



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

Student Senate Agenda

Date: **September 23, 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
 - b. Approval of minutes
 - i. Tashner/Hartwig
- V. Guest Speakers
 - a. Vice Chancellor Bob Hetzel
 - i. Some challenges, but some good things. The budget is no good for the University, but we were able to hire more faculty on campus this year than we had last year. It's a Hallmark for this University that we prioritize the classroom. Looking at this fall, we're a little soft on enrollment, we're 100-150 students less than last year. Soft in international and transfer students - but we'll be able to manage - there will be about a \$1.2mil shortfall. We'll be able to cover that with our reserves. Some challenges on the financial end, but there is good news. The board of regents approved the field house project, but the governor's budget did not have the field house. The Chancellor and I had worked with UWS to get some traction on the field house project, now I can say that the dept. of administration is now for the field house, and we are in the list to select an architect - hopefully in the spring. They reminded us not to forget to add the soccer field and artificial turf. There is now question about the new residence hall. Unfortunately on that one, there is no good news: the state says that no one in the UW System (LAX, EC, WW) gets a new residence hall. The state doesn't think that we should be creating residence halls. But the overflow housing is unacceptable -we're working on that.
 - ii. Aguilera complex - the university worked with the city and a building developer. We needed to help them in order to build a building right next to campus. 100 spaces for UW-L students that live in that facility will go to those students. This won't impact any residence hall parking. We're using our inventory of commuter permits. We're not losing any parking opportunities. There's a net effect of 0 impact. It actually supports good sense and partnership of working with the city to make sure it's a successful project.
 1. Almazrou: what about hiring a recruiter to get more international students?
 - a. Hetzel: we're very close to getting that position advertised. Provost Betsy is working with Cory Sjoquist to get that advertisement out.

- b. Almazrou: will there be a committee?
 - c. Hetzel: yes, but a small committee about 8 people.
 - d. Hetzel: an important search committee just convened a couple of weeks ago for the Chief of Police. We want to get the right person with the right fit for the position. Open forum when the final candidates come to campus.
2. Faust: what are the difficulties with the residence hall?
 - a. Hetzel: the Speaker of the Assembly is not a believer in new student housing for college campuses. He thinks that third party developers can be more effective, because they won't have to borrow those funds from the state. The assembly, senate and governor don't want to borrow any more money - they want the developers to do it. We all would like to tell them that we're housing experts and we'll do it very well - but it's just a difference in philosophy. Voss was on WW campus with private developers - and those private developers don't want new housing. It's a political conundrum. I disagree, but we have to follow marching orders.
 3. Eidenschink: we're hiring an architect in the spring, but the funding has been delayed? Is it going to be approved in the next biennium?
 - a. We essentially have the bonding authority, but the legislature didn't give us the enumeration rights. We don't have to borrow new money. That's why the DOA is on board, we already have the money so let's move forward. We'll select the architect and start moving forward with the design (similar to Eagle Hall - being designed before the legislature approved it).
 4. Brever: more info for Aguilera, why weren't Kaylee and Molly consulted?
 - a. When we entered into conversations with the city and the developer, that's why we have a vice Chancellor. All we're doing is shifting spaces from students off campus to these students, so there is no impact on campus. We'll even make \$10,000 a year, which could bring costs down. The Aguilera is right next to the Health Science Center - it makes good sense. It's good for students, the city and the community. I meet regularly with the City of La Crosse
 5. Yakes: how will these parking spots go back to students?
 - a. The parking rates will go back down for students.
 - b. Yakes: are they going down?
 - c. Hetzel: it's remaining consistent.
 - d. Yakes: it'll pay off debt service, salaries, and utility costs. This will help us keep costs consistent instead of going up.
 - e. Yakes: so we'll just shifting the parking spots that commuters would be using, to sports that Aguilera will be using?
 - i. Only UWL students will have access to these

- permits. 40 spaces on site, we are providing 100.
 - ii. Yakes: all 100 spaces will be going to UWL students only?
 - iii. Hetzel: yes.
- 6. Purath: some students are paying seg fee while doing internships that aren't in the La Crosse area, like the HSC and Rec. Can we look into getting rid of that for them?
 - a. Hetzel: this comes up often. We ask how we would manage that - there is usually around 500 students annually. The cost of seg fees are about \$1,000 per student. 500 students times \$1,000 is half a million dollars. This wouldn't be my decision, but that would mean that we have to raise rates for everyone on campus - we can do that. I don't know any university that does that approach because it would cost all students more money. Paula, like me, gets calls and e-mails complaining about this exact thing.
 - b. Purath: I would rather have my rate raised to allow those students to not pay.
 - c. Yakes: I'm with Anicka - I'm more about user fees.
 - d. Hetzel: we could do that. Then 780 graduate students are going to ask for all of those fees to be taken off as well. That's not a good thing. Those are the conundrums. I can do some modeling and bring it in, and show you what you would have to pay to take these students off of seg fees.
 - e. Yakes: I would rather pay more for things that I am using than make others pay for things that they aren't.
 - f. Hetzel: I would guess most of you don't have use in the childcare center. If we took that off, that would disadvantage a lot of students. Liberal studies students' pay for the education in the science building - it costs \$70,000 each professor. We pool tuition together; everyone pays for everything - regardless of particular usage. That's how our budget process works. The needs of the many are more important than the needs of the one.
 - g. Paula: no disadvantage to looking at it.
- 7. Becker: Southworth - would we even be able to do that?
 - a. Paula: we allowed for certain populations to opt out of fees back in 2006 and we ran into the same conundrum. At both of my universities, we kept going down this path, and the student leadership in 07-08 said no - this isn't the direction we want to go. This is what we consider making this campus a better place. I welcome the conversation again.
- 8. Mason: talks about keeping enrollment lower, since the residence hall won't go through any time soon?
 - a. Conversation today during JP&B: do we want to be a university of 10,400? If we want to do that I'm ready to listen, but if we do that we have to reduce our budget by

\$1.2 million dollars. I don't want to do that - we need to keep pushing for the res hall. It doesn't look good, but we need to keep pushing.

9. Mason: talks about making freshman and sophomores both live on campus?
 - a. The Board of Regents has that policy - but we don't have the space.

b. Chartwells

- i. Craig and Nancy: please reach out to us, we are here for you. We're also here to listen to some concerns tonight. j
 1. Becker: when we have food group come in, it seems like we're giving feedback based on what we think. How do you think students can assist you?
 - a. Craig: communication on what the meal plans are is definitely information that we would like to get out - I see a lot of students being confused on what meals they can have and where they can use their swipes, etc.
 - b. Nancy: we're also coming up with a lot of students who don't want to say anything - but we want them to feel welcoming and give ideas. We want them to interact with the cashiers, and we've been encouraging our staff to share these ideas with us.
 2. Hartwig: I've been seeing a lot of lines - how are addressing that?
 - a. Craig: that's another education thing - let students now when rush times are and when less busy times are. We're looking to open some more lines and some more areas as well. We had a meeting with the chefs today so we're looking at Monday for a timeline to start that.

VI. General Student Body Open Forum

VII. Officer Reports

- a. President: Kaylee Otterbacher
 - i. Off Campus Housing Fair this Tuesday from 11am-2pm. USA Today app was sent to the app store yesterday, hopefully will be out on the market in a week. Larry is out on medical leave for an unknown amount of time, please begin using Molly and I if you have questions or need information – we are the organization leaders and it's our job to answer those questions for you.
- b. Vice President: Molly Davies
 - i. Freshman senate candidates in the back. Three senate seats open, please be spreading the word about that. We want to start getting more resolutions in so we don't have a busy end of semester. Keep up your senate hours let's make sure we're all doing those hours. JPB had the same discussions as faculty senate did regarding the compensation plan. Talked about student initiative money and our plan went over really well. Well supported.
- c. Chief of Staff: John Becker
- d. Chief of Staff to the Vice President: Kate Laird
 - i. Congrats Senator Brever for being Senator of the Week! More goals for Senate Siblings will be coming soon. There will be a sibling challenge with a prize at the end of the year. Reminder that mid senate meeting recesses are annoying and should not happen. Please use point of

- personal privilege responsibly.
 - e. State Affairs Coordinator: Jacob Schimmel
 - i. Loan refinancing bill presentation
 - f. Local Affairs Coordinator: Brady Gross
 - i. MTU board meeting was canceled today because they didn't meet quorum. I'll be meeting with Goosetown representatives soon.
 - g. Inclusivity Coordinator: Ayush Shrestha
- VIII. RHAC Reports
 - a. First meeting last week - went really well. Chancellor Gow and Dr. Nick are coming in to talk to the group next week. Very excited about the USA Today app.
- IX. Advisor Reports
 - a. Paula: Larry went in for surgery today and it went well. Remember that Oktoberfest is coming up, please make good choices and take care of your friends.
 - b. John: reach out to me at any time.
- X. Committee Reports
 - a. Schimmel: AIDAC meet this week, will meet again next week.
 - b. Yakes: marketing and special events met today - let me know if you would like to be a part of any of our events.
 - c. Otterbacher: SUFAC did not meet this week, but will meet next week. One shots were sent out today - due on October 9th. Budget templates will be due to the budget office on October 23rd.
- XI. Organizational Reports
 - a. Garica: Troy Richter helps out with the Coulee Region Chill - they have a college student night on Saturday, Oct. 25th during a game. Let your friends know.
- XII. Unfinished Business
- XIII. New Business
 - a. SA1516-005: Resolution Recommending use of Student Initiative Money
 - i. *Steck/Eidenschink*
 - ii. *Author intro (Mason): we got information from the Provost about Murphy Learning Center and Undergraduate Research and Creativity. The information we got from the Provost said that Murphy Learning Center could use our funding in a couple areas - they could use about \$36,000 themselves, and an additional \$36,000 could be split between the writing center and the public speaking center. We thought that UR was equally important - because it gives students room to take initiative and learn and grow in different ways, so we wanted to incorporate both. We thought that we could show support of student learning by giving MLC some funds, and hopefully that can trickle back to the Public Speaking and writing center. Another 30% would go towards grants and NCUR funding where students can go present research.*
 - iii. Gross: great distribution of funds that anyone can utilize.
 - iv. Eidenschink: how did we come to the approximate balances of each of these entities?
 - 1. Brever: we saw that as the most present need and that they needed the bulk of the money. The database at MLC's

contract is up next year, and it will cost \$60,000 more than usual. We thought they could use that money for that but also some more additional resources, so we thought it could be used most by students.

2. Eidenschink: do you think it's appropriate to include a stipulation of how the money is spread among these areas? I'd like to see some new personnel in there.
 - a. Davies: the thought from Provost Morgan is that if we are allocating money here, she has some provost funds, so we can balance the cut of that database. That would be a ripple effect of the money that we gave. This money would directly only go to the MLC, not the database.
3. Shrestha: Do we know exactly where this money would go?
 - a. Mason: MLC is really just to cover base costs - we don't have a say where specifically this would go. UR grants would follow the same stipulations as the UR committee currently gives out to students. NCUR funding would go towards students traveling to the conference.
 - b. Shrestha: how many students use the MLC?
 - i. Davies: approximately 78%.
 - ii. Schimmel: MLC is asking for more money every year to accommodate for growth, so this would help.
 - c. Faust: how many students use NCUR funding?
 - i. Brever: about \$1,000 will pay for one student to go, so this would fund about four. In past years we've been able to send up to 25, but they only have 11 spots available.
 - d. Johnson: if we don't keep tabs on what this is being used for, eventually when it goes year after year it can get lost in normal operations. Should we put some sort of stipulations regarding what exactly this money would need to be spent on?
 - i. Schimmel: the only place the MLC would put this into would be to hire more tutors. Otherwise they are doing a disservice to themselves.
 - e. Yang: when it comes to tutoring, the MLC is not the only place you can get tutoring. Student support services also works, OMSS also offers tutoring support that any student can support.

- i. Palmer: just to clarify, student support services is only utilized by students that qualify.
- f. Molly: JP&B approved our funding amount, not where it was going. Kaylee and I have been feeling flashbacks to last fall while we were thrown into something making quick decisions and then regretted it later. Please keep thinking about this.
- g. Harwig: one idea that came up was the Access Center - they are actually underfunded when it comes to student services - like closed captioning in academic rooms. I would also want to specify some of the UR research money to go towards researching undergraduate groups.

XIV. Discussion

a. JMAC

- i. Steck: I am on the Joint Minority Affairs Committee and we met last Friday, the committee has seemed to have lost their direction. They haven't received their typical direction letter from the Chancellor. Only one returning member was able to make the meeting last week.

XV. Announcements

XVI. Adjournment