SENATE MEETING
September 23rd, 2018, CTO 5:03 pm
Room: UWM Union Fireside Lounge, 2200 E Kenwood Blvd.
Milwaukee, WI 53211

Roll Call

1) Alyssa Molinski - Present
2) Zen Johnston - Present
3) John McCune - Present
4) Emma Horjus - Present
5) Alexis McAdams - Present
6) Mary Greuel - Present
7) Josh Rivers - Present
8) Luis Filho - Present
9) Adyson Leonard - Excused
10) William Paltz - Excused
11) Emire Sewell - Excused
12) Chris Riedel - Unexcused
13) Brielle Shortreed - Present
14) Amaya Varela - Present
15) Zak Ziolkowski - Excused
16) Matthew Brook - Unexcused
17) Katie Malek - Present
18) Sam Wisnewski - Present
19) Courtney Raatz - Present
20) Mike Hagen - Unexcused
21) Jon Olson - Unexcused
22) Citi Navy Leon - Excused
23) Santiago Moreno-Islas - Present
24) Nat Taylor - Present
25) Jonathan Melcher - Unexcused
26) Adrian Palau-Tejeda - Present
27) Josh Graybow - Present
28) Conal McNamara - Present
29) Briceida Perez - Excused
30) Liz Papandria - Present
31) Mohimnul Islam - Present
32) Yugg Kolhe - Present
33) Rebecca Eaton - Present
I. Call to Order

Senate Meeting called to order by President Molinski at 5:03 pm

II. Roll Call

III. Reports

Emma: Solidified SFC timeline, meetings are moving forward.

John: Senator training event is in the works. Farmer’s Market event went well. “Senator Speed-Dating” event is planned for the 15th from 10:30-12:30, does not include actual speed-dating, is more of a rotating meet-and-greet. Another event is on the 25th from 12-1pm, more details TBD.

Josh Rivers: Working on Shared Governance pamphlet with Luis.

Luis: Working on marketing materials for upcoming events.

James (OAC): OAC had their first meeting on Sept 15th, approved a new member and the new bylaws.

Parker: No report.

Mohiminul: Will be joining a faculty committee and attended first SFC meeting last Friday.

Conal: Working on survey to identify issues that “metamajors” face and what issues they may face.

Yugg: Will be meeting with International Office soon.

Rebecca: Working on UWM Student-Run art center, and an app for accessibility on campus.

Nat: Meeting with LGBT resource center about shared goals and initiatives.

Liz: Hoping to do another event this semester about eating disorder awareness.

Anaya: No report.

Katie: Reaching out to Norris Health Center to address the opioid crisis, may turn into an SA project. Also will be meeting NHC about online sign-ups for appointments. Will also be meeting with the College of Health Sciences concerning fundraising because the college is in debt.

Santiago: Attended Reps last weekend, talked with Waukesha student representatives. Will be meeting with an Academic Dean next week.

Courtney: Went to Reps, had first meeting with SAC, and currently compiling data from Helen Bader survey that went out last year.

Sam: No report.

Josh: Met with Student Involvement and 20/20 catering for a future event. Working on expanding access to Adidas discount to all student orgs (only available to Athletics students now).

Adrian: No report.

Brielle: Attended first SFC meeting. Reading up on waste management on campus, may work on a project related to that.
Alexis: Working on updating templates and SA record keeping.

Mary: Had first SAC meeting. Putting together handout documents for SAC meetings and the grant trainings, as well as calendar organizing and more.

Zen: Program Reps event is still in the planning stages, and ICC is gearing up. Urges all senators to keep an eye on their emails for more information.

Alyssa: Met with the Alumni Association last week and how it can partner with the food pantry. Attended Title IX workgroup meeting. Reminds Senators to update their website profile.

SAPS Report – Quincy reports that she is looking for sustainable shopping solutions for the UWM Food Pantry. No report from Sarah.

IV. Open Forum

Kelly Haag, Senior Student Affairs Officer: Previously worked in Housing at UWM, has been working with students for many years. Introduces the different offices that she connects with and supports: all are concerned the non-academic side of student life. Has a vision for improving the experience of undergraduate students, has experience in pushing change through the University and with the assistance of colleagues. Kelly is looking forward to developing a close partnership with Student Association.

V. Approval of Agenda
   a. Santiago moves to amend today’s agenda, Liz seconds. Passes unanimously.

VI. Approval of Previous Minutes
   a. Conal moves to approve, seconded by Liz. Motion passes unanimously.
   b. Santiago moves to approve, seconded by Liz. Motion passes unanimously.

VII. Special Orders

Oversight and Appeals Commission Appointment
   a. Alexander Muraski
      Josh moves to approve Alexander Muraski to the OAC, motion seconded by Liz. Motion passes unanimously.

Senate Appointments
   a. Robert Bavisotto
      i. Graduate School Academic Senator
      Robert introduces himself as a Chemistry Ph.D. graduate student. Initiatives include creating coursework in the chemistry department modeled after pharmacy rotations system.
      Santiago asks about reaching out to students outside of his chosen field of study. Robert mentions that he would reach out to other education institutions, employers, and other students in the STEM fields.
      Courtney asks if Robert has any experience in reaching out to other STEM field graduate students. Robert says no, he doesn’t have any experience in this, but he thinks that putting together this curriculum first would be a good strategy.
      Conal asks if he would be interested in reaching out to students outside of STEM fields. Robert says yes, he is interested in doing so.
      Mohiminul moves to approve Robert as the Graduate School Academic Senator, motion seconded by Santiago. Motion passes unanimously.
      b. Theodora Ocken
         i. First-Generation Advocacy Senator
Theodora (“Teddy”) introduces herself as a double major in political science and history. She is herself a first-generation student and outlines some challenges that she herself faced. Would be interested in addressing challenges related to knowledge transfer during the summer between high school and college.

Santiago asks about particular strategies. Teddy responds that advertising available resources would be a key initiative. Teddy also mentions an off-campus group challenging all universities to celebrate first-gen students on November 8th.

Yugg asks about how to reach students in high school. Teddy references a strategy from the University of Georgia that set up a basic AI textline for answering questions, this could be an avenue for UWM to improve services.

Courtney moves to approve Teddy as the First-Generation Advocate Senator, motion seconded by Yugg. Motion passes unanimously.

c. Connor Mathias
   i. College of Letters and Science Academic Senator
Connor introduces himself as a political science undergraduate student. Would like to address the importance of writing at a college-level. He is interested in connecting with resources like mentoring and tutoring on campus. Is very passionate about student representation on campus.

Santiago asks about representing a college with many majors. Connor responds that communicating with this diverse group will be difficult, but writing is a skill that is necessary in all of these majors. Also mentions that finding common ground across the majors with the college may need to be gaps.

Adrian asks if Connor has plans about connecting with students. Connor says that flyering and putting out the information is extremely effective.

Conal moves to approve Connor Mathias as the College of Letters and Science Senator, seconded by Nat. Motion passes unanimously.

Senate Finance Committee Officer Review
a. Contested Advocacy Position
Alyssa explains the situation to the Senate: Nat applied to be on SFC but was not put on the 9-9-2018 agenda due to a miscommunication between SAPS and the Exec Board. Alyssa decided to hold the seats up to a vote between Nat, Conal and Yugg for the two available Advocacy seats.

Yugg volunteers to drop out of the Senate Finance Committee.

Liz motions to approve Nat to the committee, seconded by Becky. Motion passes unanimously.

Shared Governance and SA Committee Appointments
a. Bryce Barnes
   ii. Athletic Board Committee (ABC)

b. Eli Walker
   iii. Environmental Sustainability and Mentorship Committee (ESMC)
   iv. Gender and Sexuality Advisory Committee (GSAC)

c. Adyson Leonard
   v. Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Mental Health

d. James Carpenter
   i. Academic Misconduct Hearing Committee (AMHC)
   ii. Non-Academic Misconduct Hearing Committee

e. Allison Grzebien
   i. Athletic Board Committee (ABC)

f. Jennifer Woo
   i. Graduate Course and Curriculum Subcommittee
   ii. Graduate Scholastic Appeals Committee

g. Alycia Lewis
   i. Environmental Sustainability and Mentorship Committee (ESMC)
   ii. Graduate Faculty Committee (GFC)
   iii. Graduate Student Representation Committee (GSRC)
h. Alyssa Fischer
   i. Athletic Board Committee (ABC)

i. Francesco Saporito
   i. Athletic Board Committee (ABC)

j. Samuel Rogers
   i. Academic Misconduct Hearing Committee
   ii. Non-Academic Misconduct Hearing Committee

Sam makes a motion to package and approve items a through j in “Special Orders” under “Shared Governance and SA Committee Appointments”. Seconded by Josh.
Zen explains the “package and approve” process.
Mohiminul asks how to apply for a committee in order to be put on an SA Senate agenda. Josh Rivers explains that students generally need to apply for a committee appointment via one of the forms on Engage about a week in advance of a Senate meeting, which gives the SAPS office time to examine and vet each application and collect any needed approvals or additional information.
Motion passes unanimously.

VIII. Old Business

a. Student Association Budget Legislation
Emma introduces the SA Budget and opens the floor for questions.
Josh remembers there was a higher amount discussed at the end of the last semester.
Josh mentions this because SLC is working on planning an event.
Emma reiterates that the amounts are flexible, and generally money will move from the executive budget to the legislative budget if needed. That happened several times last semester.

Motion to approve the SA Budget Legislation by Nat, seconded by Adrian.

Roll-Call Vote Results:

Brielle Shortreed - Yes
Amaya Varela - Yes
Katie Malek - Yes
Sam Wisnewski - Yes
Courtney Raatz - Yes
Santiago Moreno-Islas - Yes
Nat Taylor - Yes
Adrian Palau-Tejeda - Yes
Josh Graybow – Yes
Conal McNamara - Yes
Liz Papandria - Yes
Mohiminul Islam – Yes
Yugg Kolhe – Yes
Rebecca Eaton – Yes
Robert Bavisotto - Yes
Teddy Ocken - Yes
Connor Mathias - Yes

Voting Senators: 16
Quorum: 15

Legislation Passes.
IX. New Business

a. Oversight and Appeals Commission Bylaws

Josh asks what was changed. James provides a short overview of what was changed: a rule mandating the OAC to swear in all SA members was removed. References to articles, statutes or bylaws that no longer exist were removed. Also added portion for OAC to be at the SA table and granted speaking powers during Senate meetings.

Santiago motions to approve, seconded by Josh. Motion passes unanimously.

b. Discussion of Additional Executive Position

Santiago leads discussion of this topic. He shares experience of learning of a Sustainability exec board position on other student governments in UW system. Wonders what the Senate thinks about the idea of doing the same for the UWM SA.

Josh asks how much $ was allotted to the Green Fund. John responds that $0.50 per student was allotted last year for a total of about 17,500. This year it is $0.75 per student, and it will be about $25,000 in total. Josh asks how adding a position would compare to the SA budget.

Zen mentions that the addition of an Exec Board member would require amending the Exec bylaws and the SA constitution. Zen notes that the Senate would be able to define the hours and pay of this position as it is proposed.

Sam asks what a sustainability-oriented position would do beyond the scope of the ESMC ("Green Fund") committee. Santiago expands on the idea that it could provide forward momentum for projects and consistency across years.

Conal expresses support for the idea, especially since the budget is increasing and it would be good to have a dedicated, paid person to be a custodian of that money.

Josh Rivers asks for a clarification on a constitutional change since there is room on the Exec Committee for 9 members. Zen and Josh agree that it would not be a constitutional change.

Adrian expresses support for bringing in ideas from other campuses as things to emulate. He also brings up the idea of a "government relations" position on the Exec board.

Katie expresses reservations about creating an exec board position focused on a singular issue, and how that may be a problem in that it gives focus to one category of projects over others.

John shares his experience chairing the ESMC last year and affirms that there is enough work in the role (managing funded Green Fund projects AND becoming a broader voice for sustainability on campus) to warrant a paid position.

Robert asks if there are exec board positions that are loose enough to shift towards other projects. Josh Rivers responds that his position is an example of a position that has overarching duties, but also has lots of flexibility for taking on specific projects.

Emma responds to Josh's question and notes that there is room in the Exec Board stipends budget for an additional position, which would be about $4,500.

Mohimunul expresses that a looser-defined position that could be flexible for different issues would be a good idea.
Santiago moves to refer the discussion of creating an additional executive position to the Executive Committee, seconded by Yugg. Motion passes unanimously.

Conal moves to refer the discussion of creation of an additional executive position to the ESMC, seconded by Josh Graybow. Josh Rivers asks why this should be put to the ESMC if it is going to be a looser position. Conal is open to sending this issue to all committees, but since the idea started for a sustainability exec position, it could start there.

Conal rescinds his motion.

**X. Questions and Concerns**

Josh asks about how many senators are at risk of being removed from the Senate according to the two consecutive unexcused absences rule, and asks how fast the seats will be open again. Alexis responds that the number may be 4-5 senators, but she will have to check the records. Alyssa mentions that this is something that needs to be done through both her and SAPS.

**XI. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Katie. Seconded by Becky. Motion passes unanimously.

*Meeting adjourned at 6:41 pm*