UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-RIVER FALLS
STUDENT ASSOCIATION STUDENT SENATE MINUTES
Of Tuesday, February 15, 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, Kendra Plant, Matthew Schuelke, Cali Smithback, Georgia Wagner, Jeremy Zitzow

III. **Members Absent:**

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

Guests: Tim Wilson, Nicole Wilson, Erin Fiser, Shawn Kissing, Marcus Eric Quade (Student Voice), Miriam Huffman (Student Senate Advisor)

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

Moved By: Cluppert
Seconded By: Burdick

Guest Speaker:

Open Forum: Open discussion on the Student Senate Structural Planning Committee Proposal; student concerns and questions addressed by chair of committee and committee members.

VII. **Shared Governance Reports:**

A. United States Student Association (USSA) – Call-in day on Wednesday, February 16
B. United Council (UC) – February General Assembly: Strategic Planning Proposal, Budget, Financial Aid
C. Student Senate Officers-
Shared Governance Director – No Report.

Student Affairs and Academic Services Director- Nick Cluppert: Student survey dates: February 14-February 18. Skateboarding policy: talked to Mary Halada about back trail access.

Legislative Affairs Director- Joe Eggers: Thursday, February 24 Capital Lobby-

Day. Joint lobbying efforts with Superior, Eau Claire, Stout still in discussion. Meeting with Stout Leg Director to discuss legal affairs.
Legislator Open forum: February 28 at 11:00am-1:00pm Mary Halada, Virgil Nylander, and possibly Ginny Coombs will attend. Meetings on Thursdays at 6:00pm.

Finance Director - Adam Koski: Introduction of Structural Planning Committee Proposal.

Diversity Issues Director – Georgia Wagner: Diversity recognition reception details, poster series currently populating campus. **Building Unity Conference: March 4-6**; roughly 54 students committeed. African American Alliance is celebrating Black History Month with move nights, soul food night, open mike night, and an educational performance. CATS meets on Mondays at 5:30pm in the International Room. Diversity Issues Meetings on Mondays at 3:40pm

Women's Initiatives Director- Kendra Plant: Vagina Monologues: February 17,18,19 at 7:30pm at Brandy's, students $5/non-students $8, turning point is the official benefactor, selling buttons, chocolate. Cast members were on LIVE show. Building Unity workshops: organizing Vagina Monologues and women in the media. National Condom Week of Action.

Parliamentarian / Ethics Chair - Jeremy Zitzow: Reviewing +/- grading system proposal.

Vice President - Emilee Driscoll: Meeting on Wednesday at 4:00pm with Spring Elections Committee to review timeline and promotions. Meeting on Wednesday at 4:30pm with the Structural Planning Committee.
The office hours session is currently: February 9 – February 22.

President - Matt Schuelke: Deadline for 36.09(5) revisions: February 25. Meeting with Virgil Nylander.

D. **Leadership Development and Programming Board Chair – Carolyn Schenk:** Leadership and Training Committee with Student Orgs intend to prepare a training session for funding requests: Sunday at 6pm-7pm, Monday at 4pm-5pm, Tuesday at 4pm-5pm. LDPB funding requests (green copies) are due by February 25 by noon.

Facilities and Fees Board Chair – Nick Sireck: Both Terry and Vicki will be reviewing F&F portion of 36.09(5). Budget hearings for F&F allocation process next week. F&F Budget Allocation Proposal to Senate: March 8 or 15.

F. **Other:** Committee Meeting Times:
Shared Gov:
SAAS: Tuesdays @5:15pm
Leg: Thursdays @ 6:00pm
Finance:
Diversity: Mondays @ 3:40pm
Women's:

University Committee Reports: General Education: Nick attended the committee:

Political Science 114 acceptance as SPS program discussed.
AP&P: criteria of ethical citizenship and humanities and fine arts will be reviewed. Eco Club voice concerns about criteria – environmental issues.
Parking and Appeals: Jeremy attended and reviewed appeals.

IX. **Old Business:**

SS0405031

Whereas the Student Association Student Senator works to fulfill the Mission Statement, and

Whereas the Student Senator is an elected position representing UWRF students, and

Whereas the Student Senator, in fact as well as in the description of Student Association Student Senate Bylaws Article 2 Senator Duties: attends meetings, works in committees, participates in projects, and maintains a minimum of ten hours every two weeks in the office or event for their term, and

Whereas the Student Association Student Senator receives no compensation for these services although other students working on campus do receive compensation, and

Whereas there was the termination of some stipends in a recently passed motion, and

Whereas the proposed compensation is modest and feasible within the Shared Governance Budget, therefore

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

ARTICLE V. FINANCE SECTION C. STIPENDS

> Compensation for members of the Student Association will be limited to the following amounts for the listed positions:
>
> *(c) Student Senate Ethics Chair/Parliamentarian and Student Senators: $100/semester – paid about the last day of the Fall Semester and the Spring Semester*.

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

This motion is effective upon the end of the 04-05 Academic Year.

Motioned by: Adam Koski

Seconded by: Lindsey Burdick

Motion SS0405031 previously tabled until Tuesday, February 15 Student Association Student Senate Meeting
Moved By: Cluppert
Seconded By: Zitzow

Motion SS0405031 Failed

SS0405033

Whereas stipend compensation is monies of the members of the UWRF Student Association until they are given, and

Whereas Shared Governance leaders should do their work to the best of their abilities, and

Whereas a violator of the Ethics Rules should not be compensated with student monies,

therefore

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

ARTICLE V. FINANCE SECTION C. STIPENDS

2. Compensation for members of the Student Association will be withheld or appropriately diminished for the following conditions:
   - (a) Failure to perform his/her duties to the satisfaction of the Executive Committee
   - (b) Failure to fulfill the Ethics Rules to the satisfaction of the Student Association Student Senate

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

This motion is effective immediately.

Motioned by: Adam Koski

Seconded by: Lindsey Burdick

Motion SS0405033 previously tabled until Tuesday, February 15 Student Association Student Senate Meeting
Moved By: Cluppert
Seconded By: Zitzow

Motion SS0405033 Passed

X. New Business

SS0405037

(INTRODUCTION ONLY)

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.

Motioned by: Adam Koski

Seconded by: Emilee Driscoll

SS0405038

(INTRODUCTION ONLY)

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.

Motioned by: Adam Koski

Seconded by: Emilee Driscoll

SS0405039

(INTRODUCTION ONLY)

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.

Motioned by: Adam Koski

Seconded by: Emilee Driscoll

SS0405040
Whereas the Student Association Student Senate, in conjunction with the Academic Standards Committee, has recently provided a survey that asked the student body whether or not there should be a change in the current grading system to a plus/minus system, and

Whereas the students and faculty of UWRF responded to that survey in great numbers, with approximately 52% of the student body, faculty and staff in favor of keeping the grading system

the way it is now, and approximately 43% in favor of changing to a plus/minus grading system, and

Whereas it is the duty of the Student Association Student Senate to represent the students of UWRF and act in the students' best interests, and

Whereas students would feel that even though the majority of students voted against a change in the grading system, if the proposed new grading system were passed, they would feel like their interests were not being properly represented by the University or Student Senate, therefore

Be it resolved that the Student Association Student Senate take a stance opposing a change in the current grading system to the proposed plus/minus system, in order to act in the best interest of the students of UWRF.

Motioned By: Jeremiah Zitzow
Seconded By: Lindsey Burdick

Motion SS0405040 Passed.

XI. Additional Items and Announcements: United Council Madison Lobby-Day: Thursday, February 24!

XII. Adjournment: The UW-River Falls Student Association Student Senate was adjourned at 9:35pm

Moved By: Cluppert
Seconded By: Wagner

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