



# 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, November 18<sup>th</sup>**

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
- V. General Student Body Open Forum
- VI. Officer Reports
  - a. **President:** Cate Wiza
    - i. If you live off campus, please take advantage of the surge testing and take precautionary measures. The week of December 4<sup>th</sup>, it is done.
    - ii. Kristen Keopke is looking for student video submissions of videos of you saying something a professor has done to keep you all connected and engaged.
  - b. **Vice President:** Olivia Ahnen
    - i. Just remember that there is no meeting next week!
  - c. **Director of Staff:** Faith Fisher
    - i. Anyone who wants to join the WOC ad hoc committee, right now please private message me so that we can start figuring everything out.
  - d. **State Affairs Director:** Grant Mathu
    - i. Just remember that the legislative affairs committee meets every other Tuesday.
  - e. **Local Affairs Director:** Amy Schweiner
    - i. I am working on putting together some COVID care packages for off campus students with masks, hand sanitizer and stuff. If you have any ideas for what should go in those, please let me know.
  - f. **Inclusivity Director:** Camoya Evans
    - i. I have meetings with various people this week so I have no report.
  - g. **Public Relations Director:** Holly Korfmacher
    - i. Ahnen: She couldn't be here today but she wanted me to let you all know that if you are on the marketing and special events committee, please respond to her email.
  - h. **Sustainability Director:** Jake Myers
    - i. Green fund committee met for the last time this semester. Final round of grants has been decided. With that, we move on to their new projects so stay tuned.
- VII. Advisor Reports
  - a. On campus students need to fill out the survey from Jenny about thanksgiving break and after break plans. The president of the system sent out email about what people have to do when they come back, and the details will be clarified soon.
  - b. Just so you all are aware as well, the football team has been put on quarantine
- VIII. Committee Reports
- IX. Organizational Reports



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X. Unfinished Business

a. **SA2021-024**

- i. Wiza: we should probably just table this indefinitely since official announcement has been made.
- ii. Passes unanimously

XI. New Business

a. **SA2021-026**

- i. Cayo: Over the past three weeks, all of the allocable orgs have been presenting to SUFAC and we approved all the budgets, and this just needs to be approved by the senate. The Racquet did request and was granted an increase in funding is the only thing that's really out of the ordinary here. The other one with the WRAQ radio station not happening this year, the money is going back to the reserve. Seg fee rate will stay the same since our reserves do have a lot in it

Zwetter: I'm just genuinely curious, what the student association spending money on?

Wiza: Most of the budget goes to student pay- green fund coordinator, committee chairs, executive cabinet and that takes about \$25,000. Also some smaller things like a subscription to Canva pro, any events, catering, travel, I know I am forgetting something. Dr. Larry, do you have any other answers to that?

Ringgenberg: We also pay for legal services. That ends up being about nine or ten thousand to cover cost of student help attorneys.

Wiza: Normally, we would hold events and pay for catering that senators with students. We also would normally go to the capitol for lobbying trips; however, with COVID, there is a budget freeze on travel, so we made small cuts in those areas.

- ii. Motion to suspend 2-week rule, passes
- iii. Resolution passes

XII. Discussion

a. Plastic Water Bottles

- i. Flynn: I was thinking about all the single-use plastics and such being on campus. I know senate did a straw ban a few years ago, and I was wondering if something like that could be feasible. Is there any way we could go about this?

Rain: If you were thinking about banning plastic water bottles and selling, would you consider pop being sold in plastic bottles as well? Vending machines and some places in the union still do offer that.

Flynn: I was thinking water bottles specifically because there is a substitute available in the water bottle filling stations. From what I understand, the straw ban wasn't a strict or really enforceable thing so I was just wondering what this would look like if we were able to do this. I'm not sure how this would work with Chartwell's and the contract we have with them.



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Jeske: From my understanding of the straw ban, they gave you a straw if you requested one, but so many people requested them that just put it back out and gave them to everyone.

Ericson: I know at an earlier meeting, Larry said there was a shortage of aluminum? Maybe we could do something with that? If we can't totally get rid of them, I'm curious if we could push for boxed water or something. Larry, if you want to speak on that, go ahead.

Ringenberg: I will be checking on the straw situation tomorrow. The big thing with this is our Pepsi contract and we will have to look at that. Chartwell's adapts fairly easily, but Pepsi is what we need to worry about.

Yuengst: If we did a plastic ban, we would have to consider the vending machines, and all the plastic stuff in there. That just comes to my mind because I have been using those a lot. Boxed water would be super cool though!

Zwettler: In regard to the Pepsi contract and the re-opening of beverage stations, that is also something to consider. I think the timing is bad with COVID though. I would want to stick with the plastic for now and reconsider later.

Jeske: I'm not sure about funding and stuff but I have seen water bottle companies that aren't using plastic, but they sell the water in a more reusable bottle. I think they are a little more expensive but that is an alternative to think about.

Xiong: I agree that safety is important during the pandemic. Maybe we could look at more ex-friendly options. I have a spoon that you technically could eat, so that's an alternative. And remember back in the day you had edible straws?! We could think about that. Also, boxed water would be fun.

Cayo: What I could see bring more feasible is a reduction plan. This seems more likely and possible than getting rid of it completely.

Ericson: I like that idea. On an extreme note, I have a far-fetched idea. Companies that contribute the most to emission and garbage is Coca-Cola and Pepsi but going up against them is David and Goliath. We just need to say that we don't support this and just take a stand to stop supporting them. If we make a stand, other universities will join us. Just think about it.

Ringenberg: Two or three years ago, Winona State implemented a plastic bottle ban, so we can look at how they did it on that campus.



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## b. Carbon Neutrality

- i. Ericson: I went to a divestment meeting and they talked about upping the plans for carbon neutrality. I think that UWL has committed to the same standard of carbon neutrality as the city of La Crosse, but if anyone wants to get clarification and make a stronger effort, that would be great. I know a lot of other UW schools are making much bigger strides and we should catch up.

Flynn: I support this idea. Carbon neutrality is something they aren't working towards a lot and we should look into that to show them that this is important.

Ericson: I would like to make a resolution to just let them know that we think this topic, so I will take any help I can get on that.

## XIII. Announcements

- a. Xiong: The Hear Here project talking about the history of La Crosse around downtown partnered with a local Hmong organization where they talk about the history of these people. There is a virtual tour coming up soon so check that out.
- b. Jeske: ALANA is doing a menstrual product drive, so look on our Instagram for more information. Donate money if interested. We aren't accepting physical donations because of COVID.
- c. Xiong: Campus Climate is also have a cool online event soon, so look at their Facebook page for more information.

## XIV. Adjournment