



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 17th, 2021**

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

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of Minutes
 - i. Approved unanimously
 - b. Approval of Agenda
 - i. Jeske: I would like to bring up the increase of hate crimes against Asian-Americans and perhaps have a discussion about that.
 - ii. Approved unanimously
- IV. Guest Speakers
 - a. Mitch Reynolds (absent)
- V. General Student Body Open Forum
 - a. Chad Spaeth: I am the president of the co-ed professional business fraternity here on campus and I was wondering what you had to say about timeline of organizations meeting in person. If you know when we would be able to be in person for meetings, following masks and social distancing. In-person allows for personal and professional development and networking, including public speaking and presenting skills that are hard to exercise online. We are transitioning for more events after the end of semester. Just wondering why we can meet in person for class and not for these sorts of events.

Wiza: There was an email sent at the beginning of the semester about this. That wasn't a student association decision. We did put the regulation in place for fall, but we didn't extend to the spring semester. That was the Cove's decision. As for classes, only 9% are meeting in person. I can add this to Kyle if he would like to add anything.

Burke: Gow sent out an email last week asking everyone to help stay the course. The cases on campus are low, testing is in compliance, and the message is to stay the course. The second half of that was working on ways to allow for in person meetings. I am working on a protocol and presentation for vice chancellor. Maximum occupancy is a concern I will outline that in my plan. Hopefully, we can start getting together again by early April if it is approved at the meeting tomorrow. The other piece is to develop what programs we can start to do outside. Brainstorm things we can do outside, tabling and such. We want to start reactivating campus in a safe way.

Spaeth: Thank you for sharing.

- VI. Officer Reports
 - a. **President:** Cate Wiza
 - i. I emailed the chair of CAPS about implementing pass/fail grading again for this spring semester. People are interested in this with the taking away of spring break and all.



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- ii. The election commission still needs students- people who aren't running this year. Please reach out to your constituents. It is a low time commitment. We need students so we can have these elections. We already have to push it back a week. It's not a big deal, but we need to start that quick. Just three students so email me if you have anyone.
 - b. **Vice President:** Olivia Ahnen
 - i. Keep adding discussion point ideas into that form I sent out a couple weeks ago.
 - ii. Attendance. We will start taking attendance after the meetings as well because some people are leaving halfway through. We need people here to do our jobs. Just let me know if you can't make a meeting or need to leave early. We are understanding of any changes.
 - c. **Director of Staff:** Faith Fisher
 - i. We are at 54% of goal for the scholarship. Continue to let other people know! Continue to promote that. The posts are super cute and informational so great job, Holly. I plan on reaching out to alumni this weekend. I will let you know about the results of that.
 - ii. Camoya and I also have an interview with The Racquet soon. So that will be exciting.
 - d. **State Affairs Director:** Grant Mathu
 - i. The state government moved up date for people with medical conditions to get vaccinated. Next Monday, as of the 22nd, they will be eligible.
 - e. **Local Affairs Director:** Amy Schweiner
 - i. On the topic of vaccines, if you work in a restaurant you can get vaccinated now. Get in as early as this week.
 - ii. I contacted Downtown La Crosse and La Crosse diversity commission to ask if it was possible to get a gift certificate that would work for many businesses. Pair up with Viterbo and Western for this bus project as well.
 - f. **Inclusivity Director:** Camoya Evans
 - i. Continue to advocate for scholarship!
 - ii. Like Faith said, we have that interview with The Racquet coming up so that is cool.
 - g. **Public Relations Director:** Holly Korfmacher
 - i. I have just been working on the scholarship. Thanks to all for sharing! Thanks to senators for reaching out for things they want to have promoted as well. I really like doing that for you all.
 - h. **Sustainability Director:** Jake Myers
 - i. Thanks everyone who came out for the trash pickup!
 - ii. A couple of green fund projects in the works. If you have any interest in joining, hop on the meeting or send me a message.
 - iii. Get your vaccine! I will be getting mine on Saturday.
- VII. Advisor Reports (Kyle Burke)
 - a. Thanks for coming to the trash pickup, I had a good time, and so did my son.
 - b. I need to understand the elections process, so I have a meeting tomorrow.
 - c. I will reinforce the importance of the attendance piece that Olivia mentioned as well.
 - d. If you have a meeting, event or virtual anything, please invite me. I would love to add that into my calendar as I can. Even just a one-on-one is great to get to know you all.



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VIII. Committee & Organizational Reports

- a. Cayo: Please complete the campus climate survey. SUFAC was reaching out to entities and we found that the lecture series had 510% of funds still unspent. They have a set up so whatever they don't spend to rolls over into the next semester so that is why they have so much. We put a freeze on their account, so they won't collect segregated fees next semester until they spend some of the money they have.
- b. Webster: Student Services and Buildings Committee talked about how long the plastic waste in Whitney will continue, and we found out that they are aiming to be back to normal plates, cups, and silverware next semester.
- c. Ericson: Green fund hired a social media person so that will be great.

IX. Unfinished Business

a. SA2021-039

- i. Mathu: like we talked about last time, this resolution is just in support of the governor's budget as it is. It is an unprecedentedly large investment in the UW system and our campus. This is just saying we support this.

Zwettler: Do you happen to know if the renovations for Mitchell hall HVAC system are included in this resolution?

Mathu: they are in the budget, but not in the resolution. I probably should have added that.

Cayo: Just some context, this is something we have been asking for support for several years. This is important.

Julson: With COVID, we know how that impacted our economy and this is great for the community to be invested in again.

Strzyzewski: I was just wondering if anyone knows why we haven't gotten this in a while, even though we have been asking.

Mathu: political parties might play into that a little bit. Some other schools hired a private lobbyist, and we didn't so that might have had a thing to do with it. But really, there's only so much money to go around.

Zwettler: Prairie Springs was supposed to be done in one go but that didn't pan out so now we are stuck trying to get all this passed for part two.

Cayo: Every university is asking for money for residence halls. It is a matter of who asks the loudest that will get it.

- ii. Passes unanimously

X. New Business

a. SA2021-041

- i. Kum: Basically, student orgs committee has realized that there isn't a mandated statement in the bylaws in case their inclusion statement isn't being upheld.



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Cayo: I can provide some context. Last year we passed two of these resolutions. One to be mandated for Student Association, and one was sent to faculty senate. What is up for grabs is if we are comfortable mandating all orgs to include this statement.

Ericson: I think that what this outlines is essential to our university's mission. Don't think this is a big jump at all.

Zwettler: I agree with Senator Ericson. It is important that student orgs have this in their bylaws to make sure that even if they do have this statement already, then we should make sure that gets addressed.

Cayo: Most student orgs don't have one, I think it would be risky to have them define it on their own, so this is us providing language for them.

Byrne: I was wondering how you are going to hold orgs accountable for putting this in there. Many orgs haven't updated their bylaws in years.

Cayo: Every org that is approved thru UWL has to have their current bylaws in MyOrgs. Every year they need to have those on file and have current leadership. The second resolution is mandating the committee for their enforcement actions.

ii. L'Ecuyer: everything goes thru MyOrgs. From personal experience, my orgs are pretty good about making little edits every year. There is a hope that students will stay on top of this.

b. SA2021-040

i. L'ecuyer: This is a follow up that allows the student organizations committee to hold orgs accountable if there are issues with compliance of this statement.

Cayo: There is a draft included in this agenda if you all would like to look at that.

Kum: The first part is stating why we are adding it, and if you keep scrolling, there are more details. Just telling orgs that there are consequences. And a process for appeals is detailed as well.

Ericson: I am asking a clarifying question about the probation period under consequences a3. What is probation defined as? And for b in that section, on the third offence student org committee can put one on probation by committee vote. How do you decide to put one on probation if you don't have trainers? What is probation defined as and do you need a vote to do so in that instance.

Kum: I'm not really sure how probation would look and if a vote would be needed.



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Xiong: If you are going to look into every student org, is there a specific section to put this statement under? Or just somewhere in general? Just a general logistics question so you can look at all the bylaws quicker.

L'Ecuyer: It just needs to be in there and yes, Andrew it would need to go up to a vote.

Kum: I would assume that the probation would be the committee watching over them and then after a certain period of good behavior, they would stop.

- ii. Xiong (in chat): I found this in the manual: Probation means that the recognized student organization is permitted to remain registered only upon the condition that it complies with all university rules and regulations and with other standards of conduct which the organization is directed to observe for the duration of the period of the probation. Probation may include the suspension of some of the organization's rights. Probation may not exceed two semesters in duration for any given misconduct, except that violation of probationary conditions may be cause for extension of the probation for no more than two additional semesters or for suspension of some rights.

XI. Discussion

a. Bus Transportation Promotion

- i. Webster: I know we had a discussion about the bus a few weeks ago but I just wanted to see if any of you had ideas of how to get more students to ride the bus and promote it overall.

Jeske: The residence halls have hall directors put stuff up in the communities. Since it is more likely that people in the residence halls don't have cars, that would be a good place to start. Also, the screens in the buildings or bulletin boards.

Myers: I know that for some, it is a sentiment of unsafety. The system is also not user friendly. Especially if someone comes not having experience with buses. We could get a survey put together and see what the problem is. It seems like people don't feel safe. After that, it would be they don't know how to use it. Info session for freshman about how to use the bus during orientation possibly as well.

Cayo: As someone who uses the bus every day, using Google maps is a lot better than using the MTU app. Your maps app on phone is a lot more user friendly. I very much like it. One idea for promoting it is a scavenger hunt, forcing them to ride the bus and go places around town.

Myers: You can also download the Moovit app, and it will show you all the bus stops and when a bus is coming.

Jeske: Is this something that could be done in the UWL 100 class? And also, is there liability if something happens?



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Schweiner: That is a good point with the UWL 100. We could make a brochure, put something up in the res halls. Deals or list of events in the brochure and a little map of the bus routes. Just reinforcing that the bus is an option.

Byrne: I just want to reply to Jake's idea. It wouldn't be something for a class, but it could be taught to RAs in the fall so they could help their residents.

Weghorn: Having a bus route map more present in the res halls, in the U or Whitney, so it is in students' minds. People can realize that the bus goes by certain stops. And just see it to be exposed so that it comes to mind when they need to go somewhere.

Zwettler: One other idea is I know the bus is already free for all UWL students, but maybe we could make a financial incentive for doing it. Tuition rebate perhaps, probably not possibility just wanted to toss it out there.

Burke: Dr. Ringgenberg mentioned that the bus used to come to events so maybe we could do that.

Xiong: Is it free for elders as well?

Cayo: Right now it is free for everyone. They will start requiring money soon.

Webster: I'm pretty sure that it is either free or half price fare for 65+ and if you receive Medicare/Medicaid.

Schweiner: Building off of Jared, a tuition rebate or a rewards project. Students could swipe and earn points. It would require us to track how people are using the buss. Right now, you just show your id to the driver. UWL could collab with MTU. We could put a QR code on the bus?

Myers: Use punch cards?

Julson: I think a QR code would work. Maybe UWL should make their own bussing app too.

- b. Hate crimes against Asian-Americans
 - i. Jeske: I don't have a conversation planned or anything just wanted to bring it up. I'm sure much of you are already aware. There were a couple of shootings took place at Asian spas. Some miscommunications are still going on. We are pretty sure there were eight victims, four for sure were of Korean descent. Just want to highlight that since COVID, there has been a lot of hate against the Asian American community. Not sure about a call to action or anything for us specifically but I thought it was good to have a discussion.



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Julson: clearly it has been occurring for a while, I've read some articles about how the hate crimes have increased and I think that it had to do with some influence in the political community. I appreciate your communication of this issue.

Jeske: I'm not asking anyone to do anything, there is a lot of disconnect between black community and Asian American community. If you are interested, look up the model minority concept. It talks about the overlap between those groups, and it is very interesting.

Cayo: Would you like to put together a media action, vigil, march, or anything? I would be willing to help you plan.

Jeske: I plan on reaching out to ASO and see if they have any ideas for an event or something.

Cayo: The Pride Center will support you on this.

Wiza: You have my full support as well.

Kum: ASO fully supports you!

Xiong: I would also be able to help organize!

Fisher: I encourage everyone to research on your own and find articles. This is something that a lot of BIPOC folks have been talking about since the start of COVID. It isn't surprising. Very sad, but not surprising. I am more than willing to give information but asking other Asian Americans to give you information isn't their job. I hope that you all do your own research.

XII. Announcements

- a. Zwettler: A reminder that free speech committee's mayoral debate will be next week, the 25th, at 6pm. Submit questions on the link I will sent out to you all.
- b. Byrne: Richard Frost in environmental studies department is hosting a marsh clean up again for earth day. It is the April weekend after earth day. Come out and volunteer!

XIII. Adjournment

- a. 7:25