



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
March 13, 2023
PRESIDENT GAITÁN
VICE PRESIDENT FARMER

A regular meeting of the 66th Session of the Student Senate was called to order at 6:01 PM on Monday, March 13, 2023, 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 – 3/6/2023

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	E
ESM Senate Director	Josh Holness	P
Finance Director	Ben Johnson	P
ITC Director	Joseph Dokken	E
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



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On-Campus Senators

Name	Status
Samantha Consiglio	P
Solveig Dei	P
Benjamin Myszka	P
Brenna Strojinc	P

Off-Campus Senators

Name	Status
Jake Hicks	P

At-Large Senators

Name	Status
Diana Abarca Palma	P
Logan Ackerman	P
Livvy Argo	A
Mei Bean	P
Ben Calcutt	P
Avery De Ruyter	P
Angie Elizalde	P
Lily Eisele	P
Kaitlyn Hevrin	P
Patrick Hill	P
Ben Hurley	P



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Danny Karofsky	P
Taylor Kaplan	P
Matthew Lehner	P
Cora Martin	P
Peter Mayer	P
Sara Multhauf	P
Vivian Ong	P
Allie Russel	P
Sierra Szydel	P
Allana Valiente	A
Abby Wennersten	P

Executive Officers

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

Presentation

Entity; Topic Shannon Galligan; the UW Eau Claire Brand	Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Q: You mentioned that branding primarily focuses on new students—are there any aspects designed to target alumni, to instill pride in them? A: Yes, it needs to address many audiences, including media and government. He focuses on incoming students because that is where most of our media goes.
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- It's exciting to see this happening; student agency is a powerful idea
- Would like to do some informal ethnographic research, lunch tomorrow for a handful of students to do some more work
- Swink; boutique branding and design firm in Madison, WI, founded in 2004

- Not necessarily logos, but how we approach students, how the website is designed, etc.
- Only 3 people, stay small to be involved at every stage in a project
- Objective: to make “a confident, unified voice for one of Wisconsin’s true top-tier universities”
- Need to find the disconnects, what’s working and what’s not, and to unify them
- Need to start with the right building blocks and assumptions
- Currently, a lot of our materials come from Carnegie, focus on having a strong brand opinion, less about facts and figures, more about personality; future, curiosity, “power of AND”
- UWEC presentation is practical; facts, which go well with an education institution
- BUT people are not rational beings; get people interested, then show them the facts
- We are more than our attributes, good book by David Aacker talks about branding holistically
- Brands are supposed to pull together the many roles of a brand and move it in one direction. Strong emotional and personal connections matter more to people on the surface
- Brand building blocks: UWEC has qualities like “right size” you get to know your classmates and professors and feel ownership of it, but with the caliber of a large university. It is “down to earth”, “multidisciplinary”, “rigorous”, has “grit”, like enduring the weather, hill/bridge, and evokes a “roll up your sleeves, midwestern” feel. “Natural and beautiful” with the river valley and the glaciated regions. “Global”, with study abroad programs that reach out into the world. How relevant does this feel?
 - Not very in some aspects, don’t always feel like they have an impact on the culture here.
 - Disagree, feels it has a huge aspect, many students don’t access these programs. Second that, all the aspects addressed feel relevant, as an Ambassador, he relates to those reasons why students come here, and our study abroad program is huge and does a lot of outreach. Especially compared to other universities.
 - Thinks we have a lot of outreach opportunities, but doesn’t always see how it is reflected back home on campus
 - Worries about branding ourselves as a colonialist university or setting expectations that won’t be fulfilled.
- If you make the claim, it needs to be defensible, and there is always some dissonance—may need to tweak branding there
 - Thinks we should lean into the global aspect because it is a huge part of campus
 - Don’t want to discount the robustness of our study abroad program, but doesn’t want it to seem free, or make our campus seem more diverse than it is disingenuously. Doesn’t want to portray that you need to go abroad to experience diversity
- Are these attributes enough—do they describe UWEC specifically? What is the emotional story
- Questions for tomorrow; why UWEC? Who is a good fit here? Expectations—would you apply again?
- Anyone who want to join tomorrow; Delaney Inn, we will have a sign-up sheet in the back

Entity; Topic

**Stephanie Jamelske; Blugold
Commitment Differential
Tuition**

Questions

Q: Do you expect to have a remaining balance at the end of this year? A: Yes, about \$1.1 million, planning to take expected

	<p>family contribution from 12k to 10k for financial aid. Rollover helps ease</p> <p>Q: To clarify, the amount is the same as last year? A: Yes, the 900 is set by the Board of Regents and is always the same.</p> <p>Q: In the Continuing Programs section, it mentions that we fund faculty positions—why does this come out of BCDT rather than standard hiring tuition? A: It is tuition, not a fee, which makes it a little different. All of these projects and experiences require staff to design, execute and administrate them, so departments often just need additional capacity to make these programs happen, even if that specific person is not doing the program, it allows bandwidth for another faculty to.</p> <p>Motion to extend Q and A by 5 minutes passes, Placard, unanimous</p> <p>Q: Is the Financial Aid office part of the BCDT financial aid portion? A: The financial aid office was aware of the unspent financial aid, which is why the EFC was lowered. Followup: How do we know this is being done? Reasoning that students have had to reapply even if their EFC was below the agreed upon number.</p> <p>Q: As far as student wages, do you have a number for what the exact figure would be? A: Should be at least \$10/hour—after the Affordable Care Act, switched to an hourly rate. Followup: Are there any plans, other than the travel increase eating into the surplus, to raise student wages? A: There could be lots of potential plans, no set plans as of now. Investment in student jobs could be one, in financial aid, lots of places it could go. As of now, the unspent money is helping them meet the total budget.</p>
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- BCDT is a supplemental tuition
- About \$900
- Tuition is the set fee for instruction, programs and activities that support instruction
- Fees are what students pay for co-curricular parts of college life
- Differential tuition has been in place since 1996, implemented in order to help students get involved with high impact practices, like cultural immersions, advising, and research
- BCDT goal is to sustain those faculty-student interactions; this increases retention
- Benefit all students
- Motivation came from the National Survey of Student Engagement in 2008; saw a participation gap between what students wanted to do as freshman, and what they actually did as seniors.

- Proposed an expansion to the differential tuition then, to the Student Senate
- The vision is that all students, regardless of background, will participate in multiple high-impact educational experiences
- Was supposed to be implemented over a four year period, \$300 increase each year
- Put out a call for proposals, totaled over \$17 million
- Implementation years 2011-2013; Senate developed BCDT bylaws, collected proposals, vetted, reviewed, prioritized
- It collects about \$10 million annually
- Currently can't fund any new proposals; review current ones on a 5 year cycle, four students from Senate meet with Stephanie Jamelske
- Recipients prepare reports for the BCDT committee to review
- Anticipate having a little left over due to travel restrictions from the pandemic
- Rolls over to help the next year's budget
- Spend about half on continuing programming, and about a third each on BCDT financial aid and Provost's Initiatives
- These can be broken up further into individual programs—eg. the Honors Program, faculty in American Indian Studies
 - Printers for research posters
 - Faculty Student Research program
 - Blugold Fellows
 - Immersions
 - Internships, field experiences, capstones
 - MSS LLC
 - First year experience programming
 - Q Fest trip
 - LTS
 - BCDT administration—financial aid counselor, pay plan advisor
 - Faculty/support in several departments
 - Medical simulation labs
 - Financial aid—serves to exclude any student harmed by it, up to 40% set aside, most goes to hold-harmless grant—generally \$12,000 (four years worth) but can be increased
 - Etc.
- Will not know what the actual revenue is until this time next year—may be more or less
- Do have some unspent monies from past years—about \$1.3 million each year
- Enrollment has decreased, personnel costs increase
- Until the pandemic, have done very well; since then, some categories are slow to recover
- Peaked in 2019-2020 (right before pandemic)
- Other outcomes: NCUR will be here! Due in part to our strong undergraduate research
- Lots of national recognitions—because of BCDT, all student can participate in HIP

Open Forum



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Entity; Topic	Questions
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Misc. Notes:

Approval of Meeting Minutes from 3/06/23

Meeting minutes approved unanimously.

Correct “12 months” to “12 weeks” in the answer to Senator Bean’s question.

REPORT: President – Rossellin Gaitán

Hello, Again Folks and Happy National Napping Day!

This past week was one for the books. I had my regular check-ins, Met with some new senators about their new transition into senate and questions, I had a dental cleaning and got my eyes checked, worked on scholarships, met with Emily Herwig about some important concerns about parking, met with university senate and staff council about the senate and how all of our shared joint governance can work better together, worked on the first gen handbook some more (we are making good headway!) met with a faculty member about adding bereavement into our university excused absences and finally this morning our exec board had a very productive and highly anticipated meeting with the Chancellor's executive team and then after I had a meeting with two faculty members about some important student concerns that you might hear about after spring break. I also attended yesterday’s training event for new senators and our training with Jodi in which we spoke about privilege, leadership, and its important intersectional powers.

This upcoming week I got some cool things coming up. I will be attending the UW System Administrative Policies Feedback Session with UW-Eau Claire, Having a meeting with Vice Chancellor Crickette, Hopefully attend the Q’NNECT QTPOC Cohort meeting, will be meeting with all the Deans of Colleges, have my meeting with Dean Heinselman, will be meeting with Directors for weekly meetings, Meeting with the Chancellor, and meeting with the same contact from last week about Berevment Policies.

Happy Spring Break Folks. Stay Safe, Be smart, and have fun! You deserve it.

I Yield.

REPORT: Vice President – Brett Farmer

Good evening everyone!

Spring Break is right around the corner, so I hope you all are doing well and having a productive week before some well-deserved rest next week!

In the past week, I had a meeting with Teresa O’Halloran to discuss the current state of the EDI division, both of our experiences within it, and her vision for the future of EDI on campus. I also attended the EDI Staff Panel at the weekly ESM meeting, attended the UAC Chis Jones event, and the Menards Center for Constitutional Studies’ speaker event with Megan Phelps-Roper. I



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also met, alongside President Gaitan, with several other shared governance leaders from University Senate and Staff Council. Finally, I conducted all of my regular check-ins with directors, helped out once again with Admitted Student Day on Friday, gave some tours Saturday morning and I was a part of our Senate and University Exec meeting this morning with all of our lovely directors.

This week, I am planning on wrapping a lot of things up before I head out of town for Spring Break on a trip to Utah with the EAC. Before break, I will be having various meetings with Vice Chancellor Crickette, Vice Chancellor Felz, Chancellor Schmidt, and the Deans of all four Colleges. I also plan on attending the UW System Administrative Policies Feedback Session Tuesday afternoon.

One quick reminder for all of you tonight as we discuss several pieces of legislation: please respect one another tonight regardless of what opinions are shared and what is discussed, I just know it has been a while since we dated legislation, and I want you all to remember that we always talk about the legislation at hand, and never consider previous relationships or context with the authors or individuals involved. Also, new senators, please be a part of the conversation, don't worry too much about using proper parliamentary procedure, you can just ask us how to do so, or Parliamentarian will kindly assist you!

As we head into break, I want to wish you all good health and relaxation, and I encourage you to please reach out or let me know if you need support in any way. Take care of yourselves and check in with the ones you love. Thank you and I yield.

REPORT: Senate Personnel Director – Anakah Denison

Happy Monday everyone! I hope you are enjoying the snow showers as much as I am! This past week I both attended and presented at the SOC Student Org Segregated Fee presentations, attended a meeting regarding my completed service learning project that will result in a resolution in the coming weeks, presented at Sunday's new Senator training, attended the Identity, Power and Privilege workshop, and attended this morning's meeting with the Chancellor's Executive staff along with the rest of the Senate exec board. This week I will be working on some legislation and tying up loose ends before spring break, and am looking forward to the Chippewa Valley Rally after spring break! I hope you all have a restful and productive break, and I will see you in two weeks!

And of course, the first person to turn in their report this week was Dir. Dokken on Thursday!

Thank you, and I yield.

REPORTS: Board of Directors

Academic Affairs Commission Director – Sahana Suresh



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Hey besties! Hope you are doing well! This has been a great week in academic affairs! Last week, I went to my usual meetings and spent a majority of my time working on the wonderful legislation that I am very happy to present to you all at today's meeting.

This week I will be attending my usual meetings, attempting to pass my midterms, and getting pumped for spring break.

As always if you have any academic concerns, questions, or want to work on any projects or legislations; come to my commission meetings which are Wednesdays 2-3 in the Pine Room.

That's all I have. I yield.

Communication Commission Director – Ivan San

Howdy everyone, I hope you're doing well and staying warm! Comms is back at it again with Motivation Monday. Last week we finished a bunch of spotlights so expect to see your awesome faces on Instagram shortly, and if you haven't filled it out yet, please do so! This week in Comms we will be looking to put together Table Tents for the upcoming election as well as the next issue of Blu's Bulletin. Over spring break, my intern and I will be meeting to work on more graphic projects, I also hope to set into stone some more collaborations for upcoming Motivation Mondays & other event promotions! Thanks for listening & good luck this week, Comms out.

Equity in Student Matters Senate Director – Josh Holness

First, thank you to everyone who was able to make it to last week's ESM meeting with EDI exec and the Dean of Students! We appreciate everyone's attendance and to our panel guests for their insight and willingness to come speak with us! We will be meeting this week to go over everything the commission heard and learned and to see! We'll also have playdoh for everyone to fiddle with while we talk!

On top of all that, Director Gomez and I met with facilities to discuss the installation of flags of the 12 major indigenous tribes and a few Minnesota tribes!

This week, Rosa and I will be wrapping up some meetings and plans before Spring Break. ESM will also be having a movie night this Friday at 5:30PM in Woodland Theatre where we'll be watching Everything Everywhere All at Once! We hope to see you all there; it is BYOS!

Lastly, ESM has changed its meeting time! We will now meet Tuesdays 5PM to 6PM in Davies 320A!

That's it! Be better! I yield! Josh!

Finance Commission Director – Ben Johnson

Hello everyone, I hope you are all having a good week. Not stressing too much over midterms. This past week I attended the second SOC org funding meeting, had a great time and then went to see the hypnotist,



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huge shout out to UAC it was amazing. On Sunday I attended the Senate training briefly to share more about seg fees and 820 policy, if you were not there or just wanting more information please come chat or email me. I started my morning off bright and early with a meeting with our student senate exec board and the Chancellors exec board sharing out accomplishments from the year and any projects we are working on. It was great hearing their input and getting any ideas they have. This week finance is back to its regularly scheduled program, meeting Wednesday at 5:00pm in the Ho Chunk room. That is Davies 320E, right next to the room we had senate training in this past weekend. I will be sending out the agenda for that meeting tomorrow, so be on the lookout. If you are planning to attend, please rsvp yes on the calendar invite, thanks. I hope you all have a great rest of your week.

Intergovernmental Affairs Commission Director – Hannah Kelly

Hello everyone! Last week I met with Kristen from the Campus Vote project who gave me a bunch of resources to help promote voting. She also informed me of a potential job opportunity for students! So if you are looking for an extra source of income please email me and I'll send you the materials!

IGA is still working on LPS initiative like promoting Harry Hartle, working with SSD, and the Campus Food pantry! We meet on Fridays at 2:30pm in the Pine Room of the AIL office so make sure to stop by!

I am also excited to report that IGA will be attending the Comms motivation Monday on April 3rd to promote voting in the Wisconsin Supreme Court Election. Another event coming up will be Tabling with the League of Woman Voters on March 29th, and outlook invite will be sent out soon!

I yield

Information Technologies Commission Director – Joseph Dokken

Hello everyone!

This past week in ITC we proposed 5 initiatives to potentially fund within ITC. The commission made a motion to table the vote until next week in order to get requested figures and give time to digest the proposals to best understand what will serve students' needs in the best way.

Along with that, we have been working with a few other people to submit new proposals before next week.

I am excited to report back with the initiatives we will be implementing in the weeks to come, next week!

That's all folks, see you on the 19th hole!

I yield.



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Student Organization Commission Director – Brad Heap

Good evening,

This week the Student Organization Commission will not be meeting, but we are working on finalizing the tentative allocation amounts for every student organization that applied for the segregated funding fee process. Thank you again to each and every one of you who came to the two meetings, I know they were extremely long at times, but I hope you all still found enjoyment within the company of your fellow senators and directors. Something else we learned through the process is that it is also pretty easy to have fun when experiencing a delirious state of exhaustion after a total of 10 hours of meetings about student organizations. As far as my self goes, I spent this morning with my fellow executive board members, as well as the executive team at the university as we engaged in thoughtful discussion with each other about the initiatives that directors have taken on during this session, as well as a conversation about potential future collaborations between our two groups. Finally, looking forward, SOC will begin to look at taking on new and exciting opportunities, so make sure to attend our upcoming meetings after spring break. I hope you all have a great spring break, and as always, take care, brush ya hair, and I yield.

Student Office of Sustainability Commission Director – Sydney McGuine

Hello everyone! In the light of this being a long meeting I will keep it brief. This week in SOS we will be voting on funding a student created mural along with sounds for over the summer. We will also be hearing from a research group and their funding request for the summer. Our pack it up pass it on planning is already underway and I will be meeting with Hazel this week to finish planning out NCUR breakfast. I also meet with the Eau Claire Transit Commission this week, so if you have any questions regarding transportation or the bus routes let me know and I can bring that to them. That is all I have for this week, I yield.

University Activities Commission Director – Zach Jacobson

Good evening all

I am so happy to see all your faces again and I hope you had such an amazing sixth week of classes.

This week in UAC we had our weekly meetings and check-ins to talk about upcoming events a few that I am very excited about.

Last week hypnotist Chris Jones was an absolute hit, we had over 250 people come and it was so fun to see you all there, even some of you who participated.

No upcoming events this week but keep your eyes out for Friendly Feud, Spring Fest, and other fun events later this semester.



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I also just wanted to remind everyone that as a senator you can serve your senate hours on any of the committees of UAC. We have films, late-night, concerts, and festivals and we would love to have your help and input on any of those committees. Please reach out to me or stop in during my office hours to ask any questions that you may have.

Please make sure to follow the UAC Instagram, Tik Tok, and Facebook to stay updated on what events are coming up!

I love seeing all of your faces, keep up all of the great work you do for all of the students here on campus, you are amazing and fantastic!

I yield

REPORT: Special

Mascot Coordinator – Kyle May

No report

Unfinished Business

Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
66- ,			

Misc. Notes:

Introduction, Person:

- A

Speaker Sentiments:

- A
- **AMENDMENTS:**

New Business

Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
	66-B-10, APPROVAL OF THE BLUGOLD COMMITMENT DIFFERENTIAL TUITION FUNDING PROPOSAL PACKAGE FOR 2023-2024	Introduced	

Misc. Notes:

Introduction, Person:

- 66-B-10 discusses the BCDT, which you just heard a presentation on
- Passed every year by the Funding Analysis Committee
- Also needs to pass Senate



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- It funds many amazing offices and opportunities on campus
- As well as pivotal experiences for students
- Grand total is just over \$10 million this year
- Q: When it comes to financial aid portion, is the application fee revoked for students who are considered low-income? A: Unsure Followup: Could you look into it for next week? A: Yes
- Q: Has there been any discussion on increasing the student wage with the surplus? A: There has not been any discussion on it, but personally believes in it.

Speaker Sentiments:

- A
- **AMENDMENTS:**

Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
	66-B-11, Placing Donation Bins in Residence Halls in Support of the Campus Closet and Campus Food Pantry	Withdrawn by author	

Misc. Notes:

Introduction, Person:

Speaker Sentiments:

- A
- **AMENDMENTS:**

Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
	66-R-9, Calling on the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire to Add Voting to the List of Authorized Absences	Passed	Placard, 31-0-2

Misc. Notes:

Introduction, Sen. Lehner:

- The original idea was to write a resolution to make voting day a holiday system-wide
- This would not have changed anything in the foreseeable future, due to academic calendars being set years in advance
- Pivoted to a resolution encouraging excusal instead
- Everyone should have the ability to access voting
- It calls for UWEC to add voting to the list of excusable absences
- Q: Can you expand on the work you have already done so that admin already knows about this? A: The first person consulted was Dir. Kelly, who was of the opinion that it was more in the purview of AAC,

who thought it was a good idea. They met with Provost this semester (last Friday) to discuss. This is supposed to launch initiatives—they were open to this idea and the reasoning, and suggested that it be sent over to the Dean of Students as well. Admin is aware and open to the idea.

- Q: Can you talk about specific examples of other schools that have done this? A: In hindsight, wishes he had put an example in the resolution, but some schools like Harvard have “democracy days” which let students go vote. Hopes this will translate higher in the system.
- Q: What would happen if there was a primary and general election with voting days close together? A: This year we have had three elections, next year there will only be one or two. There is often concern that students will abuse this, but it is not a reason not to move forward with it, same with other excused absences, like illness which students are also free to abuse. Hope that students will use it to engage with democracy on those days.

Speaker Sentiments:

- Will be voting up, it is a cool initiative, and students should have the time to do their civic duty
- Will be voting up, for reasons not to be in class, this is one of the better ones, recommend that we all do as well
- Will be voting up, is a valid excuse to miss class
- Will be voting up, appreciate the author’s willingness to pivot and hopes this trend will continue
- As someone who was part of the process, thinks it is our civic duty to vote and will be voting up
- Wholeheartedly agree with this bill, sorry about grammar
- Will be voting up, knows that the author is dedicated to this cause
- Will be voting up, want to mention that there was a brief discussion about students abusing it, but in the resolution it mentions that professors often give extra credit for voting
- As someone who has had classes until late in the evening, it is great to have an option to vote during busy days
- Will be voting up as the author; this is simply a call to action, but is an important one

AMENDMENTS:

- **Line 21**—add space between “of” and “Wisconsin”, **Line 17** add space between “registering” and “for”, **Line 10** decapitalize “students”, **Line 16** add space between “cast” and “their”
- **Line 26** add a semicolon at the end of the line
- Add Jake Wrasse to transmission list
- Remove double space between “voting” and “privileges” in **line 2**, comma after “home” in **line 10**, comma after “choose” in **line 11**, remove comma before “would” in **line 14**, remove comma after “documents” in **line 15**
- **Lines 13-18**, every instance of a period add “; and” and “WHEREAS,” at the beginning of each line so each separate sentence is its own line
- Remove “, as well as incentives like extra credit for proving that they had voted” **lines 5 and 6**
 - Because it should not be stated in our documents that people are being incentivized to vote because it is illegal to pay people to vote
- **Passed, Placard, 30-1-2**



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Bill or Resolution	Title 66-R-10, Call for Mental Health & Wellness Days	Status Passed	Vote Method Placard, 29-0-2
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Misc. Notes:

Introduction, Person:

- Calling on admin to enact action for student mental health
- Important to have a holistic approach
- In discussion with other authors, approaching stress through multiple avenues is most effective
- Not asking for a lot
- Have provided strategies and examples
- Would like to make attendance non mandatory for those days, or provide review days/office hours instead of class
- Q: How would this affect lab classes that only meet once a week? A: We had similar mental health days two years ago where all classes were suspended except for labs, professors can incorporate learning in a virtual format.
- Q: In the last resolution, the author spoke on the difficulties of making days off for voting—doesn't this face similar issues? A: In discussions with previous AAC directors, the issue has been adding days to the academic calendar, but doesn't think it is a big ask to take days off. LaCrosse is an example of adapting extended wellness weekends.
- Q: In lines 28, 35 and 37 using very compelling language, wanted to ask A: Resolutions often lack followup and action, and the language is for the authors to followup; not attending is possible and we should not stray from asking for large things. Followup: would you be open to change the language so it is more germane to resolutions A: Personally, no, don't want to shy away from asking and being forward, since it takes a heavy mental load
- **Motion to extend by 5 minutes, passes Placard 30-1-2**
- Q: What actions would you take to curtail professors simply ignoring the resolution? A: It depends on the professors; if academic faculty and admin take it seriously, they will find a way to not overload students.
- Q: Did you consider moving it from Thursday to Sunday, since many classes happen on Mondays? A: It wasn't considered, but it could be.
- Q: As of now, we don't have the ability to take away days, and we are paying to go to classes, so that would decrease what we are "buying" with tuition. Would this push days to the beginning or end of semester? The University is legally obliged to provide those instructional days for us. A: Don't have any more information, but have considered it.
- Q: Would you consider something like "no homework weekends", which have been used in high schools, to lessen course loads? A: It was not discussed, but could
- **Motion to extend Q and Q passes, Placard, 27-4-2**
- Q: How would professors be expected to adjust? A: Its something we would consider if it passes.

- Q: What are your thoughts on students not participating in those days' activities? A: That's fine
- Q: For majors that are more rigorous, they may feel behind by taking days off—what about one day in the middle of the week to get caught up? A: That's a great idea, could be considered, and may look different for every college, don't want to set in stone what we can and can't do.

Speaker Sentiments:

- Taking attendance at mental health events would be helpful
- Having short drop-in sessions with counselors can introduce people to counseling
- Considering the controversy around additional days, feels it would be appropriate to hold off until we can determine this would put us under the minimum, and if it would set us back, determining what students would prefer, by asking them what they want
- **AMENDMENTS:**
- **Line 28 and 35**, strike “must” and insert “is strongly urged to” **Fails, Placard, 11-20-2**
 - Point of Information (POI): Can we take days out of the calendar? More information from Dean Heinselman—we are at the minimum number of days. If we remove any, we will no longer be accredited, unless we add days at the beginning or end of the year. We would have to push finals into the holiday season. It could be done, but would be very disturbing.
 - POI: Can this process be split, e.g. one day on each end of break? A: Either way, we have to meet the standard time for accreditation, so you could extend class by a few minutes on each end, but has to be worked out with the accrediting body. You can do it by minutes or days.
 - POI: Does this consider the fact that professors cancel classes throughout the year—that's a question for the Provost, but they go by **scheduled** class time.
 - POI: If these days are officially scheduled, but students are not mandated to be there, as long as professors are available for students, does that suffice for the requirements? A: Not an expert, but they look at facetime in class. Accrediting bodies were flexible during Covid, but this conversation would need to be had with the Provost.
 - POI: The root of our questions are stemming from where the “two days” number comes from—where did those come from? A: The mental health days from Covid semesters.
 - Will be voting down—this language is intentional, doesn't think this language is harmful
 - Will be voting down, though understands line 28
 - Thinks the language we use is to indicate our passion and imperative, this is a mental health crisis
 - Will be voting down, were intentional with language, nothing in the bylaws about using this kind of language
 - His job is to care about the little things—resolutions are nonbinding, so the use of binding actions still give off a binding connotation that give it an entirely different meaning; while it is important, his job is to step back from personal emotions with a topic and look at its perceptions and procedural implications. Language like this is very ill-advised for resolutions—thinks that the amendment keeps the spirit, while abiding by procedure. We cannot give off compulsive implications, and there is no enforcement, the people who see it can say that we or admin did nothing, or admin can see this as aggressive demands, so it is seen as logical and not emotional.

- Concur with the parliamentarian, thinks that the use of “must” is encouraging admin to call our bluff, makes us look like a joke
- Will be voting down, stands by where authors are coming from, thinks language echoes the importance of the issue;
- Commend previous speakers, want to agree that this is a demand, we are here to advocate for students and their wellbeing, thinks this language is appropriate, thinks this shouldn’t be a polite request.
- To address previous points; doesn’t know the specifics, but AAC has been threatened to be dissolved before and we were almost cut out of BCDT. This can happen. Our influence can take a hit. They choose to listen to us, they do not have to. We are lucky enough to have a Chancellor that listens to us. That does not happen at every university. It is because of that we should not use aggressive language.
- Rescinds previous comments, supports the authors
- This is a resolution, is nonbinding, sees this as a conversation starter, thinks we have been kept out of the conversation. We are doing a disservice if we do not pass legislation like this.
- Will be voting down, thinks the words are necessary; mental health is declining overall
- Because we don’t usually use language like this, will show admin how important this is. Thinks the replacement is less concise
- Strongly support the original wording—apologies for repeating anything, should be using this to get things done
- Have been thinking about this, and thinks that we have a lot of responsibility and power, resolutions are nonbinding, they are more about questions. Saying “must” when asking is polite. Making demands is not okay.
- Shared governance is collaboration, and hope that admin know that they do things for the betterment of the student body, it is vital that we be certain of our language and how we phrase things. We should not do things for clickbait, but to be steadfast in your beliefs and be a leader.
- **5 minute recess, passes Placard 29-2-2**
- **Reconvened at 9:06 pm**
- **Move to amend, lines 32-33**, to read “the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire should add two academic calendar days somewhere in the beginning and/or end of Fall semester, and add two academic calendar days somewhere in the beginning and/or end of Spring semester”
- POI: would the authors be willing to table to AAC? A: No, there are no plans at this point.
- **Amendment withdrawn**
- **Move to amend: Lines 32-33**, replace with “The University of Wisconsin Eau Claire has the capability to develop a plan to adjust the academic calendar for the inclusion of mental health days and/or a wellness weekend for both the Fall and Spring semester; and” **Placard, passes 30-0-2**
 - Thinks this clause more accurately reflects the ask
 - Supports the amendment, thinks this is a good example of compromise
- **Move to amend-line 27, change “health” to “healthy”**
- **Move to refer the legislation to the Academic Affairs Commission**

- Strongly oppose the motion, we have already put a lot of time into this and we are almost to the finish, we should proceed to a vote
- Commend the authors, but agree that though a lot of work had gone into this, a small piece can derail this initiative. Accreditation is much more threatening than putting it through a commission. Respectfully, this needs to be put through more vetting. It is vital that it is done right and to reach out to people.
- If we were to bring it back to AAC, they wouldn't bring it back to Senate. There's nothing more they can do.
- Four out of the five authors are on AAC—sending it back would end it or just prolong the discussion
- Will vote down, don't think that bringing it to a commission will benefit it
- The work, while it has been done, it has not been done fully. It is never a bad idea to ask people what they want—will personally fight to bring it back to Senate if it is moved to AAC. It could not be implemented this semester regardless.
- With respect to previous speakers, there are concerns about not having all the information and accreditation process, AAC can do work on what needs to be done. This is a statement that we support the idea of mental health days and that we are aware of the needs of the student body. This is not the last step—there is more followthrough to be done.
- Just because there has been a lot of work is a strawman, it doesn't mean that it is done. It is the first step, and it should be solid enough that we can take a second step. How much stronger would it sound if we had a unanimous vote rather than split? Is on board with the legislation and is very important, but it needs to be done right.
- This is not intended to kill the resolution—it is meant to strengthen it. Many people's questions have not been able to be answered, we have real hesitations, and we need to fully comprehend the impact this has. We don't want to make haphazard decisions, and good steps take time. This policy will not go into effect this semester, or even next year. We need a solid foundation moving forward.
- Agree with much of what has been said, and it should have a strong base.
- Agrees with many opinions and the concerns of accreditation, but thinks that passing this will honor the work done and there is nothing more to do. Thinks it is disrespectful to send it back where it came from. As someone who has put legislation forward, it is very vulnerable to put legislation forward. We need to have these conversations holistically and intersectionally. Stands by what they've done. There are administrators who believe in this. Will vote the amendment down.
- As evidenced by the discussion, especially around accreditation, this is not easily fixed. Have heard different solutions, and to suggest them we need a solid argument, and having the body pass it unanimously will be more powerful than having a split vote.
- Change doesn't happen overnight, and we all know it. The AAC director has been meeting tirelessly with admin, and this is the next step because we felt like we were not being heard. Resolutions are non-binding. The reason it went to a commission was because it did not go through Comms in the first place.
- Would be sad if it did not come back. Would go to AAC to make it happen.
- Previous speaker mentioned resolution that was sent to Comms, that was his, and that legislation hurt him at first, in hindsight, sees how important it was that it was referred. This legislation is not

like that one—his legislation did not have any other eyes on it. This legislation has gone through the proper checks. All the requirements have been met. It takes guts to put forward legislation. It is good that we're having good discussion and debate, even though it is late.

- **Move to call the question passes 24-6-2, placard**
- **Move to refer the resolution to fails AAC 8-22-2, Placard**
- **Motion to amend**, At the end of **line 33**, add “while fulfilling accrediting requirements through the higher learning commission”
 - Believes this is the main issue and will help solve a lot of our uncertainties
 - **Passes unanimously Placard, 30-0-2**
- As far as tabling, this has been in reports, meeting, minutes; it has happened before, albeit in different circumstances; this is proposed; it can be worked through in a variety of ways
- Acknowledge previous mental health days, voting in favor of the resolution with its amendments, applaud the authors for being unafraid and standing up for students.
- Echo previous sentiments, will be voting up, please come to AAC regardless. There is more work to be done, this is a first step.
- Will be abstaining from voting, as his position requires, but wants to add context. Previously the Dean said that mental health days happened—that is where it should have ended. Our job is not to figure out the details. It is to express the opinion of the body. That is all that is within our purview. A lot of conversations were had that do not directly affect us that are not our job. Second, there were two commissions listed on this legislation, that should say how much work was done on this resolution. There has been a lot of work done in the attachment. There is more discussion than needed to be had tonight.
- Will be voting up, not because he agrees with exactly how it is portrayed. Unfortunately, this became a this versus that side, which happens in politics. It is critically important that we have these conversations. Agree with many different things said tonight.
- Will be voting up—past sessions have tried to take this on, and this is the first time it's made it this far.
- Want to echo sentiments of previous speakers—still think you should support it. This is an important enough issue to talk about it tonight. If you have hesitancy about wording and phrasing, you may need to set it aside and say if you like this cause. That vote is up to you.
- Can attest to how much work went into this, when he was on the Counseling Advisory Committee, remembers the discussion there. Though he has reservations and thinks the wording is too demanding, will be voting up regardless
- There are many different pathways we can go about uplifting people. There is an international charter called the Okanagan Charter considering student mental health. This is something they did not fly blind about, even last week had Dr. McGrath come in to talk about mental health, and he supported the idea. Would help not just us but staff and faculty. People will be provided with services and activities during these days. Providing these services can aid in uplifting people.
- Want to apologize if she gets vulnerable, wants to explain the work that has been done. This means a lot as someone with mental health issues. Has been talking about it the whole semester. She went to all the right people, it wasn't done on a whim. Believe it should be passed, is not the end all be all, and would love to work with people on similar initiatives in AAC.



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- Without dismissing the work done, are these small issues bigger than the issue of mental health? For now it is important that we take a stance for mental health.
- **Move to adjourn, fails, placard 1-28-2**

Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
	66-R-11, Call for an Academic EDI Certificate	Passed	Placard, 27-1-2

Misc. Notes:

Introduction, Dir. Holness:

- There is only one EDI Certificate on campus
- We are lacking the capacity to provide an academic certificate ourselves
- This would propose college-specific certificates
- Has worked for the center for EDI training, has done the training, and know how difficult it is
- Q: How would this affect students currently working on the certificate? There is a need for both an academic and co-curricular certificate
- Q: So it would be like any other certificate, so a 12 credit certificate? Would it be classes that fit into your schedule? A: Yes
- Q: The current certificate will be integrated, can you mix and match? A: The specifics of the new certificate would be dependent on each college, there would be capacity for both to still exist for those who want those workshops. This would be course-based.

Speaker Sentiments:

- Will be voting up, on lines 10-13, is in a group that provides tier 2 credits and is working towards a certificate, and have no funding, told to figure it out—they need training.
- In order to be more inclusive and further social equality, this would accelerate us towards the 2025 goals as outlined
- The transmission list is extensive on purpose, want everyone across departments to know the demand for it. They are big asks, but are important ones. This is in line with the implementation of the EDI strategic plan, and regardless of what happens tonight, intend to reach out and continue the work regardless.
- Having more EDI-focused curricula will advance the EDI goals of the university, and the work will not be finished, regardless of what happens tonight.
- First semester, Chancellor came in to talk about turnover in the VC of EDI, and we have been waiting on it. It is ironic to tout ourselves as an EDI school with dysfunctional hierarchy and certificate, when faculty and students are being shortchanged in this area. There are many classes essentially identical to the workshops, like the one on Sunday. This is possible.
- As is, the EDI certificate is not well advertised, this would allow people to be more EDI educated in general, and it can prevent harm in the future by educating people. For nursing courses in general, EDI integration has been done in other schools, and we should be able to too.
- Supports the resolution, but still wary of the demanding language, word choice matters.
- **AMENDMENTS:**



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Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
	66-R-12, – Call for Notification of the AudienceView Data Breach	Withdrawn by author	

Personnel Matters

Appointed or Resigned (A/R)	Name(s)	Entity(ies)
Appointed	Dir. Suresh	Elections Committee
Nominated	Elizabeth Tenbarge	Elections Committee
Appointed	Dir. Holness	Curriculum Committee College of Arts and Sciences
Appointed	Dir. Jacobson	College of Education and Human Science Academic Committee

Misc. Notes

Announcements

Person	Topic
Dir. Johnson	Finance has not been meeting due to SOC or weather, we are meeting in Ho-Chunk, 320 E, Wednesday at 5, please come!
Par. Miller	Would like to commend Dir. Holness for out-by-lawing him! All reports can be moved to the minutes if necessary, to be used sparingly.
Sen. Eisele	It is pronounced Eyes-lee!
Sen. Myszka	He doesn't speak much on the floor, and he has been talking more, and he hopes than anyone else who feels they have trouble talking, he has some advice for you!
Dir. Kelly	March 29, League of Women Voters will be in Davies helping with voting! April 3, Motivation Monday with Comms, come help out!
Dir. Holness	ESM is meeting tomorrow, now meet every Tuesday 5-6



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Sen. Strojinc	As an IGA member, one of their objectives is to help with accessibility, since lower campus dorms have been torn down, she will be meeting with the director of SSD, so if you have questions or input, message her or ask her after the meeting!
Dir. Jacobson	UAC is in a lull right now, so big planning time! If you have event ideas, his favorite thing is being told its too hard, he loves putting on events!
Dir. Denison	<p>If I mispronounced your name tonight, if you would be so kind to come up to me tonight or some time this week and let me know how to say it!</p> <p>Also, thank you to all the new senators for speaking up tonight. This is an atypical night, and don't let it scare you. We are here to help prepare you for this, just ask us if you want to write something!</p>
Pres. Gaitan	Commend everyone who spoke, especially those who have not spoken, and secondly, we all want the best, and it's a good thing we have different perspectives. The feeling that you had that you wanted to speak and put your placard up is good! Thanks for a lively discussion and showing you care. Don't take it for granted.

Misc. Notes:

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 PM.

Minutes submitted by Anakah Denison, Senate Personnel Director



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