



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 29th, 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
 - i. Student: I would like to give a statement.

Cayo: You will have time to speak during the Student Body Open Forum. It will be just a few more minutes. Would any senators like to make any changes?

Approved unanimously

- b. Approval of Minutes
 - i. Approved unanimously
- IV. Land Recognition Statement
 - a. Cayo: As Indigenous Peoples' Day is right around the corner, I felt it appropriate to read the UWL Land Recognition Statement to honor that.

Statement is read.

- V. General Student Body Open Forum
 - a. Aaron: I am a UWL student of Ashkenazi Jewish descent. I am here today to relay my lived experience to Student Senate. The Dictionary of the American Psychological Association defines 'international trauma' as "a phenomenon in which the descendants of a person who has experienced a terrifying event shows adverse emotional and behavioral reactions to the event; they are similar to that of the person themselves." I am here today because I have experienced this trauma brought about by the school, its employees, and its police department. Last week I joined my friends in chalking on behalf of my bodily autonomy and advocated for the rights and privileges of ethnic minorities. However, I was devastated to learn that my chalking had been erased by students and university staff. My Jewish voice was silenced just like my parents. I also heard that two Resident Assistants were reported bragging in class that not only had they erased my messages, but that the university police had thanked them for silencing me, like so many others, like they were the spiritual successors of the Gestapo. I feel that it is only fair to inform you that an incident report with the ADL has been filed. Included in this report may include the name of this university, the campus police officers, the RAs who bragged about the chalking, and it may include the names of those in this senate as listed on our university website, as this senate has acted as enablers of hate-filled antisemitism. I'm sorry it had to come to this, but the community feels it has no other choice as this university blatantly allows intellectual genocide and suppresses its most vulnerable populations.
- VI. Guest Speakers



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a. Gretchen Reinders and Crys Champion

- i. Reinders: We wanted to give an update on some services and some changes on our website that are new this year. We hope to answer questions that we know students have and provide accurate information. Our homepage is where we hope students will receive basic information including what our services look like, including our Telehealth services. We have a new graphic here, our Selfcare Model, which is a physical representation of what we have doing for a long time to increase access and serve more students. This graphic explains our services, everything that is underlined is hyperlinked, and it is ranked by autonomy and offers a list of all our resources. We also have a graphic on the Where to Start page that details the types of services we provide and what they mean.

Champion: This graphic has four main access points including Urgent Care, Let's Talk, Single-Session, and Triage. Each area will list what the service is, who should access it, and what is included. For instance triage is our shortest appointment; it's a brief initial assessment of why someone came in and what they need. In the middle there's a Where to Start section that will detail campus resources and how to access them. This should allow students to self-direct with the services that are the most appropriate to themselves. Additionally, students will now be able to book their appointments online via the MyHealth portal.

Reinders: We will mostly be providing Telehealth services this semester because of our value in safety. The service is consistent across the board. We offer private Telehealth rooms in our space for student access, and other offices on campus are available to use this way as well. If you have any other ideas for private spaces, please let us know. Any single room space with a closed door.

Ericson: Cowley Hall is nearly deserted on rooms two through four. They are mainly labs, but could be used that way.

Reinders: Are they very big rooms?

Ericson: Yes.

Reinders: We also have workarounds for Telehealth versus in-person services and a set of criteria for that. I was pleased to find how effective Telehealth was for most of our students and that most students would still recommend counseling. Right now our wait times are down, but compared to previous years and community options it's a low-wait time. We always have Urgent Care available for crisis. Another concern that gets brought up is our case management team in services out—for instance, recommending a student further help outside of our offices.



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This usually happens because that student is leaving/transferring, because they self-select for longer care, they are looking for specialized assessments that our services are not doing, or our brief model does not give them the level of care they need. We also had a section on our page regarding the scope of our services that explain the determinations that help us serve more students.

Fitzgerald: I was wondering about Let's Talk. I know you have hours listed from 12-4. It says it's virtual but there's no Zoom link on the website.

Champion: You may have caught us when we were transitioning on our website. Right now, a student would be able to book a reservable time for that visit type.

Ericson: Tommy Thompson recently said "We have made mental health a priority on our campuses and we know students are heavily reliant on the services our universities provide." In your perspective as a health professional, do you feel like you have been prioritized?

Reinders: I believe that quote continues, and he says that we're prioritizing mental health, but we could be doing more. But do we think we have enough counselors, services, clinicians of color, resources, I am going to always say no. About 40-50% of our students could benefit from a service like ours, and no counseling center in the nation will be able to do that, which is why the tiered approach from Systems is the best way to do things. We could use the funding for staffing. If your question is about UWL I'm happy with our ability to staff our space, but I would love to see us embrace a public health model.

Champion: I've done a little more percentage-wise numbers. We need treatment for students, and we should be approaching mental wellness differently as a community. I wouldn't even say that more counselors will be what we need, but we might need more programming and marketing to normalize the student experience and condition.

Fleegal: What kind of feedback have you heard about in-person versus online services? Is it the same quality of service?

Reinders: In our report from the last year, 80% of our students were very pleased with Telehealth. It is not the same service, but it is 95% an equivalent service.

McReavy: When students use the anonymous method where they can talk about something but don't want it to be in the records, to what



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degree are you still a Mandated Reporter? What is the extent in which you will seek their information?

Reinders: We are Mandated Reporters, but not in the way that others on campus are. We're Mandated Reporters for things like child abuse. We are a confidential resource, so any student can come to us to talk about violence or sexual violence, and we are not required to address that.

Champion: We are also not Mandated Reporters of suicidal thoughts. That will never enter your record, but we do have a legal and ethical obligation to protect people's lives, so if that person was in danger, we would ask questions like their location so we could send support there.

Ericson: How can UWLSA help? Advocate to legislators?

Reinders: There are opportunities for partnerships with our office, but you know students better. You will find it easier to share and promote our services with students than we can. If you took five minutes to look at the Where to Start graphic so you could share the info with someone else, that would be great. You can also talk to your professors; we are always trying to get mandatory training for them.

Woodmansee: Advocating for funding at the legislature is important, but not just within Senate. Partner with the Counseling Center because they know where they want their funding to go.

Champion: We also offer a student training called Campus Connect, which is a suicide prevention training and a general how to help and support other students who are stressed.

Schweiner: I think everything was very exciting and I love the online scheduling. Could we move the Where to Start graphic to the first page?

Champion: We probably will, but it has not happened yet.

Schweiner: On that graphic, would it be beneficial to add something about substance use? It happens a lot on campus, but students don't really consider it a problem.

VII. Officer Reports

a. **President:** Jared Zwettler

- i. Zwettler: Just to address the comments made earlier in the meeting; just so you are aware, if anyone comes to the meeting and makes claims similar to the ones you heard, that comes back to President Cayo and I. You are not held responsible for anything like that. Additionally, if any of you are approached by the media or other organizations to comment



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on this sort of thing, please refer them to President Cayo and myself. That's our job. HEERF Funding will be available for a lot of students in the future. All Pell-eligible students will receive \$2000 from HEERF and all non-Pell-eligible students can apply for \$1500 beginning next Monday. They're estimating about 4200 students will get funding from this. Wellness Weekend planning is well under way, so if you have any ideas please direct them to Kyle, President Cayo, or me. Also, one of our Court Justices, Laurel Masters, is here to get sworn in today.

Laurel Masters gets sworn in.

- b. **Vice President:** K.C. Cayo
 - i. Cayo: If you have not sent me your bio or your Student ID number to get access to the Senate offices, please do so. There will be a Budgeting 101 meeting on November 10th, the location is still pending. The mask mandate has been extended through Turkey Day Weekend. There will be a vaccine clinic in Cartwright through Saturday, plus booster shots for faculty and staff. This will be happening 12-4p. The testing center will be closed Friday 10/1 and will reopen Monday 10/4, so please get tested before going out for Oktoberfest Weekend celebrations. Also, vaccine testing is at 76% for the campus now. When we reach 80%, eight more \$1000 scholarships will be available. We are also hoping to bring our campus photographer, Mike, to our next meeting to offer headshots to everyone here.
- c. **Director of Staff:** Olivia Woodmansee
 - i. Woodmansee: Would we rather do a PowerPoint on campus resources or a Kahoot about How to be a Senator?

Kahoot wins unanimously.

Woodmansee: Additionally, before we start, I know this is our first Guest Speaker, but if you could please have your laptops closed during speakers from here on out. We are going paperless this year, so I am fine with them being open during meetings, but when speakers are here, we want to look engaged.

Hose: What about to take notes?

Woodmansee: We'll have notecards up here if you need them, otherwise bring paper.

Senate does a training.

Woodmansee: What other questions do you have? What do you want to change about campus? Write it down on a notecard and I will collect them for attendance.



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- d. **State Affairs Director:** Sydney Navoichick
 - i. Navoichick: I sent out a poll to everyone who is a part of the Legislative Affairs Committee to pick a time for us all. Please respond if you are assigned to that committee.
- e. **Local Affairs Director:** Amy Schweiner
 - i. Schweiner: The Off-Campus Housing Fair is next Thursday from 11-2 on the Union Lawn, if it rains it will be held in the Bluffs. We'll have a table and I'll be there the whole time. I will pass around a sheet of paper to sign up for shifts to help me set up and tear down. The Community Engagement Council met the other day; there's a Community Engagement course designation and this is the first semester we're doing it. It will show up as a writing emphasis on your transcript.

Cayo: What's the Community Engagement Council?

Schweiner: We have a Community Engagement Coordinator on campus, her name is Lisa, and she runs this council. It's made up of staff, faculty, and I'm the student representative. There are also folks from the community on it. We partner with businesses and UGetConnected to document service hours and it helps students get more engaged. We also made a new platform and will be in First Year Seminar. We are also looking to network with the Downtown Neighborhood Association (DNA); there are several neighborhood associations in the area, and we usually work with GINA, but DNA is held on the same night. If there's a student interested in representing, let me know. They typically run one Tuesday a month.

- f. **Inclusivity Director:** Paige Vang
 - i. Vang: No report.
- g. **Public Relations Director:** Jamie Henk
 - i. Henk: No report.
- h. **Sustainability Director:** Sophie Byrne
 - i. Cayo: Director Byrne could not be here today so I will give her report. Students for Sustainability is having an Oktoberfest Cleanup on Sunday. Meet at 11:50a at the Clock Tower. I am looking forward to meetings with Casey Meehan, the Sustainability Director at Western Technical College, and Kyle Burke. I looked into the EcoChallenge more and set a tentative date for participants, which I will tell you all about should it get approved. I sent a preliminary email and scheduling poll out to Green Fund Committee members—we still need a SFS representative and one more senator. Also, the plastic bag and film recycling receptacles are still there. There's one in the REC and one to the left of the water fountain by Grilled It in the Union. As of right now there is not one in the COVE.

VIII. Advisor Reports

- a. Burke: I found the training very entertaining, thank you Director Woodmansee. I wanted to wish President Zwettler a happy birthday from earlier this week. President Cayo mentioned a lot of the COVID updates already, so I just wanted



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to remind you all that the mask mandate is extended through November 26th. Oktoberfest is this weekend; you will receive an email tomorrow about Operation Riverwatch to help staff. I will be there for my first shift. Have fun and be safe. Family Weekend is October 8th - 10th and we have over 800 families coming. Wellness Weekend is October 16th - 18th and we met to do programming. There will be music concerts, a theater production, and Order of Omega is doing an event with music performers and therapy dogs. We are also working on a Wellness Fair from 4-6 that Monday in the REC.

Woodmansee: Can we get goat yoga? UW Superior got it.

Burke: That's nice for Superior. There will be yoga involved, but I don't know about goats. Jeff Keenan would love to hear from you.

IX. Committee Reports

- a. Ericson: JCES met on Friday, and we talked about what our goals for the year are. A lot of it is about bike security and bike safety. We could use one more senator, but if anybody wants to sit in on one more committee, let me know.

Woodmansee: What does JCES stand for?

Ericson: Joint Committee for Environmental Sustainability. We deal with sustainability and Green Fund Grants.

Woodmansee: Do the Green Bikes come with bike locks?

Hameister: No, but you can buy them at Outdoor Connection.

Ericson: On the same trend as bike locks, there is a Green Fund Grant in the makings regarding those.

- b. Zwettler: JPB met today, and we mainly discussed enrolment numbers. We had some decreases in enrolment numbers in the higher grades just because a lot of students transferred over COVID. We do have the biggest freshman class on record at UWL. Additionally, we discussed COVID concerns and HEERF funding.
- c. Vang: Last week I met with JMAC and we talked about our goals and they were the same as last year. We want to make a Diversity and Inclusion Admissions prompt for admission into the university. We don't know what happened to the one we proposed last year. We are also looking at ways to include Diversity and Inclusion in the First Year Seminar curriculum.

X. Organizational Reports

- a. McReavy: The weekend of October 8th-10th is MBLGTACC, which is the Midwestern College LGBTQ+ conference. We do have seats left if anyone wants to go. We provide the bus and the hotel; all you pay for is the food. If anybody wants to come and learn about LGBTQ+ issues, please come. There are QR codes to sign up with in the Pride Center. We are hosting an Ally Training this



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Friday October 1st at 11am in Union rm. 3130. We do these a couple of times a semester and are open to everyone. These are a 101 crash course on LGBTQ+ identities. I also wanted to clarify that you can get the Pfizer booster shot if you work in a high risk setting like healthcare or in a school.

- b. Fitzgerald: Every year the Athletics department hosts a Veterans Breakfast on November 11th, but it was cancelled this year due to COVID. We don't want to bring a vulnerable group onto our campus. However, we are doing a letter-writing initiative to active military through a nonprofit called Million Thanks, and I will send out more information to you all. This will be happening from November 1st - 11th.

XI. Pro Tempore Election

- a. Sperling: I nominate Senator McReavy.

Cayo: Do you accept this nomination?

McReavy: Yes.

Fleegal: Can I nominate Director Woodmansee or does it have to be a senator?

Cayo: It has to be a senator.

Passes unanimously

McReavy abstains

XII. Unfinished Business

a. **Resolution to Amend the UWLSA Constitution to Promote Fair Elections**

- i. Zwettler: This resolution should have Senator Johnston and Ericson on there as well. This takes the appointment of the Election Commission out of the hands of the Executive Cabinet and into the hands of the Judicial Branch. We think this makes the elections fairer. This also maintains that the Election Commission make all the election data available after each election on the UWLSA website.

Cayo: The main change from last week when we tabled this was that we added the bottom referenda language.

Fitzgerald: Call to question.

Resolution passes unanimously

XIII. New Business

a. **Resolution to Amend the UWLSA Constitution to Reflect Past Bylaw Changes**

- i. Lochner: This resolution is to update our Constitution to reflect changes that have already been made in our bylaws. The change is from "Chief of Staff" to "Director of Staff" to honor that 'chief' is an indigenous-only term. This change was already made to the bylaws and this resolution



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will make the Constitution’s language more congruent.

Cayo: This appears in the Constitution two times under Number 8: Executive Cabinet. Is there any discussion on the resolution?

Fitzgerald: Move to end discussion.

Johnston: Second.

b. Resolution Formally Recognizing Indigenous Peoples’ Day in La Crosse

- i. McReavy: The City of La Crosse recognized Indigenous Peoples’ Day in 2019 in lieu of Columbus Day. I went over why that decision was made in the document, but a lot of people have issues with the history behind Columbus Day and thought it would be better to honor indigenous people instead. There was no resolution affirming that change by Student Senate so I decided now would be a good time to do that.

Woodmansee: Governor Tony Evers formally recognized this in the state of Wisconsin, so we could change the name to Wisconsin and not just La Crosse.

Hameister: Motion to end discussion.

Hose: Second.

Ericson: Can I make a motion to amend the agenda to add the Resolution to Appoint the Election Commission.

Johnston: Second.

Zwettler: This needs to be a motion with a greater than two-thirds majority.

Amendment passes unanimously

c. Resolution to Appoint the Election Commission

- i. Zwettler: This is time sensitive as the paperwork is due tonight and the election will be happening soon. This resolution is just to appoint the people who will serve on the Election Commission for the Fall Election to elect the freshmen and graduate senators.

Fleegal: Can graduate senators run for a college seat, or is that only for undergraduate students?

Woodmansee: It’s only for undergraduates.

Estrella: Motion to suspend the two-week rule.



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Hameister: Second.

Motion passes unanimously

Weber: Call to question.

Resolution passes unanimously

Ericson abstains

XIV. Discussion

- a. Cayo: We have no discussion points tonight, but if anybody would like to add one in the future, all you have to do is send me an email saying “Please add a discussion point about banning shoes on campus” and I will add it to the next agenda. It’s super straightforward. If it’s not something that needs a resolution or if it’s something you want to discuss before writing a resolution on, discussion is a good space for that.

XV. Announcements

- a. Sperling: Senator Tammy Baldwin is coming on a Zoom call Monday at 6pm in the Union basement theater to talk with students. We’re senators, she’s a senator, so it would be a great opportunity to have your concerns heard by a representative. It will be in a Q&A format.
- b. McReavy: In light of the fact that Oktoberfest is coming up, I wanted to let you all know that there are free sexual health supplies in multiple places on campus, including the Pride Center and the Food Pantry. The Safe Ride bus runs through downtown, Viterbo, and La Crosse every fifteen minutes Thursday through Saturday night from 10:30p-4a, so that’s a safe way to get home if you cannot drive. Also, if you are on campus and drinking underage and you are with a friend who has alcohol poisoning or needs medical attention, please get help. You are protected from drinking underage on campus if you are seeking medical help.
- c. Cayo: Tomorrow is the last time you can get a COVID test until Monday, so please get tested.

XVI. Adjournment

- a. 7:51pm