



Student Senate

5:15 PM October 7th, 2013

Location: Alumni Rooms A and B

- I. Call to Order: 5:16pm
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of Minutes from September 23rd, 2013: approved with no changes
- IV. Approval of Agenda: approved with no changes
- V. Guest Speaker, Professor Michael Draney and Dean Sue Mattison: Shared Governance
 - a. Dean Mattison: Shared Governance is when the people who are affected by decisions get to talk about the impact those decisions have on their units. Units participate in the discussion leading up to the decision, providing input. This is the opposite of the business model: not top-down decision making. The founding ideas of a university allows constituents to have a say, and this is an important concept to the university. It is a retention issue because people will leave if this is affected/ruined. I forwarded an article to Heba that says “it is a delicate balance between faculty and staff participation in planning and decision-making processes, on the one hand, and administrative accountability on the other.” The author is anti-shared governance, but his definition is valid.
 - b. Professor Draney: I’m not an expert on shared governance, but I am a concerned faculty member. He is the President of the Faculty and Academic Staff Union (local of AFT-Wisconsin), called UWGB United. ¼ of faculty are dues paying members because they are concerned about workplace conditions. Good workplace conditions and a voice gives faculty and staff a vested interest in the university, allowing students a better experience. They want to work with SGA because we have more power than we may think. The Union thinks what SGA

says carries more voice than their own and that of the Faculty Senate. Important roles of students: we are why the university exists, and, more cynically, we are the customers who pay the costs of the university; students more clearly represent the voice of the citizens of Wisconsin. He wants to work with us to come up with a statement about shared governance.

i. The “threat” to shared governance was learned through the Union: a meeting between the Board of Regents and State Legislators took place because there has been so much discord between the two lately. Some of the comments concerned UWGB United, as well as administrators across the System. Comments from Speaker Robin Vos:

1. Governance changes within the system should be talked about in terms of when, not if. Why? Because he wants to empower Chancellors to truly be the CEOs of their campuses so they can rapidly do what needs to be done and be more efficient. Some universities across the country are going that way, but those are for-profit institutions. This turns professors into just employees, not stakeholders.
2. Why is shared governance important to students? The faculty are the ones that maintain the curriculum quality and their standards. This is different than for-profit because those do not give you control of your own curriculum. Professors are the gatekeepers to education quality vs. CEOs who would do it cheaply. Professors are divorced from the profit-motive; should be allowed to be empowered in decision making, be advocates for students. Faculty do more than just teach: they are trying to improve programs and start new things because they buy into this institution.
3. There is also student shared governance because we put money into segregated fees, which is just as important. The attack is on Faculty governance though. Speaker Vos thought there was tension between faculty and student governance: does not seem to be true. We’re on the same page.

- c. Dean: This shared governance issue is a red herring to drive a wedge between students and faculty: creating a problem where there was not one before. We have to wonder where this comment came from. Speaker Vos asked if allowing faculty to make decisions helps the system or hurts the system.
- d. Professor: The resolution being considered was drafted by AFT Wisconsin Higher Ed Council, with a lot of K-12 members but a minimum number of higher education members. They drafted a statement about shared governance with the intent of having it passed by as many bodies as possible.
 - i. Sent it to the University Committee, but they will not pass it yet, and we have not heard anything else since the initial comments. We know Vos created a working group over the summer to look at Faculty governance. They suspect the focus has shifted from shared governance to Faculty workload: Vos requested information from each professor at each campus to evaluate workload. Faculty Senate has decided to let this sit for a while because this is not an immediate threat at this point.
 - ii. Professor Draney is encouraging SGA to pass this Resolution now. Faculty Senate is a little timid: they do not want to be reactionary. Students will not appear self-serving. Other Faculty Senates have passed this, including Madison, but it is more important to let students pass this.
- e. Morgan Mason: Questions?
 - i. No questions.
 - ii. This is a threat to all universities, not just us.
 - iii. Discussion about the resolution?
 - 1. Chloe Hansen: Is there a benefit to SGA if we wrote our own language?
 - a. Professor: it would not hurt, but the hope was to have the same resolution passed by many bodies.
 - 2. Morgan: if we add on to it, what do we want to add?
 - 3. Mark Olkowski: Here's a brief history on shared governance. Dreyfus, when he served on Board of Regents, introduced legislation to allow shared governance. If this disappeared, a lot of terrible things could happen; it would be like getting rid of SUFAC. Students may not have any input.

4. Dean: people can disagree but still be heard, and that is the beautiful thing about universities. All students voicing their opinions will still be protected. You can use shared governance to support things you want.
5. Mark: This has given us benefits for a long time.
6. Paul Ahrens: I liked the provided statement. It was concise and addressed all the points I felt were important. They will likely go after Student governance next if they succeed in ruining faculty governance. People have said it will be more efficient if we eliminate it, but there are always costs to democracy. We do not want it to run like a corporation.
7. Stephany Haack: things are not always meant to pass easily. Gridlock serves a purpose. Discussion needs to happen.
8. Dean: The end product can be better if it is reached via consensus.
9. Morgan: send any recommendations to Heba to revise the proposed Resolution. It will be presented at the next Senate meeting.

VI. New Business

a. Approval of Senators

- i. Samantha Braaten: junior, transfer student, Political Science/DJS majors, Women's studies/EPP minors, single mom, likes to volunteer, loves kids.
- ii. Morgan Hunter: freshman, law major, involved in GTP and Colleges Against Cancer.
- iii. Jacob Immel: Not present.
- iv. Tyler Sterr: transfer, accounting major, not involved in much else right.
- v. Motion to package the vote:
 1. Charles Reimer motions
 2. Anna Goelz seconds
- vi. Motion to approve: Charles
 1. Anna seconds
- vii. Roll call vote: 3-0-0

VII. Old Business

- a. None

VIII. Reports

a. President: Heba Mohammad

- i. UPass Meeting: Mona is meeting with the Learning in Retirement board to discuss paying out of parking budget to offset their students' cost with using UPass.
- ii. Student Reps went well: the other reps are not as big of jerks this year.
- iii. Dinner with advisors scheduled for next week is cancelled: we're not ready to present to them.
- iv. Childcare survey going out next week.

b. Vice-President: Morgan Mason

- i. Madison professor is coming on Wednesday the 9th at 10:30am in 1965 Room to gather research on college affordability.

c. Speaker: Anna Goelz

- i. Still recruiting!
- ii. Looking for admin assistant; pays, part-time job.
 - 1. Tyler: looking for people outside of SGA only?

- a. Anna: Yes

d. RHAA: Tony Hinkel: No report.

e. Chief Justice: Stephany Haack

- i. Presentation on recommended Constitution changes
 - 1. Court reviewed constitution: wanted to point out a few things we may want to change.
 - 2. First point: Section 1.02 B
 - a. Stephany: There is no formal process for impeachment.

- b. Chloe: We need it to reference the Constitution Section that lays out that process.

3. Section 1.02 I

- a. The speaker can call meetings whenever they want.

Problem: if they wanted to pass something, they can pick a time when only the supporters of the resolution/motion can make it.

- b. Chloe: originally included for finals week; maybe including some restrictions in the Senate bylaws would work. It is important to have some form to convene on emergencies.

4. 2.01 D

- a. If the speaker can call meetings whenever they want, but the President can do it only on extraordinary conditions, you may want to change that to make it more even.

5. Go to Chloe or Heba for additional questions.

6. Heba: Only Senate can make changes, so if you want to change anything, let us know and we'll help.

7. We need more court members!!!!

f. Standing Committees

i. Academic Affairs: Paul Ahrens

- 1. Faculty advising process continues, and we are trying to simplify it and find the problem. Seems the problem is communication between students and faculty. Students feel lost; trying to figure

out how to improve communication. Overall, advising does not seem to be horrible.

2. Chloe has some suggestions for improvements.
3. I will be designing SGA shirts: if you're interested in helping, let me know.
4. We were thinking of having a presentation to the student body about the threat to Shared Governance. We expect them to push this forward. Like Professor Draney and Dean Mattison said, we need to push this. If faculty and staff push, they'll be bashed and have their opinions stifled. As students we have the say to do something, or to ignore it. Maybe have a faculty presentation about this for students. Organize a presentation explaining what shared governance is and its importance and have them realize there is a trend to end it. If you want to do this, we will organize.
 - a. Morgan: give us suggestions for professors to present and how to publicize. We want this in the next couple weeks.
5. Paul: I'll do this alone if I need to.
6. Anna: Chloe, remember the panels you did with the legislators and faculty in the Christie? Maybe we can do something similar with this? It might be popular this way.
 - a. Chloe: she's referring to the format of this, not content.
 - b. Anna: Right, it would be a panel with some information and an opportunity for questions.
 - c. Morgan: we can hash out details later.

7. Morgan: another idea: a talk about the government shutdown and its implications, especially as the debt ceiling deadline approaches. Any questions or comments, email me or Paul.
- ii. Environmental Affairs: Taryn Oleson
 1. Looking for student input on car sharing program. We had ZimRide, but it wasn't go well. We broke the contract because we weren't getting our monies worth.
 - a. Discussing other car sharing program possibilities.
 - i. Through D2L or something already existing, or through another contract based program?
 - ii. We are a commuter school. We want to reduce the number of cars on campus: how can we make it so students feel like they do not need a car here.
 - b. Chloe: definitely not through another contractor.

Facebook has become the means for finding rides, so it's not worth it to pay. I'm not sure how Campus Wall is working, but Facebook seems to be successful.
 - c. Taryn: Tried to promote ZimRide, but it didn't work.

When you don't have a car, you tend to arrange car rides on your own. Some people are creeped out with having a stranger in their car, but other universities have experienced great success with these programs, like UW-Stevens Point.
 - d. Taryn: Sustainability Committee meeting is Wednesday morning, let me know your thoughts by then.

- iii. Equity and Diversity: N/A
- iv. Health and Safety: N/A
- v. Recreation and Athletics: Melissa Zabkowicz
 - 1. Kress Advisory Council meets next week. We need people: most of the current people are athletes or are in intramurals.
 - 2. Athletic Director search open presentations are done. The process is in the final stages. In a week or so we should have a new Athletic Director.
 - 3. Snow Shoe rental: talking to people at Kress about it as an option to replace the ice rink.
 - a. Chloe: great idea!
 - 4. Chloe: UW-Lacrosse has an outdoor connection that allows the community to use their equipment.
 - a. Morgan: Eau Claire has that too.
 - b. Melissa: we used to have that.
 - c. Chloe: Because the community around UWGB has grown, maybe it'll be more viable now.
 - 5. Green Bandana Brigade: made themselves an org. She is hoping to work with them to put on programs to work on school spirit.
- vi. Student Resources: Chloe Miller Hansen
 - 1. Faculty advising is still on going. Draft of proposals/recommendations will be sent out Thursday. Some questions for Darrel, director of Academic advising. Will pass the report on to Andy Kersten, Associate Provost of Academic Affairs.

2. Paul got some exec members' opinions on Faculty Advising: if there is any more input, please let me or Paul know.
 3. 3 Year tech plan will be in place Oct. 30th. Asked about Residence Hall WiFi and why gaming counsels cannot connect: cost issues involved.
 - a. Will be asking when the search engine will be updated: it needs to be!
 4. Professor Office Hours: I will ask about the possibility of having a central location for them.
 5. Will heavily recommend that the catalog has an easier update for Faculty because the catalog is outdated.
 - a. Heba: talk to Andy Kersten, he's working on that.
 6. Tyler: can you ask about a campus app?
 - a. Chloe: the word "app" has been thrown around quite a bit. We have an athletics one, but only because it was sponsored by an outside group.
 - b. Morgan: UWGB Alerts and Union Texting still exists.
 - i. Chloe: texting is a replacement for the app right now.
 7. Sexual assault website: working on that; carry over project from last year.
 - a. She will have a draft done in the next two weeks.
 8. Hopefully will have more projects coming up.
- vii. SUFAC: Kimberly Dawson
1. New board members thanks to Brenda and her class, especially.

2. Went over bylaws last week.
 3. Will tackle view point neutrality this week.
- viii. University Governance: N/A
- ix. Union and Dining: Mariah Pursley
 - x. Waiting for a reply to an email she sent to Rick.
 - xi. At the October 17th exec board meeting, we asked about the new TVs in the Union.
 1. they were paid for by A'viands and the Union at a quarter of the price they would normally be.
 2. Hope to use them more creatively in the future. The old boards needed updating, which would have cost as much as the new monitors anyway.
 3. Hoping to sell ads on them: programs, sporting events. All ads would be university related, no outside advertisers.
 4. They will be updated and will try to integrate them.
 5. We want to include more nutrition facts on the TVs.
 6. Chloe: will there be a dietician soon?
 - a. There isn't one?
 - i. Chloe: she quit a while ago (over the summer).
 - ii. Mariah: I'll look into it.
 - xii. Thanksgiving Hours: looking at having thanksgiving hours for that weekend, but not on the actual day.
 - a. Rick wants to know if it would be used if it was open more than it usually is.

- i. Kim: the library is open, so it's hard to get to the Library if the Union is closed.
- ii. Chloe: why is Saturday closed? That doesn't make sense. I understand Friday, but would like to see something Saturday.

IX. Announcements

- a. Morgan: he forgot to mention this during shared governance conversation:
 - i. If you have been a student employee here long enough, you might remember Kronos, a program for logging work hours. We have moved from a clock in system, to a System run program. It was a CEO action, to keep better track of students. It was terrible at first and unreliable.
- b. Don't forget about Wednesday!!!! 10:30am in the 1965 room.

X. Adjournment: 6:28pm

- a. Charles motions
- b. Tyler Seconds