



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

2244 THE U 1705 BADGER STREET LA CROSSE, WI 54601 (608) 785-8775

## **Student Senate Agenda**

Date: **November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

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

- I. Call to Order
  - a. 6:00pm
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
  - a. Present:
  - b. Absent: 4
- IV. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of agenda
    - i. Weaver, Vu
- V. Guest Speakers
  - a. Enilda Delgado – Strategic Plan
    - i. Enilda- Hi everyone. So I reached out to Lauren to come in here to give you an update the strategic plan and answer any question you have. It started in December 2015 the actual even began in May 2105. I few highlights- increasing community engagement, achieving excellence, investing in our people and advancing transformational education. Highlights as of last semester- advancing transformational education is looking at having the gen ed program changes. We are also looking at the grad education persistence rates and rates of retentions that have dipped this year. With respect to achieving excellence- one is looking at creating an office that centralizes a chief diversity office that will start whenever Barb is done. The two other big parts of equity and diversity is creating a department and in the process of starting a justice program in res halls. Barb and I have been working with people in res life, but t is in the early stages. Talking about bringing someone in from the outside and seeing where it goes form there. Increasing community engagement- a benchmark in marketing is what we are doing- sent out a survey to the community looking at how people perceive the University and what are we doing in terms of student, staff, and faculty. Looking at how do we measure this and where we go from there. Investing in people, focusing on insuring faculty and staff have opportunities for professional development.
      1. Xiong- how would it effect the education and in light of this climate how would that effect how we are able to learn. The bill allows speakers more in but doesn't give a limit
        - a. I am trying to figure how it correlates with the educational pillar
      2. Xiong- increasing student practices- to what extend will it challenge
        - a. Study abroad, internships, first year experiences, seminars so it is inclusive. However, I am not making the direct connection
          - i. Enilda- Are we talking it about causing a chilling climate? I largely consider it a political standing and I am not worried about it and I am concerned that the first time we have a speaker someone will shout and yells and we don't know that until we cross that bridge



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- ii. Barb- it'll be deliberate. I think it will be chosen and well crafted, but will start at Madison
  3. Weston- I like the fact that you are increasing community engagement. However I hope you to look into better and more relationships with Gunderson and Mayo to get the opportunity to shadow. It's hard speaking and connecting with a person and it's almost impossible to get a shadow, so I hope you look into that
  4. Colin- What kinds of questions and feedback did you get from the survey
    - a. Enilda- Trying to build upon it- we don't have a baseline data. I do surveys for a living. We got a list of big business and community members- 910 individuals, and the response rate was 20%. Favorable is 96-98% of those folks think UWL is an amazing with institutional quality and that is the best we can be. The gap is in the perception in how engaged we are. When we look at staff- lowest 70-75% favorable. Lowest in respect to the way in which we promote ourself 53-57%. We don't do a good job at promoting what we do well so that is something we can work on. How much engagement student and faculty have had. We are trying to figure out what is the next step and how do we do better with promotion in a systemic way in the community.
      - i. Barb- If you look at August 2017 update you can see the survey and the results if you want
      - ii. Enilda- Everything is on there- quantitative and qualitative analysis
  5. Haley- Trying to figure out our goals with the strategic plan- where does sustainability fit in this
    - a. Enilda- it has come up on a few occasions. When strategic planning was starting- it need to have 3 to 4 priorities- sustainability came up but not to the same level as others did. Where do I see it, I'm not sure. I think its important for the university and existence, in terms of where it falls I don't have a clear view
  6. Vu- Union connection- How are you promoting it and how do you plan to implement it in the future
    - a. Larry- really working with local agencies and faculty and if anyone is looking for a service opportunity's that's where they go.
    - b. Vu- I recently signed up for it and couldn't find it
    - c. Larry- we need to check our marketing. We have a partnership between Viterbo, Western and United Wing and its divided up into fourths
    - d. Enilda- if you're not aware of it then it probably an issue
- b. Provost Betsy Morgan
  - i. Betsy- Hi everyone I am the provost here. I don't have much interface with students. Technically I'm a chief executive officer. I over see all the academic programs and enrollment services. Deans of the colleges go through me.



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Enrollment, financial aid, academic advising, admissions and also institutional research and international reports come to me. My background- Californian undergrad in women’s studies, our mascot is a banana slug. PhD in social ecology from UC Irvine and I’ve been here for a thousand years. My field is social psychology. I care a great deal about getting things done but I am also a social psychologist and that comes out in bias. I care a lot about how to communicate effectively, but more generally anytime you say “well how does that work” I am happy to give you my sense. Universities are strange organizations. So I happy to accept any questions.

1. Vu- where is your office located
  - a. Betsy- Second floor of Graff Main Hall 227
2. Colin- I’ve gotten comments from students saying they feel uncomfortable going to office hours due to treatment. Professors belittling due of the amount of time students put into studying or homework and make the person feel stupid. My big question is who can we talk to about this, besides the department chair?
  - a. Betsy- This is true for anytime this happens with a faculty member or chair. Best possible thing is to tell them about a time you are felt belittled. I understand how vulnerable you feel as students. If it is the chair or faculty member I would go to the dean. A good dean would ask how you want to deal with it. The worse thing to do is write an anonymous letter. A letter after the semester would be appropriate. Many years ago, a student wrote a nasty note and it had his paycheck stub in it.
3. Colin- In the ideal situation you would tell the professor straight up but because of how the power dynamic works they feel uncomfortable already
  - a. Betsy- I’ll be blunt- the reality is that some of our faculty would be disturbed that that is how that comes across, some would just say uhh huh. If someone went to the dean and said you don’t what to be identified- you have to be careful to how much identifiable information you give. You can use a student evaluation if you know this is an experience by multiple students and you should be concerned.
4. Dani- There has been a group of students who file SEI about a professor and has had conversations and don’t know how to deal with it and have told other students not to take a certain professor. What do you recommend in that situation
  - a. Betsy- So there is the question of “nothing has changed” the university has started a process to notice these trends. There are few people who will say “I’m unhappy and here is why” the situation that you mentioned, I’m aware of and this being handled in a way that is appropriate. I would like to move on it faster, but we can’t.
  - b. Dani- In regards to my resolution that I wrote and I saw your notes and it was a little bit concerning about the language that we



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picked. I know I was the author but I wasn't the only one who wrote on it. I'm going to faculty senate on it and do you have a way that I won't end up in a 50 50 split like it did here?

- i. Betsy- Last year when this was brought up we moved it as quickly as possible. I felt compelled and I thought I owed you something in response, but I should've written something more helpful. I think the language gets in the way of what you want. No one has disagreed with the general feeling of the resolution. So, when the resolution aims that faculty have the intentions of malice, that is not going to get you where you want. It says to me- we are pissed off and it hurts and that what it looks like if you want to communicate to faculty that. Why don't you make it something that people can stand behind? The reality is that- I didn't realize that this was happening. We don't know what faculty said or assigned to students or how the students read the assignment. all I can say is the chair faculty senate said was the same thing, it wasn't an effective resolution
5. Vu- SEI and class size and where it is going
    - a. Betsy- The soul purpose was to bring down the student to faculty ration, cut 18-20 faculty lines which is a mix issue, it is that we have fewer international and out of state students, and students are graduating faster. Now again we like it but it does create this tuition dip and the enrollment question. We are going to see that ration climb up 19 to 1. It's not an average class size. It's true that you are going to have a lot of the lower level class have 100 plus. What is important is we are not going from 40 to 50 but 30 to 40. Trying to take the cuts where there is a smaller number of students.
  6. Vu -SEI – How much do proofers get impacted by those
    - a. Betsy- It has 5 standard questions and have to be in every faculty review when a faculty is in their first five years. It's only the numerical ratings but those are standards as they have to be reports. There is no policy that covers student comments and no policy on how to use them, only a recommendation as part of their file. I have read thousands of SEI and look for magnitudes and trends. Gen ed classes and women faculty have lower SBI. When a faculty member is reviewed we look at their syllabus, outcomes, SEI and peer evaluations. This is the information that comes forward. (TAI Document) the part that is more challenging is that every year faculty is reviewed for merit. I don't pay attention unless its lower than 3 or below the department average. Look for their reflection on why.
  7. Colin- suppose you have grads coming in to study people with out approval, is that a violation of the rules



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- a. Betsy- Its technically not a violation, is it bad form, yes
  - i. Colin- Is it unethical?
    1. Betsy- If someone wants to study the process on SA and they could analyze you, they do need your consent if you're a contribution, not the observation of the process
8. Jillian- SEI's are a big deal to education majors and we do them in class, and it sounds like others majors don't do that, should they change the process and incorporate that in the class room?
  - a. Betsy- It says we strongly encourage you to do that in class. Faculty should be motivated because the completion when the SBI is done online is low, so do it class. But we can't mandate it, in general online SEI response rate is what we expect.
9. Colin- Only three departments that don't have comments, is there any talk on mandating comments
  - a. Betsy- we strongly encourage comments, those who have comments have higher quality. What we don't have is the system of how you would use it. I don't think it will mandate it, but a little pressure in a letter could be sent to all the faculty. There is a strong sense of faculty autonomy and faculty different to which they appreciate this feedback
    - i. Lauren- this a project I've been working on and in last November I reached out to people in institutional research. There are only three departments that didn't have comment. I reached out to the department chairs and this is what they said:
      1. Math- Their reason is unrelated to students and the issue has been take care of
      2. History- professors were getting attacked not feedback
      3. Physics- -have varying agrees of need
    - ii. Lauren- that is one reason why we are changing gen eds- we have faculty members that are more willing. I don't know if a resolution would be necessary but we can see where a letter could go
  - b. Betsy- the letters should come from students in that major
10. Lucas- I'm on CAPS and we started our discussion on going into a different grading scale
  - a. Really needs to come from the faculty. When I started here it was ABCDF, I understand the argument but I do not buy the argument that it hurts the students. I'm glad they are having the conversation.
11. Aaron- SEI- gen ed professors having negative comments
  - a. About 30% on gen eds- negative correlation between SEI and nationally. I don't know an exact number
    - i. Aaron- since every other major has comments, I think



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another category is the arts gen ed and if they have comments what is the excuse on history not having comments

1. Betsy- in general history its usual that every student has to take a gen ed in a specific. Has to be on for every class or off for every class.

12. Xiong- how do you suggest to move forward when task force has yet to contact us and creating this program without us.

- a. Betsy- The roles of student and curriculum is really small and faculty are in charge of curriculum. Basically the state invest in curriculum that fit with our field.

- i. Xiong- I feel like your voices should be in this study and it has not and how do we move forward when they need us more then we need them.

1. Betsy- we are just going to have to disagree to be directly be involved. Part of the reason you feel shut down is it is not going to go anywhere.

- ii. The worst part is not seeing students and I appreciate your time and we have gotten some good stuff going on

## VI. General Student Body Open Forum

- a. No report

## VII. Officer Reports

- a. President: Jacob Schimmel

- i. This week has been more of a grinder of meetings. I've been working on getting the DC trip so we'll be coming to UW to get one or two students. Three people from other schools has contacted us on menstrual products in terms of getting those products out to their schools. There are lots of schools that are interested in that based on what we did and that shows the impacts this body can have. I encourage you to think about issues. Tomorrow we are going to lobby in the State capital on sexual violence, there is a bill and I'm expecting that to come out in the next couple months. Talking about the broader topics tomorrow and communicating that to the 10 to 11 offices of the assemblies. Once it is proposed we are going to have another lobby. Trying to get republicans and democrats on board of this bill. I would love to have one more person to come along, generally we have 4-6 students so if 1 person wants to get up at 5am it's an important issues and has been a big issue and mainly effects women and there needs to be change. With student lobby, the true effective measure is polices and personal experiences, but if you do come you don't have to talk. There is going to be the board of regions meeting on the voting of the merger of allocable and non allocable switch, expecting it to pass and it is important on how we are going to implement that on the campus. Looking at the agenda, we are at the 14 resolution, it seems there is a drop off on the number of resolutions and it concerns me. Not everything has to be a resolution but it gives a good measure at what senate wants to do and where we are at. A lot of legislation that has come out has been logistical but to represent students, we need to figure out what we can do to provide support to students. I would encourage to think about when you



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ran for the position and what you wanted to peruse and I think we can offer up a lot more resolutions. I think students would appreciate that. We have a lot of time left this year to peruse anything. I wanted to point that out being two months in.

1. Dani- What is the best way to get a meeting with Bob Hetsel
  - a. Jacob- He is the toughest person to meet on this university- email Vicki Baer and she is his logistical master and you should get a meeting in two weeks
2. Vu- what is his position
  - a. Jacob- Vice chancellor for administration and finance
- b. Vice President: Lauren Mason
  - i. A couple of you told me that the spelling on the name plate is wrong. We will not have a meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Next week this goes off of Schimmel but during discussion I want to go over ideas on what you guys want to do, give you homework on what you guys don't like, wish could be easier. See if any of you have the same ideas. We want to take ideas and turn them into something. Monday we want to involve you a lot more on what we are doing. The directors will be pointing out to you on how to make change
- c. Chief of Staff: Weston Floerke
  - i. I guess off the back, I have a resolution in mind that is important, and has to do with putting a microwave into murphy library- justice will help. If you want to help shoot me an email, I want to get it done by Tuesday. SCH senators search and screen committee will have three candidates and will email you when I can
    1. Open forum- Monday November 20<sup>th</sup> 4pm Monday November 27<sup>th</sup> 4pm November 29 4pm location will be sent out in email.
    2. final meeting will be Dec 6<sup>th</sup> and will go from there
- d. State Affairs Director: Ben O'Connell
  - i. Lobbying trip is tomorrow we leave at 5:45 am should be productive and would've been nice to see more of you be involved in the future. You are all welcome into the car with schimmel and I. This last week senate and assembly bills were introduced on tax for la Crosse county- premiere resort tax to improve the roads
- e. Local Affairs Director: Steph Boebel
  - i. I've been reaching out to land lords to add to our site by next week
- f. Inclusivity Director: Aaron Bhatoya
  - i. Friday my meeting at 9am – if anyone else wants to come. Meeting is going to be more practice ideas and there will be people from administration. My plan isn't to see this through the end of the year- I want more people to get involved. Secondly- I sent out an email today and it has more to do with what Schimmel said that not a lot is coming through the body and we have a lot of diversity orgs doing anything. Directed to the execs to the orgs and senators would work with them to get practical things in the org.
- g. Public Relations Director: Brittany Tashner
  - i. Nov 20<sup>th</sup> 11-2 hall of nations (slices with the senators)- just where we order pizza and encourage people to get to know us.
    1. Lauren- all have to do a half hour to hour

## VIII. RHAC Reports



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- a. No report

## IX. Advisor Reports

- a. Larry- I think it is cold in the facility. I am looking for where you find this coldness and make a list and bring it to me. See if there is any questions for me?
- b. Barb- we are moving forward with the search for vice chancellor, my understanding is that decision rests with the chancellor, hoping an offer will be out there in the next few days
  - i. Dani- have you done any work on the fall bill spring bill registration cut off
    - 1. Barb- My understanding is that after November 20 there is not need to worry about what is on your bill, but it has to be paid off by January 12<sup>th</sup>. You do have to pay your bill, but you don't have to worry about your classes being dropped
      - a. Lauren- what has been put on your bill prior to November 20<sup>th</sup>, has to be paid by January 12<sup>th</sup>
      - b. Larry- bills will be carried over
      - c. Barb- we will send out a clarifying email

## X. Committee Reports

- a. Dani- leg affairs met and we talked about grad seats. RHAC seats are being handled. Fixed constitution. Getting an advisor and possibly other sources from outside of our committees like employees.
- b. Colin- SUFAC meet and I believe that we have a budget shortfall and this week we talked about how we should solve that- whether we work with green fund or capital money to balance our reserves, decided to balance out our reserves. If the shift in allocable or non allocable happens our reserve target is \$52,000. Going forward that will be changed because it is fiscally irresponsible. Student voice on non allocable, and voted on a new committee- subcommittee of SUFAC students involved in the non allocable process.
  - i. Larry- SUFAC members didn't know this- talked to people about the reserves and people are supportive of that and will happen
- c. Avery- the undergrad research met and we got student grants
- d. Haley- DCS met last Friday and it was productive. We began to review our grants and those will go to SUFAC and senate. If there are more ideas we are going to brainstorm those in the future and may change the deadline to fit for students. The UW wide conference on sustainability and should be good collaboration and hopefully will gain ideas on how to hire a sustainability director. Vice chancellor is all over finally
  - i. Aaron- why is it so secret
    - 1. Barb- Because there are other candidates in play and if we have to reach another conclusion. It gives us a change to call the other candidates
- e. Brittany- we made a t-shirt and we sent it to you
- f. Lauren- general education- feedback on the proposal that I sent you
  - i. Sarah- on either gen ed committee- I don't understate the theme thing to make connections but can stretch it over four years- not sure if has stretched it out that I could connect it.
    - 1. Lauren- themes will be about one topic. You would have an assignment that connects the themes. We have proposed that made you complete it in two years, but its hard to get into classes so we didn't want to be





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restrictive

2. Dani- freshman year UWL 100 requirement for folks that have under 30 credits. I'm just curious about how good it is. I have taken UWL 100 and haven't learned anything and said it was a waste of time and wondering on how high of an impact it has
  - a. Lauren- want you to do one or the other- first year seminar or UWL 100. Hopefully in a smaller class size there will be more learning content but also talking about "where's is the bathroom" main foundational pieces of being at UWL.
  - b. Dani- liked the themes but confused on how it ties into your major an how it effects that structure. Or if it could double count
    - i. Lauren- there are a lot of majors that create courses that fit into gen eds. Reduces gen eds but would be the departments decision. Hoping to get 90% of the current courses to fit into the new model
  - c. Jillian- How will themes would meet requirements for classes you have to take
    - i. Lauren- one of the faculty members is focusing on that. If you have more specific requirements I would email Anne
    - ii. Jillian- distribution requirement and 29 requirement- theme requirements would fit into both of those categories?
      1. Lauren- yes

## XI. Organizational Reports

- a. No report

## XII. Unfinished Business

- a. SA1718-014: Resolution to Approve Student Court Nominations

- i. Jacob- as you saw last week the we appointed for the court are Bella and Chris. I hope you could look and get familiar with the court. I'll just have Bella and Chris say something about themselves.
  1. Bella- I'm Bella I'm from Shokpee MN and I'm a freshman. Taken courses at the Uof M and I was involved in civics and public policy courses.
  2. Chris- I'm a junior in public administration and want to pursue law in the future

- ii. Colin- a question towards both of you- some people have noticed inconsistencies in the constitution and if a case were to come to judiciary regarding this, how would you handle this in the court?
  1. Chris- I think that is an open-ended question so we would have to look at the situation and decide based off that
  2. Bella- look off the decisions
- iii. Colin- follow up question- how would you deal with it if it involved the judiciary body?
  1. Bella- deal with it as any other situation we shouldn't treat it differently
  2. Chris- we shouldn't change it because of emotional decisions



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- iv. Isaac- a lot of the bigger issues is the constitution has issues and causes issues on how we operate, curious have either have you looked over the constitution or bylaws.
  - 1. Chris- I have looked at a lot of them and some are minor changes. In the rules of procedure and there are a lot grammatical errors and room for improvement
  - 2. Bella- I have had a chance to look over the procedure and I didn't notice anything but I would look further into it
- v. Call to question- Vu
- vi. Second- Justice
- vii. Vote: all
- viii. Abstentions: 1
- XIII. New Business
  - a. No report
- XIV. Discussion
  - a. No report
- XV. Announcements
  - a. Dani- I was curious about the discussion on my resolution how many of you represent people in the pride center. And everyone represents the pride center. Across the board, we are in all colleges and you are all representing us.
  - b. Amy –Poli Sci is having a meeting at 6pm in centennial
  - c. Aaron- I want to go to Howie's to night
  - d. Weston- Rec ground breading ceremony- going to be more internal and if you want to come its 12:30 this Friday
  - e. Lauren- my opinion is that during all guest speakers I'm good with chiming in however I wont be taking questions that is directly related on something they talked on
- XVI. Adjournment
  - a. Weaver, Giles
  - b. 8:19pm