General meeting minutes of October 29, 2007

Raymond French
President

Meghan Chartier
Vice-President

A regular meeting of the 51st Session of Student Senate was called into order at 6:04 pm on Monday, October 29, 2007 in the Tamarack Room, President Raymond French chairing and Secretary Benjamin Rud being present.

The Pledge of Allegiance
Led by Director Lorenz

Roll Call
See Attachment A

Open Forum
No speakers

Approval of Minutes from October 22, 2007
Approved

Report of the President
Good evening everyone and thank you for coming tonight. First things first: the budget has passed! : Round of applause:: This means we didn’t have to rally on Wednesday and that Eau Claire was treated pretty well. Most importantly, for students, is that we now have the authority to continue with the Davies Center project! This means that we can now begin the process of designing and narrowing our options for what this new building will be, functionally. I met with Vice Chancellor Soll today and he gave me a general idea of the process we’re going to follow. 1) A Request of Professional Services will be submitted to the Division of State Facilities and made public. 2) A selection group will be formed to choose the architects and the design team from a number of bids. Either Vice Chancellor Soll or the Director of Facilities and Management will be the campus representative. 3) Around the time the Design Team is selected we will be forming the Davies Building Committee. This group will work directly with the Design Team and help them develop the overall plan and how the space will be used. There won’t be any votes, but they will be working under consensus. 4) The Design Team will develop a program statement. Hopefully this can begin in the spring through a process of analyzing our current space plan from our proposal, generating public input, and working with the Building Committee on what will be included in the building. We hope to get this part started this spring. There will be further updates in the spring.

Next, I attended the Student Reps meeting in Marshfield this last weekend, and I have a number of updates for you. First, the UW System is going through its own Strategic Planning currently, and they are in the process of developing the UW System Strategic Framework. This will be comprised through 7 thinktanks that will analyze broad areas such as generating more graduates and bringing higher paying jobs to Wisconsin. We should have a chance to respond to these ideas in the coming months.

Tuition will most likely not be raised for this spring, but there should be a significant
increase next academic year of about 5-6%. We will be working with United Council and other institutions on how to lobby the Regents for a smaller increase. The UW System Chapter 17 & 18 recommended revisions are still not available because they haven't made it out of committee yet. They were supposed to have them available by August, but the goal is for a few weeks from now.

Other than a few other ideas generated from discussion with other campuses, that is all for my update! This week's Senator of the Week is Senator Alampioska! She has been very active with her office hours, consistently doing more than one interview, and she was also one of the few that were up at 7am to pass out literature for the Budget or Bust rally. Thank you very much for your work! Study hard and have a good week!

Raymond French

Report of the Vice President

Good evening everyone! This week I want to start off by encouraging everyone to attend the next Chancellor's roundtable event that will be taking place on Thursday, November 1st at 4:00pm in the President's room. Also, on Friday night President French and myself will be taking part in a Bar Walk put on by the Bridge Coalition. We will be walking around Water Street with members of the UWEC and Eau Claire police departments to observe the events that take place every weekend. Have a great Halloween!

Meghan Charlier

Report of the Chief of Staff

Hello and welcome to another week of school! Please continue to do your office hours as the week progresses, also thank you to all who showed up at the budget hearings last week. I know that they were long and at times uninteresting, however they are very important and as student senators you need to be informed about what is happening financially at this University. In other news, I have the suggestions that everyone gave me for what they would like to do as a senate fun night, while some options are more viable than others I am considering all equally. On that note, I am hoping to get a group of people together to go see the movie Pan’s Labyrinth this Thursday November 1st. I realize that doing this on a Thursday night is difficult however I feel that this is late enough in the week to warrant a fair amount of people coming. The movie itself is being shown in Davies theatre right here on campus and should be easy enough for those of you who live on campus to attend. As I narrow down the options we will have for a senate get together, I will let you know what the top three are, and then we can vote on what we feel would be the most enjoyable. The budget will soon be finalized and when it is ready I will have copies for your perusal. Once again, please continue to do your office hours, and thanks again to all those who attended the budget hearings last week. Don’t forget to turn back your clocks this weekend!

David McCarthy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORTS

Report of the Academic Affairs Commission Director

Hi everybody! I’m pleased to announce that the mid-term grade resolution passed unanimously in Academic Affairs last Friday. Next thing on our plate will be the issue of inclusion of students on faculty searches. Meeting this week will be at 9:00 AM this Wednesday in the Birchwood Room. Have a great week.

Aaron Wingad

Report of the Finance Commission Director

Great Job last week with Budget Hearings. This Wednesday, Oct. 31st, and Thursday, Nov. 1st,
we will be having budget deliberations. They will start at 3 p.m. and continue until we finish. The meetings will take place in the Presidents Room.

Finish your spreadsheets and return them to Andy Sol by 4:30 tomorrow. Come to the deliberations knowing your justifications for your budget choices.

Thanks,

Thomas Holtan

Report of the Information Technology Commission Director
We will have a meeting this Wednesday at 3:30 in the Tech Conference Room. We will continue our quest for online voting and open courseware. Wednesday night, Rick Richmond from LTS and I will be presenting a proposal for dorm wireless to RHA.

Aaron Brewster

Report of the Intergovernmental Affairs Commission Director
On November 14th, the IGA Commission will be bringing in State Rep. Jeff Smith for a listening session. Time and place are yet to be determined. This week, the IGA Commission will be discussing and preparing for the event.

Robert Hamill

Report of Organizations Commission Director
The Organizations Commission will meet this Wednesday at 10am in the Student Orgs Complex. Submissions are now being accepted for Organization of the Month. Thank you.

Karen Sykora

Report of the Public Relations Commission Director
The Public Relations Commission met this week and we began planning for Student Senate's most important annual event, H.O.U.S.E. Day.

House Day is Jan 29, which is the Tuesday after school starts, so we pretty much decided that everything must be done before winter break. We also discussed the website and I am putting up everyone's information and pictures.

Jacob Boer

Report of the Student Life & Diversity Commission Director
Last Thursday I attended a diversity listening session that was held by the Chancellor’s Diversity Advisory Commission. Myself, the Chancellor, Steve Tallant, and Kimberly Barrett acted as the "listeners" for those who attended to voice their concerns. A lot of really important issues were brought up such as accessibility for individuals with physical disabilities, cross culture communication, LGBT awareness, curriculum, and overall campus culture. I will be meeting with Theresa O'Halloran sometime soon to discuss the listening session and ways that we can be proactive in attending to the concern's that were expressed.

This week the SLD members individually went through the items in the Diversity Resource and at our next meeting we will go through what kinds of resources we want to see in the center, what needs to be updated, and what needs to be removed. Myself and Director Lorenz also wrote legislation last week, that will be presented tonight, on gender-neutral bathrooms on campus.

Meetings will be held on Wednesday and Thursday at 2pm in the Senate office. If you have any questions please contact me at stusen56@uwec.edu. Thanks and have a wonderful week!

Emily Mattheisen

Report of the Student Services Commission Director
Why didn't the skeleton cross the road? Because he didn't have the guts.
The commission meeting will be Thursday at 10 a.m. We meet in the Student Senate office.

Thank you and good night.

Elizabeth Lorenz

Report of the University Activities Commission Director
Hey Senate... Hope you are all having a fantastic Monday. UAC is truckin as usual. Our Halloween week is going to be splendid and so will yours if you participate in our events!

In the Cabin this weekend is exciting stuff. Local Talent: Drew Brown is on Friday. And Saturday is a Night of Comedy featuring Jarrett Waite. They both start at 8pm... check em out!

In Higherground this weekend we are having some fun events! We are having a dance party on Friday and a Hip Hop on Saturday for $4 featuring talent from the Milwaukee based, Duce Duce Entertainment. Both start at 10pm. Get your dance on!

The film this weekend is Night of the Living Dead! We are showing it in conjunction with The Forum and TONIGHT we have a special lecture series on Zombies with Max Brooks. Anyway, go see the film this weekend and go to the lecture series tonight in Zorn Arena at 7:30pm! It'll be swell! The movie plays 6 and 8:30pm Thurs- Sunday for $3 in Davies theatre.

Also, I have comments about the article in the spectator about music at Eau Claire, specifically concerts.

Chancellor's Round Table is this Thurs., Nov. 1 ... Topics are:

- Music Therapy
- Potential New Administrator Positions
- Potential Study Abroad Graduation Requirement
- The State Budget and its impact on Eau Claire

It's going to be a wonderful week! Our general chair meetings are on Wednesdays at 5:45 pm in the ARROWHEAD ROOM. And for all of the committee meeting times, check the website.

Melissa Briggs

This past weekend I traveled to Madison and helped re-write the United Council by-laws to restructure the Board of Directors. Currently there is a representative from every school sitting on the board. Upon approval of the current Board and the General Assembly, the new Board will be elected and consist of 4 representatives from 4-year institutions, 4 representatives from 2-year institutions, and one representative from the 3 issues committees. This change may become controversial because some schools will lose representation. If you have any questions about the potential changes, please contact me.

Elizabeth Schinke

Special Reports
None

Unfinished Business
Discussion of Students for Choice Constitution: Passed

New Business
A. Introduction of Bill 51-B-9, Special Allocation of $4,515 to the Music Department.
B. Introduction of Resolution 51-R-15, In Support of Mid-Term Grades for All Undergraduate Student, Passed 23-5-0
C. Introduction of Resolution 51-R-16, IN Support of Gender-Neutral Bathrooms on the UWEC Campus, Passed 26-1-2
D. Introduction of Albireo Constitution
Personnel
PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMISSION
Alampioska, Biljana
Goffard, Nick
Rud, Benjamin

UNIVERSITY HEALTH ISSUES COMMITTEE
Meyers, Eric

INTERNATIONAL FILM COMMITTEE
Greelis, Dustin

RECREATION COMMITTEE
Greelis, Dustin

Announcements

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm by President French.

Minutes Submitted By
Benjamin Rud
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