



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

2244 THE U 1725 STATE STREET LA CROSSE, WI 54601 (608) 785-8775

## **Student Senate Agenda**

**Date: January 25, 2017**

**Time and Location: 6:00pm Student Senate Chamber; The U**

- I. Call to Order
  - a. 6:01 pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of agenda
  - b. Motion: Quaschnick, Second: Arney
- V. Guest Speakers
- VI. General Student Body Open Forum
- VII. Officer Reports
  - a. President: Jacob Schimmel
    - i. Hey everyone, I'll keep it short. Welcome to this awesome place, let's just give Larry a round of applause. He made all of this come together and really is a great place to do all of the work that we do here. Another thing, one of the shortfalls was the website. This semester I want to delegate this task to Jenna. If you could all send Jenna a biography about yourself and a picture of yourself if you have one, within the next week, that would be great!
      - a. Bhatoya: Can we just submit any picture?
        - i. Schimmel: A professional picture that you have on your own would suffice but if not maybe later in the semester we could arrange pictures.
      - ii. Schimmel: Tyler went to DC over break and we met with a lot of folks and if we can continue to do that I think that will be really productive. We've got a lot of recognition from doing this and I think that it's a great. Two issues at the state level, the governor will reveal the budget on February 8<sup>th</sup>. I'll be watching that. The governor threw us a bone a couple of weeks ago. The governor is willing to fund the system more money but he said in the state of the union address that he wants to cut students tuition. On the surface this sounds good but I want to really see how it looks on February 8<sup>th</sup>. The state funding has been drastically cut over 30 years and that flip flopped to the state covering very little and the tuition is much higher. If we cut state dollars and tuition, then you are cutting the two main things that generate revenue for a University. Hopefully, the governor will still stand by what he said but we will find out on February 8<sup>th</sup>. I think we should wait until the governor releases the budget before we write any resolutions surrounding it. Last issue is the concealed carry debate that is still going on. There was a proposal that was supposed to happen with the concealed carry policy. I don't know when it will be coming, it might even be wrapped in the budget bill. Last year we had a survey and 60% of students said that they didn't want concealed carry on campus. So we'll obviously put whatever happens with



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- concealed carry into our lobbying efforts.
- b. Vice President: Patrick Brever
    - i. Hopefully you have all been to our office in the COVE, make sure your ID works and that you have access to it. 2244 is the corner office, if you do not have access then just let me know.
      - a. Quaschnick: How many seats are open?
        - i. Brever: 4 Senate seats are available at this time.
  - c. Chief of Staff: Brady Gross
  - d. Deputy Chief of Staff: Lauren Mason
    - i. A couple of things, comment sections in SEI's the departments that don't have them are math, CST, and biology. The last thing is the syllabus policy that went through caps and then it went to faculty senate and what we added was certain criteria with resources and grading policies and the dates of the exams. They took all of that out and sent it back to caps. We were asked to vote on whether we like the policy that faculty senate passed so caps gave back the resolution, and it will be passed but I think that our next step is fighting over the grading policy changes to syllabus. Faculty senate is also talking about the indigenous land recognition policy. And last thing, please sign up for office hours. You have until next week. We went to a general neighborhood meeting last night and the biggest thing was that the pool would cost about 3 million to fix.
      - a. Quaschnick: I think what faculty senate was saying was that higher education gave us a lot of things were the only things that were changed?
        - 1. Mason: I think that was the case, it was more the things that the students added that they have a problem with.
      - ii. Brever: Expectations are not changing this year; it is far more likely that we will get more people coming to us, so please make sure to do office hours.
        - a. Bhatoya: When is the front porch furniture coming?
          - 1. Brever: I believe sometime in February; we are also putting office hours on the website.
        - c. Bancker: Are we putting the voting system on this computer?
          - 1. Brever: Yes, that will be coming shortly.
  - e. State Affairs Director: Tyler Halloran
    - i. I'm glad to be here with all of you guys. I'm looking forward to working with all of you. I just want thank Dani, Jenna and Alfonso for speaking at the cove, they really did a great job. If you have any questions regarding the meetings that we had in D.C. you can ask us about them. We had some talking points, Pell grants, sexual assault, etc . Some of the Senators were very open to the dialogue but I think that we had very productive conversations. I'm currently putting together some statements about to our State and University. These people really can affect what's going to happen at our University so I'm really excited for the trips coming up this semester.



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- f. Local Affairs Director: Madison Wescott
  - i. Not much from me, we are talking with Student life about getting a tab on their page to have off campus housing there. We just want it to be somewhere on the website where people can find places to live.
- g. Inclusivity Director: Karlie Stefan
  - i. I went to a hate bias symposium, it was with UW students all over the state. If any of you have questions, I'd be happy to let you know.
- VIII. RHAC Reports
- IX. Advisor Reports
  - i. Dr. Ringgenberg: Couple things, updates on the building we are still getting some of the furniture in. We got some really cool chairs. Someone pointed out that there is a spot on the ceiling tile but if you see anything that you think is a problem we need fix it in a certain amount of time. Are you all okay with where the placement of the clock is? Before I move on, Patrick and Jacob also spoke at the Grand opening and they did a great job. This is the first semester in this building, in this room, I really feel we are going to great things in here. All of these areas are going to open up our university and we will be able to work on all of the issues that need to be brought up. We now have the resources of what we need to do. The offices in the COVE aren't just things in the back with locked doors, we really need to use the front porch so that we can all communicate together better and making everyone feel comfortable. Next week is February already, Spring break is March 8<sup>th</sup>. We have a lot to do and a lot of responsibility but I really feel we will do great things.
    - a. Kallis: I just wanted to let you know that I was in the COVE earlier and I had a chair pop on someone.
  - ii. Dr. Ringgenberg: We also have some bean bags coming for the cove we are trying to do everything we can to make it feel as comfortable as possible. There are supposed to be a lot more lounge places so we still have quite a bit left to receive. I keep asking the staff if we can find some temporary furniture.
- X. Committee Reports
  - i. Floerke: Legislative affairs committee, I was also on the group that went to D.C. We were in a meeting with the Environmental Departmental Defense they do a lot of outreach and do a lot of things similar to EPA. The great contact I made was John, but the gist of it is they are looking for a leader on campus that has made a lot of changes and headway with sustainability. They will also pay for travel expenses, be sure to send out your applications, it's due January 30<sup>th</sup> but like I said it's a great opportunity and what you would do would be contacting other people at other schools. Really what they are doing is setting up the next generation. They also want to set up a UW school with a chapter to spread awareness of environmental issues. If you want to take this up I can get you into contact with Jonathon, but if you want a new project, just let me know. Come and find me if you are interested in this.
  - ii. Kallis: DOC met on Monday and we talked about diversity orgs all meeting



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together to really get to know each other. We also talked about upcoming events.  
iii. Hodges: Next Saturday in the Bluffs we have reflections of Ebony and this is sponsored by BSU. This is just a really awesome tradition that we have. This is the first year that we will have live music. There are a lot of alumni that come and community members. Tickets are on sale until next Tuesday. It is on February 4<sup>th</sup>.

## XI. Organizational Reports

- i. Olp: This comes from fraternity and sorority life. We have a new sorority on campus, they are trying to get 55 women. There a lot of women who are leaders in here so if you need more information you can contact me. We are also recruiting for fraternities. Tri Sigma is having an event tomorrow at 5:45.
  - a. Bhatoya: So what kind of event is this?
    1. Olp: I'll put something on the Facebook page once I get back.
- ii. Kallis: There is a Midwest LGBTQ conference coming up and a lot of people are going. It's an opportunity to learn more about creating safe spaces within a community. There are meetings within the conferences that relate to the daily lives. There is going to be a dance and a drag show.
- iii. Hodges: BSU meets this Thursday at 7:30 pm 2311 Centennial.
- iv. Garcia: So I'm in JCES and I need someone to replace Bridget and I but the meeting is at 11 on Friday.

## XII. Unfinished Business

- a. SA1617-026: Resolution Approving the New Student Union Alcohol Policy
  - i. Brever: Further revisions need to be made but feel free to look it over and we will get back to this in a couple of weeks.
    - a. Motion to table- Quaschnick, Second: Floerke
      1. PASSED- TABLED FOR ONE WEEK
- b. SA1617-028: Resolution Approving Fall 2016 Green Fund Requests
  - i. Garcia: So we already voted about the one on bike share but approved the garden towers. Eventually those will be around. The solar panels and the outdoor connection is still looking to get those 4 trees moved into the rec center.
    - a. Brever: My understanding is that the solar panels are still going through SUFAC.
  - ii. Tahiri: Are the tower gardens purchased already?
    - a. Garcia: No, I don't believe so.
  - iii. Burgess: Why was the approval at \$0?
    - a. Ames: The reason they weren't approved was because we think that if the project was really green or not. You would have to cut down the trees and get them preserved and then shipped there and back and we thought that left more of a carbon footprint.
  - iv. Garcia: The trees will be cut down and then taken to Madison, they are stripped of the bark and the smaller branches are cut off and it is in a



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heated room. Then there is something put on the outside of the wood.  
This is my remembrance of it.

- a. Ames: So the request come in as 4 trees but you can choose to fund 1 tree.
- b. Floerke: I think I talked about this last semester but a professor of mine told me that the carbon footprint that it leaves is a lot more than what it would be worth.
- v. Kallis: How much would it cost for one tree?
  - a. Garcia: I think it would be around \$6000 cause there are still a decent amount of costs. There are a lot of different views on these types of projects. If people want to I could bring up the greens fund bylaws but I feel that it meets more of the priorities.
  - b. Ames: We voted on the tower gardens last meeting, none of this has been approved yet.
- vi. Kallis: I want to add something to the document; I would like to add in the cost of the 4 trees.
  - a. Arney: \$9453 is what I have.
    1. Halloran: Do any of you have an idea of the cost that would change with each tree?
  - b. Kallis: I think that it is really big advocate for making things beautiful and I think that they deserve something that they really love in that space. I have on some authority that the cost would be \$12,390.
- vii. Floerke: I just think that everyone should really think if we need all 4 trees. The outdoor connection would also just need to be on board. I think that this could be an opportunity for us to get the ball rolling.
  - a. Ames: So the members of SUFAC had a big concern about this so there was a concern that funding a project like this would set a precedent in the future for funding more projects that are just cool to look at but are not promoting sustainability.
  - b. Bancker: I was just wondering if this was talked about before the cut to the green fund's budget occurred?
    1. Garcia: We have \$160,000
  - c. Ames: There was also nothing in the proposal that showed support from the rec on this and we wanted more of an understanding of this before. That was pertaining to the solar panels.
  - d. Bhatoya: I think it would be cool to save the trees.
- viii. Tahiri: I think that just doing this project to get the word out but let's say that someone walks by the tree it could trash the legitimacy of the green fund because they took actions that weren't typically looked at as



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green.

ix. Gunaratnam: So just for some context, I think that bringing these to campus would just be another thing that would add to the University and what people know about it.

x. Kallis: The green fund doesn't really have a reputation before I was in student association. I think that this could help generate a conversation. I was wondering if anyone read the bylaws and what it was violating?

a. Quashnick: In article 2 it says that it doesn't allow trees.

1. Garcia: That was cleared up and we decided it meant outside trees.

xi. Garcia: I'm going to read you all the criteria of the bylaws.

a. Reinke: Is there an idea to put some signage around this so that people know where it comes from?

1. Garcia: Yes, that would definitely be a possibility.

i. Ames: SUFAC felt that it didn't meet the purpose of the green fund because it is to promote sustainability. On things that we cannot fund we also thought that beautification wouldn't be allowed for the green fund.

b. Lenz: I think there could be a lot of other ways to beautify the campus we don't just have to do this; I also have a question regarding the indoor/ outdoor tree.

1. Ames: Bob Hetzel doesn't want to plant more trees on campus and SUFAC just felt that we didn't need this.

xiv. Gibbins: If you look at businesses such as google, they buy land in Africa and then indigenous tribes are there and they do that so that they can say they have that, so they do bad things but they also help other people. It's beautification and you can say that it is used from the green fund and it's just a way to say that we are green friendly. Let's just say we are green friendly and move on.

a. Floerke: We could just make this pass and then we can say that senate is in support of something that the green fund does.

There is no language that says beautification. This was a big part of what went into the Student Union.

xvi. Garcia: Yes, that criteria is compared with every project. There is high medium and other. It doesn't meet the sustainability piece. It is all very subjective.

xvii. Bhatoya: Call to question of amendment, Second- Olp

a. AMENDMENT PASSED: 19-6

x. Floerke: Call to question to pass document

a. Ames: Objection

b. friendly amendment to the document of "funding in full"

i. Garcia: Call to Question, second: Hilby

a. PASSED- 24-1



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XIII. New Business

XIV. Discussion

a. Student Regent nominations

i. Schimmel: the institution that governs us is the board of regents, they deal with a lot of issues that go into University's. On that board of regents there are 2 students. One traditional and one non- traditional. The term for the current student reagent will be up soon and basically we need a student to fill that spot. Basically the governor MAY select a student but he doesn't have to pick out of that pool of students. We are trying to get it to say "shall." This year I am just trying to really make that wording stronger. We are working o this at the student level and in the upcoming meeting we are trying to select some students he can pick from. We want each UW school to pick one applicant to bring to the board of regents. If you want to apply to be this, you can come talk to me. What I've made for each campus to do is a nomination process, just submit this form to me. This response should be no more than half of a page.

a. Bhatoya: Is there term one academic school year?

1. Schimmel: The person who is serving should have two years left. You don't have to come to the reps meeting to present yourself.

ii. People nominated: Kallis, Tahiri, Gibbins

3. Brever: We will give the candidates some time to think about their answers and we will hold the vote next week after they present.

b. Kallis: Do you want us to respond to the question on the application or on why we would want to be that person?

1. Brever: People should come with their half a page and prepared to talk.

b. Open senate spots

i. Brever: College of Liberal Studies, College of Science and Health, College of Business Administration, School of Arts and Communication, if we don't get these filled we can open it to an At- large seat.

a. Bhatoya: There has been a lot of talk about sanctuary campuses and we should write a resolution to be in support of that. I'm just looking for some senators to work with on this with me.

b. Tahiri: What is a sanctuary city?

1. Bhatoya: Basically, it says that they support the undocumented immigrants in the city. There was an order sent out saying that there will be a crackdown on immigrants.

i. Schimmel: There isn't a set definition of a sanctuary campus and then it would follow up with policies to help the students and people out. Providing legal support, not



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sharing data, etc.

ii. Gunaratnam: I was told that there were supposed to be gluten free options and I went to the basement today and asked for gluten free but they said that they didn't have it.

XV. Announcements

i. Olp: There is a scholarship for women not involved in a sorority for up to \$1000.

ii. Mason: We are going to Howies after the meeting!

XVI. Adjournment

i. Motion Giles, Second- Ames  
a. 7:36 pm