

Task Force on Membership Requirements (TMR) Recommendations

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1. Process

After several months of reviewing the MCSG Bylaws; Constitution; and the Student Rights, Freedoms and Responsibilities Document (SRFRD) of the Student Handbook, the Task Force on Membership Requirements (TMR) has encountered many perspectives regarding the eligibility of an MCSG representative. The TMR has met with individual students; the Judicial Council; and administrators with particular inquiries regarding membership, power-hierarchy, MCSG as a student organization, and more. We coordinated questions, information, and planning through consistent communication over email and the exchanging of meeting notes. Although we didn't always agree, we treated each member and guest with the utmost respect and equality.

During our meetings, we discussed issues of sovereignty, election eligibility, academic standing, student confidentiality, our relationship with the Board of Trustees, double standards, constitutional amendments, bylaw interpretation, and many other topics.

2. Findings

It was a series extraordinary events that created the circumstance of multiple member removals last fall semester. Within this context, we knew the task of the TMR would be a difficult process. Thus, we approached the TMR as an opportunity to critically examine and look more closely at the documents that provide the foundation for our organization.

Throughout this process, we constantly disagreed, debated, and came to divergent conclusions. Ultimately, we desired to find clear answers to important questions, such as:

- How do the Constitution and Bylaws interact with Macalester College's institutional policies?
- In granting us the privilege to collect the Student Activity Fee and use campus resources, what are reasonable limits the Board of Trustees - and its successors and assignees - can place on MCSG?

- In recognizing these limits, what are the limits of MCSG power?
- What would MCSG sovereignty look like? Is it possible? Would this really mean more power or independence for Macalester students?
- Do students have a right to a student government?
- Other specific questions posed can be found in Appendix I.

Ultimately, after examining these many documents and meeting with various groups, we determined that the current processes in place, while not ideal, hold water. After having thought through member removals, meeting with people who have been through the removal process, and meeting with policy makers and interpreters, we understand where existing policies come from and why they are in place. In many cases, we did not agree with school policy. Many of the justifications for current processes were confusing and used circular logic.

Despite these problems and disagreements, we do not recommend specific policy changes. We have come to the conclusion that there is nothing else to find in these documents that would give us more insight or clarity.

We also considered the impacts of MCSG being a sovereign organization independent from Macalester College. The logistics of this would be extremely difficult, including insuring our assets, filing with the state as a nonprofit organization, executive pay, and hiring our own lawyers. Additionally, we would lose many valuable connections with campus staff who serve as invaluable resources. We desire the freedom and independence of sovereignty, but it is not a pragmatic path to take.

3. Recommendations

In the recommendations below, we map out how we can achieve what we seek from sovereignty through other more proactive and pragmatic measures. We hope these recommendations inspire MCSG members to be more accountable, act responsibly, and take greater initiative in pushing MCSG and the Macalester community to be more inclusive, respectful, and bold.

By changing the culture of student governance, we can acquire what we look for through sovereignty, namely independence in decision making and substantial student power in policy formation. Membership requirements, therefore, encompass the duties of serving on MCSG, not merely the ability to serve in the first place. Documents like the Bylaws; Constitution; and Student Rights, Freedoms and Responsibilities Document provide a framework on eligibility, but do not specify what uncoded requirements we should expect of members. Therefore we recommend the following steps to build a more active, engaged, and respected student government:

- Increased Engagement
 - The Representative Committee of MCSG should meet once per week to facilitate more outreach and collaboration. Thursday at 7pm?

- Each committee should come up with a semester outreach plan specific to further the goals of the committee and engage students who are outside of MCSG
- Membership Development
 - Development workshops to inform good organizing work open to the public. Thirty (30) minute workshops can be on topics such as tabling, resolution and bill writing, respectful conversations, etc.
 - Training of new members by representatives from the year prior.
 - Transition documents for committees, class-years, and executives.
 - Hand out a packet to each member of new LB at first meeting to include MCSG constitution, by-laws, legislation from year prior, and transition documents.
 - Skills training at the Fall/Spring Retreat with a focus on effective outreach and follow-up in addition to establishing community guidelines
- Campus Committees and the Judicial Council
 - Report back of Campus Committee representatives and the Judicial Council to the LB at least once per semester
 - Archival of MCSG Judicial Council rulings and decisions
- Additionally, we would like to see more direct connections and obvious between these documents.

Appendix I: Judicial Council report

Questions are verbatim.

Articles in Question:

- Bylaws: Article XIII.2.1(a)
 - We've already recommended a change: current MCSG felt election was more democratic
- Bylaws: Article XIII.8 - removals pertaining to election violations only
 - Most likely they mean Section 9: this section only applies to election violations -- irrelevant to membership rules as a whole.
- Constitution: Article XII.1 implies judicial board sanctions do not cause automatic removal, but can be grounds for recall
 - Severe disciplinary/strict academic probation or a harassment conviction, etc. apply to all students & automatically remove any student from leadership.
 - This section mentions student-initiated recall only.
- SRFDR: Article IV. - Knowledge of violations of college policy violate article IV, causing a circular logic between this article and the previously listed article. So finding out there is a violation of college policy allowing for recall violates the SRFDR
 - Campus media (Article III.D) within editorial policies may print info if made available by concerned parties: students affected interviewed/wrote
 - Student-initiated recall has burden of proof, protecting from prying of CHB/HC/other info. Article meant to cover all possible reasons.

Questions posed by the Task Force:

- If the Conduct Hearing Board is essentially separate from MCSG, can they make decisions on membership requirements when it comes to disciplinary probation?
 - CHB applies to all students, made up of students/faculty/staff -- strict DP carries auto removal for anyone placed on it, whether MCSG rep/team captain/elected org leader.
 - Most CHB decisions do not disqualify students
 - MCSG Constitution does not enumerate power to set membership reqs that contradict college policy
- If the Board of Trustees has power over MCSG and its members, can the administration alone determine who is eligible to remain in MCSG after any form of probation?
 - In admin terms, only strict academic/disciplinary probation & some other charges necessitate automatic resignation.
 - Students may decide to recall a rep for less, or remove the MCSG from power
- Does the removal of an MCSG member require a petition or is it automatic as declared by the administration?
 - Student-backed removal is petitioned, 2 types of probation auto remove
- As students, we hold specific rights. Do those rights carry over to our membership on student government or does essentially being in leadership positions bound us to different boundaries?
 - Most orgs have removal process internally for leaders. Some teams remove for not meeting athletic department standards. MCSG does not have this setup
 - Status as rep does not affect student rights and responsibilities
- Can the Constitution be violated by the College at any time?
 - See Article 1: Sec1 -- MCSG operates within legal authority of BoT as constituent committee
 - Constitution is not necessarily violated if overridden by college policy
- Were removals last semester in line with the Constitution? the SRFDR?
 - Immediate answer is yes -- only problem is if any information came out w/o consent (to our knowledge no)

- Exec board not upholding parts of Constitution
 - Not sure which parts -- ask
- Where does Constitution lie relative to other college foundational documents?, including charter/constitution of faculty.
 - Lower-tier: MCSG is small body, but broadly controls student life
 - MCSG not enumerated power to approve/deny changes to academic & campus policies, except thru appointment of committee reps & passage of resolutions, or in areas directly relating to MCSG (orgs, student fees, etc.)
- Faculty can initiate a vote of no confidence of college administration. Can students?
 - MCSG cannot, no mention in Student Assembly either. Faculty may be due to enumerated power & full representation.
- What campus bodies can extend unwritten power over what other bodies? When can this happen? What are the extents of unwritten jurisdiction?
 - Power to set and enforce policy is written: charters & handbooks of campus bodies like CHB, faculty, Student Affairs, ResLife, Academic Programs, BoT.
 - Lack of explicit mention of bodies in MCSG Constitution & Bylaws does not constitute immunity for reps.

Appendix II: Student Rights, Freedoms and Responsibilities Document

Student Rights, Freedoms and Responsibilities Document

At its November 7, 1986 meeting the Board of Trustees approved the principles and procedures set forth in the Rights, Freedoms, and Responsibilities document which was adopted by students and faculty of the College in May 1986.

PREAMBLE

Macalester College exists for the transmission of knowledge and the pursuit of truth. Free inquiry, free expression and responsibly free activity are indispensable to the attainment of these goals. Any assertion of rights and freedoms implies a readiness to assume concomitant responsibilities. The College community in moving to protect individual liberty, expects from each of its members a recognition of the primarily academic purposes of the institution, a concern for the rights and freedoms of others, and a commitment to the rule of reason in the settling of disputes. The purpose of the delineation of rights, freedoms and responsibilities that follows is to foster the growth of a free and cooperative community of learning.

All persons subject to provisions of this document are likewise subject to federal and state statutes and local ordinances.

I. FREEDOM OF ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

A. Admission

Any person may apply for admission to Macalester College. All applications will be equitably considered by the Admissions Office and no applicant shall be barred from admission to the College on the basis of age, sex, color, national and ethnic origin, religious preferences, sexual preference or handicap/disability.

B. Financial Aid

The College provides a variety of financial aid through scholarships, grants-in-aid, work opportunities and loans in order to attempt to meet the total financial needs of students.

C. Leaves of Absence

Any student in good standing has the right to be granted a leave of absence from the College, based on policies which are published and available.

II. EXPRESSION AND INQUIRY IN COURSES AND SCHOLARSHIP

A. Protection of Individual Rights

Learning and scholarship are at once individual and collective activities. Individuals need to enjoy the collective assurance and protection of free inquiry and open exchange of facts, ideas and opinions. Students are free to take reasoned exception to the data or views offered in any course of study and to reserve judgment about debatable issues. The faculty member in the classroom and in individual conference is to encourage free discussion, inquiry and expression.

B. Respect for the Community of Scholars

The collaborative nature of scholarship demands that individuals recognize and acknowledge the authorship and priority of ideas and information used in their own work. In addition, individuals should be tolerant of legitimate differences of opinion, respect the convictions of others and protect the rights of all to pursue their own lines of inquiry. Students should preserve libraries,

classrooms, laboratories and other buildings and facilities as learning resources for use by all. Finally, students should respect the rights of others to the privacy and solitude they require for study.

C. Academic Evaluation

Students are responsible for understanding the content of any course of study and the policies and grading procedures of faculty members in whose classes they are enrolled. Students who believe that they have been subjected to arbitrary or discriminatory academic evaluation by faculty members are guaranteed the right of appeal. Arbitrary or discriminatory academic evaluation may involve any or all of the following:

1. Grading on a basis clearly irrelevant to the student's mastery of the course;
2. Grading on a basis which has not been consistently applied to all students taking the same course concurrently;
3. Grading on a basis which is not consistent with the prior practices or announced policies in that course during that semester.

III. EXPRESSION AND INQUIRY IN CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

A. Expression by Individuals and Student Organizations

Students and student organizations are free to examine and discuss all questions of interest to them and to express opinions publicly and privately. Members of the College community must take responsibility for their expressions by signing their names to any public document which they circulate or prepare for circulation.

B. Guest Speaker Policy

College organizations are free to bring to the College any guest speaker. The College may develop procedures for orderly scheduling of speakers and other programs. Sponsors of speakers should clearly state in their publicity the name of the sponsoring organization. Sponsorship of the appearance of a guest speaker does not necessarily imply endorsement by the sponsoring group of the College.

C. Student Demonstrations

Students are free to support causes by orderly means so long as those means do not disrupt the operation of the College, endanger the safety of individuals or destroy property. In any public demonstration or expression, students or student organizations speak only for themselves. In dealing with demonstrations that are disruptive, the College will first attempt reason and persuasion to resolve the disruption. Only after full consultation among the constituencies of the College shall civil authorities be called in to deal with student demonstrations.

D. Student Media

1. The student media such as student produced radio, newspapers, literary or opinion magazines or journals, video and film shall remain free of censorship and prior review of copy, and its editor(s) and manager(s) are free to develop their own editorial policies.
2. Editors and managers of student media are protected from arbitrary suspension and removal from office because of student, faculty, administrative or public disapproval of editorial policy or content. Only for proper and stated causes are editors and managers subject to removal (see below), and then by orderly and prescribed procedures.
3. All student media must explicitly state that the opinions therein expressed are not necessarily those of the College community.
4. The freedom accorded student editors and managers entails adherence to the canons of responsible journalism and reporting, e.g., the avoidance of libel, indecency, undocumented allegations, attacks on personal integrity, harassment, and slanderous innuendo.
5. Charges of violation of the items noted above shall be dealt with through the College's judicial and mediation process.

IV. CONFIDENTIALITY OF RECORDS

(also see Statement on Privacy and Disclosure of Student Information)

A. Assumption of Trust

When a student enters the College and submits the required personal data for academic and personal records, there is an assumption of trust placed in the College as custodian of these data. The College also believes that a similar relationship should be maintained relative to subsequent data generated during the student's enrollment: academic performance, activities, personal interviews and disciplinary proceedings.

B. Confidentiality of Records and Communications

In its relations with students, the College intends to preserve the confidential character of communications and records. Certain information is shared within the College for academic and administrative purposes. Such information remains confidential and is shared only as necessary to support the purpose of the College. However, no College faculty or staff member has immunity from subpoena and may be called on in such a manner to reveal information to civil authorities.

C. Requests from Outside the College Community

The College respects the right of students to determine prospective employers, graduate and professional schools, institutions and individuals whom they want personal information and records furnished to and will respond to inquiries only with the written consent of the student concerned.

D. Student Personal Folder

The student has access to the student personal folder, with the exception of those items in the folder to which the student has waived access (such as recommendations).

V. ASSOCIATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The College guarantees the freedom to organize and join associations.

A. The Student government officially charters student organizations on behalf of the College, making criteria for the granting of charters consistent with the general policies of the College.

B. Although organizations may set restrictive membership criteria, these should have a basis in the functioning of the organization and should not be discriminatory, as specified in the College's non-discriminatory policy.

C. No organization shall be required to submit a membership list to the College.

D. Affiliation with a non-college organization will not of itself disqualify a student organization from institutional recognition.

VI. ACCESS TO INFORMATION

A. Information Regarding College Regulations

Students have the right to complete information of College policies and regulations which shall be published and readily available. College officials should make clear what sanctions may be imposed for violations of policies and regulations.

B. Information Regarding Recruitment by Service and Employment Agencies

The College will publish the names of companies and organizations that wish to come to Macalester to recruit for employees and the dates on which they will recruit.

VII. PARTICIPATION IN INSTITUTIONAL GOVERNANCE

Student, as well as faculty, staff and officers of the College, must play a major role in campus governance if the College is to thrive as a community of scholars. At the same time, it is recognized that the legal authority of the College resides in the Board of Trustees.

Participation in institutional governance includes:

The freedom of all constituents in the College community to express their views on institutional policy;

Fair and direct participation of any segment of the community in decisions that affect their interests;

A clear definition of the existing formal means whereby constituents of the community may participate in the formulation and application of institutional policy;

An explicit statement of the responsibility and jurisdiction of each decision-making body within the formal structure of campus governance;

Review of the actions taken by any such decision-making body or individual within an area of jurisdiction only through orderly and prescribed procedures.

VIII. CIVIL RIGHTS AND DUE PROCESS

A. Civil Rights

1. Macalester students are members of both the College and the greater public communities. The College supports students in the exercise of their civil rights.

2. When students incur penalties prescribed by civil authorities they will not be subject to further discipline by the College judicial systems unless there are distinct and clear College community interests involved. The appropriate judicial body will rule as to its jurisdiction in the case. Conviction for a criminal offense, though not irrelevant, is not a sufficient reason for denying a student admission or readmission to the College.

3. When members of the College community are charged with violation of federal, state or local law, the College has no responsibility of assistance to them.

4. In a case where a student withdraws from Macalester while a judicial review is pending, the College reserves the right to note this in the student's educational file.

B. Due Process

Students at Macalester College will be treated equally and fairly in disciplinary proceedings, including elements as:

A written statement of charges;

A formal hearing;

Private access to counsel, at the student's own expense, but this does not guarantee that the counsel may serve as an advocate in internal hearings;

Right of appeal.

Students, faculty and administration at Macalester are obligated to respond in a timely manner to official correspondence from each other.

C. Freedom from Unwarranted Search

Macalester College guarantees the student's right of privacy. The College and its officials abide by set procedures pursuant to entering or searching College property leased by or assigned to students with the understanding that this procedure in no way limits bona fide law enforcement for warranted searches consistent with this document.

D. Responsibility and the Law

Macalester students accept full responsibility for their own actions under federal, state and local laws. While reserving the right to criticize government policy and even, in the name of conscience, to resist government decree, they recognize the rule of law and expect no special immunity on account of their student status. Within the College community, students acknowledge the duly constituted role of trustees, administration, faculty and student organizations in the political processes of the College, accept its regulations and abide by the decisions of its judicial bodies.

E. Responsibility and Society

It is essential that the student has the opportunity to live and study with others who can contribute new insights and perspectives. The College therefore strives to maintain a diverse faculty and

student body. As members of diverse ethnic, regional, religious and racial groups, Macalester students retain the special loyalties to which their circumstances commit, but respect the loyalties of others and share with them a larger commitment to humanity and justice.

Appendix III: The MCSG Constitution

The Constitution of the **Macalester College Student Government**

Amended April 2011

Preamble

We the members of the Macalester College Student Body, in order to further the educational goals and general welfare of the College do hereby establish the Macalester College Student Government Constitution.

State of Purpose

The purpose of the Macalester College Student Government is to ensure direct student participation in campus governance, to uphold and protect the rights and freedoms of the Student Body as expressed in the Students' Rights, Freedoms, and Responsibilities document, to incorporate the needs and desires of the Student Body in Macalester College policy and programs, and to distribute the student activity fee to student organizations.

Statement of Affirmative Action

The Macalester College Student Body recognizes the unique diversity of its student body and the need for different groups to be fairly represented in student governance. Students of color, international students, women, and students of all sexual and gender identities are integral segments of the student community. Members of these groups should be encouraged to participate in the student decision-making process. The Macalester College Student Government Constitution has been structured to encourage participation by all Macalester student groups and other non-student constituencies of the College.

Statement of Environmental and Social Concern

Part of the mission of MCSG is to advocate for the student body's environmental and social concerns through the practices of student government and Macalester College institutions. Campus governance necessarily includes interaction with the communities of which we are a part. MCSG will take action to support environmental and social concerns when students request it and such action is likely to cause appreciable improvement or improve the ethical stance of MCSG.

See Amendment I. Adherence to Environmental and Social Concerns

Article I. **MACALESTER COLLEGE STUDENT GOVERNMENT – EMPOWERMENT**

Section 1. The authority of this Constitution, within the legal authority held and delegated by the Macalester College Board of Trustees, its successors and assignees, shall be derived from the Student Body. The Macalester College Student Body shall be composed of all students at Macalester College who pay all or part of the student activity fee.

Section 2. All the powers of the Student Body herein specified shall be vested in the Macalester College Student Government (MCSG).

Section 3. The Student Government shall do all in its power to uphold and protect the rights and freedoms of the Student Body as expressed in the Students' Rights, Freedoms, and Responsibilities document.

Article II. **MACALESTER COLLEGE STUDENT GOVERNMENT - FUNDING**

Section 1. The Macalester College Student Government shall receive upon validation of enrolled students each semester, a student activity fee from each student.

Section 2. The Macalester College Student Government shall see to the proper distribution of these activity fees according to the bylaws established by the Legislative Body and the guidelines of the Financial Affairs Committee.

Article III. **MACALESTER COLLEGE STUDENT GOVERNMENT – STRUCTURE**

Section 1. The Macalester College Student government shall be divided into the following bodies:

- A. The Legislative Body (LB)
- B. The Judicial Council

Section 2. Voting

- A. All members of each branch shall enjoy voting rights in their respective meetings. Each member has one vote.
- B. There shall be no proxy or absentee voting.
- C. This section applies to all MCSG meetings.

Article IV. **THE STUDENT ASSEMBLY**

Section 1. The SA shall be composed of all the members of the Macalester College Student Body.

Section 2. The Student Assembly shall:

- A. Act as a forum for discussion of issues of interest to the Macalester College Community.
- B. Possess legislative powers through which it may pass resolutions dictating LB attention/action.
- C. Recommend budgeting priorities for the Student Activity Fee.

Section 3. The SA shall meet if either:

- A. A simple majority of the Legislative Body votes to call such a meeting; or
- B. A petition calling for such a meeting presented to the Legislative Body bearing the valid signatures of at least 20% of enrolled students.

Section 4. Attendance is mandatory for all members of the Legislative Body, optional for all other students.

Section 5. All students in attendance shall have voting privileges and enjoy the privilege of the floor.

Article V. **THE LEGISLATIVE BODY**

Section 1. Shall be divided into a Representative Committee and an Executive Board.

Section 2. The following shall be non-voting members of the Legislative Body:

- A. The Dean of Students or an appointed representative.
- B. A faculty representative appointed by the Faculty Advisory Council.
- C. A staff representative appointed by the Staff Advisory Council.

Article VI. **JURISDICTION**

- Section 1. The Executive Board
- A. Small budget requests (as defined in the bylaws)
 - B. Organize all MCSG meetings
 - C. Representative Committee elections

- Section 2. The Representative Committee
- A. Large budget requests (as defined in the bylaws)
 - B. Executive Board elections

Article VII. **THE REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEE**

Section 1. Shall be composed of elected representatives.

Section 2. Every representative shall enjoy full voting privileges.

Article VIII. **THE EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- Section 1. The Executive Board shall be comprised of:
- A. The President
 - B. The Vice-President and Chair of the Student Services and Relations Committee
 - C. The Program Board Chair
 - D. The Academic Affairs Committee Chair
 - E. The Financial Affairs Committee Chair
 - F. The Student Organizations Committee Chair

Article IX. **THE COMMITTEES**

Section 1. The committees are designed to enact and administer various policies only to the limits made clear in this document and its bylaws.

- Section 2. Types of Committees
- A. Academic Affairs Committee (AAC):
 - 1. Shall represent students in all areas relating to policies, practices, and proposals of an academic nature.
 - B. Student Services and Relations Committee (SSRC):
 - 1. Shall act to respond to student needs on campus and work to promote the transparency of MCSG as a whole.
 - C. Student Organizations Committee (SOC):
 - 1. Shall work to form a partnership with student organization to foster communication between MCSG and student organization leaders.
 - 2. Shall charter new student organizations and audit and re-charter existing organizations as appropriate.
 - D. Financial Affairs Committee (FAC):
 - 1. Shall allocate the Student Activity Fee in a consistent and fair manner with the advice and consent of the Legislative Body.
 - E. Program Board (PB):

1. Shall organize large-scale programming on campus with the ultimate goal of promoting and fostering student collaboration and community.

Article X. **THE STUDENT JUDICIAL COUNCIL**

Section 1. The judicial power of the MCSG shall be vested in the Student Judicial Council.

Section 2. The Student Judicial Council shall:

- A. Be responsible for the interpretation of this Constitution, the powers vested in the MCSG, the charters of student organizations created by the LB, and the Students' Rights, Freedoms, and Responsibilities document.
- B. Consist of three students, nominated by the Dean of Students, subject to the approval of the LB.
- C. Meet as often as the members choose or at the request of the Representative Committee. Any case the Judicial Council refuses to hear shall be considered closed unless the Executive Board requests, by a majority vote, that the Judicial Council meet.

Section 3. No student may hold an office on the Student Judicial Council if they hold a non-staff office, elective or appointive position in any other part of the MCSG. Appointed committee seats, with the exception of FAC, are not considered part of the MCSG.

Section 4. Removal of Judicial Council Members

- A. Members of the Student Judicial Council may be removed only by two-third vote of the MCSG.

Article XI. **REFERENDUM**

Section 1. Any student may submit to the Student Judicial Council a petition bearing the valid signatures of no less than 15 percent of the student body requesting a referendum on any Legislative Body action.

Section 2. Upon verification of the petition by the Student Judicial Council, the action in question shall be suspended until the referendum is held. The referendum vote shall be held within ten (10) class days of the petition being verified.

Section 3. The LB may call for a referendum on any issue which it feels should be decided by the student body.

Section 4. The Election Procedures Commission (EPC) shall schedule a forum to discuss any proposal prior to the election.

Section 5. These procedures shall not be construed as a means of unilaterally releasing the LB from contractual obligations. Actions which have already been executed by the LB prior to petition verification shall be exempt from these proceedings.

Article XII. **RECALL OF ELECTED INDIVIDUALS**

- Section 1. Petitions seeking the recall of an official must give at least one of the following reasons for such an election to take place:
- A. Failure to fulfill the duties of their office as defined by this Constitution and other official documents.
 - B. Conviction of the official by a civil court of a felony.
 - C. Conviction of the official by a campus judicial body, on items outlined in the Students' Rights, Freedoms, and Responsibilities document.
 - D. Violation of the MCSG bylaws, the election code of the MCSG, the Students' Rights, Freedoms, and Responsibilities documents or some other official document or a legislative mandate.

- Section 2.
- A. Upon collecting valid signatures of 15% of the elected individual's constituency, any student may initiate a recall election for any elected position in the student government.
 - B. Upon verification of validity of the petition by the Student Judicial Council, a recall election shall be conducted by the EPC within ten (10) class days. The office held by the official in question shall become vacant if a majority of those voting support the petition.

Article XIII. **REMOVAL OF APPOINTED INDIVIDUALS**

Section 1. Any student may present a motion that calls for the removal from office of any individual who has been appointed to a position by the LB. At least 48 hours before the proposal is considered by the LB, the motion shall be delivered to all LB members and the person it proposes to remove from office.

Section 2. Valid grounds for removing an appointed official shall be the same as those outlined in Section 1 of Article XII.

Article XIV. **AUTOMATIC REMOVAL FROM OFFICE**

Section 1. Any student may initiate a petition calling for the dissolution of the MCSG. In the event that the petition is signed by 30% of enrolled students, an all-campus referendum must be held within ten (10) class days.

Section 2. Should a majority of those voting approve the referendum, the current members of the MCSG shall retain their positions and powers granted by this Constitution until a new constitution is drafted and approved by a majority of enrolled students.

Section 3. The new form of government must be in place by the end of the term in which the Constitution has been dissolved.

Section 4. The current MCSG shall be responsible only for overseeing the vote on the referendum. The person(s) who present the petition for dissolution is/are responsible for presenting the MCSG with a draft of a new Constitution.

Section 5. Upon the approval of a new constitution, all MCSG members and student representatives to campus committees appointed by the MCSG are removed from their positions.

Article XV. **AMENDMENTS**

- Section 1. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by one of the following procedures:
- A. A petition presented to the Legislative Body bearing the valid signatures of at least 15% of enrolled students.
 - B. A recommendation by two-thirds of the membership of the Legislative Body.
- Section 2. Following the completion of any of the procedures outlined in Section 1, of this article, the MCSG is required to hold an election on the proposed amendment within ten (10) class days.
- Section 3. Amendments shall be reviewed by the Judicial Council to ensure procedural commission before being placed on a ballot.
- Section 4. A majority of those voting is required to pass the amendment.

Amendment 1. **ADHERENCE TO ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL CONCERNS**

- Section 1. The following criteria will be used to evaluate existing or potential MCSG decisions for adherence to the student body's environmental and social concerns. They do not represent absolute minimums, but rather a series of ideal values against which competing decisions can be measured.

Environment Concerns

Criteria 1: Transport: Decision results in minimal transportation resources.

Criteria 2: Materials: Decision results in minimal unnecessary materials and recycled/reused/recyclable/reusable materials.

Criteria 3: Precautionary Principle: Decision proven to cause no ecosystem damage.

Criteria 4: Restorative Principle: Decision contributes to a process of ecosystem restoration.

Criteria 5: Energy: Decision results in minimal energy use; energy use is produced by renewable, decentralized sources.

Criteria 6: Education: Decision contributes to intensified efforts to raise awareness of environmental concerns.

Social Concerns

Criteria 7: Workers: Decision contributes to economic forms that provide safe, meaningful working conditions and the means to live within ecological constraints.

Criteria 8: Democracy: Decision contributes to an equal distribution of resources and substantive access by all to community power.

Criteria 9: Freedom: Decision contributes to the freedom of all people from structures of domination, such as racism, patriarchy, capitalism, colonialism and heteronormativity.

Criteria 10: Human Scale Principle: Decision contributes to political, economic and social developments that are not resource intensive and are accessible to the exercise of local community power.