

Student Senate of UW – Green Bay
Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2006
MAC 210

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:02 pm.

Members present:

II. Special Order Items

a. Presidential Nominations

Speaker Mims suggested to package the presidential nominations into two different packages. Senators could break up the packages if they chose to. The first package consisted of Secretary nominations: Crystal Osman for Environmental Affairs, Ryan Tiefenthaler for Academic Affairs, Ben Kotenberg for Athletics and Recreation, Bob Kranzusch for Union and Dining, and Erik Mims for Student Resources. President Seubert introduced each secretary and Speaker Mims opened the floor for any questions for the candidates. Senator Hladilek asked each candidate for their leadership and experience qualifications for their positions. Senator Ruud asked all candidates what they planned on bringing to their committees and how to branch out. Senator Curtis asked Ryan Tiefenthaler how he would address the issue of general education. Senator Vorpagel asked if Ryan Tiefenthaler asked if he was going to continue with his RA job. Senator Navin asked Ryan about how he felt about the new class scheduling time. Each candidate answered accordingly - Vice President Jushka spoke for Bob Kranzusch, since he was unable to attend the meeting. Senator Hladilek commented that he felt that some of the nominees did not have enough experience and didn't understand why some of them were nominated. Senator Heller called a point of order to ask if they were in a motion to approve. Speaker Mims said that there was still a speakers list. Senator Curtis made a comment stating that under the new constitution, all positions need to be filled and outside leadership is needed and even though these nominees may not be the pinnacle of leadership, they have all of the potential to become good leaders and he has faith in them to do their job. Senator Navin agreed with a previous speaker saying that he trusted these nominees to do their job because they know their subject area. He also asked the senators to remember when they first became senators and they had to learn the system, so instead of criticizing them, we should help them. Senator Heller moved to approve the package. Seconded by Senator Navin. Senator Diny objected, he felt that each candidate should be approved separately because there were questions to their qualifications. Senator Heller spoke to his motion saying that Senators should be looking at their experience and their passion for their committee, not their knowledge of parliamentary procedure. Senator Hladilek objected saying that he felt it was better to vote on each nominee separately. Senator Navin spoke to his second saying that all nominees were qualified so they should be voted on as a package. The Senate voted to see if the nominees would be packaged or not with a simple vote. It was decided that the nominees would be packaged; 7-5. Senator Navin moved to approve the package, Senator Ruud seconded the motion. There were no objections. A voice vote was held. The package passed; 11 - 1. The next suggest package were the

nominations for Justices of the Student court: Emily Krambs, Matt Riekmann, Peter Ruud, Bill Curtis. President Seubert introduced the nominees to the Senate. Speaker Mims noted to the Senate that a Chief Justice would not be appointed until fall. He opened the floor for questions. Speaker Mims entertained a motion to package. Senator Heller moved to package, Senator Navin seconded, there were no objections, the question was called. There was a simple hand vote to package the nominees. The motion passed; 12 - 0. There was a motion to approve the package, Senator Navin seconded the motion, there were no objections, the question was called. There was a voice vote. The package was approved, 10-0-2.

b. Senate By-laws

Speaker Mims presented the Senate By-Laws proposed by last years Senate and the Rules Committee and Senate Leadership. The By-laws will go into effect on August 15 and they are meant to be a basic framework for Senate. Speaker Mims opened the floor for questions and comments. Senator Diny commented that he didn't like the speaking limit. Senator Heller said that that rule would only go into effect if you are called out of order, and one should be able to get their point across in two minutes. Senator Curtis said that the chairman of the committee can put that rule in effect just to keep time in order. Senator Ruud said that these parameters are a good idea. Senator Navin commented that according to the By-laws, the speaker of the Student Senate is elected by the student body in the fall elections, though the senate had previously removed that item from the by-laws earlier. Speaker Mims said that it was a mistake on his part for putting it back into the by-laws. He clarified that the speaker is chosen in spring by the Senators. Senator Vorpapel moved to approve the By-laws so that amendments could be made, seconded by Senator Heller. There were no objections and the question was called. Senator Heller moved to amend Article V: change to "more than two absences" add "if special circumstances are present, the speaker and the chairman may approve additional absences". Senator Navin seconded. Senator Heller spoke to his motion that it is a little harsh to only have one excused absence. Senator Navin, spoke to his second. There was a simple hand vote to approve the motion. The vote was unanimous, motion approved. Senator Curtis moved to change "the following may appeal to the Student Senate" to "the following may appeal to the Student Court". Seconded by Senator Navin. Senator Heller said that the first course of action should be the Senate. Senator Curtis said that the role of the court should be the one to make an unbiased decision. Senator Diny concurred with a previous speaker. Senator Ruud said that this was the reason why the student court was created. Senator Krauss, asked how many people are on the student court. Senator Heller called to question. Senator Curtis wants the court to set their own procedures. A simple hand vote was conducted to approve Senator Curtis' motion. Amendment passed. Senator Vorpapel moved to make an amendment to Article VII to insert a paragraph between the first and second paragraph to say that the Pledge of Allegiance shall be recited at the beginning of each Senate Session. Seconded by Senator Diny. Senator Curtis suggested that a flag should be present as well. Senator Vorpapel accepted the idea as a friendly. President Seubert asked to clarify which session this amendment would go into effect for. Senator Hladilek spoke against the amendment because it isn't welcoming for exchange students. Senator Gazdik asked if a Senator had to participate. Senator Vorpapel spoke for his

motion. Senator Ruud spoke for it as well since this is a state school in the United States. Senator Heller called to question. There were no objections. A simple hand vote was conducted. Amendment passed. Senator Curtis, moved to amend the amendment to add a clause saying that not all Senators are required to participate in the Pledge of Allegiance. Senator Ruud said that everyone already knows that they do not have to participate. Senator Navin asked if this could be made as a friendly in case of an exchange student. Senator Ruud explained that everyone should stand as a sign of respect. Senator Diny seconded the motion. A simple hand vote was conducted. Amendment passed. Speaker Mims asked the Senators to clarify a clause about personal electronics. Senator Navin asked if the Senators should allow those things. Speaker Mims just thought that the Senate should just clarify what is allowed. Senator Navin moved to add an amendment to House Decorum Rules to allow personal electronics for Senate information only (lap tops and PDA's). Senator Curtis offered to amend Rule #10 just to silence all electronics and use can be discontinued if asked to. Senator Diny asked to clarify personal communication devices. Senator Navin, accepted Senator Curtis's friendly. A simple hand vote was conducted. Amendment passed. Senator Navin called to question on the by-laws. A roll call vote was conducted. By-laws passed unanimously. In effect on August 15.

c. Speaker Pro Temp Election

Speaker Mims entertained nominations for the Speaker Pro Temp. Senator Krauss asked for clarifications for Speaker Pro Temp. Speaker Mims said currently, a candidate just needed Senator experience. Senator Vorpapel nominated Senator Heller. Senator Krauss nominated Shae Sortwell. Speaker Mims entertained a motion for to ask questions of the nominees. Senator Ruud said that Mr. Sortwell is not present, so he could not answer questions. Senator Curtis said that Mr. Sortwell should be here if he wanted the the position. Senator Gazdik asked about Mr. Sortwell's qualification status. Senator Vorpapel moved to vote on the nominees. A roll call vote was conducted. Senator Heller was elected Speaker Pro Temp; 10 -1-0.

II. New Business

IV. Old Business

V. Reports

a. President of the Student Government Association

President Seubert is looking forward to the upcoming year. Applications for remaining positions will be out tomorrow. She announced Chad Kleist as Chief of Staff and Andrea Roets as Press Secretary. Senator Vorpapel asked about applications for new Senators. President Seubert responded to say that is will still be an application process and that they will appear to Senate in fall.

b. Speaker of the Student Senate

Speaker Mims spoke of a review about the events surrounding the constitution based on letters to the editor about individual senators not being able to state

their case. He urged Senate committee to consider the review. Speaker Mims encouraged everyone to bring in one more new Senator. He is working on an archiving project this summer of resolutions. Senators are more than welcome to help. Speaker Mims thanked Mike Stearney and Emily Krambs. Senate was voted as most improved organization this year.

c. Speaker Pro Temp

Pro Temp Heller is excited for next year.

d. Senate Advisor

Mike Stearney is also looking forward to the next year. He said that we will be facing many challenges and he encouraged everyone to bring in new senators. He also urges everyone's patience with next year due to all of the changes.

VI. Announcements

Senate Social for 05-06-07 Senators at the end of the week.
Republican debates are tonight.

VII. Adjournment

Senator Diny moved to adjourn. Senator Vorpagel seconded. There were no objections.