Student Senate Agenda
Date: March 25th, 2009
Time and Location: 6:00 PM; Port O’ Call; Cartwright Center

I. Call to Order
   a. 6:01

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call

IV. Approval of Agenda
   a. Thiel/Schoonover
      i. Move to amend the agenda to include SA 0809:059
         1. Turtenwald/Schmidt
            a. Approved

V. Approval of Minutes
   a. Klotz/Turtenwald
      i. Approved

VI. Election of Parliamentarian
   a. Nominations
      i. Shervy- accepts
      ii. Decker- accepts
   b. Introductions
      i. Senator Shervy: my major qualifications are the two years I had in Model United Nations. I will do my best
      ii. Senator Decker: I have been involved in political organizations since I was 10 or 12. I think it would be a lot of fun and I would love to do it.
   c. Congrats Senator Decker

VII. Election of a Temporary President Pro-Tempore
   a. Nominations
      i. Senator Klotz

VIII. Guest Speakers
   a. Omer Farooque and Nicole Juan, United Council
      i. We are a lobbying advocacy group that lobbies on behalf of students and student rights issues. We represent students on the statewide level and the system wide level also. We are the nation’s oldest and widest statewide student organization. We are non partisan and non profit. UC is a recognized student voice at the Board of Regents and the State legislature. UC was started in the 1960’s when students started standing up for themselves. Ever since then we have been active in the state legislature. UC is currently restructuring itself. Last year we lost track, so people felt the need to bring it back on track. We worked with

Senate 2008-2009
an organizational consultant to make sure we represent the needs of our constituents. We want to make sure that students are heard and are enabled to affect change. We want to make sure that UC’s presence is maintained in government. We want to make sure that quality and value of the student experience is constantly improving. We have staff members that help us run this organization. These positions have been newly created because of the restructuring. The finance development director is in charge of the budget and they are focused on fundraising and keeping our alumni up to date. Currently UC has a general assembly and a board of directors. We have restructured the board so that adequately represents all students. The general assembly is also under construction. We want to make sure that people aren’t pushing their personal agendas. I want to get the message across that we are working so that all schools are represented. Grassroots organizing is where we take up issues that students are representing. UC need is very urgent to lobby to adequately represent everyone. We lobby for a balanced tuition. We want to make sure that whenever we take a stance on tuition it makes sense. We want tuition to be kept at the rate of inflation. We also ask for an increase in financial aid. I think there needs to be a little more research done to make sure that when we voice our opinions in front of the regents we sound intelligent and like we know what we are talking about. We also provide networking opportunities. We need to be better at that, we want to make sure that we are using that time efficiently. We are funded through a mandatory refundable fee. It is $2 a semester, which is board of regents policy. The $2 fee is absolutely refundable, we don’t want to push people to be part of something that they don’t believe in. in the past decade we have $10 million in financial aid… current campaigns include chapter 17 and 18 and the state budget. We are also asking for a dollar for dollar increase, which means that for every dollar that tuition increases, financial aid increases as well. I know the auxiliary fund sweep is a hot topic at UWL. We want to make sure that whatever happens, it is fair to all students. We want to change the equation to be more proportional so that Madison and Milwaukee pitch in the most. We have been working on the Chapter 17 and 18 revisions for about a year and a half now. We want to make sure that students have the right to appeal and legal representation. Today I am here to ask for your support for UC. Last year UWL pulled out of UC, I understand the reasons, I was there. UC’s focus was not in line with UWL’s focus. With our restructuring we will have better organization that represents all students.

ii. Questions

1. Is the restructuring process 16 to 18 months?
   a. A lot of what I am talking about will take place at the general assembly. The 16 month process is about our visions.
2. What do you think our advantage is if we join no was opposed to joining next year?
   a. You want to make sure your voice is at the table in this process. I feel it is best to join right now when we are moving forward.
3. What have you done to keep non member campuses informed?
   a. I have emailed them throughout this process. Our staff is making sure that all of the campuses are informed.
4. How can we hold UC accountable if we join?
5. Always stay in communication with the people who you hired to do what you want. The structure that we have proposed is self sustaining, and if you feel that the organization is not living up to its promise then I will help you run a referendum.
6. How do the schools that are in UC now feel about those changes?
   a. They are very much in support of this, if the membership wasn’t behind it I don’t think we would be at this point.

   b. Dan Sweetman, UWL Facilities Management
      i. Starting this past July I am the Facilities Sustainability Director. I want to work with you to make one modification to the request that the Apportionment committee made. They approved the steam meter but not for all 12 facilities.
      ii. Questions
          1. How is the new stadium project going to be metered?
             a. The metering on that building will be absorbed as part of the overarching utilities budget. The biggest item would probably be the lights when they are in operation.

IX. Officer Reports
   a. Derek
      i. Director reports due tomorrow, please check them out after Friday.
      ii. Ron Kind is having an open forum on health care in Valhalla on the 13th at 4:30pm.
   b. Kyle
   c. Others
      i. PR
         1. Sent out the feedback letters to 25 businesses. We got 5 back; of those 5 four were positive. Based on that sample I will assume 80% of the businesses are happy.
      ii. Leg Issues
         1. On Friday Jeremy and I testified at the finance meeting.
         2. Still working on the budget.
      iii. Thank those of you that came to the vagina monologues last weekend. I felt the production was really successful. last year 375 tickets were
iv. City Affairs

1. SUFAC Presentation: goal is to create a more efficient and accessible form of allocation. We have done interviews, gone to the SUFAC summit in Madison, and analyzed the current bylaws and practices. The process happens in three stages: one shots, carry overs, and budgets. Our conclusion was that it is inefficient, inaccessible, and redundant. We need the committees to do more of the work and SUFAC to be an oversight committee. Their job wouldn’t be to overrule or evaluate the committees, but just to make sure it was done right. We don’t think SUFAC should ever take up a rejected proposal from a sub committee. We want more direct involvement from sub committees. We want to eliminate carryovers and make you always keep your carryovers. We are going to change the name to SUFAC in the bylaws. We want to imply two year budgets, except with Athletics and Theatre because we have agreements with them.

2. Questions
   a. If groups have chronic carryovers, will they eventually be readjusted?
      i. If it is year after year then yes we need to reevaluate your budget.
   b. If this new structure goes through, then subcommittees are going to make decisions on everything?
      i. It still goes through SUFAC, but the details are the job of the sub committees.
   c. Could SUFAC send it back for reevaluation?
      i. Yes.

X. RHAC Report

XI. Advisor Reports
   a. Larry
      i. We have been trying to balance the budget and we came up with a few plans. One is to increase fees and the other is to limit the number of transfers. People have told me they would rather pay the increase.
         1. Questions
            a. Is this eliminating all block plans?
               i. No.
            b. How much have the costs gone up from the previous year because of the raise in minimum wage?
               i. It has a little bit, but not as much as from loosing the 1.2 million.
      ii. We are looking at the schedule for Cartwright Center and we want to get the reaction from people if we closed the building on April 11th, which is the Saturday before Easter.

Senate 2008-2009
b. Chancellor Gow
   i. The good news from today is that the bids on the building are looking quite favorable. On the solar hot water heater issue, I think there has been confusion on that. My understanding was that Bjorn Bergman and Ellena Bantle talked to the planning committee about it and that the price was $250,000. We have no way to go back to the people in Madison and tell them we need $250,000 more. It is a war over every dollar. We would never have said we would get $250,000 more out of the state to get it, that is why when we went to the regents they said we could get that much in program revenue. That is what we were operating on. I think there is a lot of confusion on that. I wanted to clarify that for you and I want to urge you to think about making that happen with the Pepsi Fund money. We wanted to use that money on something that would impact this campus for a long time. This would last 40 years. I think the solar hot water system would be a wonderful thing for you to say that you and other students made that happen. I just wanted to give you a little of my own feeling on that.

   1. Questions
      a. We wrote a resolution to fund it with Pepsi money, is it possible to split it up?
         i. We can make it work. The building opens in fiscal year 2012. A four year pay back would work out.
      b. How can Marquette request money from the state, and are the bids open tomorrow, are you sure it is going to be low?
         i. Marquette was asking for $10 million in support but the building commission said they would not be able to fund it. The bids were open today and we have some preliminary info on the numbers. What we know is that the bids were favorable to the degree that we are going to get all of the classrooms and all of the technology, so it is really coming along pretty good. This project is moving forward in its entirety.
      c. If the total bid comes in under, does that mean that the state gives us less?
         i. The project is $44 million, if the bids come in over that then we have to reduce it. But if they come in under the number they take it back. When they take it back, I don’t know if they give it back to help with the gift piece. With all of that the solar hot water heater is off to the side as program revenue.

XII. Committee Reports
   a. Academic Affairs
i. We are reviewing commencement speeches. There are a lot of really good ones. We will have our final selections by next week.

ii. We had a few people come and speak to us about where we want to have commencement. We could go a couple of directions. We could use the La Crosse Center. We could possibly look into using it on Sunday so that all colleges could go together. We could also do it outdoors. What Stevens Point does is that they make a decision two weeks out. We could look into doing that. If anyone has any ideas talk to anyone on the committee because we need to start looking into it.

   1. Questions
      a. What about the REC?
         i. That is another option, it would be comparable to Mitchell. We don’t have an ideal place to have it.

b. Student Services and Buildings
   i. Talked about res hall fees. Another one shot request from the student radio group. The Racquet is having some budget issue. We have a resolution on the floor. We have one shots from club sports.

c. Election Commission
   i. If you have any questions call me
   ii. Debate is Monday April 6th.

d. DLS
   i. We secured a speaker: Lisa Ling, it should be magical.

e. Student Tech Fee
   i. We voted on the pay for print and it went through so we are recommending that we pay 6 cents a page.

XIII. New Business
   a. SA 0809-054: Resolution on Medical Amnesty Policy
      i. DeVries/Urbas
         1. We did research the city police ticketing someone at the hospital; we learned that is not their policy.
      ii. Discussion
         1. We talked a lot about it and everyone seemed to approve of it.
            call to question
            a. Passes 25:0:0
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Present | 25 | 0 | 0 |
XIV. Discussion

a. Spring 2009 Green Fund Requests
i. Ruplinger/Herro

1. Last spring we approved a referendum for every student to pay $5 a semester to go towards the green fund. Apportionment committee was charged with looking at it, but they don’t have time to take of it. We said that if another committee could make recommendations then Apportionment would vote on it. We made some alterations.

2. The bike power electricity is hooking up one machine in the REC to produce electricity. We don’t know what it will power but we hope it would jump start making all of the bikes like this.

3. With the steam meter request we decided to fund the original amount.

4. The solar hot water heater was deemed inappropriate for the green fund and Apportionment agreed.

5. Apportionment didn’t approve the $10,000 for the carshare program because we don’t know if it will work out for sure and we want all of the funds to come out of the same fund.

ii. Discussion

1. How much do we have in the Green Fund?
   a. About $85,000 per year.

2. If we don’t use it does it accumulate?
   a. Yes.

3. I understand not wanting to fund something 5 years down the road, but the green fund amount did affect the Pepsi committee decision. We have gotten some harsh criticism about some people about how most of the money is going to sustainability already, and not diversity or accessibility.

4. with the carshare, has there been any investigation into any competitors?
   a. The way it is set up is the city is setting this up and they are picking the company based on the bids.

5. Motion to close discussion
   a. Herro/Gietman
   i. Discussion closed.

b. SA 0809-055: Resolution Recommending Campus Community Enrichment Funds be Earmarked for LEED Certification and a Solar Hot Water Heater for the New Academic Building
i. Schmidt/Turtenwald

1. We felt like there was sufficient need for funding for this. What the chancellor has been saying since day one is that he wanted a wow factor, I think this is it.

ii. Discussion

1. How much does the solar hot water heater cost?
a. Around $125,000.

2. My concern is us paying $125,000 to have someone say we meet the requirements. I wish they were two resolutions.

3. I think this would really show how we are really looking into the future and for future students and this separates us from other campuses. This would be a breath of fresh air and this would be something that students would really appreciate.

4. I have a problem with the way that they are going about the funding. The Pepsi money also has to go to 3 different things. Accessibility is getting short funded.

5. I don’t agree with the LEED Certification. I hope that we take a serious consideration into making these two separate things.

6. I understand the importance of this but we aren’t giving other people a chance. It makes me nervous that we aren’t hearing other opportunities.

7. I don’t agree with this because the Pepsi money doesn’t just belong to environmental council. But we do need LEED certified buildings. I am torn.

8. The reason it wasn’t brought to Pepsi committee is because LEED certification is something that has to happen the entire duration of the building process. It was a time sensitive issue that couldn’t wait. I don’t feel that we are short funding Campus Climate and accessibility if other proposals aren’t being put in by these groups. It isn’t our responsibility to save money for them. LEED certification is a teaching tool, a recruitment tool, and a way to hold us accountable. Solar hot water heaters pay for themselves within 5 years.

9. I don’t see how the return on investments with the LEED certification will be that great. Building codes aren’t retroactive. I am surprised we aren’t seeing the hot water heaters on the res halls.

10. The problem is that when we sent the bid out and it was approved we said it was going to be out of PR money, and we can’t go back and have the state reassign the source.

11. I am not against this, but it was all rushed so there was that aspect to it. it wasn’t that there weren’t proposals, it was just that it was too rushed.

12. The design has already been set for the building, so all of the things that are required for us to be LEED certified are already in the process. If we deny it now we deny it for the building in general. I think it is worth it because it is a one time thing.

13. I still think the responsible thing to do is to send this to committee. Move to send to committee

   a. Schmidt/Shervey
      i. Passed, moved to the campus community enrichment fund committee.
c. Spring 2009 One-Shot Requests
   i. Shervey/Turtenwald
      1. Requests:
         a. The water ski team is requesting a right footed boot.
         b. Men’s rugby is asking for a match ball.
         c. Alpine ski racing team- two requests:
            i. Gate key to set courses for practice, right now it is borrowed from Mt. La Crosse but that’s a pain in the butt. Lasts 20-30 years
            ii. Drill bit- essential for the use of gate key
         d. Mens/Womens club volleyball- registration for nationals in Kansas City, $985
         e. Student Radio- Voice recorder
         f. Tennis requested a ball machine. The current one has exposed electrical wires and an exposed wheel.
         g. Gymnastics is requesting a spring board, the current one is too thin and 17 years old.
         h. Wrestling is requesting two mats.
         i. Men’s basketball is requesting video equipment. Right now they are using the coach’s personal equipment.
         j. Cheerleading is requesting new uniforms
         k. Baseball is requesting new equipment
         l. Jazz Ensemble requested a drum kit; they are trying to renew their whole ensemble. I think this is the last part of it. This was the lowest bid.
         m. Marching band is requesting a double French horn, but she wasn’t very clear about how much it was.
         n. CAB requested Adobe software, it would be a good way for them to enhance their skills and make better publicity.
         o. SA requested a computer and a projector. The projector would be a portable projector for when we need one in meetings and don’t have one. The desktop computer would be in the president’s office. It would be used to manage the website. The other one shot is for a scantron converter and 3 monitors.
      2. Apportionment decision:
         a. We decided that we didn’t feel it would be appropriate to fund men and women’s club volleyball since club sports has a post season travel account. Club sports didn’t ask for an increase in their budget so we believe they have enough to fund this. Also the qualification process to make it to nationals is that they show up to a couple of tournaments. We didn’t think it was appropriate to use student funds to pay for this.
i. This goes back to giving committees more power. I am pretty sure the committee would have voted it down.

ii. Last year a couple of requests came in late to the same effect and Apportionment said no.

b. Marching and Concert Bands- there was some confusion on how many Tammy Fisher actually wanted. We felt that we had made strides in replacing the old instruments, so we felt two was a better number

c. For SA we didn’t feel the projector was necessary. It may be difficult to get a room with a projector but it is possible.

ii. Discussion

1. I have noticed that volleyball keeps coming back to us to fund their travel. SA pays for their own travel, why don’t they?
   a. We are spending the same money that they are requesting, it is student money. It is unique when club sports comes in and asks for things because they are a different entity.

2. Club sports has one big budget and they allocate to each club. They do have a post season travel account but it is only $450. There was one objection to all club sports proposals; the reason was that we have varsity athletics.

3. They could plan this in their budget every year; I would think that is something that should go into their permanent budget when they can qualify that easily.
   a. We did make that recommendation to them.

4. I know that all the committees put a lot of hours looking over all the numbers. Motion to close discussion
   a. Wolf/Ruplinger
   i. Discussion closed

d. SA 0809-056: Resolution on Room Reservation

i. Shervy/Lauderdale

1. This would allow an organization to come and reserve a room for an entire year so that they don’t have to keep making reservations every single week. They need to reserve it in person. Some organizations are exempt because of prior agreements. This went through the orgs committee.

ii. Discussion

1. I think this would be a good idea and would save time. Everyone can agree on this issue. Motion to close discussion
   a. Wolf/Turtenwald
   i. Discussion closed

e. SA 0809-057: Resolution to Add Article VIII to the Student Senate By-Laws

i. Syafitri/LeFevre
1. It would add one article to the membership section. The reason this article is being added is because in the constitution we are looking at it needs to be referenced.

ii. Discussion
1. I like what they did with this. They kept the diversity senators in there and also the non academic senators.
2. Does this give directors voting rights?
   a. This is only the senate membership.
3. What is the point of this document?
   a. It is referenced in the constitution. We need it for the referendum.
4. The constitution just says that the membership will be laid out in the bylaws. If we wanted to change it we could do it as a senate, as long as the numbers stay the same and we are just changing the actual orgs.
5. I like the idea of making it more efficient. Why not just take the membership out of the constitution all together and leave it completely up to the by laws.
   a. We talked about that in the committee. Some diversity orgs wanted it to be specified to make it more permanent and less easy to change. So the numbers will always be there, just the make up can change.
6. motion to close discussion
   a. Wolf/Herro

f. SA 0809-058: Resolution on Holding a Special Referendum to Approve the Student Association Constitution
   i. Syafitri/Ruplinger
      1. You have to give notification 15 days prior to the referendum. We can only have one special referendum every 6 months. A special referendum is different than those held during elections.

   ii. Discussion
      1. Does that mean there is a certain time period?
         a. No it is from the day of the referendum.
      2. We aren’t amending it, we are making a new one all together. I would ask everyone to closely review the draft. We are at square one and we can completely rewrite this thing. If you have any innovative ideas you will have an opportunity to propose those next week.
      3. The reason we are dissolving it is because to amend it we have to make a referendum for each amendment, which would be hundreds.
      4. I encourage everyone to read it. it is a complete overhaul and there is a lot of fine detail. I think it is very well written.
      5. If we state that we are going to have a referendum date, we can have as many referendums as we want.
6. The rational for writing the constitution more broadly was because we can further outline things more clearly in the bylaws.

7. What’s the difference between the constitution and the bylaws?
   a. The constitution is much harder to change than the bylaws. The bylaws are more detailed and that is where we can clarify things like the committees and responsibilities of senators.

8. I applaud leg affairs for combing through this line by line. They have gotten it down to ten pages.

9. Motion to close discussion
   a. Wolf/Lauderdale
      i. Discussion closed.

SA 0809-059: Resolution Calling for a United Council Referendum
   i. Schmidt/Herro
      1. I just thought that in light of the budget issues it is worth another shot.

   ii. Discussion
      1. I think that is a valid point. But we just pulled out last year and it is incredibly premature to join now. Our issues haven’t been resolved and we don’t have sufficient evidence to prove that this is being implemented.

      2. I agree and Chancellor Gow just said that he feels pretty alone when he goes to Madison, and I think that is because we are fighting for different things. I think we need to wait a little bit more.

      3. I think UC has done a lot in the past few months. They have been working very hard, but to be honest with you I don’t think we have approached this whole thing in the best way either. We complained and took steps to get out, but if we really believe in a state wide students association, then shouldn’t we be in there doing the work to fix it? I believe that at some point it is going to be hypocritical for us to say “keep advocating and maybe someday we will join”. I think they just needed some adjustment and I think they have realized it. If we don’t get back in soon, then I think we are defeating the whole purpose. I think it is a good idea to get back in as soon as we can. I think right now we are pretty well respected.

      4. I will not support this resolution right now; I probably would in the future. Just because we aren’t in UC doesn’t mean we can’t work with UC. We can still maintain close contact.

      5. I think it is a good idea to join UC. If our not joining this year would disqualify us from being involved next year then I think we should join.
6. I see this as a way for us to have support and not ostracize ourselves. Anyway that we can get other universities to know about our issues and support us is a good thing.

7. With UC undergoing these changes it is an ideal time to join.

8. I think this is a little too soon and I don’t think we should jump in right now without knowing if it will work. This is a lobbying organization, we have been as active in lobbying for our issues as you could imagine. I don’t see what spending $40,000 of students money will do that we can’t do. We are our own best advocated. Until we see what this organization can do for us then I see no reason for joining.

9. I know this is very soon, but you need to understand the urgency of now. If we don’t show the state legislators that we aren’t a united student voice, then we will perish forever. We need to understand that if La Crosse was at the forefront then I think UC could take a way stronger stance on the auxiliary sweep issue. The whole input part in UC is happening right now. I will have a bigger duty to the current members than to UWL.

10. Has UC taken an official stance on the sweep?
   a. We have not but we have been looking at it very carefully. I support the idea that UW River Falls has that I spoke about earlier. But I am not going to say that we will take a stance against financial aid.

11. Waiting a year isn’t going to bankrupt this organization. They aren’t going to perish forever. Chancellor Gow feeling alone in Madison has nothing to do with UC. Keep that in mind.

12. I am always suspicious when someone says you must act now. I immediately have distrust. We need to look at this carefully and examine the issues from both sides. We just had a referendum in the previous cycle. I think if we go into the next referendum cycle and say that we want to go back into it then I think it make us look indecisive. One of the major reasons we pulled out of UC was because their reputation as a lobbying group in Madison wasn’t that respectful. UWL was more respected. These institutional changes are awesome but I am not convinced that we need to act now.

13. I understand the argument of wanting to be involved in the process of change, but I think if we wait a year it will put the pressure on UC to correct their behaviors. We all still use UC as a great resource. It is not true that they are not a good lobbying group. But we can make decisions quicker than they can because they have to consider all of their schools.

14. I understand why people think it is too soon to join back in, but I disagree. This isn’t happening all that fast. We didn’t pull out because we didn’t believe in the cause or the idea; we pulled
out because we wanted to send a statement. The change is happening. They have the framework in place. The best person to be speaking is the UC president. The funding does matter. If we want UC to be well respected then we need to bring in people and we need to pay them a livable wage. No one is going to stick around longer than a year or two. UC has invested a lot of money and they have had to really stretch their resources. They have served as a great resource to us, they are open to us using their resources, but they don’t have to do that. With the new structure we could continue lobbying, they would just provide more resources for us. There would be fewer issues being lobbied for, things that every student could agree on. Another reason we pulled out was because we felt that the two years dominated the discussion, but now there is going to be more organizational structure. If we believe in it, we invest in it. The longer we go out, the less likely we are to get back in.

15. It is really our decision, but if this body really supports the idea then we should vote for it and run a vote yes campaign. A lot of our students have no idea what UC is.
16. How would this affect our lobbying as a university? To me it seems like it would just give us more face value. That extra opportunity could make a big difference.
17. The real question is should we put out a referendum? I don’t mind having it out there, but this conversation needs to happen. We can run a very informative campaign. It is up to the students. This isn’t about whether or not we should join; it is about whether or not we want the referendum.

18. move to close discussion
   a. Herro/Wolf
      i. Discussion closed

XV. Announcements
   a. Next Tuesday is the mayoral elections.
   b. Speaker next week who followed the supply chain of oil. She talks about the effects it has on the governments, the environment, on everything. $2 per student, 7pm in GFM next Tuesday.
   c. Indoor Triathlon at the REC
   d. Vote on Tuesday. Vote early vote often. Remind people to vote.
   e. The theme for the drag show is the lost city of Atlantis. It is the last Friday of classes.
   f. April 15th we can go to the Child Care Center before the meeting.
   g. Softball tomorrow, Saturday men and women’s tennis.
   h. Eta Sigma Gamma putting on a blood drive on the 10th from 9 to 2pm.
   i. This Saturday at 1:30 in Mitchell is La Crosse’s largest lighting game.
   j. This Monday in this room is the debate at 7pm.
   k. Act 31 this weekend, Native American and Hmong initiative. This Friday and Saturday.

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1. End of alternate side parking.

XVI. Adjournment
   a. DeVries/LeFevre
      i. Meeting adjourned at 10:59 pm.
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Present: 26   23
Total: 37   37
Percent Present: 70%   62%

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