



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

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## Student Senate Agenda

Date: **Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>**

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

- I. Call to Order
  - a. 6:02
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of Minutes
    - i. Approved unanimously
  - b. Approval of Agenda
    - i. Approved unanimously
- IV. Guest Speakers
- V. General Student Body Open Forum
  - a. Keren Krisnik: Hi. I have an idea to help students with a problem that has arisen here at UWL. Because of COVID, professors are no longer allowed to print readings, syllabi, and that sort of thing, which puts the burden of paying for printing onto the students, instead of the university, where it has usually been. I've had to use pay for printing once or twice a week and that doesn't include the longer stuff that I would like to print but can't afford to. This has added to my screen time, as I am forced to choose between the option of paying or staring at a screen. University staff and faculty have been suggesting cutting down on screen time, but that is hard to do. Now, as an English lit major, my printing needs are probably higher than other students, but every major has its own needs. Bio majors may not need to print readings, but diagrams and stuff, where color printing is sometimes needed and that's really expensive. Because of that, my idea is to provide some sort of printing fund for on and off campus students here at UW by using CARES act funds. I want to point out that I don't believe that it would be wise to move this onto students as an additional tuition cost because then the students are just paying for it in a different way.

Ericson: Can you give us an estimate of how much you spend weekly?

Krisnik: I think I came to \$15 per week, since some things are upwards of 30 pages that I print three times a week, every week.

Ericson: As a chem major, I don't have that much. I'm curious, that given with next semester expected to be mostly in person, should we be looking long or short term? My guess is that next and subsequent semesters will not have a pandemic, but do you think this will persist?

Krisnik: It is a lot easier for professors to post a reading on Canvas and that's it they might continue to just do that now that they are used to it.



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## VI. Officer Reports

### a. **President:** Cate Wiza

- i. CAB reached out and they are planning a craft night on the 28<sup>th</sup> and asked if we want to help sponsor. I said yes to sponsor, but we should all go, help chalk, and advertise. It is making little potted plants and a hanger thing to put it in.
- ii. I will meet with CAPS on Friday to discuss S/U grading. If you have experiences to tell me so I can share with them, let me know.
- iii. Updates for the higher education award will come on Tuesday.
- iv. There are period products in the pantry, no shame, no questions. Fill out the form online and you will be able to swipe in if you need to.

Ericson: are you still planning on writing a green fund grant?

Wiza: I am working on that, yes. I am working on expanding the diversity of products in the period pantry.

Ericson: Will that be one by the 23rd? Because that would be ideal.

Wiza: Yes, I can make that happen.

### b. **Vice President:** Olivia Ahnen

- i. I'm still just thinking about the end of the year senate celebration, if that is something we would want to do. We are allowed to have an outdoor gathering with our group size. I'm not sure if you are interested in this, or when it would be, but I will send out a form or something soon. Be watching for that.

### c. **Director of Staff:** Faith Fisher

- i. I don't have much so I will pass it along.

### d. **State Affairs Director:** Grant Mathu

- i. Today Wisconsin reached 25 or 28% of people vaccinated, so please continue to work on getting your appointments and such.
- ii. Joint finance committee meetings are coming up. If you are interested in giving testimony for Prairie Springs part two before the committee, which is virtual on the 28<sup>th</sup>, contact me, Will, or Brad if you are interested. I'll put our emails in the chat.

### e. **Local Affairs Director:** Amy Schweiner

- i. Police and fire commission met. They will more than likely build the new firehouse in the park next to Coate. If you want me to connect you to the city or relay your opinions to them, let me know.
- ii. They also discussed the criminal justice subcommittee, which is a citizen board overseeing the police instead of having the department handle some things. Email me and I can transfer any opinions you have on that to them as well.
- iii. The city is moving towards getting rid of parking minimums for new buildings. Good for sustainability not good because less parking.
- iv. Housing survey will be sent out soon.

### f. **Inclusivity Director:** Camoya Evans

- i. I have mostly been working with LIT on their dare to divest campaign.
- ii. I'm working with students of color and getting their experiences. Reaching out to faculty of color as well, even those who no longer are employed here.



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iii. Meeting with Stewart next week to talk about the final diversity and inclusion things for this year.

- g. **Public Relations Director:** Holly Korfmacher
- i. I'll be posting this week about the debate for Monday.

Ericson: there are a lot of earth week events coming up, would you be able to share those things? I know the Rec and green fund will be posting about that on their own accounts, but it would be great if you could reach more people on those.

Myers: you can also post about that registration for classes since that starts this week.

- h. **Sustainability Director:** Jake Myers
- i. Green fund committee met in person for the first time, so that was fun to finally meet people. Hopefully, next time we can do that again. We voted for our small grant reusable bag grant. I'm just finalizing the details of that and then I will let you all know who that is.
  - ii. There are a ton of earth day events to go ahead and join in!

## VII. Advisor Reports

- a. Burke: Campaigning for senate and president/ vice is going on now. April 27<sup>th</sup> is voting day, so encourage everyone to vote and participate.
- b. I'm working on final purchases before the end of the year.
- c. I know someone mentioned registration and I want to mention that the university has mentioned that usually if a student has a balance of \$100 or more on their account, they wouldn't be able to register. But that has been temporarily lifted to \$500.

Cayo: When are students able to start voting on election day and when does it stop?

Wiza: 7 or 8am and then ends at 7pm I believe. I could be wrong.

Burke: 7am-7pm and the counting happens at 8pm that day.

Wiza: if you are running, please read the election day campaign guidelines because it is different.

## VIII. Committee & Organizational Reports

### IX. Unfinished Business

### X. New Business

#### a. SA2021-048

- i. Cayo: President Wiza noted that some of our bylaws don't have updated titles for cabinet members and information about the open meeting laws, so we just went through and changed some of those.

Wiza: The executive cabinet bylaws will also need to be updated just for that switch as well, for reference in the future. I changed chief of staff to director of staff and changed the order of the agenda to approval of minutes and approval of agenda. We also brought up changes to the open student body forum to before



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the guest speakers so that they don't have to sit through the guest speaker to talk for like five minutes. I didn't change that on here but if anyone is interested in that, please bring that forward

ii. Ericson: I would motion to change that.

Wiza: I also added this language about the committees of student senate following open meeting laws. It is the job of the chair of each committee to make sure that they are following the guidelines. I placed in here as a reminder to the chairs. Each committee needs a chair, vice chair, and secretary. The secretary records minutes, motions, votes, roll call, things like that. Those minutes need to be sent to the Student Association secretary and university centers. Once this gets approved, I will send that form that I made earlier in the year with resources on how to do that to university centers to post on the website as resources. That just has some time limits and such.

b. **Ericson Green Fund presentation:** This is just an overview of both of them. Very important to read the real applications, but this is just a reminder. A review of the application process: the grants are sent to me, and JCES. They give recommendations. Then it goes to SUFAC and comes to student senate. We usually have the last say, occasionally the administration will shoot down an idea. Here is the evaluation criteria for the projects by JCES: high, medium and low priority. High is super visible to students and makes a big impact. Medium are small energy efficiency things, and low priority items are things that aren't massive improvements, just small things that students might not even recognize. We are at around \$239,000 in the account now. We really are at about \$177,000 after the other projects that had prior approval. The reason I am showing you this is that if we hit \$210,000, we don't collect funds above that. If we weren't to spend any money this semester, we won't collect funds and that's not a good look for the future, so I will say that we should pass at least one of these. The first grant is for union sensor faucets. We could potentially replace 51 faucets in the building. The sensor faucets would save up to 70% on water, have less hot water use, and run at about 1.9 GPM with automatic shutoff. The union is so new, so the faucets in place are already kind of efficient, I'm not sure if we will see all that improvements. The green fund would promote this, so students know what is going on. Another thing that's helpful is that it relieves duty from custodial staff. With COVID, they have a lot more sanitizing to do. It is around \$20,000 total, \$15,000 for parts and the rest for labor and some contingency plans. The JCES concerns has: is there wisdom in replacing the new faucets? Can the existing faucets be reused or recycled? The answer to that is that it looks like we can sell them or donate to habitat for humanity. Another question is whether just signage would save water as much as the change? Other concerns that there are other buildings that don't have automatic faucets and are older. This was ranked a low priority item according to JCES.

The other project is the Coate Hall steam traps, and it is a \$41,000 project. Projects that involve residence halls are usually funded in part by residence life, but given that the green fund has a lot of money and that res life has had a tough year so we are going to fund this completely if passed. The old ones let steam pass through even when closed. Natural gas is used to make steam to heat all buildings on campus. This allows the heat



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from natural gas just to escape. This isn't visible to students, but it would improve living conditions in Coate, resulting in less popping noises. It is expected to last ten years, it will create some cost savings, but that is hard to calculate. The JCES input was that they approved this contingent upon the authors doing it again, and the second one was much better. It is hard to get exact numbers on the steam savings in the old halls. It isn't shiny or beautiful, but is a good impact. It was passed as a medium priority. Hopefully that is good refresher and I will pass it over to K.C. to introduce the resolutions.

**c. SA2021-049**

- i. Cayo: One thing that SUFAC considered is that we don't want them to reach the cap. The extra money then goes to the reserve and we already have a lot of money there, so we don't want it there. We have passed steam trap green fund grants before, so we know this is an okay use of the funding. It will also make it better for students to study and sleep, with less disruptions.

Zwettler: I would agree with what K.C. said with not letting them hit the cap. In a typical year, does the green fund go into the new student orientation or other spaces with first year students, to promote the green fund and stuff. Getting them interested?

Ericson: That is something we are working on. The green fund has underperformed in getting the word out about itself. We hired a social media person to take advantage of Instagram. I am going to talk to the director of admissions about including papers about green fund, green bikes, the OZZI, and that sort of thing on a sheet to be included in that folder they get at tours and stuff. We are trying. If you have suggestions, send it my way.

**d. SA2021-050**

- i. Cayo: We approved this at full amount, given we don't want to the green fund to meet their cap. We would like to see this come back for other buildings, like the Rec. Some other things we discussed is that with COVID, it is a lot cleaner, and it is a lot more disability friendly as well.

**XI. Discussion**

**a. Trash bins outside on campus**

- i. Ahnen: I pulled this from the survey I sent out earlier. I think it is Andrea's so I will allow her to introduce it.

Julson: when I made this discussion point, I hadn't been on campus in a long time. I had noticed that we have a bunch of trash cans outside, but we don't have a lot of recycling, so I thought that if people are just tossing recyclables in the trash, that isn't good. I was just on campus a few weeks ago and I noticed that there is a recycling bin right next to a trash bin, so I guess this might be a miss. I do think recycling has been good in the buildings so I guess I can be happy about that.

Ericson: I know there is one of them near Coate and Eagle. One problem with having them outside is that people are just looking for the closest thing to dump their trash into and I would guess that there is a lot of contamination in those, but



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we could ask facilities.

Meyers: There is a study that shows how many feet a human is willing to walk to throw out their trash. The distance is spaced out for a reason. I think there is more of a problem with personal effort and what the staff has to do as well. I would be in favor of increasing opportunities to recycle of course, if we can find a good way to do it.

Ericson: I would be curious to see about off campus as well. Like there is no outlet for throwing stuff away once you leave campus. Maybe we could get more bins off campus.

Schweiner: I'm sure you could mention that to the city. A lot of new people coming in are more sustainability minded so you could talk to them about that.

Zwettler: I'm just wondering if there were standalone recycling bins, without a trash can next to it, would that cause a problem with sorting and stuff?

Meyers: I run the Trex bins every time I empty it, I have to sort through bags and garbage every two Saturdays. So, it is annoying. And you have to wonder if more trash cans would mean more squirrels.

## XII. Announcements

- a. Ericson: Earth week next week! SFS trash pickup on Sunday, Rec one on Thursday. Wall-E showings on Thursday and Friday, and a pickup at the marsh on Saturday. I know you are all busy, but one of those should fit in your schedule so try to go to one or all! They will be fun.

## XIII. Adjournment

- a. 7:16