



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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## **Student Senate Agenda**

Date: **September 16th, 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
  - i. Steck/Hartwig
  - b. Approval of agenda
  - c. Approval of minutes
- V. Guest Speakers
  - a. Chancellor Joe Gow
    - i. Steck: can you give us a brief rundown on what is going on with the parking ramp and the Aguilera apartment complex?
      1. The apartment complex - there is no loss of parking. There will be 100 people that live in this apartment, and we appreciate any efforts to create good quality housing for students. We were very delighted when they approached us asking for 100 parking spaces, not to commute but to just park the car somewhere - so it evens out. It's 100 spaces that they would have been - they're resident spaces - so the numbers of commuters are still the same and the numbers of residents are still the same.
      2. Gow: those are nice tomatoes.
      3. Steck: thank you, I picked them from the garden.
    - ii. Yakes: how far away is the apartment complex?
      1. Not entirely sure, I believe behind Kwik Trip.
      2. Molly: right behind Kwik Trip kitty corner from the Health Science Center.
      3. Yakes: so the philosophy that these people would get parking spaces anywhere doesn't really work.
      4. Gow: they are spaces to people that would typically be sold to those who would keep their spot on campus.
      5. Molly: it's a commuter lot that's being turned into a residential lot into this parking.
      6. Gow: you should get Victor Hill to come in to speak to you and he can explain more.
    - iii. Almazro: IEE director position. Our expectation was to have a director by the next spring. With the hold we probably won't have a director until next academic year and there are a lot of committees on hold until we find that position. Why is the director position on hold?
    - iv. Gow: complexity around International Education with the lawsuit that has thankfully been resolved. We've also had a significant decrease in enrollment which we don't want to see: want campus to be more international and we do rely on international student tuition. So we're

looking at how best to proceed while Fred Pierce is the interim director - he's doing a good job at getting some of the financial things together. Will soon be announcing something about that. They will report directly to the Provost and indirectly to the Vice Chancellor of Admin & Finance.

- v. Yakes: is this apartment limited to just UW-L students?
  - 1. Gow: you'd have to ask Bob, but I think there will be some stipulation - we're not giving away parking.
  - 2. So we would be leasing these spaces to 360 knowing that they are going to UW-L students?
  - 3. Yakes: my brother is a resident and he wasn't able to get a parking space, so this problem is ongoing and it hits home.
  - 4. Gow: I think on parking, it's safe to say that we are not going to satisfy everyone. If you want to really get into it go talk to the people in the neighborhood. A couple of years ago the city tried to put out a plan that would greatly damage student parking. If the state would have let us do the entire Fieldhouse package we would have built another facility with parking below the turf, but that isn't happening now.
- vi. Hartwig: where are we on the Field House?
  - 1. After all the time and energy we put into it, we are certainly continuing to press the issue as best we can. The UW System people are with us, the legislators won't let us borrow the money even though we could pay that back easily. I have much confidence in our campus and think that we will be able to thrive. I think we can all agree we'd like to see an additional residence hall, so we're still on that and hope that you all would support these things as well.
- vii. Steck: can you give us a brief update on the Wittich renovation?
  - 1. Gow: it's still on track, but I'm unsure of the dates - Bob can clarify. I sometimes forget myself when looking at the Student Center and the science building when we've been waiting for so long.
- viii. Hartwig: when is Rec 2.0 going to be starting construction?
  - 1. Paula: we're in the process of selecting an architect, it will hopefully be selected by the start of 2016. We'll then have the planning process, and we'll have a big open box for that.
  - 2. Gow: this really is an extraordinary period in the history of the university. I understand that it's a little disruptive, but it'll be well worth it once it's all done. Cartwright will be grass in the long term picture, so we'll get a nice corner onto the campus. I get excited, I like buildings but I like green space as well.
- ix. Brever: what about the gymnastics team?
  - 1. In Valhala with the high ceilings. That's why we have to keep this building around until we renovate Mitchell again. We'll also need a new library and performing arts center at some point. It was very exciting for me to begin the year and welcome the faculty and the staff and it was great to see all of the new people, despite the budget cuts, that we could draw to campus.
- b. Provost Betsy Morgan: I've been here for 22 years, came out of the Psychology department. I served as interim Provost before Heidi got here, and now I will be serving for two years because we are going through accreditation and didn't want

to be involved in a provost search and accreditation at the same time. We're focusing on not losing faculty and also on graduate education - what is the role and purpose of graduate education at UW-L and how does that best serve the community and the students at UW-L. We hired 70 new faculty and instructional academic staff. We found 17 resignations last year directly related to better job offers. Most of which at Winona state for about \$15,000 more a year.

- c. Hartwig: what is going on with the Trans task force on your end and where do you see that going?
  - i. The most important things that will happen this year is the preferred name policy in Wings, I'm on working with IT and hopefully it'll be up by spring, if not next fall. All gender bathrooms. Next on the list is how you talk about these things in classrooms. There are six subgroups, and we're hoping to get down to one steering committee that can keep an eye on key aspects.
  - ii. Paula: wanting to explain this to the new people in the room. When we initiated this two years ago, we wanted to create the Trans\* task force explaining that people identify beyond the binary genders. We wanted to see how we could make this a more inclusive environment. Six implementation teams completed work last year: Athletics, locker rooms, health and counseling, education, use of gender pronouns and forgetting the last one. Want to focus on not having to pay more money if you want to have a gender-neutral housing experience. We're looking at how to move forward into longer gains.
  - iii. Morgan: The UW System application has been stopped at the Madison provost level with so many hot issues going on. I'm at a provost meeting in two weeks and I assume it'll be on the agenda - we're all on board we just need to flip the switch. I think people are worried about taking this to the regents with so many other things on the list.
  - iv. Hartwig: thank you very much.
- d. Nicholson: how is the funding for undergraduate research looking?
  - i. Across the board funds like that took a 7-9% hit, so that's the hit it took. We will not be able to fund as many.
- e. Mason: I talked with someone in Undergraduate Research about the budget cuts, and I was told that the budget for Undergraduate Research could be funded with a surplus from the Provost's office.
  - i. Morgan: if I had the choice UR would definitely be funded. I have about \$200,000 for anything that the provost wants to support. UR is absolutely a high priority.
  - ii. Mason: we were talking about our \$63,000 that is put towards a student initiative and I was looking at that. They said they would gladly take the \$63,000 to offset the \$43,000 that was lost.
  - iii. Morgan: I'll say this about other funding. You all have supported Murphy Learning Center with funds, and we are trying to align that with Murphy Library. The numbers of students at the MLC is up. We'd also like the writing and public speaking center to be funded by academic initiatives as well. My personal thing is also considering the notion of funding some more graduate assistantships that helps students in a not-across the board way and money that would go through financial aid for the "next up" group that gets bad funding that could also be targeted through student worker money, etc. I would be thinking about all of those things.
- f. Morgan: One of the worst parts about being Provost is that I don't teach anymore

or see students, and I have awkward conversations with those who don't know that I'm the provost.. I would love to know a useful way to be involved with students? I'm interested in hearing from students not involved in specific student orgs. I want to hear more from students about their academic experience.

- i. Molly: encourage you to meet with our academic affairs committee.  
Could possibly be ex-officio on that committee?

g. Vice Chancellor Bob Hetzel - moved to next week.

VI. General Student Body Open Forum

VII. Officer Reports

a. President: Kaylee Otterbacher

b. Vice President: Molly Davies

- i. We will be electing a president pro tempore this week.

1. Steck: I nominate Senator Tashner

- a. Accept

2. Hartwig: I nominate Senator Steck

- a. Accept

3. Garcia: Senator Brever

- a. Accept

4. Steck: Senator Hartwig

- a. Accept

5. Discussion:

- a. Tashner:

- b. Steck: CLS Senator, I really enjoy spending time working with you all and being on Student Association. My parli-pro isn't the best but I would love this opportunity.

- c. Brever: I really enjoy Student Association.

- d. Hartwig: I have very good parli pro, I have four years of experience and have chaired meetings at my previous institutions. Would be honored to be President Pro Temp if you will have me.

- ii. Will continue while Kate counts the ballots. Resolutions will now be due to me by 3pm so that I can get them on the website by 4pm so the public can view it so we don't have to wait until midnight. Please fill out sheet with office hours. Please keep up with your Senate Sibling.

- iii. Senator Tashner is the new President Pro Tempore.

c. Chief of Staff: John Becker

- i. I was previously just filling out interim Local Affairs Coordinator, so I've just been helping him transition to the role. The Executive Cabinet and I will start having weekly meetings so that we can start good communication and I will then report to President Otterbacher with that information. A lot of projects in the works, ideas are just getting going and seeing what our goals are this year. Stay tuned with the next few reports here.

- ii. Molly: Director Gross was at one point a Senator so please reach out to anyone you know who would be good in that role so we can get that filled.

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

- i. If you didn't fill out this sheet with goals, office hours, etc. please get it from me at the end of the meeting. First Senator of the week is Senator Bennett and Pres. Otterbacher and I are starting work on It's On Us.

- e. State Affairs Coordinator: Jacob Schimmel
  - i. Despite the hype for the report I don't have much for this week except for a question for next week: I've been talking about student regent and loan refinancing but know that a lot of you aren't well informed on that so I would like to come and give a little information session on those two issues.
- f. Local Affairs Coordinator: Brady Gross
  - i. On September 29th we will have an off campus housing fair from 11am-2pm, please get the word out. We'll have an insurance agent and a lawyer ideally. Went to GENA meeting \$375,000 for capital improvements - it can go towards sidewalks, planting trees, etc. If you all have good ideas on how to spend that money contact me.
- g. Inclusivity Coordinator: Ayush Shrestha
  - i. I've been slowly but surely trying to get around to diversity orgs on campus, I've been to three so far - still getting introduced. Something that I found funny is that the only people who know that we got money back is people in diversity orgs and people in Senate. I encourage you all to let people know that we're getting this money back because it's a big decision.
  - ii. Yakes: what have you been hearing from diversity orgs about what to do with the money?
    - 1. I told them about some of our ideas and then my opinion - I think that money should be put back into different student orgs on campus for programming, etc.

#### VIII. RHAC Reports

- a. First Reps meeting tomorrow, should all be elected by midnight tonight.

#### IX. Advisor Reports

- a. Paula: Oktoberfest is coming and is actually being held in October. We have been asked for help from you all: we've had 33 campus police reports already this year, and we're seeing some disturbing trends about people making bad choices. I'm a little worried, my first year here nine years ago, I was out on the golf course Oktoberfest opening week and I got a call that a young man lost his life in the river. Sigma Tau are getting volunteers for the first aid station on 3rd street. Need help in hanging door fliers on off campus housing. Working on healthy programming in the residence halls, will also have no guests that weekend and want to minimize the out of town people. We don't want out of town people to make you all look bad and get blamed. We also had GENA ask if we are planning any clean up activities for after the weekend. A couple of years ago, the Student Association facilitated a cleanup effort on Sunday - what can we do to put a better face on UW-L students? I'll just put that on the table with no expectations. My message is be safe, and take care of your friends.
- b. Becker: while you're looking for volunteers, have you contacted Sue White at the Rec, because I know club sports participants get more money for more volunteer work.
  - i. Paula: I'm not really in charge of volunteers, but Alex Mroteck organizes operation river watch and is really active in volunteer work. I will reiterate contacting Recsports. We would like a "family area" for families to go without being surrounded by alcohol. Last year we had almost 400 contacts telling people to go another direction going to Riverside Park. Operation River Watch has been going for ten years, and that's amazing and that was on students - that came from the Student Body President in

2006.

- c. Gross: SFS volunteered to help clean up afterwards too?
  - i. If you can get me that contact information that would be great.
  - ii. Gross; also promoting Rectoberfest, Friday evening at 5pm.
- d. Schimmel: are you more worried about Oktoberfest this year as opposed to years prior?
  - i. Paula: I worry every year. I'm always at home hoping that my phone doesn't ring. I don't know if I'm more worried this year but I'm wanting to prevent and get people thinking about it before people get caught up in the moment. I see choices being made where the BAC is off the charts and people are being taken to the hospital.. that volume is higher than what we've seen in the past - so the danger of Oktoberfest and this trend worries me.
- e. Shrestha: how many police incidents were there last year?
  - i. Palmer: quite a few. Oktoberfest peaks for us.
  - ii. Shrestha: has the budget increased for the police department?
    - 1. More concerning to me isn't the number of police reports, but the type of behaviors in the police reports. We also see a trend of the number of students withdrawing - we were at 41 this year when usually by this time we're only at around 20. Those two trends combined give me concern.
  - iii. Becker: last year they arrested 60 people (the City, not campus) - campus area received 1,300 total phone calls on Oktoberfest weekend and this was after it was shortened to one weekend. One car was tipped early Sunday morning and several had smashed windows.
  - iv. Paula: leadership and your intervention with friend's matters - please convey that we can have fun and still be safe.

X. Committee Reports

XI. Organizational Reports

- a. Hartwig: LGBTQAAI social went well last night, was very excited to see faculty and staff supporting our students. Didn't see any people from the College of Business, and was great to see one of our Senators there. First RU meeting last night, lower turnout than desired but hoping to see more after involvement fest. Transform meeting tomorrow. Next week I'll come back with more things happening this year.
- b. Becker: Waterski team got third this weekend at waterski team up against the big dogs. Placed at nationals last year so we'll see.
- c. Schimmel: Pat and I head up the sexual assault task force - had our first meeting today with Ingrid and Nizam in violence prevention and affirmative action, went over policies that we were interested in looking at. Specifically, next month - October is sexual assault awareness month. Pat and I want to set up a table at Riverside Park on the first to have some sort of fundraiser for sexual assault awareness on October first.
- d. Mason: neat new organization called "I'm that girl" that's just getting started. An organization of women that want to promote healthy relationships among women - first meeting on Monday at 7pm if anyone is interested in. I can get anyone more information.
- e. Yang: Hmong New Year is this weekend and HOPE will be having their own tent. It's over by Kwik Trip area where they play soccer - talk to me for more information. Will have food, entertainment, etc. Everyone is very friendly and it's a great time to celebrate. I'm on WRAQ radio if anyone ever needs publicity.

- XII. Unfinished Business
  - a. SA1516-003 Resolution Approving Senate Appointment
  - b. *Hartwig/Eidenshink*
    - i. We had a seat open up on Science and Health opened up over the summer, and someone reached out to me and meets the qualifications so I'm bringing this to you to approve Emily's appointment.
    - ii. Steck: can the senator stand up and introduce themselves?
      - 1. Mans: Exercise Science major with an emphasis in pre-PT, senior this year, I want to get more involved on campus. Over the past couple of years I haven't really done anything or gotten any information and I want to be able to obtain factual information instead of gossip around campus.
    - iii. Vote: passed.
- XIII. New Business
  - a. SA1516-004 Resolution Approving Local Affairs Coordinator Appointment
    - i.
    - ii. Yakes: suspend the two week rule. /Purath
      - 1. As we can see from Director Gross' report this evening there has been a lot that has happened in the last week with Oktoberfest right around the corner. I would like him to become active in his role right away. It would be in our best interest to vote on this tonight.
      - 2. Hartwig: shouldn't be suspending the two week rule, I feel very uncomfortable when we break our rules so easily. I understand that this is time sensitive but I don't want us to be breaking our rules so easily. I have no problems with Director Gross itself but we do need to keep our own rules.
      - 3. Yakes: we are not "breaking rules." Roberts's rules of order are a tool to help us run meetings to the best of our ability. We are instead using them as best as we feel fit.
      - 4. Brever: good idea to vote on this tonight. We are setting ourselves back by waiting more days.
      - 5. Vote: Passes, one abstention.
    - iii. Call to question: vote: passes, two abstentions.
- XIV. Discussion
  - a. Student Initiative Money
    - i. Went to Bob with ideas from last week, only Undergraduate Research funding is eligible from the list from last year.
    - ii. Steck: some students expressed an interest in installing lights over the basketball and volleyball courts.
      - 1. Molly: Capital one time fund, would not meet criteria. Has to be a reoccurring fund.
    - iii. Hartwig: split up fund into two possible spots - more tutoring funding from MLC and undergraduate research. That could be interesting to try and help both of those areas.
    - iv. Mason: lights around basketball courts, RHAC tries to find projects like that to do. Would be a good idea to approach them. I also spoke with a woman in UR and am going to read from her e-mail: if we did decide to give all of our money to UR, \$42,000 would be put right away to the gap that the budget cuts made in the grant pool that's given to students. They normally have about \$159,000 that they're able to give away, that was cut

and would love to replenish. If they had anything extra, they would look to add more to that. Students can ask for a max of \$2,000 and have stipulations at how much can go to a student stipend, etc. They also do a National Council on Undergraduate Research where students can be sent to present UR. They have not sent less than 23 students each year and would like to send additional. They also have REV Research Engagement for Veterans which they would like to start up soon, as well as Eagle Apprenticeships for freshmen to get put into research right away their freshman year. They would love the funding and would definitely have places to use it year after year. Also talking to the Provost about Murphy Learning Center and think it would be a good opportunity for the budget to be put to. Both of these options are great, definitely talk to Dr. Hetzel about reallocating money around the university. Maybe putting money into one source could allow reallocation for other funds.

v. Garcia: talking about Graduate Assistants. Do we know specifically what this would be going towards?

1. Molly: doesn't know exact areas where the GAs would be. There's something they do at the end of the year to determine where placements are, placements would be based off of that. They would be academic ones - couldn't go to student affairs grad programs. Didn't have any specific area, but academic affairs is typically quarter-time positions, don't get paid as much and Betsy is looking to create more of them and increase compensation for the work that they are doing. I can follow up and ask more about what the survey says about where the money should go to.

vi. Yakes: I support the idea that this money be split between the tutoring center and undergraduate research - I like that this money is available to all students and betters the success of students.

vii. Hartwig: Ask the chair to reach out to Murphy Learning Center to see how much money they would need so that we can have more information to have a more informed decision.

viii. Molly: Joint Planning & Budget begins next week. Looking for a resolution supporting one option. If we don't have a decision, JP&B majority membership will have no problem taking the money and allocating it elsewhere.

b. 36.09(5) Policy at UW-L

i. Almazrou: adding international education to shared governance.

#### XV. Announcements

a. Garcia: Study abroad fair tomorrow in Valhala from 10am-2pm.

b. Hartwig: Senate Dinners are at 5pm in the Cellar.

c. Becker: Senate Late Night Snacks at the Eagles Nest after Senate.

d. Steck: the LIG hosting a volunteer fair in Port O' Call in Tuesday if you would like to attend.

e. Gross: spread the word about the housing fair on Tuesday the 29th from 11am-2pm.

f. Molly: fill out little papers if you haven't done so. Give to John. Headshots tonight, wait on group picture until freshmen and grads get here.

#### XVI. Adjournment

a. Steck/Gustafson