



**Session 10 of Senate 2024
Hyatt Smith Commons, Rock
County Campus, 7:00 PM
Monday, April 8th, 2024**

- I.** Call to Order
A. At 7:00pm

- II.** Pledge of Allegiance

- III.** Roll Call

Senator	Attendance
Sen. Balistreri	Present
Sen. Barry	Present
Sen. Erwin	Present
Sen. Kerbs	Present
Sen. Kraayvanger	Absent
Sen. Langham	Present
Sen. Michel	Present
Sen. Misini	Present
Sen. Nielsen	Present
Sen. Petreikis	Absent
Sen. Retelle	Present
Sen. Rice	Present
Sen. Rosquist	Present
Sen. Russell	Present
Sen. Smith	Present
Sen. West	Present
Sen. Wiitanen	Absent
Speaker Fadness	Present

- I.** New Business

A. S23-24:03 Recognition of Eid al-Fitr as an Official Campus Holiday Sen.

Misini: This bill was created for the recognition of Eid al-Fitr which is the Islamic holiday. It lasts three days. It is very important to have. Within the 6th whereas, "WHEREAS, not recognizing Eid al-Fitr as an official campus holiday could infringe upon the students' constitutional rights to freely practice their religion; and," I also think it is very important to remember the 5th whereas, "WHEREAS, recognizing and respecting the cultural and religious practices of all students is integral to the inclusive values of the University of Wisconsin Whitewater; and,".

Speaker Fadness: Please look over this piece of legislation and come with any clerical, content changes, and discussion questions.

- II.** Special Orders
A. Senate Oath of Office
 i. Karagan Esterholm
B. Appointment to **Two** Off-Campus Senate Seats
 i. None
C. Appointment to **Two** At-Large Senate Seats

Individuals in need of accommodations should contact Speaker Jack Fadness at WSGSpeaker@uww.edu as soon as possible.

- i. None
- D.** Appointment to **One** Drumlin Senate Seats
 - i. None
- E.** Appointment to **One** Esker Senate Seat
 - i. None
- F.** Appointment to **Two** Rock County Senate Seats
 - i. None
- III.** Guest Speakers
 - A.** Dr. Corey King

Dr. Corey King: Good evening, thank you for allowing me to be here today. I reminded our WSG president that I have yet to come to a student government meeting this semester. It has been a busy semester and I need to share some updates. I had a great Inauguration, thank you to those who attended and helped with the planning as we move to "Warhawk Bold". I want to talk first about Student Affairs we have an incredible interim Kirsten Fillhouer, and interim Dean of Students, Vernonia Warren, our plan for Student Affairs is to spend the year evaluating the current structure, talking with students, faculty, and staff, and getting input from consults in terms of what our Student Affairs division looks like, what it is should mean and what its purpose should be, all centered around serving students and promoting student success. Kirsten Fillhouer, will serve until the spring of 2025 when we will do a search for that position and interim Dean of Students. You may have heard about the term "Deloitte", there is a Deloitte report that is coming out on April 11th. The Universities of Wisconsin has initiated the Deloitte firm to come in and do a report on all of the Universities within the system, each of the Universities will go through consulting and comprehensive review by Deloitte, in terms of providing a report to talk about the Universities opportunities, their financial health, and to continue to promote the Universities enrollment, academic portfolio, and our continued commitment to University of Wisconsin Rock County. I received the comprehensive report on Sunday and I have shared that with the Shared Governance leaders and the cabinet. We will begin to socialize that report with the University-wide strategic planning budget committee, our hope is to use the report as a tool to ensure the stability and longevity of our institution. I have also asked Kirsten Fillhouer, and Brenda Jones to look at parking services, and we have had numerous discussions about parking and our commitment to this space for our students, I want to applaud student government (WSG) which has done a great job in putting together some recommendations in terms of directions of parking services, thank you for your commitment. I am also committed to our continuation of the Winther/Heidi project and we landed 78 million dollars with this space, and we will see the beginnings of the renovation. I ask for your immediate apologies for those of you who are not graduating because we will encounter construction on our Whitewater campus and it may cause headaches and inconveniences, but I promise you that the end product will benefit all of us. The Pride Center is now close to identifying a successful candidate, I am excited to fill that position, and I was concerned about our ability to find a successful candidate. Thank you to all of you who are instrumental in that space. We have a student climate survey that is coming out, and you should have received an email from me and we are committed to our climate survey as we were about the faculty/staff survey at the beginning of the year if you can please participate in that survey, we would appreciate it. We are in the middle of registration, and retention is important for us. I did a video for registration, and Provost John Chenoweth and I provided the email to faculty and staff, we are committed to ensuring our retention and enrollment are strong. We are committed to Starin Road, I put that on the docket because of my concerns and our student body president's concerns and others and the traffic there, Brenda Jones is moving forward in meeting with the city manager and other respective stakeholders, to ensure that we begin a short term and long-term plan in this space. Hopefully, that has been communicated to WSG, in terms of our short-term goals, and the long-term goals are being navigated with the city manager. We were talking about Spring Splash in that space, and I do appreciate

the fact that we are able to use some chips in our back pocket to move this forward and I know that it is a potential problem and we need to solve it. I know there have been concerns about closures and our branch campus across the UW system, and I want to continue to reiterate that our Rock County campus is strong, and we are committed to the campus, it is robust, it's incredible campus leadership, it's incredible students, faculty, and staff.

Questions:

Q: Sen. Erwin: I would like to thank you for taking the time to attend our meeting and share these developments. Do you have any timeline on when the University will take action on parking?

A: My hope is that in terms of the structure of parking and that our plan is to have something in place by July 1st. In terms of our structure and plan and what it looks like, I have had conversations with Kristen and Brenda in those spaces. For me there are three outcomes, our parking services has to be committed to customer service, it has to be committed to the well-being and the success of our students, faculty, and staff, and our parking opportunities have to be flexible. I am hoping by July 1st the structure will be in space. I am told that there is a continued committee that has made recommendations and is led by WSG, and it is continuing to meet.

Q: What is the Spring Splash

A: Advisor Bilgen: Spring Splash is a historical event that happens in the city of Whitewater, not University or city-sponsored, and students self-identify a day they want to enjoy spring, it has a great deal of extra circular activities and fun, which I believe all of you can create a safe environment in before exams. It is an all-day Saturday that can be really beneficial or not so great for people, so we will be asking for your help for canvassing prior and education and Dir. Gillespie is working on that information.

Q: Speaker Fadness: The parking meetings, Kristen and I just talked about the small wins with such a large-scale issue on campus, so we look forward to continuing those meetings as well. Now, the timeline with Winther Hall, how is that shaping out to be?

A: Our goal is that we will see construction beginning in 2026, and ending completion in 2028. We have to finish the architectural designs, when we are done with those designs and the price tag of \$80 million is what we have allocated. We have a value engineer, and that is term where they have to go in and look at those things that we can do without.

Q: Assoc. Dir. Robinson: You mention short-term solutions for Starin Road, can you elaborate on some of those?

A: Brenda Jones submitted to me and I think the student government some short-term goals in terms of the pedestrian, the crossing guard, and signage that we believe are long hanging. Let me stop for a moment to see if our WSG president is aware of what I am talking about.

President Izzo: I believe we have discussed this on a larger scale, so the new signs on Starin Road, 8 new signs all along the crosswalks for traffic going either way, that way drivers can notice the crosswalks more. There is also discussion on freshening up the paint and trying to emphasize CSO presence in busy times.

A: The long-term goal is that we need to fix it. My thoughts are that we close off both ends, there is a point on both ends of Starin Road that it goes into the respective areas and there is a point where the road from one end to the other that is closed off to vehicles, and it becomes only pedestrians. There has to be a conversation with the city.

Assoc. Dir. Robinson: I do not think students would be against that idea.

A: As a person who has almost hit a student three times going 15 MPH because they jump out in the street because they are on their phones, I think the safest is to stop that traffic. There is no need for that traffic to cross over. For me, it is all about student safety.

President Izzo: I think that might help the traffic and parking concerns, if you want to use certain parking lots you have to use the main roads.

Q: Deputy Speaker Smith: What is the city's perspective on closing the road?

A: The city's perspective is what is the University's perspective, we have had conversations with the city and we have made suggestions and it is my hope that the city understands the importance of the University's commitment in this space. My understanding is that the city and the University are seeing eye to eye, the biggest question for the city is who pays what in terms of the cost.

B. Dean of Integrated Studies - Tricia Clasen

Last year, when you were all here, was our campus theme and how we were working on a growth mindset and this year's theme is motivation, and the reason for that is we did a study of DFWI rates on campus, the number one reason that was said was that students were having issues with was their own motivation, and we thought "what could we do to address that" so we started our theme this year being motivation. At our fall retreat, we talked about Gen Z specifically and how motivation is different for each generation. We made note that our student population is both different and changing. In Fall 2023 our new student population was almost 40% underrepresented minority, and while we all hate that term, it is the term that we have in our report. That says something and it is a unique population, and we have a high number of students who are new or diverse and that is something different for our faculty and staff who are not diverse themselves, so how do we address those needs? We had a student panel talking about their own motivation. We spent the summer serving students at SOAR to find out what it was that they could get from their faculty and staff, and the number one thing they said was "just be nice". How do we be nice? We have to figure out how to operationalize how to be nice. We spent time talking with our faculty and staff talking about how to build that into Pedagogy and we had our faculty and staff report back to our students on what kept them motivated through college, what kept them on track, and how they deviated. Our winter retreat was focused on breakouts that were about specific Pedagogies, technology in the classroom, and how to break down things down to address our student population. We continue to think about how that relates to our involvement on campus. For example, many of the things that we are doing are bringing them out of the offices. We have campus study tables in the common areas, and our advisors are spending time in the common areas every couple of weeks when it comes to registration time. It is not trying to bring people to them, it is trying to keep students motivated and going out and meeting with the advisors outside of their offices. As many of you know we are bringing back competitive sports this coming fall, we started with women's volleyball this past fall, and this fall NCCAA and we will have men's soccer as well. That has opened up a space for our open gyms in the afternoons and they are here because their shuttle does not go back until 5:00 pm. The Chancellor talked about the challenges that we face, we know that there are a lot of discussions on the branch campuses and the two-year mission, but we do not identify as a two-year campus. It is the pathway to a bachelor's degree. We are offering more to the pre-major classes. We are working on additional bachelor's degree pathways those being teacher licenses, additional health care areas being Edgewood College Bachelor of Science and Nursing, students who have the pre-nursing degree have priority admission, and that program is delivered at half the rate that Edgewood delivers at their campus and it is an affordable pathway for those in the Rock County area, to continue with that we are exploring partnerships with Mercy Health to expand what opportunities exist for people in the area. I have been here 22 years and I value that we can get caught up on how to get people a piece of paper, but that is not what we are about and we are trying to make sure that what we do is value progress and every step of the journey so students have every opportunity that they would not have if they only have one pathway.

Questions:

Q: Assoc. Dir. Robinson: I appreciate the message that higher education is important. I want to say thank you and it makes URock something really special, and it is something that we not only need to embrace more but continue fighting for.

Q: Speaker Fadness: It is great hearing those updates and it seems like a lot of great work is taking place and something that caught my attention was the motivation piece because coming off a pandemic, I think it is really important especially for our generation and the time of our lives that we are in college, I appreciate that is a big focus of Rock County.

A: It is not just on students, faculty and staff also deal with that. How do we all stay in it together? It is very different, communication and expectations are different, and trying to get faculty and staff need to understand how to get someone to do something is different than talking to a peer. Understanding that operationalize of how to be nice is different now and we all have to be in that game together.

C. Rock County SGA

Thank you all for being here, we appreciate having you all here. Here are some updates of what we have been working on, the biggest one right now is the landscaping, we got approved \$25,000 to work outside and take out the bush from the front and add more color and we are also adding new seating, and games to get students to go out more and enjoy the weather. We are adding LED lights downstairs and a mural, we are trying to make it fun and not scary to come into college and to campus. We had the idea of a golf simulator, it is expensive, but we are looking into it. For student organizations, we are working with the Black Student Union, and they have their meetings on Wednesdays, everything seems like it is going well. We also approved the transfer of the fencing equipment from what we had here to the main campus. We have been working on communication, especially with each other, and from my experience, it is hard to go somewhere you do not know with people you do not know, so having meet your SGA members, and we took students down to Skelly's farm and it was really exciting to be over there. We had pie the professor to fundraiser the arcade game for downstairs. We are attending the alumni event this Wednesday and we are working with Latinos Unidos with their Cinco de Mayo dance on May 3rd, and overall the SUFAC got approved \$201,906 for student organizations.

Questions:

Q: Assoc. Dir. Robinson: What is the biggest thing that the main campus could do to support UW Rock?

A: More communication with SGA, and if we could do a mini version of your events here.

Q: Assoc. Dir. Robinson: Are you talking specifically WSG to SGA or main BSU to your BSU?

A: Overall communication with everything on the main campus.

IV. Approval of Agenda and Minutes

A. Minutes from April 1st, 2024

- i. Motion to approve by Sen. Rice
- ii. Seconded by Sen. West
- iii. Acclamation

B. Agenda for April 8th, 2024

- i. Deputy Speaker Smith: I move to Amend the agenda to add "Dr. Corey King" to guest

speakers

- ii. Seconded by Parliamentarian
Kerbs

C. Agenda for April 8th, 2024

- i. Motion to approve by Sen. Barry
- ii. Seconded by Sen. West
- iii. Acclamation

V. Student Issues and Concerns

Under this section no formal action will be taken, although issues raised may become a part of a future agenda. Participants will be allotted a 3-minute speaking period. Topics on this agenda may not be discussed in this section; however, participants are welcome to speak to agenda items as they appear in subsequent sections.

- A.** None

VI. Reports

A. External Committee Reports

- i. None

B. Officer Reports *See written reports that will be emailed out prior to the meeting

- i. President – Ms. Angelina Izzo
- ii. Vice President – Ms. Abbie Reiser
- iii. WSG Advisor – Ms. Jan Bilgen
- iv. E-Board Reports
 - A.** Mr. Douglas A. Bradley III – Director of Student Affairs
 - B.** Mr. Jordyn Robinson – Associate Director of Student Affairs
 - C.** Mr. Ashton Gillespie – Director of Communications
 - D.** Ms. Laura Dobke – Associate Director of Communications
- v. WSG Clerk – Ms. Tessa Wolfington
- vi. Senate Parliamentarian – Trent Kerbs
- vii. Deputy Speaker of the Senate – Orin Smith
- viii. Speaker of the Senate – Jack Fadness

VII. Unfinished Business

- A.** None

VIII. New Business

A. Campus Safety Presentation

Assoc. Dir. Robinson: This packet was submitted to the Chancellor on behalf of the Safety Committee that was charged to meet for 6 weeks, we only met for about three weeks and we were charged with addressing and then we provided recommendations to the Chancellor's cabinet. What we were tasked with was providing potential solutions to five main considerations: Enhancing and retooling our campus safety training and awareness for faculty, staff and students. Strengthening our building manager program/processes. Examining the residence hall safety programs/processes/procedures. Solidifying our campus reapproach (especially the blue lights- in terms of the next steps). Confirming our process/procedures for sending alert messages. That is what we were tasked to look into. Then I am going to provide a brief summary of the six recommendations: The University's training programs need to be examined for refinement and updating with consideration of direct community involvement as trainers. The Building Manager program should be reviewed independently and redeveloped with a focus on leveraging currently available technologies in common use to facilitate the expressed concerns. Campus-wide stronger messaging to our resident student population, whether formal or informal, could increase a sense of "home ownership" within our halls. This will likely increase their awareness of available safety measures. The blue light or call boxes are an

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antiquated technology that should be removed after the implementation of an educational and informational campaign outlining current GPS/911 capabilities. AS discussed previously at a Senate meeting, technology in the Whitewater area Once you make a phone call and dia 911, it will immediately track you, for example it does not track if you are going up and down a floor, but it can track that you are in the UC. Emergency alert considerations have been updated to consider highly emotional/triggering events and how to message those to the community. The campus emergency message system is currently under review for upgrading or replacement by the appropriate campus partners. A detailed outline of the findings are included in this document. This task force consisted of Academic Affairs Division, Facilities Planning and Management, Human Resources, Information Technology Services, Residence Life, Sociology, Criminology and Anthropology, Student Affairs Division, University Marketing and Communications, University Police and Whitewater Student Government, Myself, Speaker Fadness and Advisor Bilgen sat on this committee as well.

Questions:

Sen. Erwin: Under examining the residence hall safety program processes and procedures and the security camera section, it mentions that the evolution of student desires on residence floors needs to be considered, is this about student desires regarding cameras in commons areas and external areas?

A: One of the big things that came up in the meetings was perceived safety and actual safety. For example, a peephole, a peephole is learning in a direction of perceived safety rather than actual safety, vs a security camera is actual safety. We are trying to understand what that looks like, and where does those cameras get placed where they are not already.

Q: Sen. Erwin: A number of your solutions include examining policies or reviewing independently, has the committee have they identified who is going to be doing the examining or reviews

A: These were recommendations that were provided to the chancellor, so we provided the recommendation that it would be reviewed independently and It is up to the Chancellor and his cabinet's discretion on who should be looking into those things.

Deputy Speaker Smith: It was initially implied they went down that they would go down over spring break and I was wondering what the timeline of that is?

A: Yield to interim Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs.

Kristen: When the Chief directly shared with the cabinet, there was a lot of discussion on when that should happen and there was a lot of concern with taking them out during the middle of the year, my understanding is it will happen right after the semester is over and that way we can communicate effectively for fall.

IX. Announcements

Vice President: Just remember to fill out the RSVP form and indicate any guests you have.

Dir. Bradley: If you read Director Gillespies' report you will see these flyers, the QR code will bring you to sign up for the Spring Splash canvassing.

Assoc. Dir. Robinson: I would encourage everyone to discuss with their friends about safety since Spring Splash is approaching.

Assoc. Dir. Dobke: Congratulations to Parliamentarian Kerbs on Senator of the month!

Deputy Speaker Smith: if you are interested in seeing what the city's conversation regarding the memorandum you can come to City Council next Tuesday, April 16th at 6:30 pm in the municipal building.

Advisor Bilgen: Who might be voting on any of those activities at that meeting?

Deputy Speaker Smith: Myself

Dir. Bradley: Ajj's flyer we have an advocacy law on campus I recommend you read that, is that someone's life is more important than someone getting in trouble.

Assoc. Dir. Robinson: Involvement Awards are approaching.

Speaker Fadness: I would like to thank Rock County for hosting us tonight and I would like to thank Janine for planning, Kirsten Fillhouer, Tricia Clasen and the Chancellor for coming out as well, I look forward to continuing this tradition next year.

- X.** Adjournment
 - A.** Motion to adjourn by Deputy Speaker Smith
 - B.** Seconded by Sen. Langham
Acclamation
At 7:56pm

Tessa Wolfington

Clerk Tessa Wolfington

Jack Fadness

Speaker Jack Fadness

4-15-24

Date Approved by Senate