



# 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 24<sup>th</sup>, 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. Byrne: Can I add a discussion point for Respondus Lockdown Browser?
    - ii. Passes unanimously
- IV. Guest Speakers
  - a. Ahnen: we don't have any guest speakers, but we do have Kyle here, who is Dr. Larry's replacement, and he is here to see what things are about.
- V. General Student Body Open Forum
- VI. Officer Reports
  - a. **President:** Cate Wiza
    - i. An in-person commencement is in the works. Masks and social distancing required, and we are currently working on logistics.
    - ii. A recap about the strategic plan: Andrew gave his presentation that he gave to senate and it went over well. Joe Gow passed a charge letter saying to include that language in the new resolution. JPB will meet on March 10 to talk more about the language and the logistics. Whatever language that comes out of that committee will probably be interesting so feel free to come and listen.
    - iii. Our election commission needs a chair. SA elections are handled by that committee. In March, we start preparing for the upcoming election. It is not a big time commitment. You would probably meet 4 times. If you are interested, please let me know sooner rather than later.
    - iv. Here is the document that Secretary Amy Webster and I have been working on. I want to run this by you because I would like to put it on the website as a tool. Here I will share my screen and show it to you. At the top, this is the section about open meetings. Saying that we are responsible for following the open meetings laws. You have to share the date, time, and agenda 24 hours before on the website. This all details what you need how and such. I'm not sure if you have taken a look at what Amy does but that is the highest standard. All you really need to record are the motions, final vote outcome, attendance. This should be taken by the secretary. Date and time must be included. Send it to the chair of the committee and the Student Association secretary and University Centers no more than one week after the meeting. There will be no punishment if you don't but try to do that. This is an example from AIDAC. It includes key info, time the meeting ended, time meeting started. Any questions or concerns with this?
      1. Byrne: I'm not sure if this is the time to mention it but I feel like being secretary is a lot of work. It is hard to get your input in because you are always taking notes. Could we make secretary a rotating spot?



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

---

2. Wiza: I know that JPB does and that and it works well. I would think that it will be up to the committee. I know that something AIDAC does is have the recordings, then we can post the recordings to the website. I am not sure if it would be ok to have a recording instead of minutes, but we can have a conversation about that.
3. Ringgenberg: We can put that in the bylaws that it is a possibility just to rotate the position of secretary so that it tells the committees that they can do that. Recordings are great for now, but I am not sure how we do that once we are back in person.
4. Wiza: That's what I was thinking but also for this semester it might be appropriate.
  - v. Wiza: I will send this document out to you all so you can give me your feedback.
- b. **Vice President:** Olivia Ahnen
  - i. Ahnen: The final committee list should be done so send me an email if you are unsure of where you are supposed to be.
  - ii. Reminder to get me any resolutions or discussion points by Tuesday mid-afternoon if you could. If there is something you have an idea for but not a full resolution, put it up for discussion and see what everyone thinks.
- c. **Director of Staff:** Faith Fisher
  - i. I met with our little team for the WOC scholarship and we talked about what is expected and our plans. Holly has been doing great posting all that. We will be meeting with the foundation for tips and tricks. Content will be launched on March 1<sup>st</sup>. I ask everyone that if you follow the SA Instagram or Facebook, please reshare. I won't check it all but please share that info.
  - ii. Thank you to Senator Evans, Xiong, Cayo, Jeske, and Korfmacher for helping me with the scholarship and all the work you are doing.
- d. **State Affairs Director:** Grant Mathu
  - i. Tony Evers put out the budget and by now, a lot of people have come out in favor, but a lot of people have said stuff against it.
  - ii. The passage of a bill to adjust the state unemployment. I doubt that will have a big impact on people here but it might.
- e. **Local Affairs Director:** Amy Schweiner
  - i. I got in contact with environmental planner for the city and he has a survey based on energy efficiency and what we value. They will use these results to make a sustainable plan for the city. There is also an energy planning workshop. That would be more of a time commitment. 15-20 hours over six months. If you are interested, please email me. I'll link all that in the chat.
- f. **Inclusivity Director:** Camoya Evans
  - i. Since this is our last week in black history month, this is our last fact. I would like to acknowledge Vel Phillips. I learned about her in the Milwaukee riots in first black women on the Milwaukee council the black community. She represented where I grew up, it is just wild reading about it. In the district there are bad schools, housing problems, and white lining. She wrote the fair housing law of 1962, which made it illegal to not rent to black people and other discrimination. The riots of 1967 happened. She got arrested, people were killed, things set on fire. In 1968, the bill was passed. She later became the first black



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

- judge. She recently passed away in 2018. I just wanted to acknowledge someone close to home and helped the civil rights movement in Wisconsin.
- ii. If you are on the DOC committee, please respond to Will's emails or RSVP to the outlook invitations.
  - iii. Campus climate is still hiring seeds. Email me if you can't find the link. Seeds are super important on campus. If you know someone, tell them to apeopley.
  - iv. I am taking an informal survey of people's experiences with the hate and bias form, if you have any experience, please let me know.
- g. **Public Relations Director:** Holly Korfmacher
- i. I have been working on graphics for all the social media posts. Please repost and share all the stuff I will be posting for the whole month of March. It will be two posts a week. If anyone needs anything promoted, let me know.
  - ii. Camoya kind of sparked my interest in sharing ideas for jobs. We are hiring public speaking tutors! So, go to the website and apeopley for that. You can do it for credit or as a student worker.
- h. **Sustainability Director:** Jake Myers
- i. Green fund committee decided on a meeting time and that is 2:30-3:30 on Monday. If you can't make that, message me.
  - ii. Like Amy mentioned, there is that climate survey by City of La Crosse. It helps the city get a better knowledge of our priorities.
  - iii. Thank you, Andrew, and anyone else who helped with the charge to present at JPB. I am very proud of you all!
- VII. Advisor Reports
- a. Ringgenberg: This is my last report to you guys! It's not a lot. We are in the process of doing an apeopleication to be considered a voter-friendly campus. Figure that out.
  - b. Some of you are on student services and building committee and are secret shoppers for the dining program. This allows us to get some info about the food look and taste. I appreciate y'all who volunteered.
  - c. Great job, Jake and Andrew, OZZI is just taken off and that is awesome!
  - d. We are really close on the digital ID, it has been tested, you can buy things with it, if you have block meals or maroon dollars, we can get that in your hands as soon as possible.
  - e. What about rent college pads? Cate, Olivia or Amy do you have anything to say?
    - i. Wiza: I was caught off guard by the email today. I guess we are taking a step back, negotiating deals with rent college pads after discussing language for housing fairs?
    - ii. Ringgenberg: Yes, we hit a bump. That is all paused for now. Any landlords who want to come to the fair hosted by Student Association can come, and we are presenting that to them as a change in the contract, I'm not sure what their reaction would be.
    - iii. Wiza: I have mixed feelings about that. They charge landlords a fee for listing and for small landlords, it can be impractical. They say its cheapest of all platforms. Their website is really nice, looks good and easy to navigate. I am set on Student Association having some say in this process. Possibly make an advisory committee to check on rent college pads? They could just make sure that our landlords do okay if this goes through.
    - iv. Ringgenberg: This change came through the university contracts person, and they



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

---

said they didn't like that.

- v. Wiza: We would see what happens. Does anyone have any experiences with them?
- f. Ringgenberg: Any questions? I will let Vitaliano or Kyle speak if they would like.
  - i. Kyle: I look forward to working with you. Thanks Dr. Larry for all his work over 35 years. Tough to fill those shoes but I can't wait to move forward.
  - ii. Vitaliano: I would also like to thank dr. Larry for his service and commitment to this university. I have appreciated his friendship, mentorship, and guidance in my time here. He has always kept students first and foremost and I have appreciated that about him. He will be missed but I am happy for him to get some much-needed rest. You will be missed for sure.
- g. Zwettler: I wanted to know if we heard from mayoral candidates and if they will be at a meeting in the future.
  - i. Ahnen; I haven't heard anything.
  - ii. Wiza: I will look into that.

## VIII. Committee & Organizational Reports

- a. Carroll: The Reflections of Ebony on the 26<sup>th</sup>- check out the UWL BSU Instagram for more information.

## IX. Unfinished Business

## X. New Business

### a. SA2021-035

- i. Ahnen: This resolution is pertaining to the green fund rate for FY22. Sydney would you like to introduce this?  
Naviochick: Yeah sure. Essentially, we decided to keep it at the same rate. There was concern that the balance might get too high, but we are just keeping it the same. I can answer any questions if you have any!

Ahnen: Is this time sensitive? Does it need to be passed tonight? Sponsors or more discussion?

Ericson: No, we have until April.

### b. SA2021-036

- i. Zwettler: I brought some ideas to Cate about to how honor Dr. Larry. I know there was a resolution passed last year but we can't send you off without anything. It mentions the great work he has done and officially names March 1<sup>st</sup> Dr. Larry Ringgenberg day.

Ringgenberg: I am honored.

Wiza: I always look forward to our meetings because everyone else I don't want to talk to them, but I do want to talk to you! I'm in a management class and my professor probably thinks that I'm obsessed with Dr. Larry. Every week we have to write a discussion post about leadership, and I mentioned him. I wrote that he has integrity, intelligence, social ability, and that he has worked with student leadership 35 years; and has had that many years of mistakes, growth, and not making the same mistakes. I hope to have those skills someday. He offers





# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

---

people see that. We also discussed sending info to hall directors and RAs to distribute to dorms and possibly table at Whitney.

Byrne: We could reach out to people in student orgs and the Cove. It might be daunting for new student to join senate but reaching out to those already in leadership positions it isn't as big of a step.

Baumann: We should explore the typical platforms. Maybe we could post testimony on short videos on prompts for social media to make it more interactive.

Ahnen: If there are anymore ideas, just send me an email with your idea. I would love to hear what you have to say.

b. Bus Route

- i. Ahnen: This discussion is on route 5 specifically. It goes out by the mall, around Target and all those stores in Onalaska. Currently it runs every 30 minutes. Today we were thinking about whether or not 30 minutes is necessary for that route. Not as many students travel there anymore so we were wondering if an hour would be sufficient.

Ringgenberg: The route 5 is the only route we are paying for to make it 30 minutes instead of an hour. We can take the 30 min increment somewhere else too.

Zwettler: Would we be able to get data from the city to where people take the route?

Wiza: Wasn't that discussed at the meeting?

Ringgenberg: The problem is that the data for this year isn't good. Ridership has been dropping a lot with COVID and stuff.

Zwettler: Would it be possible for us to do a marketing campaign to take the bus when possible as an environmentally friendly transportation option?

Ahnen: I'm sure that is an option to explore.

Nejapa-Jensen: I take that route to get to work and I think that it is nice that it comes every half hour, especially when it is cold because then if you miss it, you aren't waiting too long.

Fisher: I took the bus a lot my sophomore year during the summer because I had a job, and I didn't have a car. It is hard to get a job in La Crosse proper so people in the past told me to take the bus and I heard that from my friends. I echo what Jansen said.



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

---

Byrne: I feel redundant here, but I would like to echo what they are saying. I take the bus to work, and even if not that many people take it, the opportunity is there, and we should keep it. Although, it is dependent on the data. If people aren't using it, people aren't using it so then it would make sense.

Flynn: I took it a lot my freshman year. I would worry about changing it to every hour because it would discourage people from taking it even more than already because the system isn't great.

Engbretson: I know my friends and I, we took that route to the mall and I guess people, especially freshmen, might use it more than upper classmen. COVID might make things different now though.

Ericson: I would be hesitant to make this decision given COVID. Once we begin to move past this, we could see an increase in bus use. We can advocate for the environmental aspect and push for public transport and we can be better at promoting it through Student Association, green fund, SFS, etc.

Myers: I really like buses, and I know a lot of people who take the bus. People travel back and forth to other ends of the town that way. I dm'd Dr. Larry saying that I think we should buy another bus with the green fund. When I was younger in Madison, and when I was in Chile, I rode it everywhere. Great for everyone because they don't know that it is free. It would free up more parking spaces on campus. We only win by promoting, so we should offer more, not less.

Ringgenberg: In the past, they have brought a bus onto campus during sample the city to do demos on how to load the bus with your bike and such. There is a lot that they might be willing to do, if we asked and worked with them to bring them on campus.

Ahnen: We definitely could market it better.

Schweiner: Maybe as a way to increase ridership, we could offer coupons to places that are on the bus line to those who ride the bus. If they take the bus, they get a deal. An excuse to go there and take the bus for the first time. I don't know if with COVID that would be the best idea, but we can work on it later.

c. Respondus Lockdown Browser

- i. Byrne: I saw a Twitter thread from math professor, and I will link that in the chat. He shared personal testimony about it having a lot of issues with his students getting locked out, flagged because people were making noise. I know that it is hard to find a private place that is quiet with roommates and all. Also, closed book tests where you would need Respondus aren't great for learning and retention. In the real world, everything is open book. Academic dishonesty is a real thing but who is it really helping? Can be stressful and a lot of pressure for students. Has anyone had experience?



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

---

Wiza: I heard a lot about this last spring. It wasn't always those problems. Some people said, "I don't like how they can see into my house" and people don't feel comfortable with those personal settings being exposed to professors. I support you on this initiative. I will reach out to the UW system presidents because they talked about this, but that discussion died last fall. I can provide an update to you.

Flynn: I don't have a quiet place in my house and sometimes I don't have time to get to library and find a place. I don't know if it is Respondus but some program makes it so students can't go back to check their work and stuff. Some of my professors have made things more open ended so I know that there are ways around it. I have heard issues about that too.

Zwettler: Personally, most professors decided not to go that route, they just made questions more concept based instead of multiple choice, specific questions where the answer is just in a book. A lot of other ways around that like Kelly said.

Julson: Personally, I didn't like the not being able to go back and change your answers. It makes me flustered. If they could change that, it would be great.

Byrne: Thanks for your input! I will probably write a resolution to recommend to faculty senate about reconsidering its use. Email me if you want to be a coauthor on that.

## XII. Announcements

- a. Xiong: Happy 4<sup>th</sup> week of classes! No significance I'm just saying that we are doing a good job, we got this!
- b. Ringgenberg: I want to say thank you. I have often said that we have the best student government in Wisconsin. You lived up to that I am proud of you and will miss you. I have a temptation to jump into your meeting next Wednesday, but I will resist! I am impressed at all of your hard work and I am going to miss you.
- c. Ahnen: We know that we are happy for you even though it is sad.

## XIII. Adjournment

- a. 7:37