

Harmon Room - Library

April 4th, 2024 | 12:00 PM CST



MACALESTER COLLEGE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Legislative Body Meeting Minutes

Land Acknowledgment (We are on Indigenous land) ~ *Emma Kopplin* ~ 2 minutes

Community Engagement Center Elections & Democracy ~ *CEC staff* ~ 10 minutes

- Emma: We are hearing from the Community Engagement Center, and we have about ten minutes
- [Elections and Democracy - Community Engagement Center - Macalester College](#)
 - Derek Johnson: he/him/his
 - Emma: (Sophomore, she/her pronouns) Policy and Justice Organizer in the CEC
 - One of eight or nine organizers in the CEC and we each have different issue areas
 - Here to talk about our election engagement plan and Mobilize Mac
 - Method of engaging with wider Macalester community for all sorts of elections
 - Presidential election coming up this fall
 - Mobilize Mac is the overarching mechanism for engaging with students, staff, and faculty to educate people about voting and elections
 - Broaden our focus about being aware of elections and knowing what is going on

- We do a lot of cool work
- Derek: We know there is a large election in the fall, so Mobilize Mac is convening in the spring to talk about what the election means for us
 - We encourage anyone to attend our meeting on Wednesday April 17, 12-1pm
 - Please come! There is food
 - There is a link that takes you to our website about election engagement
 - More detailed information about elections and voting are available
 - On first page there is a link to Macalester's 2024 election engagement plan
 - Going over information what is in that plan now
 - Macalester participates in a study about voting
 - Going back to 2016, Macalester had a voter turnout rate of 81.9%
 - In the 2018 midterm elections, we had 72.8%
 - We had the highest voter rate of any higher education institution in the country
 - In 2020, the year of virtual modules, Macalester's actual voter rate was 79.1%
 - There were many things that were different that year
 - We know that the pandemic hurt our numbers, and we want to build them back up
 - Our thought about engaging people in the election is that people hear information the best from people that they are connected to
 - We encourage campus groups to engage in the election in any way that they want
- Emma: We work on voter engagement through registration
 - Table outside the campus center, at the org fair, and other locations
 - In Minnesota, it is very easy to register
 - We are working on incorporating voter registration information into FYCs and classes so that first year students know how to vote in their home states or here
 - Students react better from hearing from people that they know
 - We also have an all-student email from President Rivera reminding students that elections are happening and to vote

- We have Mac Daily announcements
 - Elected officials in the past have come to campus to talk and deal with students more directly
 - We are thinking about bringing this back
 - Does MCSG want to collaborate with this?
 - Derek: We want to turn your attention to the website that tells you how to register, vote absentee, and more
 - If you live on campus, you have been able to use their Mac ID to register the day of the election and vote
 - It is new that Macalester provides our information to Ramsey county
 - Students who are eligible to vote can register same-day with their Mac IDs
 - This makes it easier to register for students who are newly off campus
 - This will be relevant to most of you eventually, even if not now
 - We invite you all to come to our Mobilize Mac meeting on the 17th
 - We welcome your feedback
 - We would love to partner with MCSG on things going into the next year
- Questions?
 - Derek: We really just want to share this information and make you all aware of what is going on
 - Emma: If people think of things later, I'll be around for the whole meeting
 - Jordan Galloway: One issue that I've heard of people encountering is just knowing that they might have a different polling place if they live just a few blocks away
 - Is there any effort being made to let people know that if they move, they can't vote in the same place anymore
 - Derek: We put those in the Mac Daily, but not everyone reads these
 - Mac students who live within six blocks of here may vote in many different locations
 - We don't have a way to send something out to just students who don't live on campus
 - Emma Kopplin: Unfortunately, that is all the time we have, but thank you so much for joining us

FAC Appeals ~ *Eliora Hansonbrook* ~ 28 minutes

- Emma Kopplin: We have a lot of voting to do, so please pay attention
 - Eliora will give us some context, then we will vote on some org appeals
- Eliora Hansonbrook: Hello, everyone
 - We have seven orgs appealing today
 - We have a few important notes
 - First, during Budget Bonanza, we discussed requests
 - We discussed every org's budget and voted on all of them, approving about a quarter of a million requests
 - We cut money from orgs who didn't follow procedure, then cut 48% off the top of all orgs
 - We did this for a few reasons
 - We will go over two important items
 - We denied food for almost all repeating events unless there was a good reason
 - Didn't approve any travel or food for travel in Budget Bonanza
 - We had to do further cuts after approval because we didn't have the money
 - Without a balanced budget, we will have negative money
 - We had to do round one and two cuts
 - The money that we have this year for appeals is all of the money that we may have available for additional allocations next year
 - If we give away this money today, there may be no money next year
 - We are guaranteed to have \$7,771.94 next year, but we can't guarantee that we will have more
 - Orgs are requesting \$13,888 this year
 - We can't give them all this money
 - Normally, we go into the fall with approximately \$60,000 for additional allocations
 - This sounds scary, but we do expect at least some rollover
 - Because of what orgs are spending this year, we will likely have less
 - Last year, we were guaranteed about \$2000 and got a lot more, but this year we will likely have less money for rollover

- The structure of this will be that each org will have a minute to present, then someone from FAC will respond, then 90 seconds for questions
 - All appeals will be in the order that orgs requested appeals
- **Mac Anime** **\$208.95**
 - Rep: We are requesting an appeal for our operating budget
 - We need about \$350 for an anime movie
 - We could spend some flexi for this
 - We are a bit short and we can't host this event without it
 - Basically, this one licensor of movies has a ton of options, but they are all \$350 for public use
 - Eliora: Every org can request additional allocations next year, and this would be a great use of additional allocations
 - It makes more sense to make sure that this money is available to request next year
 - Additionally, this org was further cut in the first round because they did not follow the proper budgeting procedure
 - Rep: When did we not follow procedure?
 - Eliora: We can go over this in more detail at a later date
 - Questions
 - AnLian: You guys want to spend \$350 on a movie?
 - Rep: This is a legal requirement
 - Eleanor: Can we vote to give a smaller amount of money to the orgs?
 - Andrew: What would be the point of that?
 - Vote:
 - Jordan: Motion to vote on the appeal for Mac Anime for \$208.95
 - Eleanor: Second
 - In Favor: 0
 - Opposed: 21
 - Abstaining: 1
 - Emma: With that, Mac Anime's appeal for \$208.95 has been denied
- **Mac Chess** **\$3,560.40**
 - Eliora: Do we have a representative from Mac Chess?
 - Since no one is here, I will speak for them
 - Mac Chess is appealing the 48% cut and travel cut
 - We don't allocate for travel during Budget Bonanza

- They also didn't follow budgeting procedure
 - Sean: All orgs that had food for travel and lodging and flights were cut because that is not allowed
 - Questions:
 - Andrew: Thus far, it seems that orgs that are appealing didn't do the process correctly or understand it
 - How can we make this better?
 - Eliora: During Bonanza, orgs meet with liaisons
 - Sometimes they don't meet or liaisons make mistakes, but I think liaisons did well this year
 - Vote
 - Mikayla: I motion to vote to decline Mac Chess's request for \$3,560.40
 - Luke: Second
 - In favor: 20
 - Opposed: 0
 - Abstaining: 2
 - Emma: With that, we have declined the appeal from Mac Chess for \$3,560.40
- **FSU** **\$2,160.00**
 - Rep: Our mission is to support First-gen students on campus
 - We fill important gaps
 - We have to pride ourselves on being flexible
 - We have to plan events depending on the needs we serve
 - We need to be able to have events on a week's notice
 - We need flexible money
 - It is difficult for the bureaucracy to support what we need, and we need to be able support our students
 - Tor: This money would be to cover the across the board cut
 - The money requested is more essential to the purpose of the org
 - Eliora: FSU can just submit additional allocations in the fall
 - All of that money is flexible
 - Just because money is allocated for one event doesn't mean it can't be used for another event
 - FSU can just use all of the money they've been given for other things, then create additional allocations for events that are more than two weeks in the future
 - Rep: The purpose is the flexibility in timing
 - We need two weeks for additional allocations

- Eliora: If you are just using that Budget Bonanza money we don't need two weeks
 - Rep: We don't think we should need to go through the FAC process
 - We don't always have the time to go through FAC
 - Sean: What Eliora means is that during the fall semester, if you have an event that you've already planned out, you can use money that you've already planned for a future event for a sooner event, then request the money for the further event
 - You can move the money around however you want
 - Liv: This year, are you guys planning to use up all your funds?
 - Vote
 - Tor: I motion to approve the full amount requested
 - Eleanor: Second
 - In favor: 11
 - Opposed: 11
 - Abstaining: 2
 - Eliora: It doesn't pass because it needs 50% plus one
 - Emma: With that, the motion to approve FSU's appeal for \$2,160.00 is denied
- **MacSlams** **\$5,522.40**
 - Rep: We host monthly poetry events
 - Lots of orgs have made new events for the year
 - This is an old event
 - We have also requested even less money than usual this year
 - We want this money through annual allocations, rather than additional allocations because we pay poets
 - We reach out to them early, and we can't pay them without the money
 - Any amount that you are able to grant through annual allocations will allow us to support the arts
 - Eliora: I understand that this is an issue for your org, but we had to make these cuts because they are essential for keeping our orgs balanced
 - I will suggest that we deny the request in order to keep our funds available for next year
 - You can request them in additional allocations in September, and move money from the spring in the meantime
 - Question:

- Tristan: Would it be helpful to approve some of this money now, and then have the rest of it in additional allocations?
 - Rep: Yes
 - Philomena: Is the entirety of it to be paying people?
 - Rep: Some of it is also for registration of events and other logistical matters
 - Emma: People making the motion can dictate a certain amount
 - Willow: It makes sense that people need to have money to come to campus
 - Do you have the money for the fall poets?
 - Rep: Yes, but in the summer, we are going to start reaching out to the spring poets, and we want to be able to pay them
 - Vote
 - Tristan: I motion to approve \$2500 of the appeal for Mac Slams
 - Joel: Second
 - In favor: 8
 - Opposed: 15
 - Abstaining: 0
 - Emma: With that, the motion to approve \$2500 of the appeal for Mac Slams fails
- **Macalester the Gathering** **\$326.40**
 - Rep: We initially requested more, and received a lot less
 - We are planning several events
 - It was suggested to us that we use flexi funds for this
 - We want to have backup money in case prices for items change
 - We received \$353 and want just a little more
 - There is a lot of interest, and this is just to help make us a real club and less of an impromptu group
 - Elicora: Just like every other org, we think you should wait until the fall
 - Since you guys can request money in the fall, you should wait
 - Question
 - Liv: Is there a reason that they are not a part of the Macalester Tabletop Roleplaying?
 - Rep: Yes
 - Joel: Is there a reason you need the money now instead of in additional allocations?
 - Rep: Our club is incredibly new
 - A group of people with a common interest

- We just want to have the essentials to consider ourselves a club
 - The reason that we don't want to do this in additional allocations is that we want to have a semblance of an outline as an organization
- Vote
 - Sean: Motion to deny Mac the Gathering's appeal request for \$326.40
 - Luke: Second
 - In Favor: 22
 - Opposed: 1
 - Abstaining: 0
 - Emma: With that, the motion passes to deny the request for \$326.40
- **Mac Bike** **\$1,500.00**
 - Rep: We were only approved \$130 because we requested food for repeating events
 - We wanted an annual event for showing off cool bikes
 - We want the money to make that event happen
 - We have struggled in the past with getting additional allocations
 - Sean: The majority of the money cut was in the first round because we weren't doing food for repeating events
 - We have established some precedence for orgs being able to request money throughout the year
 - Question:
 - Owen: How much are you requesting now?
 - Rep: \$120
 - Andrew: What troubles have you had with additional allocations?
 - Rep: They haven't been approved in time to happen
 - Willow: When do you hold this event?
 - Rep: Fall
 - Vote
 - Eliora: Motion to deny Mac Bike's new request for \$120
 - Luke: Second
 - In Favor: 19
 - Opposed: 3
 - Abstaining: 1
 - Emma: With that, the request Mac Bike's new request for \$120 is denied

- **Game Devs @ Mac** **\$1,609.85**
 - Rep: Given the situation, I want to fix this number
 - We are asking for \$500 total, and need an additional \$240
 - We don't have a lot of alum who can mentor us
 - This industry is hard to get into already
 - Last month, we had a speaker who started their own company, and we have to pay speakers like this to work with us
 - Elicora: We think that Game Devs @ Mac should go through additional allocations, just like anyone else
 - Questions:
 - Andrew: Is there a reason that the money shouldn't come out of the additional allocation funds?
 - Rep: We want to have this event in the fall and we need insurance to make sure it actually happens
 - We worked with PB last time, and this was very difficult
 - Vote
 - Mikayla: Motion to deny the appeal from Game Devs @ Mac for an additional \$240
 - Eleanor: Second
 - In Favor: 18
 - Opposed: 3
 - Abstaining: 2
 - Emma: With that, the motion passes to deny the appeal from Game Devs @ Mac for an additional \$240
- Emma: Thank you guys for coming, and we would love to support you in any way that we can
 - Please make additional allocations next year when we are confident in our rollover costs

Campus Committee Presentations ~ 10 minutes

- Emma: Students on campus committees are required to report to us
- Provost's Student Advisory Committee - Emma Runchey Smalley, Lizzy Hayashi, Oliver Mock
 - Emma Runchey Smalley: We meet with the Provost monthly on zoom and talk to her about campus events, student concerns, and what admin is doing
 - We talk about a variety of things
 - Lizzy Hayashi: Last year we talked a lot about textbook changes
 - We bring administrative and student perspectives

- Emma Runchey Smalley: We have one more meeting this semester and can bring MCSG's concerns
- Strategic Planning & Analysis Committee - Emma Salomon, Mayande Mamba
 - 📄 SPA report on weekly class schedule final Feb 15 2024.pdf
 - 📄 SPA report on US News etc rankings final January 2024 (2).pdf
 - Emma Salomon: senior
 - Mayande Mamba: sophomore
 - Emma Salomon: Our committee works with faculty and staff to create reports on US News and the Shape of the Week
 - These reports are made available
 - We were interested in how US News report is aligned to our mission
 - Who uses the report and what are other resources that are used as people choose to attend Macalester?
 - Our second report was the Shape of the Week
 - We interviewed many faculty, students, and staff
 - The shape of the week hasn't been changed for ten years and we wanted to see if there needs to be an update
 - We found that we should increase passing time to 15 minutes as a low-stakes solution
 - There was a goal to get off campus more
 - We suggested a couple ways to fix this
 - We advocate for students and get feedback from the president about what we should study next
 - We are also working on graduation and retention rates
 - This report will be out by the end of the semester
 - We have talked to many people on campus
 - We both will not be on the committee next year, so we are looking for new people
 - It is interesting to be in these meetings
- Emma Kopplin: We are running out of time, but committees and cabinet members, please type your updates into the agenda
 - You can all email these reps

Committee & Cabinet Updates ~ *Committee & Cabinet members* ~ 3 minutes
 CEC: Elections are coming up. We will send out a form for tabling on April 11th and 12th as well as April 19th and 22nd. Information Session next Monday April

8th at 6-7pm in the Harmon Room. We need current and former Reps for a Q&A, bring friends there will be free pizza. There's a showflow for the event in the LB drive.

AAC: The application form for the [GSAT Program](#) will be sent out by the end of this week. The textbook reserve fund submission form will be released on April 15th. EPAG is seeking to extend the curricular committee and we will be needing student representatives.

SOC: We chartered our 100th org and we're celebrating with cupcakes on Friday, April 5th! We also worked on publicizing the call for Student Leadership Awards nominations which are due Tuesday April 9th at 11:59pm.

Announcements ~ 2 minutes

- Nominate people for SOC awards (links also in an email from SOC last week):
 - [Org Advisor of the Year](#)
 - [Student Org of the Year](#)
 - [Student Org Program/Event of the Year](#)
- Strategic Plan Student Session with Paul Overvoorde
 - Tuesday April 9th; 4:45-5:45pm
 - Weyerhaeuser Boardroom
 - Emma K: Mariah has been working with Paul Overvoorde to have a Strategic Plan feedback session
 - Get involved!