SA 0910-029: Legislative Affairs Committee Findings on the Impeachment Changes Against Senator Eric Schmidt

DATE: November 29, 2009
AUTHOR: The Legislative Affairs Committee

WHEREAS; on Monday, November 16, 2009 the Legislative Affairs Committee received a letter bringing forth impeachment charges against College of Business Administration Senator Eric Schmidt for his actions at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Student Senate Meeting on November 11, 2009; and,

WHEREAS; it was alleged that Sen. Schmidt was in violation of Senate By-Law 4.106 which states, “Remain open to all views and respectfully consider all student issues;” and,

WHEREAS; the letter also alleged that Sen. Schmidt abused the power he holds as a student senator and representative; and,

WHEREAS; the Legislative Affairs Committee reviewed the documents brought forth by the petitioner, Chuck Thiel as well as by the accused, Senator Eric Schmidt, and heard testimony from both parties; and,

WHEREAS; it is the position of the committee that the charge levied against Senator Schmidt in relation to Senate By-Law 4.106 was difficult to quantify and too ambiguous to warrant impeachment; and,

WHEREAS; it is the position of the committee that there was not sufficient evidence to suggest that Senator Schmidt abused his power as a student senator and representative to warrant impeachment; and,

WHEREAS; it the position of the committee that Senator Schmidt’s conduct at the meeting on November 11, 2009 was a breach of By-Law 4.205 which states, “Student Senators shall conduct themselves in a respectful fashion both within and outside of Student Senate meetings. Behavior that degrades the respect and reputation of the Student Senate will not be tolerated;” and,

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Karly Wallace                     Date
President, Student Senate
Vice-President, Student Association

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Erik Kahl                     Date
President, Student Association
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED; it is the recommendation of the Legislative Affairs Committee that charges of impeachment against Senator Eric Schmidt not be pursued; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED; by passing this resolution the Student Senate admonishes Senator Eric Schmidt for his actions at the November 11th meeting based on the recommendation of the Legislative Affairs Committee.

Karly Wallace
President, Student Senate
Vice-President, Student Association

Date

Erik Kahl
President, Student Association

Date