



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

Student Senate Agenda

Date: **October 10th, 2018**

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

- I. Call to Order
 - a. 6:02 p.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Agenda
 - i. Passed
- V. Guest Speakers
 - a. Senator Jen Shilling
 - i. Shilling: I'm State Senator Jennifer Shilling, I'm a proud alum of UWL. Right now, we are well aware that we are in the last month of an election. But certainly, I hope that early voting will be pushed on campus. I hope that just voting and registration of students will be pushed on campus, the university historically has always had very high turnout of students, I'm always really proud of that. Everybody always says that this is the most important election of our lifetime, I feel like I say that every election because the stakes keep getting higher and higher. I certainly hope that students have that availability to vote, by pushing early voting they're not waiting in long lines. With that, I'm happy to do any Q and A that you may have, what are you looking for in the next legislature – or what keeps you awake at night as student senators about this institution and the role that the legislature has on the impact of things that you're doing here?
 1. Becker: Thanks for coming Senator Shilling, we all appreciate it. One thing I was just wondering is if there were any plans on the docket in case you're in the majority next year for implementing nonpartisan redistricting.
 - a. Shilling: Yes. Certainly, we have talked about supportive legislation about redistricting, and I think fair maps and we need campaign finance reform – they are like two cancers in our democracy. To be fair maps, I think that will go a long way for people having faith again in the legislative map and we have legislators who should not be drawing our constituents, our constituents should be electing us. 8 years ago, we've gotten really creative with some of the map drawing. I will say there probably are no angels in the building, I can't talk about my democratic colleagues who did maps previous years, but if I'm fortunate and we are in the majority after 2020 and after 2021 is when the maps get redrawn after the census, that we have a responsibility to walk the walk and talk the talk and look at a fair commission, nonpartisan way of drawing maps. Some of them are so crazily drawn and people won't have to worry about a competitive 49/51 seat, they have to worry about primaries. I just



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don't think that's healthy, I feel like our system is broken, it's being tested, it's strained both at the state and at the federal level. I want people to believe that the government can work for them and that it can work for the people.

2. Lawlis: Thank you Senator Shilling. I want to touch on student financing, more so our tuition and our loans. That's been coming up a lot in committees on campus, it's a really big issue and rightfully so. I was just wondering, what is inside scoop about refinancing student loans and also there's obviously been a long tuition freeze, what is your view on the idea that – or are you for or against a tuition freeze if we do receive the funding necessary from the state to keep UWL competitive and receive the resources and needs. I found it very promising was that the UW systems \$23 multiplier, so each dollar invested is 23-fold. Obviously, that should speak towards the merit of an investment in the UW system. What do you think?
 - a. Shilling: The student debt issue, refinancing student loans like you can your mortgage or your car, I think that that makes sense. States are moving in that direction. Honestly, I know the governor has put forward some plans the last two years. They're kind of window dressing, it's kind of like dipping his toe in the pool a little bit, but he's not really diving in. Refinancing, what he's talked about is students that are currently in school. There are thousands graduates I this state that are burdened with student loan debt. To only focus on the students who are on campus to help them with tuition freeze, we haven't properly back-filled the university with GPR. Whenever we look at that equation, we need to look at properly funding and adequately funding if we're going to have that tuition freeze. I haven't always been a fan of the tuition freeze, it makes it harder for administration to be creative and look at funding of the university. I commend Chancellor Gow when the governor came out and talked about a continued freeze, it's difficult for administrators to continue. I think this is our third buying of tuition freeze. I think tuition freeze has a role, but it needs to be a comprehensive look on how we are funding our university system. I would like there to be some flexibility. We were part of the growth quality and access, tuition differential. Some schools have done that and UWL had a fantastic plan, that we increased employees on this campus by looking at that flexibility through growth, quality, and access.
 - ii. Shilling: Well, thank you very much. It was a pleasure to be here, I always appreciate posters of the rotunda, it highlights the academic research going on in our campuses. I will say I am a proud employer of three UWL graduates in my office and Sarah here is a student who works in the district office for me and a couple other staff in Madison that are alum. I always welcome the opportunity on campus. Thank you.



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b. Chancellor Joe Gow

i. Gow: I am delighted to have this opportunity to be here. I always love to come to senate and talk about what's on your minds. Please ask me whatever's on your mind or you think that I need to know, and we'll see where we go in our conversation

1. Kallis: I'm Dani, I use she/her pronouns, I'm the senator for the Pride Center. As I'm sure you know, this Monday Mayor Kabat announced that in La Crosse we are officially referring to what was previously Columbus Day as Indigenous People's Day. And we had a wonderful event here on campus. So, I'm wondering if UWL will be headed in that same direction along with recognizing the Indigenous land?

a. Gow: Seriously with the pronouns, the more I do it. I would like just they, I would prefer a nonbinary, I think that would be a good place to go. I don't know if we'll ever get there, but I meet a lot of people and it really is good to be sensitive to that. I wasn't here on Monday, but I did read in the paper about Indigenous People's Day. I thought that it was a very good idea. I've never been uniquely attached to Columbus Day, I don't know that a lot of people are. I mean I think that it would be very healthy. Dan Green and others talk about it. I don't know that the university has that, we don't celebrate Columbus Day, but we probably could do something with Indigenous People's Day. I don't think that we could close the university because it would have to be a statewide holiday kind of thing, but certainly there could be good ceremonies and things of that nature. The Indigenous land statement I think is well known by this point. There are two things about that. One, I think the word occupies is not precise. That would suggest that the university came and like moved the people out. I would personally be happy telling the real story which is that the US government had a policy of removing indigenous people from places like this in about the mid 1800's and it's been a struggle for those folks ever since and we ought to acknowledge that. If there's a way to do that. As far as how that's done, I've never been real clear on that that must be said, or it could be or should be. To be honest, I'm not a big must be said person, I don't think at university you should ever require anybody to say anything. You could encourage something, that would be okay by my book. I'm happy to work that out, I think I'm optimistic about that. I try to be collaborative, I hope you feel that way.

2. O'Connell: What are your thoughts on community engagement in La Crosse, just in general?

a. Gow: I mean it's vitally important. I have a big challenge with my job and how I spend my time. I have to make priorities. I like the community and I like Madison and the system. As an institution, I think we need to first focus on our issues here, but



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then if we can be a force for good things in the community, that's a positive. We have a role to play here and I try to be diplomatic. Like right now the city wants to start charging for people to park around the campus and we're not really excited about that, so we need to get that message through. I've done my part and talked to the mayor and said here's how this will impact us.

3. Kallis: Speaking of the parking, I've actually created a petition and will be going to a meeting tomorrow and I'm wondering, would you like to sign my petition?
 - a. Gow: I will tell them what I think, think that's the most powerful thing I can do.
 - b. Kallis: reading news the other day, read you didn't interview... Hiawatha statue why there wasn't a similar interview?
4. Nussbaum: Hi, so I'm the senator for NASA. I want to talk about the fact that obviously this is a predominately white institution and I know that NASA along with many of the other MSOs have been talking about how there are a lot less native students that go here now than in the past and a lot of MSOs have been talking about similar issues. What are you doing to work to make this campus more inclusive, specifically more students of color?
 - a. Gow: The number on Native American students, all I know is that they're really low, I wasn't aware that there was any time when they were higher. We obviously want to be as diverse as we can be, and our goal is to mirror the demographics of the state and we're of course not anywhere near that. We're doing better, our class in total is more diverse than it's ever been.
 - ii. Gow: I was at a conference out in Seattle and it was this national thing, it was really exciting. And Mark (Moralez) was given this time at the end of the thing to talk to everybody – hundreds of people, administrators from around the country and the world and gave a great speech. I was so proud of that and I can't stop talking about it.

VI. General Student Body Open Forum

VII. Officer Reports

a. President: Benjamin O'Connell

- i. O'Connell: Good evening everyone. So, parking stuff. Tomorrow night Justice is hoping that his resolution to essentially stop the pilot parking program around campus will be talked about and discussed. I encourage you all to go to the meeting and show support at 6 p.m. over in city hall. You walk right in to the front doors and turn left you're already in the council chambers. So, do that. Also, I think it would be very helpful tomorrow if whenever you have time you could call city council members. I'll be posting in our Facebook group all of the council members phone numbers or I will email it to you through the SharePoint email. So, keep an eye out for that. I encourage you all to do it. Especially if you live on the streets that it will be implemented on. And if you do know people that live on these streets, tell them to call because their voices will have even more of



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an impact than some of ours. Violence prevention bill resources stuff. On Friday, Ingrid Peterson and I had a phone call with Representative Katrina Shankland's office. Things look good going out of the conversation. Keep your eyes and ears peeled for more information on that eventually in the spring if it does get introduced and our model is included in the bill, I would like for us to go on a lobbying trip so get ready for that. Some student court stuff. For almost two weeks, there was virtually no interest and then in the final 12 hours that the application was available to be submitted to me, I got a flood of applicants. Hopefully I'll have a nominee for all of you by the next meeting, plus they'll come in and you'll be able to question them. Another thing, Jack's going to touch on this later – voter registration. There's another date where you can help out, this next Monday from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Whitney. I will be adding an excel spreadsheet with voter registration dates and I encourage some of you to sign up and help out because it is so much better when we have students there actually participating and getting other students to come in and get registered to vote. The final thing I have for you tonight, student reps. We had our phone call this last weekend, did not make forum again, so that's very disheartening.

b. Vice President: Haley Jurecki

i. Jurecki: For SharePoint, please make sure you're on the list. If you didn't get your meeting materials for today, that means you're not on the list. Committee reports, if you're on a committee, make sure you are sending your minutes to Brianna if you're chair or if you know who the chair is. I just need to know who is elected as chair, vice chair, and secretary. Most of the committees that haven't already convened should be convening this week, if not next week. Brianna doesn't get a report so just a shout out, if you don't have your bios and your headshots in, they are long overdue. Make sure they're getting in. The last thing that I wanted to do was an informal vote, so as you saw the resolution that was added to the agenda, can I get an informal vote – if you had the opportunity to attend that (Take Back the Night) next week instead of the meeting if you would.

1. Neilson: Take Back the Night is going to be a community event. It's going to be a march starting at the clocktower to Viterbo and Western. It's a bit over a couple miles. Basically, it is an event to support victims and survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence. I think it would be a great opportunity for senate to show our support there. So, rather than having a meeting, if the majority of us would rather attend that march, I think that would be great. A great opportunity for us to be visible to the community and show that we give our support to victims and survivors of this.

ii. Jurecki: I just need an informal vote to who would go to that as opposed to a senate meeting next Wednesday? That means though that your presence is required at that event.

1. Passed

2. Kallis: would that mean that you would like us to table until the next week the resolutions that are coming up tonight?

a. Jurecki: We'll get to that.

c. Chief of Staff: Alfonso Gunaratnam



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- i. Gunaratnam: I'll make this quick. Last week we talked about color blindness in the classroom. I went to faculty senate and then I talked to Andrew Oliver from the access center. They've already got programs in place to address that issue. Students with color blindness need to go to him and register and they've got a whole list of things to help that student see better in the classroom. That shouldn't be an issue anymore. Second, I'm trying to set up College of Science and Health senators with your dean. Those are the dates that he's most available. You don't have to give me a definitive answer now but try to get back to me at the end of this week.
- d. State Affairs Director: Jack Lawlis
 - i. Lawlis: Senator Shilling talked about this a bit, refinancing loans. It's something that's in our sights right now. I think it's a really important thing for students. Especially in terms of tuition affordability. Wisconsin State Treasurer candidates both are talking about it. I encourage you to look into it to see which position you align with. I can segue this into the voting. The election is November 6th and we're having a registration drive on October 15th at Whitney 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. If we can have as many volunteers as possible, this election is going to be big. If you are looking to volunteer, contact either myself or Ben. We're hosting a debate October 23rd between the candidates for the 94th and 96th district assembly seats. That'll be pretty cool. It'll be at 6 p.m. in Cleary. I'll have more information on that. It'll be sent out. Finally, Ben did touch up on this a lot a little bit, I know some of you are familiar with this but, if you don't know, the regents are the people that make decisions for the UW system. They have a lot to say about what happens in the UW system and there are two student regent positions, a non-traditional and traditional. They have two-year terms, and they are pretty much just a regent. So, regents have a lot to say what happens. The current student regent, the regular one, his term is running out. He's from Eau Claire, and the problem with the current situation is La Crosse has no regents. And that can have an impact on what happens in the regent system and it might not be favorable towards us. I encourage you all if you are a sophomore or if you are staying for the next couple years, I really encourage you to look into running as a student regent and depending on how the governor seat flips, that will be very contingent.
- e. Local Affairs Director: Jake Seifert
 - i. Seifert: The off-campus housing fair was yesterday. All in all, it was pretty successful. We estimated about 200 or so folks came throughout the day. So, that was good. President O'Connell talked about the parking, if you are able to show up tomorrow at 6, that would be good. Neighborhood meeting for Jenna, which is the area that we live, is next Tuesday on the other side of West Ave, I'm planning on being there at that meeting. We're looking to put together a joint group that will be evaluating area landlords. It's something that you have a shared interest in, in making landlords accountable. If you're interested in it, please contact me.
- f. Inclusivity Director: Sita Agterberg
 - i. Agterberg: I talked to the director for Feminism on Tap, which is a community event that happens I think once a month. And we'll be able to have one on barriers to women of color in higher education. It's in February, I got the email



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today. It's really cool because we'll be able to bring up the scholarship at it and that'll be another way to get it out in the community. And then for DOC, there have been 49 hate-bias reports so far this year and then 40 incidents. IDAC, meets 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Thursdays, I was going to go to meetings, I can't make it. If any of y'all are able to make it, contact me and I can get you in contact with the advisor for it. I think it's important for students to go to these meetings, it isn't at a good time, but it would be great if someone could go.

- g. Public Relations Director: Lucas Marinack
 - i. Marinack: Chili and Chill is this Friday, if you aren't in the Facebook group, you might not have seen that. Please come find me after the meeting and we'll get that taken care of. Just pushing more outreach with our constituents and a reminder to keep going to clubs, anything like that. If you want to collaborate with me, using some of our social media outlets and stuff like that. I can certainly help with that. And then stay tuned because I'm going to try to put together a senate recap video, hopefully starting next week Wednesday just informing the student body about what we talked about. I'm pretty excited about it.
- h. Sustainability Director: Samantha Wolfe
 - i. Wolfe: The UW sustainability conference is November 8th and 9th at Steven's Point and so I was kind of looking at it and like going two days that's a lot. Friday, is like the day that's more geared towards students, so can I have like an informal vote for anyone that would be interested in going to this event at all? Okay, cool. It's very informational for the UW system and how sustainability is going and other universities. I also spoke with the sustainability intern at Chartwells, and they're working on finding some paper straws instead of plastic straws which is awesome. She also told me that they will be switching from plastic bags to paper bags for their to go bags, so that's pretty cool. Also, La Crosse county is going to be switching from the single stream recycling on the first of next year. They'll be taking out plastics 3, 6, and 7 because there's no market for them and they only make up .3% of stream recycling. I'll keep you updated on what that means for us and what we can do on campus to recycle better. Also, if you guys have donations to the food pantry in the cove, I'll also be collecting next week as well.

VIII. Advisor Reports

- a. Ringgenberg: No report
 - i. Kallis: I got a new id with preferred name, I tried it and they didn't change it.
 - 1. Ringgenberg: Thank you for checking that.

IX. Committee Reports

- a. Lawlis: Leg affairs met Monday. We went over our constitution and bylaws as well as process for impeachments. We talked about the sexual assaults violence prevention programs as well.
- b. Khan: JMAC (Joint Multicultural Advisory Committee) talked about goals for the year, support faculty and staff of color, student of color recruitment, and diversity training. Director of admissions talked to them as well.
 - i. Woodmansee: SEIs are lower for faculty of color, is that something you'll address?
 - 1. Khan: There will be another ad hoc committee we will be working on,



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I'm also doing a research project if you want more information.

- c. Howard: Student Services and Buildings met on Monday, constitution and bylaws might change in near future. We also looked at Rec 2.0 and how that's going.
- d. Schock: Student Orgs committee met last Friday. For the election campaign bylaw, we couldn't find them on the Student Association website. We'd like to get a new copy for going over new org grant requests. Also, the cove will be doing a minute to win it challenge on October 29th.
- e. O'Connell: Joint Planning and Budget met earlier today. We talked about a bylaw change. There are currently 2 undergrad seats and 2 grad seats, but based on representation we're hoping to vote on in next meeting to make it 3 undergrad and 1 grad seat instead. We're also looking at how we can try to better compensate our staff on campus. For more specific numbers, I'd be happy to send you spreadsheets from Hetzel.
- f. Woodmansee: More on SUFAC, Hetzel will be coming to our meeting at 5:30 next Monday. If you want to come you are welcome.

X. Organizational Reports

- a. Kallis: Pride Center peer educators ally workshop was on Tuesday. I will keep senate updated with new workshops. 4 years ago, we made it a requirement to come to ally training, so keep updated so we can all go.
 - i. Jurecki: We'll look into that, I'm not sure if that might have changed.

XI. Unfinished Business

- a. SA1819-011: Resolution to Change Privacy Standards for Students in WINGS
 - i. Kallis: We're pretty much just looking at levels of access around campus, but I'd like to change around some things in this resolution. *I move to amend the document. I'd like to strike both 'therefore be it resolved's, and change "The amount of info faculty members have access to has been found by students to be worrisome and should be limited to grades and student id and name."/* Horstman
 - a. Woodmansee: I like these changes, *I'd like to amend the amendment to limit to grade, student id, name, and class schedule./* Howard
 - i. Kallis: *call to question*
 - ii. Passed
 2. Fisher: What about our test taking student id?
 3. Jurecki: Should we table this so it can be edited?
 4. Kallis: Would the chair be open to putting this as a discussion point?
Move into informal discussion
 - a. Passed
 - i. [informal discussion]
 5. Kallis: *I motion to table this /Silva*
 - a. Passed

XII. New Business

- a. SA18190-13: Resolution Changing how Office Hours are Served
 - i. Lawlis: This is a change from current office hours and how they are held, how we reach out to our constituents. What I wanted to do here was change a bit how we reach out to our constituents. I was really driven to this idea by things like Org Day or something. Sita and I, and some other people did a Student Association table and we had this bowl and people would fill out what they'd like



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to see changed or improved or what they'd liked about UWL and we got a lot of praise and a lot of advice. So that caused me to think what if we had more public forums such as these. I think it's really useful to have our office hours in a place with public traffic. A lot of us have office hours in the senate office and that is a good place to have them, especially because it's in a senate associated place. Though I think that if we are looking for optimal input, a place like the clocktower or on the first floor of the U tabling is actually really easy to set up through the building services. I think that we would have a lot more outreach opportunity and the distinction to make here is between the colleges and the MSOs. The MSOs have organizations that usually have weekly meetings, and those serve a very great purpose because they get constant updates from their constituents and we've seen examples of these, the MSOs are great advocates for their constituents. I'm worried about the colleges because there are so many people on this campus and how many of us are in this room, do we know all of our constituents needs? Can we? It might be hard, but we can try. How do I know that I'm not unconsciously advocating for my position as to the position of my constituents as whole and I think that's a really big thing that we need to check.

1. Khan: I remember last year we also talked about adding mailboxes, so it would be in a public space, so students wouldn't have to be there at a specific time?
 - a. Lawlis: It's a great idea. Something that came to my mind as you were speaking, I realized there might be a bit of a discrepancy here. Maybe my words weren't clear enough. I think that the MSO meetings would count as a public forum, so if the MSOs meet that would count and create a more streamlined process for more collaboration.
2. Morales: I agree in terms of adequate representation that we need to be in constant communication with our constituents to the best of our abilities and to reach out to our constituents. As MSOs we always have the privilege of always meeting together, it is a smaller population on the campus.
 - a. Kallis: I think this is a great point. Over the years of being a senator, my office hours have gone from like it's me sitting in Cartwright and nothing's happening because no one knows where the senate office was. I moved to a really great system where I have an hour before our weekly meeting where I sit in the Pride Center and as people come in I talk to everybody one on one. So, I do echo the previous senator even though I have the privilege of meeting twice a week with my constituents and how have honest conversations about what's going on. I think it makes a really big difference in the work you do on senate. I think this is a really great idea. I also want to know, and I'll yield to Lawlis if he can answer it, in my head I'm thinking I have four office hours a month and now it's only going to be one in a forum format? I want to know where that singular hour a month came from?



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- i. Lawlis: Ideally, we'd still keep the one hour a week part, there would be just one out of the month minimum should be a public forum, so it's just changing that.
 3. Kallis: *I move to amend the document in the first therefore be it resolved reads: include one office our be replaced in a public forum, cross out the requirement and include the replacement of one office hour with a public forum, to make it more clear/* Hosrtman
 4. Becker: *I move to change public forum to public space*
 5. Jurecki: *I move to table the document/* Coleman
 - a. Passed

XIII. Discussion

- a. Public Advocacy – Dana Nielsen
 - i. Nielsen: follow up on last week if anyone has a preference versus whether or not this should be a certificate or minor?
 1. Kallis: I had a conversation with my constituents about it during my office hours and some students on the pre-med track that bogged down with that said it would be better for them to have a certificate.

XIV. Announcements

- a. Jurecki: Chili and chill, I will send out address. This is not required but you're encouraged to bring chili. I made a poll on which is the best Harry Patter movie. BYOB (bowl), I will have spoons
 - i. Poll: 3rd movie wins
 - ii. Silva: *motion to make chili cook off bring your own spoon/*Jurecki
 1. Passed
- b. Cvancara: LASO, the Coco the Disney movie will play October 29th at 7 p.m., it's free to attend in student union, a Dia De Los Muertos celebration will happen in Centennial Hall in the Hall of Nations from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- c. Kallis: Let me know if anyone wants to sign my petition on parking

XV. Adjournment

- a. Kettinger/ Coleman
- b. Passed
 - i. 8:07 p.m.