



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

## **Student Senate Agenda**

**Date: November 16th, 2016**

**Time and Location: 6:00pm Port O' Call; Cartwright Center**

- I. Call to Order
  - a. 6:03 pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of agenda
  - b. Motion: Olp; Second: Ames
  - c. Approved
- V. Guest Speakers
  - a. Elaine Anderson
  - b. SUFAC
    - i. Ramthun: Hello again everyone. If anyone wasn't here two weeks ago, I came in to speak then. Last time we talked about the projected decline in enrollment and how that will take a toll on the seg. fees. Student Association found about \$4500 in their budget, so we still need about \$21,000. I was supposed to have a meeting with MTU today but they cancelled. This doesn't mean that they are not an option but we just don't know that right now but it is still not off the table. The other areas we were looking at was the green fund. Based on the budget timeline, SUFAC really wants to have this decision made on Monday. If you have any ideas, please let me know. With that, I am really here tonight to hear what you guys have heard from your constituents. It's very unfortunate that we now have to come up with \$21,000 but it's the position we're in right now.
      1. Floerke: I talked to a few people on campus and they said that it's a better idea to fund the budget, maybe through athletics. Or if we charged for the movie budget and SUFAC could keep that.
        - a. Ramthun: The problem with that is that we can't increase anymore because of the field house being build and the rec addition so we have no wiggle room to increase the seg. fee but we could generate revenue.
      2. Kallis: I took a poll when I met with my constituents and they really don't want to see more cuts to student organizations. They said their favorite option would be to take it from the green fund.
      3. Bancker: So where else other than Student Association and SUFAC are you getting the money?



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- a. Ramthun: SUFAC oversees a lot of different entities and they are all budgeted entities but what happens is that if the entities don't spend all of their money, we are able to sweep that back to the SUFAC reserve which goes into other things. Dr. Larry said about 2 hours ago that he is interested in
4. Bancker: So if you sweep back that much, wouldn't you be able to take that money out of yours and fix it?
  - a. Ramthun: there is a thing called 0 based budget and so for the entities to do that, it would be an exhausting amount of time so we are looking into doing that for next year. There is no way that we could rely on this to fix the budget because if that much doesn't come back in future years we wouldn't have any budget. With this enrollment decline, this class will be of 2021 and it would be a one-time fix for next year but not every year.
5. Bancker: What are your reserves at?
  - a. Ames: They are at about \$90,000.
    - i. Ramthun: The reserve is also used for contingency requests and one shot requests and if we go over our budgeted amount we wouldn't be able to do these things either. Stuff like this is also what the reserves is used for. Basically, we could use some of it for this but we also don't want to get to a point where there is an emergency and we wouldn't have enough.
    - c. Ames: What's left at the end that really doesn't come back to us it ends up being about \$15,000 out of a \$1,000,000. That's really not that much when you think about it but if we didn't sweep back, there would be a lot of other problems we encounter.
6. Faust: I'm just wondering where SUFAC is headed and where they want the money to come out of?
  - a. Ramthun: We are trying to avoid cutting from budgets. We have received a lot of budgets and we are still looking through them. We really wanted to have that discussion with MTU but since we weren't able to meet with them we're going to have to figure out a different approach. Our number one goal is to stay away from the student organizations entities.



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7. Ames: There were some discussions earlier today. If we were to factor in the \$10,000 from Viterbo regarding the bus and if we made a contract and solidified this money, we would only have to get about \$11,000. We also talked about capital funds and if we were to take this route, we could take a year off of these, which would hurt but not as badly as cutting the entities.

a. Ramthun: Thank you for bringing that up, this is definitely a reasonable option.

8. Garcia: So the green fund, so student organizations that have budgets can use the money at their discretion but with the green fund, we can't do anything unless senate approves it. So if you cut most of the projects we fund we can't spend our money. So, you can cut green fund but the seg. fee will just increase in other areas.

9. Ramthun: SUFAC always has reasons for denying projects of the green funds sometimes. For example, the solar panels last year, were requested for a large amount of money for as much as they could get but didn't have a well set plan. Everything that SUFAC funds is for a purpose and the green fund has an important role but sometimes we just have to choose. The way that this would work would be that the green fund would just collect less in seg. fee amount. How do the rest of you feel with partially going the green fund route to get some of the money? We will put a cap on the green fund saying that they have to collect x amount but they can't collect more than x amount.

a. Ames: Can you elaborate on the rate?

i. Ramthun: If we had a minimum of \$50,000 a semester, it would be around \$5.00 per person.

b. Ames: So you're going to set a base and then follow that to collect the money?

i. Ramthun: In theory, we are thinking about doing something like that.

ii. Ramthun: As long as we are on the topic of green fund, their bylaws are written where they have to collect a minimum of \$60,000, so to change this we would also need to amend their bylaws. Does this make sense to everyone?

10. Mason: So how does giving the green fund the minimum amount of money how would this fix the problem?

a. Ramthun: It wouldn't solve the whole problem but it would stop us from dipping into the green fund year after year.



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11. Giles: I just wanted to clarify, the rate per student depends on how much we need to balance the budget. If one year we didn't need to drop the seg. fee below \$6.00, it's just that we couldn't take from them past \$50,000.

12. Bancker: So when will you bring this proposed budget to us?

a. Ramthun: We are aiming for next week. The week after that we will be approving or denying the student organizations entities budget's. It would come to senate about 2 weeks from now. You guys would need an extra week to discuss this. If need be, you could do an electronic vote if necessary.

b. Bancker: I feel like we would be better off if we had another discussion in a couple weeks.

i. Ramthun: We have to have our rate decided by the end of January. So it would be a lot more effective to do this before the semester ends.

13. Kallis: There has already been some bias about my constituents not getting as much funding through one shots. What else can we do with that?

a. Ramthun: We asked the entities what it would look like with a decrease because we wanted to gauge the actual impact on student organizations and a lot of people said that the money would have to come out of pocket at that point. As for the diversity organizations and one-shots, the request we received this year was a contingency request not a one-shot request so that is why it didn't receive funding for the conference. That will probably be a spring discussion.

14. Olp: What happens if senate doesn't approve the budget proposals?

a. Ramthun: It would go back to SUFAC where we would have to decide another option. If you guys have any other ideas, please let me know.

c. Campus Climate

i. Dyer: We are all from campus climate to give you a training. My name is AJ and I am the other full time staff member in campus climate and I also If you all need a five minute break that would be fine.

VI. General Student Body Open Forum

VII. Officer Reports

a. President: Jacob Schimmel



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- i. Schimmel: I don't have much this week, legislative priorities, haley will discuss some of that. A lot of the business around it is legislative. We had Janice come back to speak with us about state issues and that was great. We talked about the incident at Stout. It's good to have these conversations with other campuses to bounce ideas off of. Last thing, as you may have seen, Pat and I sent out a follow up response to the hate crime that happened last week. We want to make sure that students continue to talk about these things. Tomorrow what I will do is send out another email on behalf of the faculty, staff, and administrators who put themselves on that list.
- b. Vice President: Patrick Brever
  - i. Brever: I will keep mine short as well. President Schimmel will be sending out a Thank you card to James who was the person who was filming all of the videos. Please make sure that you are going to committee meetings.
- c. Chief of Staff: Brady Gross
  - i. Gross: We haven't done a pop by to say hi. I haven't reserved it yet but usually there is a table out that we can use. Two years ago we had these forms that students filled out on reasons not to have another budget cut and we wanted to bring those back for lobbying. Hopefully we will get a lot of responses. I will pass the sheet around, we are doing sign up so I will pass around a sheet.
- d. Deputy Chief of Staff: Lauren Mason
- e. State Affairs Director: Haley Jurecki
  - i. Jurecki: The biggest thing to talk about is the lobbying date is set for November 29. We are in coordination with the reps so we will all be there on the same day. I will have more information later in the week regarding logistics. At reps we talked about our priorities when it comes to lobbying. So there are 4 main priorities: the first is protecting the shared governance (36.905) We want to make sure that this is kept in place. Secondly, continue investing in the UW system which means we don't want another budget cut. We are also supporting our board of regents who want to increase the budget for this next year. We are going to be advocating for sexual violence prevention. We are lucky to have a person like Ingrid, not all schools have someone like that so that is really unique and we want this to be a mandated position but also funded position. As well as supporting some changes to Chapter 17. As it stands now if there is an emergency situation and the student needs to be



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removed, if this suspension is implemented they only have 21 days to gather all evidence and resolve the issue and we want to extend this time. The first priority is obviously the most important to us right now. Also, our T-shirts are approved and ready and they are only \$5. Just sign up by Friday and give me the \$5- cash is preferred.

1. Floerke: I think the most impactful thing we can do is the personal testimonies so we should push that.

f. Local Affairs Director: Madison Wescott

i. Wescott: I got the list of landlords and email addresses so Brady and I will be working on that. We have been talking to the neighborhood council within the surrounding neighborhoods and they expressed some concerns with me about driving. We were also talking about a homeless shelter because the homeless population is pretty high in La Crosse. We want to encourage the landlords to keep the buildings up to date and follow the safety codes. They have an action plan to create better maintained buildings so they don't deteriorate so quickly. We are just trying to make it a better living space for everyone.

1. Faust: I saw something about a petition about alternate side parking, have they talked about it at all?

a. Wescott: We just talk about rebuilding, we don't talk about all the logistics, just Ghostown's housing.

g. Inclusivity Director: Karlie Stefan

i. Stefan: So, I have a lot to say. My goal is to be completely transparent. I want to share something with all of you and you can talk to me about it as much as you want. I was born deaf so I speak by reading lips so please remember that. I take inclusivity very seriously, feel free to ask questions and talk to me, I won't get offended. Last week, the concern for action for the inexcusable graffiti that happened last week. The University Police are not involved in this investigation and they have not been updated. The UWL police will be patrolling the area to make sure that something similar doesn't happen again. I have requested the records/ documentation of this case and it was approved so I will let you all know with the details. You can email me, text me, or just come and talk to me. I shared in my interview, my goals are to do everything I can do to make sure that every identity is heard on this campus. I don't want people to feel discouraged. This entire world should be safe and this is a big goal but I don't think it's



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impossible. I will share with you how I plan to accomplish these, I want to start recognizing the statistics and using these reports as evidence of the problems that need to be addressed. We all need to have an effective role, we can do this by challenging leaders and holding people accountable. I will also be sitting down with some people about what needs to be addressed on campus. We need to be the change we want to see, no matter who we are. We need to educate students and staff at UWL. This in hindsight we need to help people become more accepting and people need to know that they have the support. This is important because we need to start making this change and difference. We need to allow open and effective communication so that we can talk about the hard things from an educated approach. A lot of fears about talking about inclusivity are that people don't know what to say so they don't say anything at all.

1. Moreno: I really like that you are following up with the investigation and that you are keeping up with it. I have some friends that have had things happen and they didn't want to report because they were fearful that nothing would happen.

a. Stefan: I am really passionate about helping others and I don't think an acceptable reason for hurting someone is because they didn't know better. That's not a good enough reason.

## VIII. RHAC Reports

i. Nguyen: We had inclusive negligence and we watched that and had a discussion, similar to tonight's conversation. We also talked about helping others become more educated.

ii. Burgess: the winter formal is coming up on Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8:00 pm- 12:00 am. It is \$7 per ticket. If you don't want to drive to the La Crosse center, we are setting up a shuttle to get you there. There will be food and a DJ and there will be plenty of back drops for pictures. Another thing, we have sig funding for student interest groups and we have this money so we can give it to sig's so if you want to be a part of it you can.

a. Floerke: Do you have to live in a res. Hall to go to the dance?

1. Burgess: No, you can get them on the same night.

## IX. Advisor Reports

i. Dr. Ringgenberg: If any of you have any questions, please let me know. Thank you for coming to the tour tonight. I can take another group in at



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3:30 tomorrow.

## X. Committee Reports

i. Reinke: Student Services and buildings met and we narrowed down the New Student Union names. The names we came up with are: Aquilas Student Center, Eerie Student Union, Marsh side Commons, Student Union, Nioxihystoria (big river- ho chunk word), Neetani (three rivers- ho chunk word)

a. Bhatoya: These are the names we decided on and so we can decide to get rid of some of the names but we are not adding any more.

ii. Reinke: So if anyone wants to eliminate some of the names that would be okay.

a. Gunaratnam: I move to get rid of Marsh Side Commons and Eerie Student Union

1. Approved

a. Tashner: With the ‘Student Union’, we want people to call it ‘The U’

1. Garcia: I think the problem with this is that if we have an explanation with that name we would need to put an explanation to all of them.

i. Reinke: I think that’s a great idea. The ones still in play are: Student Union, Hystoria, Neetani, Aquilas Student Center

iii. Lenz: If the student center is named a ho-chunk name it would discourage someone from donating eventually because it would be taking the name away from them.

a. Reinke: We also talked about how some students could feel discriminated against with the name being native American. We also talked how it’s cool though because it would incorporate the culture and past.

b. Wescott: I don’t think it’s non-inclusive because it’s just recognizing what’s going on in our city and what has gone on in the past

i. Reinke: Another thought that came up would be people not pronouncing the names correctly and the new student union not having

ii. Giles: I don’t think students would want to name the building a ho-chunk name but more of a typical name.

iii. Floerke: I don’t think it hurts anything by sending it out to the students, we still get to discuss what happens after.





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Sending out a survey doesn't really effect the end point because their opinion doesn't have to be listened to.

1. Bhatoya: If we send out a survey and don't listen to the students then it will come back to haunt us.

a. Kallis: Regarding someone paying for the new student union, we should just name it anyways because it's not really going to change.

i. Jenny: I just wanted to talk about naming the building a ho-chunk name. Student senate is for the students and so if we send out a survey we really should listen.

a. Gunaratnam: I think that we should send out the survey but I think that it should be voted on very quickly, before the end of the semester. Secondly, do the students know the results of the survey?

i. Brever: We can communicate that to them.

a. Gunaratnam: Okay, I think that it's okay if we use our own discretion with the survey but it is hard

b. Tashner: I don't want to offend anyone by saying this but we do have a plaque in the union that will serve as a similar thing.

c. Bancker: It would be a nightmare if we sent out a survey and didn't listen to the students. I think if we send it out we should make it binding.

i. Brever: Should we send out a survey to the students? Should it be binding? (vote)

1. Approved- Survey and Binding

iv. Gunaratnam: So whatever the survey answer is, is final?

a. Brever: There will be discussion but yes.

b. Bancker: Was the last survey binding?

i. Brever: No

v. Bancker: We chose a commencement speaker last week in Academic Affairs.

vi. Mason: It's extremely disheartening for me to hear that some of you don't want to listen to your constituents. I don't like to hear that you would compile a lot of information and then not listen to it. Please just really think about this.

## XI. Organizational Reports

i. Kallis: The Pride Center had a speaker last week and with this next week we have a candle lit vigil.

ii. Jenny: NASA has a donation box in campus climate for Standing Rock, you and drop off clothes for the winter.

## XII. Unfinished Business



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## a. a.SA1617-010: Resolution Naming the Second Floor of the New Student Union

i. Olp: Just a reminder this was to name the common area on the second floor for the Student Organizations, we decided on ‘The Cove’.

1. Call to Question- Garcia

a. Second: Cooper

b. Approved

## XIII. New Business

### a.SA1617-013: Resolution Changing Title of Rainbow Unity Senator to the Pride Center Senator

i. Kallis: This is my senator position and I would like to change the name from ‘Rainbow Unity’ to ‘Pride Center Senator.’

1. Quaschnick: I would like to be added as a sponsor.

### b.SA1617-014: Resolution for Student Senate By-Law Amendment to Article IV, Section 3.103, subsection (b)

i. Olp: This is similar to senator Kallis’ resolution, we want to change ‘Greek Senator’ to ‘Fraternity and Sorority Life Senator.’

### c.SA1617-015: Resolution Amending Student Court Rules of Procedure

i. Jordan: Everything in red are the changes. We want to make it so that the returning justices wouldn’t have to be re-appointed by senate. We changed it to having to have good academic standing. We were trying to make everything more organized and efficient. It was a lot of talking during the hearing and we just want to get to the bottom of what we need to know. With coming up with the verdict, we are trying to lay out what we can and cannot do. This is really just procedural stuff.

a. Brever: I think the biggest change is that the senate doesn’t have to vote on the justices this year.

1. Schimmel: I just wanted to commend Ben on all the work and thought he has put behind this. I encourage everyone to look at this thoroughly and come with questions.

### d.SA1617-016: Resolution Requesting Use of REC for AAU Tournament

i. Reinke: This is a tournament from April 22-23, this is put on every year and has never been a problem. Before the rec opens, they can use all 4 courts but when the doors open they can only use 3.

## XIV. Discussion

### a. Grad Strategic Plan

i. Brever: The Grad’s want us to look at this and give feedback we can push it back if we want.

1. Quaschnick: In this document people outlined how to make the



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grad environment more grad oriented. We have an office of graduate studies but that is only a half time position. This is a really good idea and I really recommend reading it.

ii. Brever: If students do want to endorse this, then write a resolution and we can discuss it later.

## b. AIDAC

i. Bancker: I am going to give another budget conversation but please bear with me. AIDAC is used for advising, research, internationalization, diversity. We use these values when making decisions. About \$69 from every student's tuition goes into this. We listened to all of the entities that come to AIDAC in October but this month we have been discussing how much each entity gets. The actual budget is right here and I have a handout. We had over \$88,000 more in requests this year over last. With that being said, when we went about how to fund them we had to figure out how to come up with \$28,000. As much as we wanted to fund new initiatives we didn't have the money to do so. We also couldn't fund some of the increases due to salary increases. So, what we did was that with some entities we funded the same amount as last year and then left the rest of the money up to the entity to get.

a. Mason: Why did Grad Research get an \$11,000 cut?

1. Bancker: Because they were consistently coming in under their budget, if they come back in the future and ask for more with a plan we would be willing to give it back.

ii. Brever: I will send this PowerPoint out tomorrow so you can all look at it more in depth.

## XV. Announcements

i. Gunaratnam: Students for a Free Tibet will be having a bake sale tomorrow in Murphy.

ii. Brever: We are not meeting next week and the week after that we have Chancellor Gow coming to our meeting, so if you could all please dress up, we will be taking pictures again. This was a long meeting and I appreciate the quality of the conversation. You all received cookies and brownies though.

## XVI. Adjournment

a. Motion: Floerke; Second: Ames

b. Adjourned: 9:19 pm