



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN – LA CROSSE
STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

Student Senate Agenda

Date: October 29th, 2008

Time and Location: 6:00 PM Port O'Call

PLEASE NOTE: Next week's meeting November 5th, 2008 will be held in Valhalla at 6 PM

- I. Call to Order.
- II. Role Call
 - a. Nominations for temp parliamentarian
 - i. Wallace
 - ii. Passes.
- III. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Klotz/Ngyuen
 - b. There is a new item (Violence Prevention Office Funding) under new business because it is a time sensitive matter.
 - c. Move to add in Ingrid Peterson into guest speakers
 - i. Urbas/Cerwin
 1. Approved.
 - d. Take Groshek off of guest speakers.
 - e. Passes.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Klotz/O'Neill
 - b. Approved
- V. Guest Speakers
 - a. Drew Gavrilos – Community Services Bureau – La Crosse Police Department
 - i. We are a second year into the ordinance.
 1. How many situations have you handed out?
 - a. A lot less than we ever anticipated. I want to make it clear that the ordinance was initially made to be just another citation. This was months after the drowning and several people had gone to the water. The chief and the mayor were getting kind of frustrated. I thought they were nuts but what happened was the community came back with legitimate concerns over that ordinance. Students made a compelling argument with their concerns and the purpose of the ordinance. The chief and the mayor had public forums and asked the students what they wanted to get out of it. Number one you weren't sure that another ticket was going to do any good. You were concerned about education and also

what if someone was drunk but needed help, would that discourage them from seeking help? Through all of that input, the ordinance that was adopted reflects all of what you wanted to see. Now the first time is a warning. The chiefs sent the cops to do motivational interviews. What cops do is interrogate. so now we send the offenders to a class before giving them a fine. It is working very well. I don't know that you understand how much of an impact you have on this city. Financially, economically, so you should have an impact. This ordinance is getting attention all over. It was voted in again after the first year, after two years we will review it.

2. The intention was to target the population that was binge drinking. What was the intention and was it successful.
 - a. Before law enforcement had only two choices. We had to ask three questions and if you couldn't answer them then you were deemed incapacitated. We were obligated to take you to the hospital. But if they were very drunk but not incapacitated then we couldn't do anything. But now we can give these people a warning, and you have to attend the class. If you don't come to the class then you have to pay the fine. The class is designed to make people think about making better choices. All of the feedback we have gotten are positive. In that aspect we feel that these people have gotten something out of it. The level of intoxication that some of these people were at contributed to their deaths. They clearly weren't thinking rationally. If somewhere along the line if someone would have made a better choice, that could have saved their lives. If someone would have said "Danielle you've had enough to drink" she would still be alive. There is no way to quantify how many lives this has saved? We can't tell. The purpose was more educational and to give the police department a chance to intervene. We decided that in order for us to make an impact we needed to do something else other than enforcement, because enforcement can only go so far. The purpose was education. The purpose is not intervention or treatment, it is just education.
3. How many repeat offenders?
 - a. We exclude that because we wanted to get a true median age of people that get tickets. The ordinance has clearly not targeted college students since the median age is 27.

4. How did Oktoberfest go?
 - a. There were more people downtown than I can remember in several years, both nights. We had fewer events this time. I don't know if anyone wrote a public intoxication ticket. Very few arrests. Overall we thought it was a very successful week. To change this culture it is going to take a while, but our detox has gone down a little bit. A little here and a little there. WI leads the nation with alcohol in every category. Western WI leads the state. We drink a lot. The big difference is working with the college students. like River watch. They asked me in my interview what was my most rewarding part of my experience, and I said the River watch program. When we started it they wanted to put up motion sensor lights and crap that wasn't going to do any good. And everyone said that they wouldn't stick it through in the cold months. And you guys stuck it up their butts because you have done this for 2 and a half years. And now you have a grant. The FBI that looked at the drowning cases said in there reports that the program has clearly saved people and at least prevented people from going in the water. The college students have gotten really involved and we have made more progress than the last 13 years I have worked here. It is something to be proud of. You have far more influence over your peers than I ever will, than any teacher, and sometimes parents. We are really leaning on you guys to help us. I don't want to have to tell another set of parents that their child is dead. I don't want to do that. That was the shittiest day in my career. I have seen some nasty shit, but the day and a half we spent with the parents and we told them their son was dead, I couldn't sleep for months. I don't want to do that, I am sick of it. And you all continue to step up.
5. When you said that the median age of people was 27, it sounds like most of the people are alcoholics?
 - a. No.
6. So what type of people are being affected by this?
 - a. It is anyone who is drinking too much. It is not just a college problem. It's not just 21 and 22 year olds that go to detox. It's affecting anyone who has a problem with alcohol.
7. Could you give an example of someone who you would approach?
 - a. We approached a young girl who was vomiting and had urinated herself, but she knew who she was. I didn't

have enough to force her to the hospital, and she didn't want to go. So I gave her a warning and I hope she goes to the hospital.

8. So when you approached her she wasn't affecting or hurting anyone?
 - a. No, but I wasn't going to leave her there.
9. being a college student who goes downtown and then walks back home, I think what you are doing is awesome, and I thank you.
 - a. It is a very different role in law enforcement. We are community caretakers, that is part of our role and job. We have an obligation to intervene. There would be more problems if we do.
10. What if there was an incidence where someone was walking back with the assistance of their friends?
 - a. I can make contact and talk to the person, if I was satisfied that they would be cared for then that is one thing. But if they lack that support system then I would intervene.
11. How does this ordinance affect the underage?
 - a. We don't issue them underage. You cant get a public intoxication ordinance if you are underage. We have zero tolerance. We are trying to get the same class for underage. It has been so successful that we think we have something to offer underage as well.
12. Would you ever make that a requirement for high schools?
 - a. There are some that are all for it and then there are some that aren't sure that's something they want their students to hear. We are trying to get it as part of orientation for all three colleges.
13. Do you feel like the policy of helping people that clearly need help is being used everywhere? Sometimes people will be walking and just happen to change directions when there is a cop, the cops confront that.
 - a. There is probably something more to it than that. It gives us probable cause. If they make a sudden change in direction that will draw attention.
14. You talked about the no tolerance policy, so they get a ticket no matter what, but what if we see a student who wants to take their friend to the hospital but is afraid of getting an underage?
 - a. Personally I would look at the situation and weigh it. Zero tolerance means overall as a policy we wouldn't tolerate it, but it doesn't mean we would issue a ticket every time. Medical amnesty is a great idea. I have no problem with that. It's just that right now that doesn't

15. We are thinking about passing the Amethyst Initiative, what do you or the department think?
 - a. We haven't come out and taken an official stance on it. I think it is intriguing. I will tell you what I think you should do. If you are going to take this to the chancellor, you had better do your homework. You need to make a compelling argument that the 21 year drinking age isn't working. I haven't seen that yet. MADD does have statistics and studies, so the other side has a very strong argument. I don't think we should do it. The end result is they want to lower the drinking age. Colleges all over the country have a huge problem. I would hate to think that the college presidents are saying they don't know what to do anymore and they just don't want the problem anymore. You have to prove that the law is ineffective. I have seen you all work, and when you put your mind to something you get it done. Look at the other side and see what they are saying, because that is what you are up against. Right now I can tell you it's not going to happen because the federal highway money is still tied up to it. But I think that is part of the discussion, but I haven't seen a real compelling argument for it yet. The only other issue is you are also in La Crosse and that makes it different.
16. A lot of people support it because they are focused on the education portion of it. If you have someone that has alcohol poisoning they want to make it ok to get them help. Do you think we should make our own initiative?
 - a. I don't disagree with a lot of that. You still have to show that by lowering the drinking age you are going to significantly increase the likelihood... it is a tough one to quantify. The opposition has 24 years of statistics and medical records. It is going to create more problems than it is going to fix. There are a lot of points that are valid, and education is one of them. I don't know if it is enough.
17. Why is it not necessary to bring up discussion?
 - a. I didn't say it's not necessary. If there is no desire to change it then why talk about it? I personally think that if we open up discussion it will make the drinking age more valid. But I don't like that they are softening the blow by saying that they just want to talk about it. I am not against finding better ways to support our youth, but

it is still tied to it, and that is the dangerous part. I don't think the DARE program is effective.

18. Example of why 21 is working?

- a. We know medically that if you introduce alcohol at a younger age it is bad. It comes down to science. The younger you start drinking the more likely you are to be an alcoholic. Maybe the drinking age should be 25. If you allow 18 and 19 year olds to drink legally, you are allowing them to hurt themselves. I don't know what else I can say.

19. Do you think the law has been effective/successful at preventing those whose brains are not mature from gaining access to alcohol?

- a. Absolutely, it creates barriers to getting alcohol.

20. How many police officers are there?

- a. 96. About 64 on patrol. Every night there are about 9 or 11.

b. Bobby Erickson – La Crosse County Board Supervisor

- i. I don't have as much interesting things to talk about. What we are focusing on now is the budget. We will be having a public hearing on November 10 at the county building.
- ii. The smoking ban was up for debate two weeks ago. We decided to postpone it until July because there has been a lot of talk about it at the state level.
- iii. The law enforcement construction project, a new 30 million dollar jail as an add on to what we have. The good news is we got a lot of bids; we came in lower than we thought. We will be debating what we want to add on and what we want to take out. We will have the jail with a certain number of beds and new space to let the inmates see their families.
- iv. Public hearing on the city taking over the ambulance. We still have a county one; they are proposing that the county would take over as the new hub where all of the calls would come through. November 10th.
- v. Suggestions?
 1. An underage amnesty thing when you take someone to the emergency room?
 - a. That is definitely something I can bring up.

c. Ingrid Peterson

- i. The money for the Violence Prevention Office won't be receiving a grant. Students have written a resolution.
 1. How was this program funded?
 - a. Fully funded through the government.
 2. What separates this office from counseling and testing?
 - a. They would spend time talking to a therapist for an hour about ways to feel better, and that person would be on their own to follow through on any suggestions.

What advocacy does is a little more hands on. Many times people don't even know what they need. Many students aren't aware that the campus has their own judicial system. We go over all of the options, and then I can help them with those things. I sometimes walk with them to the dean of students and explain why their classes aren't going that well. It is a little more hands on. I am more knowledgeable about both campus and community resources.

3. How many students have come to your office?
 - a. About 50 students, around 6 to 8 students in the last weeks.
4. How much does it cost to run your office?
 - a. \$38,000. I come fully endowed with office supplies, computer, printer, from the grant.
5. What do you do for publicity?
 - a. I put up posters, training with the football team, talking to faculty and staff, it's in the planner. We talk to campus police. We do events, like the Byron Hurt speech. A lot of the students that come to see me were referred there by someone else.
6. What other groups have you gone to?
 - a. I talk a lot in classes. Mostly women's studies, psychology, health. I do a lot of training with Res Life in the fall. Always looking for more ways to get out. I would like to get to faculty department meetings, because many times a student will come to a faculty member for help.

VI. Officer Reports

a. Derek

- i. The price for name tags went down. I will be making the order on Friday.
- ii. Office renovation meeting this Friday at 4pm. We are thinking there will be a restructuring of the office feel.
- iii. Thanks Kyle for the new website. It looks a lot better; it's not so boring like the last one.
- iv. Please get on my orgs.
- v. Regents meeting starts at 9:30am. We will be leaving Mr. Ds at 7am.

b. Kyle

- i. We decided that before we implement the parliamentary thing we will have Derek do the speakers list.
- ii. We had picked out a couch but now have some female consultation.
- iii. If you don't have nameplate please write it down.
- iv. If you abstain from voting that means you don't have enough info or you have a conflict of interest. There is no reason that you don't have enough information. Also if you plan on voting no, please express the

reason why you are voting no so that we can make the policy better. Explain it in discussion.

- v. We went to Platteville on Monday, it was a great experience. We had some really cool ideas, we will write up an analysis. They don't have 3 branches of government. When they go through the meetings the president passes the agenda without voting. They also do the pledge of allegiance.
 - vi. I am looking for help on the winter training stuff. I am planning on doing it on the first Saturday in Feb.
 - vii. If you do have things you want to put on the website, like federal or state politics news let me know. Also if you have any recommendations please let me know.
 - viii. If the resolution appointing Groshek I will have to fill another senate spot. I would open it to the entire campus until next Friday. If people don't apply I will go to the pools from the last interviews. Please tell people if they want to apply for this to go to the website. He is the Science and Health Senator.
- c. Others
- i. CFO
 - 1. We are looking at making a handbook that explains where all of the fees go. It will be a pretty big project.
 - ii. GOTV
 - 1. I really want to encourage all of you to vote early to avoid the lines and help me on Election Day. There are voter guides I made and some from UC but those only show two of the candidates. I don't want to waste them so I stuck those in my voter guides. There is also info on how to find your polling location, etc.
 - 2. Tomorrow and Friday I have a table at Cartwright and the Clocktower. Please put the time you can help and your name. Tell people that you can help them find where they need to go to vote. Monday and Tuesday will be the same thing. Tuesday I need a lot of help. I really think that everyone in here can give a little bit of time. If you sign up I am really going to count on you. I will send everyone an email saying when and where you signed up to work.
 - 3. On Tuesday at 8:30 you should all come to my house and party. I live at 1316 State Street. I think you all should come and celebrate with me.
 - a. Both senators and directors could use this as an office hour.
 - 4. Questions
 - a. When does early voting end?
 - i. The 3rd
 - b. I work at the info counter and I think it would be cool to have info at there.

- i. That's a good idea; I will get that to you tomorrow morning.
 - c. Is there early voting this weekend?
 - i. As far as I know it is regular business hours.
 - ii. They are actually open on Saturday. \
- iii. Shared Gov
 - 1. They video tape the student senate meetings in Plateville and then they burn DVDs so that everyone can have a copy. They pay 3,000 a year to do that. They have a TV studio and a campus radio station. It is student run. We gained a lot of knowledge about how they do that. We took a look at their campus newspaper.
 - 2. People were actually calling in so people actually listen to the radio station.
 - 3. They also have an involvement center with the senate office right inside.
 - 4. It felt like a war room, it was easy to share ideas. The minus is that no one has an office of their own. It is something we can look into for the long term. They also have their own brewery on campus.

VII. RHAC Report

- a. White Hall hosting a program in Valhalla.
- b. Submitted a bid for student of the year, we should be hearing about that shortly.

VIII. Advisor Reports

- a. Jeremy- sign up sheet going around. Also we are going to start working on the budget guidebook on Wednesday, drop by between noon and 3pm.

IX. Committee Reports

- a. Student Services and Buildings
 - i. We went over the application process to the Racquet
- b. Engagement
 - i. Talked about different ideas. Trying to make improvements to the Cartwright Center. There is a clipboard in the office, please take one and take a minute to talk to someone about their ideas to improve CC.
- c. Name the Eagle
 - i. We were really disappointed with how many people sent in names.
 - 1. I read the guidelines and it said whatever name was submitted the most was the one that they would choose. Wouldn't you want it to be more original?
 - a. There were only 5 names that got more than one vote. I think what they were going for is that if you came up with a cool name you would talk to people about it and they would send that one in too. But I think that the guideline will be changed.
 - 2. Is it still open to submissions?
 - a. We are thinking about extending it.

- b. I may be sending out an email so that you can tell your constituents.
 - d. Undergrad
 - i. We added a one credit nutrition class. We also added a bio class and econ classes. We have actually added grad classes in some programs.
 - e. Leg Affairs
 - i. Revised the athletic bylaws and our own bylaws. The bylaws will be in discussion next week. We will finish going over the bylaws and then start discussion about the constitution.
 - f. Joint Planning
 - i. We are reviewing the applications from GQA. We need to have them done by the 1st. we will be deciding our rankings next Wednesday. That is why we need to act on the resolution tonight.
 - g. Apportionment
 - i. One shots will be coming up. We sent out the schedules to everyone.
 - h. Academic Affairs
 - i. Only two applications for graduation speakers, and they are both from the same school. We want to open it back up and this time we would like people to nominate other people to do it.
 - 1. Are you allowing any student to nominate a graduating student?
 - a. We specifically targeted those that are graduating.
 - 2. Can it be anyone who is partaking, like someone who won't be here for their graduation; would they still be allowed to be a speaker?
 - a. I think you have to be eligible to walk through.
 - 3. Can anyone come to the Joint Planning and Budget meeting?
 - a. Generally they don't take guest speakers, but I think you could talk to us first.

X. New Business

- a. SA 0809-020: Resolution Appointing Matt Groshek Environmental Sustainability Director
 - i. Wallace/Wolf
 - ii. Discussion
 - 1. Since the discussion was cut off, could we ask questions?
 - a. Yes
 - 2. Do you have anything planned for your position yet?
 - a. I want to work on transportation issues. We have a bus company who is willing to go to certain cities on the weekends. Working on the Green Fund allocation process.
 - 3. Quorum
 - 4. Call to question
 - a. Passes, one abstention.
- b. SA 0809-022: Resolution on Requesting that the UW-L Joint Planning and Budget Committee Support the Funding of the Violence Prevention Office

- i. O'Neill/Theil
- ii. I think that Ingrid did a good job of explaining it. In the resolution I went over some numbers and how the campus climate has improved. This resolution is just saying that we support the funding of it and we think it is a real priority on campus. This is a resource that benefits the students. our support is the most important support of all.
- iii. Discussion
 - 1. I think Ingrid is qualified, and she is really well networked in the community. I really think this is something that needs to be passed.
 - 2. The international students show a lot of interest in how safe the campus is. This is a great office and continue.
 - 3. We've said in the past that we support this; they have proven themselves to be effective.
 - 4. What are we funding?
 - a. This request is for a position and equipment.
 - 5. Where is this office at?
 - a. Wimberly.
 - 6. Have they considered moving those services to testing and counseling? They already have office supplies and the space.
 - a. Their office right now is well equipped, I don't know of any talks about that.
 - 7. I think this is what GQA had in mind. It is unfortunate that the government didn't want to pay for it anymore.
 - 8. Call to question
 - a. Point of order- is the only way to have a vote enumerated by roll call vote?
 - i. We can go through division.
 - b. Passes.

XI. Discussion

- a. SA 0809-021: Rec Sports Department Request to Use the REC for UW-L Gladiators Event
 - i. Cerwin/Turner
 - ii. We decided to move the date because we didn't have enough time to plan for it. Now it is Friday December 5th. It should be a lot of fun.
 - iii. Discussion
 - 1. Is this going to prevent any other sports from using the REC?
 - a. It won't get in the way of intramurals.
 - 2. Why is this of concern for senate?
 - a. Because it is student funded.
 - 3. What kind of games are going to be played?
 - a. We have a sponsor that is getting inflatables. We are doing jousting, fun land type of obstacle course. Slam ball, tug of war, basketball shoot out, bungee run, iron man obstacle course, and human sphere.

4. One of the reservations when we do this is that we will blocking off time that students would use the Rec. do we get complaints from students?
 - a. We keep everything open for as long as we can, it doesn't interfere a lot. We hold off until the last second. The biggest complaint is the strength center, but that isn't technically a part of the REC.
5. Motion to close discussion
 - a. Decker/Wolf
 - i. Discussion closed.

XII. Announcements

- a. Volleyball Thursday Mitchell. Swimming Saturday at one pm. It is against the alumni, it is fun to watch.
- b. Oct 30th in Valhalla at 7pm ISO is having an event called midterm revenge.
- c. Update on the Amethyst Initiative- I was interviewed by the Tribune, I was also invited to speak on the radio. It was very positive and helpful. I was able to put out the honest word about what it is. We will be voting on it next week, my biggest concern is that you all are completely informed and you have information to make your decision. I ask you to come to the open forum that Matt Vogel is having on November 3rd at 7:30 pm in Graff Auditorium, room 260. The petition is having been working on, I think I will compile it by next Monday night and drop it off in the senate office. You will have 2 full days to check it out.
- d. November 13th CAB event in Valhalla.
- e. Saturday Nov 22nd Turkey Trot. We will have a giant turkey mascot. Shopping cart will lead the race.
- f. This coming Monday we are having the international food tasting event, 2 dollars for two tastings. 6 to 8pm in Valhalla.
- g. Food drive next Sat Nov 8th. Sign up sheet in the senate office.
- h. International Food Tasting- there will be presentations Nov 3rd.
- i. GOTV position is to get students to vote. Please give me an hour on Election Day. We can't do it with 6 people.
- j. Applaud the decision of the chair to have the president do the speakers list. I am moving tomorrow from 1:30pm, we will provide refreshments and other reimbursements. Talk to me after the meeting.

XIII. Adjournment

- a. Wallace/Herro
 - i. Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

