



A regular meeting of the 66th Session of the Student Senate was called to order at 6:06 PM on Monday, November 21, 2022, in the Dakota Ballroom of the Davies Student Center, with President Gaitan chairing the meeting.

Land Acknowledgment

“I/We acknowledge that the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire occupies the sacred and ancestral lands of Indigenous Peoples. I/We honor the land of the Ojibwe and Dakota Nations.”

Military Acknowledgement

“We acknowledge the sacrifices made by those who protect the physical and diplomatic safety of United States citizens and our affiliates. We thank military service members for their commitment to our country.”

66th Session Roll Call – 11/21/2022

Executive Board

Title	Name	Status (Present, Excused, Unexcused) (P/E/U)
Senate Personnel Director	Anakah Denison	P
Parliamentarian	Thomas Miller	P
AA Director	Sahana Suresh	P
Communications Director	Ivan San	P
ESM Senate Director	Maddie Blong	E
Finance Director	Ben Johnson	P
ITC Director	Joseph Dokken	P
IGA Director	Hannah Kelly	P
SOS Director	Sydney McGuine	P
SOC Director	Bradford Heap	P
UAC Director	VACANT	P
Mascot Coordinator	Kyle May	P



On-Campus Senators

Name	Status
Samantha Consiglio	P
Solveig Dei	P
Austin Lallak	E
Benjamin Myszka	P
Brenna Strojinc	P
Elianna Zimmerman	P

Off-Campus Senators

Name	Status
Josh Holness	P
Jake Hicks	E
Breanna Renslo	P
Meghan Wiercinski	P
Twyla Alix	E

At-Large Senators

Name	Status
Livvy Argo	P
Mei Bean	U
Avery De Ruyter	E
Oliver Gibbs	U
Patrick Hill	U
Ben Hurley	P



Taylor Kaplan	P
Matthew Lehner	P
Katie Myszka	P
Vivian Ong	U
Allie Russel	P
Allana Valiente	E
Tristan Weasler	U
Rebecca Yoshino	E

Executive Officers

Title	Name	Status
Vice President	Brett Farmer	P
President	Rossellin Gaitán	P

Open Forum

Entity; Topic	Questions

Misc. Notes:

Approval of Meeting Minutes from 11/14/22

Meeting minutes approved unanimously.

REPORT: President – Rossellin Gaitán

Hello, Again Folks and Happy National Espresso Day!

Last week I joined our newly appointed Vice President as he adjusted to his role. To say that I am very excited about our potential together does not even begin to describe how I feel having Brett by my side!

Besides Vice-Presidency, I attended an interview for a hopeful new Director of our UAC commission, who you will meet later tonight; I Met with Vice Chancellor Felz and Chancellor Schmidt, Attended the November UPC Meeting, met with folks about FGH (First Gen Handbook) and what that is going to look



like, and finally went on the Watermelon Seeds Podcast with Brett to talk about ourselves and our road to leadership.

I am so excited to get a break from school, and regardless of the one day we have, I am so grateful for this session and our success thus far!

Be kind to yourself and go with grace (:

I Yield.

REPORT: Vice President – Brett Farmer

Good evening everyone

I am thrilled and honored to be giving my first report to you all tonight as your new vice president! I want to begin by thanking you all for this opportunity and assuring you all that I will do everything in my power to assist you, stand with you, and work with you to accomplish any goals and projects that you think must be done to improve our university. I will not take this opportunity for granted, and I am so excited to get to work with all of you through the remainder of the session.

My first week has been a very busy, but enjoyable one, sending lots of introductory emails across campus, getting acquainted with my role, decorating my office, meeting with directors, setting expectations and goals with President Gaitan, as well as conducting interviews alongside President Gaitan, Director Denison, and UAC adviser Corey Stockman to find a candidate to fill my previous position as UAC director.

On the same note, I am excited to inform you all that we have a very qualified, ambitious, and enthusiastic nominee to go before you all tonight that we, as a committee, have full faith in and I look forward to all of your questions and thoughts on the candidate and their potential to contribute to this body.

Finally, I want to remind you all as we head into Fall Break, to take advantage of this short pause in our busy lives and truly take a step back, spend time with the people closest to you, and enjoy it. Check in on yourself and your loved ones, and come back next week recharged and ready for one last push before finals and the end of the semester! As we approach the holiday season and the time to give thanks, I want to let you all know that I'm thankful for each and every one of you and the impactful work that we do as an organization.



When we return, I extend an invitation to you all to come and visit me in my office and/or schedule meetings with me to discuss projects, legislation, or just chat about life and things completely unrelated to Student Senate! I have not set official office hours yet, but if my office door is open, please stop in!

Thank you all again, and have a safe and restful break full of delicious food, I yield.

REPORT: Senate Personnel Director – Anakah Denison

Happy Monday all!

I hope you all had a wonderful weekend! This past week I attended Finance and ESM, conducted interviews for UAC director, held check-ins with VP Farmer and Pres. Gaitan, attended meetings concerning the Blu plushie project and AAC open forums, and worked on rescheduling the Senate Retreat and training. Speaking of, as you all should know, the retreat has been rescheduled for the 10th of December. While the training is only required for Exec members and senators who did not attend the first retreat, we are planning to have a Holiday Party around the lunch hour in the office for **all** senators and exec members. Furthermore, on Monday the 28th, the Monday we return from break, we will be decorating the Senate Office from 3 until GA, so expect Outlook invites for these events with more info! Our hope is to set up a strong foundation for next semester to continue our work with a refreshed and well-prepared assembly with these events.

As we approach the end of the semester, I also wanted to encourage all of you to reach out if you find yourself struggling. If your stress is directly related to Senate, please reach out to me or another member of exec so we can address it and this commitment does not become overwhelming. We can't help if we don't know there's something wrong. Otherwise, there are plenty of resources available on campus; please talk to Counseling Services (including Crisis Drop-in Hours), trusted friends, advisors, RAs, etc. Being proactive is a great way to get ahead of a stressful period, and I encourage you to get away from your laptop or phone for even a few minutes this break and give your brain a break from school, work, and the news cycle as much as you are able.

For everyone traveling, please drive safe and look out for deer—they are very active this time of year, especially around dawn/dusk, and always travel in groups!

Tonight you will hear from our candidate for the UAC directorship—I am very excited for you to hear him speak about his experience and interest in this position. I also would like to encourage you to lean on the experience of our exec board, specifically VP Farmer, when looking into projects or information concerning Senate—he has a wealth of experience in Senate, events and planning, and in communicating with admin, and I know he is more than happy to speak with you!

Lastly, Director San was once again the first to turn in his report at 1 pm on Saturday—congrats!



REPORTS: Board of Directors

Communication Commission Director – Ivan San

Howdy everyone, I hope you all had a great day today and have fun plans for this coming break! Last week in Comms, as usual we hosted Motivation Monday, set a record, and served 4 gallons of hot cocoa in 27 minutes. I had the pleasure to watch a couple presentations with SOC and relax with ESM. I met with our new amazing VP and got some project ideas for the future/ spring semester. As usual, I met with my intern and managed the progress of our graphic design projects as well as brainstormed ideas to foster better outreach and engagement. This week in Comms, I'll be collecting ideas and working on projects. I hope everyone has a good fall break!

Equity in Student Matters Senate Director – Maddie Blong

No report

Finance Commission Director – Ben Johnson

Hello everyone,

I hope you are all having a good short week. This past week was a quiet one in Finance, we just went over the process of non-allocable funding. This past week I met with all the non-allocable organizations, and plan to meet with University Centers once more before presentations on the 30th. There will be no Finance Commission meeting this week due to fall break however our next meeting on November 30th will be starting earlier than usual to accommodate more presentations during regular business hours. We will be starting at 4 pm in Council Oak conference room. Hope to see you there, safe travels to everyone that is leaving, and I yield.

Intergovernmental Affairs Commission Director – Hannah Kelly

Hello Everyone! Just two more days of being academic weapons and then we finally have break. IGA is doing great work and we have assigned some senators to take the lead on some LPS assignments and IGA initiatives. Senator Bean will be working on helping the campus food pantry. Senator Weisler will be working with Sodexo management to help improve dining on campus. Senator Lehner will be working on a post-election survey. And Senator Strojinc will be drafting up a Bylaws resolution to amend the IGA bylaws regarding the fall community walkthrough. If any of this sounds of interest to you please let myself or any of these amazing senators know! Otherwise, I hope everyone rests up over break, make sure to take at least one of these days for yourself, and I yield.

Information Technologies Commission Director – Joseph Dokken

Hello everyone!

This week in ITC we have been busy finishing up the Tech Survey. This is being run through the commission members this week and then once we get the green light from them that everything



is working properly, we will be sending it out campus wide. Be on the lookout for that as you will have the chance to win a gift card! The amount and business is TBD.

We are also in the stages of making a form to submit ideas for initiatives through ITC. If you have an initiative, you want to implement through ITC please let me know and be on the lookout for that form.

And with that I do have to mention, no one is perfect. I say that so I can still confidently say SKOL!

And with that I yield.

Student Organization Commission Director – Brad Heap

Good evening,

This week the Student Organization Commission heard 2 more presentations for the SOC Special Allocation fund and began planning for the Blugold Connect + demo. The two organizations who presented to SOC this week were Blu\$Gold and International Student Association, who with the full allocation amount we allocated to them, they will be able to continue to put on exemplary events for students in their organization. SOC also began planning for the Blugold Connect + demo, which is set for Thursday, December 8th, from 3:00pm-4:00pm in the Cargill Technology Lab in Schneider. If you are a leader of a student organization, and you are interested in learning more about how to take your Blugold Connect + page to the next level, please make sure to RSVP once the invitation is sent out, and there will be free pizza provided as well! In short, I hope you all have a lovely fall break, and as always, take care, brush ya hair, and I yield.

Student Office of Sustainability Commission Director – Sydney McGuine

Hello everyone! Last week we had lots of presentations as well as introducing a small proposal on funding some supplies for the hydroponics. I had to leave a little bit early to make the Transit Commission meeting as well. The one presentation that I was able to see before leaving was on the farmers union and it was very interesting, they do a lot more than I was expecting and have a lot of opportunities including lobbying. If you are at all interested or want to learn more talk to me later and I can set you up with a great contact! Today I met with Lily, Hazel, Tracy Drier, and Matt Lind from UW System in order to discuss project ideas and whether the Greenfund can be used for them. I hope you all have a great much needed break and I yield!

University Activities Commission Director – VACANT



Academic Affairs Commission Director – Sahana Suresh

Hi all,

Hope you all are doing well! I know I am because of the short school week! Last week was pretty great for Academic Affairs! We had Interim Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs; Louisa Rice, come into my commission and speak to us about the great changes happening in Service Learning. To keep it short, essentially what is happening is that the service-learning requirement is shortened to at least 15 hours (you have the opportunity to do more) and also you don't have to worry about splitting up your service hours because all service-learning requirements will be at least 15 hours. More courses will also incorporate it into the curriculum to make it easier for students to complete requirements. Also, all service-learning opportunities will abide by the CEL (Community Engaged Learning) which basically is combining academics while also abiding by the values of community partners. Overall, my committee and I are big fans of this change, and it won't be in effect until 2024 or later because there is still some more approval to be made but I'm glad Louisa got the student perspective since we'll be the ones doing the service learning. Other than that, I also had a successful meeting with Dennis Beale from Power of Perception about a project he wants to do with BAMS, but I also did bring up including the Student Senate and he is all in with including all of us. So, once those events/plans are finalized and coming closer you will all be updated on how you can help because it is truly a wonderful organization. Then, I ended my week by meeting with the wonderful Senate Personnel Director about the open forum I have coming up and I'm feeling so much better about it and confident it will be a successful turnout. It was just a really good rant session that I needed. Besides that, I just wanted to thank you all for sharing with me your academic concerns and suggestions; I am currently working with the Dean and the Provost on how I can work with these suggestions and make them into some real changes! That's all the announcements I have. I hope you all have a wonderful and safe Thanksgiving Break. With that, I yield.

REPORT: Special

Mascot Coordinator – Kyle May

Last week Friday was Admitted Student's Day, we had Blu take many photos with incoming freshmen. Additionally, we had our first legislation meeting for the Blu plushies, which included the vendor, estimated costs, and I have a timeline in mind for the process. I plan to have the bill in front of the senate by next Monday.

New Business

Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
	66-B-7, 23-24 Organized Activity Budget	Introduced	

Misc. Notes:

Introduction, Dir. Johnson:



- Heard from 18 of the 24 or activities and deliberated on 17
- 2, SOS and SOC are calculated with enrollment numbers, and Flipside did not get in contact and did not get an allocation
- We have much less money to allocate this year due to the enrollment cliff
- In the past, there has been excess from rollover, but as events come back, we don't expect to have as much
- We have ~251,000 less money to allocate than what is asked for
- We could cut funding that would change the student experience, raise the seg fee, or overspend
- The commission integrated all three, raising the seg fee to \$148, cut some funding, and overspent a little
- Voted independently and unanimously on all allocations
- A difference is left of about ~80,000
- Many orgs are already stretched thin
- All the numbers are in attachment A on the back of the legislation.

Personnel Matters

Appointed or Resigned (A/R)	Name(s)	Entity(ies)
Appointed	Zach Jacobson	UAC Director

Misc. Notes

UAC Director Presentation

- Zach Jacobson, second year
- Is and RA, co-Late Night Chair, R and D leader for Ambassadors, and Campus Photographer
- Given leadership skills and experience needed to thrive as UAC director
- As a chairperson, can make events, meetings, work with other campus leaders
- As R and D, reaches out to various depts to give the best tours to students
- Developed leadership skills and gain event planning and diverse knowledge
- Has some direct UAC knowledge, is a current chair
- Has learned about event planning, communication, and the campus planning environment
- Additionally, RA gave compassion and communication
- Has been in conversation with the previous director and is willing to work with him on transition
- Students who are involved return at a 6% higher rate than uninvolved students, or about 600 students for us
- Wants to create events that make students excited to come back, want to plan events that they're interested in
- Want to show compassion and drive to make exciting events, and want to add to the energy that Senate has
- Want to receive student feedback, UAC is known for bringing the fun factor, and want to keep that up



- Want to get more student engagement in committees, it is difficult to get students involved, and get a more diverse population, from all walks of life and housing
- People come back because they're excited about campus because of what UAC does
- There is a strong board of UAC chairs behind him
- Thank you for your time, will take questions
- Q: What made you get involved with UAC originally? A: Last year, was approached by VP Farmer through the Honors Program, thought it was a great way to channel his energy for campus
- Q: How do you plan to handle your schedule? A: In conversation with UAC advisor and VP Farmer about the commitment, plans to step down from Ambassador's role to allocate time to this role, has a good idea of what time commitment will look like, in addition to planning out week.
- Q: How would you prioritize UAC? A: In his role as an RA, he is required to keep in contact with students, so if there is a big conflict, his hall director can help step in, RA would be of similar importance, but plans to allocate time properly.
- Q: Great job on your speech! Is there anything right away that you would change or implement? A: Thinks the past director has done a really good job fostering a good community, would want to get more students involved first, it's hard to get students to come to unpaid orgs, but wants to work with the advisor to draw in students and show them how it can serve them and get a diverse range of students making decisions.
- Q: How familiar are you with the Student Senate bylaws and parli pro, and how confident are you in your ability to learn it? A: little experience with parli pro and the bylaws, has already skimmed through a Robert's Rules for Dummies book, is very committed to learning!
- Q: Good job! Do you have any passion projects or events? A: November 30th, Family Feud, very passionate about memorable events, wants to make them big so people keep looking forward to them, if it's a hit it could be great for engagement with UAC

Motion to extend by 5 minutes passes unanimously via placard

- Q: What would delegation in this role look like to you? A: Not sure how many people are familiar with the UAC setup, but it has several committees with different co-chairs who do a lot of the planning with the director, so a lot of the big ideas/work happens within those committees, but work can be passed on to the Director, and an advisor to help out. Wants to make sure that all the chairs feel comfortable in their roles and is available to help when necessary.
- Q: What is one of your favorite things about EC and how would that influence your role? A: The ability for student involvement, family friends who went here always talked about the ability to get involved, and he wants to keep that momentum up, wants students to feel heard and respected and the ability to step into a leadership role is there, want all students to feel included, and that they want to and can stay involved, also likes the size of EC.
- Q: How many credits do you have next semester? A: Is in 17 now, will have 18 next semester, feels on top of things, so is not worried, one class is a study abroad class, so will be light.

Motion to enter closed session passes unanimously via placard

Announcements



Person	Topic
Sen. Zimmerman	<p>There is a podcast coming out this week called Watermelon Seeds, before Thanksgiving is the intro ep, you should listen for the story behind the title and more info.</p> <p>Q: Have you already picked guests from Senate A: Yes</p> <p>Q: Where can we listen to this podcast? A: Spotify and Apple Music</p>
Dir. Denison	<p>Please respond to the Outlook invites accordingly—it is very helpful for me for planning purposes! If you know you will not be at the retreat, let me know ASAP!</p> <p>Also, just a reminder to please email me your outreach hours.</p> <p>ALSO if any exec who will be at the retreat have NOT gotten an email about Clifton strengths, please let me know ASAP!</p>
Sen. B Myszka	Want to wish the other Myszka a happy birthday!
Dir. San	<p>Have a good fall break, and when we get back, we will be doing Motivation Monday with SOS, and if you bring your own mug, you get a granola bar! Email to join!</p> <p>Q: A free what? A: Stickers, merch, and food if you bring your own mug to be sustainable</p> <p>Q: Are you giving out the green hoodies? A: yes</p> <p>Q: Where did you get this merch? A: If you bring a mug, you get put in a raffle for the merch.</p> <p>Q: Will Blu be there? A: Hopefully</p> <p>If you have an event you want to advertise, contact him</p>
Sen. Lehner	In light of the tragedy in Colorado, wanted to say to anyone who is LGBTQ+ in Senate as an LGBTQ+ person, you are loved and included, his office hours are 11-12 on Mondays and there are resources available here on campus for you.



VP Farmer	You should all have received an email from the Dean about virtual mental health service, we have a very high request, so please use those services. To address this transition, he will be working to transition Dir. Zach Jacobson into this role.
Pres. Gaitan	The MSS office, ITSC and American Indian Studies program is holding a free event with food dispelling Thanksgiving myths from 12-2 tomorrow in the MSS office.

Misc. Notes:

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:06 PM.

Minutes submitted by Anakah Denison, Senate Personnel Director