



A regular meeting of the 66th Session of the Student Senate was called to order at 6:02 PM on Monday, March 27, 2023, in Centennial Hall, 1415, 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 – 3/27/2023

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	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



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	U
Livvy Argo	U
Mei Bean	P
Ben Calcutt	U
Avery De Ruyter	P
Angie Elizalde	P
Lily Eisele	P
Kaitlyn Hevrin	P
Patrick Hill	P
Ben Hurley	P



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

Executive Officers

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

Presentation

Entity; Topic	Questions
Jake Wrasse, Legislative Liaison for the Chancellor's Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Q: Would building maintenance fall under the capital or operating budget? A: Can fall under Operating for small amounts, major renovations to replace/update systems are under Capital. Also large projects like lower campus chillers/steam heating overhauls could be there. Q: The presentation is at Haas? A: It will be in Davies Center, during the week of NCUR, the University will not be closing any lots like for NCUR, but guests for the Finance Committee will be asked to part in HFA lots and HSS, so students are asked to fill the Water Street lot first. AMP zone will be for attendees. Q: Will we be able to get authorized absences for this? A: Probably not, but faculty may be understanding considering the new Science building proposal. It will be livestreamed as well.



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- In the process of ratifying the State’s next budget
- Tuesday, April 11, 10am-5pm is the Joint Finance Hearing
- WI has a two year (biannual) budget
- Every odd-numbered year
- Debate what priorities we fund
- Every four years, the new governor presents their proposals
- Includes employment costs, functioning costs
- Capital Budget is physical infrastructure—classrooms, modeling, Garfield Avenue, etc.
- Includes several offices/services
- We join other state agencies in sending in our requests
- Next, the Governor identifies priorities and sends it to the legislature
- The proposal is the start of the budget
- The legislature looks at the priorities and decides what they want to fund
- Managed by the Joint Finance Committee—very powerful
- The “16 most powerful state legislatures in the country”
- In WI, almost all the big issues get ironed out by these people
- 12 Republican, 12 Democrat
- Spend March reviewing
- April, go on State-wide listening tour to provide feedback and suggestions
- In May, debate behind closed doors before voting publicly
- Important for the University that funding is provided at the State level
- Much more of a student’s tuition used to be provided by the state—now we pay for about 80%, and the state 20%, used to be flipped
- Proposed increases for the UW to be able to sustain its positions and provide high-impact programming, as well as pay increases to retain staff
- That is all huge for the UW System
- The Capital budget is separate
- The new Science building is hopefully part of this budget
- There will be one of those listening sessions on campus in a few weeks
- Scheduled from 10-5—people start lining up at 7am, first come first serve, you can speak for 2 minutes
- You will probably have to wait for hours
- The public also can provide written testimony—it can be very formal, such as from the IGA director
- Or can provide individual feedback through and eform, as a student, not a senator
- If you search “WI Joint Finance Committee” you can find the schedule of dates
- We are one of the later ones
- In May, once a matching version is passed in each house, it goes to the Governor to be signed
- Hopefully finished early July



- Happy to answer any questions about the budget process in general, or about the hearings.

Open Forum

Entity; Topic	Questions
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Misc. Notes:

Approval of Meeting Minutes from 3/16/23

Meeting minutes approved unanimously.

REPORT: President – Rossellin Gaitán

Hello, Again Folks and Happy National Joe Day! (so if you know a joe, give them a hug)

This past spring break was very relaxed I crocheted, drank coffee, got a cold, spoke at rally and will be speaking in Madison this upcoming weekend, and finally, for a really scary rollercoaster at the MOA. Before break; I had a meeting with Vice Chancellor Crickette, 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 Bereavement Policies.

Upcoming, I have CVR and my usual Presidential duties as well as meeting with some folks about some initiatives that have come to my attention.

I hope your break was satisfactory, and if you see me in the office, feel free to tell me how it went.

I Yield.

REPORT: Vice President – Brett Farmer

Good evening everyone!

I hope you all had enjoyable and relaxing breaks, as we all deserved some time away to destress and find some balance in life. I spent the last week in Utah on a trip with Director Denison and ten other students in the Environmental Adventure Center. It was super fun and I encourage you all to look at the amazing trips put on through our university (that are often technically funded through Student Senate) throughout the whole year!

The week before last, before heading to Utah, I had several meetings to continue conversations across campus about current projects. President Gaitan and I had meetings with Chancellor Schmidt, as well as the Deans of all four colleges, and I had my own meetings with Vice Chancellor Felz and Vice Chancellor Crickette.



This week, I am looking forward to attending the Chippewa Valley Rally on Wednesday with 10 other lovely representatives from this body. I also plan on holding all of my regular meetings and check-ins and attending a variety of events around campus, including Viennese Ball on Saturday evening, which I hope to see many of you at!

I want to wish you all good health and good luck throughout this back half of the semester, 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 had restful, fun and/or refreshing spring breaks and are ready to push through the last few weeks of the semester! I spent the week in Utah on a trip through EAC with VP Farmer, hiking and climbing in several national parks and had an absolute blast during a week with almost no wifi, so needless to say I am missing the views from out west. This week I will be attending the CV Rally on Wednesday, and until the end of the semester I will mostly be preparing for elections and transitions, as well as prepping a few pieces of legislation as I get ready for graduation. If any of you have any questions about the elections process or director/executive positions, I am more than happy to answer them!

I will also be attending VBall this weekend, so I hope to see many of you there! And of course, the first person to turn in their report this week was Director Suresh at 8:53 am today! Congrats, and I yield.

REPORTS: Board of Directors

Academic Affairs Commission Director – Sahana Suresh

Hey all,

I hope you had a wonderful and well-deserved spring break! I know I personally didn't want to come back but hey here I am!

This week in Academic Affairs is light as I am getting back into the swing of things post-spring break! I have my usual weekly meetings! I also am attending the monthly UPC meeting where I will be providing student input on plans happening this semester; as well as speaking about mental health days since the resolution was passed through senate during our previous meeting!

As always, if you have any academic concerns, projects or want to be involved more in senate please join my commission! We meet Wednesdays 2-3 in the Pine Room! It's always a lot of fun!

That's all I have this week and I yield.



Communication Commission Director – Ivan San

Howdy everyone & welcome back, I trust you all had a rejuvenating spring break! Since our last meeting, my intern and I have been working on several projects to enhance our communication initiatives. We have completed a range of graphics, including table tents to raise awareness about the upcoming senate petitioning and election process, as well as promotional materials for the Harvest Pantry, Campus Closet, NCUR parking warnings, and general Student Senate advertising. This week, the Communications Commission will be focused on several key tasks. We will be publishing the latest edition of Blu's Bulletin, potentially hosting Motivation Monday, and preparing to co-host next week's Motivation Monday with the Intergovernmental Affairs Commission. This collaborative effort will promote the upcoming Wisconsin Supreme Court Election. In addition, we will continue to work on miscellaneous graphic design projects and explore potential improvements to our office environment (possibly student-made art) Wishing you all a productive and successful week, Comms out.

Equity in Student Matters Senate Director – Josh Holness

Hello! I hope everyone had a great break!

The next few weeks are gonna be a heck of a ride for ESM! First, as for an update to everyone, Director Suresh, Senators Bean, Hill, Strojinc, and I plan to schedule a meeting with Dena Heinselman on student wellness. This meeting is to begin the conversation to change how we advocate but also prioritize student wellness and mental health. Of the ideas that have been mentioned as a result of 66-R-10, of course, mental health days which Director Suresh will be meeting with the University Planning Committee, the creation of a Student Senate Commission focused on Student Well-being, and/or the funding of a full-time student wellness coordinator. Obviously, bold ambitions here, but what else is new?

I will be meeting with Senator Bean, Director Kelly, and President Gaitan on an initiative to educate students on food security and stability.

Director Gómez and/or I plan to meet next week with Campus Facilities Planner, Renee Strehlau, for updates on the installation plan for the Amplified Authors and Tribal Flag projects. We will also be meeting with University Centers Director, Kristin Schumacher, about changing the pictures and portraits in Davies to be more inclusive and welcoming for all of our students.

I am also planning to meet with Chris Jorgenson, Teresa O'Halloran, and Sileka Ducksworth-Lawton about the approval and distribution of the ESM EDI survey.

Lastly, the posters have arrived for the ESM poster giveaway! We will be giving away framed posters to those who attend and have attended the most EDI events! All you need to do is send a selfie of yourself to the ESM email (ESM@uwec.eu) to enter!

Other than that, the end of the semester but also the 66th session is fast approaching! And with that, all exec positions are gonna be up for grabs! If you're interested in ESM, taking on a



GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

March 27, 2023

PRESIDENT GAITÁN

VICE PRESIDENT FARMER

leadership role in whatever capacity, please don't be afraid to talk to Rosa and I! We want you to take our jobs!

Other than that, I've got nothing else..

That's all! Be better! I yield. Josh.

Q: Is the meeting with Dean H. open? A: No, but if you have ideas, please send them to him!

Q: Did you say committee or commission for student wellness? A: Commission

Finance Commission Director – Ben Johnson

Good evening, everyone, I hope you all had an enjoyable spring break and are ready to get back to classes. Two weeks ago, in Finance Commission we got to see a few new faces, one being Director Heap. He had a presentation regarding the tentative Student org funding allocations, had a lot of great questions answered and excited to see so many organizations with strong initiatives. My spring break was eventful, I traveled to Indianapolis with Katy Rand and 22 others to serve the community. I had so much fun and learned more than I could have imagined, 10/10 would recommend. As I have mentioned in weeks prior, Finance Commissions work slows down in the spring. This Wednesday there will be no Finance commission, I will send out a formal cancelation tomorrow. If you are interested in learning more about what Finance Commission does during the fall and early spring, please feel free to reach out to me anytime or stop by my desk. I hope you all have a great first week back and I yield.

Intergovernmental Affairs Commission Director – Hannah Kelly

Hello everyone! IGA has a lot of exciting things coming up! First, this Wednesday is the Chippewa Valley Rally! A team of myself and some amazing other senate members are going to be visiting the Madison to advocate for the funding of the new science building!

Also on Wednesday, the League of Woman voters will be here to promote voting in the upcoming Supreme court election! I will be looking for volunteers to help these lovely ladies, so please keep an eye on your Outlook!

Next Monday (April 3rd) I am also honored to collab with the Communications Commission for Motivation Monday! Where we will also be continuing to promote voting on April 4th!

On April 6th IGA will also be hosting the Community Walkthrough. The intention of the walkthrough is to walkthrough the Water Street, and Randall Park areas at night with City Council and Admin to highlight the safety concerns that students face. All of you are invited so please RSVP and fill out the forum you have all be sent by my intern!

If you are interested in joining IGA visit the Pine Room on Fridays at 2:30pm!



I know that was a lot of information, please ask questions if any of that didn't make sense, I yield.

Q: What is the date of the Walkthrough? A: April 6, starting at 9pm—there will be an Outlook invite

Information Technologies Commission Director – Joseph Dokken

Hello everyone,

I hope everyone had a good break. If anyone was unaware, my name can be shortened to Joe. I also got to enjoy an impactful and fun week in Texas over spring break.

Last school week in ITC we voted on initiatives. We will be implementing Crowd Meters, Digital sign in the Office of Interdisciplinary Studies outside Hibbard 384, VR in library, Laundry with a cap of 20k. Be on the lookout for legislation for this. We still tentatively have some money to be spent so be on the lookout for the spending of that.

That's all folks,

See you on the 19th hole!

I yield.

Q: How much money is left in the ITC budget? A: About \$20,000, \$50,000 to spend total, 20k is the cap for just laundry.

Student Organization Commission Director – Brad Heap

Good evening,

This week the Student Organization Commission will work on finalizing the Student Segregated Funding fee process, as well as reviewing a proposed bill I will be bringing to the next general assembly. As we conclude the Seg Fee process, SOC will start looking towards planning our next Blugold Connect + workshop, as well as a special Student Senate event that you all hear about very soon. The SOC meeting this week will be from 4:00pm-5:00pm in Davies 220 in the Pine Conference Room, so I hope to see you all there! Finally, I hope you all continue to have a very successful semester, and as always, take care, brush ya hair, and I yield.

Student Office of Sustainability Commission Director – Sydney McGuine

Hello everyone! I hope you all had a restful spring break. Over break I was working on the Bill that was going to come tonight; however, it will be withdrawn. I will have more information as to why later as I was informed of this a few hours ago. Other than this bill I have also been working on the Pack it Up Pass it on event, bylaw changes, and the NCUR Breakfast. I will be attending the Chippewa Valley Rally this week HOWEVER SOS is still meeting while I am gone. So, if your heart desires you should go! We have



a meeting location for the rest of the semester now, it is the Ho-Chunk room in Davies. We meet from 5:30-6:30pm. Hope to see you there! 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 spring break with no classes.

Over break, I took some time for myself and this coming week I am looking forward to planning all of the events upcoming this semester.

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

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

Hello everybody! During this wonderful spring break I sure enjoyed doing absolutely nothing. However, Blu decided it would be time to schedule a luxurious 5-star, all expenses paid vacation at [long pause] the dry cleaners. Blu will be refreshed and ready to take on the remainder of the semester looking fly 😎 starting Wednesday. If there are any questions, please let me know!

I yield.

Unfinished Business

Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
	66-B-10 – Approval of the Blugold Commitment Differential	Passed	31-0-2, placard,



	Tuition Funding Proposal Package for 2023-2024		
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Misc. Notes:

Introduction, Dir. Suresh:

- BCDT is the Blugold Commitment Differential Tuition
- Reviewed every year
- Funds a ton of opportunities on campus
- Total is just over 10 million dollars this year
- Q: BCDT funds a lot—do you know about documentation of specific line items for funding? A: There is a record, she can ask for it from Stephanie Jamelske for AAC documentation.

Speaker Sentiments:

- Will be voting in favor, but would like to express that he is disappointed that with the amount of inflation pressure over the past year, that there wasn't a raise in student wages despite the surplus. Knows that it is not fiscally responsible to spend down all carryover, but commends the author for their work and recognizing it.
- Will be voting up—has gone through the process a couple times, and it is a very important bill
- **AMENDMENTS:**
- **Move to amend:** 65-B-10 change to 66-B-10

New Business

Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
	66-B-12 – Funding Student Research on Human-Wildlife Interactions	Withdrawn by author	

Misc. Notes:

Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
	66-R-13 In Support of adding Bereavement to the list of University Authorized Absences	Passes	31-0-2, Placard

Misc. Notes:

Introduction, Person:

- Last year around this time, a student reached out asking about bereavement time for student
- Talked with a professor who has experience with students asking time off for grief
- Bereavement means grief
- UWEC does not currently have a bereavement policy
- Out of the 13 UW Universities, only 4 have bereavement policies
- In their time, this professor has had one student a semester lose someone significant in their life
- This encourages the University to let students be human during this difficult time in their life



- This legislation talks about loss and death, and we will hear student's stories later; feel free to step out if you need
- Q: With regards to the time, how did you come to this 7 consecutive days for immediate family, and 5 for outside? A: The dates come from different UW schools—UW Green Bay has 7 days, none of the 4 mentioned Universities exceed a week. If that is the most that they allow, why not have UWEC be one of them. The classification of immediate family also comes from other schools, outlined in the attachment. It also comes from a university in Illinois.
- Q: Say a student is raised by a grandparent—how does the policy respond to classifying them? A: It is essentially up to the student/Dean of Students, if you express how impactful that person was in your life and how much time you need.
- Q: Do you know what the current UWEC excused absence maximum is? A: She believes a day or two. More Information from Parliamentarian Miller: Not explicitly stated, but heavily implied to be a day or two at most. Followup: Did you received a pushback on the 7 days? A: It is just a suggestion, if AAC or the Dean of Students feel that it is too little or too much, they have the ability to use/add their own dates.
- Q: Regarding the last item in att. A, if a student were to experience a loss, would they receive a referral/does Counseling do their own advertising for services for this specifically? A: To her knowledge, no, the University is very careful with wording, there is not advertising targeting this instance, especially since it is not an everyday occurrence. Followup: Is there any outreach that Counseling does for students to be aware of their services? More information from Sen. Hurley: They have some basic outreach/advertising on campus, but if you are on their visa list, they may send you more information more often.
- Q: When you say consecutive academic days, that does not include weekends? A: No
- Q: To your knowledge, does the University offer bereavement as an approved absence for faculty members? A: More information from Dr. Quinn-Lee: The University does offer bereavement, 5 or 7 days for specific kinds of instances. It can be longer with supervisor approval, and must be taken withing 14 days of the death. Followup: When you say it depends on the supervisor, does it differ between departments? A: It could differ, depending on department and individual supervisor, especially on if there is extended time off.
- Q: Do you have the original link for the first citation? A: Yes

Speaker Sentiments:

- Will mention a personal experience, feel free to leave the room. Will be voting in support, is surprised that this was not an excusable absence before, he works for McDonald's and even he has bereavement as a part-time employee of a fast-food chain. He has not had many losses of immediate family members in some time, but last one was his grandmother when he was younger which was a very traumatizing and impactful time, and he took time off when he was younger, and having understanding teachers and admin was very helpful during that time. Knows that as a college student, he has aging family and hopes that we will have this policy if he were to experience another loss.
- Will be voting up; working in the Dean of Students office, this would be favored there. There has been talk of changing the absence policy for a while. She wishes she had this policy when she entered the



university and experienced the death of her brother. Having time off, but also having some flexibility for when that time is taken is so important.

- Will be voting up, has seen across universities the effects of grief across campuses on students.
- Pres. Gaitan grants a speaking turn to a Member of the Gallery, Dr. Quin-Lee : a warning for anyone who wants to step out. She wanted to show her support here tonight, has spent her career dedicated to death, dying, grief and loss, researches and teaches on it. In two weeks, everyone who contacted her, over 30 students supported this, but has heard from hundreds of students who would have liked this policy in the past. Often has several students who experience the death of someone important to them every semester. It is important not to make assumptions about someone’s grief and what kind of impact it has on people. Faculty leave only allows for “immediate” family members, so cousins do not count unless they live with you; not for neighbors, coaches, friends, etc. Is glad that the student policy allows for any kind of significant death. Has seen many students deal with grief and missing classes. Some professors count it as an excused absence, some do not—varies widely across campus. Some are understanding for one day, but not more. It was rare 13 years ago for any university to have a bereavement policy. If we want to retain, engage and support students, academically and holistically, this should be passed. Students have had to miss for cultural obligations around grief and death as well. Students from all backgrounds experience grief—every semester when she teaches a death a bereavement class, almost everyone has been touched by it.
- Student stories: Thinks this is a great policy. In their sophomore year, their grandfather was diagnosed with stage 4 brain cancer. If not for Covid keeping them home, they would have been unable to keep up with school. Allowing students to take a brief leave will allow them to grieve their loss and keep up with their studies. Other students have mentioned how difficult it is to manage emotions and keep up with school. Some have mentioned that this could be abused, but with other policies, there can be regulations implemented.
- Would feel honored if this story was included. Is in favor of supporting the student bereavement policy. Their uncle died this year; they were allowed one day before being expected to be back. Something as mentally taxing as death should be allowed as an absence.
- Would be interested in attending the meeting, but please read if not present. Students should have time to grieve. It would be beneficial to not have the added stress of classes and have time to mentally process emotions. It also takes time to plan a funeral and deal with the logistics around death, especially if it is the student’s responsibility.
- **Motion to extend speaker’s list by 10 minutes, passes 31-0-2, placard**
- Had a friend die by suicide their first year, many professors were not understanding, and no one was comfortable talking about it. Took one day for the funeral, but needed more time—that day was not excused. Wished that the Dean of Students could have talked to professors, instead of reaching out to each one, and that Counseling Services would have reached out.
- This policy would be of great benefit to UWEC, telling students that they matter before jumping back into classes. It can take years. There is no one way to grieve the loss of a loved one, and this time is something that many would benefit from. Everyone’s feelings, emotions, and lives are



different. Everyone experiences loss in different ways—life after death can be very lonely. This policy would show that UWEC supports students and cares about them.

- Their brother died from an overdose their sophomore year. They couldn't concentrate, their grades tanked, and did not get support from anyone.
- Will be voting it up, had a grandmother in hospice in middle school, and she lived with them. Can't imagine how it would be to do this during college classes. Commend the author for the specific wording, allowing for more time. For her personally, the worst part was seeing how her parents reacted, allowing the grace period would not limit the time students have to grieve.
- When she originally spoke to the person who brought this up to her, it hit very close to home, her father passed away her first year on campus. There are not many people she felt like she could go to, didn't know many people who lost parents their first year, lived alone during Covid. She became a student of concern, grades tanked, and skewed their college plans. It was difficult. It is very isolating, especially on a campus that talks a lot about feeling welcome and connected. It is something she gets worked up about, and wishes that it would have been there for her. Glad that a student reached out. She can't vote, but it is obvious what she would vote. If you are on the fence, please put yourself in the position of those who have suffered and who have not had the time to grieve and felt like this is not the place for them.
- Have had professors tell her to plan on someone dying during the semester, and plan accordingly. Shocking that this policy does not exist already.
- This is a really good piece of legislation. You cannot assume when people face death how they will react, but younger people have less experience, so it is even more impactful for students, as opposed to adults who may have more experience. It is also setting a precedent, along with the mental health days resolution passed before break. We are humans first, before students. This says on an institutional level that we care about students as people. While we are here to get a degree, many students do not have the support system that they might have at home. We deserve the time to deal with loss—you only have that time once.
- Over winter break, lost an aunt that she was close to, and can't imagine going back to school after only 1 or 2 days, especially going to the funeral and coming back after only a day or two. Commends everyone who has had to do that. Will be voting up, hope others will do the same.
- Will share another difficult story. He lost his roommate freshman year two years ago to the day. Very proud to see this here. Was very lucky to have professors who understood, but not everyone has that. College is already so difficult and stressful. You absolutely need to take a step back during these times. It is so impactful to have a document like this attachment—there have been questions about days and logistics, but death is unpredictable and unexpected, so the wording that is here is important, he has to plead for time off, and had understanding professors, but not everyone does. Having the Dean reach out would be such a relief for the student. Commend the author for this work.
- Commend the author and thank Dr. Quinn-Lee, as well as the space that we have created tonight. It is hard to talk about grief and death.
- Something that came up was students exploiting it. If that is an issue, then there is a larger issue that needs to be dealt with. We preach about mental health, but there needs to be an institutional overhaul.



Professors did not excuse absences, extend deadlines, and her grades suffered immensely, and it was a week before winter break, so she had to fly out, she lived alone, and did not think to reach out to Counseling Services. The circumstances were very extreme, felt like she had to justify her grief and emotions, which is taxing, and unnecessary. Our first priority is our studies, but we cannot be here if we are not functioning. That takes precedence over everything else we are doing. It is not wrong of us to ask that they have a responsibility to us—this is a place for students. Would not wish that experience on anyone, but it is always unplanned. You can only deal with the aftermath. Hope that through this meeting’s records, people will know how impactful this is. Thank you for being so receptive tonight, and creating this space.

- Speaker from the Gallery: Dr. Quinn-Lee: Thank you for the speaking turn. Faculty Senate has been considering some changes to the authorized absence policy, but they have been talking about adding caregiving and bereavement/funeral leave. Does not know how much Faculty and Student Senate talk, but it is important to collaborate on related issues. Want to say thank you for sharing, as someone who is very comfortable talking about death, want to make sure that you get the support you need. Even though you may not know her, she will hang out for a bit afterwards. Please reach out to a fellow student or Counseling Services or someone.
- Knows the feeling of needing to beg professors for time; feel that this legislation could help tremendously with that.
- Will be voting it up, commend previous speakers and the author. This can be extremely helpful for students going through loss. This is not a comprehensive fix, because it still ends up in students having to justify their grieving to administrators, and we should be aware that there are a lot of things that are not covered by this legislation that are also reasonable excuses to not be in class, that you can still be penalized for. They may require doctors and diagnoses that students may not be able to afford, time and moneywise, and this should be closely reexamined and reworked.
- **AMENDMENTS:**
- Att. A, replace every instance of “Office of Student Success” with “Dean of Student’s Office” (can be found under Time of Bereavement)
- In the title, correct the spelling of “Authorized”
- First citation reflects the true link address

Motion for a 5 minute recess, passes, placard, 23-6-2

Called to order at 7:37 pm

Bill or Resolution	Title	Status	Vote Method
	66-R-14 Calling on the Student Senate Office Manager to Permanently Incorporate a Senator’s Pronouns onto their Placards	Passed	26-1-2

Misc. Notes:

Introduction, Sen. Lehner:

- Don’t have too much explanation—was unable to make exec today



- Pretty straightforward
- The President was the one to put forward the pronoun stickers
- There has been a lot of conversation about permanently implementing pronouns on placards
- Misgendering happens from time to time, and addressing people correctly is important
- As a parliamentary body, especially important to be professional.
- Q: About the permanence; why not have it be stickers or another method? A: The thought would be to put the pronouns underneath names, similar to how titles are; up to the program manager, and is strongly encouraged, not required. Followup: if it is put on permanently, don't want it to be a hassle for senators or the Program Manager if they later want to change/update their pronouns—how would you amend that issue? A: Didn't think of that, people may change their pronouns often, does not have a good answer.
- Q: Would you be open to considering stickers, so it could be changed/removed at a senator's discretion, or to avoid outing someone? A: Yes, it is completely optional, but encouraged, would be open to having stickers, but thinks that the pronouns are important. They are on our email signatures, business cards, it is a continuation of those professional faces.
- Q: Considering the recent question, is curious if you have looked at how much time, effort and money goes into the placards? A: No, they seem to be a bit of a hassle though.
- Q: Are you aware that since this is a resolution, it will only last for the remainder of this session? A: The intent of the resolution is to call on the Office Manager to continue doing this, it doesn't just last this session or expires. There is specific language suggesting that the Senate call upon the Office Manager to continue to add pronouns. Followup: Given the revolutionary nature of it, do you have any plans to make sure this continues in future sessions? A: Yes, if he is able to serve in this body next year, would work to see this through.
- Q: Do you think that we could suggest that the resolution say that stickers be made available as-needed rather than a permanent printing? A: Yes, would be open to that, if you are suggesting that pronouns be printed on placards, and offer stickers as well, then yes he is in support of that. He is open to any and all amendments.
- Q: Would you be interested in making an amendment so the placards have a space available under the name for an appropriately colored/sized sticker to be placed? A: Yes
- Q: Could this be something that is amended in the bylaws? A: Yes, thought that maybe it could be in the bylaws, but as a resolution, it gives her more leeway to deal with it, thought a resolution would be more appropriate.
- Q: If this passes, what is your plan to ensure that it would follow through? A: Honestly, it was a last minute idea, so he did not meet with the Office Manager, but his plan would be to work with her to make sure it is not a burden to create, and if he has the privilege of being a member of this body next session, he would work to ensure that.

Speaker Sentiments:

- Thinks that this resolution is fine as is, logistics can happen afterwards
- This is just recommended, not required, important for getting to know fellow senators, and it reflects the diversity of this body.



- Though she brought up the issue of frequently changing pronouns, thinks that this resolution is very important, and is broad enough to encompass other options.
- Wants to clarify his question from earlier; resolutions are non-binding, so anything passed now does not necessarily apply to the next session, applauds the changes made. Only applicable to this session, but if members want to go forward with this however they wish, that is acceptable. Just wanted to clarify the technical boundaries of this resolution. **Point of Information:** Where is that cited in the bylaws? A: Chapter 1 section 3, covers how resolutions are non-binding. Decisions we make in student senate vary body to body, procedurally incorrect to bind opinion of one session to future sessions.
 - Resolutions are nonbinding, and the fact that they “expire” at the end of a session is purely a technicality, it doesn’t mean that the work can’t happen or the sentiment does not continue. Placards are not a bylaws issue, if anything they are a operating procedures issue, which does not need a bill to change.
- Will not be voting, but wants to give some context—placards are not mentioned in the bylaws, so we don’t need to do a bill/bylaw revision to effect this. Resolutions just state our opinion at the time—don’t read too much into the fact that resolutions are session specific.
- Will be voting up
- **AMENDMENTS:**
- **Line 27-28:** strike “before making their respective placard”
- **Line 24-25:** strike “to add a Senator’s preferred pronouns to every new placard” and replace with “to create space on a Senator’s new placard for the option to add a preferred pronoun sticker”
 - Will be voting up, likes the freedom of choice this adds
 - Thinks this is general enough
 - Passes, 27-0-2, Placard
- **Distribution list:** Change “Grace Arrigoni” to “Quincy Nsegoda” in dsitriubution list
- **Line 30:** Remove apostrophes in “Senator’s” and “pronoun’s”
- **Line 27:** replace “new” with “newly”
- **Change title:** Remove “Permanently Incorporate a Seantor’s Pronouns onto their” to “Provide Pronoun Stickers for”
 - More accurately reflects the new meaning
 - **Passes, 27-0-2, Placard**

Personnel Matters

Appointed or Resigned (A/R)	Name(s)	Entity(ies)
Appointed	Elizabeth TenBarge	Elections Committee
Appointed	Pres. Gaitan	Elections Committee
Appinted	Coord. May	Elections Committee



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Misc. Notes

Announcements

Person	Topic
Par. Miller	<p>Elections season is coming up soon, so his job gets more complicated! Firstly, petitions for office go out the upcoming Monday. When they come out, if you are running for Senator, you need 50 signatures to start campaigning, 125 if you are a ticket with president/VP. Please read the Elections Packet, otherwise you are up for a violation, which can result in disciplinary action, ignorance is not an excuse for being in violation. You also must follow all normal University guidelines on chalking, signage, etc. You cannot campaign until your petition is turned in. The election is the third week of April, end at 5pm on the third day, so you have a 3 day period to vote. Only students can vote. There will soon be a blue tape line in the office. It designates where you cannot do any campaigning: this includes storing materials, influencing votes, so no campaign talk in the office, full stop. Help us keep elections committee meetings short! After results are verified, they will be posted outside the office, line up to see like a casting list. Per the bylaws, Ch 5, Section 7, Part 1: campaigning is any activity designed to influence votes (paraphrased). This includes write-in candidates, they are still official, just not on the ballot itself. You still have to follow elections guidelines as a write-in. If you have any questions, please ask!</p> <p>Q: Where is the elections packet and guidelines? A: The program manager, Stephanie, has a packet along with the petitions with all this information.. They are also online, and a map with where campaign materials can go.</p>



	<p>Q: Is Stephanie considered in or out of the office? A: Within the office.</p>
Sen. Eisle	<p>If you want to talk about anything from tonight, feel free to come talk to her!</p>
Sen. Szydel	<p>Dean of Students office is hiring an intern! So if you want to see how what we pass effects students, come check it out!</p>
Coord. May	<p>Blu is unavailable for a few days, as they are taking a bath (getting dry cleaned)!</p>
VP Farmer	<p>If anyone wants to help plan the end of the year event, please approach us! We are all very busy and would appreciate the help. We have Senate Superlatives and is a lot of fun!</p>
Pres. Gaitan	<p>Please be aware of the tape! Has seen people get in trouble because of the tape. Just don't talk about elections period around the office. If you really want to talk about next session, go to the Cabin! Don't gossip about it! It should be fun, be mindful of where and how we're talking. It is easier than you think if you are careless. Very excited for the new session! Be supportive, go to the debates, but be careful around the office.</p>
Dir. Kelly	<p>If you are registered as going to CV Rally, hang back!</p>

Misc. Notes:

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.

Minutes submitted by Anakah Denison, Senate Personnel Director