



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

Student Senate Agenda

Date: **October 28th, 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. Tashner/Sparks
 - b. Approval of minutes
- V. Guest Speakers
 - a. Mary Ellen- The Buzz
 - i. The Buzz is a new mobile student newspaper app through USA Today. Students are the journalists from their 2 or 4 year university. In the future, The Buzz will also work to incorporate the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel feed, as well as campus newspapers and local newspapers.
 - b. Barbara Stewart- Service Animal Polity
 - i.
- VI. General Student Body Open Forum
 - a. Bridget Fish: President of RHAC. Keep in mind that resident halls are a big issue, but safety overall is important. Talking to my senators about coming with a resolution for only residence halls, but I think that's sending the wrong message that we're ok with it in other buildings.
 - b. Kia Yang: Same as previous speaker; the majority of students don't live on campus meaning that we utilize the buildings just as much as the students who do live on campus. We do not want to see this passed at the state level. We don't want to see this on campus, because it violates our right to speak living off campus. As students of color, our voices are already minimized.
 - c. Kalon Bell: Pres of Black Student Union. In support of amendment that opposes concealed carry. If we look at some of climate surveys on this campus particularly, LGBTQ & colored groups feel most unsafe, and when we're moving forward improving safety, we should think who we're asking if they feel safe. A lot of people here came in wanting this amendment to show that we do not support the amendment, and I wanted to reiterate that point.
 - d. Dian Roter: Int'l Exchange Student. Wants to show diff POV from Germany, where it's a privilege to own a gun. Considering the fact that the school encourages other students to come here, being able to carry a gun is a big reason why I chose UW-L. I think this is going to affect a lot of int'l students who feel the same way.
 - e. Bobby: 5th year student. Supporting this amendment scares me, and I'm looking out for the students who come after me. Who are we protecting with this amendment? Doesn't make sense to add fuel to the fire. If students don't feel safe around a gun, why should we allow the gun? As far as the resolution for the residence halls, it doesn't make sense to call a place home and not feel safe. You are on a campus full of people, and I'm not sure why having a gun would make you feel safer.
 - f. Kingsley: This shouldn't be an issue that we talk about, because this is a place of

learning. I don't want to walk into a classroom and worry about who's unhappy about their test or how they're feeling about me. This is also a campus that has a drinking problem, and it would be very dangerous to mess alcohol and guns.

- g. Tanner: Even on Virginia Tech, they passed a concealed carry law and there hasn't been an incident. It is illegal to drink and carry, and it is already legal to carry on campus outside of buildings. Personal experience by working with people who teach concealed carry classes, college kids are open to taking classes and learning how to be more safe. I am in support, as long as you have the proper training for it.

VII. Officer Reports

a. President: Kaylee Otterbacher

- i. Presentation regarding Wisconsin government and the law passed in 2011. The republicans had majority then, and now, and even then the bill passed with extreme numbers, including democratic votes. This will not pass in the current senate. They will not listen to us if we go lobby without any compromise, with the majority that they have. We need to be able to work strategy. If we don't this in residence halls, this is the only way we'll be able to work with them if we only focus on residence halls. We have to be willing to give a little, and come to a compromise that both sides will talk about.

b. Vice President: Molly Davies

- i. Committees are important, please go to them. 2 students needed to work with Environmental Sustainability. Don't pass notes along during out meetings or be on your phone, because that's against Open Meeting laws.

c. Chief of Staff: John Becker

d. Chief of Staff to the Vice President: Kate Laird

- i. Slices with the Senators is approaching on one of the upcoming Wednesdays in the library from 11-2.

e. State Affairs Coordinator: Jacob Schimmel

- i. A few days ago, they legalized switchblades along with concealed carry. Also, there is no way you're going to be able to fight against concealed carry regarding firearms by opposition. It's just not going to work. The only way you'll have an influence is to propose a compromise; something they haven't looked at before.

f. Local Affairs Coordinator: Brady Gross

g. Inclusivity Coordinator: Ayush Shrestha

VIII. RHAC Reports

IX. Advisor Reports

X. Committee Reports

- a. ADAC finished hearing from entities on campus and their budget requests. We will be deciding the next few weeks, and I'll come back to you guys to put through final votes.
- b. SUFAC met this week and were able to approve soccer fields usage. We approved to fund Cheer team as an entity, instead of by Athletics. Budgets have gone to subcommittees this week. Chairs will be speaking in 2 weeks.
- c. Academic affairs sent out apps for commencement speech for graduation. We're looking into withdrawal dates for the semesters.
- d. Student Services in Buildings met and talked about usage of the rec by families, more to report later.

XI. Organizational Reports

- a. Brever: The joint Sexual Assault task force gained 3 senators. Selling bracelets for sexual assault awareness for \$2, proceeds go to New Horizons.

XII. Unfinished Business

- a. SA1516-011: Resolution Opposing Concealed Carry on UW Campuses
 - i. Tashner/Hackett

- ii. Steck: *Among circulating ideas, focusing on only residence halls will only limit us. If we take a united stance, we will be listened to because of our clear, concise language. We are looking at this as a 2-sided story, ignoring the fact that there are other options, such as autonomy. Instead we should propose more autonomy for campuses and give students the right to choose for themselves. Looking at other campuses, they are in agreement that they want more autonomy. We want students to be able to lobby with more effectiveness. We them to know we can be heard. We should not simply focus on residence halls, but rather everything as a whole.*
- iii. Sparks: Move to amend document to strike the last two lines and add:
 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Student Association of the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse formally recognizes and supports the majority of students in their opposition to the proposed amendment to the state statute, and;
 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; the Student Association also recognizes that a major concern was the use of concealed carry in residence halls on campus, and;
 THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED; recognizing this as well, the Student Association determines that the best course of action for the students of this university would be to advocate against concealed carry within the residence halls.
 - 1. *We want to just state that AT LEAST we want to not have concealed carry within the residence halls. We want to have an influence in Madison, and we may not make a difference without compromise. We do not know that the majority of the students believe this regarding second to last therefore be it resolved.*
 - 2. Brever: I do not agree with language; “most major”
 - 3. Steck: I don’t agree with amendment in totality, especially in regards to “most major concern” . This is very limiting in its nature, and I hope to fight in totality. I move to amend amendment:
 - a. Insert WHEREAS the student association recognizes there was a strong concern regarding concealed carry in residence halls. Scratch “THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED; recognizing this as well... /Rudolph
 - b. Steck: *I do not want this in the resolution. I don’t want them to see this and only focus on residence halls and not the whole campus. I don’t want to bind ourselves to just this and end up talking about more issues than just residence halls. If we keep it broad so we will be able to lobby for more specific points.*
 - c. Floerke: It’s been said that focusing on just concealed carrying lobbying residence halls is too narrow, however I think going to o broad is almost shooting yourself in the foot. If we present something that we can argue, we can give ourselves more autonomy so at least we have a chance.
 - d. Sparks: I agree with the previous senator, however I don’t believe that later on lobbying broad will give us more leeway to lobby for other things. Our best course of action is to talk about just residence halls. I trust the people who have expertise and experience with this to lobby and trust their suggestions.
 - e. Steck: Remind the Senate that we write the policy, and it is up to us, and not our executives. We’re supposed to be talking with our constituents and writing our own resolution. We do not

- necessarily need to go forward with only one set thing in mind.
- f. Brever: Otterbacher & Schimmel: Does this go with your previous ideas?
 - i. Otterbacher: I believe striking this makes the amendment to the amendment void.
 - ii. Schimmel: We are expanding upon the opposition. This will give us more form and chance to lobby and compromise. Also it seems like we may not be stating our opposition. The amendment to the amendment is a bit redundant, and it could be clearer.
 - iii. Otterbacher: This gives us more room for action. With the amendment we are able to use survey results and gives us more flexibility. Striking out that would give us less flexibility.
 - g. Ames: I think before the amendments, the document still gives compromise and flexibility. If we lobby for autonomy regarding this topic, it would be a compromise because UW-Platteville gets to decide that they do want concealed carry on their campus, going off of their survey. Doing this we can make our voice recognizable while lobbying.
 - h. Yates: The amendment to the amendment takes away the original intent made in original language. I oppose previous senators idea that we are not recognizing the survey; we are. I think it would look better in Madison to have a clear concise message and with that I am in opposition of the striking in the amendment to the amendment.
 - i. Rudolph: We are limiting ourselves by this amendment. I think we are too soon in limiting ourselves and limit our strategy and be hasty. There is more time to come up with something different that all the other UW schools can get behind. If we stand with every other UW school. Do we want to be the only school that doesn't strongly stand against, other than Platteville? By doing this we won't stand strong with other UW schools, and that's a mistake.
 - j. Mason: I believe the system of autonomy is extremely important. My biggest concern is that we have nothing to show after the end of process. If you think Residence Halls will open up the door down the road, and that is something to show in the end. I'd rather have something to show, other than just saying no. I want to be able to say we tried the small things first, so that we can try for more later. I want something to bring back to my students, and that we really tried. Therefore I don't think this final **THEREFORE BE IT Resolved** should be stricken.
 - k. Bhatoya: Is Platteville the only school for concealed carry?
 - i. Yes, informally. Milwaukee passed resolution Sunday.
 - l. Bhatoya: Focusing on res halls gives us leeway, and its not saying its our concrete idea, but rather the best course of action we can take.
 - m. Schimmel: Elaborating a unified front with the UW system, I'll relate it back to last year's budget cuts. All the schools were unified, faculty, everyone behind it, it still didn't make a

difference. A general opposition will just lose. They will use Platteville as a descending school, and it makes us NOT a unified front, dividing the issue further.

- n. Floerke: While there is merit with trying to stand together with UW system, history does repeat itself, and our legislator will not take our opinion into account. The compromise gives us the best chance to make something happen. Because they are out of touch with our universities, they are not going to understand our unified opposition.
 - o. Yakes: I would like to address a comment from a senator saying that striking the amendment would be a narrow minded approach, is a narrow-minded approach. I think we have senators in the room who don't want to compromise simply because they don't want compromise. I want to remind senators, that this whole resolution is completely against my beliefs, and I'm still compromising and I'd like to see Senate do something similar.
 - p. Gunaratnam: I don't like that we aren't being completely opposed to all academic buildings, however I do believe this is the best course of action. If something does happen in the future, I hope they can learn from it and then do something, after learning the hard way.
 - q. Razidlo: Point of clarification. Schimmel, by not striking, would the language bind us or allow us freedom?
 - i. Schimmel: The language itself doesn't stop us. We would be able to further advocate.
 - r. Razidlo: Personally, I don't think this is the best decision, however I don't see why we would strike this. It gives us a strong course of action, and then later we can push for me. I would not like to see that stricken.
 - s. Bennett: No matter how much you oppose someone's stubborn idea, they are going to just dig their heels in further. I honestly feel like if we fully oppose this, we won't get anything compromised on later by looking at it at a whole first and then later res halls.
 - t. Tatum: What if we go on with the compromise, what if later we don't want to compromise?
 - i. Chair: The State will do what they want to do. If they oppose our ideas, we can back with a new tactic.
 - u. Bhatoya: I think we need to recognize how much power we actually have. I think this is a good chance for this to pass through assembly. So maybe for senators who aren't for compromise, think of it as starting out small. I don't think we should start broad and then go small, because then we all lose leeway.
 - v. Call to question. 3:21:1, motion fails
- 4. Sparks: I fully support amendment. Republicans have majority in both houses, so things are less likely to pass. Those of us who feel very strongly about things aren't likely to be swayed, but that we should listen to our leadership who has the most experience.
 - 5. Ames: Concerning the amendment, the author of the amendment that the second to last therefore be it resolved that it be speculation because we

didn't ask it in the survey. However the 4th from the bottom therefore clause, "most major concern" could be argued because it's the same number.

6. Mason: I move to amend document:
 - a. In second therefore be it resolved clause: strike "the most major concern was the use of firearms" Add: there was a strong concern within all groups regarding concealed carry.
 - b. Voted on; passes
7. Call to question: 23:4 passes
- iv. Sparks: It states as a student body we are focusing on resident halls, and some are saying that it binds us, however I disagree and think that we are putting our foot in the door. Compromise is a change in the way they do things in Madison, and this allows us a launching point. Why not start with something easy that we're all behind, and then go somewhere. It would save us a lot of time to start small.
- v. Bentdahl: Is there a way that we could do a resolution that says students aren't behind them making the decision for us?
 1. Yes, in a way.
- vi. Quaschnick: I like where this bill is going now. Addressing what senators said that this might bind our hands; if another university comes up with something that we want to support, we could create another resolution and vote on that. During the first large budget cut, all universities stood together for the first time. I got to see first hand republicans call to question without democratic vote. They won't listen. We don't have the power we used to have. Now, the chancellor has complete control over the university. Yes, we do need to make a bill to congress saying they cannot be messing with UW system policies. However I don't think this is the time or place to be saying that. Lobbying is not easy; we may not succeed. As it stands with this bill, we have a chance to actually succeed.
- vii. Steck: After the amendment passed, I heard talk about going to reps, and that the stricken clause did regard autonomy. I'd like to make amendment.
 1. Rescind my name as author.
- viii. Yakes: I think the title needs to change so that it better reflects the language of the rest of the resolution.
- ix. Ames: Chair, would faculty be allowed to carry firearms, concealed or open, on campus if this passed? I think this is based on speculation.
 1. Chair: Employers can prohibit carrying on their property.
- x. Ames: If faculty wouldn't, then students could? That would be unfair. I would like to say that this is a dangerous precedent to not have any wording about autonomy, so that this isn't the first small step of many.
- xi. Floerke: There has been concern that this present bill doesn't contain language regarding our autonomy, but this isn't the time or place to be addressing that matter. If we do add that in, that makes our present point not as strong. A legislator might see that and might take offense.
- xii. Sparks: A previous senator said that this doesn't represent 71% of students, however I think it does because it does. By starting with res halls, it will be how we get to the next place. I'd like to make amendment:
 1. Put myself as author on resolution
- xiii. Brever: I think the assembly has baked a pie, and that we are really hungry. Do we want a piece, or all of it? Then after one, they would be more likely to give us seconds. By starting with the res halls, it's more likely to get the pie in a whole by starting off with pieces.
- xiv. Ames: Moving forward with this I think it would be unwise to read "in res halls"

instead of “all buildings” Move to amend:

1. In clause, Change “in buildings” to “in residence halls” so that you aren’t switching to what you’re talking about.
 2. Mason: I agree that it makes it clearer, however I’m not sure how it will take away from the initial concern that students don’t want it in all buildings, and this clause acknowledges that. I don’t understand why we’re taking it out when we do want to express that 76% don’t want it in all buildings.
 3. Otterbacher: This amendment would make it very inflexible, so that we’re only talking about resident halls and we won’t be able to talk about survey results of academic buildings as well.
 4. Voted; fails, 1 abstention
- xv. Mason: I would like to also add myself as author.
 - xvi. Call to vote: motion passes
- b. SA1516-012: Resolution Opposing Concealed Carry in University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Residence Halls
 - i. Bennett/Rudolph
 - ii. Brever: I move postpone indefinitely /Garcia
 - iii. Vote; acclamation
 - c. SA1516-013: Resolution to Reaffirm Student’s Religious Rights in Academics
 - i. Faust/Tashner
 - ii. Almazrou: *This is a resolution to excuse students so that their religion doesn’t conflict with things such as their exam. I want it to be seen in the syllabi that they can be excused for reasons of their religion.*
 - iii. Vote: passed unanimously
 - d. SA1516-14: Resolution Requesting Grading Scale Research
 - i. Bhatoya/Razidlo
 - ii. Davies: *This is something Kaylee and I ran on for our platform for office. By passing this it sends this to research and to faculty senate, who previously advised to make resolution to get the ball rolling and to get research.*
 - iii. Quaschnick: I would like to be added as sponsor.
 - iv. Yakes: In other schools, they use straight A,B,C,D grades. Could we do some research?
 1. Davies: We actually just switched from that.
 - v. Bentsdahl: One of our constituents concerns was more research. What would better boost their GPA, an A- or AB?
 1. Davies: A-
 - vi. Davies: This is just saying students are supporting research into change, not directly supporting the change.
 - vii. Voted: Passed
- XIII. New Business
- a. SA1516-015: Resolution Requesting REC Use During Family Weekend
 - i. Tashner/Hackett
 - ii. Garcia: *We were approached from director of REC to allow families to join them at the rec first weekend of every month for \$4 per visit. They would have to pay \$4 per person, separate fees per day. Strength center would have to be 16 to use. This would be on academic probation for the year.*
 - iii. Mans: Why just the first weekend?
 1. Garcia: Director gave us that figure just so that they can get involvement.
No
 - b. SA1516-016: Resolution Requesting Use of REC for AAU Tournament

- i. Mans/Nicholson
 - ii. Garcia: They would use 4 courts prior to the REC being open, and then down to 3 so that students could use it when the REC is open. Good to have students see school they might want to go to school, and is a revenue builder for the REC.
 - iii. Quaschnick: Is this high school?
 - 1. Garcia: yes
 - c. SA1516-017: Resolution Approving Student Court Nominations
 - i. Gustafson: Garcia
 - ii. Davies: The times we opened up application process, 2 applicants, then 0 the second time. Those were appointed. So to fill the open seats, we propose to appoint Miles Pitman and Robert Goede.
 - iii. Garcai: Can they come in next week?
 - 1. Yes, if not, personal statement
 - iv. Mans: What do they do in their position?
 - 1. They will appoint election commission and if a student wants to challenge our decisions or Kaylee and I's decisions regarding them as students, they bring it to the Student Court to appeal.
 - d. SA1516-018: Resolution Amending Executive Cabinet Bylaws to include the Diversity Organization Coalition in the Inclusivity Coordinator Selection Process
 - i. Tashner/Faust
 - ii. Davies: This proposes including DOC in the interview process from the Inclusivity Director.
- XIV. Discussion
- XV. Announcements
- XVI. Adjournment

STUDENT SENATE ATTENDANCE 10/28/15

Last	First	Roll Call	Roll Call #2
Almazrou	Yousef		
Ames	Jeremy		
Anderson	Allison		x
Banker	Blaine		
Bennett	James		
Bentdahl	Madison		
Bhatoya	Aaron		
Brever	Patrick		
Eidenschink	Matthew	x	x
Faust	Alexander		
Floerke	Weston		
Garcia	Spenser		
Gunaratnam	Alfonso		
Gustafson (gustifsin)	Allison		
Hackett	Kayley		
Hungness	Dana		
Johnson	Zackariah		
Jurecki	Haley		
Mason	Lauren		
Mans	Emily		
McAdory	Serina		x
Nicholson	Matthew		
Purath	Anicka		
Quaschink	Andrew		
Razidlo	Anna		
Rudolph	Chris		
Schultz	Thomas		
Sparks	Jacob		
Steck	Rebecca		
Tashner	Brittany		
Tatum	Jasmin		x
Yakes	Alissa		
Yang	Gaozie Vang		