



Student Senate
5:30 PM October 1st, 2012
Location: 1965 Room

- I. Call to Order at 5:33
- II. Roll Call
 - a. Present: Heba Mohammad, Bryan Boeck, Daniel MacSwain, Franklin Rabideau, Chloe Hansen, Matt Balson, Kim Dawson, Melissa Zabkowicz, Jeff Huebner, TJ Fabel, Sergei Sutto, Andrew Haugen, Paul Grover, Stephany Haack, Adrian Canilho-Burke, Becky Brown, Tessa Kogler, Nathaniel Krueger, Taryn Oleson, Kyle Zellner, Rebecca Ellenbecker
 - b. Excused: Trevor Fuller, Morgan Hansen, Clinton Isham
 - c. Unexcused: Kong Moua, Robert Wolf
- III. Pledge of Allegiance
- IV. Approval of Minutes of September 17th Meeting
 - a. Approved by voice vote
- V. Approval of Agenda
 - a. Amendment to agenda move SUFAC up
 - i. Motion: Kyle
 - ii. Second: Jeff
 - iii. Voice vote
 - iv. Amended
 - b. Amendment to agenda to add new Senators for Approval
 - i. Motion: Jeff
 - ii. Second: Franklin
 - iii. Voice vote

iv. Amended

VI. Gen. Ed. Revision Presentation – Dean Furlong

a. Dean Furlong: We are working on revising the General Education program and we would like to give you guys more information and answer your questions. Just to give you a little history on Gen Ed, this is the third time that we have tried to restructure the program in the last 25 years. The first two never even came to a vote because we didn't think they were good enough. But we worked for nearly 5 years now on this model and think it is great. The main goal of this restructuring to reflect the mission of the institution which is being interdisciplinary. This is also for students to learn more about what interdisciplinary means before their junior year. There will be more first year seminars for freshman to take. There will also be a capstone experience requirement such as an internship in your Junior or Senior year. The second requirement is a breadth requirement, similar to what we have now. There is a smaller and simpler credit requirement than what we have currently. You will see this especially in the Natural Sciences section. The third major component is the Ethnic Studies and World Cultures requirements. There will also be a sustainability requirement which just means that every student must take one course that highlights sustainability. The last thing is quantitative competency that will be spread throughout various courses. Finally, there is a focus on skill development, such as critical thinking, communication, etc. in certain courses and they will then be evaluated to see if it has done its job. I think it would be great if you guys discussed it and could endorse it.

b. Questions:

i. Matt: would a capstone course in your area of study count?

1. Dean Furlong: Yes, that is the goal of it.

ii. Becky: students that come in with an Associate's Degree are allowed to skip Gen Eds so would they still be able to do that?

1. Dean Furlong: Yes they will.

- iii. Paul: I really like the flexibility of this and being able to personally pick my own Gen Eds rather than being forced into some like I was.
- iv. Mark: I would just like to say congrats on getting this far with this revision. But my question is will there be first year seminars in the spring?
 - 1. Dean Furlong: This will be implemented Fall 2014 so we will have a lot of the first year seminars in the Fall and a smaller number in the Spring for those that are starting in the Spring semester.
- v. Chloe: Would writing emphasis still be included?
 - 1. Dean Furlong: Yes, that will be maintained because it is a University requirement, not a general education requirement.
- vi. Becky: If you do start this in 2014, who will have to do this plan?
 - 1. Dean Furlong: Only those starting in fall of 2014 and on will have to do this plan.
- vii. Kim: For natural sciences, will you have to have a lab?
 - 1. Dean Furlong: No there will be the option like there is now.
- viii. Paul: What about courses that fall under two categories?
 - 1. Dean Furlong: We haven't quite figured that out yet.
- ix. Heba: Can you further explain the quantitative competency?
 - 1. Dean Furlong: We are trying to get rid of the idea that this has to be a math class so we want to leave it open to other types of classes.
- x. Kim: Does that mean the math requirement will be cut out?
 - 1. Dean Furlong: No that is a university requirement, not general education.
- xi. Paul: Have you looked at how this would impact students that would transfer to other schools from here?
 - 1. Dean Furlong: Not specifically but the only classes that would really affect anything would be the first year seminars and possibly the sustainability requirement.
- xii. Motion to support this model that was presented

1. Motion: Paul
2. Second: Kim
3. Debate:
 - a. Kyle: I would like some more information as to what courses will actually be implemented
 - i. Heba: we don't really have any more information right now. This is to try to help it get through faculty senate.
4. Approval
 - a. Approved by voice vote

VII. SUFAC Update

- a. Matt: Kyle, explain what a seg fee is.
 - i. Kyle: it is a fee paid by students to help pay for student organizations
- b. Matt: Yes. It approximates at 6 million dollars a year total that we collect from students. The issue moving forward is that enrollment is pretty much flat because high school enrollment rates are down which means we don't get as much money. We first deal with auxiliary budgets such as Dean of Students, Athletics, Health and Counseling, etc. In the next couple months, we will be hearing these budgets and we need to say no to things this year which hasn't happened because we don't feel empowered enough to do so. But over the last couple years, our reserves have gone down significantly and we are trying our hardest to not go bankrupt as a student body. The chancellor has requested that there be a zero increase but the problem there is that we have already improved an increase for Athletics because their budgets go three years out. I don't want to panic you but I just want to keep you all aware.
- c. Questions:
 - i. Heba: Did we get clarification on what zero means?
 1. Matt: No so we will have to cut other budgets to keep a zero percent increase.
 - ii. Paul: Can we disapprove that increase to Athletics?

1. Kyle: No because they already have contracts with other schools that need to be maintained.
- iii. Chloe: So they don't give you information as to what they use their budgets for exactly?
 1. Matt: Some of them give more than others but yeah a lot of things are not extremely specific.
- iv. Paul: What happens if you vote no on an auxiliary?
 1. Matt: then there will need to be a mediator to work it out and they will have to cut down their budget.
- v. Paul: What I see is that we can try to raise revenue or ask athletics to pay for some more of their own stuff.
 1. Matt: Well the Chancellor has made it clear that we need to maintain division 1 Athletics at all costs.
- vi. Paul: To me, it seems that SUFAC needs to grow a pair.
- vii. Heba: Basically, this year, the goal is to not sink. When we do need to panic, will you let us know?
 1. Matt: Yes
- viii. Franklin: Can it at least be known to the higher ups that we can't approve increases?
 1. Matt: That is the point that we're at right now.
- ix. Paul: To be fair, division 1 Athletics is a big deal and we're trying to appeal to a broad base but we also want well rounded students but I still think we shouldn't give them any more money.
- x. Mark: Do you have a line where this is where we should start to panic?
 1. Matt: We will have to talk about that
- xi. Jeff: The other problem is that athletics major expense is travel unlike many other orgs.
- xii. Becky: Shouldn't we be trying to prevent panic?
 1. Matt: we are

xiii. Paul: Can we do anything else besides raising seg fees to make more money?

1. Matt: No we only make money from student's seg fees

VIII. Reports

a. President – Heba Mohammad

i. Exec retreat went well last week. One main thing is updating the website so if you want to help, contact Megan. The other thing is talking about flexible degree. This was presented at Faculty Senate three weeks ago now and I would like to talk about it with you guys. It was handed down from the governor and it is a different way of obtaining a degree from a UW school. Basically, there will be different competencies that someone who has credits and never finished their degree will be able to take some exams and then get a degree.

ii. Questions:

1. Rebecca: How is this different from adult degree?

a. Heba: they are taking exams in order to get a degree, not taking classes.

2. Nate: So someone who passes all these tests could just get a degree without taking classes?

a. Heba: Basically, yes.

3. Kyle: We can be concerned all we want, but we don't have power to really change this

4. Kim: Just to clarify, their degree would be exactly the same as ours but we actually did the work.

5. Franklin: This dismantles the concept that everyone's work is equal and I feel like it's a political way to appeal to more people that find Scott Walker's policies to be against education

6. Bryan: It has been sold in a positive way to student reps.

7. Stephany: What are our options to change this?

- a. Heba: Basically, the only thing we can do is to help influence faculty senate to approve their resolutions which are 1. Saying they don't approve of this and 2. Sending a representative to serve on the committee that is developing it
 8. Chloe: I guess that my major concern is that people can be good test takers and not know their stuff.
 9. Mark: from the discussions I have heard, you can't fully test out of your degree, but only components of it. Also, about the differences from adult degree is that it will not necessarily be in line with the current semester schedule so someone could take 6 months and another could take 12 months.
 10. Stephany: If they're doing this, why can't they just do adult degree?
 11. Tessa: so we can currently test out of things so it would just be expanded
 - a. Mark: Yes
 12. Nate: We already have ways of testing out of things; the major concern is that the timing of classes is so flexible.
 13. TJ: is there a limit as to how many courses, they would be able to test out of?
 - a. Heba: Not as of right now
 14. **General consensus of not liking the Flexible Degree Plan
- b. Vice President – Bryan Boeck
 - i. I will be going to Student Reps conference this weekend with Chloe. One of the larger issues is UW LaCrosse's resolution that the UW school will choose the representative to the Board of Regents. We all selected a representative but the Governor's office decided to disapprove this person and all of the other nominees and chose their own. LaCrosse is now asking that we all make resolutions to support picking our own representatives.

- c. Speaker – Rebecca Ellenbecker
 - i. The Ally Conference is on October 20th from 10-6 and I recommend everyone going to that.
 - ii. Recruitment is going really well right now as we have a number to approve tonight.
 - iii. This last weekend at Max U, there were a great number of people that would be great for Student Government so encourage them to join.
 - iv. Personally, I am working with the Advancement Office to foster pride in UWGB students, faculty and alumni. We are having a UWGB float in the Holiday Parade and are in the process of planning it out. So you are welcome to attend on Wednesday October 10th from noon to 1 in the Alumni Rooms to help.
- d. RHAA – Andrew Haugen
 - i. Right now we have leadership opportunities open so look into that and encourage others to as well.
- e. Chief Justice – Paul Grover
 - i. We are working on making the election rules more clear. We are also looking into more ways to advertise to the student body on how to get more involved. We were also wondering about if we should have debates again and thinking about changing them to the Christie Theatre. Also, we are also looking for volunteers for the Civic election.
 - 1. Heba: I was looking at election rules in the constitution, and I was wondering if RHAA and SGA elections were being separated because RHAA is supposed to be elected only by on campus students.
 - a. Adrian: We can look into it and ask Mike
 - b. Mark: I think the program may be smart enough that it separates it out automatically but I'm not positive.
- f. Standing Committees
 - i. Environmental Affairs – Daniel MacSwain

1. We had our first committee meeting last week. We established rubric of priorities for utilizing the Sustainability Fund. We want to see projects that create awareness of air and water quality issues that affect the Green Bay area.
 2. On the Multipurpose space, Paul Pinkston wants to meet with Brenda, Glenn and SGA Members before he will move on the project.
 - a. Also, Rick Warpinski expressed interest in having an outlet built to direct stormwater into the Shorewood holding pond so we might have to revise the SGA clause supporting the project.
- ii. Academic Affairs – Franklin Rabideau
1. I met with the Academic Affairs Council and they have eliminated a class. They are also working to create a 1 credit hour definition. I just ask you guys to be aware of this.
 2. I would like to informally declare war on the invisibility of Student Government. People don't know about us and what we do. This event will help give us visibility. This event will be called The Night of Truth and I am inviting all committees to help with this. We're thinking about using Common Grounds for this and students will be allowed to speak constructively about what they see is wrong with the school. Not all the details are worked out right now but I would like to get Senate approval.
 - a. Stephany: We were thinking about doing something similar for Student Court but we were thinking about what about maybe providing a box for people to put their suggestions in.
 - b. Chloe: We were talking about doing boxes as well. Also, possibly creating a social media page for this.
 - i. Franklin: This event could be our preface to those things.
 - c. Tessa: Maybe you could even contact the Fourth Estate to advertise this
 - d. Heba: Will this take away from what you're doing with Academic Affairs? And also, what are you doing with Academic Affairs?
 - i. Franklin: Absolutely not. As a committee, we are working to improve tutoring systems and to foster Phoenix Pride. These are longer term projects though and they will take a considerable amount of work.
- iii. University Governance – Chloe Miller Hansen
1. I was busy today contacting local candidates and there will be forums pretty soon possibly on the 16th or 18th of October. We will also be getting something in the Fourth Estate about this.

- a. Heba: there is an open forum on the 15th, I was wondering if you were involved in that?
 - i. Chloe: No I am not.
 - 2. Also, Wednesday is the first presidential debate so watch it!
 - iv. Union and Dining – Tasha Dykstra
 - 1. Not present
 - v. SUFAC – Matt Balson
 - 1. Senators please join
 - vi. Recreation and Athletics – Melissa Zabkowicz
 - 1. If any of you guys are freshman or sophomores, we need some people for the Kress Advisory Committee
 - 2. Also, there is a thing called GTP Mystery Bus but this year no one signed up for it so please spread the rumor that it is going to a Badger game at the Resch
 - vii. Equality and Diversity – Sergei Sutto
 - 1. I have not been approved quite yet, but I will be getting in contact with my committee members.
 - 2. One of my goals is to get a Women’s Resource Center similar to the LGBTQ Resource Center. I am working with Deborah Rezac to do this.
 - viii. Student Resources – TJ Fabel
 - 1. No report
 - ix. Health and Safety – Jeff Huebner
 - 1. Starting on Monday, our Organ Donor campaign will be kicking off.
 - 2. Last week, I met with Jeff Gross about UPass things
 - 3. Health and Safety University Committee last week- there are a lot more AEDs around campus
- IX. Approval of Equality and Diversity Chair – Sergei Sutto
 - a. I am a senior due to graduate this upcoming May. I am a double major in Political Science and Democracy and Justice Studies with 2 emphases and a Global Studies minor
 - b. Questions:
 - i. Franklin: From observing what the chair has done in the past, how would you wish to implement something different?
 - 1. Sergei: I would really like to get the Women’s Resource Center but I have not worked out any specifics yet.
 - ii. Kim: Do you have any other leadership experience?
 - 1. Sergei: nothing really formal but in high school, I was the treasurer of Student Council. I also travel a lot and have been to over 15 countries.
 - 2. Heba: what languages do you speak?
 - a. Sergei: Russian, Spanish and English. I was actually born in the Former Soviet Union and emigrated here in 2002.
 - iii. Approved by a roll call vote

1. Approved 6-0-0
- X. Approval of Senators
- a. Rebecca Krizan
 - i. Human Bio Major, Theatre minor want to join SGA because it is something new and Franklin wants me to be on his committee
 - ii. Kyle: Do you now have any issues that you would like to address?
 1. Obviously the budget
 - b. Jack Mellberg
 - i. Senior double major in Human Development and Psych. RA in 3314. Intern in the LGBTQ center. I was on Senate a couple years ago but last year was too busy and I would like to be more involved
 - ii. Franklin: Is it true that Heba told you to join?
 1. Yes it is
 - iii. Kyle: Are you sure you're very sociable?
 1. Yes
 - c. Matthew Hart
 - i. Freshman this year, undecided but leaning towards Pre Law. In high school, I was Senior class president, co-president of Students Against Destructive Decisions, went to Badger Boys State
 - ii. Becky: did you dress up just for this?
 1. Yes I did
 - iii. Franklin: what committees are you joining?
 1. Environmental Affairs and probably University Governance
 - d. Colter Joles
 - i. Freshman major in Computer Science with a minor in Business. During High school, I was in 4H, volunteer for AmeriCorps, in Skills USA, FBLA. Favorite color is blue.
 - ii. Becky: which 4H club were you in?
 1. I was in a couple different ones
 - iii. Heba: are there any big issues that you see?
 1. I was thinking about getting more food options on campus and keeping people on campus more.
 2. Kyle: point of information, we can't actually change the food because have a contract with A'Viands
 - e. Shawn Cassellius
 - i. Thinking about being a high school guidance counselor. Transfer from Chippewa Valley Technical College. I love this school being small and that our focus isn't on partying. I like that we can make connections rather than focusing on drinking. I would like to be an RA next year. I was not super involved in high school. I would love to create more of a healthy food plan here.
 - ii. Heba: You should join Union and Dining
 - iii. Kyle: Are there any activities that you would like to bring to campus?
 1. I have just been thinking about joining more rather than creating our own except for possibly a Nerf gun club

- f. Kimmy Schwarzenbart
 - i. Freshman thinking about being a Marketing major. In high school, I was president of NHS and Vice President of Key Club. I've already learned a lot in this meeting and I think students should be more aware of these issues.
- g. Emily Carroll
 - i. Freshman Human Development and Psych major to be a counselor or therapist. In high school I was in NHS, French HS and president of Drama Club. I really like the Night of Truth idea and tutoring and counseling.
- h. Melissa Kiela
 - i. Not present
- i. VOTE FOR APPROVAL
 - i. Motion to cross out of the package, Melissa Kiela
 - 1. Approved by voice vote
 - ii. Approval
 - 1. Package approved 6-0-0
- XI. Announcements
 - a. Mark: Just so you all know, there are brownies in the back for all of you.
 - b. Heba: Don't forget Dan's movie which started at 7.
- XII. Adjournment at 7:39