



# 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, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

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

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Consent Agenda
  - a. Approval of Agenda
  - b. Approval of Minutes
- IV. Guest Speakers
  - a. Provost Betsy Morgan

Morgan: We have been working on our spring schedule and such. We have been thinking: Could art, music, studio and science lab classes stay in some form of face to face in the spring in the event that we do have to shut down again? We will know what classes will be online and in person soon when that is officially released in a few days. We will work with res life and Larry about what dining and housing would look like in that situation of partially open campus. It is very sad, but we have officially cancelled fall commencement. Those who were on track to graduate have been notified already and general notification will come soon.

A little about me and my job, no one really knows what provost means. So, I will just tell you about my job. I came to UWL in 1993, taught psych for 20 years and switched to this job in administration. I am in charge of all the academic stuff- everything that is involved with classes including financial stuff, courses, and the like.

Ericson: There have been concerns referring to in person classes right now. People have had professors who just use a face shield. Is there anything you are doing to address that?

Morgan: Every faculty member was told that they could choose between the mask and a face shield, but our preference was a face mask. Global languages, art and theatre have been using just the shield since in their departments, it can be important to see facial expressions and such. Also, access center students may have a professor that does it if a student is present who is hard of hearing and needs to read lips.

Ericson: There have also been concerns that online classes take more amount of time than the equivalent of the same class would be if it was in person.

Morgan: In general, the messaging for faculty to has been to be as flexible as possible. Your question is about manageable time. We have been telling our professors to stay true to the course outcomes but decrease the expectations. Do you need these high assignment requirements in order to achieve the same outcome? But the bottom line is that we don't know what is going on in all classes. We know some faculty have worked really hard to do this, but we also have heard of some who are making it harder. The other thing we do is that we provide a



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

---

standard survey for professors to provide to students at midterm so they can get a feel for how their students are feeling in regard to the class. I just know that when we are on our computers all the time, it is hard and wearing on us, the faculty try really hard to figure out what is good so providing that feedback is super important. In the spring we suspended the SEI, but it will be back this fall. I don't like to say that to you because that is for the end of the semester, which won't change for this semester but hopefully professors will utilize those midterm reflections to adjust the course before it is too late.

Schauberger: In regard to the face shield and face mask things, it is against the Wisconsin state mandate to just wear a shield. I have it pulled up and it needs to be a piece of fabric, and that it doesn't include shield. I am just wondering why you gave faculty the option to break the Wisconsin mandate.

Morgan: I didn't know that the mandate was that specific. The advice was given before the mandate was enacted in the summer. Like I mentioned before, there may be a student who is hard of hearing in the class and that could be why that is being used. Do we know if there are examples in departments that aren't in the global languages or theatre? It would be helpful if I knew the specifics. If you have had a student who brought you this concern, please let me know who this is. I just want to know if it is a widespread thing or do we just need to have a quiet conversation with a professor, as opposed to sending out a mass email that many people honestly may not read.

Cayo: Between all of my classes, we are using four different video platforms and some of my friends are using even more than that. Are there any way to encourage professors to maybe choose between one or two?

Morgan: I agree. I am not sure how to do that, but I know that the reasons that faculty just didn't use collaborate were real. Zoom is now integrated into Canvas so that should encourage some professors to use that. Faculty don't always realize that the students have to juggle their schedules and how hard that can be because most likely, each professor chooses one platform and that's all they need to know how to use. We do tell the faculty to stay to ones that are supported by university and these are: Zoom, Webex and Collaborate Ultra. About 3 weeks ago, I did a 12-hour day, and I was on 6 different platforms it was tiring. It is hard to know all the features on every aspect. Other campuses are having the same problem. Webex just came out with a breakout room function so that will make it hopefully easier for professors to switch between platforms if they all offer the same services.

Engbretson: We had Joe Gow on one of our meetings recently. I asked him a question regarding tuition and the quality of education students are receiving this year. He maintained that the quality of classes are of the same quality, but a lot of students feel like they aren't getting the same quality of information. If it were different, we shouldn't be paying for something we aren't getting. How can we collect data to show that? I really want to know how we can show you that students



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

---

feel like they aren't getting the same quality.

Morgan: It is a complex situation. I am answering about tuition fees only, because as I'm sure you all know, the segregated fees are different. The standard answer to your question from the faculty perspective is that it is more work to teach an online class, so we don't want to have their compensation be decreased for doing more work. We also know that people have been teaching online classes for over 20 years now. The outcomes of online classes are the same or better. Research shows that. You ask if people like online classes, that is very different. Junior and senior students tend to like them better than the early years because as an upperclassman, you have already established those relationships with professors and such. Is there anything students could do or say? Honestly, it is hard to imagine what that would be. You would have to prove that the experience was very different than if it was in person and that is near impossible since you can't know what would have transpired without this virus. The best we can do is we have assessments, and such can be compared but it is hard to imagine how to do that with conclusive proof.

Engbretson: The thing with online classes is that people could choose to do online classes everywhere else, when we are paying for the experience to do it here. And those rates reflect that we are paying for value that we aren't getting.

Morgan: The faculty want to know that you are leaning what you need to be learning. It isn't just the matter of personal preference of being face to face. After all of our experiences in the spring, I think we all like to have that contact. I don't like not having interaction. I used to teach psychology in person during the school year and online in the summer. Personally, I think they both learned as much in my online classes over the summer I know that the materials were put together similarly and stuff.

Engretson: In regards for people performing better online could be because it is easier to cheat. It is just another thing to consider.

Morgan: Yes, we know that the academic dishonestly is a problem.

Schweiner: I know a lot of people who are looking forward to applying grad school. They are don't want to take "W" on their transcripts, even though it doesn't really matter, they just don't like them being there. Would you consider extending the refund and deadline?

Morgan: The system is so confusing! We had a meeting the other day. It is a lot of different language. The dropping period ends after 10 days, nothing is on your transcript. Then it is a withdrawing period where you get the "W" on the transcript. In the past, all we have done is then you will withdraw versus a failure. Your question is can we extend the drop date, so it is a longer period option with nothing show up on the transcript and the answer is the 10<sup>th</sup> day enrollment is the king of all things enrollment. These are numbers we report for everything in the UW system.



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

Similar to what the census is for taxes. We don't have the ability to change that. I will ask because I know it is looking into extending the date beyond COVID. Like you mentioned, almost nobody actually cares about the "W". Some may say that it shows that students know how to manage their time. We do have a system of unlimited withdrawals at first and then you have a number per semester that you can use, I think it is four. To actually answer your question, I will find an answer. I don't think we could even change that 10 day deadline but I will see. The reason that meeting was hard was because none of that lines up if you get a refund or not.

V. General Student Body Open Forum

VI. Officer Reports

a. **President:** Cate Wiza

- i. Faculty senate did approve a caregiving task force that will focus on how we can help faculty and students who have assumed a caregiving role. If you are interested in sitting on this committee, please email me as soon as possible.
- ii. UWL is doing testing for off campus students. Tell constituents and do it yourself. You don't need symptoms or insurance. Results come back really quick. Link in our Instagram bio for you to look at that.
- iii. Take care of yourself.

b. **Vice President:** Olivia Ahnen

- i. Make sure that when you are writing resolutions, you are taking from the template on the website. If you could, when you send me the resolution, please download it and put it on the letterhead instead of sharing with me because sometimes the formatting gets messed up.

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

- i. Met with CASSH dean and senator, CVA and science and Health senators should have gotten an email from me
- ii. Let me know if you want further conversations with the deans.

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

- i. Confusing regarding registering for voting. Today is just the deadline for today online registration. You can still register in person at the clerk's office and at the polls the day of.

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

- i. Off campus housing fair is tomorrow. Post is on insta so share it to get the word out!
- ii. Register to be a poll worker!

f. **Inclusivity Director:** Camoya Evans

- i. Diversity seats- please respond to my email that is setting up our meeting. If it doesn't work, just email me so we can make a new time.

g. **Public Relations Director:** Holly Korfmacher

- i. none

h. **Sustainability Director:** Jake Myers

- i. Green fund committee is doing great. If you are off campus, start composting. Buy an OZZI token for your meals at the Union, and take a hike. It's so pretty so get outside!



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

---

## VII. Advisor Reports

- a. Ringgenberg: We have documented who are in isolation to make sure that they will be able to vote. There is a curbside process that would include the ability to register at the “polls” so they can still register. If you have applied for poll working but haven’t heard back, please let me know and I will put in a good word with the clerk for you. We are going to have some students at the polls who are just going to help and make sure that people get in okay, and these will just be four- to five-hour shifts. Don’t have to be from the county to do that. If you are interested in volunteering, I will try to figure out how to pay you. Send me or Cate or Olivia an email if interested in doing that as well.
- b. The action on the sidewalks hasn’t gone unnoticed. It is still a concern on everything. Some of you have been invited to a meeting next week to talk about how to pull people back in and have a civil campaign. That doesn’t put people at risk and hurt them. If you have students who are expressing concerns, take the concerns to that group and make for sure that people know that everyone should feel safe on this campus. I don’t think everyone does right now.
- c. Comment on tuition refund, I am still looking on what we can do in regard to dining with a refund or if not a refund, just something that says that something wasn’t right with those numbers. We are going back to Whitney on Friday, get rid of both tents and serve quarantine students out of chars. Get more food out there, be able to serve pizza and keep the doors open for air circulation but keep the heat on. We have the fire pit on over by the U and we want to start having that on.
- d. Cayo: The census ends tomorrow. A bunch of my constituents reached out saying that res halls didn’t have to fill it out and I was just wondering if that was true.

Ringgenberg: Res hall students were just uploaded into the system when we broke last year. So, they were counted in the spring dorm numbers. We are trying to get the off-campus people to get them to filled it out.

- e. Cayo: If those students are no longer living on campus, should they fill out again?

Ringgenberg: They wanted the count as of March so if they were on campus in March, they were already counted.

- f. Zwettler: restrictions on Whitney- will it still be take out only” guest passes?

Ringgenberg: No guest passes. Grab and go only. We are trying to figure out reusable to go containers because the garbage is an issue. Everybody should know that we are all access so that you can go through twice or just ask for more food if you want it.

## VIII. Committee Reports

- a. Ott: Small tentative study set up for the SEI study. It is looking like this fall it will be starting on a small scale.
- b. Cayo: SUFAC sent out Cash Balance Request Forms out to entities if they had unspent funds last year

## IX. Organizational Reports

## X. Unfinished Business



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

## XI. New Business

### a. SA2021-019

- i. Ahnen: Approving the fall 2020 election results. We have our two new first year and grad senators listed on the resolution. They are here today as well.
- ii. suspend 2 week rule passes unanimously
- iii. Passes unanimously.
- iv. Swearing in of new senators

### b. SA2021-020

- i. Zwettler: This is just approving the two executive board members who wanted to join the COVID-19 committee.
- ii. Motion to suspend the two-week rule. Passes unanimously.
- iii. Vote passes unanimously

## XII. Discussion

### a. Student orgs inclusivity statement and bylaw changes

- i. Cayo: If you are a chair of a student org, you probably got an email about the new statement that will be needed in all bylaws by 2021. It is written by myself, and a senator last year. It was put in place in student senate bylaws. There is a penalty if you aren't in compliance. Penalties if an org is found to have violated this- I'm assuming this will be done through hate and bias. If at least two reports of violation of this statement are received, they will be required to meet with student org committee and forced to take inclusivity training. Third is going on probation- you can't book a room or get catering. Or similar restrictions. If the third offense pertains to an individual, the committee will have the power to kick them out. If there are long-term problems, the org could be resolved. Student court would be involved to rule on the org's petition or after 3 years they could reapply. Right now, there is going to be a penalty for all these violations.. I have mixed feeling about everything else. I am looking for feedback about this process.
- ii. Zwettler: Could we get a copy of this bylaw change description?

Wiza: Yeah, I will send it out right now.

Xiong: my constituents think that the intention of this is good, but they were wondering about how the report will be documented and decisions be made to have the conversations that need to be had. Especially in the case of unconscious biases. It is knowing that state of the political climate, there is worry regarding the intentional bias. How will decisions be made and how will everything be reported in separating intentional and unintentional biases.

Jeske: I know the consequences are based on the number of offenses and that makes sense. As for unintentional versus intentional, I think the training session is good regardless of if it is intentional or not because those issues can be identified. I was wondering if there was a way to measure if there is growth from the initial incident.



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

---

L’Ecuyer: I’m on the student org committee. I will bring Yer’s concerns to the committee meeting tomorrow. The idea behind two incidents is that after the first one, the org will take care of it themselves and the second time requires outside involvement.

Cayo: One concern that I had when I was first reading through this is that before the org gets dissolved if they have problems keeping in regulations. Depending on who is on the committee, it could change. I hope that we can specifically define what “long terms problems” means so that it is consistent in the future.

Zwetter: I agree, I think we need to be clear about that.

Cayo: Do you know if these get reported through Hate & Bias Reporting, or if these reports would go straight to Student Orgs Committee?

L’ecuyer: I know there is some form of hate and bias involvement, but I will have that looked into.

Ringgenberg: I am wondering about a timeline where an organization is not held responsible for something that happened five years ago, and they have been good since that time?

Cayo: It implies that there will be turnover from year to year. Your penalties will start fresh from year to yar.

Jeske: In regards to defining the hate and bias incident- the UWL campus climate website has good information and then it does through the team there. There is a reporting system on their website as well.

Cayo: my concern is less with how hate and bias is defined, more about how “long term problems” is defined. I want them to have a rigid set of definitions so that the action taken won’t depend on who is currently sitting on the committee.

b. Mitchell Hall pool

- i. Fitzgerald: Cate emailed Bob Hetzel- the guy who shut down the pool and it is an air circulation issue. Not a pool thing, so right now the athletic director met with him and Vitaliano. They worked our YMCA memberships. They can go and work out on their own time. Divers don’t have a solution. We didn’t like how there was lack of student voice and swim team input. Someone should have been a part of the decision. I want to propose a resolution to add a student voice to a future decision regarding Mitchell hall and the pool.

Wiza: with that HVAC system, the system is outdated. The governor’s budget for ‘21- ‘23 to be updated in the future. Right now, the air quality isn’t great already and they don’t want to risk it with COVID. I think a student voice is necessary when it comes to athletics. All these facilities are used by the students and they should be involved in the decision-making process to keep them open or shut



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

---

them down. This is a great time to talk about student involvement in all sorts of decisions

Zwettler: SUFAC is normally in charge of all that. Would this be a SUFAC issue?

Ringgenberg: this is a state tax dollars- not the seg fees. Different from the other facilities. I agree with what Kat said, write a general resolution about other facilities. If there is a group that want to talk with me about it, I can meet with you whenever.

Jeske: I like Kat's idea about student input but I don't have experience in what student senate involvement would look like but I would def want to get involved.

- XIII. Announcements
  - a. Xoing: be safe and have fun with Halloween!
  - b. Cayo: If you haven't filled out the Census yet and you're off-campus, it's due online tomorrow!
- XIV. Adjournment