



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

Student Senate Agenda

Date: **April 22, 2020**

Time and Location: **6:00pm WebEx**

- I. Call to Order
 - a. 6:02 p.m.
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Agenda
 - b. Approval of Minutes
 - i. Neader: Motion to approve.
 - ii. Ericson: Seconded.
 - iii. APPROVED
- IV. Student Body Open Forum
- V. Guest Speakers
- VI. Officer Reports
 - a. **President:** Sita Agterberg
 - i. No Report
 - b. **Vice President:** Dana Nielsen
 - i. For those who are graduating, undergrad and graduate, you should have gotten an email about online commencement. Please participate. Hopefully we'll be able to get together in late August.
 - ii. Thank you to those who attended the debate the other night. Please don't forget to vote next Tuesday.
 - iii. Finally, for our last meeting it's split between our senate and the new senate and we can do some special things. Obviously, that's harder being online. If you have any fun ideas let me know.
 - c. **Chief of Staff:** Mark Moralez
 - i. No Report
 - d. **State Affairs Director:** Alex Becker
 - i. No Report. I would like to amend the resolution regarding the leg affairs bylaws.
 - e. **Local Affairs Director:** Bennett Thering
 - i. No Report
 - f. **Inclusivity Director:** Faith Fisher
 - i. No Report
 - ii. Sita and I realized we hit a barrier when it came to filling out the letters to alumni because we both have limited access. The best we can do is try to print out as many letters as we can and then just have to wait to send them out.
 - iii. The question I'm answering today is how can I get better at having social justice conversations? One thing is to take advantage when MSO panels have events or when Pride Center has events as well. When they are going out of their way to educate folks who have privilege identities and if you are genuine about learning about social justice and having social justice conversations that's good too. Remember how much space you're taking up. Another thing is for those who



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aren't as used to those conversations is campus climate events and that would be a big event called Awareness Through Performance. A lot of freshmen have to go. They do it twice throughout the year. Typically, it's announced in Senate, diversity orgs or me would announce these types of events. Social Justice Week is a really good time for people to learn about different social justice issues. I know the women of Color Scholarship Event would be then, the Pride drag show was going to happen, and classmates who are researching these topics put on events you can go to for free. There are also speakers. The last thing I put was that when you're in quarantine, you might not have the opportunity to be taught during this time, but you can reflect on your identities and privileges. It might be a pain or something you don't want to think about, if you really want to go on and be a good social justice advocate it's a good thing to do.

g. **Public Relations Director:** Olivia Ahnen

i. No Report

h. **Sustainability Director:** Sam Wolfe

i. Happy Earth Day! As you may know it's the fiftieth anniversary. It was specifically chosen for April 22nd because he really wanted students to be involved. I hope you were able to enjoy being outside. Remember to keep the environment in mind when you make your choices.

VII. Advisor Reports

a. UWL currently has a food drive going on trying to provide more food in the food pantry. That's moved to Whitney Center. There's three days this week we're collecting food. We're also collecting money. The debate was pretty interesting, I enjoyed that tremendously. We still are talking about how to remind students that they can be counted in La Crosse. If you have friends, you could reach out to convince them to be counted in La Crosse that's great. We are working on the voter registration drive. There are some groups working toward that. We are also talking about involvement, and that it might be an online situation. I think senate deserves some recognition this year. I'd like to get us counted in that.

Nielsen: How is the food being collected?

Ringgenberg: We have a tent at Whitney Center, so people can drive by and just drop it off. People can mail in checks to the office, University Centers. And so far, this year we're over \$500 for filling the food pantry.

VIII. Committee Reports

a. Boerschinger: CAPS met. We were working on the satisfactory/unsatisfactory grading policy. We decided it has to be opt-in and sent our recommendation to faculty senate. In our recommendation there is no requirement to have an instructor approve it, you just send it to the dean's office, and they'll approve it. It's mostly the impact of academic progress and accreditation. We passed that, and we also passed having to suspension, only holds. We also passed a change for the new catalogue describing what a S or a U is.

b. Neader: SS&B met last week on Thursday. We've had a lot of effort towards meatless Monday and we'll be continuing those efforts next Fall. The Rec does daily workouts on social media and provides those online. CAB is putting on a lot of events online. There's a lot of events online I'd recommend checking out. We also talked about what student art would be hung up in the union. We're doing something similar but online. We're meeting soon.



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- c. Thering: We're in the initial stages of the spring green fund grant, hopefully we're voting next Monday. We also voted to return all remaining balances. We decided we're returning the balance back into the reserves on the contingency that they are a lot more leniency in the processes for carry-over requests. It will be more case by case instead of returning it all back.
- d. Schock: Student Orgs met, and we talked about bylaw changes. We were between a rotating seat and a seat that was up for grabs. I did write up some bylaws and we decided on a rotating seat.
- e. Agterberg: JPB met this week and last week, we have received about 3.5 million dollars that will go to students from the cares act. That part two will be coming soon, it should make up the refunds. There's a furlough policy that was released. UWL won't be furloughing anyone yet, which is good. We refunded about 5.5 million dollars from our budget. Right now, they are in planning for Fall to possibly go online. They have to plan for the worst, hope for the best. They are planning to do something.

IX. Organizational Reports

X. Unfinished Business

- a. SA1920-052: **Resolution to Appoint Students for Sustainability to Vacant Seat on Senate**

Wolfe: There's nothing new for this. I yield.

DISCUSSION

Ericson: Just looking to clarify, because student orgs met and decided they wanted this to be a rotating position, does this matter at all?

Nielsen: Dylan do you want to comment on that?

Schock: It needs to be a bylaw change. The reason student orgs looked at it was because the bylaws were in question and we gave our assessment of what we think the bylaws should become. I don't know where this bylaw would stand. The idea it was, was it was a rotating seat with the representation of all orgs. SFS would be able to run multiple times if they want. We would put up, if senate is interested, in the bylaw changes we made.

Nielsen: We passed this, but we sent it to committee to get their recommendation and I think we should take that seriously. We can either Pass/Fail it or table it until we get a bylaw resolution passed. It would take longer.

Wolfe: Point of information. This resolution would be a bylaw change for SFS to take the seat. Are you saying the alternative option would be to clarify in the bylaws that it's a rotating seat so that either way we're changing the bylaws?

Nielsen: If we did this it's a bylaw change, but if we want to go the route of having it be a rotating seat, I would recommend this fail. That's up to you all. We're probably going to decide on a bylaw change. Dylan, can you share the understanding of the bylaws as written currently?

Schock: The committee reviewed the bylaws and the committee interpreted them as the vacant see is a rotating seat. We have bylaws planned that would clarify it. That seat, the interpretation is that seat should be rotating.

Agterberg: These are, I want to make sure these are different bylaws we're talking about. Dylan is talking about the student org bylaws. There are also senate bylaws. Dylan what are you talking about?

Schock: I think it would be a recommendation to change the senate bylaws.



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Ericson: I think you might have mentioned this, but if SFS wanted to run two years in a row, could they?

Schock: Yes. Those rotating seats, SFS could apply as many years in a row as they want. If there was another student org that wanted to, they could potentially join in for a year or two. That saves room for evolving interests as students come in and have different interests.

Ericson: I would vote to not pass the resolution at hand. I think if Student Orgs wants it to be a rotating seat it should be a rotating seat.

McLain: Call to Question.

FAILED

XI. New Business

a. SA1920-055: **Resolution Approving Legislative Affairs Committee Bylaws Changes**

Becker: We changed this for the reason that the graduate students need to be on specific committees.

Agterberg: This would basically just make it less committees so we can have it be any student and be a little more flexible.

Nielsen: Graduate senators are asked to be on like six committees, so this makes it easier.

Becker: This also changed the wording for impeachment proceedings. I interpret this as student senate passing a resolution opening an investigation and then the investigation would occur, and senate would either impeach them or come up with some other reprimand. One thing though, Dana can you scroll to the findings section. I have two things I want to change. On section three of subsection A, it says “or nothing” can you add “or do nothing”? And on subsection C, can you change that to “or impose”?

DISCUSSION

Agterberg: Can you get rid of the hyphen in section one, name? I feel like we should add something. It focuses on state and federal issues and it doesn't now, and we should change it. We could change it to state and federal reasons anyway.

Packard: In the original writing it was just students not student association. Without that change it would be all students.

Nielsen: If we rework any of the purpose then leg affairs has to approve their changes and send it to us. So, leg affairs could take their time.

Agterberg: Could I just suggest we add that line then leg affairs votes via email?

Becker: Yes, we'll figure it out.

Nielsen: Sita do you want to make a recommendation then at some point they'll vote?

Agterberg: Maybe to provide opinions on state and federal legislation pertaining to UWL.

Becker: There's also the discussion of faculty on this committee.

DISCUSSION

Nielsen: There has been a motion to end discussion. Is there a second?

Neader: Seconded.

APPROVED

b. SA1920-056: **Resolution in Support of Student Representatives Restructure**



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Agterberg: Student Representatives is where presidents and vice presidents go to meet with system. This resolution is about making the structure easier. The new structure would have meetings four times a year at Madison. This would give us more information at the system level. It would have a designated convener that would work with all parties. That would be what it would look like. It would change from being once a month to being four times a year. It would only be the president or the designee so it's a smaller group and then it would have people who have a better idea of what is going on at their school.

Nielsen: Olivia do you want to make any comments about this?

Woodmansee: Student Representatives has been talking about restructure and this is what Sita and Dana have agreed works well for them.

Agterberg: Dana and I ran through this with the executive cabinet and this is what the executive cabinet decided on.

Woodmansee: This is a point of information. Should they pass the two-week rule?

Nielsen: I mean, I would rather not, but if we're discussing it then I want to.

Agterberg: Olivia do you have any information on when the forum would be? I would also rather not.

Woodmansee: It wouldn't be a formal vote. Not at the forum if there was one.

DISCUSSION

Agterberg: Do people have any questions on how reps work now?

McLain: I think some things need to change. There have been other proposed ideas and I think this seems the most efficient. There were ideas of splitting it up by representatives. It just, was a mess. I think this is straightforward and a simple proposal. Reps never meets quorum so it's hard to get stuff done. Meeting four times a year would help more schools go. I think this is a good idea from someone who's been working.

Nielsen: Avery is chief of staff at reps.

McReavy: Would the individual branch schools still be able to send representatives? I know there was some issue with them being counted as a branch school.

Agterberg: We have all of the institutions there, this would change it so at each of the four meetings all two- and four-year institutions would go.

Ericson: I don't have a lot of knowledge about reps, so what is supposed to happen?

Agterberg: This year nothing. We're working on the pronoun project. So, professors can have access to student's pronouns. Some other things we could technically work on, well that wasn't finalized. We've talked about vaccine protocol. Something else was the free-speech policy. That could have been something we talked about. It's things we work about at a system level.

McLain: I want to echo about what Sita said about not accomplishing it. I think like six members of the exec board resigned. It's hard to get stuff done when they don't want to work with you. It's not an effective structure for us to work together. Our next meeting is on the 2nd. It's doubtful we'll have quorum. I also don't think people want to change the structure before a new group comes in. That's also something I'm concerned about. There needs to be a change. I do



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think having the four meetings a year with just presidents and vice president. You can't expect them to take on so much extra work.

Woodmansee: There's a shared document with all of the student presidents, something that's unique is that UWL would like just president's or designees. Most other institutions decided both presidents and vice presidents. I think if you're looking for a way to discuss this, asking questions about the old structure can be helpful too.

Nielsen: The only benefit to Vice President and President is that you have someone to be there with.

Agterberg: We voted for just presidents because it would be a smaller group. Having both the VP and President would be a huge, opinionated group. Just having presidents would be a smaller group and would be more efficient.

Nielsen: We spend a lot of time on non-agenda items. People just pipe up and say they want to discuss it and that's something that would be reduced because it is a lot of very opinionated people. There's not a whole lot of communication outside between everyone. There's not VP group, I think the essential people are the presidents. The chancellors meet that way, all the vice chancellors don't go with to his meeting.

Agterberg: This is a drastic restructuring. We were meeting once a month, and people who were not president or vice president were often at the meeting. So, this is a big change.

McReavy: How do we feel about saying that each school can send one representative and it can be either the president, vice president, or a designee?

Agterberg: It doesn't have to be the vice president right now. For example, Milwaukee has a person who is very vocal and is not the president or vice president and they could appoint that person for meetings if they wanted.

Yuengst: 52 people sounds like a lot. I think this makes sense to narrow it down and help get more done. I think, I mean, 52 is way too much. I like the idea you've come up with. I wanted to voice my support for this.

Agterberg: This is what we came up with.

Packard: Motion to end discussion.

Navoichick: Seconded.

APPROVED

XII. Discussion

XIII. Announcements

- a. Boerschinger: Can I ask a question? Have we heard what we're doing with textbooks at the end of all this?
 - i. Agterberg: That should've been part of my JPB announcement. You're receiving a pre-paid postage thing; you'll be mailing in your textbooks.
- b. Ericson: For summer classes, how are we getting our books?
 - i. Agterberg: We have a meeting tomorrow where we can bring that up.
- c. Mendoza: I was curious about refunds for housing? I haven't gotten mine and neither has my roommate.
- d. Agterberg: Tomorrow is faculty senate from 3:30-5:00. They're discussing satisfactory/unsatisfactory, the gen-ed, and furloughs. If you're interested in going, go!
- e. McLain: If you want to go to the faculty senate meeting what's the link or WebEx code?



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- f. Nielsen: If you go to our website and go to the events calendar there should be a button to be given the link. It's weird. If anyone has a hard time finding the link, reach out to me.
- XIV. Adjournment
- a. Lee: Motion to adjourn.
 - b. Navoichick: Seconded.
- ADJOURNED.