



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

2244 THE U 1705 BADGER STREET LA CROSSE, WI 54601 (608) 785-8775

Student Senate Agenda

Date: September 22th, 2021

Time and Location: 6:00pm, Student Senate Chambers

- I. Call to Order
 - a. 6:00pm
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Agenda

McReavy: Motion to move Resolution Approving a CSH Senator to before Unfinished Business.

Sperling: Motion to amend agenda to include Discussion point on SFS Senate Seat.

Ericson: Motion to include Drawdown Challenge discussion point.

 - i. Agenda passed unanimously
 - b. Approval of Minutes
 - i. Minutes passed unanimously
- IV. General Student Body Open Forum
 - a. Nick from College Republicans: America was founded on free speech, and that same right made it possible for Martin Luther King to speak. We are at a crossroads—last night the club that I am a member of exercised our right to free speech. The university allowed students and staff to wash away our protected speech. UWL has not done anything to uphold this policy. An eyewitness stated they saw a UWL employee wash away this chalk. According to a UWL police officer, the chalking was deemed “too offensive.” Why do multicultural student organizations get more of a say on policy than me? The administration is trying to silence us. We have already taken steps to pursue legal action if the university does not protect free speech. With that I am taking off my mask.
- V. Guest Speakers
- VI. Officer Reports
 - a. **President:**
 - i. **Zwettler:** We need two non-returning senators to serve on the Election Commission, and we’re very close to filling four non-senator seats. There will be a resolution at the next meeting that will be very time sensitive regarding this. I met with the Student Court to talk about goals for their branch, and they’re enthusiastic to get to work.
 - b. **Vice President:**
 - i. **Cayo:** If you haven’t told me your office hours, please send them along after this meeting. If they are virtual, please send me the meeting link information. I also need Student ID numbers and a headshot and bio to add to the website. If providing a headshot is an



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accessibility barrier for you, you can also schedule a headshot with our campus photographer free of charge; I could invite Mike to the next meeting to do headshots with everyone if that would be easiest. I have sent two doodle polls with the last email about dates for the Fieldhouse walkthrough and a time to hold a Leadership Social with other folks from administration and faculty in leadership roles on campus. If you haven't filled those out yet, please do. I am also going to take a moment to elect a President Pro Tempore. At this time, I will take nominations or self-nominations.

Ericson: Is the Exec Cabinet allowed to run meetings? Or does it have to be a senator?

Cayo: It has to be a senator.

Ericson: I will nominate Senator McReavy?

Fitzgerald: Second.

- ii. Motion to approve McReavy as the President Pro Tempore passes unanimously

a. Director of Staff

- a. Woodmansee: I will now give a presentation about resolution writing.

Presented overview about resolution writing.

b. State Affairs Director:

- a. Navoichick: No report

c. Local Affairs Director:

- a. Schweiner: UWLSA, LATA, and the MTU did tabling today at the clocktower. We're going to try and do an advocacy campaign for sustainable transportation. If it sounds of interest, I'm going to investigate establishing a sustainable transportation Ad-Hoc Committee. We can revisit this in a couple weeks.

d. Inclusivity Director:

- a. Vang: For the Women of Color scholarship, I want to create an Ad-Hoc Committee, so if you're interested let me know.

Woodmansee: What is the Women of Color scholarship?

Vang: It's a scholarship that SA founded and created and is under my purview as Inclusivity Director. It's been around for three years. Also, if anyone is interested in being a part of Diversity Organization Coalition, let me know.

Cayo: The Women of Color scholarship is funded by Student Association and was founded by an old Inclusivity Director.



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Fleegal: I was wondering what exactly an Ad-Hoc Committee does in this instance.

Cayo: An Ad-Hoc Committee for the Women of Color scholarship would be raising funds for the scholarship. It could also be marketing or any other thing. Every ad-committee is different.

- e. Public Relations Director:
 - a. Henk: No report
- f. Sustainability Director:
 - a. Byrne: The Focus on Energy Marketplace is offering free LED lightbulbs for students. We reached out to Western Technical College to inquire about active sustainability initiatives, find out if there are any existing initiatives we could collaborate on. Kyle Burke and I are having a meeting on October 4th to discuss the feasibility of an Earth Day Festival. I'm still researching the feasibility of a shoe drive, but it does seem like it's logistically challenging. The Sustainability Institute is hosting an Electric Vehicle Car Show this weekend, which looks really exciting. We will talk about the possibility of participating in the Drawdown Eco Challenge in Discussion tonight.

VII. Advisor Reports

- a. Burke: I would like to thank Director Woodmansee for her presentation, that was informing and entertaining. The 70 for 70 Campaign just hit 75%, so that is fantastic. The first set of UWL sponsored scholarships will be announced soon. Family weekend is October 8th -10th, so if you haven't heard about it you can look it up on the website. Wellness Weekend is October 16th -18, and we are working on planning that and the programming for right now.

VIII. Committee Reports

- a. None

IX. Organizational Reports

- b. Fitzgerald: I yield to Grant.

Grant Mathu (student): I came here because I think members of the Student Court should pay attention to Senate. Also, I think that if you have to elect a President Pro Tempore, you need to list it in the agenda in order to abide by open meetings law. My suggestion would be that whoever compiles the agenda items lists the election of the Pro Tempore in the next agenda and you entirely re-do it so you can be in accordance with open meetings law. That is all I have.

- c. Estrella: This month is Hispanic Heritage Month, and this coming Thursday during the LASO meeting we're going to have a little discussion about it. I also want to say that anyone can come to LASO meetings and it's not limited to only people who have Latinx heritage.
- d. Cayo: Seeing no questions, we will move into unfinished business. Before that, however, we will discuss the resolution to approve new senators.



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X. Resolution to Approve a College of Science and Health Senator

- a. Senator Estrella: Motion to waive the two weeks rule

Fitzgerald: Second

Motion passes.

Fitzgerald: Call to question

Resolution passes.

Senators sworn in by President Zwettler

XI. Unfinished Business

- a. **Resolution Extending a Welcome from UWL-Student Association to Afghan Refugees Fleeing Persecution as they Arrive in Western Wisconsin**

- i. Sperling: I would like to amend the title. Instead of “as they arrive” we can change it to “arriving.”

Fitzgerald: Second.

Cayo: Are we comfortable voting? Are we in favor of changing the resolution title?

Motion to amend resolution passes.

Fitzgerald: Call to question.

1. Motion passes

- b. **Resolution to Amend the UWLSA Constitution to Promote Fair Election**

- i. Zwettler: We believe this resolution will promote fair and unbiased elections. I would also like to amend this resolution and add Senators Ericson and Johnston as authors for this resolution.

Fitzgerald: I think this is an important resolution to maintain the integrity of our student body.

Lochner: I have a friendly. I think we need to change the date.

Zwettler: We do need to add referendum language. We need to amend something along the lines of “pending ratification via referendum from the student body on such date.”

Cayo: Would you like to table this for a week while we find specific language?

Zwettler: Yes.



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Fitzgerald: Motion to table resolution until next week.

Peters: Second.

Point of information from Woodmansee about tabling.

Vote on tabling passes unanimously.

XII. New Business

- a. Resolution to Suspend the 25 Signature Requirement for Senatorial Candidates in the Fall 2021 Student Election
 - i. Fleegal: I wrote this to suspend the signature requirement for the election based on our prior discussion.

Ericson: Friendly, it should say “Fall 2021” in the therefore be it resolved.

McReavy: I would like to move to amend to change “hybrid classes” in the whereas wording because we are not currently in an all-hybrid class format. I think it should be changed to “Whereas the University of Wisconsin La Crosse is invested in the wellness of its students, faculty, and staff during the continually changing landscape of the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Ziegler: Second

Motion passes.

Fitzgerald: Move to suspend the two week rule.

Estrella: Second.

Motion passes.

Fitzgerald: Call to question.

Resolution passes unanimously.

- b. **Resolution Opposing Assembly Bill 562**
 - ii. McReavy: This resolution is in response to a bill that was pushed through the WI legislature last week. I find the contents of this bill very harmful for LGBT students, and often an invasion of their privacy. LGBT programming is extremely important for students, and this resolution was brought to a public hearing literally a day after it was introduced, which is very unheard of. It’s not the way the legislative process is supposed to work. It’s also implied to be towards Madison schools in particular. For those not aware, Madison



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has some of the most LGBT inclusive programming at schools across the state and even nation.

Strzyzewski: It's really important for teachers and administrators to be able to develop their own curriculum without input from parents. At the bottom I have a list of all the people I'm sending this to. I'm okay if we have any edits to that.

Lochner: Friendly. Can we change the date?

Stewart: would it be a friendly to add "parents and or guardians" instead of just "parents?"

Cayo: Authors, would you consider that a friendly?

McReavy: Yes. Can we add an amendment to the list of people opposing this bill to add The LGBTQ+ Legislative Caucus of Wisconsin?

Peters: Second

Strzyzewski: Should we make LGBTQ+ usage to match the LGBT usage in the document?

Cayo: Senator McReavy is "LGBTQ+ Legislative Caucus" their specific name? If yes, that should be kept as is, but if we would like to change the term LGBT moving forward to match that term, we can do that after this amendment.

Amendment passes.

Sperling: I would like to add +Q's to all the LGBT language.

Ericson: I don't think the word "opposing" grasps my opinion of this bill. We need stronger language.

Byrne: We could say "resolution strongly opposing". Are we allowed to do that?

Cayo: Yes. We can say anything we want.

Zwettler: If I could suggest the word "vehemently".

Hameister: I motion to add "vehemently oppose".

Fitzgerald: Second.



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Fleegal: I support this change.

McReavy: I'm okay with it as is, but if we wanted to make it one word we could say "condemns".

Amendment passes.

Estrella: With the timeliness in which this was introduced to the State floor, should we suspend the two week rule?

Strzyzewski: The authors are okay with that.

Cayo: I will say that there was not a proposed timeline online, and considering how quickly they have moved forward on this it may be time sensitive.

Fitzgerald: Move to suspend the two week rule.

Lochner: Second.

Woodmansee: Considering that all bills get sent to the Governor, I suggest we also send this to him.

Sperling: Motion to add Governor Tony Evers to the document.

Stewart: Second

Amendment passes.

Woodmansee: Since this is going to go to all of these people, I suggest reading through it together with a grammatically fine-toothed comb if we are sending it tonight.

The body reads over the document together.

Fitzgerald: Call to question.

Resolution passes.

XIII. Discussion

a. Dropdown Eco Challenge

- i. Bryne: This is an organization where you can enroll people to enter this challenge to do eco-friendly challenges. You can be in it for as long as you want. Essentially, we could do this as Student Association or as UWL, we could even partner with SFS. If we do this as UWLSA it would show our commitment to sustainability



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and would help us get the campus involved.

Fleegal: I think I did this in a class and it was super fun and really easy to be engaged.

Henk: I know that a lot of people were concerned with people knowing that Student Senate exists, so this could be a good way to promote our entity.

Bryne: This only works if we as Student Association get involved and stay engaged.

Cayo: Which topics should we do?

Bryne: If you click on these headings there are even more smaller options for people to do. We could make it a competition between students, faculty, and staff, which is a high goal but it would be a cool way to put us on the map.

Burke: I recommend as we start tracking this and doing this that we track our volunteer hours in UGetConnected. It's a mechanism we use on campus in the Involvement Center to track service hours.

Cayo: Look at the site and report back on a few that we might want to do.

Byrne: It can actually be unique to each member. We make a team, and that team can be joined by any amount of people, and then each individual can commit to whichever tasks they want to. The big question is whether we do this as Senate or whether we try to get the student body involved.

Hameister: Can we just talk to our constituents and promote it that way?

Cayo: Yes, you can do this however you want.

Hameister: Do we need to vote?

Cayo: We do not. Discussion points do not need to be voted on, though we could bring a resolution to the Senate if somebody really felt they needed to.

Discussion ends.

b. Students for Sustainability Seat



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- i. Sperling: SFS has been talking about this. For those who don't know, we are a group focused on environmental activism on campus. We would like to get a seat on Senate. There is a revolving seat on Senate that we held one year and we would like to apply for a permanent seat because we have done a lot on this body regarding sustainability and promoting the Green Fund. We have a Sustainability Director but they do not get voting power. Since sustainability is a vested issue on campus and a growing interest in our constituents, this would be an important voting body to have, and they could report back to SFS like the other organizations. This could also help us make more connections with both the student body and the community. UWL is one of three schools that does not have a full-time Sustainability Coordinator, which really shows that we have not committed to sustainability, and adding a SFS seat would show that this is something that is important to us.

McReavy: Is this just proposing that SFS run for the rotating seat, or are we talking about a defined change? And if it is a defined change doesn't this need a Constitution change?

Sperling: We have two options: to make a permanent change to add a seat which would require a Constitution change or to make the rotating seat a permanent SFS seat, which requires a bylaw change.

McReavy: I'm in favor and I think that would be a great voice, but I do think it shouldn't replace the rotating seat as though it is easier, I think that's an important body.

Byrne: I do not think we should remove the rotating seat or other organizations may wonder why they do not get permanent seats.

Fitzgerald: Point of information. How many SFS members are on Senate already?

Sperling: There are a few people here who are on it, but the difference is that this would ensure that in the future that somebody would represent SFS in the future. Also SFS is one of the larger organizations on campus and has had over 75+ people at our meetings in the last few weeks. I think a permanent seat would be better. I would also prefer adding a new seat versus removing the revolving seat.

Fitzgerald: I know right now we are struggling to fill the Senate and there are a lot of opportunities to be on Senate. We would need



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to change the Constitution and that gets the whole student body involved, and not necessarily in a positive way.

Zwettler: I've had some conversations about this very topic and there is reason to be concerned. Say I am a student who is passionate about supporting Wisconsin businesses, and as such the industry dairy production. I may say that Cheese Club deserves a Senate seat. Since Cheese Club and SFS are on the same grounds, I think that sets a precedent that we do not want to establish. I do not think that every organization should be in Senate. I think a lot of orgs would be able to argue that they should be in Senate, and I am not in favor of this. SFS is well represented within the College of Science and Health.

Fitzgerald: Since this group is already well represented, I don't think they need a seat.

Fleegal: I think it does set a dangerous precedent if we allow one club to have a seat and not others. I do think that sustainability is important at UWL, but better ways to represent sustainability on campus would be to add it as a pillar or to hire a Sustainability Coordinator. One thing to look into is having a few revolving seats instead of just one.

Sperling: I think SFS is a unique issue. There is no identity centered around Cheese Club, but everyone in SFS holds the identity of environmentalism, which is an identity a lot of people hold. I think it holds more weight than Cheese Club or Cheese Club. I do not see Cheese Club asking for a Senate seat right now. There is a Greek Life senate seat and Athletics senate seats, and though they represent multiple organizations, I think considering the size of SFS will ensure long-term that this voice is represented on campus. Climate change and sustainability are long-term issues and we should also think long-term about this.

Woodmansee: Point of information. Legally, by state statute, we cannot dis-include or only include organizations based on membership as a rationale for funding or inclusion. We cannot use size as a factor because it disproportionately affects different organizations.

Hameister: I love the idea of the senate seat, but we do have a Sustainability Director and CSH seats to represent sustainability and bring their voice.

Byrne: This does not necessarily need to be an organizational seat.



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We could bring this to referendum and ask if students want to see a seat about environmental issues. There will be a referendum on the agenda this semester already and students don't like to answer too many questions, so this is not a time sensitive issue.

Weber: I want to clarify. Is it very complicated to add extra organization seats?

Cayo: It would be a Constitutional amendment to create a new seat and a bylaw change to replace an old seat. Any organization, so long as they are not political entities, is eligible.

Woodmansee: Point of information, Greek Life and other seats here have their seats because they are either housed under University Centers and/or are segregated fee, and therefore student fee, funded.

Discussion ends.

XIV. Announcements

- a. Fleegal: Microbiology club is hosting a tie dye event 4pm-6pm on the lawn between Centennial and Wittich.
 - b. Woodmansee: It's very difficult to write a resolution let alone have that resolution be read aloud to everyone, so I just want to have a round of applause for authors McReavy and Strzyzewski.
 - c. Zwettler: I would like to personally apologize to senators McReavy and Strzyzewski for making them go through that.
- I. Adjournment
 - a. 8:34p