed because the VP president position is changing a little bit, no longer head of SSRC, edited that language
- Introduced cabinet chair, communications and engagement chair
- Change in work-study positions
- Removed SSRC chair because committee no longer exists
- Added stuff for cabinet, descriptions for liaisons, in line with what we discussed when editing the constitution
- All the major changes, need a two-thirds majority

Alec

- Motion to approve bylaw changes

Joel: second

Vote

Approve: 15 in favor

Opposed: 0

Abstaining:

Motion passes

Austin

- So now, hand in hand with that, the discussion about election code is broken down into two parts
- First part updating things to represent changes made during election process
- The thing that will be voted on separately is there has been a proposal to split certain executive board positions to run split-ticket, generally students who will be studying away
- We've changed a little bit of language to make things more clear, changes the quorum rules, this is the change that will be done separately
- Other than that we are changing the timing to after spring break
- Changing the names of positions
- Putting in writing a policy that has existed: if someone not making a meeting, making the process written down
- Changes to add liaisons, executive board, no changes to violation language
- Bobbie do you want to make the motion

Bobbie

- I'm going to motion to approve the edits to the election code, barring section 3.1

Mathilda: Second

Austin

- We are now going to vote to approve the changes barring that one section
- Approve: that is.. I don't know what's been going on with hands

- I think that's 15 in favor
- Let's do this one more time, only if you're an elected member of MCSG

Vote:

Approve: 15

Opposed: 0

Abstaining:

- Now we will have Tristan tell us about why we might want to approve the split-ticket

Tristan

- There's a couple of changes that are happening here and a couple things that are staying the same
- Cabinet members have been allowed to be split ticket
- This would allow for the potential for 3 chairs to run split ticket
- Communications and Engagement chair, SOC chair, AAC chair
- Whether or not allowing these 3 chairs to potentially have a split ticket
- Big thing it does is allow students who are studying away to continue their engagement
- Predominantly juniors are the group who are studying away
- People who don't reach their junior year but would be running split ticket and would give them the opportunity
- Someone who wants to stay involved
- Already have enough problems with people not staying engaged
- Another reason we want to do this
- Just an election code change, not a constitutional change
- If it's something we don't want to continue, pretty easy
- A lot of things we are doing now
- There three committees were chosen because have better transitional processes
- Austin how do I turn off the timer
- Alright

Austin

- Basically, we've had a lot of discussion about this among individuals, and now we're going to open it to the big group for q&a stuff if you have questions or comments

Alec

- Is this only for chairs?

Tristan

- Class reps and liaisons already were able to, just a change allowing for these 3 chairs to be split ticket

Emmanuel

- I guess my question is for people who have been spearheading the effort to make this change
- Seen a lot of turnover in MCSG in the middle of the year, the issues that can cause in terms of getting things done
- Lots of people who are sophomores now who are really engaged who would do a good job making the transition
- I guess my concern is how we would handle a situation when one person is handling it, becomes uncommunicative, make for a rough transition

Mathilda

- VP having different role, this is something that could be changed year by year because in the bylaws not the constitution
- Hope that there will be more facilitation from bylaws

Tristan

- Always potential for something to not work well with transitions
- This year didn't have planned transitions
- This would allow for transition planning, feed into that piece of it

Joel

- As someone who is currently the AAC chair, one of the challenges is often feeling like I'm doing these things in a bit of a vacuum of my own head, and having to be selective with the responsibilities of what I do on the committee. I think allowing for this to be a collaborative position would allow for more accountability and planning. I share some of these concerns that Emmanuel raised but I think we should try it

Bobbie

- I've been thinking about this a lot with study away, why we can't run on a split ticket
- I'm kind of indifferent at this point, I think it could go well or could go badly
- I want to emphasize one thing is that this is an option for people to opt in, doesn't mean that all of these positions will be split
- I would hope that since it's an opt-in thing, you wouldn't just have two strangers working on this position

Tristan

- One really quick thing, they still have to win an election. If the student body doesn't think that a split ticket would be good for MCSG they can not vote for that split ticket and instead vote for someone who would be here the whole year

Eric

- As an SOC chair who came mid year because of the whole transition, for me it was really hard to know what I'm doing even though I have two years of experience
- Due to the abrupt transition, if you are running on a split ticket you're likely communicating with them, the process could be made a lot easier
- Helpful to run on a split ticket

Laurie

- Clarification from Joel: the understanding is that split ticket is not collaborative, someone serving in the fall and someone else in the spring

Joel

- Anyone who would run together would be communicating throughout the year within reason to respect boundaries, but not serving together
- Serving separately
- Build some internal accountability

Austin

- As someone who's been in MCSG for four years, seen a variety of split tickets
- That type of scenario has been the exception and not the rule
- Most of the time it's someone who is committed and not committed, most of the time someone ends up being less involved
- From my experience the reality of the position is that there are significant issues that based on previous experience based on split ticket stuff are going to happen
- We're running short on time
- At this point unfortunately we don't have a lot of time
- Do I hear a motion

Tristan

- I propose a motion to accept the changes to the election code section 3 candidacy 1A

Mathilda: I second

Austin

- Ok we will now move on to the vote, all in favor please raise your hands

Vote

Approve: 13 in favor

Opposed: 3

Abstaining: 1

By a 2/3 majority the motion passes

Austin

- Ok now we will move in to... that's right Heaji's massive presentation

Budget Presentations ~ Heaji ~ 30 minutes

Heaji

- Ok so we are going to be reviewing all of the org budgets for the 23-24 year for all orgs requesting over \$4000
- For orgs who didn't submit one we have written one for them
- For all orgs here, when we get to your slide could you read it off, Austin facilitate questions
- to legislative body: if you haven't looked through their PDFs try not to ask questions, any questions that can be answered by just FAC save that for after the meeting, for the sake of time, org-specific questions
- Brief summary of requests
- Total requested amount is \$229,518.87
- I know that Adelante said they would be coming at 12:30

APIDA representative

- merging with APA committee
- APA itself is usually the org planning all the events like night market, movie showings, so we're merging them together and thought it would be better to just have one set person to go to for these things
- Budget is 2000 bigger this year because of the night market event
- Ask all the other Asian cultural organizations to come participate, cater food, held this event last year in front of the CC, had access to night market funds
- This year we won't be using those funds because outside in April is not the way to do it
- We cater and do activities related to Asian cultures, create a space on campus to build a strong community on campus

Heaji

- Did we have any questions?
- All total annual budget requested amounts will be on the top right
- If not we'll just move on
- Anyone from BLAC?

BLAC representative

- We are requesting more money because we are expanding our signature programs along with our fundraising programs
- Reinstating IMANI, signature program,
- Adding \$5,000 to budget
- Also providing gifts to contributors, each contributor for students will receive a gift card that is within their budget, will reimburse students for

their work and promote a culture where they will be fundraising, promote work

- Cost for speaker fees, fundraising, fund community speakers and performances
- Catering is a big expense, goes with main signature performances
- And out programs like Night of Blackness, Black history month showcase, the small cost of publicity
- That really is poster printing, distribution, advertisement that we may have
- Decorations, things that we want to have for events, have two signature events, and finding ways to collaborate with black communities across campus and in Twin Cities neighborhood
- Kickback, groceries, money for food and community organizing
- Biweekly brunches, going to continue that for next year, really is every other week for fall semester and spring semester which really comes down to \$200 per semester and also going to provide snacks as well
- Expanding programs, want people to come together, really the way to do that is we need more money
- Everything has been very successful

Heaji

- Any questions? Something else I forgot to mention: LB not voting on this, just to showcase budgets to LB so know what's happening
- Just any questions or concerns will be considered by the committee

Emi

- We need to keep these moving really quickly, focus on what is on the slide

Climbing club representative

- Asking for \$14,904
- Climbing is a very prohibitive sport because takes a lot of money to get involved, climbing club offers an inclusive opportunity for everyone to come try out the sport

Heaji

- LSU leaders?

LSU representative

- Requests \$10,164, had a lot of turnout this semester, planning to expand, having a Latinx week next week
- Asking for Latinx community and entire campus, also expanding for collaborations for future collabs with other orgs, intersectionality

Heaji

- I'm telling leaders that once you present you're free to go or stay

Adelante representatives

- Ok hi, Adelante is requesting a bigger budget this year because this year we started doing massive events like the quinceanera
- Started doing big events, bringing plays, photo expositions, that is where the budget comes from, want to not have to ask for money later, include it in the budget
- Seems like we restart things each semester, dissolved during Covid, have to restart again, solidify the board, planning ahead
- Manage to make better events, community reach out, aiming higher

MacSLAMS not present

Heaji

- Ok I can read this one
- MacSlams budget covers expenses for a monthly honorarium for our monthly slam feature, plus expenses for registration fees and lodging for a competitive tournament in spring that will replace CUPSI, since CUPSI has been discontinued.
- They're requesting \$15,240. Any questions?

Austin

- Is this expense for tournaments in line with previous budgets?

Cooper

- I don't think they've done this for 2 or 3 years

Heaji

- Lodging, travel is additional allocation, most likely wouldn't be approved

MASECA representatives

- Reading slide
- Biggest portion of \$4098 goes to Diwali, host a minimum of 250 students and majority of budget goes to catering, have a big turnout
- Same number of events as last year
- Have slight increase because of inflation

Heaji

- Moving on

MCSG representative

Bobbie

- Hello yep we're requesting a lot of money
- Multiple times what we've asked for before
- Prior to this year we've been operating on a very low budget because for the past few years we were completely on zoom
- Do a lot of events to promote student body
- Around \$11,000 goes to lunches at LB meetings,
- \$4-5000 is for a pilot program

- Majority is for events to engage student body and we need to do that
- If we're serious about student governance we need to back it up with the budget

Mac First Aid representative

- Sorry we're requesting funds — on slide
- Coats that we wear outside aren't good enough for Minnesota winters
- Budget necessary to maintain EMS service, educate community

Habitat for Humanity representative

- Asking for increased budget because of spring break trip, hadn't gone because of covid, this week took 16 students to Roane County Tennessee, a lot of people interested in coming back next year
- might try to bring more people, food budget wasn't sufficient for the trip, didn't expect the caloric intake everyone would need for the manual labor
- Got bailed out very generously by donors who were happy to feed us in Tennessee, don't want to plan on this, need more money to feed our students

Hegemonocole representative

- Asking for money to do regular prints, twice a semester, this is the cheapest we can do with double pages to cut down on costs, black and white on the inside

MJO representative

- Primary reason for increase in budget is due to big-ticket event of passover, to better understand our budget wanted to submit it up front

Model UN representative

- Hoping to continue tradition of taking students to conference
- Funding came from separate account that has not had a lot of donations
- Asking for conference fees,
- Asking this year for \$30 per diem stipend, hoping that that will at least cover it
- People don't have to pay out of pocket, hoping to continue that tradition because it could be prohibitive

Muslim Student Association representative

- To fulfill our organization's purpose of creating a safe and welcoming community for Muslim students on campus, we are requesting \$7,443.52 for seven different initiatives. Four of them are related to addressing our community's needs during the holy month of Ramadan, when Muslims engage in extra worship and complete daily fasts from dawn to dusk. Our remaining events seek to facilitate engagement with the greater campus and Twin Cities communities as we strive to connect MSA members to Muslims off campus and teach our campus about islamic traditions and practices.

- Requesting \$7443 for seven different initiatives

Heaji

- Last org West Coast Swing
- Ok guess I'm reading this one
- Macalester West Coast Swing gives students with no prior experience the opportunity to step into the world of dance in a uniquely welcoming, accepting space where the 240+ students on our mailing list may learn, have fun and socialize at no cost to them! Paying for the weekly 1 hr instructor lessons are a cornerstone of our org that let us provide the consistent learning opportunities to help students hone their dance skills and feel more comfortable social dancing at social dances both at Mac and out in the Twin Cities West Coast Swing community. Our group lessons at Cinema Ballroom make learning other dance styles more accessible to students who might experience social and financial barriers to going alone while our yearly overnight trip to The Chicago Classic is a unique opportunity for students to build community within our org, the West Coast Swing community as a whole, and learn from world-class instructors.
- Requesting \$8,500 dollars
- Considering current requests, anticipating \$362,000 from student activity fee
- Anticipating remaining balance of negative \$29,000 dollars
- Margin of error here, most likely not granting every single item requisition
- Looking further this is what we see (referring to slide)

Emi

- How we go these numbers: student activity fee, every fall \$88 goes into operating fund, in the spring \$63 goes in, based on 2,000 fee-paying students
- Look at how much is spent by orgs, how much anticipate to spend,
- end of last year's budget ended with \$110,000 left in operating, had \$63,000 in rollover
- Conservative estimate for now, better to underestimate and then overdeliver
- Expense side of things: flexi anticipating more orgs, new orgs
- Adding some in
- Off the top based on this year's financial code, gets a revision after budget bonanza
- Other thing I would note is in requests from orgs, things were realized as duplicate costs, not reflected in here

Laurie

- Does this take into account -\$29,000 to account for additional allocations in the fall [clarification]

Heaji

- Move onto next slide for capital, anticipated revenue is \$80,000, we have a lot remaining in expenses, considering increasing amount that goes into capital to operating
- That is the total review for everything
- Capital is stuff used for more than 3 years
- Yeah that's it

Committee Updates ~ *Committee Members* ~ 2 minutes

Austin

- Cabinet and committee updates
- AAC?

Joel

- Can I have like 10 seconds

FAC

Heaji

- budget bonanza happening this weekend so cheer on your FAC members

SOC

Alec

- Discussed how they're going to do advisor of the year

SSRC

- Published on instagram interest form for affinity lifting group

Back to AAC

- Waiting on students and staff email list approval for textbook reserve submission forms to go out
- Close communication with Connie from library
- I just had the list up
- Today in AAC going to meet with Laurie and discuss some of the concerns and considerations with our pilot program and automatic textbook billing within Macalester
- Having an open education month event on Monday about textbooks and alternatives, I will be there speaking, prof in German department will be speaking about an open access project she was working on
- All details will be on Mac daily tomorrow, on instagram today, see these posters everywhere, light refreshments, snacks, maybe coffee and donuts

Cabinet Updates ~ *Cabinet Members* ~ 2 minutes

Sustainability officer

- Short updates

- Got letter of support to Megan last week on behalf of the sustainability office
- Right now working on getting a survey out on campus wildlife designation
- Gauging student interest
- Events will be in the Fall but planning in the Spring

Diversity and inclusion officer

- I'm good

Announcements ~ 3 minutes

- Lunch with the Presidents - March 29 - *Bobbie*

Bobbie

- Was going to happen last month, first installment, but then campus closed because of weather
- First date will be March 29 which is next Wednesday
- Not exactly for MCSG members because already have pathways to President Rivera
- Had a few sign-ups but not incredible
- Trying to show President Rivera that these things are good, easy for students to engage with yer are important
- Encourage people to apply
- Please send them our way
- Sign up is in Mac Daily for the rest of the week
- Election update
- Executive board elections starting this week

Austin

- Filing goes out tomorrow
- Included in that email: dates for candidates' meeting, forum
- Will reflect updates made including the split ticket that we approved today
- We'll be running 2 elections simultaneously
- First will be executive board
- Then rolling over into next year's LB elections

Tristan

- When we sent out that email can we make sure there's a section that really reflects the changes made to the election board

Austin

- Yeah it's going to be a long email
- If you have any questions please talk to one of us, we will also be the ones adjudicating you if you decide to have a controversial election like last year

Emi

- OL apps have been extended to March 31, \$100 stipend, get to hang out, it's great, get to set the tone for first years, highly encourage you to apply
- Having info sessions tomorrow at noon and Tuesday in Humanities, it's great

Austin

- Anyone else have any things, more announcements?
- If not, congrats everyone on being really time-efficient on a meeting we thought we would have to extend