



## **Lafayette College Student Government**

Regular Meeting

Thursday, April 24th, 2025, 7:00 PM, *Simon 300*

### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Brown called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Brown motioned to approve the minutes from 4/17/25. It was seconded by Communications Officer Gallia. The motion passed unanimously.

### **ATTENDEES**

Roll call was conducted by Communications Officer Gallia.

As recorded in the [attendance](#) list, members present were as follows:

Present:

**Alex Brown, President**

**Sasha Carter, Vice President**

**Luna Garces, Inclusivity Officer**

**Gracie Vale, Treasurer**

**Ava Gallia, Communications Officer**

**Bryan Kibet, Parliamentarian**

**Christo Maheras, '26 Representative**

**Liz Borah, '26 Representative**

**Sophia Lombardo, '26 Representative**

**Yuko Tanaka, '26 Representative**

**CJ Conrad, '27 Representative**

**Lily Nylund, '27 Representative**

**Selina Zhu, '27 Representative**

**Charlie Weinstein, '27 Representative**

**Maddie Malone, '27 Representative**

**Zach Mueller, '27 Representative**

**Tendai Ankude, '28 Representative**

**William Bennett, '28 Representative**

**Natacha Ross, '28 Representative**  
**Emerson Casper, '28 Representative**  
**Milan Iezzi, '28 Representative**  
**Allie Waxman, '28 Representative**

Excused Absences:

**Dorothy Fort, '26 Representative**  
**Charlotte Kinsella, '26 Representative**  
**Emma Lawrence, '27 Representative**  
**Annabele Hooey, '28 Representative**

Tardy:

Unexcused Absences:

**Prem Kumar, '26 Representative**

## **BUSINESS**

### *Bicentennial Update*

Starting to think about how we can get involved in bicentennial events in 2026.

### *Budget Approvals*

President Brown motioned to enter the executive session. Parliamentarian Kibet seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

A total of \$0 was unanimously approved out of a requested \$745 for the Spring 2025 food budget.

A total of \$0 was unanimously approved out of a requested \$400 for the Spring 2025 unanticipated budget.

President Brown motioned to exit the executive session. It was seconded by Parliamentarian Kibet and unanimously approved.

### Club Approvals

#### Lafayette Global Review

Project by interdisciplinary students that aims to create an internationally oriented academic journal for high-quality original research produced by Lafayette students to be peer-reviewed and published. This will allow students to share their work and engage with academic professionals. They will publish 3-4 articles semesterly, published by a nominated student. This student will have to receive a professor's nomination either directly through the professor or student-initiated. For outreach thus far, they have met with faculty, department chairs, and other student

organizations. The tentative aim is for a Fall 2025 publication. Funding would go to the website and the print publication, with the website serving as the public face of the journal.

Vice President Carter asked how being a club will help them in ways that differ from being associated with other research groups on campus. A: It comes down to funding. These research groups do not have available funding for this group.

Rep. Malone asked how this club plans to meet and collaborate. A: The idea of the club is that students can use work from classes and have the opportunity to go through a legitimate peer-review process that ultimately ends in publication. The club is not facilitating

Rep. Tanaka asked what is new about the club, given that senior theses are published in the library. She also asked how they plan to get their members really involved, given the independent nature of the club. A: The whole purpose is to showcase the work students put in for their research, capstones, theses, etc. While the library is a good platform, this club would provide a much larger audience. Senior theses are also not the only place where they are sourcing the research. These papers come from a variety of classes, as well as outside of class. If they were to source thesis work, it would only be an excerpt to showcase a component of the larger research project.

Rep. Natacha asked if they could go through the peer-review process. A: It is a double-blind process. Someone from the team reviews it preliminarily, and then another editor reviews it again before feedback is given.

### Club Swim

Their mission is to foster a love of swimming while promoting teamwork and personal growth. This will help fill a gap between varsity swim and recreational swim. They will be providing regular training sessions and structured swim practices. They also plan to compete in local and collegiate club swim meets. Practices will be tentatively 4-6 times a week, with meets on the weekend. They have qualified candidates for coaching and lifeguarding (student coach). The total amount per semester will be around \$23,000.

Treasurer Vale asked how they plan to fulfill the role of the coach and a lifeguard, given that we do not fund student coaches. A:

Rep. Carter asked where the numbers come from, given the minimum wage and the wages of the on-campus lifeguards. A: Because we are hiring them outside of Lafayette, the average cost in the area comes out to around \$17.50.

Rep. Garces asked if they considered dues. She also asked about the reliability of the student coaches. A: Yes to question one, especially coupled with fundraising, the budget cost would be lower. As far as student coaches go, they are reliable and were fully informed about practice hours and expectations.

Rep. Nylund asked if they considered doing training during recreation swim hours so that they would not have to pay for a lifeguard. A: They are not allowed to practice during recreational swim hours, given the high numbers of the club.

President Brown asked about interest in competitions and practice, and how many students they expect. A: They expect about 35 individuals to attend each meet. They had 25 people sign up within the first day, and expect numbers to grow during the involvement fair.

Rep. Lombardo asked if potential members were aware of the time commitment of the club. A: Yes.

Rep. Malone asked how they would be able to hold the student coach accountable. A: They would accommodate for sickness, emergencies, etc. Again, the student coach is committed to this club.

Rep. Tanaka asked if they would consider volunteer coaches and lifeguards. A: They do not think anyone would do that, given the hours. Additionally, if the final decision is that a student coach cannot be funded, they will use the summer to find a new coach.

### Stress Less

Stress Less aims to promote the holistic wellness of students on campus through things such as yoga, breathwork, and meditation. Currently have 105 members who come into the weekly yoga flows, discussions, and other events. They have collaborated with numerous organizations on campus, including the counseling center, Panhel, LafCo, etc. Stress Less is currently under the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, and will continue to be if they become a student organization. They will continue to provide yoga resources and space. They hope to become a club to gain autonomy and independence and receive some funding.

Rep. Tanaka asked what the current funding for the club looks like. A: The only funding they get currently is the honorarium for the teacher. This is a reason they would like to be a club.

Rep. Lombardo asked what spaces they typically use and how they can track retention. A: Currently, they use Hogg Hall interfaith chapel, and usually have around 10-15 people there. They gauge who is interacting with messaging and attending events, even if it's not weekly, given the low-pressure nature of the club's attendance.

Rep. Weinstein asked what the average weekly attendance is. A: 10-15 for the weekly meetings, and significantly more during special events.

Rep. Maheras asked if they see themselves as an initiative or a club. A: They see themselves as a club and hope to maximize participation and engagement in their events. Though their "active member" definition is unique, they have a strong sense of community.

President Brown asked if they have a figure of what they anticipate requesting from the Student Government. A: Very little, likely not exceeding a couple of hundred dollars.

Rep. Zhu asked if they had ever collaborated with the Lafayette Happiness Project. A: They have not collaborated so far. While their ideologies are similar, this club leans more into spirituality and emotional regulation through yoga and physical mediums.

Rep. Maheras motioned to enter the executive session. President Brown seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

President Brown motioned to exit the executive session. Representative Iezzi seconded, and it was unanimously approved.

#### *Financial Guidelines Review*

All GB members should review the financial guidelines rewrite so that we can vote next Thursday.

#### **OPEN FLOOR**

- VP Carter will be holding end-of-year meetings in the upcoming weeks.
- Regalia Hand-Me-Down program distribution is tomorrow. It will be directly inside the College Store.
- Intent to return forms distributed next week.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by President Brown. Communications Officer Gallia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Submitted by**

Communications Officer Gallia.