

Weyerhaeuser Boardroom

April 17th, 2025 | 11:30am CST



MACALESTER COLLEGE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Legislative Body Meeting Agenda

[Land Acknowledgement](#) ~ *Ryan Connor* ~ 2 minutes

We would like to acknowledge that Macalester College and the College Archives are located on the traditional, ancestral and contemporary lands of the Waŋpékhute band of Dakhóta Oyáte, the Dakota nation. We make this acknowledgement to respect and affirm the sovereignty of the Dakota people, ancestors and descendants, and to respect the land itself. We recognize that this acknowledgment is but a first step in recognizing and dismantling aggressive and persistent policies of settler colonialism that continue to oppress to this day. These are the contexts in which the archives functions to this day. The work of acknowledgement must be paired with active practices like the amplification of Indigenous voices and land repatriation in order to be substantive and meaningful. With thanks to Jennings Mergenthal, Class of 2021, for their time and effort in crafting this land acknowledgement.

Speaker Announcement ~ *Ryan Connor*

- Ryan: Now I'd like to call the Legislative Meeting to order. All members and guests should be aware that this meeting is open to the Macalester community and may be reported on by the Mac Weekly. Minutes are taken and added to the website. LB members can request additional agenda items

for future LB meetings by emailing the Macalester College Student Government email. mcsbg@macalester.edu

Annual Budget Presentation with Patricia Langer ~ Joel Sadofsky ~ 35 minutes

- Presentation
- Questions
 - Joel: We are fortunate today to be joined by Patricia Langer, the college's VP of Finance and CFO of the college. This came out of some conversations in MCSG from last year around transparency around tuition and finances. I greatly appreciate Patricia for working with Moriah last year to give LB its first high level overview of the college's finances and financial trajectory. Another piece of that was the student announce email explaining the raise in tuition for the second time this spring. I'm going to welcome up Patricia, thank you for joining us.
 - Patricia: I'm going to talk fast because I want us to have time for questions. We're going to look at college finances over all and then next year's budget specifically. Key messages for next year's budget is that the college's financial foundation is good. The strategic plan will help us build on that foundation. Community understanding is a key part of that. All of these slides and more will be available once I do the faculty presentation next month. Employee compensation remains a primary focus for budget discussions including student employees. That does include a positive bottom line. There are some peer comparisons and Macalester has a 40 school peer group created in 1977. We were all super similar then but now we're not. The FTE range is 1,000-4,000 of these schools so the endowment size ranges from \$85 million to \$4 or \$5 billion. Looking at next year's revenue. This is a big revenue pie chart. The really important thing on this pie chart is that 60% of our revenue comes from our students. We have a nice endowment and some other revenue sources but a majority of our revenue does come from our students. We're going to focus on this general revenue number and I'm going to take you back to fiscal year 24 which is the previous year because that's the most recent closed year. Net tuition revenue for fiscal year 24, tuition and fees charged to students was \$64,908. The average net tuition revenue was \$28,529 which calculates to a 56% discount rate when you think about scholarships and other financial aid. Academic Year 2026 required tuition and fees will be \$70,862. When you look at our peer groups

we're sitting right at the median. Our new first year goal is 545 and a transfer goal of 15. The discount rate budgeted assumption for new first year students is 55.5% and the budget is built on 2,025 FYS. If we look at the NTR per student over the course of the eleven years on this chart, you can see that in 2014 the average student was paying us just under \$23,000. Last year, we were just about 28 and a half. If you look at how that's grown year over year from a tenure perspective that growth has been 2.2% but you'll see that the revenue growth over the earlier five years was growing at a faster rate of 2.8% and in the last five years it's only been growing at 1.6%. If our largest revenue source is only growing at a rate of 1.6%, this is how we give our faculty and staff raises so if it's only growing at 1.6% a year, that makes giving raises harder. Macalester's financial aid is much more generous than many of the schools in this group. We land at 34th in this group from an actual revenue achieved on average from students based on the rest of this peer group. If we look at our room and board. Our room and board fee for next year is \$16,476 which we sit below the mean and median. Our occupancy expectation is 92.5% and we leave room for vacancies. That leaves us with a total comprehensive fee of \$87,338 which is just below the mean and median in our peer group. The endowment is 30% of our overall revenue. As of February 28, 2025 the endowment was at \$898,413,142. The endowment is a collection of about 700 different accounts. 91% of the endowment is restricted based on what the donor said when they gave us the money. 78% of those restrictions are related to financial aid. Overall, 71% of the endowment is restricted to financial aid. The draw formula is a two part formula which is not uncommon. The first half of the formula, we look at last year's draw and we grow it by 2%. Then we look at the average 16 quarter value of the endowment and we add that on to what we're able to draw on the endowment in the next year. Our formula states, as approved by the Board of Trustees, that we can't draw more than 6% or less than 4% each year. Our final mark day, November 30, we were sitting at \$904,416,722. Our draw percent will be 3.1% which is a good number. 4.3% of that is based on the overall growth and the rest of it is based on that 2% inflation piece. Our projected four year growth is 2.1% right now. Our forecasted draw at the start of the fiscal year will be 4.8% of the value at that time which is June 1st of this year. The big caveat here is I did all of this math before April 1st and then the markets went crazy. So what

does that look like? This chart shows what the actual value has been over this time frame. In this chart you can see the dot com bust, the great recession, you can see when Greece defaulted on their debt, when China was having GDP issues, and you can see COVID. The left side of this chart shows how much a share if you were an investor in Mac's endowment. In 1998 you could buy a share for about \$20. Now it would be about \$34. The value of the endowment has grown significantly over time. Our smoothing budget helps us take some of those jagged edges out because the operating budget can't take in those big changes over time. Then we layer on that 2% and we get our spending rate. The right side of the chart shows the spending rate for the coming year will be 159 per share or about 4.8% of the endowment. This is a look at what the draw has done over the years. Again, we see the same thing. The ten year average was 2.9%, the earlier five years we were at 3.97%. Our growth has flattened out over the last five years. This chart depicts how many millions of dollars we've pulled out of the endowment or the operating budget year over year. I have one last peer comparison chart for this group. Looking at net tuition per student, room and board revenue per student, and endowment draw per student as compared to this peer group. You can see we still sit at that 34th position. Gifts and grants are expected to grow, our unrestricted giving will be \$5 million. Scholarships are a big part of our annual giving and they continue to grow. We'll see a small increase in state and federal student programs. This is recognizing recent previous increases, not anything that's going on right now. We've also seen a steady return of short-term interest income and our ability to use the campus over the summer which is helpful for revenue. This is our expenditure wheel. 65% of what we spend goes to our faculty, staff, students. From a peer context, Macalester's in the top third of our 40 peers in terms of total expenses that go toward employee compensation. Per 2023, Mac is ranked 12th highest in the percent of total expenses spent on total compensation, 15th highest in the percent of total expenses spent on salaries and wages, and 11th highest in percent of expenses spent on benefits. So, what does that look like over the years? This is in millions of dollars, total compensation in expenditures. You can see that again, the ten year number is 3.68% but the earlier five years was growing faster than the most recent five years. So, 4.35% compared to 3% in the last five years. attracting and retaining faculty and staff remains a challenge.

Our slope growth revenue model grows into this, our strong commitment to financial aid impacts the dollars we have available to spend on our faculty and staff. Faculty salaries remain below the median of the average salaries of the 40-school peer group though are among expected salaries when controlling for a total revenue. Competition for staff talent remains intense. The Task Force on Budget tried to pump as much as possible for the coming year into comp. So what does that look like? Comp for 2025-2026, the staff salary pool. This is all the growth in the pool, this doesn't mean that everybody gets 3.25%. We've got 3.25% for staff and 3.25% for faculty. When we take a look at this from the student perspective, that pool is actually growing faster. This shouldn't translate to "Oh, I'm going to get a 5% raise next year!" Student salaries are tied to the St. Paul minimum wage. We're catching up a little bit because St. Paul raised the minimum wage twice last year which we weren't expecting. We take both of those in and grow the overall pool by the anticipated need. The current minimum wage is \$15.97. We're not expecting that to change July 1. It could and we'll adjust for that. This is an important statistic and every time I show it people are surprised because there are a lot of folks that think the federal and state government fund our student employment. Our student employment budget is over \$5 million. Only about 9% is funded by federal or state work study funding. Benefits are growing by 8.7% which is largely led by costs of health care which is a country wide thing. DTAP which is the education benefit available for faculty and staff has leveled off and then the wage based benefits grow at the rate of the comp pools. This would include things like social security and retirement. Program budgets will remain flat again because TFAB prioritized pool increases for faculty and staff and SLT will continue to use ZBB data. Campus software contracts are growing a little faster. There are a couple new things here. We have a new data link software and we changed housing software which is a more expensive contract. Utilities which is water, heat, trash, all the things increased by 5%. Study away, we based this on the size of the junior class. We expect about 311 students to study away next fall. General institutional which includes campus insurance, food service, legal, and memberships that's growing by 5% and general liability is the thing that kicks us here. Debt and capital is a 1% increase which includes the first interest payment on the new Welcome Center and Residence Hall. The long

term model includes a new \$50 million debt issue for the new building. Total outstanding debt at this fiscal year end will be \$62.4 million. Capital, which is all the rest of the things we do around campus like office remodeling or painting or setting up labs for new faculty members that's all included here and that's growing by 2%. We had about \$7 million in requests and it was whittled down to \$4.8 million. I'm almost done! TFOB prioritized faculty and staff compensation in the current year's proposal. The long term model supports our current year decisions. What I mean by that is when we're making decisions in the current year's budget, I project those out over the lifetime of the new entering class. I don't want to do anything next year that we can't afford to do four years from now. 2,025 remains the long term target for student body size. Projected net operating outcome is \$19,000 and there is the budget. We're working on about \$136 million and next year's budget is about \$141 million. I'm happy to take questions. It's a lot, I know.

- Ryan: Please say your name and position and then ask your question. We'll have about 8 minutes for questions.
- David: David, he/him, FAC chair. One thing that's been in discussion has been the student activity fee. Given this year's budget crunch, we were wondering what you guys thought about potentially raising the fee?
 - Patricia: We, administration, do not set the student activity fee. It's set by MCSG. We have a point, it's a struggle because we set the fee earlier and earlier in the fall but yes, we can totally support it if this legislative body decides we should grow the activity fee. We can do that. It won't happen until next academic year because our fees are set. I can completely support a change in the fee. Our fee is relatively low compared to many of our peer schools.
- Andrew (from the Mac Weekly): Considering the current political climate and the recent withdrawal from federal funding from Harvard University, is the college concerned about federal funds being withdrawn and what steps are being taken to account for such possibilities?
 - Patricia: Great question. First of all, proposed funding withdrawal from Harvard. The thing that's very different between Harvard and Macalester is that Mac's research

funding is \$2 million or \$3 million dollars a year. Would we miss that? Yes. Would that impact the research opportunities for faculty and students? Yes. Are we working on how to plug those holes should that happen to us? Yes. The thing I currently feel pretty good about is the federal government hasn't been talking about Title IV funding which is a majority of aid that goes directly to students. So federal Pell Grants and federal student subsidized loan programs, that would have a much bigger impact across the country, not just at Mac. From a research funding standpoint yes, I'm concerned but I'm not even a little bit concerned about it forcing us to close our doors. It's just not as significant as what's happening in Harvard. I also know Harvard has also been threatened with a resignation of their tax exempt status which would be catastrophic.

- Chloe: Hi, I'm Chloe, she/her, I'm a first year representative. I wanted to ask about work study. Recently, there's been some troubles with people using up all their work study hours. I wanted to hear anything you have to say about that?
 - Patricia: That's a great question. As is true with the faculty and staff salary budgets, the Board of Trustees approves a number for student salaries. We can't exceed those numbers. Going back to the expenditure budget, you can see all of those pieces have an approved number. We have an approved number for staff, faculty, and students. We can't exceed that because all of these numbers are pinned in by our revenue. If we don't have more revenue, we can't have more expenses in any of these categories. We are pinned in the same way we are with faculty and staff to remain in our student employment budget which is a little over \$5 million.
- Elizabeth: Elizabeth, she/her, I'm a senior class rep. Following up on the work study question, I'm curious ... I've heard reports that folks without federal work study who are currently student workers have been told they can't come back next year because there's no money in the budget. I wanted to ask about that and whether the limited funds for student salaries was a college

wide decision or a department decision? I'd like to know more about that background.

- Patricia: Just to be clear, federal work study is like nothing. Most of the student employment budget is related to college dollars. The student employment budget has always been first and foremost a financial aid program. We've always prioritized students with financial aid. We do know we have positions like lifeguard. Lifeguards have to have a type of certification that we might not have in a student that has a work study grant. We haven't changed our practices, we've been more open and communicative about reminding everyone that the student employment budget honestly wouldn't exist if it wasn't for financial aid. It's primarily a financial aid program and our goal is always to make sure all of our financial aid students have the ability to earn their award and then if we have positions that require special certification, we do plug folks in. We haven't made big changes, we've just tried to be more transparent about what the process is. That sometimes bites you in the butt. It feels like a big change but it's not a change, it's always where it's been.
- Tor: Thank you so much for the presentation. Tor, he/him, I'm a senior class rep. Going off of Elizabeth's question, is it true that there's been a policy change where they barred all students who don't have work study for having entry level jobs on campus next school year? Do you have any input about that? I've heard concerns that that's against the union contract as well.
 - Patricia: Barring, no. But again, we need to focus on getting the first year students with financial aid work awards into jobs. Not just first years but all four years of students with financial aid work awards. The college committed that to them as part of their financial aid package. Our primary step is making sure that all students with awards have a job and then we can have spaces for other students. Again, it's not a change in practice, it's a change in transparency for how the process works.
 - Tor: Thank you.

- Patrica: I appreciate the questions. It did create more of a kerfuffle than I was expecting. It was surprising to me the number of our community members who didn't realize the student employment budget is first and foremost a financial aid program and that's always been the case. So it's helpful for me to hear this feedback in the questions.
- Laurice: In one sentence, do you have the hopes of increasing this budget so that at least we're able to get jobs to these people?
 - Patricia: The student employment budget is growing faster than the faculty and staff budget. It's our goal to be able to accommodate students who wish to work on campus and we're dealing with our revenue constraints. We are growing the student employment budget by a greater percentage than faculty or staff and it's still a finite number.
- Ryan: That's all the questions we have time for but thank you so much to Patricia for coming.

Org Charters ~ Liv Peterson ~ 8 minutes

- [LexMac](#)
- [Italian Language and Culture Club](#)
- [ESports](#)
- Liv: Hi everyone. LexMac is an iteration of a pre-professional org for law school and other pre-law careers. We don't think there's another org doing that so there's ground for approving them. Are there any questions?
 - Marina: Do you know what the meaning of the name LexMac is?
 - Ryan: It's "law" in Latin.
- Laurice: Motion to approve the charter of LexMac and make it an official org on campus. [seconds]
 - IN FAVOR: 20
 - OPPOSE: 0
 - ABSTAIN: 0
 - Ryan: The motion passes.
- Liv: Next up we have the Italian Language and Culture Club. If the rep wants to come up?
 - Frida: I'm a senior and alongside Rose, who's not able to be here right now, we wanted to present to talk a little bit about the club we want to start. The main purpose was to create a shared space for students who

are interested in the Italian language, culture, history, or art. At Macalester, we have a department for Spanish, Portuguese, French, and German but we don't have an Italian department. One of the most popular places Macalester students study abroad is Italy. When you go abroad, they require you to take the language intensively for an entire semester but when you come back you can't continue that learning. We're also volunteering at the Italian Cultural Center in Minneapolis so we wanted to connect Mac students with the larger Italian community in the Twin cities.

- Ryan: Are there any questions?
- Joel: Motion to approve the charter of the Italian Language and Culture Club as an official student org. [seconds]
 - IN FAVOR: 20
 - OPPOSED: 0
 - ABSTAIN: 0
- Ryan: The motion passes.
- Liv: ESports. After some clarification from the prospective org leader of ESports at Mac, I and SOC have come to the decision that at this stage it would be more beneficial to deny the charter, not the org itself, for the rest of the year. There is some overlap within the charter of Macalester Gaming Society in their purpose. They also do video games which they also do. We want them to first change their purpose and we think it would be beneficial for ESports to change their name. It's more of a casual inter-org competitive play. That's what we came to the decision of. Are there questions?
 - Joel: I wanted to make a procedural point. My understanding is that SOC would like to withdraw this charter but because we brought it to LB and we voted to table it last week we have to vote on it today.
 - Liv: Exactly. Any other questions? Is there a motion?
 - David: Motion to approve the charter for ESports.
 - IN FAVOR: 0
 - OPPOSED: 18
 - ABSTAIN: 1
 - Ryan: The motion fails.

FAC Appeals ~ David Christenfeld ~ 15 minutes

- [Discussion](#)
- Appeal from FSU
- Appeal from Mac Swing
 - David: We presented all this last week so this is time for discussion then we'll move to a vote. We're starting with the FSU appeal.

- Elizabeth: I wanted to say on the subject of this appeal. I've been thinking pretty closely about this all week and it hasn't been an easy decision at all. As many of you know there was an email sent out yesterday about a Border Protection car and I believe we're in extraordinary times which often call for extraordinary measures. I understand that there's some food and whatnot that's out of line with our traditional policy with how we allocate money but, the more I've talked to students, the more I've realized how important it is to have spaces like this for FGLI students under the Trump administration. Therefore I am going to make the decision, for my first time in MCSG, to override and let this decision go through. That's going to be my vote and I encourage you all to do the same.
 - Ryan: Just to clarify, FAC hasn't made a decision. We're going to be voting on this right now. There's no forward path we're taking. We're not coming into this meeting with an approval or denial already.
 - David: I would say I agree that I think FSU has a super important place on campus. This is only for the annual allocation process. There is nothing that is stopping them from coming back next year for additional allocations. They also already have \$1,200, which is closer to 50% of what we could've approved.
 - Laurice: Thank you so much, Elizabeth. I want to echo what Elizabeth said. I fear that currently we, MCSG, in terms of our optics on campus. The reason the optics are off right now is, look at the elections that are currently running. We are the ones trying to run again. I feel like my biggest concern is given everything that's going on right now with first-gen students, low-income students, us not allocating even a little bit, the stakes of this are not as high from what you just said. Us not giving them anything at all does not look really good on MCSG as an org in terms of our moral compass.
 - David: It's also our job not to give any org any specific treatment. The optics of allowing one org because we think it's more important than others, that's another thing to think about.

- Joel: I greatly appreciate Elizabeth and Laurice for sharing those things. I disagree. I think if we're making decisions based on the optics of allocations, that would be less equitable decision than FAC's process of considering the budget in its totality. I believe FSU has already been given some special consideration and has already had more events approved. I would caution against us overriding that decision especially because, unlike MacSwing, FSU has not demonstrated a concrete reason as to why this money needs to be allocated now instead of next fall with additional allocations. MacSwing has done the work of exploring alternatives and adjusting their appeal so it's as low as possible. FSU's appeal doesn't demonstrate why they need the money now. I caution against us doing this based off of the perceived optics of this. The caution of next year should make us not over allocate in advance and trust in FAC.
- Aisha: Being a first-generation student, I do think what the administration is trying to do is very concerning, and that FSU's purpose is amazing, but I do have to say that I disagree with the point that they need more funding. Like I said, they're request does seem a bit bad in terms of what they're asking for. Even when they came to speak to us last meeting, they explained that they could use that money to support other initiatives that they're working on because they don't know some of the events they want to hold but given MacSwing's request which is more specific and that's a bit better to find. I'm not discounting the vision of FSU in any way, but it's a bit bad, and nothing is stopping them from getting additional allocations throughout the year if they feel like they need more funding.
- Laurice: My only concern here, I completely understand the rationale of what you're saying, my only concern is for the future of us being able to maintain MCSG and attract the people that are outside of this building right now. Maybe the CEC chair can say something about this, but it looks like we're currently in a position where

campus does not really like us that much. When we host stuff, like the forums, we had like four people who are not MCSG related there. That is a sign of what people are feeling about MCSG as a whole. I completely understand what you're saying, but us denying something from FGLI students in these times will not have a positive view from those outside this building.

- Elizabeth: I wanted to add, thank you everyone for sharing your thoughts. I have a procedural question, would it be possible to approve part of this?
 - David: We're going to do that after our discussion about MacSwing but it is possible.
- Marina: As much as I understand what a pressing time it is, I don't think that we can allocate funds to people based on whether they like us or not. Our job is to manage the student activity fee equitably, and we need to look at each request as it comes into it. I understand the optics of it, however I don't think that's a reflection of us. I know the CEC has spent a lot of time chalking and putting up posters and doing instagram posts. I understand what I understand about optics but I think MCSG should fund people based on whether or not they like us.
- Laurice: Just quickly, I like the words that you've used there in terms of equity. What is equity and what is equality? From what I'm seeing here there seems to be a difference in how we're treating it. The core of FGLI is equity. It seems we're in agreement but we're not in agreement.
- Ryan: We're going to start a speakers list.
- Ainsley: I think there are multiple different sides to the conversation that we're having and I want to be cognisant of both sides. On one point, I think it's very important how we're being perceived by the public, especially about how we just did budgeting. At the same time, I also agree that FSU's request doesn't seem as imminent as Mac Swing's does. I do also remember there being some concern when we were talking about these appeals about the allocation process and the timing of that. I think if we

go through this and we deny FSU's request we should at least look at how to make the allocation process quicker or be reflective of their concerns in regards to the allocations.

- Emma: I'd like to add another comment about optics. I think it's important considering what the optics would be. But, we have procedures for a reason, FAC has looked at all these requests. If we start making decisions based on perceptions on anything other than requests I think that also leads to bad optics. If we vote based on what orgs we "like better" or we think are more important, I would also be concerned.
- Joel: Part of managing our student activity fee in terms of equity and not equality there are numerous other orgs with missions that are centered around equity. Part of our goal is to responsibly manage the student activity fee in the context of all of those orgs. For me, part of that is we should be approving specific requests, I don't think we should approve a general vague appeal of FAC's decision. I would also emphasize that this is a disservice to other student orgs. I also think the ways that we can improve additional allocations in the future are a semesterly budgeting system and raising the student activity fee.
- Elizabeth: I wanted to add one more comment, at the end of the day it's not about whether we like somebody or not or how we feel, it's about the concrete realities that are being faced by certain groups of people on our campus. That's what I'm trying to grapple with as I make this decision. Basing our decisions on the realities that at one point they might have been more suited to going along with normal procedure and none of what's happening to our vulnerable communities is normal.
- Laurice: What is the cost of us approving x amount to FSU versus not approving because we have these line by line documents that say we should look at this in this way. It's not like us giving FSU this money violates anything in the codes we have. I'm just saying look at the costs of both. The cost of denying First Gen Low Income

versus the cost of what David's saying. What are the costs here?

- David: That's an excellent point. Cost is exactly what I'd like to bring up. Any money we allocate now is money that we're taking from the additional allocation process next year. That's enormously important. You're saying we didn't finish the money anyways? I'll tell you that last year we're going to the end. Next year because of the budgeting process we're expecting more additional allocations than ever. Also, FSU is going into the year with \$1,200 of block budgeting. That means they can spend it on whatever they want and then they can go through additional allocations. When you talk about costs, what's the cost of not approving it now and having them going through additional allocations? What's the cost of making them go through the same process that we put all orgs through?
- Aisha: Alright. I'm going to quickly say that in terms of us and our job, our job is to allocate the student activity fee. I think it's Macalester College's responsibility to help first generation students and provide the funding they need to be supported and succeed in their academic career. It's not our job with the limited funding we have to go and take that money and allocate it to them. If we had that money we could've just given it to them. Macalester should be doing more to support FGLI students.
- Laurice: We are the college. Our job is to represent the FGLI as well as everyone else.
- Chloe: I've met with FSU during org check ins. I can say they're doing a lot of work on this campus and play a very important role. I don't want to undermine their role but unfortunately, we don't have a lot of capability to provide as much as we wish we could after even after FAC working on it for hours on end. I'm looking at the master spreadsheet of Budget Bonanza. Are there any events that happen really early next semester that we could take a bit of time to get additional allocations for that we could fund now?

- David: Because of block budgeting, they can use the \$1,200 for anything they want. Even if we approved it for summer internships, they can use it for whatever they want. They have money for at least four events at the beginning of the year.
- David: Now, we're going to talk about Mac Swing. They changed their appeal. They reached out to their instructor and asked if they could change it to a semesterly contract so they're appeal is now \$812.50 which is just enough to get them that first semester. Any questions?
 - Liv: How much money would that leave available to distribute for appeals?
 - David: There would be \$2,180.44 left.
 - Joel: I want to talk to the point of student orgs not spending all their money. This is the year of all the years we have on record where FAC has allocated the most to student orgs through annual allocations. FAC has been incredibly efficient with their use of the operating budget. I also think that with that requires an escalated awareness that we're only going to have so much money left last year. Given the context of the Mac Swing appeal, this is the kind of specific, clearly identifiable need for why it would be incredibly helpful for the org to have the money now and given the specifics of this, I support this one. I also want to say that while FSU has an expressed purpose of supporting first generation and low income students, they don't have the monopoly on ways to support first generation and low income students. I also think that supporting the clearest and best identified use of the student activity fee for free and no to low cost campus resources is the most responsible way to be promoting that.
 - Laurice: With all due respect, if you knew what first gen, low-income people go through, maybe you'd understand better. If we do accept MacSwing and we do reject FSU we're just taking back \$2,000 dollars back into our pockets as compared to giving it to people who actually asked for it.

- David: I would say that is entirely false. If we're approving FSU because we think it's the right thing to do we're taking that money out of every single other org's pocket as it's going into the operating fund's pocket. You're saying we're giving it back to ourselves. We're not spending this money we're giving to every single org next year. How is that taking it back into our own pockets?
- Liv: If we were to approve the \$812 for Mac Swing there's still the \$2,100 available that we could give to FSU?
- Laurice: I wanted to respond to David, I assume that's the reason budgets are done on a year to year basis not on a two year basis not on a "we hope we have more roll over next year" basis. Right?
 - David: I don't understand your question.
 - Laurice: You're saying that if we take this money and we use it and allocate it right now, we can't allocate it next time. I'm saying the whole point of the appeal is so that you get this allocation right away. I feel like if they didn't need to appeal, they wouldn't need to appeal.
 - David: Did they provide reasoning for why they needed to appeal this? Do you feel confident there's a reason they need this money in annual allocation instead of additional allocations? Can you say that? Let's hear it. Thank you.
- Albert (FAC At-Large member): I'd like to give some context as I was one of the liaisons for Mac Swing. This year, they had budget cuts and with that, even though they had other events approved with the 48% cut, they had to take away events so they could pay a lump sum to their instructor. Either way they have to spend this. During our allocations they didn't have enough money for a lump sum so the fact that they were able to do this, this will ensure their operations in the beginning of their school year. Thank you.
- Ryan: We'll be making two different votes for each appeal.

- Liv: Motion to approve \$812.50 for Mac Swing.
 - IN FAVOR: 20
 - OPPOSED: 0
 - ABSTAIN: 0
 - Ryan: The motion passes with 20 in favor. Are there any other motions? If there are no other motions at this time, if all the liaisons could send in their updates, we won't have time. We'll distribute this afterwards since we do have another presentation after this.

Cabinet Updates ~ Cabinet Liaisons ~ 7 minutes

- Health & Wellness
- Athletics & Recreation
- Infrastructure & Sustainability
- Dining & Residential Life
- International Student
- Belonging & Accessibility
 - I conducted my decompression space on Tuesday, and it went well. We had a good turnout and it seemed like it was well-needed.

Committee Updates ~ Committee Members

- SOC
 - This week SOC mainly worked on the SOC code, LB can expect to see the code next week! We also discussed creating some sort of form/survey regarding a check out system for student orgs frequently requested items. Other than this we discussed esports and brainstormed ideas about information to pass onto next year's committee members.
- AAC
 - AAC did not meet this week. We are working on transition documents in the meantime.
- CEC
 - CEC did not meet this week, but committee members are hard at work revamping the website (let Mena know if there are specific changes you would like to see - i.e make Community Chest Fund more visible) and conducting poster runs and chalking around campus to raise awareness about the upcoming election!
- FAC

- This week the FAC saw three requests, one from Outing club, one from Rocketry, and one from First Aid. We approved the outing club request and rocketry request. The First Aid request was rejected until more information was provided and until a catering exemption was obtained for Kagin.

Curriculum Implementation Committee Presentation ~ Lina Solh ~ 15 minutes

- Presentation

- Nancy Bostrom: Thank you all for all the work you're doing here. My name is Nancy Bostrom, I use she/her pronouns, and I'm director of assessment. I'm here as a delegate of the Curriculum Implementation Committee so we refer to ourselves as "the CIC". I want to introduce some of my colleagues that are here that are on the committee starting with Lina. Appreciate all the time and effort that Lina's made throughout the semester. I know we're short on time so I prepared some remarks. Thanks again for all your hard work and for making space in the schedule today. We appreciate your partnership with the senior survey we conducted last December and we're looking forward to more collaboration. Before we get to the update, we'd like to start with why the college is revising its general education curriculum. The CIC arrived at these reasons through extensive reading on the topic, to connect with priorities outlined in the strategic plan, and through feedback from students, faculty, and staff. For example, integrate the liberal arts, avoid the check box or check list effect, enhance engagement, and attract future students. Overall, we want to make the purpose of liberal arts education clearer for students and advisors. We want to prioritize an equitable and inclusive learning experience for all students including access for all students to have high impact learning experiences. In addition, the strategic plan calls for a curriculum that creates a developmental four year learning experience, updates and innovates academic pathways and amplifies opportunities for experiential learning. Those are the big ideas that are driving our work together. We've collected a lot of feedback over the past couple years which we've summarized and synthesized in the brochure on the tables. This slide summarizes the feedback we've received in the past year along. So far, we've conducted several focus groups with students and in December, in collaboration with you all, we a survey of seniors. 147 seniors answered that survey we administered in December. That's about a 27% response rate. We found that most

people wanted a new strategy for explaining the purpose and value of gen ed reqs and for individual pathways through the curriculum. Most constituencies appreciate the spirit of the internations, QU, USI , and writing requirements but want a different system for navigating these. There is clear interest in maintaining the second language requirement and required coursework in each of the academic divisions. I'll also say that there was interest in different systems for navigating the second language requirement. We're currently working to revise our draft models based on this feedback we've collected. Our next step is to share these draft models with faculty and staff in mid-May and then share them with students in the fall. In the fall, we hope to have some pretty good models. We'd love to answer any questions that you have or if you have any questions about the CIC committee?

- Marina: Hi, I'm Marina, I use she/her pronouns, and I'm a junior class representative. I was wondering what the process is for how things get designated as a USID or writing? In my personal experience, the classes I've taken do not match up at all with the classes. My USID course was Love in the Ancient World which had nothing to do with the U.S. One of my writing courses right now is Microbiology which involves no writing other than some reflections. I'm really confused about what characterizes these courses and what the requirements or rubric you're looking at when you're designating these courses under which requirements.
- Nancy: Excellent question and you're not alone. We did get quite a bit of feedback on this from the survey and our focus groups. Right now the way the process works is each of these requirements have a certain learning outcome. When faculty want a course to meet a certain requirement they submit an application and their syllabus to GRC. Faculty submit an application to GRC which is made up of faculty and a few staff members and GRC looks at that and typically it's approved and that's how it meets the general education requirement. Sometimes the course might originally meet the requirement but maybe that was 10 years ago and maybe it's time to have a system where we look at those courses. In general, there is a system but we understand there's some confusion about what counts and what doesn't. Sometimes, a course actually meets those requirements but the faculty member doesn't apply for it.

That's another thing we're looking to improve because we want students to know that it'll be amore writing intensive course.

- Marina: Is there a way that we could get more MCSG involvement for this for the coming year?
- Nancy: Thank you for the suggestion and I'll make a note of that because right now GERC does not have a student rep. Thank you for that.
- Joel: Thank you all for presenting. I was going to respond to Marina and say that my understanding is that some of these decisions are reviewed by EPAG and you can apply next week. I would encourage you to consider that avenue. I'd also like to kick off starting to answer the question of how can MCSG be more involved. I won't be here next year, for better or for worse. But I think that had CIC been at this stage at the beginning of the year and MCSG had been ready to be involved during early fall semester I think that would've been really helpful to bring this group in. I encourage you all in next year's MCSG to stay connected and continue to do that. I think the senior survey was received well and people really took it seriously and took the time to give it some real answers. I encourage anybody who's going to be on MCSG next year to stay connected.
 - Marina: I'm personally for adding someone specifically to GRC rather than only having someone on EPAG.
- Ryan: Are there any other questions at this point?
- Nancy: I'd like to say, thank you so much for giving us the time and you have our contact information and Lina as well.
- Ryan: At this point, because we've made a vote on an appeal we now have to go back and finalize the final budget for next academic year based on all org budgets and FAC's work so far. The number has been updated. This is the number that we need to see a motion on: \$102,927.33. Do I see a motion for this number here specifically?
- Laurice: Is there any way that we could still do the motion for the FSU situation?
 - Ryan: The determination that we've made thus far is because we've had discussion time and space for a motion and no motion was made that means LB has decided not to vote on the issue. We did have space for the appeal and we had no motion and we decided to vote on the

other appeal. So we can either amend FSU's appeal or vote on it as a whole. Are there any other comments on that?

- Tor: Firstly, I don't see why we can't still go back and vote on it. It seems like we have a motion and we haven't finalized the budget.
- Liv: The reason that I didn't make a motion is because I didn't know the number would be that we'd be approving.
- Ryan: That's because you would have had to motion to make an amendment for the final number. If we're going to move forward with the vote we're going to need to see a motion first to amend the appeal to the number and then we'll need to vote on the appeal. Then we'll need to determine the final budget if that's changed and then vote on that and we have three minutes. So, at this point do I see any motions?
- Laurice: Motion to amend FSU's request to the remaining amount of \$2,180.44. [seconds]
- Ryan: This is voting to amend the number, not voting to pass the appeal.
 - IN FAVOR: 19
 - OPPOSED: 1
 - ABSTAIN: 0
 - Ryan: The amendment passes. Do I see any further motions?
- Laurice: Motion to approve the now amended FSU request of \$2,180.44. [second]
- Emi: I want to make it really clear that if this is approved in the full amount, there is no wiggle room in the budget next year. Literally zero dollars and zero cents. I want to make sure folks know that's where it's at.
- Ryan: We have one minute so let's get this in and then motion to extend the meeting by 5 minutes.
 - IN FAVOR: 2
 - OPPOSED: 14
 - ABSTAIN: 3
 - Ryan: The motion fails. Do I see a motion to extend the LB meeting? Emma?
 - Emma: Motion to extend the meeting for 5 minutes.
 - IN FAVOR: 19
 - OPPOSED: 1
 - ABSTAIN: 0
 - Ryan: The meeting's extended for 5 minutes.
- Ryan: Do I see any motions for the final budget of \$102,927.33?

- Liv: Motion to approve \$102,927.33 for Budget Bonanza.
 - IN FAVOR: 20
 - OPPOSED: 0
 - ABSTAIN: 0
- Ryan: The final budget passes.

Announcements ~ 2 minutes

- Class Rep and Liaison Candidates Forum and Elections
 - April 17, JBD, 7-9pm
 - Elections open 1pm Friday - 1pm Monday
 - Joel: Candidates forum tonight 7 to 9 pm. Even though none of these elections are contested, interesting things happen all the time. Tell your friends.
 - Emma: If you don't know the status of your MMR vaccination, work on figuring that out as soon as possible. Talk to your doctor.
 - Marina: MCSG is currently co sponsoring a wellness event. Mathilda worked really hard to bring mini horses to campus. Oh, they're not there? Just kidding.
 - Ryan: Thank you everyone for being here for an hour and 32 minutes. The meeting is adjourned.