Student Government Association of the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point

Agenda for Thursday, May 11th, 2023

Dreyfus University Center Legacy Room, 6:15pm

Transfer of Powers

I. Call to Order
   a. 6:15 PM
II. Pledge of Allegiance
III. Indigenous Land Recognition Statement
IV. Roll Call
   a. 12-4
   b. Absent: Johnson, Minsaas, Schiedermayer, Huff
V. Approval of the Agenda
   a. Nygren/McKenzie
      i. Approved voice vote
VI. Approval of the Minutes
   a. McCoy/McKenzie
      i. Approved voice vote
VII. Moment of Silence for Lost Students
VIII. Dean of Students Update
   a. Troy Seppelt: Due to the large number of things to get done tonight, all I have to say is thank you for your service and for your care to both the students and the faculty and staff here on campus. Graduates and returning students, please remember, I am still your dean of student. If you need something, please let me know, and I will try and help you the best I can.
   b. CC Schiedermayer joins and is added to quorum
      i. Quorum reset: 13-3
IX. Diversity Organization Update
X. Student Organization Update
XI. Public Forum for Non-Agenda Items (5 min. each)
XII. New Business
XIII. Old Business
   a. Implementation Plan
      i. McKenzie/Erola
      1. Speaker Scheder: Just a reminder, the biggest thing we added was the Differential Tuition section and we will probably be signing it next week.
      2. Director Koenig: I think it looks great. I am happy we were able to take the time to sit down with admin and come up with a good plan here. I think the words, language and ideas are very comprehensive.
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3. McKenzie: realizing that having DT in the implementation plan is a very good thing to have going into the next session.
   a. Roll call vote:
      i. Johnson – Abstain
      ii. McCoy – Aye
      iii. Minsaas – Abstain
      iv. Rivera-Pacheco – Aye
      v. DeAngelis – Aye
      vi. Erola – Aye
      vii. Witt – Aye
      viii. Xiong – Aye
      ix. Zanon – Aye
      x. Giessen – Aye
      xi. McKenzie – Aye
      xii. Scheder – Aye
      xiii. Schiedermayer – Aye
      xiv. Ashley – Aye
      xv. Huff – Abstain
      xvi. Nygren Aye
   1. Passes 13-0-3

XIV. Transfer of Powers Ceremony
   a. Head Justice Garrigan: I first ask that the President, President Elect, Vice President and Vice President Elect to come up here with your mallets as well. For those who do not know, this a symbolic ceremony that we do every year to start off the next session and our next session is the 55th session. With that I will welcome you all to the 55th session as I hand it over to Vice President Waite. Vice President Waite would you please explain the equalizer.
   b. Vice President Waite: The equalizer represents the responsibility to make sure that the voice of both the students and the student body is heard. Chairing requires you to maintain your composure as you monitor and equalize the ideas being shared on the Senate floor and this mallet is a representation of that. This is not an easy task as the group who make up SGA are unique individuals with lots of unique opinions. But it is very rewarding to facilitate the conversation led by the student leaders on this campus and I have faith that you, Ashley, will remember what this mallet represents and serve the students wonderfully. So I will give this mallet to you.
c. President Beyersdorf: I would like to present Ben Koenig, President Elect, the weight of authority. This massive gavel is quite heavier than I expected for the first time it was given to me last year. However, the weight of authority is to resemble the amount of power and responsibility that is going to come your way over the next 12 months. You will walk around campus, and all the students that you walk by are those you represent, there’s more than 7,000 of them. Even off campus you will walk into a Cousins Sub, and someone goes “Hey aren’t you our President?” The responsibilities you will have for the next 12 months, are more than people in their actual career will have in the next 10 years. You are seen as equals to professors, administrators, and staff. Your voice carries great weight and authority whenever you seek, so I have the utmost confidence in Ben to serve all of you and the student body as the President with the weight of authority and you will do great.

d. Head Justice Garrigan facilitates the oath of office for Vice President Elect Ashley Authement with Vice President Waite holding the governing documents.

e. Head Justice Garrigan facilitates the oath of office for President Elect Ben Koenig with President Beyersdorf holding the governing documents.

f. President Koenig: Thank you. I wanted to just give a few remarks because I thought I left you all short changed after I had my wisdom teeth yanked at the election results before spring break. I just want to again thank the elections committee, and Head Justice Garrigan for administering the transfer of power ceremony as well as the election process. I want to thank them for the tireless amount of work and the hours they put into that process and thank you so much for this opportunity. I also want to thank former President Kyle Beyersdorf and former Vice President Allie Waite for their work with me to get us into these roles, and to ensure that we can do the best that we be this next year. I come in front of you all here today at a very interesting time in our history here at the Student Government Association. We have a lot of upper head honcho people leaving our ranks, and I think that it's a new time kind of for a new vision and some change. We will miss you all those who are leaving us, your experience, and the work you've done here. Well, I don't even have the words to describe how amazing it is. But I believe that we need to continue to move forward. With that, I challenge everyone in this body here, and everyone behind me that will be joining us in this government, three main priorities this next session. I want you all to ask questions and expand your knowledge of the University and of the Government in general. I want us all to be experienced members when we walk out of here. I want us all to be able to say that we truly understand our bylaws, our constitution, and our implementation plan and how our university works us, and how we serve
our fellow students. I want to continue to foster an environment where we can work together and collaborate for solutions, I cannot do everything we want to do here. Vice President Authement can not do everything by themselves, whoever becomes Speaker will not be able to do everything by themselves and Head Justice Garrigan will not be able to do everything by themselves. We're going to need everyone here at this table we work together with this common solution and to ensure that we are all going to be one SGA that's going to stand for our students. And finally, I want to make sure that we humanize each other. I want to ensure that all of us around this table at the end of the day, though we might debate, though we might disagree and sometimes those debates become fierce, we need to ensure that at the end of the day we can shake hands and recognize that we are all students here. All between 18 and 22, or even some with higher than that, but at the end of the day we are all students here at this great university. Together we could be a united SGA, not an SGA that's three branches of government and not an SGA that's divided amongst itself in factions. But an SGA that's going to stand united with students. We’re one SGA that’s going to represent one student body. With that, if we continue to hold these priorities true and stand united, we will not break, we will not bend, we will not yield no matter the pressure that is put on us, and that we are never afraid to take on hard challenges and to stand united. Then ladies and gentlemen, nothing can stop us.

XV. Announcements

a. CC McCoy: Tomorrow there is an event on campus in the DUC 374. It is being sponsored by GSA and the QRC discussing how we can better protect transgender students, youths, parents, and teachers within our safe communities and around our country as well from 6-. If anyone is interested I would highly recommended showing up, there is around 60ish people interested. If 60 people show up we wont be able to use that room anymore but I would love to see that kind of turnout

b. Speaker Scheder: As per tradition, after the meeting is adjourned, we will have a half hour to forty-five-minute award ceremony thing and cake and then the next meeting will begin.

XVI. Adjournment

a. 6:33pm