UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-RIVER FALLS
STUDENT ASSOCIATION STUDENT SENATE MINUTES
Of Tuesday, February 22, 2005

I. **Call to order:** The UW-River Falls Student Association Student Senate was called to order by Student Senate President Matthew Schuelke at 7:03 pm in the Regents Room of the Hagestad Student Center.

II. **Members Present:** Lindsey Burdick, Nicholas Cluppert, Emilee Driscoll, Joe Eggers, Adam Koski, Katy Leisch, Louis Muench, Matthew Schuelke, Cali Smithback, Georgia Wagner, Jeremy Zitzow

III. **Members Absent:** Kendra Plant (E)

Board Chairs Present: **LDPB:** Carolyn Schenk
F & F: Nick Sirek

Guests: Eric Quade (Student Voice), Miriam Huffman (Student Senate Advisor), Vicki Hajewski (Student Senate Advisor), Mary Halada (Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration)

IV. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes were approved.

Moved By: Muench
Seconded By: Cluppert

Guest Speaker: Mary Halada

- Moved to enter into closed session
  Moved By: Wagner
  Seconded By: Koski
- Discussion
- Moved to enter into open session
  Moved By: Zitzow
  Seconded By: Eggers

Open Forum:

VII. **Shared Governance Reports:**

- Motion to limit Director Reports to 1 minute each
  Moved By: Eggers
  Seconded By: Cluppert

A. United States Student Association (USSA) –
B. United Council (UC) – February General Assembly: UC SPC passed

C. Student Senate Officers-

Shared Governance Director – Matt will be delegating Shared Governance Committee duties, as well as appointing committee members, until there is interest in the position.

Student Affairs and Academic Services Director- Nick Cluppert: Student survey dates: February 14-February 18. Faculty Senate will be discussing +/- grading policy; Georgia will attend, Capital Lobby Day in Madison on Thursday, February 24.

Legislative Affairs Director- Joe Eggers: Capital Lobby-Day in Madison on Thursday, February 24, . Joint lobbying efforts with Superior, Eau Claire, Stout still in discussion.
Legislator Open forum: February 28 at 11:00am-1:00pm

Finance Director - Adam Koski: Composing contact list for Capital Lobby Day, Seg Fees motion will be re-introduced on March 1, due to tabling time-line.

Diversity Issues Director – Georgia Wagner: Diversity recognition reception details, poster series currently populating campus. **Building Unity Conference: March 4-6**; roughly 55 students committed. African American Alliance is celebrating Black History Month with move nights, soul food night, open mike night, and an educational performance. Unity in the Community is scheduled for April 27.

Women's Initiatives Director- Kendra Plant: No Report

Parliamentarian / Ethics Chair - Jeremy Zitzow:

Vice President - Emilee Driscoll: Meeting on Wednesday at 4:00pm with Spring Elections Committee to review timeline and promotions. Also, meeting on Wednesday at 4:00pm with the Structural Planning Committee. Meeting to review Constituency-based Senate proposal with LDPB and Diversity Awareness delegate, Cali attended the Student Athlete Advisory Board to introduce proposal and address questions. Will be attending Diversity Awareness Committee on Tuesday at 5:30pm and Panhellenic on Wednesday at 5:00pm, IFC meeting TBD.
The office hours session is currently: February 23 –March 2

President - Matt Schuelke: Deadline for 36.09(5) revisions: February 25. UW-System Meeting with Cora Merit on Friday, March 4.

D. Leadership Development and Programming Board Chair – Carolyn Schenk: Training session assessments, annual budgets.

Facilities and Fees Board Chair – Nick Sireck: Deadline for 36.09(5) revisions extended to Tuesday, March 15.
Budget hearings for F&F allocation process this week. F&F Budget Allocation Proposal to Senate: March 8 or 15.

F. Other:
Elections Committee: Reviewing elections process, timeline and promotions.

Committee Meeting Times:

Shared Gov:
SAAS: Tuesdays @5:15pm
Leg: Thursdays @ 6:00pm
Finance:
Diversity: Mondays @ 3:40pm
Women's:

VIII. University Committee Reports:

IX. Old Business:

SS0405037

Whereas the Student Senate Ad-hoc Structural Planning Committee has found a need to adapt the formation of the Student Senate, and

Whereas some of the language of the Student Association Constitution is vague, antiquated, or conflicting with other governing documents therefore

Be it resolved that the Student Senate approve the following changes to the River Falls Student Association Constitution.

PREAMBLE

We also recognize the student as to make demands upon the institution to meet his*/her* needs as a consumer.

ARICLE III. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH SECTION 2. Membership

The membership of the Student Senate of the River Falls Student Association will be limited to ~~duly elected~~ representatives of the River Falls Student Association *as determined by the Election Rules*. The Student Senate shall consist of 25 members: ~~21~~ *22* will be elected in *a* ~~an all-school~~ Spring Election. The remaining ~~four~~ *three* shall be First Year Student Representatives to be elected in the fall.

SECTION 3. Time in Office

Student Senators shall be elected at least ~~5~~ *3* weeks before the start of finals week, Spring Semester ~~in an all-school election~~.

SECTION 7. Qualifications

Maintaining a *minimum* cumulative GPA of 2.25.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS SECTION 1.

The *highest* officers of the Student Senate shall be a President *and* Vice President ~~and Treasurer~~.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS SECTION 2.

The President shall call special meetings when he*/she* deems necessary ~~of~~ at the request of six members *or more* of the Student Senate.

ARTICLE IX. ELECTIONS SECTION 1.

~~All school elections shall be by secret ballot only.~~ *Elections shall be conducted according to the Election Rules*

SECTION 2. ~~The elections must be supervised by members of eh Student Senate, or by their appointed representatives, and in accordance with the Rules to Govern Elections.~~
The Elections Committee or the Student Organizations electing a representative as stated in the Election Rules shall conduct the elections

~~SECTION 3. Any student may witness the tabulation of the results.~~

(Original wording ~~struck out~~, *italics* new things)

This motion is effective immediately.

Moved By: Adam Koski

Seconded By: Emilee Driscoll

Motion SS0405037 Withdrawn

SS0405038

Whereas the Student Senate Ad-hoc Structural Planning Committee has found a need to adapt the formation of the Student Senate, and

Whereas some of the language of the Student Association Bylaws is vague, antiquated, or conflicting with other governing documents, therefore

Be it resolved that the Student Senate approve the following changes to the Student Association Bylaws.

Student Senate ARTICLE I. Membership
Section A. The Student Association Student Senate will consist of 25 students ~~elected from the student body at large~~ of which three will be first year students.
Section B. Elections for ~~the~~ 22~~-at large~~ *of the* positions for Student Association Student Senators will be held according to the timeline in the Student Association Elections Rules.

(Original wording ~~struck out~~, *italics* new things)

This motion is effective immediately.

Moved By: Adam Koski

Seconded By: Emilee Driscoll
Motion SS0405038 Withdrawn

SS0405039

Whereas the Student Senate Ad-hoc Structural Planning Committee has found a need to adapt the formation of the Student Senate, and

Whereas it is the responsibility of the Finance Committee to make changes to the Student Association Election Rules when they are no longer adequate, therefore

Be it resolved that the Student Senate approve the following changes to the Student Association Election Rules.

ARTICLE 2: Definitions
Section F: Filtered Representation
An election in which the members of each College (i.e. CAFES, CAS, CBE and CEPS) elect a student amongst themselves to serve as their representation in the Student Association Student Senate.

Section G: Constituent-Based Representatives
An election in which members of Student Organizations (i.e. the Area Councils, IFC and Panhellenic, Diversity Awareness Committee, and Student Athtletic Advisory Board) elect a student/s to serve as their representation in the Student Association Student Senate.

ARTICLE 3: Election Rules

Section A. Nomination
1. Any student currently enrolled *with a minimum of 9 credits* at the University of Wisconsin River maintaining a *minimum of* 2.25 cumulative GPA may be a candidate for a seat on Student Association Student Senate *at-large or filtered for his/her college*, Student Association Student Senate President, *and/*or Vice President.
2. In order to have a candidate's name placed on the Student Association Student Senate *at large* ballot, the candidate must collect the signatures of 50 currently enrolled students. A student may be on ~~both ballots~~ *any ballot he/she is qualified for* the Student Association Student Senate President and/or Vice President with only 100 signatures.
3. ~~All signatures must be collected on a form provided at the Leadership Center's Front desk.~~ *A candidate for the filtered representative Student Senator must collect 50 signatures of currently enrolled students from his/her college. The candidate may also be on the other ballots with only 100 signatures if so wished.*
4. *All signatures must be collected on a form provided at the Leadership Center's Front desk.* A student may sign more than one petition but may only sign each candidate's petition once.
9. It is the responsibility of the Area Councils, IFC and Panhellenic, Diversity Awareness Committee, and Student Athlete Advisory Board to nominate students meeting the criteria in ARTICLE III. Section A. 1.

Section B. Write-in Candidates
1. Any student ~~currently enrolled at the University of Wisconsin River Falls and in good academic standing according to the registrar's office~~ meeting the criteria in Section A. 1. may be a write-in candidate for a seat on Student Association Student Senate *at large*, Student Association Student Senate President, *and/*or Vice President.

2. ~~Write-in candidate like all other candidates, must abide by the rules contained in this document.~~ *A student may be a write-in candidate for the filtered representative Student Senator by meeting the criteria in ARTICLE III. Section A. 1. and be currently enrolled student of that college.*
3. *Write-in candidate like all other candidates, must abide by the rules contained in this document.* Write-in candidates, who win a primary election, will have their names automatically placed on the general election ballot.
4. A write-in candidate must receive at least ~~ten~~ *twenty-five* votes on the general election in order to obtain a seat on the Student Association Student Senate.
SECTION D. Referendums
2. (c) Upon the receipt of a referendum, the Student Association Student Senate Ethics Chair and Vice ~~Chair~~ *President* will review and approve the referendum request. If the referendum language is not appropriate to accomplish what would like to be accomplished, the *Ethics* Chair and Vice ~~Chair~~ *President* may advise the author reword the referendum language. In addition, if the approval of the referendum by the Student Association would result in the Student Association, University of Wisconsin River Falls, University of Wisconsin System, and/or State of Wisconsin violating federal, state, local laws, or university regulations, the *Ethics* Chair and Vice ~~Chair~~ *President* may deny the referendum request.

ARTICLE 4
Section A.
?
Section C. General *and Special* Elections
1. General elections will be held to elect ~~20~~ 11 at-large members of the Student Association Student Senate, *4 filtered members of the Student Association Student Senate,* the Student Association Student Senate President, and Vice President, and approve any referendums ~~properly advanced by the Student Association's governing documents.~~ *necessary. Special election will be held as necessary to consider referendums properly advanced by the Student Association Student Senate or members of the Student Association.*

Section D. ~~Special~~ *Constituent-Based Elections*
1. ~~Special election will be held as necessary to consider referendums properly advanced by the Student Association Student Senate or members of the Student Association.~~ *Constituent-Based Elections will be held to elect 5 members of the Student Association Student Senate. The two Area Councils will each elect 1 Senator as a Resident Hall representative. The IFC and Panhellenic will elect 1 Senator as a Greek Organization representative. The LDPB Diversity Awareness Committee will elect 1 Senator as a Diversity Organization representative. The Student Athletic Advisory Board will elect 1 Senator as a Athletics representative.*
2. The Constituent-Based Elections will be conducted by the Student Organizations in a democratic and ethical manner and the results will be given to the Elections Committee within the timeline.
3. Any/all the Student Organizations may substitute the constituent-based elections with some other appropriate means of selection of a representative if the Student Organizations have prior approval for that Election Cycle by the Elections Committee.
Section E. Ballot
Category of Representatives i.e. Student At-Large, *Student Filtered,* Student Association Student Senate President or Vice President

(Original wording ~~struck out~~, *italics* new things)

This motion is effective immediately.

Moved By: Adam Koski

Seconded By: Emilee Driscoll
Motion SS0405039 Withdrawn

X. New Business

SS0405041

Whereas, at the February GA at the University of Wisconsin – Parkside there was a resolution (AA 0205-01) concerning referendum for United Council; and

Whereas, currently we have referendum every two years to renew our campus' membership within United Council; and

Whereas, if a change would be made it would be to have referendum on a campus' membership to every four years; and

Whereas, the Board of Regents is going to have to approve this recommendation; and

Whereas, if this would pass the Board of Regents it would greatly reduce the students voice; and

Whereas, some students may not even get to vote on United Council membership if this change would take effect; and

Whereas, this greatly reduces United Council's face-to-face contact with students on each campus; and

Whereas, this makes United Council less accountable to the students; therefore

Be it resolved, that the University of Wisconsin – River Falls Student Association oppose the United Council's request that the Board of Regents change their policy on the Mandatory Refundable Fee (MRF) to extend the required referendum from every two years to every four

years; and

Be it finally resolved, that this resolution be forward on to the Board of Regents and United Council Staff.

Moved By: Nicholas Cluppert
Seconded By: Joe Eggers
Motion SS0405041 Passed.

SS0405042
Whereas, Rep. Rob Kreibich (R-Eau Claire) has authored a bill which would add a second student to the Board of Regents; and

Whereas, the second student regent would be a non-traditional student; and

Whereas, there was a similar bill in the last legislative session that passed the State Senate and the Assembly Colleges and Universities Committee, but died on the Assembly floor; and

Whereas, we feel that a second student regent will be beneficial to the Board of Regents; and

Whereas, United Council changed their position at the February General Assembly to support having any student, traditional or non-traditional, undergraduate or graduate; and

Whereas, the University of Wisconsin – River Falls Student Association Student Senate realizes that this could have a negative backfire effect on the bill; therefore

Be it resolved, that the University of Wisconsin – River Falls Student Association Student Senate oppose a change to this bill, and supports the bill as having the second student regent as a non-traditional student; and

Be it further resolved, that this resolution get passed on to Senator Harsdorf, Representative Rhoades, and Representative Kreibich.

Moved By: Nicholas Cluppert
Second By: Lindsey Burdick
Motion SS0405042 Passed.

SS0405043

Whereas, in the current and previous biennial budget, UW students could see a tuition increase of up to 51%, and

Whereas, there is no measure to ensure that the cost of education maintains affordable to every person, and

Whereas, Representative Rob Kreibich has authored legislation that ensures that tuition increase only at 3% per year, and

Whereas, currently inflation is roughly 3%, and

Whereas, a 3% tuition increase would be much easier for students and families to afford,

Therefore be it resolved, that the Student Association Student Senate pledge to work closely with Representative Kreibich with this bill,
Be it further resolved, a copy of this motion shall be sent to Representative Kreibich and Senator Harsdorf.

Moved by: Joe Eggers
Second by Nicholas Cluppert
Motion SS0405043 Passed.

SS0405044

Whereas, the budget will be the largest task before the Student Senate, and
Whereas, senators will be forced to answer questions dealing with the budget and its effect on River Falls, and
Whereas, a media message for Senate to adopt would allow for senators to easily answer question regarding the budget,
Therefore be it resolve that the Student Association Student Senate pass the following media message regarding the budget for the UW System:

Problem:

There is not enough money to fund financial aid through the second year. Students will be forced to dig deeper in their pockets to fund their education, if they can do so at all. Tuition increases threaten to hurt the likelihood of students coming to school.

Solution:

UWRF's tuition must remain affordable. Tuition increases must remain in check; under 5%. In order to ensure that UWRF as well as other college students from tuition increases, it is the state's obligation to provide financial aid that increases at the same dollar amount as tuition. They cannot continue to jeopardize the state's future with increasing tuition prices without continuing to increase financial aid.

Action:

The Legislature must realize that the state budget cannot be balanced on the backs of students. Wisconsin needs people who champion for college to protect the future of Wisconsin.

Moved by: Joe Eggers
Second: Nicholas Cluppert
Motion SS0405044 Passed.

SS0405045

Whereas, at the Parkside General Assembly, United Council took a stance to work for campaign finance reform, and

Whereas, fair and clean elections would allow more women and minorities the ability to run for political office, and

Whereas, fair and clean elections would allow everyone to have an equal voice in politics, and

Whereas, a more equal voice in politics would allow students to have a bigger voice in issues that directly affect students,

Therefore be it resolved, the River Falls Student Association Student Senate work to have

campaign finance reform legislation passed in Wisconsin,

Be it further resolved the River Falls Student Association Student Senate commit to the belief in fair and clean elections.

Moved By: Kendra Plant
Seconded By: Joe Eggers
Motion SS0405045 Passed.

SS0405046

Whereas, $26 million of Student money was taken away from auxiliary funds during the previous budget cycle, and

Whereas, this money is specifically meant for student purposes, rather than funding education, and

Whereas, Senator Sheila Harsdorf and Representative Rob Kreibich have authored legislation to make future auxiliary raids illegal,

Be it resolved that the Student Association Student Senate pledge support to Senator Harsdorf and Representative Kreibich to ensure that there will not be another auxiliary raid.

Moved By: Joe Eggers
Seconded By: Nicholas Cluppert
Motion SS0405046 Passed

SS0405047

Whereas, at the August Board of Regents, United Council proposed a 4.2% increase in tuition, and

Whereas, Student Senate has been lobbying since that time for a tuition increase under 5%, and

Whereas, at the Parkside General Assembly, United Council took a stance on the budget that includes lobbying for a tuition freeze, and

Whereas, despite this action being vetoed, some campuses will continue to lobby for a tuition freeze,

Therefore be it resolved, the River Falls Student Association Student Senate be opposed to any tuition freeze,

Be it further resolved, a copy of this motion be forwarded on to Senator Harsdorf and Representative Kreibich as well as all members of the Joint Finance Committee.

Moved By: Joe Eggers
Seconded By: Nicholas Cluppert
Motion SS0405047 Passed.

SS0405048

Whereas, there is currently no legislation that includes alcohol as an intoxicant, and

Whereas, women who are under the influence of alcohol are unable to receive any justice for the crimes committed against them, and

Whereas, the United Council's Women's Issue Committee has passed a motion seeking to ensure alcohol is labeled as an intoxicant,

Therefore be it resolved that the River Falls Student Association Student Senate believe that alcohol is an intoxicant,

Be it further resolved that that the Student Association Student Senate work to ensure that alcohol becomes recognized as an intoxicant.

Moved By: Kendra Plant
Seconded By: Joe Eggers
Motion SS0405048 Tabled until Tuesday, March 1, 2005

SS0405049

Whereas, nearly half of the student population of UWRF is from Minnesota, and

Whereas, forcing students not originally from Wisconsin to obtain a Wisconsin driver's license is unfair to those student's who do not live in Wisconsin year round, and

Whereas, it is only fair to allow students not from Wisconsin to have the ability to vote in local elections because students live in River Falls nine months of the year,

Therefore be it resolved, the Student Association Student Senate oppose any legislation forcing non-Wisconsin residents to relinquish their respective state's driver's license in order to obtain a Wisconsin license in order to participate in a basic right which is the ability to vote,

Be it further resolved, a copy of this motion shall be sent to Senators Sheila Harsdorf and Joe Leibham, Representative Kitty Rhoades as well as Governor Doyle.

Moved By: Joe Eggers
Seconded By: Katy Leisch
Motion SS0405049 Passed.

SS0405050

Whereas, the proposed biennial budget from Governor Doyle proposes approximately 200 administrative positions to be eliminated; and

Whereas, there is the potential for these administrative position to include student service oriented positions; and

Whereas, the cutting of these 200 positions has the potential to have a detrimental effect on student's education; therefore

Be it resolved, that the Student Association Student Senate work to ensure that the elimination of 200 administrative positions does not come at the expense of students.

Moved By: Nicholas Cluppert
Second By: Joe Eggers

Motion SS0405050 Passed.

SS0405051

Whereas, it is the duty of Student Association Student Senate to appoint people to committees, Therefore be it resolved that the Student Association Student Senate move to appoint Nicholas Siergie to the Recreation and Facilities' Recreation Committee.

Moved by: Kendra Plant
Second: Joe Eggers

Motion SS0405051 Passed

SS0405052
(Introduction Only)

Whereas, an assessment of the UW-River Falls Student Association Student Senate, by the Ad-Hoc Structural Planning Committee, made apparent a necessity for a structural change of the Senate composition, and

Whereas, the adoption of the Ad-Hoc Structural Planning Committee proposal will encourage improved networking with campus communities and individuals, as well as place a higher responsibility on students for the direction of the UW-River Falls Student Association Student Senate, and

Therefore Be it resolved, that the UW-River Falls Student Association Student Senate adopt the recommended constituency-based Student Association Student Senate proposal, as follows, un the subsequent conditions:

All Campus Election:
President
Vice-President
10 At-Large Student Senators
4 First Year Student Senators

Filtered Election:
4 Representatives from Colleges, 1 elected from each respective college

Confirmed Election:
2 Residence Hall Representatives, appointed from each Area Council
1 Greek Organization Representative, appointed from Panhellenic / Inter-Fraternity Council
1 Diversity Organization Representative, appointed from the LDPB Diversity Awareness Committee
1 Athletic Representative, appointed from the Student Athlete Advisory Board

Moved By: Emilee Driscoll
Seconded By: Emilee Driscoll

XI. Additional Items and Announcements: Budget Forum: Monday, February 28 at 11:00am – 1:00pm in Rodli 131. United Council Madison Lobby-Day Thursday, February 24!

XII. **Adjournment:** The UW-River Falls Student Association Student Senate was adjourned at 8:40pm

Moved By: Sirek
Seconded By: Cluppert

The next meeting of Student Association Student Senate will be held on Tuesday, February 22, 2005 in the Regents Room of the Hagestad Student Center