A regular meeting of the 66th Session of the Student Senate was called to order at 6:01 PM on Monday, September 12, 2022, in the Dakota Ballroom of the Davies Student Center, with President Gaitan chairing the meeting.

# Land Acknowledgment

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

# Military Acknowledgement

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

# 66th Session Roll Call – 09/12/22

## Executive Board

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

## On-Campus Senators

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Status** |
| **Samantha Consiglio** | **P** |
| **Solveig Dei** | **P** |
| **Austin Lallak** | **P** |
| **Quinn Lester** | **U** |
| **Benjamin Myszka** | **P** |
| **Brenna Strojinc** | **P** |
| **Elianna Zimmerman** | **p** |

## Off-Campus Senators

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Status** |
| **Josh Holness** | **P** |
| **Yajaira Ramirez** | **U** |
| **Breanna Renslo** | **P** |
| **Sahana Suresh** | **P** |
| **Meghan Wiercinski** | **p** |

## Executive Officers

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Title** | **Name** | **Status** |
| **Vice President** | **Johnson, Nicholas** | **P** |
| **President** | **Gaitán, Rossellin** | **P** |

# Presentation

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Kristen Schumaker, Dir of University Centers; *Kiwibots*** | **Questions**   * Q: How many orders have been placed so far? (Pres. Gaitan)   A: Delivered 6 so far, amid wifi outages; we also have a new Dining Coordinator still settling in   * Q: Where did the funding for this project come from? (Sen. Hicks)   A: Bots were discovered at an expo—runs on a subscription service, VC Crickette was interested in other ways to give back to students that was novel and eye-catching; money comes from University Centers reserve.   * Q: Where can the bots pick up food from?   A: Tentatively, everything in Dining should be available through the bots. They also include Virtual Dining Concepts, aka black kitchen; items that are timely and interesting to students and only available through Kiwibot: e.g. the Mr. Beast Burger, cakes from Cake Boss, Pardon my Cheesesteak   * Q: What is the average order delivery time?   A: Within 30 minutes is the goal; they can make it up the hill, even in the winter, longest distance takes 22 minutes to traverse   * Q: What are the current hours of operation?   A: 10am-6pm, until Oct. 6th, when hours may shift. They will also be testing “late night” options.   * Q: Can the bots keep food both hot and cold?   A: Yes   * Q: What happens after the first year if they are unsuccessful?   A: Everything is up in the air, but will be reevaluated; they are seen as a good recruitment tool   * Q: Are there any plans to mitigate cost through tuition? A: Tuition no, but they are considering rolling it into meal plans * Q: Do you have any information about naming the bots?   A: Conversations are happening right now, either to hold a contest for students to name them, work with corporate partners to generate some revenue, or both.   * Q: How do you ensure the bots’ safety?   A: Other campuses have not had much issue with theft or vandalism—they tend to become part of the campus community. |

**Misc. Notes:**

* Speaker Notes:
* A live Kiwibot was present for the presentation
* Kiwibots came to campus through Blugold Dining/Sodexo; is who the contract is with
* Presented as another option to reach students
* Only found in Madison
* We have 15—can be reached through the Everyday app
* Still learning campus and working out the kinks
* Covid was hard for the food industry overall—some products cannot be ordered at all, and there is a labor shortage
* Dining are some of the first and last people on campus and are vital to our functioning

# Open Forum—N/A

# Approval of Meeting Minutes from 05/16/22

Meeting minutes approved unanimously.

# REPORT: President – Rossellin Gaitán

Hello! I wanted to start with a Thank you again,

Thank you all for being here and for being fantastic this past week. I am so incredibly honored to begin this upcoming year with you all.

This past summer I stayed busy! I planned and put together our Senate Social; Met with a large variety of our admin through this summer such as the Chancellor, Vice Chancellor Diaz, Vice Chancellor Felz, Vice Chancellor Crickette and many more; Met with several Dean’s of Colleges, took 3 classes, sat on the Blugold welcome week committee, met with our new CRRJ director Catherine Emmanuelle as well as met with the Director of Housing, Quincy Chapman, attended the recent Transit Committee meeting, attended several welcome week events, attended summer events talking with incoming 1st years on our experience panel, and overall became more adjusted with my role. I am also exchanging emails and starting to beginning the process in looking into one of my passion projects of having a first generation student handbook with our new Dean of Students Gregg Heinselman.

I hope this with this upcoming year you all find yourself feeling inspired and creative. I want this session to be extraordinary, you all have a purpose here and I want you to be able to share your viewpoints and ideas with us and be able to push this Senate as a whole. My office is always open (when I’m there, otherwise it’s locked) and I want you all to know that I believe that respect is earned, not given. I am here to gain your trust and respect through hopefully getting to know all of you as we continue.

Now, before I end this small speech I want to end with what I said during our Senate retreat (some of you didn’t hear this, so pardon if you heard this.) I ask all of you to be understanding, to go with grace, and respect one another and remember, that you cannot give from an empty cup, so look after your mind and body. Thank you all so much and I am so honored to be serving as your President.

I Yield.

# REPORT: Vice President – Nicholas Johnson

Good evening, everyone. The first week of the semester has been a very busy one, both for me and for the Student Senate as a whole. All while managing the hectic first week of classes, we participated in Welcome Week events, including the extremely successful Senate Social. Thank you to all those who made that a reality. After which, you all sacrificed your Saturday to receive training that will be critical to your roles as Senate members. For this too, I thank you. My week has primarily been background organization to make sure these two events went smoothly. I have connected with Directors to ensure they are adjusting to their roles comfortably, and to make sure their commission work will be off to a good start this session. In addition, I drafted the bill before you this evening, which I promise will be an uncommon occurrence. More on that bill later. Thank you. I will take any questions. I yield.

# REPORT: Senate Personnel Director – Anakah Denison

# Good evening all!

# I hope you all had restful summers and a productive first week on campus! In case any of you don’t know me, my name is Anakah Denison, pronouns she/her. I am a fourth-year Ecology and Environmental Biology major, and I am so excited to be serving as our Senate Personnel Director this year after being involved in Senate as a Senator and commission member for the past two years. As some of you may know, I was working in the Galapagos at the Charles Darwin Research Station for the entirety of this summer with spotty wifi, so I was not around to work on Senate business, and therefore have been playing a bit of catchup to make sure that I am ready for this school year. I attended our Senate training this past Saturday, and the Senate Social last week where I saw many of you! Nevertheless, I am available for you if you have any questions or concerns, and I encourage you to stop by my office or shoot me an email should anything come up, or if you just want to chat, about Senate business or anything else--my door is always open! I am a resource for you all, and I am also always open to suggestions and recommendations for events throughout the year, as one of my responsibilities is planning social activities for Senate. You will all be hearing from me shortly via email about office hours, outreach hours, attendance, and other logistics for the session, so keep an eye on your Outlook! That being said, I would like to echo our vice president’s words from the training this past weekend—I encourage you to put your health and personal needs first, then school, then Senate. Your are students before senators, but you are human beings first and foremost, and I want this session to be productive but balanced. If you ever cannot make it to a meeting, please just let me know via email before the meeting. With that said, I am so excited to work with you all this session, I welcome any questions, and I yield :)

# REPORTS: Board of Directors

## Academic Affairs Commission Director –

## N/A

## Communication Commission Director –

Howdy everyone, I hope everyone had a great summer break and is having a fantastic start to the new semester! Over the summer, I primarily focused on transitioning into my new role and the training accompanied with it. Some projects I worked on include the creation of our new senate commission logos, planning the initiatives I set out to accomplish this year and making formal introductions with key people I plan to work with to bring those initiatives into fruition. I also changed the Senatorial to Blu’s Bulletin as a part of a new relationship with the Activities, Involvement, and Leadership office, more to come about that soon. Since we’ve returned to campus, I have been handling logistical work and our social media primarily; and as for this week, I am hopefully wrapping up my search for an intern and planning for the first comms meeting next week! I look forward to working with you all this year and I’m excited for what's to come!

## Equity in Student Matters Senate Director –

Welcome back everyone, it is so nice to see all of your faces again. This week has been quite the transition back to senate. Rosa and I have created pamphlets to encourage recruitment for our commission and handed them out at The senate social. I have several meetings awaiting me this week and have already recorded the land acknowledgment for the board of regents meeting at the end of September. Rosa and I have begun working closer with different orgs and plan to attend their meetings and help as much as possible. We are excited to start working and engaging more with students. Our first commission meeting will be Wednesday the 21st 4pm-5pm, and the room is soon to be decided. Thank you everyone, it's good to be back.

## Finance Commission Director –

## Hello everyone,

## Hope you all had a great summer and successful first week of classes. These past few weeks have been busy yet productive, working to plan this packed semester. Last Thursday we got some interest at the senate social and will be seeing new members joining the commission while still growing more through the year. Then on Friday I hired an intern, their name is Oliver Gibbs, and we are very excited to have them. Today year-end contribution memos were sent out to organizations, those will be some of the first work for the commission as appeals are due back the 21st of September and will hear appeals on the 28th. This coming Wednesday is the first finance commission meeting, 5:00 pm in the Council Oak room, I hope to see some of you there. We are off to a good start, and I am excited for what this year has to bring and with that I yield.

## Information Technologies Commission Director –

Over the Summer:

I worked on familiarizing myself with the 8-15 policy and the bylaws making sure that I was well prepared to take on initiatives right away once coming into the semester. On top of that, I was brainstorming potential initiatives to take on.

First two weeks:

The first two weeks I have been in contact with key individuals that will help me succeed in this role, gaining insight, asking for advice, and helping me learn the ropes. I have also been looking over transition materials and familiarizing myself with all the different things I need to know for this role. I have also been recruiting and peaking interest for the commission.

This week/next week:

This week I will be following up from individuals interested in ITC, I am starting weekly recurring meetings including office hours, one on ones, and spending time in the office doing work. I am also working on my first potential initiative which I need to first discuss with Kent, my advisor. I am also still on the hunt for an intern, I have someone in mind but if that doesn’t pan out, I will be sending emails to respective chairs that would have fitting students.

Next week starts the first commission meeting for ITC. We will be meeting at 4pm on Tuesdays in the Colleen Bader conference room (220D).

## Intergovernmental Affairs Commission Director –

Hello Everyone! I have had quite the busy summer. When not working on campus I spent my time this summer meeting with different important contacts like Jake Wrasse from the admin office, and Merilyn Haggen and Linda Presley from the League of Women Voters. I also was excited to help start the process with hiring the new director of HR, which is still in progress.

Otherwise since the year has started IGA is going off with a strong start. I was able to attend the Senate Social and talk to students and hopefully gain some new commission members! Intern interviews are in full throttle! And we also have an event coming up: ‘House Day” on Monday the 19th noon-4pm in the Dakota Ballroom. Where students can explore their different off campus housing options and meet potential landlords in person.

If you are interested in joining the commission! We are meeting Tuesdays 3-4pm in Centennial 2904.

I look forward to the beginning of this new and exciting session, if you are interested in joining IGA shoot me an email! And with that I yield.

## Student Office of Sustainability Commission Director –

Hello all, I hope you all had a great summer and a good first week! Over the summer I attended many meetings to meet with the administrative staff I will be working with, committee meetings, and meetings with the Administrative Office of Sustainability. All have been very helpful and will be in the future as the SOS works towards their goals. Leah Woodward and I have also met multiple times to discuss ideas for the year, and recently have been holding interviews for our coordinator positions. We have hired three great team members and are looking for and currently interviewing for two more. If you are interested in being an Education Coordinator specifically, please email me and we can discuss the next steps. It is a quick turnaround as we would like to have a full team by the end of the week so let me know as soon as you can. We will be having our first commission meeting on Wednesday the 21st from 5-6pm in the SSRC. We hope to see anyone who is interested there!  Fun Fact: we have had 52,000 uses of the BluBoxes! Hope you all have a great second week. With that I yield.

## Student Organization Commission Director –

## Good evening,

## I have spent the better part of the first two weeks of the year working on the Student Organization Re-Registration process, as well as promoting the new campus wide app, Blugold Connect +, which if you have not yet downloaded, please do! The app is through Campus Groups and is extremely intuitive, which is also why we are pushing so much for this to be used by groups all over campus including Activities, Housing and Residence life, and student organizations. SOC is always looking for creative ideas on ways to advertise to the student body and integrate more features into the app, so if any of that sounds interesting to you, please attend the SOC meeting this Thursday, at 1:00pm in the Pine Conference room in the Student Senate office. Joining SOC means you will also be able to spend a lot of time with Sara Thommsen and Stephanie Pyykola, both of which are way more fun to hang out with than me. In short, please spread the good word about you or your friends joining SOC, it is a great commission with even better people, and we would love to have you! In less important news, Director Farmer and Director McGuine assisted me in choosing my lovely earrings for tonight’s meeting, and as you can see, they have excellent taste. Finally, I wish you all a very successful and productive 66th Session this year, and as always, take care, brush ya hair, and with that I yield.

## University Activities Commission Director –

Good evening everyone and welcome to our first general assembly meeting of the school year!

I want to start by formally introducing myself to you all. My name is Brett Farmer, I use he/him pronouns, and I am a third-year student here at UWEC. I am serving as the University Activities Commission Director once again, as I also did in the 65th session. That being said, I want to preface my first report with an ask to you all to please just say something if I (or all of senate in that case) ever discuss an event, process, or term that you are unfamiliar with. Finally, I should add that I was known for giving the longest reports in the last session, and I am proud to inform you that that will likely not change this session.

For some foundational context, I want you all to know that UAC is sort of a different beast that the other commissions. Under myself, I have nine committee chairs that oversee their committees that conduct weekly meetings. These committees are specifically UAC committees, not to be confused with the committees that senators are required to serve on, that you will be nominated to later tonight. However, these committees are what you, as senators would join if you were to want to get involved in UAC. These five committees meet weekly, as well as does the UAC Executive Board. This is the reason you will likely not see information on general UAC information, meeting times, etc. The five UAC committees are Concerts, Festivals, Films, Late Night, and Public Relations. If you have any further interest or questions about getting involved within or the structure of UAC, please reach out!

As for this summer, I spent a majority of my time in Spain, but that did not stop things from happening in the world of UAC. Our nine chairs were hard at work solidifying fall plans such as the Cabin Concert and Films lineups, Homecoming, and all other sorts of events and programming across campus. We finished the summer with our semesterly Exec training with our Exec Board, and just this last week kicked off the year with our first film, Elvis, and Cabin Concert, Sam Alessandri, which were both well-attended successful events!

Beyond that, we also spent some time this summer searching for a new Adviser, which we found in Corey Stockman, who I hope you are all able to meet! His office is the window directly to the right of the AIL front desk, so feel free to give him a lil jump scare, knock on the window, and introduce yourself! He is very interested in our tie to Student Senate so please say hi!

To conclude, I just want to say that I am excited to see what this very fresh session of Student Senate is capable of accomplishing, please reach out if you have any questions, and be sure to follow the UAC Instagram and Facebook for event updates! I look forward to seeing you all at UAC events very soon, I yield.

# REPORT: Special

## Mascot Coordinator –

Hello everyone! I do have a report today, that is just going to highlight some of the plans

I have for this semester. Please please PLEASE do not be afraid to invite Blu to your

events! I want to work towards having Blu more involved on campus and being a regular

figure on the campus! (in addition to providing students with a part time job). We have

multiple actors this year to attend different events so hopefully I am not short of help.

Another big thing I hope to accomplish is the development of marketable Blu plushies!

These would be sold in the bookstore with the intent that some of the profit will head

back into Student Senate funds. Again this is all hopeful thinking! Let me know if you

have any questions!

# Unfinished Business—none

# New Business

# 

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Bill or Resolution** | **Title**  66-B-3 | **Status**  Introduced | **Vote Method**  n/a |

**Misc. Notes:**

Outlines process of making and dissolving a vacancy committee

**Motion to reconsider the previous candidate for the Academic Affairs Candidate position**

* Speaker Sentiments:
* This is procedurally correct; without breaking closed session, please remember the debate from last session when considering to vote for this motion
* It is crucial to fill the AAC position
* Motion passes unanimously; 19-0-3 (placard)
* Candidate talking points:
* Held several leadership positions; used campus resources to accomplish her goals. Knows what it feels like to want to succeed and seek out help. The speaker had worked hard over the summer, meeting with Mary Hoffman, and Pres. Gaitan and VP Johnson several times, and was able to present her ideas. She thoroughly read the AAC and BCDT bylaws. Ideas are to improve BIPOC representation in classrooms, e.g. bringing an educated representative into classrooms when those relevant issues are discussed. Bring light to special education at UWEC—work with SSD. Work with getting students involved in voting/elections—wants to learn from others, has many more ideas, but only mentioning the top 3. Will not take this chance for granted.
* Q: In the past there has been conflict between AAC and the University—what is your game plan/knowledge of this?

A: Connect with the involved people, including Dean of Students, Mary Hoffman to come to a solution together

Q: How will you organize your time?

A: Using technology like Outlook, Google Calendar

Q: What are you excited for and why?

A: Leaving a legacy and making meaningful change

Q: Biggest Challenge:

A: Lots of layered, moving pieces in this position; plan to work with previous directors and Mary Hoffman—this position requires adaptation.

# Personnel Matters

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Appointed or Resigned (A/R)** | **Name(s)** | **Entity(ies)** |
| Appointed, 19-0-2 (placard) | Academic Affairs Director | Sahana Suresh |
| Appointed | Off-Campus Senator | Twyla Alix |
| Appointed | Off-Campus Senator | Jake Hicks |
| Resigned | Off-Campus Senator | Senator Ramirez |
| Resigned | On-Campus Senator | Senator Lester |
| Appointed | Curriculum Committee | Director Suresh |
| Appointed | College of Business Curriculum Committee | Sen. Renslo |
| Appointed | Student Health Issues Committee | Sen. Holness, Sen. Dei |
| Appointed | Student Misconduct Review Committee | Parliamentarian Miller |
| Appointed | International Fellow Proposal Committee | Sen. Alix |
| Appointed | Queer and Trans Action Committee | Dir. Kelly, Sen. Wiercinski |
| Appointed | Sciences and Health Sciences Building Committee | Dir. McGuine, Sen. Dei, Dir. Kelly |
| Appointed | Graduate Council | VP Johnson |
| Appointed | SWAT and Counseling Committee | Sen. Myszka, Dir. Suresh |
| Appointed | Dining Committee | Sen. Hicks |
| Appointed | Student Organization Conduct Committee | Dir. Heap, Sen. Alix, Coordinator May, Dir. Denison |
| Appointed | Sports Club Advisory Council | Dir. Heap |
| Appointed | College of Business Assurance of Learning Committee | Dir. Suresh |
| Appointed | College of Education and Human Sciences Academic Curriculum Committee | Dir. Blong |
| Appointed | Emergency Preparedness Committee | VP Johnson, Dir. Farmer |
| Appointed | Comprehensive Leadership Program Committee | Sen. Consiglio, Sen. Renslo, Sen. Alix |
| Appointed | Faculty-Led International Immersions Committee | Dir. Farmer |
| Appointed | Committee on the Status of Women | Sen. Wiercinski, Dir. Denison |
| Appointed | Athletic Committee | Dir. Farmer |
| Appointed | The Instructional Resource Rental Committee (Textbook Committee) | VP Johnson |
| Appointed | University Artist Series Committee | Sen. Strojinc |

**Misc. Notes**

# 

# Announcements

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Person** | **Topic** |
| VP Johnson | If you don’t have a placard, ask Stephanie Pyykola |
| Dir. Kelly | Next Monday Sep 19, Noon to 4, Dakota Ballroom: learn about housing options! There is a drawing for EC merch! |
| Dir. Farmer | Rafaela is playing this Saturday in the cabin, they are verified on Spotify! |
| Dir. Farmer | Vacancies are open—please promote the application! |
| Pres. Gaitan | Please wear business professional/casual attire to Senate meetings |
| Dir. Denison | See report |

**Misc. Notes**

# Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

**Minutes submitted by Anakah Denison, Senate Personnel Director**