



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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## Student Senate Agenda

Date: **October 14th, 2015**

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. Eidenschink/ Sparks
  - b. Approval of minutes
- V. Guest Speakers
- VI. General Student Body Open Forum
  - a. *Speaking against concealed carry bill. Would like to know why those in favor of concealed carry would invite someone armed to campus? This has happened recently on a college campus, and has struck too close to home. Do criminals follow laws? No. Signs on doors have no authority- instead give attacker the idea that no one is in there to stop them.*
  - b. *I want to walk on this campus and be safe. I don't feel that way, I would feel that way if I knew the guy next to me did have concealed carry, and could use that if we were under attack. Senators here need to talk this voice into account as they represent us.*
  - c. *This should be opposed. I would feel much more safe with a student in my classroom with a concealed carry. Events like those in the news are going to keep happening until a change is made.*
  - d. *Speaking against resolution. Supporting individual support. Nothing is going to get done if all these ideas thrown around aren't acted upon. Our ability to make individual decisions is a great thing. The bodies above us aren't making a decision, so it has come down to us.*
  - e. *I am in favor of the resolution. With all the gun violence in the news, I don't promote adding more guns on campus. They are a danger, a weapon, and should not be allowed on campus.*
- VII. Officer Reports
  - a. President: Kaylee Otterbacher
    - i. On the D2L page there are templates for resolutions. Eagle round table nominations; dinner with Chancellor Gow and talk to him regarding current issues. Regarding concealed carry, we are working on a statement to be released tomorrow. This is a message from our opinions, not as a representation from the student body. During discussion, please focus on how this will affect our campus, not as a political topic. Lastly, I messaged chief of police on campus and received official statement that opposes the resolution.
  - b. Vice President: Molly Davies
    - i. Please do not make the concealed carry a partisan topic during discussion. Focus on the effects of campus. Changes to Parliamentary Procedure: point of personal privilege will be disregarded, just go,

though it will be marked. Quorum won't be called any longer, you will simply be noted that you arrived and added to the speaker list.

Committees: please see me after the meeting to address issues you are having. If you are the chair, print agenda and minutes before and after meetings and post them outside the office. New committee, student-led dining services, Mondays at 4. There is a chili cook-off Sat. Nov 14 5:30-7:30, and we have been asked to participate.

- c. Chief of Staff: John Becker
  - i. Cabinet meeting met before Senate tonight, discusses goals and projects to be discussed in the future weeks.
- d. Chief of Staff to the Vice President: Kate Laird
  - i. For new senators and directors, half sheets to use for parliamentary procedure. T-shirts for Student Association, funding through our organization, to be looked at online. Yakes invited us to board game night 25<sup>th</sup> of Oct to get to know each other outside of this room.
- e. State Affairs Coordinator: Jacob Schimmel
  - i. Regarding the concealed carry, I want to say that this is not a formal bill yet. I have the memo, and that is how it will be proposed that way. It is not yet an urgent manner. We will be sending out a campus-wide survey to get students' opinions. We won't be doing lobbying until we get a background on this. Kaylee's statement is completely separate from the Senate's opinions, which will be specified. I am personally opposed to this resolution. In other news, there was concern about a bill that is also not formal, in relation to transgenders being able to use the bathrooms that they identify with. This does not apply to individuals in the university, simply k-12. This law states that they need to be using a teacher bathroom, approved by faculty, or a unisex bathroom. Ideas to get training up with La Crosse area high schools to inform them. Regarding student loan refinancing, still no information from Democratic side, so I will keep looking for info. Lastly, there is a proposed bill, not necessarily pertaining to us, that will raise retirement age working in the public sector from 55 to 57.
- f. Local Affairs Coordinator: Brady Gross
  - i. The e-mail I sent out this morning didn't get response, so I brought hard copies of survey instead, looking at what these Goosetown and GENA funds should go to. Still looking at projects for Goosetown in the upcoming weeks. Finally, the Common Council was last Thursday. They had the amendment trying to reduce the number sitting on 15 to 9, meaning there would be 1 representative for the colleges of La Crosse. Hoping to raise 9 to 11 so UWL can have a separate representative.
- g. Inclusivity Coordinator: Ayush Shrestha
  - i. Nothing to report

#### VIII. RHAC Reports

- a. Res life games this week! Horcrux scavenger hunt next week!

#### IX. Advisor Reports

- a. Nothing to report

#### X. Committee Reports

- a. SUFAC had presentations regarding requests and will be voting next week. Also a contingency fund from rec that will be done within next few weeks.
- b. JMAC is working on bylaws and looking at changing name to Join Minority Cultural Committee. Looking at changes to payment for tuition, so that we can

get rid of the grey areas of remaining balances preventing us from registering from classes.

- c. Parking appeals met. We looked at about 50 appeals. Bit of advice: don't lie, use proper grammar, and be nice!
- d. Cultural affairs met Monday at 4 where we elected new secretary, Senator Gunaratnam.
- e. Athletics Committee met on Friday, however we didn't meet quorum.

XI. Organizational Reports

XII. Unfinished Business

- a. SA1516-005: Resolution Recommending use of Student Initiative Money
  - i. Hartwig/Faust
  - ii. *Here we are again! I still think its great, but I look forward to the new ideas you bring forward tonight.*
  - iii. Hartwig? Have we talked to Bob regarding issues?
    - 1. Davies: The money is acceptable for conferences, but not for professors or departments to bring in recruiters for on-campus events.
  - iv. Hartwig amends to change "62/appx number" to "52%" approximate number, and add 10% to Multicultural Conference Fund. /Garcia
    - 1. Purath: I don't agree with this amendment because it affects everyone who uses the library, and not just this event.
    - 2. Steck: I don't necessarily disagree, however is this money that they can just draw from to go to various conferences? Is this approved?
      - a. Davies: Yes, we don't know full details.
    - 3. Eidenschinck: Why just 10%?
      - a. Hartwig: Just a starting point for discussion, I am open to amendments. Traveling and hotels are expensive; this is a good starting point.
    - 4. Mason: What conferences? Only White Privilege? How do they get access to these funds?
      - a. Hartwig: The other conference would be QPAC in Madison, GSD in Purdue. I don't know who controls this fund. This could go to a committee; I would allow the body to decide who controls.
    - 5. Faust: I oppose this amendment. We shouldn't be taking money from Murphy toward this organization. We're here for an education, and Murphy is a tool for everyone.
    - 6. Almazrou: I don't necessarily disagree, however \$6000 is too high. I serve at the Library committee, I know they're struggling. It would be beneficial to give back 5% more to Murphy.
    - 7. Garcia: I do support giving money to this fund, however less, to spend on inclusive excellence.
    - 8. Floerke: In my opinion, college education is more than just studying. IF we can impact more people, and give opportunity for students to learn new cultures. Is this money only going to this group? Could this money used to bring people to OUR campus, so that more of campus can attend these meetings?
    - 9. Quaschnick: On ADAC, Murphy is asking for \$11,000 more. We are creating this fund, and I think we should talk about taking \$6000 from them without talking more.

10. Gunaratnam: White Privilege is open to all students. We are here to get an education, however not just at the library.
11. Hartwig: I echo that a college experience is more than a classroom. This body as a whole should figure out where to distribute. Murphy is still
12. Hartwig: Motion to amend: Change “52%” to “57% and striking “10%” from Multicultural Fund and change to “5%”. After the word conference, add speaker. /Mason
  - a. Hartwig: I generally believe this is a better amount and would like to speakers on campus.
    - i. Motion passes
13. Purath: Doesn’t RHAC already sponsor conferences such as this?
  - a. Brever: We do, however only for students on who live on campus.
14. Sparks: I like the reduction of the price, \$3000-4000 is a good amount. Diversifying yourself as a student is a good experience to have. I’m not sure if the speaker apart is allowed, however I like the idea.
15. Becker: I agree that education takes place elsewhere than the classroom. My concern lies where these numbers are applied when we don’t know how much these conference cost. Too many questions up in the air to pass this amendment at this point.
16. Quaschnick: Was the remaining money for one specific thing in the Murphy Learning Center?
  - a. Davies: This money is additional funds that they don’t have to ask for yearly from ADAC.
  - b. Laird: This money will go to MLC and resources in the library funded through ADAC, so they don’t have to continue to ask for money. This money is going to the MLC, not the Murphy library.
17. Bennett: I don’t approve this amendment until we have more concrete definitions of the Multicultural funds and where this money is going.
18. Yang: I feel even with the funding, there won’t be enough space. Students need one-on-one interaction. I personally don’t think \$36,000 should be going to *just* MLC. For the Multicultural and Speaker fund, there are other conferences to be funded as well that are just as important.
19. Yakes: President Otterbacher’s opinion?
  - a. Otterbacher: I am concerned with the amount of information we have. This money should be put back to organizations that are in dire need of funding. These organizations have experienced dire budget cuts that need this money. JP&B prioritized the classroom last year. I believe their funds should be spent on academic initiatives.
20. Yakes: It makes me nervous that this is not specific enough.
21. Shrastha: I think this would be a great learning opportunity and a great chance to stand out as an organization.

- 22. Purath: MLC, NCUR, Undergrad research grants don't have recurring funding, the Multicultural Conference does.
- 23. Garcia: This conference is held all over the country.
- 24. Hartwig: Call to question on amendment.
  - a. Vote: motion fails. 10-14, 1
- v. Brever: Call to question.
- vi. Vote:

### XIII. New Business

- a. Tashner/Hartwig
- b. SA1516-010: Resolution Appointing Senators
  - i. Garcia: Introductions? Thomas Schultz, freshman. Chris Rudolph, sophomore. Weston Floerke, pre-PA track, freshman.
  - ii. Mason: Motion to suspend the 2-week rule.
    - 1. Hartwig: I oppose suspending 2 weeks. It is part of our bylaws of this body.
    - 2. Vote: passes
  - iii. Vote to pass resolution: Passes
- c. SA1516-011: Resolution to Establish a Joint Student Governance Committee on Sexual Violence
  - i. Steck/Hackett
  - ii. *Brever, Author: Establishes joint committee between RHAC and SA to work against Sexual Violence. We are not requesting a budget from either governing bodies, simply looking for a bridge.*
  - iii. Mason: I am strongly in favor of this resolution. The task force has already been doing a great job, and I want to this continuing to rid Sexual Violence from our campus.
  - iv. Bhatoya: How long is the Task Force in effect?
    - 1. Davies: Until the body chooses to end it. We can dissolve a task force or committee if we need to with a vote.
  - v. Hartwig: Why Sexual Violence and not Sexual Assault as the title?
    - 1. Brever: We wanted to create a broader term, so that "sexual assault" is included under "Sexual Violence".
  - vi. Hartwig: I hope to see the name include "Sexual Assault" with "Sexual Violence".
- d. SA1516-012: Resolution Opposing Concealed Carry on UW Campuses
  - i. Sparks/Garcia
  - ii. *Steck: I think it is good we have heard so much conversation. I wrote this resolution after hearing the proposed amendment. As the State Statute declares concealed carry is allowed on campus. We are deciding if the concealed carry is allowed within the buildings on campus. The amendment reads that any person, regardless if they are a student or not, will be allowed to bring concealed carry into any building on campus. This does not discriminate against classrooms, residence halls, or administrative buildings. Would you be comfortable in an academic building knowing that there are concealed guns within the room, discussing "hot" and controversial topics? The idea of campus is to live in a safe campus where we can have heated discussions without feeling threatened. The campus police force is trained to react if there is violence on campus, and I don't think an addition of more guns to campus is a*

*resolution to gun violence. I am open to discussion, and amendments.*

- iii. Quaschnick: Regarding the proposed survey to the student body, what is up with that?
  1. Otterbacher: Just an idea. We are not experts on safety, but we are experts on student life, so we should gear it more toward what applies to us and get the opinions of the study body. A survey would assure that we are representing the student body and to gauge how they are feeling.
- iv. Quaschnick: It is recommended that everyone in this room asks anyone and everyone they can to gather as MANY opinions as possible so that we can have an educated discussion.
- v. Eidenschinck: I do not agree with that some of the wording of the resolution. It seems like they are insinuating that those who carry concealed weapons are going to attack based on opinions. Hopefully we can get a better understanding of the student body's opinion.
- vi. Brever: I applaud the students who did come in and give their opinions during open forum today.
- vii. Purath: It was mentioned that this could distract classrooms, however it will be concealed. Making a decision would not be representative of the whole study body at this moment.
- viii. Johnson: As far as the safety goes, not much combats a firearm as another firearm. I don't mean that we should allow as many guns as possible onto campus, however knives aren't allowed and think how many do anyways. The point of concealed carry is that they will have a firearm, however nobody will know about it, so as to not be stupid.
- ix. Floerke: Bringing guns on campus raises the risk that these guns are abused. In the student body's best interest, is it better to have more guns on campus or not? Laws are consistently broken anyways.
- x. Bhatoya: A good idea would be to send out for research on how students react to (not) knowing about a firearm within the classroom.
- xi. Steck: I do want to point out a couple of things. Having a survey would be great. Students not having concealed carry makes them more vulnerable? Debateable. Allowing more guns onto campus does not make anyone less vulnerable. Shootings take place on campus that **do not** allow and **do** allow concealed carry. I do not debate those who are allowed to have concealed carry, I also want to point out that the Wisconsin criteria for holding a gun is minimal, which should be taken into consideration.
- xii. Gunaratnam: If you have weapon on you, you are more likely to use it. Sitting in class, you're going to think about it knowing that a student may have it concealed.
- xiii. Ames: Concerning specifically this campus, we should realize that this will not prohibit carrying firearms on or off campus. It is more difficult for an incident to occur, if a firearm is not present. You wouldn't want a gun visible on campus so as to not confuse yourself, so I think that as a means of safety, fewer guns, as students, would be safer.
- xiv. Yakes: This resolution at its core, is a bipartisan, politically charged document. The author's words include speculation and is based on solely the author's opinion, and that this opinion has been decided for us.
- xv. Mason: I have spoken to students, and many are afraid of allowing guns into buildings onto campus. Many students didn't even know that guns

were allowed on campus at all, so that shows that students are many times misinformed.

- xvi. Hartwig: As a student, this potential amendment makes me sick and very nervous; my anxiety is on high alert right now. This amendment does not make me feel safe. This resolution speaks for the some, we need to speak for all.
- xvii. Rudolph: Concealed carry is allowed into almost all public buildings in the county. I do not believe that this should be any different, or that this governing body should think they can come to a better conclusion that larger scale governing bodies have.
- xviii. Sparks: I like that these resolutions allow us to discuss these opinions and express our opinions. I do believe a lot of what we are talking about (in general) is speculation. This will increase the amount of firearms on campus, increase risk, increase fear, etc; the gun will still be used if the user wants to or not, regardless of the law. I'm not sure if the statute will change the actions of someone with violent intentions. I don't think we can pass a resolution saying we agree or disagree yet.
- xix. Becker: What Larry would say, since this is such large, controversial matter, talk about it outside of here. Decide if you are a delegate or trustee. Are you speaking on your personal belief or on the terms you were voted on?
- xx. Gustafson: We are already allowed to have guns on campus, I don't think that this resolution will change the number or change the actions that could happen.
- xxi. Quaschnick: Oregon had similar concealed carry laws as us, however it still occurred. Even those who had it, they didn't want to use it in fear of being considered a shooter, and the police force still responded. We need research before we have an opinion. We still need to talk to constituents.
- xxii. Johnson: Re-perusing the bill here, we're still debating whether we're for or against concealed carry in general. We should be thinking about if state passes it, what are we going to do? We were asked today by a Senator, should we allow? No. Should we not allow? No. It should not be free to say if I want to, I'm going to. A list should be accessible to those who conceal carry. They should also need to go through a procedure, or a paying a fee. We are not taking action
- xxiii. Otterbacher: There are more than just 2 options. We can negotiate; extra training, specific buildings, etc. As leaders, it is our obligation to think outside of the box in the realm of student life on campus.

XIV. Discussion

a. Garcia/Hartwig

i. Vote: pass

XV. Announcements

XVI. Adjournment

## STUDENT SENATE ATTENDANCE 10/14/15

<b>Last</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Roll Call</b>
Almazrou	Yousef	x
Ames	Jeremy	
Anderson	Allison	x
Bancker	Blaine	
Bennett	James	
Bentdahl	Madison	
Bhatoya	Aaron	
Brever	Patrick	
Cruz	Stefani	x
Eidenschink	Matthew	
Faust	Alexander	
Garcia	Spenser	
Gunaratnam	Alfonso	
Gustafson (gustifsin)	Allison	
Hackett	Kayley	
Hartwig	Timothy	
Hayward	Paige	x
Johnson	Zackariah	
Jurecki	Haley	
Mason	Lauren	
Mans	Emily	
Nicholson	Matthew	
Purath	Anicka	
Quaschink	Andrew	
Razidlo	Anna	x
Sparks	Jacob	
Steck	Rebecca	
Tashner	Brittany	
Tatum	Jasmin	x
Yakes	Alissa	
Yang	Gaozie Vang	
Floerke	Weston	
Hungness	Dana	
Rudolph	Chris	
Schultz	Thomas	