



Lafayette College Student Government General Body Meeting

Thursday, July 23rd, 2026, 7:00 PM, *Zoom*

CALL TO ORDER

Secretary Cohen called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice President Hooey motioned to approve the minutes from June 23, 2026. Senator Nkamga seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

ATTENDEES

Roll call was conducted by Hayden Cohen, Secretary. The attendance was recorded via this [sheet](#).

Present:

Allie Waxman '28, President
Annabel Hooey '28, Vice President
Grace Vale '27, Treasurer
Hayden Cohen '29, Secretary
Amy Atuhair '29, Parliamentarian

Ahmira Crawley '27, Senator
Matthew Epp '27, Senator
Lily Hoffman '27, Senator
Roy Nisson '27, Senator
Lily Nylund '27, Senator
Kate SantaMaria '27, Senator

Will Bennett '28, Senator
Emerson Casper '28, Senator
Josh Horenstein '28, Senator
Enihyah Rolle '28, Senator

Chloe Miller '28, Senator

Josh George '29, Senator

Gwyn Horn '29, Senator

Adil Kulmanov '29, Senator

Clovis-Lato Nkamga '29, Senator

Trefor Thomas '29, Senator

Zara Wilson '29, Senator

Teddy Sukernik '29, Student Observer

Absent:

Evalina Ibrahim '29, Inclusivity Officer

Ryan Burns '27, Senator

Doga Uzel '28, Senator

Anoosh Ahsan '28, Senator

Matt Valenta '29, Senator

BUSINESS

Vote on Pard Pantry Appliance

President Waxman advised that the Pard Pantry should acquire a fridge due to a new partnership with Lafarm, so that the Pard Pantry can hold the donated fruits and vegetables throughout the week.

Senator Nkamga motioned to approve the Pard Pantry Fridge. Vice President Hooey seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

Secretary Cohen asked if this means the Pard Pantry Committee will be dissolved?

- President Waxman said that we should still keep ourselves as a partner to them, but it's most likely that the committee would be dissolved

Senator Bennett asked: Would it be possible to have a delegate from Student Government specifically overseeing the Pard Pantry?

- President Waxman said that that would definitely be a good idea to have a delegate to report to Amy Loudermilk (who now will oversee the Pard Pantry).

Advisor Allison Williams added that there are some details being flushed out as to where the Student Government input falls, and she's been in conversation with Dean Snipes. More to

come!

Vote on First Fest Contribution

Vice President Hooey announced that Student Government wants to contribute Glow in the dark tattoos, and beading bracelet making to First Fest.

Vice President Hooey motioned to allocate \$90 for First Fest contributions from Student Government. Senator Nkamga seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

RSL Budget Presentation

Last meeting, RSL presented their budget. Student government ruled that more information was needed in order to make a decision of how much funding should be approved.

President Waxman shared the following about the new Interfaith Council that will oversee the interfaith groups (after a conversation with Rabbi Alex and Chaplain Alex):

- Expertise aspect
 - Translating religious needs can be difficult, especially if you're not in the shoes of someone of that particular religion.
- Dialogue aspect
 - Interfaith council (consisting of members of the executive board from each of the different religious groups)
 - Inclusivity Officer Ibrahim recommended in our June meeting that it would be beneficial to have a student government liaison sit on the committee – not to necessarily vote, but advise on procedure and budgeting
- Equity
 - Ensuring that we're always equitable with our budget discussions. Having the students do it will give them insight into how to ensure that people receive the funding they deserve.
- Clubs are assigned to Rabbi Alex and Chaplain Alex and should approach them if they have budget questions, requests, or need advice.
- This would be \$35,000 going to RSL for the academic year
- First question that President Waxman asked Chaplain and Rabbi Alex
 - Which groups does the budget actually include:
 - Only student government approved organizations
 - If a club falls under RSL, but is not Student Government approved, it will be funded separately by RSL
 - How are the funds divided between the RSL groups?
 - Funds are divided by club depending on their monetary needs/budget requests
 - If allocations are by group, will treasures have a say in their budget request?
 - This change will just be that the treasurer will just work together more with Chaplain Alex and Rabbi Alex
- Basically, Student Government gives them the money, and as the Interfaith Council, they will go over requests for the period, discuss, and decide how to equitably allocate.

- Chaplain Alex and Rabbi Alex will be present at the Interfaith Council Meetings
- Will students be able to appeal their budgets?
 - These clubs would appeal directly to the Interfaith Council. This shift should provide deeper feeling, and make these groups feel as though their voice is being heard on a much more intimate level, getting the needs met for their religious groups.
- If something controversial were to come up, how would the Interfaith Council deal with it?
 - The goal is to have more civil discourse, while having adults in the room. Their budget requests have gone through a check already, so presumably all of their requests are in reason, as per their advisors and Rabbi Alex and Chaplain Alex.
- Vice President Hooey added that this could be something that becomes in the best interest of these clubs and organizations, who know themselves and their religious needs, better than many of us overseeing them on Student Government

OPEN FLOOR

Jodie Frey and Kris DeJesus discussed with the General Body about their concerns about sports clubs not receiving funding they were entitled to regarding coaches and contracts. This was an open discussion:

In a meeting back in June, Jodie realized that (through a Crew Club meeting). While budgets have been allocated there were zeros in every clubs instructor category. About 80% of these clubs can't operate without their instructor as it's a requirement. For Jodie and Kris, they were waiting for the allocations to show up, and were holding up their internal communications to their athletic clubs, because they couldn't make a contract without having budgets. At least one of the clubs is actively saying that they need money for an instructor, and the letter went to President Hurd. Jodie doesn't know how to advise them, because there are zeros for all of their instructors. They would appeal it, but it appeared as zero, so seemed it would not be something they would fund.

Kris followed up by saying that they looked at OurCampus and there were some clubs that gave detailed descriptions as to why they needed an instructor, and they're understanding of the groups that didn't receive funding for invalid descriptions. But, there were some groups that included the math of how to understand the coach's salary, yet didn't receive funding.

Jodie said that if they wrote an appeal, they would just need to know where they fell short. For the groups that did have a larger description, she believes that they were just adding to what they had previously, and got approved with.

President Waxman responded, and said that in this situation, it makes sense to think that you wouldn't/couldn't appeal a zero, but everyone on the budget committee is here to help fix this, and maybe in the future we need to work together to make the expectations more clear. Some slack of understanding with having contracts and seeing the information; some groups wrote about a contract, yet didn't include one.

Senator Nkamga added that something that was brought up when funding the clubs was because of the missing contracts, and they were unsure of the total amount for the coach. They really

needed to see a contract, and when it wasn't there, they were hesitant to fully fund those clubs. In the future, they want to go over the contracts, and ensure that the clubs can be funded as much as possible to the best of their ability.

President Waxman responded again, that if any club needs questions answered about their budget, they should communicate with student government, and we are more than willing to help as we want all of the clubs to feel funded.

Advisor Allison Williams asked Kris to explain the "budget part"

Kris responded and said that the clubs can't write the agreement if they don't know the amount they can give the instructor. They've always written the agreement after they got the amount, and that's why the descriptions are so detailed, because they're in hopes of being able to send their contract out ASAP. He shared that maybe in the future, Student Government could request that the clubs submit their previous year contract to give Student Government more context.

Senator Epp said that he was also on the Budget committee, and there's been a lot of dissonance on both sides, but there have been some issues. They were looking for clarity on how much money they need, but it's important to note – a 0 in OurCampus is not permanent, it's usually a warning sign that it can be altered, and is simply a starting point. Second, they brought up a great point that some organizations cannot run without the funding, but Student Government organizes over 100 clubs' funding, and if one club now gets more money, that leaves less for others, so it's important to work together, and Student Government will try to do a better job on our end– we're not trying to work against anyone, and just want to allocate equitably and fairly.

Vice President Hooey added that she appreciates Kris and Jodie joining us on the call, and on behalf of Student Government, we are in full support of our budget committee, and trust their decisions. She hopes that they know that they do their best to allocate equitably, but we do want to fix the mistakes that could've been made on our end.

President Waxman added that she liked Senator Epp's response, and we need to take accountability for a mistake, and that we're all here to represent the students, and we don't want to make students upset/stressed about their budgets, and we want to ensure that they feel supported through their budgets. In the future, we just need to ensure that we're all on the same page.

Jodie Frey said that she wants guidance, President Waxman shared that we'll go into executive session for budget approvals, and for those clubs without descriptions, Student Government will reach out to ask for more details, but if there is enough details, in hopes, they should be approved today.

Senator Rolle shared that she thinks the delegate system could really help with this issue, and that the delegates could work directly with athletics clubs and help them rewrite their budget descriptions.

Jodie raised: For the group of people that submitted details that we need, they should expect some sort of number in their budget for August 3rd, for the rest, they have to follow the instructions for appeal.

- President Waxman responded that she plans to send an email to the clubs who don't get approved tonight so send information ASAP. Then, at our next meeting, we can re-vote on the appeals.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Waxman shared: Shoutout to Senator Will Bennett, the sports court is being installed!

Secretary Cohen and Senator Miller are going to brainstorm planning an event to open the sports court!

Civil Discourse session with Dr. Jefferies in the fall semester!

Secretary Cohen motioned to enter the executive session. It was seconded by Senator Nkamga and unanimously approved.

Parliamentarian Atuahire motioned to exit the executive session. It was seconded by Senator Rolle and unanimously approved.

BUDGET APPROVALS:

Treasurer Vale went over the details pertaining to the budget requests (in Executive Session) with the following outcome:

Total requested funds: \$00.00 * Due to no new money being requested, this round was all appeals for more money to be allocated

Total allocated funds: \$75,365.75

Senator Nkamga filed a motion to approve the \$75,365.75 allocation of funds for the Period A appeals. Senator Nylund seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Vice President Hooey motioned to approve \$35,000 to be allocated to religious and spiritual life. Parliamentarian Atuhair seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

President Waxman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:07PM. Senator Horn seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Submitted by

Hayden Cohen '29, Secretary