

Students to vote Wednesday on new rights code

by Charlotte Porter

UNDER A PROPOSED REVISION OF THE STUDENTS, RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES DOCUMENT, STUDENTS WOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE ADMINISTRATORS TO COURT.

UNDER THE NEW DOCUMENT, A CAMPUS JUDICIAL FORUM WOULD HEAR COMPLAINTS OF STUDENTS, FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATORS AGAINST EACH OTHER. NOW, ADMINISTRATORS SAY THERE IS NO BODY ON CAMPUS WHICH CAN TRY THEM.

THE REVISED DOCUMENT, PRINTED BELOW, WAS DRAWN UP BY A COMMITTEE OF THREE STUDENTS, THREE STAFF AND THREE FACULTY. A REFERENDUM WILL BE HELD BEFORE THE END OF

SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS, FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATORS TO VOTE ON CAMPUS PUS JUDICIAL FORUM PROPOSAL AND OTHER PARTS OF THE REVISED DOCUMENT WHICH AFFECT THEM.

THE DOCUMENT THEN GOES BEFORE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES. OTHER PARTS OF THE REVISED DOCUMENT WOULD:

--PROHIBIT ADMISSIONS DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX.

--SPECIFICALLY PROHIBIT MISUSE OF CAMPUS FUNDS.

YESTERDAY, COMMUNITY COUNCIL MADE MAJOR CHANGES IN THE DOCUMENT WHICH WILL ALSO BE VOTED ON IN THE REFERENDUM. THEY WOULD:

--GUARANTEE MACALESTER STUDENTS INVOLVED IN ANY JUDICIAL PROCESS THE RIGHT OF DUE PROCESS.

--PROHIBIT THE DEAN OF STUDENTS FROM ACTING IN PLACE OF J-BOARD DURING BREAKS.

--GUARANTEE ALL PARTIES COMING BEFORE STUDENT J-BOARD THE RIGHT TO BE REPRESENTED BY COUNCIL, PROFESSIONAL OR OTHERWISE, IN ALL STEPS OF THE JUDICIAL PROCESS.

--MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR STUDENTS TO APPEAL DECISIONS OF STUDENT JUDICIAL BOARD OR THE DEAN OF STUDENTS.

--CHANGE THE COMPOSITION OF STUDENT JUDICIAL BOARD. UNDER THE

OLD DOCUMENT, THE BOARD WAS MADE UP OF FIVE STUDENTS; ONE BLACK, ONE WHITE, ONE HISPANIC, ONE NATIVE AMERICAN, AND ONE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT. UNDER THE NEW DOCUMENT, THE BOARD WOULD BE MADE UP OF TEN STUDENTS, FIVE FROM THE CULTURAL GROUPS AND FIVE STUDENTS ELECTED AT LARGE.

THERE WOULD ALSO BE SEVEN ALTERNATES, FIVE FOR THE CULTURAL GROUPS AND TWO FOR THE AT-LARGE GROUP.

College Community" and "Relationship between Violation of Campus Policies and Civil Law" may request a leave of absence.

4. If the Dean of Students denies a request for a leave of absence, the student may appeal the decision to the Campus Judicial Forum.
5. In order to be guaranteed enrollment for a particular term following a leave of absence, a student must contact the Dean of Students one month in advance of the date on which classes begin in that term. The necessary registration materials will then be sent to the student. At the beginning of the term a student may be asked to have an informational interview with the Dean of Students.
6. If students do not return within specified period of time (as indicated in No. 1 above), they must apply for an extension of their leave prior to its termination. If they do not apply for an extension, they must apply for readmission at the time he/she desires to return to the College.

STUDENT RIGHTS, FREEDOMS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AT MACALESTER COLLEGE

(Proposed revisions, May 1975)

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. The purpose of the delineation of rights, freedoms, and duties that follows is to foster the growth of a free and cooperative community of learning. 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.

Macalester College subscribes to the principles of the "Joint Statement on the Rights and Freedoms of Students" drafted by representatives of the American Association of University Professors, the Association of American Colleges, the U.S. National Student Association, the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, and the National Association of Women Deans and Counselors in 1967. Recognizing the legal rights and responsibilities of the Board of Trustees of Macalester College, in the present document these principles are developed and applied to the procedures and practices of the College in the light of ideals of scholarship, freedom, and community which constitute the traditions and are basic to the objectives of the College.

As used in the following document, the terms Macalester "College community," shall, unless some other meaning appears from the context, include all persons holding a faculty appointment, all students, and all persons employed as administrative and supporting staff.

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

BASIC STUDENT RIGHTS

1. FREEDOM OF ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

A. Admissions Policies

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 sex, race, religious preference, or national origin. The quality of students and faculty who make up the College is of basic importance in determining the impact that the educational process will have on an individual. It is essential that the student has the opportunity to live and study with others who can contribute insights into people and events that his/her own background may have failed to provide. The College therefore strives to insure that both students and faculty represent varied economic, social, and cultural backgrounds.

B. Financial Aid

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

C. Off-Campus Facilities

The College is vitally concerned that all students receive their full citizenship rights within the community at large. Students who believe they or their associates have suffered from discriminatory practices should seek the assistance of the Dean of Students. The College further stipulates that criteria of race, religion, or nationality shall not be used by homeowners in their decision to rent to Macalester students. It is assumed that homeowners seeking to rent to students through official College channels are in agreement with this policy. Should discrimination be shown against any Macalester student, the College will withdraw the home from the list of approved housing maintained by the Office of Student Housing.

D. Leave of Absence

1. The Dean of Students may grant a leave of absence for a specified period of time to any student who desires to leave Macalester for personal reasons or for the purpose of attending another institution.
2. Any student who leaves Macalester for reasons of entering the military service, shall be granted a leave of absence upon notification of the Dean of Students.
3. Any student who leaves Macalester because of conviction of a criminal offense which has no relation to a violation of the "Responsibilities of Membership" in the "Macalester

II. FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND INQUIRY IN THE COLLEGE COMMUNITY

The faculty member in the classroom and in individual conference is to encourage free discussion, inquiry, and expression. A student in the classroom is evaluated solely on academic performance, not on the basis of opinions or conduct in matters unrelated to academic standards.

A. Protection of Freedom of Expression

1. 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, but students are responsible for understanding the content of any course of study for which they are enrolled.
2. Students and student organizations are free to examine and discuss all questions of interest to them and to express opinions publicly and privately.

B. Guest Speaker Policy

Student organizations are free to invite any guest speaker. In order to insure an orderly scheduling of facilities and adequate preparations for the event, the event must be registered in the Student Activities Office. Student organizations should clearly state in their publicity the name of the sponsoring organizations. Sponsorship of the appearance of guest speakers does not necessarily imply endorsement by the sponsoring group or the College.

C. Recruitment by Service and Employment Agencies

The Office of Career Planning and Placement will publish at least twenty (20) class days in advance the names of companies and organizations that wish to come to Macalester College to recruit for employees and the dates on which they will recruit.

D. 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. College guidelines regarding disruptive demonstrations are as follows:

1. In dealing with disruption, the College will first attempt to use reason and persuasion before considering any other mode of action.
2. The College will not call upon civil authorities to put down demonstrations except when it decides that the extent and duration of the disruption places the continued functioning of the College in jeopardy.
3. Only after full consultation with the President of the College and the representatives of the Faculty Advisory Council and Community Council, and the agreement of at least two of these shall the civil authorities be called in to deal with student demonstrations.

E. Protection Against Improper Academic Evaluation

1. Students who believe that they have been subjected to arbitrary or discriminatory academic evaluation¹ by faculty members are guaranteed the right of appeal. In questions of alleged improper academic evaluation, students must follow this procedure:
 - a. Consult the individual instructor;
 - b. Consult the department chairperson;
 - c. Consult the Dean of the Faculty.The individuals designated in (b) and (c) must render a definitive opinion in writing concerning their findings, and give a copy to the faculty member and the student. Neither (b) nor (c) may refer the problem back to the faculty member. The written opinion shall be the basis for further appeal. The student must furnish the individuals designated in (b) and (c) with a written statement giving all relevant facts and stating the reason for the appeal. After such consultation, if students believe that their grievances have not been fairly resolved, they have the right to appeal the decision to the Campus Judicial Forum.

¹Arbitrary or discriminatory academic evaluation involves any or all of the following:
(a) Grading on a basis clearly irrelevant to the student's mastery of the course;
(b) Grading on a basis which has not been consistently applied to all students taking the same course concurrently;
(c) Grading on a basis which is not consistent with prior practices or announced policies in that course during that semester.