



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

Student Senate Agenda

Date: **Wednesday, February 10th, 2021**

Time and Location: **6:00pm; Zoom**

- I. Call to Order
 - a. 6:03
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Minutes
 - i. Passes unanimously
 - b. Approval of Agenda
 - i. Ericson: I would like to add myself as a guest speaker- Andrew from JCES.
 - ii. Passes unanimously
- IV. Guest Speakers
 - a. Andrew Ericson, JCES
 - i. Ericson: Given that we had such a lengthy conversation about sustainability and the strategic plan last week, I thought we should talk about it now. Integrate sustainability into the current pillars and what does that look like? Sustainability is really important and people recognize it only as an environmental thing, but it is a huge part of everything else- economics and social sustainability are important as well. Our campus values all of this. The allocation of resources is unequal and JCES feels that we are unevenly behind in the environmental parts of sustainability. Community engagement is the first pillar. Immediately to me, environmental sustainability comes to mind, in the local, regional and international community, climate change is something that we all should be thinking about as it affects all of us. Sustainable education- become the leader in the region and activism. We should be showing off the campus we have and how beautiful it is. Leave past and ongoing efforts. Ppl don't know what the green fund is. And that is a main tool. Next pillar is equity and diversity. There is a lot of intersections between this and sustainability. Our first goal is highlight and educate students about the most pressing issues, gender, race and climate change. It is important to make our univ stand out. Ensure equitable sustainability education- lifelong education for all. Social, environmental and economic sustainability concerns be balanced. Understand what that looks like. Investing in our people is the next pillar. Promote an environment of employee development thru sustainable programs and facilities. Invest in a sustainable future for the UWL community. Transformational education- further env literacy to a world facing a climate crisis. So graduates can be confident and successful. Integrate sustainability into undergrad research of all disciplines. Amek experience at uwl better. Promote sustainability in all areas. The ocst is worth it, UWL is working on it but we can do better.

Cayo: I yield to Andrea

Julson: thanks for making that presentation and I think the goals are very attainable.



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Cayo: I also really like this in general. Just one question. Any more specific goals? To present to higher bodies, just need to have more specific things in line

Ericson: we talked about that in JCES too and upttign actions. Flushing it out

Cayo: email me if theres any way I can support you in that.

Myers: good job Andrew.

Ericson: passion for sustainability is more contagious than covid is a joke that I will add.

V. General Student Body Open Forum

- a. Jake Williams: I am a freshman and I have come to represent a group of students who have growing concerns about how student gov is being run. Student gov in the lower chamers aren't in compliance with open meting laws. These are promote transparency, democayc and trust nigov. In order to be in compliance- 3 things. 1 meetings must be reasonably accessible to the public. 2 withtin the notices detail what the meeting is about so they are informed not going out. 3 committess mist produce documents of attendance, motions and voting. If commtitees aren't, questionable if the senate is. If someone complains, this could become a court case. We would lose as it is clear that we aren't meeting those standards. Punishments set by state statute- on the legal side if we found ourselces in course. Harder for gov institutions to overcome. But we aren't. for the meeting themselves. Any meeting in violations. All decisions made would be voidable. Wipe out a year or more worth of work because they weren't in compliance. As an institution- responsible for any damages occurred. Liable for both sides' legal expenses. Upwards of 6 figures. On a personal note- all senators, for each meeting that you attend knowing that it is in violation, you would be required to pay a fine between 25 and 300 dollars for each meeting. 50-600 bucks per week. It all comes down to the website. Most of the committee pages aren't up to date. I know for a date that those records are saved somewhere but it just isn't getting on the website. Since that system is brokem, we are being opened up to liability. Head of student org committee and say that it falls on the executive branch because the individual committees cant do that. In order to make a system to send out those notices.

VI. Officer Reports

- a. **President:** Cate Wiza
 - i. I am going to address this now. First if you are a chair of a committee, I would like to be added to the sharepoint and be invited to every meeting. On the first week of April, I will do a bylaws change presentation. Would we like a run through of how to put things on the open meetings as a chair of the committee? Title, time, link to meeting, agenda, who it is sponsored by. Every single meeting has to do this. Every committee. You can do it ahead of time. You can duplicate it. You can just change the days and then paste. You do have to change the agenda though. If you a chair, add me to sharepoint. I have the step by step process written in the bylaws changes that I will have written soon.
 - ii. Cayo: for the context of SUFAC, we always send our minutes direcrly to univ centers and get response but it hasn't been updated.
 - iii. Ringgenberg: I will check on that.
 - iv. Byrne: I know for aidac, we have had some flexibility since we are recording



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- everything. Is there some sort of rule about doing minutes and recordings since it is redundant.
- v. Ringgenberg: since it is recordings just put online. That would be different.
 - vi. Wiza: when I looked it up. SA committees 100% have to be updated on the website.
 - vii. Ahnen: Andrew was donering aout joint committees.
 - viii. Wiza: I will include joint committes on my bylaw changes.
 - ix. Wiza: On 2/16, 5pm budget 101 meeting. Share the graphic. I want ppl to learn more about the quality of your education.
 - x. I need 3 senators for this task. Task discussing who gets the stadium scholarships. Help out admissions and get students committed to UWL!
 - xi. Awarding the higher ed award. I have been looking into mandella barnes as a recipient. I am curious if there are any other nominations because that is what the bylaws say. Anyone who elevates higher education. Make a doc with descriptions of each person. I don't need them now, but just email me
 - xii. Univ staff and academic staff council supported the old resolution. Faculty senate is meeting tomorrow to discuss our resolution. Doesn't sound like the other bodies are going to take up our version. Later we will meet with them and hopefully adrew can shared governance group present his stuff.
 - xiii. Add me to sharepoint and we will follow up with univ centers as to what is going on
- b. **Vice President:** Olivia Ahnen
- i. You have to sit on committees as a senator. If you have a question about how to add stuff to the calendar and hacing pronlems, let me know.
 - ii. Chancellor Gow next week. Think about questions you want to ask him.
- c. **Director of Staff:** Faith Fisher
- i. I was sent a link to crowdfunding page set up for the woc scholarship and I will be setting that up soon. Have to figure out how to organize this. Sigittaly and sending letters to orgs and alumni. Try to find all the material for that.
- d. **State Affairs Director:** Grant Mathu
- i. Kudos to jake Williams to talk about the public records. My suggestion is that senate or cabinet make a committee or parliamentarian to make sure that everything is good.
 - ii. Since senate last met, vote to get rid of mask mandate and gov put a new one in place.
 - iii. Tomorrow at 7 uwl free speech event healing the political divide.
- e. **Local Affairs Director:** Amy Schwiener
- i. Absentee voting for local election, mayoral primary, state superintendnat. Do in the city hall.
 - ii. Blood drive 17, 18 11-6 in the union bluffs
 - iii. Community engagement council met and they are in the final stages of implementing the community engaged learning pilot. Talk to faculy senate later
- f. **Inclusivity Director:** Camoya Evans
- i. Black history moth fact- recognize a woc as our vice pres. Aknowdlerge first black woman to be elected to congress in 68. Ran for pres. First black person al woman to run for the democratic nomination. Face a lot of problems. Became a



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- professor. The trials that she went thru made it easier for a vp now
- ii. Finish some resolutions. Working on study budy survey for people of color. Study with ppl who have the same clased. If anyone wants to gelp, lmk.
 - g. **Public Relations Director:** Holly Korfmacher
 - i. Back up what Cate said. Budget session go to it. If you do not have socials or don't follow uwlstudent association, please do that on insta, twitter and like on facebook
 - h. **Sustainability Director:** Jake Myers
 - i. Gren fund doodle poll. There is no concise meeting time so we will do a doodble poll 2.0 this week we will meet Friday afternoon but I know that isn't too fun.
 - ii. Ozzi pilot tabled in whiteny. Tabling agin this Friday. We started over a year ago and now we see it really happening so its fun.
- VII. Advisor Reports
- a. Ringgenberg: some of you may have heard that covid numbers down to medium today. Long time since it has been that way in the county. Univ centers working on a model to allow people to eat with ppl in their households. Like whitness. Utilize fountain beverages again. Start in the cellar. Self serv that's about it.
 - b. Dingin issues that they wen't to mondos at 730 and it was closed when it was open until 8. Any experiences, I would appreciate an nemail or something bc it shouldn't be happening. Im getting different comments from our dining folks.
- VIII. Committee Reports & Organizational Reports
- a. Cayo; scampus climate survey committee. Uw system survey. Every undergrad gets it if they have been here for one semester. It wil be coming out over email on monfay. 30 min . allowed to stop abd start whenebr. Super important that you do it. Make educational programs around the survey. Amazon gift cards for ppl who take it. Tue 26 7pm. Americon Indian author. Being sponsored by a lot of department. Go onto many of uwl's socials to find the link.
- IX. Unfinished Business
- X. New Business
- a. **SA2021-031**
 - i. Ahnen: approve our new senator for the college of science and health since Evelyn graduated at semester. Andrea julson I will take sponsors for this.
 - ii. Passes unanimously
 - iii. Wiza and Julson: swearing in
 - b. **SA2021-032**
 - i. Ahnen: expressing support of Wi's mask mandate. I'll take sponsors.
 - ii. Mathu: the gov's new order is always going to be open to legal challenges and there are already some that are going to be goin on. Some student assoc at whitewater and a few others have passed their own non partisan resolutions in favor of the mask mandate. We all know that masks when worn correctly work in mitigating that.
 - iii. Passes unanimously
 - c. **SA2021-033**
 - i. Zwettler: Approve adiac fy22 budget. We finalized the budget at the last meeting. Goes over what aidac does and funds. 12 campus entited that are in the 4 pillars. Our base budget was about 13k lower than last year. And increased request. 24k



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got shaved off of requests.

- ii. Ericson: where does the funds used for pay?
- iii. Zwettler: yeah, some of them pay or benefits are included. Student help is different than staff members.
- iv. Ahnen: this is tabled until next week when we will vote on it.

XI. Discussion

a. Tenant's Bill of Rights

- i. Cayo: 2019 Kansas city passed a tenant bill of rights for their city. Protections that their state laws didn't enforce or offer. Landlord retaliation and guidelines, has amendments, discrimination protections. Discussions from last week: if we did this in law, we could request no rent increase in a certain time, rent can only be a percentage of the house, security deposits, give you notice when they are coming over. Think of rights that you wish you had and we can figure out if they actually are or not.
- ii. Break out into small groups for discussion.
- iii. Return to large group discussion
- iv. Ericson: we came up with some things that seem reasonable- if they don't take care of water/electrical/heat problems, you shouldn't pay for that. Quotes for repair to avoid overcharging. Security deposit no more than 1 month rent
- v. Zwettler: delay rush on rental units freshman don't know who friends are and sign lease so soon in year. A Yelp for landlords
- vi. Cayo: in the past local affairs director- can't black list landlords make a list of ppl we like instead. Landlord review site that's on Facebook. It isn't good and landlords get in. Landlords can blacklist tenants. Retaliation is a big thing.
- vii. Andrea: when maintenance is occurring, amenities need to be replaced in a timely manner. If it is the case, reimbursement is necessary.
- viii. Cayo: what would you consider a timely manner?
- ix. Ericson: if it is heat in a week like this, you have less than 24 hours. Maybe 8. Elec water heat, 1-3 days. Because you are talking about proportion of a month's rent.
- x. Andrea: 24 hours
- xi. Jansen: there should be some type of protection against tenants who try to complain about timeliness of maintenance. Say you want to sue a landlord, they shouldn't be able to raise rent on you or kick you out. If the landlord tries to retaliate, that isn't allowed.
- xii. Ericson: I think that going up against a landlord is scary and the odds are against you. I'm not sure how this fits. The city should make a safe and easy way for tenants to complain and make claims. Be able to do something without putting themselves at risk.
- xiii. Cayo: right to counsel that is a whole different thing but right now tenants don't have a legal right to counsel in rental court scenarios so the city can pass that. It won't fix all of it but it would be helpful. Yield to Amy Schweiner.
- xiv. Schweiner: thinking of putting that on a ballot initiative for the right to counsel thing. The tenant bill of rights for the security deposit, that is a state law that landlords can do whatever they want. We can't fix that but the counsel one, we can fix that.



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- XII. Announcements
 - a. Ericson: if you want to hear joe gow talk about sustainability, come to our next jces meeting!
 - b. Cayo: different scholarships are due soon so if you want to apply, get on that a lot of them go unprovided.
 - c. Byrne: tell your friends to vote and do your research about each of them.
- XIII. Adjournment