

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

Student Senate Agenda Date: October 20th, 2021 Time and Location: 6:00pm, Student Union

- I. Call to Order
 - a. 6:02p
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Approved unanimously.
- IV. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Approved unanimously.
- V. General Student Body Open Forum
 - a. Jake Williams: I think over the last couple weeks the topic of mental health has been at the forefront of a lot of people's minds, but it has not been at the forefront of a lot of decision-making bodies. I know there have been long debates about how there is a want to see improvements, but what can we do? Some potential action items are to formalize and say that mental health is a priority, pushing for the end of the normalization of suicide on campus, an initiative to help students through the process to alleviate mental health issues on campus, and advocacy to properly or fully fund the Counseling and Testing Center. There are not enough resources to properly address the need on campus. I also think there should be an increase in the Urgent Care hours in the Counseling and Testing Center.
 - b. Jonathan Idarraga: I'm the LASO president and an English Education major. I'm here to talk about the sexual assault alert email sent out to the campus by the police. There was backlash among the student body about the language in that email and how it perpetuated victim-blaming and rape culture. OMSS reached out to the Chief of Police and other officers, who explained that the email's content was in line with the Clery Act, which they need to uphold. We are organizing a panel with Chief of Police Allen Hill to discuss the language that was used and to explain why it is problematic. If any senator is interested, please reach out to me. Please feel free to bring this to whoever you represent.

Cayo: Is this a LASO sponsored event? Or is this more informal? Because if you want us to partner with you in this, and we could possibly book a room for the panel.

Idarraga: In no way is this going to be a LASO-led event. Members from LASO will be there. I'm hoping to be a facilitator in this event.

c. Jacob Ringberg: I am a captain on the Men's Swim and Dive team at UWL, and the president of Student Athlete Advisory Committee. I'm here to speak on behalf of student athletes in support of the Early Registration resolution. Passing this proposal would allow athletes to balance their schedule with no harm to the student population. Our rigid practice and game schedule allows for very little wiggle-room when it comes to class and events. We recently



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

took a survey from student athletes and got about 70 responses. One respondent struggles with missing classes in a lot of sessions and struggles every semester because of her rigorous practice and game schedule. This is just one of 70 stories of students who cannot work around their schedule. Every other UW System school has had no problem implementing this. This resolution will let student athletes have jobs and be in clubs as well as be in athletes.

- VI. Guest Speakers
 - a. Chancellor Joe Gow

i. Gow: I think that the addition of the Student Body Open Forum is a very good one, and I think this should be an item on the Board of Regent's agenda, too. The topic of suicide is an important topic right now, and it is always really shocking to me, and I hope you know that we have very dedicated and talented people who are mobilized in those moments of crises. A lot of people spend a lot of time to get what the right message is and involves contacting the family of the deceased person. I think of all the students as people I am responsible for, so when that happens it is very emotional for me. This time around our Wellness Weekend was right after that event, so we did not have any follow-up, otherwise we would have scheduled an event. There's a lot of stress right now with the pandemic—it's coming on two years. I hope everyone is taking care of themselves and can try to de-stress. Ultimately the suicide is a reminder of what life is all about. Life's about people and relationships, the people you love, and the friends you have. Shifting to the current state of things with COVID-19, I think we were all bracing for Oktoberfest and its impact, and surprisingly the events were held, and this has not resulted in higher numbers. This could be because not as many people are getting tested. I get questions in my emails asking why we are still wearing masks while there is so little positivity, but the classroom remains like airplanes where everyone is wearing masks and that is how things are going to be moving forward. Until we really know we are through this thing, we should wear our masks for teachers' and students' protection. We just passed an 80% vaccination rate for students, and our faculty and staff are in the low 90s. Hopefully we can get to a point where we feel comfortable and don't need to take so many precautions. I think there is a lot of healthy debate about what we should do.

McReavy: I know that the University is offering booster shots for the Pfizer vaccine. Are there plans to offer Moderna and J&J as they get approved?

Gow: I think only Pfizer has been approved by the FDA. There are discussions about if somebody got one shot but a different booster,



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

would they be okay. I got my booster on Friday and had some mild symptoms.

Sperling: How do you plan on prioritizing sustainability in future years? Could we add it as a university pillar?

Gow: We had a great meeting in JCES the other day where we talked about these issues. The strategic pillars are not budgetary pillars, they are only strategic, and we designed those in May 2016. Next time we would be interested in doing something with sustainability, and the committee has created some possible language. COVID has taken us off that task. Next time we do strategic planning, that will be the beginning of the conversation.

Lochner: A couple weeks ago we talked about the potential renaming of buildings on campus. Could you offer some background on the decision-making process?

Gow: I was visiting my granddaughter in San Antonio, TX, and she lives near a school named The Karen Wagner School. I looked Karen Wagner up later; she was a student at that school, had a career in the military, and was killed in 9/11 and I thought that was very powerful. I began to think about the names of our buildings and the stories that they tell. They are all named after white people, and that's not entirely accurate. Is there a way to tell the history of the university in an inclusive way? So we did some research in the Archives, and in 1916 there was a woman named Lillian B. Smith whose grandmother was born into slavery and emancipated. She came from GA to La Crosse and settled here. Lillian graduated from UWL and taught for a while, then had a successful career as a performer. When she came back through La Crosse in the 40s she worked with the NAACP to get some anti-Black signage removed. I talked to some colleagues about how powerful it would be to name a building after her so we could spark other conversations. Another alumnus is Truman Lowe, who was a Native American student in our Art Department in the 1960s. He later worked at the Smithsonian Museum for Native American Art. We thought it would be cool to rename the CFA the "Truman Lowe Center for the Arts".

Xiong: These stories are very important to tell, but not everyone who comes to UWL has a story to tell. I think it would be important to invite student voices into this discussion. The intentions are good, but the impact might be different. I have been on this campus for five years and there have been a lot of changes, but MSO students see these changes and need a space to give their



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

feedback. There are football teams who used to be named after Native American terms, and those intentions were good but the impact was devastating because it created a caricature. All the key players need to give their opinions.

Gow: We want to get as many people as we can talking about this. We used to be called the Chiefs, and we changed the name, and I still get calls from alumni asking why that happened.

Fleegal: This name change seems like a passive action. Do you think this will foster change?

Gow: I think we are changing to a more inclusive university. I would hope we all think that's a good thing to do. We have been working hard to make improvements in D&I, and we created a position and added resources to do that, and we have the new Center for Transformative Justice. One way that I personally have committed to that is to hire more diverse people in the administration.

Hose: Is the woman's name Lillian Smith Davenport like you said in other speeches, or Lillian B. Smith?

Gow: Her married name is Lillian Smith Davenport. Her maiden name is Smith.

Hose: In the last meeting we talked about the cost of the renaming of the building. Since the Union was paid for by seg fees, would the funding come from us?

Gow: There would be minimal cost. If there was anything, it would come through our budget or through the Foundation.

Hose: Might it be more impactful to make a scholarship in her name?

Gow: In conjunction with these conversations, our CFO Bob Hetzel we have put together \$400k per year, and that would be part of this as well.

Fitzgerald: I think when buildings are named for people, it's only a name. I don't think anyone knows what Wimberly or Reuter are named for. I think there are better ways to remember her story in a more tangible way. I think the scholarship is a great idea, but I do not think the building name will be meaningful.



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

Gow: Part of the point of this is to get people to ask questions about the names. Bringing the full name of it will hopefully make people ask questions about it, like with Karen Wagner High School. There are not many buildings named after women.

Lochner: If we name a building after an indigenous person, would you commit to using the Land Recognition Statement at ceremonies and events?

Gow: It's 'ancestral homeland', and that's the phrase at other universities. Our school comes long after the Ho-Chunk people were forcibly removed by the government. But to say 'we occupy the land of the Ho-Chunk', that's not telling the whole story.

Sperling: Over the past couple years we have seen increased evidence of climate change, from physical evidence like fires and hurricanes to scientific evidence, like the Climate Report. Are you willing to commit more strongly to supporting plans for environmental sustainability on campus?

Gow: The word 'commit' implies I am running for office, and I am not. I can try to do things. I work with other people; I cannot do this alone. Can the university divest from fossil fuel companies? Well, the university doesn't have an endowment, it's a Foundation, a legally separate entity who is trying to raise money that they invest in the stock market who then give out scholarships. They are not a profit-making entity. That conversation is happening. Another conversation is about fewer cars. We could say that first year students cannot have cars, and that does not go over very well, and those students may not go to school here.

Sperling: Have you put any more thought into hiring a Sustainability Coordinator?

Gow: Dam Sweetman does a lot of those activities. It's a conversation that has been postponed since the pandemic. There are other areas of the university that have been very stressed in this pandemic, and it's important to look at the human dimension of this. The argument that other campuses have it and ours does not is not a good one; the conversation should be around what is the benefit.

Wember: Was there student input on the new CTJ Director?

Gow: There are usually students on committees.



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

Schweiner: The naming of the buildings would be more effective with some actionable ideas. We have a low retention rate of BIPOC students, and we are a PWI, and most students leave because they don't feel involved in decision-making on campus. If we are going to rename it, it would be more impactful if the university committed to creating dialogue instead of relying on students of color to do that. We want MSOs to have a voice and be able to vote on this decision.

Xiong: To help every person of color to feel seen, and for us to pick and choose which story gets told is not right. We need to reach out to the community.

Cayo: These last three speakers will be our last due to the time.

Estrella: Will there be a plaque and pictures of the individuals?

Gow: Yes.

Stewart: Can we get art from Truman Lowe in CFA?

Gow: Yes. There's some in the library, too.

Hose: Have you or anyone else thought about giving students the day off when they receive news of a suicide? Can we cancel classes to support the students affected?

Gow: The challenge is that different families have different ideas. Some don't want the school to disclose that there was a death at all. Cancelling classes might not be as straightforward as it seems. This isn't only happening at UWL, this is happening at all universities because of how much pressure students are under. When I was young, we didn't have any internet. Faculty through the Faculty Senate set the schedule. There is interest in a Fall Break.

- b. Director Jeff Keenan
 - i. Keenan: I'm the Director of REC Sports and I'm new on campus since July. I have been listening and talking to stakeholders on campus to get to know the REC Sports Department, students, and colleagues on campus. REC Sports, in partnership with the Division of D&I, in an effort to support those efforts at UWL, will assess and expand comprehensive plans for EDI training for students and staff. We want this to happen every year. We also want to start the Every Body campaign, because every person should feel welcome in the REC. We also want to open up the E-Sports space in our facility which will allow us to meet people who



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

maybe have never used the REC before. We are also expanding Campus Connection. We are also evaluating our role when it comes to physical wellness and wellbeing, and how we can impact that. We are also celebrating 100 years on campus this year. The E-Sports space will be open next year in January 2022. There will be 22 computers for online gaming, 4 consoles for casual gaming, a shout casting room, and will have a membership-based fee structure. It will be \$50 per semester or \$90 per year and will be open seven days a week. The Campus Connection remodel is to convert two offices into three to create a larger footprint, as well as adding windows. This will also open January 2022. The Student Fieldhouse will open Fall 2022 and will be a shared space for Athletics, REC Sports, and Exercise Sports Science.

Henk: What games will be at the E-Sports facility since games rotate in and out? Will you take input from the E-Sports Club?

Keenan: Last week we had E-Sports Club and members from UWLSA. From design to programming and operations we included a lot of student feedback. Specifically about games, yes-we have 200 student employees and they really run our department. We will be looking at the games every year, and it's in our operational budget to replace games as they rotate out.

Sperling: For people who are interested but haven't gotten into it, \$50 is a big commitment for a student to try out. Will there be a trial run option?

Keenan: Yes. We will have a freebie the first week of each semester, just like group fitness, and there will be Day Pass options to purchase, so there should be an access point for everyone. We are also looking into Campus Connection scholarship options for students.

Strzyzewski: Could we include non-UWL students? Can we get a Day Pass for a pass?

Keenan: Yes. The E-Sports space will be open to the community. If you go into the REC right now and are not a student, you need a student sponsor to use the space. Their rates will be higher because we want to prioritize students, and your student fees pay for this.

McReavy: I have three things. 1) If certain consoles or games become outdated, what is the plan to donate those games?

Keenan: I haven't been here long, so I don't know all the systems



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

in place, so I'll answer with what I think. We will see if there's any value to the system or game and if it can be sold through the State's Surplus Process. If we can, we will probably sell it and the funds will go back into the E-Sports budget. If not we will try and donate it.

McReavy: Say there's a situation where there is a lot of interest and enrollment, but there's a shortage of devices. How would the issue be solved?

Keenan: We are looking at time limits for the space. Right now, we are looking at 3 hours, but if someone is waiting then 90 minutes.

McReavy: A passion of mine that I want to put into your brain: how great would it be if UWL had an outdoor, in-ground trampoline? They are very fun and an effective form of exercise. There are studies saying they are some of the best forms of exercise.

Keenan: I will look into it.

Henk: When people game, they game for long periods of time. Is there a way to reserve it? Or check if it's being used?

Keenan: The facility will be available to reserve outside of normal hours. During some hours the computers may be reserved by the club, but at no point will all the facilities will not be available during normal hours.

Henk: Will there be a future in which when somebody is waiting to get in the E-Sports Center, you will be able to text them?

Keenan: I can write that down to see if it's an opportunity. I will also check on the trampoline.

Xiong: I am a big gamer and I know my computer takes up a lot of electricity. Could we invest into solar panels to help power the room?

Keenan: There are solar panels on the roof of the REC thanks to the Green Fund.

Sperling: How extended are the extended hours?

Keenan: We compared our hours with those at other institutions, and right now they don't have hours that work late. Students



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

wanted it as late at night as possible, so we decided to keep the space open until the building closes. Depending on the response from the student body, we could look into extending those hours further.

Woodmansee: If you could change one thing about UWL other than in the REC, what would it be?

Keenan: I would rather make a new Dining Hall instead of remodeling the old.

VII. Officer Reports

- a. **President**: Jared Zwettler
 - i. Zwettler: It is my job to prepare for FY23 for SUFAC, so Director Woodmansee and I will be working on that. We're looking at expanding our legal services contract, so I'll be in contact with Student Life this week about that, though it will be determinant on funding and the availability of an attorney. I need a CBA representative for the Search and Screen for the new Dean. Fall Elections were pushed back as they had trouble getting nomination papers and will now take place on October 27th, next Wednesday. Vice Chancellor Hetzel is working out when to do a Fieldhouse tour. You all should have received an invite for a Leadership Reception to meet with other leaders on our campus and will be a good opportunity to network in a more informal setting. Now we need to swear in the new ISO senator.

Senator is sworn in.

- b. Vice President: K.C. Cayo
 - i. Cayo: If you have not sent me your bio for the website and I have reached out to you, please email me back and give it to me. I can and will make one up. If you do not have access to the COVE offices, please send me your Student ID number so I can get you access. I am hosting a resolution workshop next week Thursday 10/28 from 12:30p-3p. However, if you aren't available, please use my Calendly link for 30 minute sessions. If you have questions, want more training, or anything else, you can book meetings with me. Jared also has a link. Next meeting will be business casual/formal wear once again, as we are having a State Senator come.
- c. Director of Staff: Olivia Woodmansee
 - i. Senator speed dating commences; senators report back on their speed resolutions
- d. State Affairs Director: Sydney Navoichick
 - i. Navoichick: Senator Brad Pfaff is coming to our next meeting, and I'm working on Ron Kind and Steve Doyle.
- e. Local Affairs Director: Amy Schweiner



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

i. Schweiner: One of the Neighborhood Associations, GENA, is thinking about working with the city to pilot a parking benefit district. This will probably take a long time to go through, but it would probably negatively impact students because it would make it so that residents can pay to have parking on the streets so then renters wouldn't be able to. I'm researching MTU and how we can effectively redirect those funds to a campus taxi without taking away access from students.

f. Inclusivity Director: Paige Vang

i. Cayo: Director Vang couldn't be with us today, but she had a meeting with Jenna Ives who works with crowdfunding on campus. She is going to start the application process to create the WOC Scholarship Ad Hoc Committee. We can start funding anywhere from February through May, but there aren't openings to crowdfund for fall semester. Giving Day is November 30th, so hopefully we can fundraise for that. Ives has a list of previous donors, as well as people she thinks would be interested in donating.

g. Public Relations Director: Jamie Henk

- i. Henk: S'mores with the Senators went very well! We have some extras in the office if anyone wants to take some home. I also made some UWLSA buttons if anyone wants one.
- h. Sustainability Director: Sophie Byrne
 - i. Bryne: The EcoChallenge is this Monday. Please sign up to help contribute. There will be an email that will come out with some introductory information, as well as a link to sign up. You can go through the action categories and pick out some things that look interesting to you. It will be open to the whole student body, and we are trying to compete with other universities. There will be a hashtag and a couple of graphics that you can share on your social media. The Green Fund Committee met today and we looked at grant ideas. We discussed the Sustainable Speakers Suggestion Survey. I met with Mary Beth Vahala to discuss meat-free options on campus.

VIII. Advisor Reports

a. Burke: I want to thank everyone who participated in S'mores with Senators and Wellness Weekend. I think a lot of students went home to be with their families. The Leadership Reception is really important, it's an event that is for you to meet other leaders on our campus. It's at 3:30p in the Clery Alumni Center. I will send out some starter questions and tips if that will be helpful, please try to be there. The vaccination rate is at 80%. Students have until Friday at noon to submit their information to be eligible for the next round of scholarships. The System Campaign for 70 for 70 will be drawn on the October 30th deadline. We have been tracking student engagement since the beginning of the semester and 94% of first year students went to at least



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

one event this semester, and 81% of sophomores.

Fleegal: Are students who already won a prize eligible to win them again?

Burke: Yes.

Sperling: What if you fill out the survey twice?

Burke: We delete duplicates.

- IX. Committee Reports
 - a. Ericson: Yield to Jake Williams.

Williams: Does a senator need to yield to me as I am the officially designated representative of the Student Orgs Committee? Directors on the Executive Cabinet don't need to be yielded to.

Cayo: Only senators can speak on the Senate floor without being yielded to. Students get to speak during the Student Body Open Forum. Cabinet Members were voted on and sworn in in front of this body, whereas committee chairs are not, and therefore get reporting privileges. Aside from the Student Body Open Forum, you do not have speaking privileges in the Senate. Additionally, the Cabinet can only speak during policy and discussion matters when yielded to, as that is outside of their report and purview.

Williams: Going forward, then, would Executive Cabinet Members need to be yielded to during their reports?

Cayo: They were vetted and sworn in under the Senate and our student government.

Williams: Am I not a member of student government?

Cayo: You have not been sworn in by this governance.

Williams: Do I need to be sworn in?

Cayo: No.

Woodmansee: There are three branches of the student government, and those under those branches need to be sworn in. Underneath the Student Senate comes all the committees, and while you are not a Student Senator you still run a student governance-based committee. That being said, there are senators on all of those committees, so typically a senator is chosen to give the report, as then they do not need to be yielded to. As you are an external student to the legislative body as a whole, you are legislative-adjacent, you



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

are within a committee, in this space you have to be yielded to.

Williams: That makes sense. Why are Cabinet members not yielded to?

Woodmansee: They are, just not for reports. Director Henk will give a report, but xe does not have voting power, xe just gives reports. Since the Legislative Branch is in charge of writing a resolution every year to appoint the new Legislative Branch and Cabinet, the Executive Branch has a duty to uphold that portion and report back to the Senate on their findings, as they are student fee funded. And let's say Senators have projects that they want the Executive Branch to work with, they can then use those channels.

Williams: What's the specific difference between the Executive Cabinet members and myself? I receive a stipend for the role I carry out.

Woodmansee: The Cabinet was officially appointed by this body. There was a resolution approving these appointments, whereas committee chairs are voted on within their bodies.

Williams: We can talk later. My report for the Student Organization Committee is that we cancelled a meeting for Wellness Weekend. We are still looking to fill the rotating senator seat, but we are still finalizing a process. We have an Academic Staff representative now. We have received \$18,000 of student organization grants and the grant process is now closed. Grants will be approved or denied on November 1st. We will be reviewing Commencement Speakers next week.

Ericson: JCES met with Joe Gow, but it seems like bike safety and security are a main topic the committee will deal with this year. Also I have brought some campus bags that the Green Fund funded.

- b. Polley: AIDAC met last week. We did introductions and went over the AIDAC budget training.
- c. Cayo: The Campus Climate Survey Committee met and went over the data we received from HEERI from last week's survey. We are looking at what the findings are and what programming based on the responses may look like.
- X. Organizational Reports
 - a. McReavy: Today is International Pronouns Day. If you go on our Instagram, we do have information about that, along with informational resources. We also have Queer Cinema: The Rocky Horror Picture Show which is next week at 7pm, so please tell your constituents.
- XI. Unfinished Business
 - a. Resolution Supporting Early Registration for Student Athletes
 - i. Fitzgerald: One of the concerns last week was how Early Registration would impact the student body, and I hope that you all got a chance to look at my supporting documents, because there's



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

data to show that there will be no negative impact. We are the only school in WIAC and one of two in the UW Systems who does not offer this. There were also concerns about favoritism toward athletes, and I agree that if UWL just handed this out to athletes for no reason, it would be. But I have 19 pages of student testimony and have received 90 student statements, but there is a need and a precedent for this. UW Stout has athletes represented 8% of the student body, whereas we only have 6%, and they have heard no complaints from the student body.

Xiong: I brought this up to my constituents and they wanted to put into perspective that it should be normalized if students are on campus for more than four years. If athletes go another semester, it's okay. Everyone takes the time that they need to do what they have to. It's okay to take more than four years.

Fleegal: I've had great conversations with constituents this week. I represent CSH, and most athletes fall under my college. I talked to athletes and non-athletes about this and have heard this is a need, especially if you take your feelings out of the equation.

Hose: CASSH students wondered what was to start band, choir, and arts students from asking for the same things as an extracurricular, not as a major. What stops other organizations from making this argument? What comes first, athletics or school, in this debate?

Xiong: There is a large amount of diversity students on this campus, 10%, and they also don't have Priority Registration. We should not open it just for one more group. How would this get implemented? Athletes would still need to learn and use their resources to pass these classes. Everyone is making a sacrifice to be in school.

McReavy: Should this resolution pass, I think transparency should be the name of the game. We need to tell students why this is happening. When I asked constituents, they didn't understand why athletes should get this, but when I shared the supporting document, they hadn't realized how bad it was. If this passes, we need to make a proactive effort to explain why we passed it, or there may be backlash. Context will be necessary.

Lochner: I want to clarify that I made a comment last week that was misinterpreted. I said something about how if this passes, other students won't be aware of this. I did not say that to sweep our decision under the rug. I meant that most students would not be



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

affected by this. The breakdown of athletes in our school compared to schools where this has been implemented, it's very small. If you look at the breakdown of students by class level, it gets even smaller. If you look at the breakdown of students within certain majors, it gets even smaller. It will not be 500 students jumping ahead of you in line, it will be a small number. We should not try to hide what we're doing, but it will not have a negative effect on the student body. I also want to comment on the slippery slope argument that's been used—well if this passes, what if some other group does? We're here to discuss Early Registration for student athletes, not any other group.

Polley: This resolution helps student athletes prioritize academics. That's why this is possibly getting passed. They don't want to only be athletes; they want to fit classes in their schedules.

Estrella: I talked to people in my organization, and with people by major, it mattered more by students by major how upset by this. As a Computer Science Major, this wouldn't hurt me. But people in Bio and other classes were very worried. Until I see the data with the major breakdown, I cannot support this.

Fitzgerald: I hear all your concerns. I have a lot of information and some of it is not privy to the public, but when we sat down and met with people from marching band and choir, they did not have the same need as athletes. Additionally, we should talk about equity versus equality. In this instance, equality isn't the best option. Equity is because we should be able to prioritize our education the way other students should. If we look at this from an administrative perspective, we are trying to recruit really good students. Athletes have some of the highest GPAs on our campus, and one of the best WIAC schools. Our lack of Early Registration is hurting us. Athletes will choose to go to Oshkosh or Whitewater where they can prioritize their education. 550 is not a big number. I'm willing to meet with anyone to talk about this and transparency.

Byrne: I think there is every logical reason to support this. The group this will help is a larger number than the group this may hurt. I have never played a sport in my entire life, but this would make such an important change in the lives of so many.

Lochner: I'm a vanguard and gave a campus tour last Tuesday. There was a potential baseball player in my tour group and asked me "How does a student athlete prioritize their academics?" I mentioned the possibility of this resolution, and the dad said



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

"Okay, but that's not a practice that's currently in use? Oh, if you go to Oshkosh, they offer Head of Class Registration." This is just one example of how we are missing out on students who want to go here.

Hose: There's a lot of talk about transparency, but in order to be transparent with students we need to get a breakdown on majors.

Sperling: I was originally against this, but I have been won over because I can see a clear need for this. UWL has been struggling with retaining students and getting new students. We are losing students and having students not focus on their academics. This is damaging to student athletes that we already have on campus, but to UWL. There seems like there is a lot of uncertainty. Motion to table this until next week.

Vote fails; move back into discussion.

Fitzgerald: I'm not completely opposed to this. If this passes, this does not mean it's implemented. There are three more stages with faculty and admin who will all rip this to shreds. This needs to go through Faculty Exec, CAPS, and Faculty Senate. So there is a timeline and these groups do not meet every week. This is a process to get this through.

Sperling: Call to question.

Ziegler: Second.

Xiong: Question. Is this a vote to table the discussion?

Cayo: No, it failed. This is a call to question to approve this resolution.

Estrella: I thought we were voting to table.

Cayo: That failed. If the discussion and vote on tabling fails or gets objected, we move back into discussion and the motion fails. Are you all confused? Should we vote again?

Point of information is given about objections, tabling, and voting. Conversation moves back to discussion on resolution.

McReavy: I want us to vote because we are ready to vote and not because we are tired and want to go home. It's our responsibility and this decision will impact a lot of students. I think we should



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

vote tonight, and I think a lot of us are confused.

Xiong: I support this, but my constituents aren't. In 2015 the retention rate of Hmong students was 0%, and in 2016 the graduation rate was 0%. If we're talking about retention rates, Hmong students were roughly at 100 and took the Hmong classes, and since then there has been talk to bring back the Hmong language classes, because the language is important to the culture. POC make up 10% of the population and Hmong students are a majority group in La Crosse. There is a strong need for POC to prioritize their education versus trainings on campus.

Hose: I don't think it's a good idea to vote on this tonight considering the Senate was confused about what we were voting on.

Sperling: This resolution does not prevent other groups from doing this, this resolution just gives this privilege to athletes. This opportunity will not go away because we pass this. They are not mutually exclusive. Those are issues that can be solved with other resolutions.

Fitzgerald: This is fairly time sensitive, but I see people are leaving and I want a vote from within Student Senate. My basketball season started so I may not be available for all future Wednesday. I think you all know how you are going to decide. If you do have more questions, I can answer them, but I think we should vote.

Sperling: Can we hold any vote about whether we prefer to hold or vote?

Cayo: Somebody could motion to table, then we would discuss tabling it. If we voted on preferences without a motion, it would be informal and hold no binding power.

Ryan: Motion to table.

Hameister: I think we all have our minds made up. If we really need to talk to more people, we should table it. If not, we should vote.

Lochner: If you have taken a good look at the supporting documents, all the additional information you need is there. I think we should vote on this tonight because it is time sensitive.

Xiong: Is this the first time this was brought up?



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

Cayo: Second year of discussing it, the second week as a resolution on the floor.

Estrella: There is no information about how many athletes are POC. This document does have all the data. I have to have data for this one small group of people.

Cayo: We are only talking about tabling right now. If you are on the speakers list but your comment is not about tabling, please remove yourself from the speakers list.

Woodmansee: Point of information. There's the resolution as it stands, a motion, and now we are discussing the motion only. You can call to question about whether we want to table to the resolution. Somebody could object to that, and we are back into discussion. If the motion fails, it cannot be brought up again and we move into discussion on the document with the intent to vote on this tonight.

Sperling: Call to question.

Peters: Second.

Motion fails; conversation goes back to resolution as a whole.

Senate takes a five minute recess.

Cayo: Please direct all comments to the President of the Senate from this moment forward.

Fleegal: We are here to discuss student athletes. One organization's struggle does not negate someone else's. We can work to improve academics for other demographics, but no resolution has been written on that.

Ericson: The author is taking notes about this to get us more information, and as the author mentioned earlier there are three more committees this needs to go through. I think this will be a very well thought out process. I think we should approve this.

Estrella: Call to question.

Sperling: Second

Resolution passes.



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

XII. New Business

XIII. Discussion

a. Content Warnings for UWL Police Alerts

i. *Moved to next week*.

XIV. Announcements

- a. Ericson: There are Green Fund bags!
- b. Henk: Grab a button when you walk out.
- c. Byre: Please join the EcoChallenge.
- XV. Adjournment
 - a. 9:39p