



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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Student Senate Agenda

Date: **February 17, 2016**

Time and Location: **6:00pm Port O' Call; Cartwright Center**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - a. Motion by Mans/Steck
 - i. Passed Unanimously
 - ii. Approval of agenda
 - iii. Approval of minutes
 - iv. SA1516-042: Resolution Appointing At-Large Senator Seat
- V. Guest Speakers
 - a. Chancellor Joe Gow
 - i. Come by periodically and say hello and answer any questions that you might have or hear anything that's on your mind that you think the administration needs to know about.
 1. Almazrou: How is the International Education and Engagement going:?
 - a. Gow: We just got a couple of new recruiters, it'll take a little time to get things back to where we want them.
 2. Brever: how have things changed adding Nizam to the cabinet?
 - a. Gow: He's working with a lot of delicate issues, so it's good to know that he's on top of that. He's also great at reminding people that they need to get very diverse pools of applicants. Our diversity of our workforce has gone from 9% to 11% so that's very positive, hoping to do the same with the student body. We're aware of these challenges and plan to continue working on them.
 3. McLoughlin: what is the administration doing to attract, recruit and retain minority students on campus?
 - a. Gow: I'm glad you mentioned retention – that's super important as well. Once people are here we want to make sure they feel like this is where they want to be. We try really hard to outreach to those populations, we publish literature that are targeted towards them, we hope to get advertisements out to places where everyone can see them and that we draw applications from typically underrepresented groups.
 4. Flourke: what is your opinion on the new head football coach?
 - a. Gow: I haven't gotten too much time to sit down with him thus far. I knew him a little when he was a student and I think he's very integrity driven and a good choice for us.
 5. Steck: I learned that there is currently a cap on student bills. If they owe more than \$100 on their student bill they cannot register – how do you feel about raising that to \$300?
 - a. Gow: I heard about this and I think it would be a really good idea to look at ways we can do that. I don't know the particulars of why it is the way that it is, but the encouraging thing is that there are models at other UWS schools where it's done like that so we'll

certainly move in that direction.

6. Rudolph: if we can reshape the Higher One ID's, is there a way that they can comply with the new Voter ID laws?

a. Larry: there is definitely room for that, we'll have a group of people looking at it going into the future.

7. Steck: I've experienced, and a lot of my peers, taking internship credits. I have to take six internship credits and pay the full amount of about \$2,500 to do an unpaid internship over the summer. Would UW-L ever consider paying for internships or not adding that additional fee.

a. Gow: At the root of that issue, there are federal laws that say you can't go out and work for free. Perhaps the number of credits could be worked out, and for that I'd encourage you to talk to someone about.

b. Provost Betsy Morgan

i. Reimagining The First Year is a group for public colleges & universities, made up 44 schools, including us. Various faculty members are on it and attended a conference in Texas and try to maximize what we are doing on our campus so to make it affect more students. The first year matters, academically and socially, and there are things we can do to make retention rates, transition rates, etc... are all successful. Your interactions & experiences with faculty really does matter, and how it affects your relationship with the university. Also what matters is how the underrepresented students feel, and how their campus makes them feel, and how faculty respond.

1. Becker: I have a question, what does the provost do?

a. Morgan: I like to call myself the vice president. There are 4 aspects to the university, and I cover everything academic affairs related. I spend time with the chancellor's cabinet, as a part of it, and also with the Deans of the colleges.

2. Mason: back to the internship aspect, where does the credit count?

a. CEI 450: any student can graduate with 15 credits from an internship toward graduation. Most requirements are from a higher body that requires it for you, and the department has the final decision. There are ways to make it count, but it's particularly hard in the sciences. You'd have to ultimately go to the department

3. Rudolph: I'm a political science, public administration major, and the problem I run into is that you have to pay \$2500 to intern over the summer. That's overwhelming. I had an internship I could've used as credits from over the previous summer, but I didn't because I didn't want to pay the \$2500. Decreasing that amount would make a huge difference, and this is a concern that affects a ton of people.

a. I understand the concern, however I am not hopeful. That system is very delicate and very interconnecting. I'm not sure there's a way to take one piece out of the puzzle, without affecting another aspect. That changes the whole financial model of the summer session.

4. Mans: When you say, "we've looked into it" as far as reducing rates of summer session, what does that entail?

a. I'm saying it'll take a wholesale change of the model to make a change. Yes we've looked at it, and there's no available variation to change the prices of anything. I'd be happy to look into the reasoning behind it though, and get

5. Brever: How's the grading scale change going?

a. It's in CAPS currently. As I know it, you're looking at a 10 point scale, and they'll be looking at it after spring break, which will go forward to faculty senate. What's good is that a lot of other schools

use it, what's bad is that Madison uses it. I can see it going either way.

6. McLoughlin: You were saying that to change the prices, we'd have to change the system, so what's been looked at to change the price?
 - a. Summer session money is money provided by the state, and there are a lot of variables that affect money provided to us. Enrollment affects that money, and we have to hit a few specific targets in order to get make money. Tuition is something controlled by System, we can't do anything.
7. McLoughlin: Rerouting the General Education requirement to Academic Exploration aspect may give students what they need to find out what they want to do, and to take it seriously. Expanding the program to include things like inclusivity training, etc..
 - a. All of us on the RTFY think that the transition into the freshman year should begin with admissions, continue in to the summer, the beginning of the semester, and into the year as well. I would encourage you to talk to Tim Dale who is the most invested into reframing this for students.
8. Tashner: I am the track from Radiation Therapy, and right now you can only apply in December, is there a reason you can't apply biannually? You can apply twice, but you have to wait a whole year to apply the second time.
 - a. It's about the sequencing of the courses once you're into the program. Athletic Training is the same way.
9. Bhatoya: Did you hear anything about the extension of the drop date?
 - a. Otterbacher: I sent it to Christine.
 - b. Morgan: this is just an issue of how to get it to work, but I haven't heard anything about it. I will follow up on that, but I do know that that office has been in a transition period, and has really slowed down.
10. Quaschnick: first year seminar required?
 - a. No, and if we did it would be an "if we build it they will come" situation.
11. Gustafson: How do you feel about Priority Registration?
 - a. It is an extraordinarily challenging thing to start to say that students need a priority to register. I'm not trying to shove you off on this matter, but this is something that is really hard to change, and I really encourage students to be flooding the department heads' office to talk about this, and if not them, the dean of the college. At some point, the delay in the academic process to get out on time, or to get into a class, is at some point the responsibility for the university, and the department to organize their curriculum in an achievable way. There's another way to do it; maybe prioritize waitlists. There are other ways to handle it besides prioritizing waitlists.
12. Mason: Regarding the graduation fee; can the due date be pushed closer to graduation date?
 - a. I'm not sure. We'll explore that option. I'll get back to you.
13. McLoughlin: Regarding competing with Viterbo for non-traditional students. [inaudible]
 - a. The short answer is that they got there first and they did it better. They charge less for [inaudible], and we can't compete with that.
14. McLoughlin: Blended classes; why not more?
 - a. There hasn't been a lot of faculty interest, but I've been pushing to

open up more of those opportunities.

VI. General Student Body Open Forum

VII. Officer Reports

a. President: Kaylee Otterbacher

- i. Please speak up into your mics and keep side conversations low in volume, per request of our secretary. Legislation forum Friday, March 4th 3pm -4:30pm with all our representatives. On Tuesday regent Langness & Higgins will be on campus to talk at 1:30pm in 326, senate chambers to talk to just students. SRD training Tuesday, the 23rd. if you're out of state you can still do it as long as you've lived here for 28 days and meet all the voting requirements. This will make it easier for out of state students. Feb 29th will be the beginning of our voting registration week! As an SRD, you will get a t-shirt as a type of 'payment' for helping! If not, you can still help students with online registration and gaining attention to what's going on. Next, another update from grading scale. I'll be meeting with committee on 25th of march. I received a document from CAPS, back in 1993 we changed to what we're at. They did a survey then of faculty members if they're in favor of change, no change, and full +/- scale, with majority in favor of +/- scale yet we still went through with the 7 step scale. It looks good moving forward, but a lot in place to make this happen. Election Commission is starting to get rolling, and we're short on people. Lastly, a little context on an ongoing issue regarding "getting rid of diversity seats." A few years ago, elections were really noncompetitive. 2 years ago, there was a push to lower the number of seats in senate by taking a few seats from each section equally, to make senate smaller with more competitive elections. With diversity seats specifically, it would've been going from 9 to 6, and they would choose the 6, instead of being delegated from each diversity org. in the end, students seem to not want a smaller senate in general. I just wanted to clear up the idea that there was ever an intent to decrease the number of diversity seats in senate.

b. Vice President: Molly Davies

- i. Another round of intros for some new members! Speak with me after the meeting please, just for logistical things. For a bio on the website, please send that to me, as well as if you're chair of a committee.

c. Chief of Staff: John Becker

d. State Affairs Coordinator: Jacob Schimmel

- i. College Affordability Resolution: All the stuff in the resolution passed assembly, and now it goes to the senate. Hopefully we'll have a way to oppose it, but it'll probably be passed next week. They can vote on this up until the 18th. I don't foresee it going through in this floor period, no need to pass 2 week rule.

e. Local Affairs Coordinator: Brady Gross

- i. I've been waiting to hear back from Farwell & east eave slow traffic from DOT, matt Gallagher. The next option is go in and meet him if email & phone calls don't work.

f. Inclusivity Coordinator: Ayush Shrestha

VIII. RHAC Reports

IX. Advisor Reports

- a. Knutson: The resolution you have regarding sexual assault; anything we can do to help victims of sexual violence and/or trauma. Anything we can do to help those victims find a voice: I'm in favor of. I'm in favor of seeing it broadened. The bill doesn't go far enough to acknowledge small institutions and large universities. There are caveats I'd like to see addressed, although I am in favor of it. The other topic I wanted to raise tonight was regarding the message I sent out on Monday. I've received mostly positive feedback.
- b. Riddinberg: I'll pay you for any senator who wants to go to the white privilege conference in Philadelphia. It's Friday – Sunday. Talk to Kaylee & Molly and we'll try to figure out the logistics of that. Food sampling in next couple of weeks for new student center. Talks of a

Qdoba, Moe's & coffees!

X. Committee Reports

- a. Quaschnick: graduate students committee approved couple of masters degree, microbiology and doctorate program!
- b. Ames: SUFAC discussed student survey regarding the circulator. The city has picked up the cost of the circulator on campus just for this year, but we need to make a decision on that and we need students' feedback. We'll also be discussing the Racquet coming up, and mini-grants for green fund.
- c. Yang; Cultural affairs and discussed upcoming events. Anthology books on testimonials of minority students on campus being passed around. Tells the full, whole story of students "struggles for respect" looking to do this as a long-term project for this year, with involvement from many departments with a budget and lots of networking. We're thinking about creating a diversity statement for senate. With the inclusivity training from last week, we're looking to make senate a more welcoming environment to improve inclusivity. We're looking at past policy of NASA's to knowledge that this land belongs to Ho-Chunk nation, and is just as important as pledge of allegiance. We are also looking at capital funds requests for departments under multicultural affairs.
- d. Garcia: SSB talking about piano tuning. Also a lot of policies that we'll be going over this week to start pitching ideas for changing wording of policies. JCES meets this Friday, and we're still looking for more senators.
- e. Brever: Parking Appeals meets on Friday, so if you have a campus ticket, get your requests in by Friday.
- f. Mason: From faculty senate, because of low enrollment, another reduction in faculty will have to happen again this year. Talked about integrating police officers into our community, to see them around more often.

XI. Organizational Reports

XII. Unfinished Business

- a. SA1516-037: Resolution to Enforce UW-L's Smoking Policy
 - i. Tashner/Faust
 - ii. Brever: *States that anyone within 25 feet will be issued citation. With talking to other senators, makes more sense to address more campus concerns with RHAC. I move to refer to RHAC*
 1. Voted on; passed unanimously
- b. SA1516-038: Resolution Supporting AB 808 Giving Amnesty for Underage Drinking in the Event of Sexual Assault
 - i. Gustafson/Schultz
 - ii. Brever: *provide amnesty to people reporting sexual assault. Immunity is offered on campus, and this makes it for off of campus as well.*
 - iii. Voted on; passed unanimously
- c. SA1516-039: Resolution Supporting AB 814 to Restore Shared Governance Statutes Prior to Wisconsin Act 55
 - i. Tashner/Sparks
 - ii. Schimmel: *one of the things discussed in legislative affairs meeting is title versus content; students shared governance is focused on in content whereas title addresses bill. Faculty senate may be able to take up their own resolution regarding this, so that we have a separate one that focuses on student-shared governance. Legislature doesn't like faculty-shared governance, but don't have an issue with student-shared governance.*
 - iii. Rudolph: move to amend document by adding in the title **Student** Shared Governance
 1. More of a chance to get action passed
 2. Voted on; passed unanimously
 - iv. Floerke: at the legislative affairs meeting, faculty rep said that students should go for it if we think it is what's best for us.

- v. Brever: 2nd action line says we are in full support of shared governance; does that address faculty as well? Should we change that?
- vi. Quaschnick: There are republic cosponsors on this now. At least 2! That's surprising.
- vii. Voted on; passed unanimously

XIII. New Business

- a. SA1516-040: Resolution Addressing Governor Walker's College Affordability Proposals
 - i. Gunaratnum/Faust
 - ii. Schimmel: *long awaited resolution on college affordability. Basically, I tried to go with general opposition. In the second therefore be it resolved, that the proposals don't go far enough, basically opposition without using the word opposition. I went line by line for each individual bill in the proposal and stated what we think on each proposal.*
 - iii.
- b. SA1516-041: Resolution Changing Executive Candidate Debate Date for 2016 Spring Student Association Election
 - i. Garcia/Hackett
 - ii. Otterbacher: *presidential primary and SA election set for same day. Change date so as to encourage students to go to both, and members of this body required to assist in elections, and would be difficult for them to participate in voting in the presidential election as well.*

XIV. Discussion

XV. Announcements

- a. Bennett: Onalaska middle school local national history day competition. If anyone likes talking to middle schoolers, volunteer on a team with 1-2 judges 4:30-7:30
- b. Brever: regarding writing resolution for smoking ban resolution, talk to me if you'd like to help write!
- c. Steck: in office, I moved poster and discovered whiteboard! I put a grid on there; I think it's a good way to communicate with each on resolutions being written.
- d. Steck: bowling on Thursday! \$1, talk to me about carpooling
- e. Steck: Max Your Org; LIG
- f. Gustafson: wash your hands before hands in your mouth. Stomach flu going around!
- g. Yang: HOPE volleyball tournament 8am-10pm in Mitchell March 12th. Forms due soon!

XVI. Adjournment