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Macalester College Student Government
Spring 2024

A Resolution in Support of the Macalester Undergraduate Workers' Union (MUWU)

WHEREAS The Macalester Undergraduate Workers' Union (MUWU) defines itself as a collective "of Macalester student workers who are coming together to bargain for our rights. We want fair wages, control over our workplace, and an end to income and wealth inequality at Macalester. Centering the needs of low-income, students of color, queer and trans, disabled, and international students, we stand as students affected by financial struggles, scheduling issues, and little to no communication with managers. We want to change this and create an organization of student workers who will stand up and ask for what we deserve, together",

WHEREAS Macalester College's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion necessitates action to address systemic inequalities and ensure that all student workers, especially those from marginalized communities, have equitable access to opportunities, resources, and support in their employment,

WHEREAS student workers play an indispensable role in the functioning of Macalester College, contributing to its vibrant community, enhancing the quality of services provided to all members of the campus,

WHEREAS a transparent and accountable relationship between student workers and management fosters a culture of respect, collaboration, and shared governance, leading to more effective and equitable workplace practices,

WHEREAS MUWU is dedicated to empowering student workers, fostering a community grounded in equity, and championing the rights and needs of all student employees. MUWU carves a transformative pathway for student engagement and

representation within our shared governance system, thereby enhancing student autonomy and input in work-study and policy decisions,

WHEREAS the MUWU has successfully advocated for the signing of a neutrality agreement but is continuing to work towards voluntary recognition and good-faith bargaining from the Macalester College Administration,

WHEREAS MUWU is actively campaigning the student body to encourage student workers to sign union cards. They are currently advocating for voluntary recognition after receiving a majority (50%+1) of cards from student workers to demonstrate the popularity of their mission,

WHEREAS conducting an election under the oversight of the National Labor Relations Board will delay the formal recognition of the Macalester Undergraduate Workers' Union,

WHEREAS within the Macalester College Student Government Constitution, we are encouraged to make decisions that contribute “to economic forms that provide safe, meaningful working conditions and the means to live within ecological constraints” and “to an equal distribution of resources and substantive access by all to community power” as stated in Amendment 1 Section 1 of the MCSG Constitution and the formal recognition of MUWU supports those goals,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Macalester College Student Government calls on the Macalester administration to commit to voluntarily recognizing MUWU, pending the reception of union cards from the majority of student workers. Therefore, we ask that the Macalester College administration commits to bargaining in good faith with the union to create a contract that fulfills the needs of all student workers, following the successful recognition of Macalester Undergraduate Workers' Union.