



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

---

## **Student Senate Agenda**

**Date: November 4<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. Julie Nelson

- i. Nelson: I am the community engagement coordinator for Great Rivers United Way which is chapter of the world-wide organization. Our mission is to unite people and resources to liven communities, and I want to encourage students to get involved. We want to lift people out of poverty. We do this by giving money to nonprofits who donate to those causes. For example, the Salvation Army can't do what they do without Coulee Cap, providing housing and taking support from the local food banks. However, they don't have experience with addiction and domestic abuse, which is where they would turn to organizations in our community who specialize in these areas. United way provides funding for all these programs so that we can help communities work to eliminate poverty from all fronts. On top of that, we do community engagement activities that try to make the community safer. For example, we did a "vote safe" program with a UWL professor this previous election. It was an online event and we had lots of people who talked about how to vote safely and make sure that your vote is counted. Before COVID, we did a poverty simulation. This involves getting a bunch of people in a room and each are given the identity of a person who is in poverty. It could be a dad who just came out of jail, a single mom, or anyone who could be experiencing poverty in real life. You have to work make ends meet and following the system. It really shows that there is more to getting out of poverty than just getting a job.

I am trying to get a student united group from UWL, Viterbo and Western. We will do our own fundraising or help at other fundraisers. We will try to do some social events when COVID is done as well. This Sunday we have a plan for an event, we will meet at the south branch of the public library and do a "Rake and Run". Pretty much, we knock on people's doors who look like they have a lot of leaves in their yard and ask them if they want free help. If they do, we rake their leaves and then run on to the next house. Additionally, we are looking for someone to serve on our board. Right now, we are looking a lot at equity and inclusion so if that is something you would be interested in, please let me know. They meet once a month on the fourth Thursday from 4-5:30 except in November and December, when they move it up a week for the holidays. The student is a valuable voice to have represented. If you are interested or have ideas about how to reach more people for our student united group, let me know!

Cayo: Is this board member position volunteer or paid?



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

---

Nelson: Both Student United and the board are volunteer opportunities.

Schweiner: Does United Way pair with UWL to do community-engaged learning?

Nelson: No, what do you think we could do to be a part of that?

Schweiner: I previously had a class that did some research with Coulee Caps and what we did there sounds like something you would do too.

Nelson: Okay! I will definitely look into that.

Zwettler: I just have a comment about youth engagement- I would recommend having a public profile on social media networks.

Nelson: We are on Facebook, is Instagram better?

Zwettler: Yes, I would say that is a better option.

Fitzgerald: I know that this is kind of a reach but I am the athletics senator so I thought I would ask- have you reached out to the athletic supervisor? I know the raking leaves sounds like something that a team could help with and the coaches like to help out with that sort of thing.

Nelson: We had not, but that is cool! I will reach out to them.

Ahnen: I am not sure if you have heard of Handshake, but that is the platform that university uses for internship opportunities so you could definitely get on there to post your positions.

V. General Student Body Open Forum

VI. Officer Reports

a. **President:** Cate Wiza

- i. Everyone should have gotten an email from Joe Gow announcing that we are having mass COVID testing on the third floor of Cartwright. You don't need health insurance; you just make an appointment in the document that Joe Gow sent out. It is helpful just to know if you have COVID or not. It is free and just good to know before you go home for Thanksgiving.
- ii. Our voting de-stress room was moved to the Cleary center, just outside of there, we are giving out packaged snacks and drinks. I know the rec has been providing some small activities as well. Bring these events back to the students and tell them to get out of the dorm and make friends because that is hard for the freshman.
- iii. I am always a safe place if you need to talk about anything.



# UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–LA CROSSE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

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

---

- b. **Vice President:** Olivia Ahnen
  - i. I couple of you reached out to me about committees, but the list will be sent out this week.
  - ii. Think about discussion points and resolutions. We have another really empty agenda this week so just be thinking about what you want to see happen. Email me with our ideas or motion to add it at the beginning of the meeting, like Andrew did today.
- c. **Director of Staff:** Faith Fisher
  - i. I met with the dean for School of Education. It was last minute so I'm sorry I didn't let you all know and send out an invitation. I will be sending out notes because it was an awesome conversation.
- d. **State Affairs Director:** Grant Mathu
  - i. Thank you to everyone who participated in any form of the election. Don't get too stressed about anything, even though I know that the election has definitely been stressing me out lately.
- e. **Local Affairs Director:** Amy Schweiner
  - i. Working on a few projects but not a lot of details. I am working on posting weatherization tips for students living off campus since it is getting colder outside.
- f. **Inclusivity Director:** Camoya Evans
  - i. None
- g. **Public Relations Director:** Holly Korfmacher
  - i. None
- h. **Sustainability Director:** Jake Myers
  - i. Thanks for helping with the election. Awesome to see how involved our campus is!
  - ii. Green fund grants are due this Friday. Andrew and I are working on one for Friday and just a few others coming in from students so expect to see those come through soon.
  - iii. We have a presentiaon from Senator Engebretson about composting that will be sent out to all the students soon as well.
- VII. Advisor Reports
  - a. Ringgenberg: complements to everyone in regard to voting. La Crosse county had an 88% participation rate and that is amazing. You should all be very proud because I know everyone here worked hard for those numbers. I have no real report but feel free to ask me questions.
- VIII. Committee Reports
  - a. Ericson: JCES will be meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Starting the green fund grant approval and stuff will be in senate by the end of November.
- IX. Organizational Reports
  - a. Cayo: The Pride Center is hosting an ally training on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Zoom info is on the website and Instagram.
  - b. Ringgenberg: Could you talk about crowdfunding for the pride center? Well for uwl, the Pride Center is the pilot group looking at ways to get money from orgs across the country.
- 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

XII. Discussion

a. Instruction style

- i. Ericson: The College of Science and Health senators got an email out to all students with a survey and there were a bunch of responses from a particular class and they have a lot of concerns about the way their class was being taught. Their professor was for a 3-credit class and that means 3 hours of instruction. They had only gotten 4 hours total. The professor limited them to 15 minutes per week of office hours and this is a high-level science class. I want to try to help them, bring it up to the Dean and Betsy Morgan. Please help!

Wiza: I had a similar situation happen to me as a senator, what I found to do is keep all the student anonymous. But the professor and class name, I'd put that in a document and write up all their testimonies. You can't wait for the SEI because those changes would be too late. Tell the students to still do it when the time comes because the numbers matter but go straight to the dean now and keep the students anonymous. If you don't let your dean know, then nothing happens. Please let me know if you have any other questions.

XIII. Announcements

XIV. Adjournment