

**Wednesday, October 11th, 2023**

Winona State Student Senate Meeting

5 PM, Solarium, WSU

Call to Order: 5 P.M.

Roll Call:

President Carman	x
VP Ehlers	x
Treasurer O'Connor	x
Director Herman	x
Director Herrick	x
EA Johannsen	T
Chair Bainbridge	x
Chair Hermerding	x
Chair Hossain	x
Senator Arefin	x
Senator Bowen	x
Senator Carman	x
Senator Crass	x
Senator Crowe	x
Senator Daniels	x
Senator DeBates	x
Senator DeLuca	x
Senator Galvin	x
Senator Grams	x
Senator Haugen	T
Senator Howarth	x

Senator Kurth	x
Senator Minich	x
Senator Palmerton	x
Senator Peil	x
Senator Prosser	x
Senator Schulz	x
Senator Simon	x
Senator Snider	x
Senator Stoeckly	x
Senator Tetzloff	x
Senator Wright	x

Land Recognition Statement

Approval of Weekly Meeting Minutes: **approved**

Approval of Agenda: **approved**

- Organizational Reports
  - Warrior Entertainment Network
    - Logan Henderson tonight at 7:00 PM, in HOCO club fair and parade, grocery bingo this upcoming monday - murder mystery clue themed, OCT 25th downtown Winona night, Halloween double feature movie and craft.
  - Greek Council
  - RHA
  - KEAP Council
  - Director of Communications
    - Prizes for resource fair, digital signage coming for resource fair
  - Executive Assistant
  - Alliance of Student Organizations Director
    - Reassigned display cases, new club in warriorspace.
- Guest Speakers
  - Interim Dean of Nursing and Health Sciences
    - Talking about what the college is about including recreational tourism, movement science, social work, nursing, strength training, etc. Most declared majors of any college over 2,100 this fall. 90 faculty and 60 adjunct faculty. They love their Nursing and Health Sciences students. Their students work in the community as

far as Minneapolis and Austin. They participate in community service projects throughout the state. Preparing their students to graduate.

- Sen. Haworth asked if the Mankato program is stopping their therapeutic recreation program and asked if students are transferring to Winona.
- Dean Anderson said they are looking at transfer students to come to Winona because there is a lack of therapeutic recreation programs across the state.
- Dean Anderson discussing an opening for a new Dean next year.
- Students United
  - Presentation: What Students United is and what they can do for us.
  - Introductions: State Chair Marwah Asif, Vice Chair Emma Gabbert, Treasurer Kendra Draeger are presenting. They discussed their current majors and if/what degrees they graduated with.
  - Introduction to their staff and what they do within Students United.
  - Who are Students United? 501c3 Non-Profit for the seven MN State UNiversities. They advocate for universities and how to improve higher education. They are presented with what needs more help across the 7 campuses. Anyone a part of the MinnState system is a part of Students United.
  - They provide advocacy training, education, conferences, and leadership opportunities.
  - Their vision is to create an educational experience that all students across the MinnState system feel supported and included.
  - They want students to be at the decision making tables when issues are presented.
  - Their mission is to be the voice for all of MinnState, they call themselves the student's union, they want to represent everyone to the State and Federal Govs.
  - They focus on student voice, advocacy, leadership, etc.
  - Priorities: hunger free campus, menstrual equity: they saw the need for menstrual products and equality and got legislation passed at the state level, affordable campuses.
  - How to get involved: they have councils and committees like Academic Affair Committee, Internal Affairs, etc. you can reach out to staff to join. They passed out fliers for an advocacy conference with 13 free spots for senators to come if interested. Free hotel and free food included. They have student speakers and senators speaking. They teach you how to advocate for yourselves and your peers on campus. You can meet other student leaders at this conference from other universities. Students can and will make change if they are educated on how to and how to find support.
  - How to get involved later: Seven scholarships open next semester. Emma gave an example of how she got \$10,000 in scholarship money and how she got a fellowship. Urging people to apply for scholarships. Advocacy days where they bring people down to representatives. Community leader fellowship is a position where you work with fellows and learn professional development, they open up next semester.
  - Promotion for their social media.
  - Opening for questions

- Sen. Wright: thank you for coming in and chatting, plugging the advocacy conference.
- Chair Hossain: thank you for coming in and giving great insight, reps the international seat on senate and will preach the word for the international student scholarship opportunity. Asked if international students are included in the affordable tuition opportunity.
- Marwah Asif: No, they are not included but undocumented students are.
- Sen Minnich: thank you for coming and recommending the advocacy conference. Can you elaborate on the Northstar Promise?
- Emma Gabbert: Legislature passed that if your family makes less than \$80,000 you get free tuition.
- Marwah Asif: apply the same way you do for FAFSA and it will apply. It should take effect in Fall 2024 for people pursuing bachelors.
- Sen. Galvin: talks about RCTC and food bank funding. Asked how students can get involved beyond being in student senate.
- Marwah Asif: promotes joining the committees.
- Sen. Schulz: asked for definition of families that make under 80,000/year.
- Ben: They define it by taxes and Adjusted Gross Income. Offered any more questions on the Northstar Promise.
- Sen. Daniels: thank you for coming in, saying that if anyone has questions about NorthStar promise to reach out to a representative. Also asked if this applies to Tribal colleges.
- Emma Gabbert: Yes, any public university.
- Sen Prosser: thank you for coming, asking if there is a date for meeting the representative for your campus (advocacy day).
- Kendra Draeger: it will be in February 2024.
- Sen. Snider: does the Northstar Promise count for reciprocity or just MN residents.
- Ben: Only MN residents will qualify.
- VP Ellinghuysen
  - Vice President of Finance and chief officer at WSU.
  - Slides about budgets.
  - Enrollment: full year equivalent enrollment, 2020 enrollment was 7,000, FY24 enrollment is 5,500. Down 22%. Mirrors enrollment declines in other institutions. Related to COVID-19. Hopeful that it goes back up.
  - Budget Update FY24: University used scenario based budget planning. Entered the year with a deficit of 6 million and the budget is 100 million. Received money from student tuition. Tuition is frozen for the next 2 years and funded by the legislature. WSU received 4.4 million from the legislature. Enrollment projections were short, 75 students short of projection. Impacts tuition revenue by \$600,000. Primary expenses are salaries and fringe benefits which is 75% of the budget (4.2 ML). the 6% inflation factor, used to be 9% last year. Current year budget is a small deficit of 2.3 million. Using salary savings and unspent funds to help budget. We have a deficit of 6.7 million without 4.4 million from the

legislature. They are cautious of filling positions, cash balance is at 15% (needs to go to 20%), they need to generate carryforward. Student fee funded budgets are negatively impacted when enrollment goes down and in a \$500,000 deficit. SFMC will start meeting to talk about fees and budgets.

- Budget Update FY25: student support services received funding of \$62,000, for student basic needs, food, mental health, etc. Equipment and learning environments upgrades received \$400,000 for academic buildings, IT, learning upgrades, and library. Free menstrual products will be in all of the bathrooms by the end of the semester. Funding for workforce development scholarships, details to come. Received \$200,000 for work-based learning. Northstar Promise is on budget.
- How MN state does budgeting: they do it in two years, year one is operating budget, second year is capital budget. They are going to ask for 60 MIL and if the request is funded we could get about 7 MIL. first reading of this request next week. The State has a surplus of 1.6 BIL. Froze and funded tuition for FY24 and FY25.
- Budget scenarios: scenario A (5.6 MIL deficit: full supplemental appropriation request, B (7.7 MIL deficit): half supplemental request, and C (9.9 MIL deficit): no supplemental request. Targeting scenario B. What could help: legislative support and enrollment increase. What could hurt it: decrease in legislative support, recession, and enrollment decline.
- Next step: budget forum on OCT 4th, supplemental budget request will be approved in Oct/Nov, BESI: early retirement to reduce staffing on campus. Budget reductions: hiring slowdown. Econ forecast from State comes out in Nov. Legislative session starts mid Feb.
- Opening for questions.
- Sen Minnich: asked if 0% tuition increase.
- Yes it was.
- Sen Minnich: Are we cutting our winter interim courses?
- Declining enrollment leads to small course enrollment, needing to offer things so students can graduate.
- Sen Minich: based on these numbers would would you do to increase enrollment?
  - Our enrollment management works really hard to increase enrollment, they make sure buildings are in shape and students are having a good education. Things we could change would be to lower admission standards
- Senator Schulz: Do you think there is a lack of funding?
  - I think there is. The state support is how much they have available. There is more competitors for the state dollar; k-12 education, healthcare. It depends on the legislature and where the are
- Senator Stoeckly: trying to promote it more, we can open it up to the student body. With the tuition being froze, do we know what it would look like after it is unfrozen?

- No we do not. 3% or less estimate
  - President Liz: Keep it to budget related questions
  - Senator Carman: with decline in enrollment, does tuition increase
    - No, we don't take enrollment into account
  - Senator Peil: is funding coming from the state or is that something we will lose
    - Apply through fafsa. So if we had greater student on northstar than mankato, we would not have a decrease
  - We are currently finalizing a design for. Once we get the design on board we will want student input, just want to encourage you. May set something up in kryzsko for student to come in
  - Chair Bainbridge: With this group of people, do you have someone who is looking at disabilities?
    - Yes, it was built into the goal. That is what we are asking for the design firms to suggest. Those are questions we plan to ask to address
  - Students United: Did you see a gap in the funding from the past to implement that policy? If it cost more than the state gave you?
    - It sounds like the money we have been given will be plenty to implement. Just looking at a previous experience, we don't think it will be an issue.
- Access Services
- We wonder how much information is out there regarding access services. What we offer and what we do is disability services. We will offer academic accommodations. Testing in a quieter area, audio books. Do a lot of proctoring. Some people get a little confused, students think we offer more housing accommodations. We are more than just doing the academic piece. Right now the number of people registered is 799, 620 of those received those services. We have increased a lot over time. In the last 3 years, from student registration we have had a 37% increase. For the student who used their services that is a 47% increase.
  - Jess: What is a definition of a documented disability?
    - One where a healthcare provider is providing them documentation of a disability. If there is a barrier of documentation, we are not going to deny them any services. We will look at what we can provide them and what barriers are at place.
  - A lot of students walking around campus, we have the common documented disability; adhd(51%), psychiatric (near 50%), and learning(45%). Have a lot of neurological learners on campus and just want to be aware of the type of disabilities. We proctor 250 tests.
  - Senator Prosser: Do you guys feel that you are supported enough to support that many students using access services?
    - We are maintaining right now, if there is an increase we won't have enough room to proctor that many more.

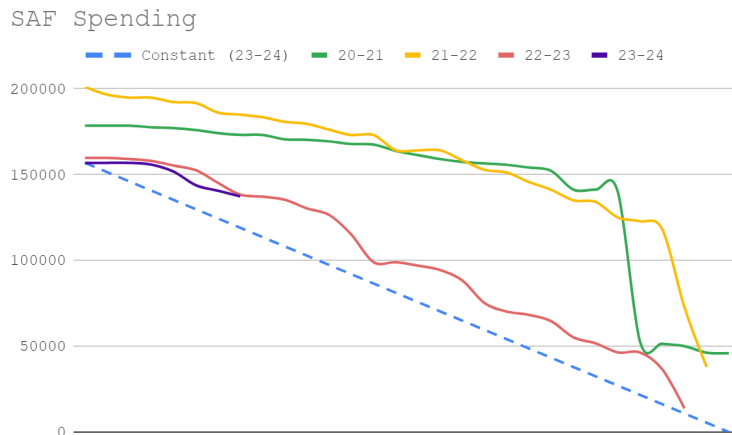
- Senator Stoeckly: the transfer I received from high school to college was really smooth. Students feel they could use accommodations but don't know how they could set that up without a doctor
        - I'd be happy to work with them and talk to them through it.
- Newman Fellowship
  - I work in career services but also am a chair in community engagement committee. Campus compact newman fellowship, 1 year to have a mentor and help them through the social issues they want to deal with. Convincing on the fellows happens every October and this year in Boston. We had made a commitment and put here as a current student. For the last several years the senate has been able to support us for travel to Boston. That travel has to take place and then we ask for reimbursement. If you could cover the cost of her flight \$838.20. I would be happy to go over the paperwork. It doesn't mean it has to be approved but hoping it can be approved as she was a past senator.
  - Senator Haworth: Is the fellowship open to any major?
    - Open to any student looking to make a difference in the world. It is the year in which they are a student. We are just waiting on word for the application to open up next year. We ask staff and faculty to put towards applications. We will make sure student senate is aware of that because most are senators that do this.
  - Senator Wright: where would we allocate the money?
    - We would assign a cost center and that is where it would be pulled from. If senate can provide a cost center then I can take care of everything else
  - Senator Wright: How would we allocate those funds?
    - Treasurer O'Connor: Once motion is approved we will just go through a cost center
    - President Carman: we would make a cost center for you
  - Before you create a cost center let me make sure we don't have one
    - Treasurer O'Connor: If we do make one you will be put down as the provider.
  - Senator Wright: If we were to make a motion now do we have to wait?
    - President Carman: Don't have to wait
- Tutoring Services
  - I get to recruit and train over 50 peer tutors. We are a part of the warrior success center but we are in the library. Two programs: small group tutoring: walk-in and appointments, main hours of drop-in Monday-Thursday 1-9pm, we help parents or folks who have to go to work. What days of the week are the heaviest traffic, staffing issues. The other one is s2i, we embed a tutor who was already in that class. They facilitate study sessions twice a week. That is data driven and is slower to come back after COVID. Maybe the anxiety to talk to people and we are keeping a close eye on that program. Money is tight, 3265 hours of support. We provide flexible hours, athletes can do it, \$12 an hour tight with money and is a limiting factor for us. The Bonding list was thinking of moving us to the first floor of the library. Students who are academic warning only 7% use tutoring the next semester. On

track we use students for tutor matches. If they had an academic appeal it would be granted. Much higher success rate, 3 semesters later 63% are still here. Who should we target the most with that. We are moving towards moving tutors to academic coaches. I am fundraising now, asking employees to donate towards the certification process. Students also minstate get 15 hrs of free online students tutoring. Scroll down to the bottom of the website and you can get tutoring at times we are not open.

- Senator Peil: What can student senate do for you to make new recommendations to support the ontrack programs?
  - At a point where I am going to say that the university has to support it or it's gone. It doesn't take much to fund a program like that. Looking at the justifications for what gets funded
- Senator Crowe: Is there anything else you are doing so that it is less scary
  - Tabling at the fairs. With this leadership team we are able to do that. A lot of people aren't hesitant to use tutoring but are for s2i.
- Chair Bainbridge: Is there anywhere that they tell students that we have access to tutor 15hrs online?
  - Used to be big on the website, if you come to the center you find out more. It should be in the resource tab. We need it on the home page
- Chair Hermerding: What can leaders and club people do to support you?
  - When you search tutoring it is linked to your courses. Telling them you can see the schedule for your classes. There are times when you are swamped but timing can be hit or miss. Haven't been able to market much
- Senator Bowen: I think more advertising and reaching out to aiga clubs. They are happy to help out the students.
- Senator Simon: Is there anyway we can get the tutoring somewhere else on the website
  - I will ask if we can make it a little more visible
- Committee Reports
  - Academic Affairs
    - Commencement speaker form went out and a total of 6 applications.
  - Equity and Inclusive Excellence
  - Student Services
    - We have discussed some seating arrangements in a building that are causing learning problems. So we are figuring that out.
- President's Report
  - Approval of Consent Agenda
    - approved
  - All University Committee Updates
    - Vp ehlers: first policy committee last friday. First time learning what everything meant. Have another meeting this friday, will keep you updated
  - Advocacy Conference



- Looking for people to go, only 3 people can go right now, and have 12 free tickets.
- Parade
  - Let me know if anyone would want to use a vehicle. We can decorate and participate in the contest and decorate in my driveway
  - Senator Prosser: dress code? Do we have the line up yet
    - President Carman: channel the flannel, we will be towards the end
  - Senator wright: changes for committees times
    - President Carman: Still working on it
  - Senator Galvin: what if we don't have channel the flannel stuff
    - President Carman: If you have wsu gear, just come as you are. Whatever you find
  - Senator Stockly: we have a lightning mcqueen car, i can see if we can get that
  - Senator Palmerton: what time would everyone be meeting and where
    - Senate office at 9:15, line up is at 9:00
- Club Fair
  - Friday 11am-1:30
- Mental Health Taskforce
- Vice President's Report
  - Game day experience
    - We expect you to be there unless you have said you can't be there. Other cabinet members will hold you accountable
  - Events and volunteer hours
    - Will be putting a form out for a bonding event, one is a requirement
    - Senator bowen: if the first WGDX do we put that on the event form
      - It will be asked on the form if it is your first, otherwise you say it is your first or second. Don't have to record all the bonding events you go to.
    - Senator Wright: do you have a list, I don't remember what I've signed up for
      - Vp Ehlers: Yes, I'll send it out
- Treasurer's Report



- SAF Account Balance: \$137,296.05
  - SAF Account Balance after approval of Consent Agenda: \$133,283.25
  - SAF Account Balance after approval of Unfinished Business: \$132,867.25
    - Pretty close to where we were last year
  - Senate Account Balance: \$1,807.51
- Old Business
 

Whereas, the Public Health Club is looking to go to SOPHE summit in Duluth, MN,

Whereas, this conference will provide volunteer opportunities for its members and services for our community,

Whereas, this creates an on-campus network for those interested in Public Health,

Whereas, this conference would expand professional health education networks, develop knowledge and skills, and explore sustainable changes to enhance community health,

Therefore be it resolved, WSUSS allocates \$416 \$356 from the SAF for the Public Health Club for the SOPHE summit,

Therefore be it further resolved, any remaining funds will be put back into the SAF.

Moved: Chair Hermerding  
Second: Senator Prosser

    - Chair: really great opportunity not able to go for the last 3 years, so it would be great for them to expand their knowledge
    - Senator prosser: great for student to broaden their horizons
    - Treasurer: they would be willing to cover their food costs through SAF, that is \$60 that they allocated
    - Speakers list
      - Senator wright: amendment: 356 from saf for the public health
      - Seconded by: Senator Crowe
        - Senator Wright: against funding requests for food.
        - Senator Crowe: yield to redundancy
    - Motion: passes
  - New Business
 

Whereas, WSU Student Senate has a history of supporting Winona State's Newman Fellow's travel expenses to the Meeting of the Fellows in Boston, MA,

Whereas, even though the student has already graduated WSU, she deserves the aid Student Senate has provided in the past for our Newman Fellows,

Whereas, Newman Fellows do a lot of work to advocate for issues they believe in that benefit the community,

Whereas, the cost for the student's plane ticket to Boston is \$838.20,

Therefore be it resolved, WSUSS allocates ~~\$838.20~~ \$500 from the SAF to Deanna Goddard for the cost of the student's plane ticket to Boston.

Moved by: Senator Wright

Seconded by: Senator Crowe

- Senator wright: This is supporting our past senator, we have provided aid for them in the past, she deserves the aid.
- Senator Crowe: go show of faith, if I were in this position I would support any aid
- Discussion on motion
  - Chair Bainbridge: isn't it 500 per person for each trip?
    - President Carman: That is correct. I don't know when we put that into place
    - Treasurer O'Connor: This trip is ending right now as funding requests we can only fund \$500
    - President Carman: Yes, we would only we able to fund 500
    - Chair bainbridge: make amendment: \$500
    - Seconded by senator carman
      - Chair Bainbridge: great that we are doing this but she should still be held to the same standards all students are held to
      - Discussion on amendment
        - Senator Daniels: has it always been more than \$500
          - It depends on where they go. We changed our bylaws that per trip we can only give \$500 per person. That is reflected as the end of the semester. This would be the first year we would be doing this. Because of this we have to give just \$500 unless someone changes the bylaws
        - Senator Wright: I think this would be a special case to suspend the bylaws. The newman center is always going to have just one person and they aren't asking for other expenses. I would be open to hearing other opinions
        - Senator Galvin: from my perspective, she is no longer a student. Why are we holding her to standards of a current wsu student when she is no longer a student

- President Carman: We would be holding her to this because this was given to her when she was a current student. So we would hold her to that.
- Senator Wright: I also think this is special case and would vote to suspend the bylaws
  - President Carman: In order to suspend the bylaws, you would have to enter the article and get a second.
- Chair Bainbridge: We need consistency. That would set student senate as a bad standard. I understand that \$500 is newly introduced, but we need to hold people to that.
- Senator Simon: Wondering if we could get a breakdown of the price?
  - President Carman: With the sheet I was given , it has a receipt, 733.02 plus taxes \$105.18, total amount is 838.20
- Senator Carman: I am for this amendment, due to consistency. There are other special considerations to go through. Are we going to do that too? If we do this now, students will expect it. Main concern is that other students will think they can do it too.
- Senator Minich: Support funding the whole price. It would have been before we adopted these bylaws. She wouldn't have known. We want to fund students to go so it continues.
  - President Carman: Bylaws had changed. The president did know that it had changed
- Senator Schulz: I don't believe that we have done it in the past that we have to keep doing them. Especially after new policies, we should hold everyone to the same standards
- Senator Wright: The bylaws are from 2020. I do remember senators in support, a lot of senators said we can suspend the bylaws in special cases. I think that a Newman Fellow, nominated by staff, is a special case. That kind of saves money in the long run because it is only one student and not five. I would like to find those bylaws and send them out.
  - President Carman: Because of the new website, it has not been updated. Say you would like to suspend article 5 funding limitations of the bylaws. You'd need a second
- Chair Hermerding: If we move forward with this, I need to see more of what is being presented?

- Chair bainbridge: Isn't this a career service event for her to go on? Student senate doesn't fund study abroad. If you fund this it should be the \$500 because it is progressing their career.
- Senator palmerton: Call to question
- Amendment: passes
- Discussion on amendment:
  - Senator Galvin: If the student was to go on this trip, where would they get the other money?
    - This person already paid, so they would get reimbursed and get \$500.
- TABLED

- Comments from the Gallery
  - Dean Johnson: Get to be a parade judge. I will be there rain or shine. Handing out a handout that are tips to stay safe during homecoming. A reminder of some things we would like you to know.
    - Committee haD four spots and no one showed up. Sometimes zoom is an option. If there is a problem with the schedule, we can work something out. Your voices are important
    - Director Herrick: Can you send this graphic, so I can post it on instagram?
      - Yes, President Carman also has a copy.
- Comments for the Good of the Order
- Adjournment 7:35pm
- Consent Agenda: Approved

HOPE club MNSHAPE	\$1,500.00
Winona State Women's Soccer Travel reimbursement	\$340.00
Ambassadors Honorary Saturday Campus Visit	\$10.00
Student Health & Wellness Advocates Donut Drink and Drive	\$31.72
Student Health & Wellness Advocates Pour Demonstrations	\$31.72
SCEC First Club Meeting	\$62.34
Nursing Club Pinning Ceremony	\$240.60
Unified Warriors	\$369.75
Student Band Organization Homecoming Lunch	\$381.00
Alpine Club First meeting	\$50.13

Potato Club Homecoming Club fair	\$58.00
Dream Closet Sorting Events	\$662.75
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship Catalyst Conference	\$267.84
SCEC Homecoming Fair	\$6.95
Total:	\$4,012.80