



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

Student Senate Agenda

Date: **February 3, 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. Approval of agenda
 - i. Gustafson/mans
 - b. Approval of minutes
- V. Guest Speakers
 - a. WisDOT
 - i. Steve, Steve, & Francis are all working on the Transportation Study of La Crosse, PEL Process (Planning & Environmental Linkage). Year-long study of future (2050). Aim to “Narrow down alternatives before Project Development.” [See Powerpoint]
 1. Schimmel: What has the public said in their comments?
 - a. The public has had some hesitancy in the past, but we have tried to talk to the public and have discussions to resolve those issues. The public appreciates that, and you’ll see that some that previously weren’t in favor last year, may have changed their mind now.
 2. Mason: What do you want from us as students?
 - a. We want your comments, we want your involvement, from anybody really. When we get moving with the project we will definitely be reaching out more.
 - b. We just want to share the information with you, and let you know what’s happening. Back in 1998 there was a lot of misinformation and animosity occurred as a result of that.
 - c. Reaching out to your peers is important to us. We’re only meeting with you now, but we hope that you share this information with friends so that if they want to meet or discuss their concerns they know they have the ability to do so.
 3. Gross: Has there been discussion about section A1 outside Myrick Park?
 - a. If we move through with this recommendation, we’ll be able to refine details when we get there. Right now, it’s too big picture to think in that detail, but we will once we start moving forward.
 4. McLoughlin: Why not push mass transit instead of pursuing more vehicle transportation?
 - a. We have tried that, with the public bus system, and trying to broaden that, but on the other hand it’s very hard to do with the structure of the city.
 5. Patnode: Is there any plan to mitigate Losey Blvd added pressure, like you predict here?
 - a. We’re going to be looking at that once we look at it in more

detail and looking at what changes could be made to improve the area.

6. Gross: Will this be something that increases taxes in the future?
 - a. This is set 10 years in the future, and we do have some money set aside for this, but the cost probably will increase in the future.
 7. Mason: Living in the St. Paul area, heading into the city there used to be a lot of congestion headed into the city, and instituting park & rides helped a ton.
 - a. We have those options available that we'll be looking into, you'll see the yellow dots are ideal park & ride locations.
- ii. On the back of the handout there's more contact info and our website. www.CouleeRegionStudy.dot.wi.gov This gives you opportunity to comment, see all of our outreach meetings, and get more detailed information.

VI. General Student Body Open Forum

VII. Officer Reports

- a. President: Kaylee Otterbacher
 - i. We're having an enrollment issue with Joint Planning & Budget committee, as far as a shortage, meaning we're underbudget for revenue to the university. I'll update you in the future. If you're looking for ideas to improve on as senators, printed emails to our student senate account will be on the table in the office. At 1:30pm on Feb. 8th Ron Kind will be on campus and has set up a meeting with just Student Senate. Later that day we will be having a discussion with Jen Schilling at Feb. 8th at 3pm over student loan debt. SRD training for upcoming presidential primary election; we're looking Feb. 23rd around 5pm for hour-long training. That leaves us with 2 weeks to register voters.
- b. Vice President: Molly Davies
 - i. Everyone should have Office access now! Check Google docs for committee sign ups. If you are a chair of a committee let me know so I can put that on the website, and look for emails from me tomorrow if you do not have a bio on the website.
 1. Becker: For next week's inclusivity training, is that in place of agenda or in addition?
 - a. Part of Guest Speaker aspect of the agenda.
- c. Chief of Staff: John Becker
- d. State Affairs Coordinator: Jacob Schimmel
 - i. Governor Walker's College Affordability Proposals. [See Schimmel's Powerpoint]
 1. Quaschnick: How many students actually have more than \$2,500 in student loan interest?
 - a. It will probably won't apply to the students who can't afford it because they won't be able to pay that interest anyway.
 2. Faust: I know this doesn't help 4-year public university very much, but I like how it gives incentives to those tech schools and how it will help.
 3. Brever: I'd like to say I am in favor of this package. I know it doesn't address everything we want, but it is something. And it does help out tech and 2 year schools, so that is agreeable.
 4. McLoughlin: How much is this going to cost to produce?
 - a. You can look at the fiscal estimation on the legislative site. It's hard to tell at this point; it'll get figured out as the bill moves forward, which it probably will.

5. McLoughlin: Why are they targeting internships, which are unpaid?
 - a. I generally agree. I think he's speaking toward internships because of work force development; to help students get ready to jump into the real world right away.
6. Floerke: How do you get the interest money back, in form of cash or...?
 - a. Becker: It's a tax deductible, which will eventually save you money. So you'll input that on your tax info to save you in the future, in the amount that you've paid in your college loan interest.
 - b. Quaschnick: POI: Your loan company will send some sort of form to you that sums up how you've paid
7. Becker: Are you looking for us to approve or looking for us to create a resolution; what do you want us as a senate to do?
 - a. I want to give you the facts, and it's a bit of a challenge to decide what to do. We don't want to disagree because we don't want to turn down help, however we do want to get our point across that it's not addressing the bigger issues.
8. Becker: I generally approve of the interest bill, however I look at this and see that they're basically giving us what we already have just to say that they're trying to make college more affordable.
9. Patnode: My concern is that there are a lot of students, and not a lot of grants. How will they determine who receives this?
 - a. It will be up to them how they figure out that aspect. I'm assuming they'd look at who's most in need, but that is the inner-workings of the administration.
10. Rudolph: I don't think that anything they're proposing is bad, but I just don't think it's going far enough. I think it'd be good to encourage state lawmakers to go further and do more.
 - a. So would you be in favor of a resolution that addresses that need for more?
11. Mason: I like the idea of saying yes we appreciate this, but more please. As far as the first bill, if you're married you are capped at \$2500 total. How does this affect them?
 - a. This should lift the cap entirely on that
12. Mason: Jill billings, in the Faculty Senate meeting was concerned about the paid internships and the money for that; she was really pushing to get that through.
13. Bhatoya: Are all these bill currently passed?
 - a. No.
14. Bhatoya: Is there a finalized plan, and they are just sending bills through instrumentally?
 - a. I'm sure the actual writings of the bill came from the governor's administration. These bills all came at once in bulk.
15. Bhatoya: Should we be expecting more?
 - a. There was more released today, which may or may not add onto this. I'm not really sure.
16. Quaschnick: I agree with your viewpoint; I don't think that the interest aspect will help the majority of students. That amount is insanely high, like med, grad, law students. I generally agree that this needs to go further.
17. Bennett: My question is when are we ever going to just say this is not

good enough. All or nothing.

18. Purath: The internship aspect; just internships or work-study programs too?

a. Just specifies internship.

19. Brever: I would like to point out that students can transfer to 4-year schools, and I'd also like to say that this does not hurt students, and that it does help some. Not as many as we'd like, but it does help some.

e. Local Affairs Coordinator: Brady Gross

i. Any questions/comments about WisDOT let me know and I'll pass those on. Started working on improvements to East Ave. Sounds like not much progress will be made; they think it's satisfying enough.

f. Inclusivity Coordinator: Ayush Shrestha

i. I followed up on Preferred Name policy this week; administrator for UW system got back to me. All UW system schools have policy drafted already, if not implemented. Another way to find ideas for resolutions is to look at what other schools have been passing.

VIII. RHAC Reports

a. Still looking for positions to be filled! Applicants must live in res halls and fill out app!

IX. Advisor Reports

X. Committee Reports

XI. Organizational Reports

a. Tatum: [inaudible]

b. Gunaratnam: Apr. 4th 7:30pm fashion show. If you're interested let me know! Anyone is welcome to join.

XII. Unfinished Business

a. SA1516-037: Resolution to Enforce UW-L's Smoking Policy

i. Tashner/Schultz

ii. Brever: *This is a recommendation to residence hall directors to fine \$5 to anyone violating the required smoking distance policy from the building. Money would go to the wellness coordinator for tobacco education. Police chief likes the idea, which is why the resolution is here. I welcome changes to the document that were mentioned last week.*

1. Bhatoya: Just campus police to give citation?

a. And hall directors as well.

2. Bhatoya: I never see campus police.

a. More so for hall directors to implement. Definitely not a priority for the campus police.

3. Bancker: Can this apply to other campus buildings?

a. This applies just to res halls, but there can be something else for campus that this would be support for. State law is specifically for res halls currently.

4. Sparks: What are hall directors' views on this?

a. Intrigued by idea; thought it to be possible. Want to see if students want it, and hear opinions of police officers and rest of res hall directors that haven't had their say.

b. Davies: Not consistent with other res halls policy, and would like to see it reinforced.

5. Rudolph: Author, generally police officers don't implement policies of university. Where does director get the power to enforce this?
 - a. This depends on the policy and on the university.
6. Rudolph: More similar to underage drinking or noise violations?
 - a. It could go that way, if that's the way we want it to go. With a monetary incentive, it'll be less appealing for someone to do, unlike the other violations that don't always have monetary discipline associated.
7. Almazrou: Most of my constituents are international students, and many of them are smokers and aren't very good speakers, and many of them do already do this. If you want to enforce the law, I think RA's should be the ones to be committed to understanding this piece and to make it clear the consequence. What is the consequence of underage drinking in your room?
 - a. Davies: Depends if you're compliant or not. If not, police & underage. If compliant, then write up incident report and hall director decides disciplinary action.
8. Brever: We are not promoting that smoking is bad or that you shouldn't be doing it. We just have so few non-smoking areas on this campus, and we'd just like to see the ones that *are*, are enforced.
9. Patnode: I think this is a good idea, but a few concerns. \$5 fine for smoking, which is a harsher action than underage drinking. Also, how do we enforce this for visitors or non-residents.
 - a. Brever: The idea is to make it clear that these areas are smoke-free. There are people who park in areas that don't live here, and they still get the tickets, and are generally still compliant with the fine.
10. Garcia: Author, is this limited to tobacco smoke or E-cigs.
 - a. The way it's written, it's just tobacco smoke. But I do think it would be effective to go farther.
11. Bentsdahl: RHAC people are in favor of this because they live in res halls and deal with this all the time. They're concerned that the \$5 isn't enough because of the processing efforts that costs almost \$5. They're suggesting a bit heavier of a fine to actually make revenue for these programs.
12. Mason: I think we should talk to more professionals on campus to get their opinions, and I also think we should implement a higher fine to make it more effective.
13. Motion to table for a week. /sparks
 - a. Brever: Just to clarify, what are we looking for to improve on for next week?
 - b. Sparks: The biggest issue is monetary incentive. Is it worth \$5, or should we go up? If we do get rid of fine, is it worth it? POI: If there was a \$5 citation, it's not saying that it's

more harsh than alcohol consumption because you definitely pay a hefty fine if you are found guilty for that. There should be guidelines and step-by-step policy for those implanting this, like RAs and Hall Directors.

- c. Davies: Based on those comments, when we talk about res halls, that is RHAC grounds that we shouldn't be stepping on their toes, and be respectful of the fact that we are not here to make rules for residents; that is RHAC's business.
- d. Ames: I think it's important to take a step back and look at the direction of the intent. We don't want them to smoke within 25 feet of the entrance, but moving down the building and smoking in front of someone's window isn't any better. I don't see how this is different than having someone walk onto the sidewalk and smoke. On a broader scale, I don't know if this makes sense because of the 25ft policy itself.
- e. Quaschnick: An idea is to look at other institutions and how they are adapting to this. Some have very harsh fines, some say no smoking on campus ever. A higher fine might help. It does need to be enforced, and I'm not sure if this will discourage students not to.
- f. Gunaratnam: Modifying the language; taking out the entrance part and saying residence halls alone. How would you fine those who don't attend the university?
- g. Voted On: 29:0; passed, no abstentions

XIII. New Business

- a. **SA1516-038: Resolution Supporting AB 808 Giving Amnesty for Underage Drinking in the Event of Sexual Assault**
 - i. Gunaratnam/Garcia
 - ii. Brever: *This policy is something we currently have on campus. If you report an event of sexual assault to campus police or Hall Director, you are given amnesty. At the state level this was proposed; this would implement events off campus as well, and might lead to more reports of an event.*
- b. **SA1516-039: Resolution Supporting AB 814 to Restore Shared Governance Statutes Prior to Wisconsin Act 55**
 - i. Gustafson/Tashner
 - ii. Schimmel: *Last year, State Statute 36.09(5) was stripped of state law and has been drastically changed since then. While shared governance groups used to have primary responsibility over the formulation of policies they are now subject to the approval of their Chancellors. We are subordinate to chancellor; takes away a lot of the power to have a say.*
 - iii. Quaschnick: Author, Dave Murphy was the author?
 - 1. No he is not the author, he is the chair of college & universities. Schilling is a co-sponsor. I'm not sure who the author is for sure. Dave murphy is chair of universities committee.

- iv. Quaschnick: Do you know if this restores the ability for faculty shared governance, AB814?
 - 1. If you include faculty, the folks opposed take issue with faculty, and less so with the students involved. I would say ask them how they want to be involved; maybe a cohesive document to tackle the issue, which is up to the body.
- v. Quaschnick: I agree that we should only have a document with the both faculty & students. If they draft up a bill, we could approve it at the end, and then have this bill just for us. In what point of passing is this bill at?
 - 1. Committee
- vi. Quaschnick: 36.09(5) reduced students to be primary governance body. I think we need to give back students shared governance power so that we can *actually* have a say, and say no if we want to or have the power to actually make a difference for something we so strongly believe in.
- vii. Almazrou: I want to know that we can make sure we don't make the same mistake we made last summer. I think we should lobby for shared governance and do our best to get that back.
- viii. Rudolph: Author, you mentioned we have some names we can attach with this bill, who are all democrats, but you also mentioned more possibilities. Are there any republican names you can attach to this, to get more bipartisan support?
 - 1. I can't think of names right now, but yes there are options.
- ix. McLoughlin: there are 2 republican legislatures that are nearby and say that we should reach out to them. They'd be good republicans to reach out too.

XIV. Announcements

XV. Adjournment

STUDENT SENATE ATTENDANCE 02/03/16

Last	First	Roll Call
Almazrou	Yousef	
Ames	Jeremy	
Anderson	Allison	X
Banker	Blaine	
Bennett	James	X
Bentdahl	Madison	
Bhatoya	Aaron	
Brever	Patrick	
Eidenschink	Matthew	
Faust	Alexander	
Floerke	Weston	
Garcia	Spenser	
Gunaratnam	Alfonso	
Gustafson (gustifsin)	Allison	
Hackett	Kayley	
Hungness	Dana	
Mason	Lauren	
Mans	Emily	
McLoughlin	William	
Nicholson	Matthew	
Patnode	Frank (Donald)	
Pigmente	Vania	
Purath	Anicka	
Quaschnick	Andrew	
Rudolph	Chris	
Schultz	Thomas	
Sparks	Jacob	
Steck	Rebecca	X
Tashner	Brittany	
Tatum	Jasmin	
Weyker	Ryan	X
Yang	Gaozie Vang	