



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN – LA CROSSE
STUDENT ASSOCIATION

235 CARTWRIGHT CENTER 1725 STATE STREET LA CROSSE, WI 54601 (608) 785-8717

Student Senate Minutes

Date: April 23rd, 2008

Time and Location: 6pm in Cartwright 339

- I. Call to Order
 - a. 6:01pm

II. Role Call

| Name | Role Call |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Allen, Jeffery | 1 |
| Armstrong, Vanessa | 1 |
| Baalbaki, Ibrahim | 1 |
| Bayer, Allison | unexcused late |
| Cerwin, Nicholas | 1 |
| Cooper, Mitchell | excused |
| Csargo, Nicholas | 1 |
| Decker, Rourke | 1 |
| DeShong, Robert | 1 |
| Eck, Calie | unexcused late |
| Fuhrmann, Eric | 1 |
| Groshek, Matthew | 1 |
| Hammen, Derek | 1 |
| Hastings, JennieLynn | excused late |
| Hockett, Joshua | 1 |
| Holzem, Natalie | 1 |
| Kahl, Erik | excused late |
| Klotz, Melissa | 1 |
| Kohl-Riggs, Arthur | excused |
| Maly, Tabetha | 1 |
| McCaigne, Kelsey | 1 |
| Moua, Keng | 1 |
| Navarre, Stephanie | 1 |
| Rome, Jacob | unexcused late |
| Ruplinger, Melissa | 1 |
| Sackmann, Valentine | 1 |
| Savaglio, Britta | excused late |
| Schooley, Jillian | 1 |
| Syafitri, Sonia | 1 |

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Thiel, Chuck | 1 |
| Thompson, Amanda | 1 |
| Trimborn, Steven | excused |
| Vang, Nou | unexcused |
| Van Winkle, Joshua | 1 |
| Vice, Katie | 1 |
| Wallace, Karly | 1 |
| Total | 26 |

Others: Ringgenberg, Cikara, Bergman, Smith, Robinson, Perez, Giltner, Ludwig, Perket, Singh, Chapiewsky, O'Brien

Guests: Kevin LeFevre, Al Trapp, Mike Desmond, Nik Nelson

III. Approval of Minutes

- a. Ruplinger/Wallace
 - i. Minutes approved.

IV. Approval of Agenda

- a. Fuhrmann/Klotz
- b. Amendments
 - i. If the Referendum is going to happen we need to approve the agreement so we need to move that to item A in new business.
 - ii. Agenda approved, one abstention.

V. Guest Speakers

- a. Mike Desmond, UW-L Foundation
Al Trapp, UW-L Foundation
 - i. Mike Desmond

1. All the years I have been in fundraising I have never seen anything like this and this has been phenomenal. In the last week we have had donors increasing their pledge, sometimes doubling their pledge. If we count the student's money, we would have 2.55 million. I thank you for that. The next action was we met Friday with Fred and Bjorn and discussed the agreement that would go up for referendum, then we meet with some community leadership and with the chancellor, the conclusion was the chancellor wanted a written guarantee from the foundation that we had the money available to start phase one. We had a group meet Monday afternoon to approve the guarantee and approve the student agreement as well. We have done what we can do on our end. The university has the guarantee and we have approved the student agreement.

ii. Al Trapp

1. I know that this agreement was emailed out so you have perhaps had an opportunity to look at it. We express our attention, commitment, and agreement that we will build the strength center in phase 2. Of course we have to get phase 1 done and then the academic building, then phase 2. Right now the cost estimate is around 5 million dollars. Luckily the DSF

has said they will hold this for 5 years. We have another 5 years, it represents a definable time line to complete phase 2 without having to go back and get approval. It is doing us a favor and keeping that window of opportunity open.

iii. Discussion

1. We look at a 5% non-recovery rate and build that into our financing plan. Based on that we were able to issue our guarantee to the university and also to secure our financing.

b. Jason Meyer, USA Today Colligate Readership Program Results

- i. I have the consumption data for the 4 weeks of the papers, as well as the survey results. You are in a unique position because you already have a program set up for the residence halls. It ran for about 4 weeks in 5 locations. The reach of these locations technically reached every student on campus. in terms of the locations, we averaged 549 papers a day. 255 of the USA today, 204 of the La Crosse Tribune, 120 of the WI State Journal. There was no change in the number of copies picked up in the residence halls. The average with that were 771 papers per today. We did pre-pilot and post-pilot surveys, 73% said it was important to keep up with current events. 89% said they would pick up a paper once or twice a week. 58% said it helps them form individual opinions, 45% said it increased participation in class discussions. The post survey says 15% students don't read newspapers, 48% said they read 1 to 4 days a week. When we asked them what papers they want to read it was the same as what we offer, with the exception of the New York Times, which we hadn't offered. Cost Analysis: the total cost of the program would be \$30,510 a year on average, divided by the number of students who took advantage of this it would be \$5 per student per year. Cost analysis of the residence halls: \$12,323 per year, \$4 per student. All together it would be \$42,832.50/yr. divided by all the students it would be \$4.75 per student. This is 3 papers for \$5 per year. Cost is based on consumption, not on the number of papers we deliver. The Audit Bureau of Circulation says there is a pass on rate for papers, they say that there is 3.3 readers per USA Today copy, 2.4 readers per copy of Lax Tribune. Some students pick up papers that have been lying around. The pass along rate is a very real thing; the numbers give us an idea to go on. If we take those numbers then theoretically it is touching 2179 students per day. We asked what students thought about the value of the program. 52% thought it was \$4-\$7 per semester. We asked if they would be willing to pay that amount, 71% said they would be willing to pay that.

ii. Discussion

1. Do you know where the most papers were picked up out of the 5 locations?
 - a. The most was Cartwright with a total of 753 copies a day.
2. What is the average of papers delivered?

- a. I don't know that off the top of my head. For the most part we delivered way too many papers to get an idea of how many you will go through. Now that we have an idea we will lower that number.
 - 3. Comparing to the Res Halls, our projection would be around 30,000, so basically we are serving twice the amount of the number in the res halls, yet we are paying much more than that? Are we still going to install the ID card readers?
 - a. Yes, it could have been other people other than students picking them up. We will install the card swipe system here to eliminate them.
 - 4. What if you card swipe readers aren't compatible?
 - a. We could do what you want, we could find more secure locations, or put fewer papers. On other campuses we have put signs up.
 - 5. Is the cheapest rate that you go?
 - a. It is the same nation wide.
 - 6. How many other UW system schools have this program?
 - a. Stevens Point and Superior, there might be more coming in the Fall. We were talking to Stout.
 - 7. We will forward this to the academic affairs committee and we will look at it next week.
- c. Josh Hockett and Chuck Theil, USSA LegCon Presentation
 - i. We went to D.C over spring break. We learned about lobbying- before you even start lobbying you need to practice what you are going to say. Then you need to identify yourself to show your voting power. Be prepared to control the meeting. Need to keep the legislator on track. Make sure you state your position clearly, use clear arguments and specifics, and use statistics. Do not be intimidated by not knowing all the facts and figures. Make sure you personalize the issues, the more effort you put into then the more impact it will have on them. When you get into asking questions, make sure you ask specific and precise questions. Make sure to be polite and firm, you want to get your point across. It is your right to ask your elected officials their views on specific issues. Make sure you let them know voters will be unhappy if they don't view your way. Make sure someone is taking notes throughout the meeting. Leave some information on your position. Be informative but do not speculate on facts that you are unsure of. Don't assume that you member of congress knows the answer. After you visit make sure you follow up with a letter and restate your position and thank your representative. Make sure you supply the information you said you would give them afterwards. Make sure to continue pressure on them if they are shaky on the issue.
 - ii. It wasn't until I got a better understanding on how important my vote is that I got into it. Obviously we understand the importance, but it is key to get that same message across to other students. When someone

asks why you vote and say that you are only one person you need to respond with strong points:

1. Issues affect us directly, campus, community, state and national level. Just getting them to change their behavior and vote on a campus level will encourage them to keep voting.
 2. Getting people with our opinions is important so that the issues are taken care of.
 3. College students are important because if we could get students to vote, that is enough to change the elections. Have to reinforce not only the short term benefits but also the long term benefits of voting.
 4. We bring something to the voting polls with the most modern concepts of our fields right now.
- iii. How to get students to vote
1. They think their vote doesn't count; this is why we establish coalitions and focus groups.
 2. Fighting to get what you want, making change. Voting is the way to make that happen.
- iv. SA
1. Essential to voter turn out, we understand how important that is, we understand the leverage we have.
 2. It reflects all the way up to the state level.
 3. If we show support and action we will get more people to vote. Need to talk to our constituents.

VI. Officer Reports

a. Fred

- i. Friday there is an event called Lunch with the Senators, Ron Kind and others will be there. You can bring in a lunch and ask the legislators anything you want.
- ii. Hope that everyone can make it to the forum tonight and I hope that you are all talking to your constituents. Have them know the importance of their vote.

b. Bjorn

- i. The meeting is ending at 7:45 so that we can go the open forum tonight.
- ii. Chancellor did sign the declaration, he would like to start a joint committee on environmental sustainability, I thought that was pretty cool. Is there any objection by senators to starting a Joint Committee on Environmental Sustainability? there is no objection...

c. Others

i. Amanda

1. I have created posters for the new referendum so please take some from the office to hang up. Please talk to your classes, getting the word out is the best way to inform people. Talk to your professor, the sheet I am passing around is just a fact

sheet and guide for you to use incase someone has some questions.

2. There will be a link on the SA web page with what we have passed so you can refer them to that.

VII. RHAC Report

- a. Dodge ball team is disqualified for sure because no one showed up last time, good job guys.

VIII. Advisor Reports

- a. If anyone is interested in participating in Awareness Trough Performance, ask Bjorn, Vanessa, or myself (Lauren). I encourage some of you to think about. The time commitments are intense, but it was one of the best experiences of my life.

IX. Committee Reports

a. TEGC

- i. Last meeting of the year today, it was interesting. We had all of our changes that went through, however we are doing some revisions in Teaching English as a Second Language. I voted no on it, in going through the paperwork they listed classes you could take for the minor, but they didn't list all the classes that had pre-reqs you have to take for those class. Also the art major is getting revamped.

b. Joint Minority Affairs

- i. Working on a report to chancellor Gow, Bob Hetzel has mandated that departments will no longer be able to have deficits. If you have any interests in the programs being funded get a hold of us.

X. New Business

a. UW-L Foundation and UW-L Student Senate Agreement

i. Fuhrmann/Hammen

- ii. The foundation exec board passed this document so we can't amend it, we have to pass it or not pass it. This is just discussion on the document as a whole. It fulfills item B on our resolution that we passed.

iii. Discussion

1. I think they did a really good job. Phase 2 is not the most important thing; I think they did a good job at outlining the importance of the academic building.
2. I will vote to support it, but I feel kind of bad that the we had to do this because it doesn't say anything that hasn't been established in our resolution. I thought it was a waste of paper because it doesn't say anything and doesn't hold the foundation accountable.
3. I was going to say the same. My main objection is it doesn't have any clause in it, I am only voting for it because I believe we do need the referendum. By putting in the clause to hold the foundation accountable we kind of got this muddled document that doesn't really do anything.

4. I understand those concerns but I don't understand how we can hold this group accountable, they are saying they promise to keep trying to get phase 2 done. How can we hold them accountable? The concept of holding them accountable like they are some big evil people is offensive to me.
5. Call to question
 - a. Agreement passes.
- b. Child Care Center Debt Payment Resolution
 - i. Hammen/Van Winkle
 - ii. Discussion
 1. Call to question
 - a. Objection
 2. I talked to SOE students about this; we have an interesting relationship with the Childcare Center. They like this because we are helping them out but we are not completely bailing them out.
 3. Call to question
 - a. Passes, 28:1:0
- c. Resolution Granting Organizational Status to La Crosse Libertarians
 - i. Van Winkle/Wallace
 - ii. Discussion
 1. Call to question
 - a. Acclimation
 - i. Resolutions passes.
- d. Student Association Election Results
 - i. Wallace/Theil
 - ii. Discussion
 1. Call to question
 - a. Objection
 2. What's going on with the student courts?
 - a. The opinion that the court formed had no bearing on the results, so there is nothing close to calling for action on the election results.
 3. There haven't been any other appeals to this point.
 4. Call to question
 - a. Election results approved.
- e. Commencement Speakers
 - i. Van Winkle/Cerwin
 - ii. Discussion
 1. I was wondering if someone could clear this up.
 2. There was an issue, miscommunication, but it is resolved.
 3. Call to question
 - a. Acclimation
 - i. Resolution passes.
- f. Resolution Funding Travel to Winona and the Field for Kids during Stadium Reconstruction

- i. Van Winkle/Hammen
- ii. Discussion
 - 1. The last time we spoke about this there was some questions about RHAC, the resolution did pass this.
 - 2. We worked on this for a long time in apportionment committee; we talked to a lot of different people. There is money there that we weren't using from stadium maintenance. We thought it would be appropriate to fund this. The arrangements need to be made during the summer.
 - 3. I think this is a wonderful idea, one thing to think about is if there is going to be any drinking allowed on these buses.
 - a. I think we can forward that comment to summer execs if this passes.
 - 4. What would happen if the city affairs position wasn't filled?
 - a. The summer execs would appoint someone to fill that position.
 - 5. call to question
 - a. Resolution passes.

XI. Discussion

- a. Formation of the University of Wisconsin- La Crosse Campus Community Enrichment Fund Ad Hoc Committee Resolution
 - i. Decker/Hammen
 - ii. CCFC was charged with recommendation on how the fund should be spent. We have been meeting weekly and covered all the topics. These are the charges now to the committee. Spring members of the committee will be in charge of publicizing it for the fall. Purpose is to give financial support to those who are working towards environmental sustainability on this campus. Spending: the idea is we don't want this money to dry up. The money will be gaining interest at about 4%, we came up with the \$70,000 because we have this for the year and we thought that would be a good place to start. There will probably a follow up agreement 7 years from now. We tried to keep it open to the committees to come. Should a project acquire more than the \$70,000 form that year, the future money can be earmarked. How to apply: we have a template application. Selection criteria: students and project affecting students will be given priority. Timeline: week three is when the committee first meets. The next two weeks will be for presentation of the proposals. We didn't know how many applications we would get. The next two weeks would be for the group to discuss it. Then we come to senate for our two week process. Application: we ask for a brief description of what you are asking for, how you will get it done, what you will do to get it done.
 - iii. Thank you to the whole EFCC committee, that was a lot of work.
 - iv. Discussion
 - 1. Is it possible that these funds can be put towards other funds and reserves?

- a. The idea is to fund people that don't have funding form elsewhere.
2. How will this be advertised?
 - a. The Racquet, Eagle Connection, up for ideas.
3. Can this be advertised before graduation?
 - a. We were hoping to get it done as soon as possible.
 - b. One of the charges is to get advertising ready the spring before.
4. Does the committee see a problem of getting overwhelmed by letting anyone apply?
 - a. The whole idea is to not exclude anyone. We give priority to organizations that will have an impact on campus. I don't know how many we will get.
5. I would encourage senate to take a look at that next week. It would be better to bring it through as a collaborative and collective thing instead of individuals.
6. On the application form, is this something that has to apply to all three categories: accessibility, diversity, sustainability?
 - a. I think we shouldn't approve this, but let the committee approve it so that they don't have to come to us every time they need to change the application.
7. It asks if you requested money from other sources, so I think the Green Fund could apply for it. I agree that we could end up with a flood of people's funding proposals, but we don't want to limit people. I would be in favor of seeing it left open where a student wouldn't have to necessarily be affiliated with a specific org.
8. What if you have an event you want to plan for the next semester but need to have the money?
 - a. That's why we put that it had to be done in that academic year.
9. I feel like when we originally discussed this was that we wanted the projects to be large and lasting, I don't feel like that this is reflected in this document. I feel like it is a pool of money that can be used in small various ways. I am not ok with that.
10. I agree. The open forum seemed that students wanted it to go towards larger projects. I don't think we should spend this on little things, although they may be good, I don't think students want that. They want a project they can see for years to come.
 - a. I agree, I would love to see a large project and I hope that people do come in with proposals like that. If I was on the committee I would be a huge advocate fro waiting for a bigger project, but everything can benefit the campus and we didn't want to limit people. If that is

what they wanted from it, I hope they follow through with their wishes.

11. how is the at large position going to be selected?
 - a. I sent out a campus wide email and 5 people responded. I selected one. That is how the process works but we can change it.
12. I think it is hard to convey that we want this to be a long lasting project, especially going into the first year. We can look at that next year.
13. long term projects are more expensive. The radio station came in asking for \$16,000 from us, I think this would be a great opportunity. So if we are funding a bunch of smaller things, then how are we going to fund the big things that come around? Should we use it on a bunch of smaller things or should we wait for a big one?
14. I think there is a reason we elect a vice president, one is to form committees and membership. If we have a problem with that we should address it later. As far as getting too many applications, I doubt that will happen and if we do we can change it later. We have to keep in mind it is a multifaceted group, there is a wide scope in it. It is really not as much money as we think it is, so it is not like we can do multiple big projects every year. So we could do more small projects every year. It is not as much money as we think it is.
15. You mentioned projects would be approved by senate?
 - a. Final approval is signed off by the chancellor.
16. What provisions are in place to ensure the objectives are completed?
 - a. It is making sure that we really think that they can follow through with this. There isn't really anything we can do to make sure that it will get done.
17. I can see a lot of requests coming in people find out how much money is available. If the two weeks is not enough, how will you make up that time?
 - a. There is a timeline, and there is a few weeks before the semester is done. We had no clue to how many we would get. There is room to amend it.
18. I haven't really had you do a lot of philosophical discussion. It says each member shall be appointed by the student organization. My question is do you want to give that up, how do you see your role as an appointing body? We can discuss that next week
19. Motion to close discussion
 - a. Fuhrmann/Hammen
 - i. Discussion closed, one abstention
20. Motion to open line item C instead of D

- a. Allen/Wallace
- b. By-Laws of the UWLSA Board of Directors
- c. Elimination of the Seven Meal Plan Resolution
 - i. Allen Wallace
 - 1. You don't have to follow the order of the agenda, you can choose to pull things out of order. Since we only have 6 minutes it wouldn't be fair to begin a discussion about the bylaws.
 - ii. University Centers staff is considering eliminating the 7 meal plan because it costs more for the students to pay for this than to just pay cash for the meals. There has been some concerns. I know that there are some international students are on here because they don't use it very much. Students are using it unwisely.
 - iii. Discussion
 - 1. I do understand the logical points, but a point to consider is the students living in the residence halls are forced to be on a meal plan, so maybe they don't want to be on a meal plan and this is the cheapest way to get by it and not pay an extra \$20.
 - 2. if we have no say over the \$20 difference then I say we pass this, but I would like to see what our alternatives are
 - 3. Does the university benefit in any way by getting rid of it?
 - a. From the administrative side it does eliminate some weight off their shoulders.
 - 4. Does everyone in the res hall have to be on a meal plan?
 - a. Yes.
 - i. When did that change?
 - 1. About two years ago. As a result of all of the changes in terms of Rioter Hall and all of the other halls coming down. When there is less people on the plans then the cost goes up, so there is an effort to have as many people on the plan as possible to keep the cost down.
 - 5. I get why it is more expensive. I think we should give them a choice. I know many people who have to be on a meal plan, maybe if we outline something that says the difference.
 - 6. Motion to close discussion
 - a. Allen/Van Winkle
 - i. Motion passes.

XII. Announcements

XIII. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn
 - i. Fuhrmann/Wallace
 - 1. Meeting adjourned.

