Student Senate meeting minutes for 02/25/2008

Sara Duginske  Joe Tyrrell  Nick Cibula
President  Student Speaker  Vice President

The regular bi-weekly meeting of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Student Senate was called to order at 5:05 P.M. in MAC-204 with Student Speaker Joe Tyrrell leading the meeting.

Roll Call – See Final Page

The Pledge of Allegiance

Reports

Presidential Report
Sara Duginske

(INsert the report Here)

Vice Presidential Report
Nick Cibula

We have been outreaching to NWTC and St. Norberts to decide a shuttle route to all the students. We have been deciding on places to stop and have put a plan to the city for a dollar amount. Sara said St. Norberts and NWTC will be putting money towards the plan as well. Sara said UWGB would not be putting student money towards it but Environmental funds. Thursday SGA is presenting the budget and there will be D-Day on Saturday. At the next meeting, SUFAC will decide the SUF rate. I have been updating my blog, so please check it out. The last thing is that I would like to encourage more activity among the senators.

Senate Speaker Report
Joe Tyrrell

It is very important that senators know what is going on and to know what is being voted on.

Good Times Programming Report

There are a few programs coming up, such as a lecture on depression. There will be a free screening of Bachelor Party 2 soon at the Christie. Jamie said applications are due today for the Exec board.
Academic Affairs Report  
*Steven Schultz*

We expanded the amount of space on the personal drive from 300mb to 500mb. It is the M drive.

Environmental Affairs Report  
*Crystal Osman*

(INSERT REPORT HERE)

Health and Safety Report  
*Joel Diny*

I am disappointed by Senate’s actions today because the recommendations have been followed that were made by Senate. I have been in my office a lot and I really wish the senators could have come and talked out concerns with me. I met with Randy Christopherson and there have been cuts to student staff.

SUFAC Report  
*Brad Zuleger*

D-Day is March 1st, this Saturday. No other problems.

University Governance Report  
*Ricky Staley*

No report.

Union and Dining Report  
*Crystal Jushka*

There is a meeting tomorrow.

Equality and Diversity Report  
*Andrei Varney*

No report.

Athletics Report  
*Kervin Blanke*

I have been working with the Athletic Director of the Kress to develop a committee with many different people to develop a plan to further the Kress. Club sports will be possible in the future.

New Business

a. FERPA - Joe asked if anyone had any questions or discussion regarding FERPA. Mike said there was a draft of a policy given at the last meeting. Mike said it specifies the circumstances in which student information can be given out to other parties, such as family. Mike said it regards health records, academic records as well as court records. Mike said FERPA protects your records from being sent out and also explains situations when the records will be released without your consent. Sara said the senators have to know this policy and Senate can’t vote on it until it does.

b. Rick Warpinski - Rick handed out copies of his presentation. Rick said it will be about the remodeling and expansion of the Union. Rick said he is the director of the University Union and is here to share recent events. Rick said in two months every major component of the Union’s renovation will be completed. Rick said ten years ago there was a plan to update the Union. Rick said there was a lot of surveys
handed out, meetings had and the plan for renovation came to fruition. Rick said a lot of SGA involvement was had and alleviated the process. Rick said architects were selected and a final plan was developed by November of 2006. Rick said the bid for the contract went out to update the Union. Rick said the new and remodeled facility will address the following: updated dining possibilities on both levels and will be the first significant improvement since 1977, student activity core from the Niagara rooms will create an integrated space to breathe new life into the University Union. Rick said there will be updated club capabilities to serve as the hub of the student hang out. Rick said there will be a new bookstore, new UTIC home, Credit Union, as well as booth space for people watching. Rick said the overall feel of the union will be deinstitutionalized with many more colors and lounges. Rick said funding has come from large sources 3.8 student fees, 1.8 bookstore and .6 from student resource accounts??? Check the hand out. Rick said the Phoenix Club was gutted and remodeled by last Fall. Rick said the Grill and Freshens were moved to the lower lobby. Rick said the new marketplace was completed except for Ultimate Baja. Rick said in late May, Taco Bell blocked the franchise option. Rick said the revised plan was estimated at a cost for less than $35,000. Rick said in late May it will be complete. Rick said soon to come will be the updated SGA features as well as the credit union, library, UTIC, lobby and expanded dining seating. Rick said he will answer any questions. Andrei asked if all students will get this information. Rick said it will be on the website. Andrei asked why it can’t be emailed to all students. Rick said it will be emphasized in the email to the person who sends them out. Tania asked in general, when everything will be open. Rick said the latest date of completion is April 24th, 2008 which does not include the West end of the Marketplace. Rick said the better part of the month of May will be needed for the Phoenix Bookstore can move in. Rick said Memorial Day weekend, the Union will have the Credit Union move in. Joel asked what will happen to the vacant bookstore space. Rick said he doesn’t know as that doesn’t have anything to do with the University Union. Rick said he deals with the Garden Café but nothing else. Edward asked if students were heading to Rose Hall or Theatre Hall, students have to go down by the lower level instead of the second level, so when will that be open. Rick said when all other services are open. Rick said that was a problem when doing the construction. Joe asked what is being done to address the ventilation problem of Grill 155. Rick said a fire alarm goes off a lot, probably close to 15 times around the grill and it is related to the exhaust from a grill. Rick
said the issue comes down to a big fan up on the roof and it appears the fan is undersized. Rick said the engineers are working with the architects to figure out the problem. Rick said an overhead door to Freshens has been broken as well. Rick said there is not enough air for the fan to exhaust the smoke out of the 150 foot space available. Rick said he can make arrangements to give an SGA walkthrough of the construction site. Rick said the whole building is currently wireless but if students run into problems just let a Union representative know.

c. Smoking Referendum - Casey made a motion to amend agenda item c to Smoking Policy referendum. Chris seconded. Edward called the question. Casey called acclamation. Joel said today the senators will vote on whether this should be on the Spring ballot. Joel said there can be amendments made at this time to the referendum. Joel read the amendment. Joel said regarding enforcement, Public Safety is short staffed and cannot enforce this on its own. Joel asked whether or not the senators think it should go forward to the ballot. Andrei said he has quite a few issues with the referendum. Andrei said it is not the job of the University to help students quit smoking. Joel said Health Services help students. Andrei said if the designated smoking areas haven’t been determined yet, how can students vote. Joel said the area will be 30 feet from any door. Joel said there are already kind of designated smoking areas. Joel said nothing can be done until the policy is passed. Andrei asked if designated smoking areas will be open before the election. Joel said no. Andrei said the smoke patrol needs to be explained. Andrei said voters will not vote on a whole page referendum. Sara said an annotated version will be on the ballots. Ricky asked if covered areas have been discussed for smoking areas. Joel said senate can amend the referendum. Andrei asked what fees will be paid to build the shelters. Shawn asked how can tickets be fairly enforced. Shawn said ticket price should be talked about. Joel said last semester student senate voted on the enforcement section of the referendum. Sara said there is a legal counsel at UWGB and she will check that everything is legal. Sara said this is an advisory policy of what students want. Sara said it will be picked apart later. Daniel said the idea is great but enforcing is horrible. Daniel asked how SGA will create a smoke patrol. Joel said there is money for an administrative assistant that can go towards creating the smoke patrol and paying it. Joel said he is working together with the President and VP. Joel said he wished people would have talked to him about this earlier but it is great everyone has questions now. Daniel said people can pick at this and get around the rules. Tim said the enforcement part has been changed since Senate
voted on it. Tim said there is no
enforcement plan picked out so it
is irresponsible to put it on the
ballot. Tim said Senate has no
idea if anyone is even going to
want to volunteer to enforce the
policy. Andrei said it is not
coherent as written because
everything hasn’t been worked
out. Andrei said a resolution
should be passed to guide the
administration to create a
Smoking Policy. Sara said she
wants the students to decide.
Andrei said Joel should go back
to legal counsel to find out the
specifics. Sara said the date has
passed to put referendums on the
ballot. Sara said tonight is the
final night. Nick said there really
is nothing set in stone with
enforcement so even if
something is decided that doesn’t
mean that is what will happen.
Nick added that visitors will not
be aware of this policy. Sara said
there will be signage. Sara said
there isn’t the manpower to
enforce this policy. Sara said
adding the enforcement part is
just a scare tactic. Joe said the
hope is that people will be
enticed or encouraged to go
smoke in a comfortable area so
enforcement isn’t really a
problem. Josh asked if
enforcement can be stricken from
the referendum. Josh said he
agrees with the referendum
except the enforcement. Tania
said the enforcement allows SGA
to take money away from
students as well as the creation of
a student organization so is that
really fair. Tania said the other
thing is that because the smoking
areas are not really considered.
Joel brought up a power point of
a map. Joel said Facilities
Management decides the
smoking areas with at least 1
designated area for smoking per
building. Joel said Facilities
Management already has the ash
trays and this gives them a
chance to consolidate ash tray
areas. Ryan said that the senate
should motion to amend the
election rules for referendums
because the date has been passed.
Daniel said if tonight is the only
night to vote doesn’t that say
something about rushing. Ryan
added that it could be an advisory
referendum. Joel said he hasn’t
rushed this because it has been
done since the beginning of the
year. Daniel said the enforcement
should be scrapped. Joel said
someone has to make a motion.
Edward said that 30 feet from the
paths is not being enforced right
now. Joel said the ash trays will
be on the walkway but not by the
doors. Joel said it will be one
area per building. Edward said
the enforcement is crucial
because without it, it is a waste
of time. Mike said first of all, this
is not a ban of smoking but a
reduction in smoking areas. Joel
said this is a step in the right
direction. Joe said if anyone had
questions that were not asked, do
so now. Josh said things need to
be worked out such as placement
and areas. Joel said right now it
is just at the suggestion stage.
Joel said Facilities Management
has guidelines it must follow. Joe
said there have been two open
forums and there have been a lot
of times for senators to input information into the referendum and it is not Joel’s fault people have not come forward. Mike said he thinks there is a policy and referendum confusion. Mike said Senate wants to ask students if areas of smoking should be reduced. Mike said perhaps that should be the subject of the referendum. Andy said input has been lacking so maybe that shows what students think. Andy said it shows that students don’t keep it as a big issue. Joel said originally it was a ban and because of student interest it has been knocked down to designated areas. Joel said the legislative branch is here to make the laws and Senate has to do that. Tim said the time limit has to be extended before it can be voted on. Tim made a motion to amend the election rules to extend the time limit to 90 days to allow the referendum on the ballot. Edward seconded. Tania said late January was the perfect time to put this through and now it is way passed due. Tania said this is completely irresponsible. Tim called the question. Motion failed 4-6-5. Joel said he was appreciative and had nothing to say.

d. Student Court Election Rules - Ryan said the fact that there will be more than 2 tickets running so that is a problem. Ryan said it is a representational issue. Ryan said 20% of the population voted last year. Ryan said if there are 5 tickets distributed evenly, someone will win 20% of the vote. Ryan said someone will be elected with 5% of the entire student population. Ryan said the court has 3 options. Ryan said it can stay the same, a 40% threshold can be produced or a primary. Ryan said 40% of those who have voted would be the threshold. Mike said the 40% is just a number. Mike said there could be a critical number of votes to be truly elected. Edward said option B is attractive. Ryan said he is looking to senate for a decision on this. Edward said option A will be too much arguing. Edward said option C isn’t attractive because students won’t vote twice. Andy said a primary would be the best option, even though people don’t vote twice, but if there are enough people that would be the best option. Andy said it would be too hard with this many people. Ryan said election rules will be heavily enforced. Tim asked if voting will take place on this issue. Mike said the 40% is derived from 1,000 students. Mike said the winners had roughly 530 votes. Ryan said we wouldn’t want someone elected with 100 votes. Edward made a motion to allow the courts decide what is best. Tania seconded. Lynsy called the question. Motion passed 14-0-0. Ryan added there will be a decision by Friday. Ryan said by Friday the election materials will be active online as well as a master copy to photocopy in the SGA suites.

e. Approval of New Senators - Natalie Froehlich said she is an undecided freshman who wants to get involved. Andy Kozicki
said he is a pharmacy major who wants to get active in decision making. Andy made a motion to package the senators. Lynsy seconded. Chris called the question. Chris called acclamation. Edward made a motion to approve the senators. Ryan seconded. Casey asked if the applicants had leadership experience. Andy said he was the class president and student body president in high school. Motion passed 14-0-0.

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Announcements

I need to see the new senators and Tim as well. Kervin, Andy, Joel and Ryan as well.

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Adjournment

The Senate meeting was adjourned at 6:33 P.M. by Senate Speaker Joe Tyrrell.

These fabulous minutes were submitted by

Joy Hanneman