



A regular meeting of the 66th Session of the Student Senate was called to order at 6:00 PM on Monday, December 12, 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 – 12/12/2022

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	E
Communications Director	Ivan San	P
ESM Senate Director	VACANT	
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	Zach Jacobson	P
Mascot Coordinator	Kyle May	P



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
December 12, 2022
PRESIDENT GAITÁN
VICE PRESIDENT FARMER

On-Campus Senators

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

Off-Campus Senators

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

At-Large Senators

Name	Status
Livy Argo	E
Mei Bean	P
Avery De Ruyter	P
Patrick Hill	E
Ben Hurley	U



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

Executive Officers

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

Presentation

Entity; Topic	Questions

Open Forum

Entity; Topic	Questions

Misc. Notes:

Approval of Meeting Minutes from 12/05/22

Meeting minutes approved unanimously.

REPORT: President – Rossellin Gaitán

Hello, Again Folks and Happy National Gingerbread House Day!

Last week I was out sick but did tune in to the meeting minutes and the livestream, met with the Chancellor, had my final check-ins, and finally attended this weekend's senate training and exec retreat. I



am so glad that those who went were so engaged and open to learning. This upcoming week before finals I will be attending the UPC meeting, meeting with all of the Dean's of Colleges one more time, Meeting with VC Felz, and finally the Library Advisory Board Meeting. I want to thank you all for such a quick and productive first semester, and to those returning I want to end our year strong so come with a refreshed mind and ready to work!

I Yield.

REPORT: Vice President – Brett Farmer

This week was a busy one for me. I attended meetings with the chancellor, vice chancellors, the provost, and lastly, I attended the senate retreat this weekend. I have more meetings this week and will be in the office quite often preparing for finals while also meeting with directors and conducting my other weekly Student Senate duties, so please come visit me!

I also wanted to thank you all for your patience last week and your understanding with my lengthy email following last week's meeting. I wish you all a restful week as you prepare for the approaching finals week. Thank you, and I yield.

REPORT: Senate Personnel Director – Anakah Denison

Happy Monday everyone!

Firstly, thank you to everyone who came to the Holiday Party and the Retreat this weekend—it was wonderful to spend some time with you all outside of normal Senate responsibilities. For anyone that was not able to be there, I will be reaching out soon with any pertinent info. This past week I have mostly been preparing for winter break and next semester, setting goals and wrapping projects up in addition to working on my finals. Next semester my focus will include recruiting for commissions, planning the Rally for Excellence Madison lobbying trip, solidifying transition materials for all directors, helping Senators set and engage with goals/projects for the semester, bylaw revisions, compiling information on University committees, looking into the logistics of the infamous fishtank, collaborating with RHA on student retention, and more! If you are interested in any of these projects, please let me know and I will loop you in!

I wanted to thank you all for this semester, for engaging with me and the rest of exec, for taking on projects and putting forth your ideas—that drive is truly the heart of what makes Senate tick, and I have loved meeting so many new faces and the newest cohort of UWEC students and senators. I hope you will continue to reach out if you have concerns, questions or are looking for advice or a listening ear. I also encourage you to start thinking about next year—if you want to have more involvement in this body or are interested in where this position can take you and the changes you can make, please start thinking about spring elections. I, as well as Stephanie can give you more information on that process. I also hope to host



information sessions as that time draws near to empower you all to take the step to stay involved, but for now that is all in the future.

The first person to turn in their report this week was once again Director Suresh, setting a new record at noon on Friday! Her report can be found in the minutes, as she will not be here tonight. Followed closely by a valiant effort from Coordinator May, at about 6am on Sunday—props for the work ethic!

Lastly, there is food leftover from the retreat in the office fridge—anything in a black Tupperware or aluminum pan is free game! If not gone by next Tuesday I will probably be throwing it out—feel free to take some home in containers/ziplocs!

Additionally, I will be moving my office plants back home for break, so if anyone wants a cutting of any of them to grow your own plant before then, let me know!

Good luck with finals, happy holidays and safe travels, and I yield. :)

REPORTS: Board of Directors

Communication Commission Director – Ivan San

Howdy everyone, I hope you all had a good week & are ready to crush this final stretch in the semester! Last week in Comms, my intern & I mostly finished planning for various winterim projects & worked on finishing current projects. This morning we hosted our last Motivation Monday of the semester & set a record time of 4 gallons in 22 minutes! I also got to learn about my own Clifton strengths and how I can use them to the fullest with our exec board during our retreat. This week in Comms will be pretty quiet as we are students first and I will be wrapping up assignments & preparing for finals. I wish everyone the best of luck and thank you for the great semester, we're all going to do great & a long winterim break is right around the corner, Comms out.

Equity in Student Matters Senate Director – Vacant

Finance Commission Director – Ben Johnson

Hello everyone, I hope you're having a good last week of classes and preparing for finals. This past week Finance commission deliberated and voted on the non-allocable segregated fees. This has been a good semester for finance, though we dealt with having a new schedule that caused us to do things sooner than in previous years we made it work. Tonight, you all will be hearing from me again regarding the non-allocable seg fee resolution regarding the presentations finance heard 2 weeks ago. Reminder there will be no finance commission meeting this week, use this time to relax or study for finals. I hope everyone has a smooth finals week and you enjoy your winter break. I yield.

Intergovernmental Affairs Commission Director – Hannah Kelly



Hello Everyone!

Lately IGA is still working on the IGA and LPS initiatives with the most notable update that we are hoping to help the campus pantry through fundraising! We're still in the brainstorming phase so if you'd like to help out with this make sure to visit our last IGA meeting of the semester tomorrow at 3pm in the Pine room!

Other than that my intern is hoping to finally be done with the housing guide soon, all that's left to do is have a graphic designer out together the final pieces and get the guide printed. Hopefully next semester I will have more to report on with that.

And I yield

Information Technologies Commission Director – Joseph Dokken

Hello everyone!

I hope you all had a better weekend than I did. I can't believe this is the last GA meeting of the semester. For those of you that are not returning next semester, your work has been greatly appreciated and you will all be greatly missed. L

As you all know the Tech Survey was sent out last week, and it was re-sent this morning as well. As of this morning we have seen around 750 responses and we are hoping to break 1,000. We have been working with the communications commission to create a graphic in order to advertise this across campus.

ITC will also be having a pizza party this week! So that is fun. Other than that, I hope everyone study's hard and has a great break.

And of course, SKOL!

And I yield...

Student Organization Commission Director – Brad Heap

Good evening,

This week the Student Organization commission discussed the recap of the Blugold Connect + workshop, and finalized our plans for the student organization re-registration process. The Blugold Connect + workshop from last Thursday was a great success, and we were able to help lots of student organizations kick start their organizations page on Blugold Connect +! We also learned a valuable lesson in ordering the correct amount of pizza for your events, so if you are



ever hungry, there is still leftover pizza in the fridge in the senate office. Furthermore, SOC has begun to send out emails informing non re-registered student organizations about their new conditional status, which means they will not be able to apply for segregated fee funding or reserve any rooms in Davies, but they will still have access to their Blugold Connect + page. Organizations can appeal this decision, but they will need to go through a process with me first. Finally, there will be an SOC meeting this week where we will be hearing a presentation for the SOC fund, and then we will get to enjoy the holiday cookies I will bring for everybody to enjoy. In short, I hope you all have a very successful finals week and fun break, and as always, take care, brush ya hair, and I yield.

Student Office of Sustainability Commission Director – Sydney McGuine

Hello everyone! This last week has been busy getting ready and doing some finals as I am sure you all feel. Last week we voted on and passed our final two proposals for the semester! We interviewed a candidate for the hydroponics internship today as well. This week's meeting will be more laid back, getting to know each other over some food and games in the SSRC. Good luck to everyone on finals and have a great relaxing break! I yield.

University Activities Commission Director – Zach Jacobson

Good evening everyone!

UAC is still running as normal and I am working to attend meetings and check-ins to chat about the next semester in UAC.

UAC had an amazing bingo event to finish up our semester and we are excited to start planning for spring.

For upcoming events, UAC has finished up the semester so you can take time to hit the books now!

Keep your eyes peeled on the UAC Instagram for clues about the artist of the February 16th concert.

If any of you or any friends are at all interested in UAC please let me know. We will be looking for another late-night chair in the upcoming future so keep your eyes peeled for the application. We would love all the feedback and input to put on the best possible events here on campus. Reminder, senators can serve on a UAC committee as well!

For all event information and updates, be sure to follow UAC on Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok and reach out to me if you have any questions!

Keep working hard in all your classes you can do it! Have an amazing break and I hope you can find some time to step away from school.



I love seeing all your faces, keep up the amazing work you all do, I yield.

Academic Affairs Commission Director – Sahana Suresh

Hi all,

Happy last week of classes! We're so close to the end! I believe in you all, we got this! Last week was very chill for academic affairs. I attended the Academic Policies Committee on Tuesday; super interesting as always! Then, I finally printed out my pamphlet for my commission; they're on my desk at the office if you'd like a copy or if you thought of anyone who would like to join AAC please hand this out to them; always looking to expand my commission especially next semester with BCDT. Then, on Thursday I had my commission meeting which was the HSS open forum, and a successful turnout. I appreciate HSS for their help with promoting the event and those who showed up. I also went to Director Heap's Blugold Connect + session on Thursday; it was extremely helpful! The free pizza and Christmas music were awesome! This week I don't have too much planned; the usual Academic Policies Committee meeting and my final commission meeting of the semester where I want to debrief what we accomplished and set goals next semester I plan on starting to work on during the break. That's all I have this week! Hope you all have a great week ahead! I yield.

REPORT: Special

Mascot Coordinator – Kyle May

Hello everyone, I hope we all enjoyed our weekend with the holiday party, I know I did, and I hope Blu did as well as they were very busy. This week, Blu was out and about plenty this week. Thursday, Blu was up early for photos with high schools looking to be the next generation of teachers. Friday was yet another successful Blugold Friday and later that evening, Blu went showed their support to the girls hockey team, where I'm sure caused them to [win]. Besides that. On my end, I started to look where on where else we could have Plushie sales come SR 23. And with that I yield.

Unfinished Business

Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
	66- ,		

Misc. Notes:

- None

New Business

Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
		Passed	25-0-2, Placard



	66-R-8, Fiscal Year 2024 Non-Allocable Segregated Fee Approval		
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Misc. Notes:

Introduction, Dir. Johnson:

- Recommending the adoption of the 23-24 FY plans
- Voted last Wednesday
- Several programs are asking for increases
- We felt they were reasonable and improved the student increase
- About \$78 increase or 5.8%
- Due to student pay increase, inflation, salary
- Q: Can you explain why this is a resolution and not a bill? A: We are passing along a **recommendation** to the Chancellor, and this is historic precedence for it to be a resolution
- Q: Do you know the split between Covid and inflation and wage pressures? A: No, those exact numbers were not shared.
- Q: Is there any indication that the Chancellor will adopt these? A: The Chancellor saw and approved them prior to us seeing them, so yes.

Speaker Sentiments:

- Will be voting up to help improve the experience of students, think it will be used well over these departments
- Wanted to speak as a member that sat in the auxiliary budget review, went through a much larger spreadsheet with more details on every program. Saw nothing alarming, all increases were addressed, and the Chancellor’s team appears to be approving of all these changes
- Will be voting up, thanks Finance and Dir. Johnson for their work, is excited that there will be pay increases for student especially with all the pressures we face this year recovering from the pandemic.
- **AMENDMENTS:**

Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
	66-B-9, Amending Chapter III, Section 3, Part 10 , Line Item 12	Passed	25-0-2, Placard

Misc. Notes:

Introduction, Sen. Strojinc

- From IGA
- We were unable to do the Fall Community Walkthrough
- Cancelled due to hunting season, the police that would be with us were out hunting
- Allows IGA to do it in the spring, give more leeway so it has a better chance of happening
- Just removing the word “Fall” and adding a section so future sessions know that it normally is conducted in the fall
- Q: To your knowledge, has it ever been held in the spring? A: As far as we know, it has only been in the Fall.



- Q: Who attends the walkthrough? A: Anyone from IGA, police officers from campus and the city, and county officials to see what students go through walking Water Street at night.
- Q: Do you know how many times it has happened? A: Unsure; **More Information** from Dir. Kelly: There was a small version last session, before then not sure.

Personnel Matters

Appointed or Resigned (A/R)	Name(s)	Entity(ies)
Appointed	Josh Holness	ESM Director
Resigned	Sen. Wiercinski	Off-Campus Senator
Resigned	Sen. Zimmerman	Off Campus Senator
Appointed	Director Johnson	Internal Affairs

Misc. Notes

- Consideration of nominee for ESM Director, Josh Holness
- Has been at EC for a while, as a student with intersecting identities
- Sees that most of higher ed is not made for him
- Hard to know that most people do not see all of him
- Most of all has been involved; peer diversity intern, RA, Student Senator, Chief of Staff, Chancellor Review Group for VC of EDI
- All have helped form his ideals and who he is
- Wants to develop EDI education further, develop the EDI certificate
- Wants to use our campus as a site for learning by analyzing past incidents of racism
- Ask critically why certain behaviors have happened
- Want to build communities for marginalized identities, spaces for underrepresented students
- The university is built for the majority, which leaves some students behind
- Want to make this place where those students can thrive
- Want to program more events, show up to events
- Implement social justice standards and be cognizant of past inequalities with triple social justice
- Works by being aware that marginalized people are not afforded the same privilege as other peers
- Want to work closely with Personnel Director on what works on campus and what doesn't
- Don't just be a voice for the voiceless, but give them a platform to speak
- To do better, we have to make that space, and allow people to take up that space
- Senate hasn't always been an ally to those people
- Q: Can you finish your speech? A: Want to give people access not just as representatives, but as people
- Want to celebrate people for who they are
- Allyship is a verb and a place
- We have to be more and be better



- Q: Are you aware of any projects that the previous ESM Director started that you want to continue? A: To find the ASA a space, starting free little libraries on campus with EDI related content.
- Q: Are you aware of what your duties are per the bylaws? A: Yes, have reviewed the bylaws and are familiar.
- Q: You talked about your history of involvement, what have you learned from these involvements? A: This year have tried to go to as many EDI events as possible, being in those spaces means being aware of the space he takes up and that he has different identities. They have taught him to inform the way that he works and builds relationships.
- Q: As this is an atypical transition, do you plan to make any changes to your spring commitments? A: will be aware of time and what is causing stress, knows when to set up boundaries, knows when something has to give, have made plans to adjust his semester.
- Q: Since you are expected to represent many identities, how will you ensure you are representing others? A: By committing to finding time to listen to others and platform their voices as well.
- **Motion to extend Q and A by 10 minutes, passes unanimously, Placard**
- Q: Given previous role as a senator and current ESM Director, knows that senators are not always as informed about EDI policy, how do you plan to bridge that gap? A: Has given this a lot of thought, knows that we are all intentional people and care about campus, thinks that being aware of the space we take up and how our words affect people is a start. Showing up for events is a good place to start too.
- Q: A: Hope to start working over winterim to build relationships before the end of the semester.
- Q: Spoke about the homogeneity of Eau Claire, how do you plan to make minorities feel included, but also the majority demographics engage with marginalized people? A: If appointed, will only be for a semester, want to encourage people to show up for others, while knowing that students have not always showed up and not everyone has the same motivations, thinks that when talking about education that it should be impactful, it needs to be more than just workshops but should include academics. Giving people the chance to grow is very important
- Q: As a member of the LGBTQ+ community, thinks that the University has done a lot, but more needs to be done, especially to communicate the resources available, how will you address furthering those resources? A: First, having a conversation with students on what they need, and be graceful with who we are asking these things of, since our GSRC is a small center (2-3 people) shifting accountability and pressure onto other individuals like admin will help share the load more. We have made strides, but there is always more to be done and room to grow.
- Q: Considering that this role can be mentally taxing, how will you care for yourself while also ensuring that the commission is successful? A: We have 2 directors, so hope to share responsibility, and recognize that our well-being is more important, hopes that the commission understands that, and will set boundaries when needed.
- Q: Want to foster dialogue, and keep people engaged, hope the new individuals are open to students not just as administrators but as members of the campus community, don't want to sacrifice student voices for the sake of admin, want everyone to be heard, but it also takes grace and kindness, and don't want to put too much onto one person, while also being accountable to their words.



- Q: One thing that ESM has struggled with is consistent engagement, and you’ve spoken about the communities you have engaged with, what plans do you have to continue to reach out? A: Want to forge relationships with commission members, want to reach out to involved communities so they know that we are a resource for them and a friendly face.
- **Motion to extend by 10 minutes, unanimous, placard**
- Q: How will you work with admin? A: Is a very steadfast person, understands that work and response takes time, but if an answer is needed, then will reach out more intensely, want them to understand that he wants to communicate with them, and wants them to see each other as pillars of support, but wants them to see that he will be persistent when advocating for students.

Motion to enter closed session, unanimous, placard

Motion to enter open session, unanimous, placard

Announcements

Person	Topic
Pers. Gaitan	<p>Addressing last week, it was a learning lesson. Watched the livestream and read the minutes, want people to know that it should not happen again—laughing, talking, being disrespectful, it was unprofessional and disrespectful; going towards directors and senators. That is not how we conduct business in this session. Want to make it clear that people do watch what we do and what we do matters, so we have to maintain a certain level of professionalism and respect. Please take the break to realize how we do business. We can disagree and still be respectful, want people to get perspective on how we move forward.</p> <p>We have two graduating senators, Zimmerman and Wiercinski, please come up to receive your cords. Will miss them, have been incredible team players with incredible positive attitudes, will be dearly missed.</p> <p>Student evals are out for all courses—please take them! They are very important for our professors and our academic structure as a whole!</p>



Dir. San	Happy Birthday to Ben Myszka! Q: How old is Senator B. Myszka? A: 21
Dir. Kelly	IGA is now hiring an intern, the application is on Blugold Connect+ Q: When are you looking to fill this position? A: ASAP Q: Will it close? A: No Q: Is a second ad needed from Comms? A: Yes
Sen. Lehner	After last meeting, wanted to bring last week's legislation again, but after many meetings and deliberation, have decided not to again. Have made friends in the process :). One of the concerns was that students should be surveyed on this topic. They conducted a survey in Davies with QR codes which confirmed their responses, received 300 responses; asked if abortion is a topic issue for them. Also asked if they think the University should take action, and most said yes. Asked if they felt that abortion was a topic that affected them, over 90% said yes. Many brought up concerns that we could not pass this legislation. After further discussions with Jake Wrasse and Parliamentarian Miller, it is his opinion that we could have passed/voted on that legislation given that we are an independent body. The county board will continue with trying to add that question, and is asking students to continue to work towards that goal. Look forward to continuing to update the body. Did not come here to take up space or participate in sole unanimous votes, came here to be responsive.
Sen. Wiercinski	Thank you to everyone who made this session so productive and eventful, had a wonderful experience here sitting on commissions and committees and meeting everyone.
Sen. Russell	Good luck to everyone on finals!
Par. Miller	If you have an interest in helping with a project for next semester; it deals with the bylaws and our constitution, if you want to help or have interest in becoming Parliamentarian, contact him.



<p>Dir. Denison</p>	<p>There is leftover food in the fridge, and the snowflake competition has been extended to Monday—instructions in the chat!</p> <p>Q: So there's leftover tacos? A: Salsa, toppings and soda.</p>
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Misc. Notes:

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM.

Minutes submitted by Anakah Denison, Senate Personnel Director