



AGENDA OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-RIVER FALLS
STUDENT ASSOCIATION STUDENT SENATE
of Tuesday, September 22nd, 2009, 7:00pm
Willow River Room of the University Center

- I. CALL TO ORDER:
- II. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:
- III. INTRODUCTIONS OF GUESTS:
- IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- V. OPEN FORUM
- VI. SHARED GOVERNANCE REPORTS:
 - A. STUDENT SENATE DIRECTOR REPORTS:
 - 1. SHARED GOVERNANCE DIRECTOR- Patrick Okan
 - 2. STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ACADEMIC SERVICES DIRECTOR- Kayla Godes
 - 3. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES DIRECTOR- Alex Nelson
 - 4. DIVERSITY INITIATIVES DIRECTOR- Brent Hopkins
 - 5. WOMEN AND GENDER INITIATIVES DIRECTOR- Vacant
 - 6. PARLIAMENTARIAN/ ETHICS CHAIR- Katy Van Putten
 - B. ALLOCABLE FEE APROPRIATIONS BOARD CHAIR- Vacant
 - C. FACILITIES AND FEES BOARD CHAIR- Tyler Halverson
 - D. STUDENT ASSOCIATION STUDENT SENATE ADVISOR – Paul Shepherd
 - E. VICE PRESIDENT REPORT- Daniel Scott
 - F. PRESIDENT REPORT- Joshua Brock
- VII. OTHER COMMITTEES/ UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE REPORTS:
- VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

SS-09-10-004

Whereas, fair and efficient elections are crucial for Student Senate’s ongoing existence;

Whereas, the current Student Senate Elections Rules are outdated, often times unclear, and in many places in violation of the Student Senate Constitution;

Therefore be it resolved, that Student Senate adopt the following revisions to the Student Association Student Senate Elections Rules;

ARTICLE 2: Definitions

Section B. Election Cycle

A period of time starting ~~on the first day of the campaign~~ *the day before the beginning of the period for filing petitions* and ending on the day after the election is held.

Section D. Student Association Student Senate Elections Committee

- 1. The Elections Committee will be composed of no less than two and no more than six currently enrolled students that are not running for election to Student Association Student Senate, and or the current Student Association Student Senate President or Student Association Student Vice President. The Executive Committee will select the Elections Committee members. All members of the Elections Committee will receive a stipend of seventy-five dollars for their time. The Ethics Committee may

decide not to pay the members of the Elections Committee if they find that the committee has not done what they are required to do.

2. The Elections Committee can file an exceptional circumstance case to increase the stipend, (i.e. extremely large amount of work that had to be done.) This measure needs a majority approval of the Student Association Student Senate.
3. *This committee is required to meet at least twice during each Election Cycle; once to formally review and approve all petitions for placement on the ballot, and at least one other time during the cycle to formally handle other election-related matters as they may present themselves. The committee may choose to meet more than the required minimum times. Failure to meet for the required meetings and/or failure to take adequate records of those meetings will result in the removal of the Elections Committee stipends.*
4. *The Elections Committee Chair is required to provide a detailed report of committee business to Student Senate after each meeting of the Elections Committee. If the Chair is unwilling or unable to present themselves at the Student Senate meeting, they must provide a written report to the Student Association Student Senate Shared Governance Director, who will give the report to Senate in their place. Failure to present a satisfactory report to Student Senate will result in appropriate action taken against the Elections Committee Chair as determined by the Student Senate Ethics Committee.*

Section G: Student Organization Representatives

1. A student chosen by the members of the Student Organizations (i.e. Area Councils, Greek Life Council, ~~Diversity Awareness Committee~~ the Diversity and LGBTQ Programs Coordinators and committees of Falcon Programs, and Student Athletic Advisory Board) to be their representation in the Student Association Student Senate.

Section I. Military Representative

1. *A student who is or has been in service for the United States military and was not dishonorably discharged from the service. Students who are or were active service members in the United States Military may vote for this representative.*

ARTICLE 3: Election Rules

Section A. Nomination

1. Any student currently enrolled with a minimum of 12 credits at the University of Wisconsin River Falls maintaining a minimum of 2.25 cumulative GPA may be a candidate for a seat on Student Association Student Senate at-large, college representative, nontraditional representative, military representative, Student Association Student Senate President, and/or Vice President, *as long as they meet the specific requirements for whichever position(s) they run for and have not been found in violation of Elections Rules, as outlined in ARTICLE VI, Section B.*
2. In order to have a candidate's name placed on the Student Association Student Senate at-large, college, nontraditional *and/or military ballot*, the candidate must collect the signatures of 50 currently enrolled students. A student may be on as many ballots as he/she is qualified for including the Student Association Student Senate President and/or Vice President by collecting the signatures of 100 currently enrolled students. All signatures must be collected on a form provided at the Involvement Center's Front desk.
3. *All petitions must contain the following clause: By signing and submitting this petition, you signify that you are eligible for the stated position(s) and that you have gathered the necessary number of legitimate individual student signatures. You grant the Student Association Student Senate the permission to verify your enrollment status, cumulative GPA and other eligibility requirements. You signify by signing below that the signatures gathered are all completely legitimate, and you give the Student Association Student Senate the permission to evaluate the signatures to ensure validity. By signing, you agree to be bound by the Student Association Student Senate Elections Rules, and acknowledge that infractions of those rules may result in your removal from the ballot, denial of office, or removal from office.*
9. It is the responsibility of the Area Councils, Greek Life Council, ~~Diversity Awareness Committee~~ Diversity and LGBTQ Programs Committees, and Student Athlete Advisory Board to elect students meeting the criteria in ARTICLE III. Section A. 1.

Section B. Write-in Candidates

1. Any student meeting the criteria in Section A. 1. may be a write-in candidate for a seat on Student Association Student Senate at large, nontraditional, Student Association Student Senate President, and/or Vice President, *unless they have voluntarily removed themselves or have been involuntarily removed from the ballot for said category during the current election cycle (see Article IV, Section H), or have been prohibited from running for elections due to past actions (see Article VI, Section B).*
3. *A student may be a write-in candidate for the military representative position by meeting the criteria in Article 2, section I and Article 3, section A.1. of these rules.*

Section C. General Campaign

1. No person may engage in any campaigning on campus property during polling hours on the election days, *unless said campaigning is done via telephone or by other electronic means*. Any campaigning chalking created before the days of the elections will be exempt from this provision but no new campaigning chalking will be allowed. Any new campaigning chalking will be subject to penalty. *Candidates will be allowed to chalk in approved areas until the election days.*
10. Elections Committee ~~and polling workers~~ *members* cannot influence other people's votes ~~while on duty~~. *on election days.*
13. All campaigning chalking may only be placed on sidewalks between 4th 3rd and 6th streets (CSH through South Hall). Any chalking located on staircases, buildings, and other non-said areas will be labeled as graffiti and are then subject to University guidelines and Election Committee penalties. Chalking located beyond 4th 3rd and 6th streets will result in the candidate being subject to penalty. *Chalking within the boundaries of the University Center is prohibited by University Center Policies and Procedures and will likewise result in penalties.*

Section D. Referendums

1. There shall be two types of referendums available for members of the Student Association to initiate: Binding and Non Binding.
2. In order to petition for a referendum, the following procedures must be followed:
 - c. Upon receipt of a referendum request form, the Student Association Student Senate Ethics Chair ~~and Vice Chair~~ will review and approve the referendum request. If the referendum language is not appropriate to accomplish what would like to be accomplished, the Chair ~~and Vice Chair~~ may advise the author to reword the referendum language. In addition, if 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 ~~and any~~ federal, state, local laws, or university regulations, the Chair and Vice Chair may deny the referendum request.
 - e. If a non-binding referendum is being called for, 500 members of the Student Association must sign the petition. If a binding referendum is being called, ~~two thirds of all members of the Student Association must sign the petition.~~ *two thousand members of the Student Association must sign the petition.* All signatures must be collected within two months of approval of the request form.
 - f. Upon collecting the necessary signatures, the petitions must be turned into the Student Association Student Senate Vice President. The Student Association Student Senate ~~Finance Committee~~ *Ethics Committee* will certify the validity of all signatures.
 - g. The Student Association Student Senate ~~Finance~~ *Ethics* Committee will notify the contact person, within 7 days, whether or not the petitions contain enough valid signatures to place the referendum on the ballot.
 - i. If the petition does contain enough valid signatures, the Student Association Student Senate ~~Finance~~ *Shared Governance* Committee will hold a general election so that the referendum may be voted upon by the members of the Student Association no later than one (1) month after the *Ethics* Committee has notified the contact person the petitions contained enough signatures.

ARTICLE 4: Elections—Time-line, Primary, General, Special, Ballot, Election Day, ~~and~~ Fall Semester Elections, and Removal from the Ballot

Section A. This is ~~nine week~~ process must be followed for all Student Association Student Senate Elections:

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
Monday	Monday Seat openings ad due to The Student Voice, other ads placed	Monday
Tuesday Senate Association Student Senate must have elections ad hoc committee established	Tuesday	Tuesday
Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday
Thursday	Thursday Student Organizations electing Senators must be contacted	Thursday
Friday	Friday Petitions & Questionnaires available at 8am	Friday Petitions & Questionnaires due by 4pm
Saturday	Saturday	Saturday
Sunday	Sunday	Sunday

Week 4	Week 5	Week 6
Monday Primary ad & Election ad #1 due to the Student Voice	Monday Election ad #2 due to the Student Voice	Monday
Tuesday	Tuesday Primary Election	Tuesday Election Day
Wednesday	Wednesday Primary Election	Wednesday Election Day & Election results are posted
Thursday	Thursday	Thursday
Friday	Friday	Friday Grievances are due 48 hours after results posting
Saturday	Saturday	Saturday
Sunday	Sunday	Sunday Grievance reviewed & responded to before 7pm

Week 7	Week 8	Week 9
Monday	Monday Re-election advertising due to the Student Voice	Monday
Tuesday response to grievance reported to Student Association Student Senate	Tuesday	Tuesday Re-election
Wednesday	Wednesday	Wednesday Re-election & Results posted
Thursday	Thursday Student Organization election results are due	Thursday
Friday	Friday	Friday Grievances are due 48 hours after results posting
Saturday	Saturday	Saturday
Sunday	Sunday	Sunday

Section A: Timeline

- Student Senators shall be elected at least 5 weeks before the start of finals week, for the Spring Semester. The date of Fall Elections is to be determined by the Elections Committee.*
- A timeline outlining the various dates and deadlines of the election cycle must be approved before the election cycle begins. If the Elections committee is unwilling or unable to create a timeline, the Executive Board must create one before the start of the cycle.*

Section B. Primary Elections

- Primary elections will be held only for the election of Student Association Student Senate President and Student Association Student Senate Vice President.
- Primary elections will be held if 3 or more candidates are officially running for Student Association Student Senate President or Student Association Student Senate Vice President.
- Candidates advancing from the primary to the general election will be determined by the top two vote totals.
- ~~In the event that primary election is not required, week five of the general election timeline will serve as a supplemental week for campaigning.~~

Section D. Student Organization Elections

- Student Organization Elections will be held to nominate 5 members of the Student Association Student Senate. The two Area Councils will each elect 1 Senator as a Resident Hall representative. The Greek Life Council will elect 1 Senator as a Greek representative. ~~The LDPB Diversity Awareness Committee~~ *Diversity and LGBTQ Coordinator Committees* will elect 1 Senator as a Diversity representative. The Student Athletic Advisory Board will elect 1 Senator as an Athletics representative. *All selections may be vetoed by majority vote of senate.*
- Student Organization Elections will be conducted by the Student Organizations in a ~~democratically~~ *fair and democratic fashion*, and the results will be given to the Elections Committee.

Section E. Ballot

~~1. Student Association Student Senate Election Ballots~~

- ~~a.1. Ballots for election to Student Association Student Senate will not denote incumbents.~~
- ~~b.2. Candidate's names on the ballot will be listed in alphabetical order according to last name.~~

~~3. The ballot must clearly indicate how many votes a voter has in each particular category (i.e. 7 votes in the at-large category)~~

- ~~c. Each item will have the following appearance:~~

~~Category of Representation i.e. Student At Large, College, Nontraditional, Student Association Student Senate President or Student Association Student Senate Vice President.~~

Please make an X next to the candidate(s) of your choice. Only vote for a maximum of (number of positions) individuals. If you make a mistake or wish to change your vote, hand in your ballot and you will receive a new one.

-	<i>Candidate's Name</i>
-	<i>Candidate's Name</i>
-	<i>Candidate's Name</i>
-	<i>Candidate's Name</i>
-	<i>Write In Candidate</i>

Date of Election

(The names of the candidates will begin two spaces from the left of the box and will be at 12 point.)

~~2. Ballots for a referendum will have the following appearance:~~

Type of referendum, i.e. Binding or Non Binding

Please make a neat circle around your answer to the referendum. If you make a mistake or wish to change your vote, hand in your ballot and you will receive a new one.

Referendum Wording

Yes _____ No

Date of Election

Section F. Election Day

- ~~1. Individuals designated by the Student Association Student Senate Elections Committee must supervise the polling table.~~
- ~~2. Polling place workers may not be candidates running in the election.~~

Section G. F. Voting

- 1. In order to be eligible to vote, each member of the Student Association must have his or her ~~user name~~ W-number and password at the time he/she wishes to vote.
- 2. Voting will be done through the ~~FredNet website~~ Student Senate homepage at <http://sa.uwrf.edu/student-senate>
- 3. The Student Senate Elections Committee is responsible for negotiating with IT services in a timely manner to have a link to the Student Senate homepage placed on the UWRF main page during any Student Association Student Senate elections. If a homepage link is not possible or not allowed by IT services, the Elections Committee must determine some other means by which students can easily vote online.
- 4. Directions to vote on-line will follow:
 - a. Voters will need to go to www.uwrf.edu
 - b. Click on the link connecting them to the Student Senate homepage.
 - c. Click on the "begin poll" link.
 - d. Enter their W-number and password.

- e. ~~Click on the current student link~~
- f. ~~Click on the FredNet icon~~
- g. ~~Click on the "enter the online voting station"~~
- 4. ~~Any candidates running in an election cannot count the ballots.~~
- 5. All members of the Student Association will receive the online results the day after elections.
- 6. ~~A request for a recount must be filed in writing to the Student Association Student Senate Ethics committee within 24 hours after the results are announced. The Student Association Student Senate Ethics Committee will be responsible for conducting the recount within 48 hours after the request is submitted.~~
- 7. ~~6~~ In the case of a tie, there will be a revote for the tied candidates within 48 hours.
- 8. ~~7.~~ Any ballot that contains more than the maximum number of votes allowed to be cast will be invalid.
- 9. ~~8.~~ The candidate who has the most votes for Student Association Student Senate President ~~and is also elected as Student Association Student Senator~~ will be the winner of the Student Association Student Senate Presidential Election.
- 10. ~~9.~~ The candidate who has the most votes for Student Association Student Senate Vice President ~~and is also elected as Student Association Student Senator~~ will be the winner of the Student Association Student Senate Vice Presidential Election.
- 11. ~~10.~~ If under any circumstance that the Student Association Student Senate Ethics Committee believes that the election results were tampered with (i.e. hacking into the program,) then a ballot election will take place as soon as possible. This action requires a two-thirds approval of the Student Association Student Senate.

Section H-G. Fall Elections

- 1. Fall elections will be held to elect the four first year Student Association Student Senators.
- 2. At-large, *student organizations, college representative, nontraditional representative, and military representative* vacancies of the Student Association Student Senate will be filled during fall election.
- 3. ~~Fall elections will be held the fourth week of classes in the fall semester.~~
- 4. ~~Petitions will be available the first Friday of classes and due the second.~~
- 5. ~~Excluding the timeline and the primaries t~~ The fall elections will follow all rules and guidelines found within the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Election Rules.

Section H. Removal From the Ballot

1. Voluntary Removal

- a. *A candidate who has been placed on the ballot may request to be removed from the ballot for any reason.*
- b. *A request for voluntary removal must be signed by the student and submitted in person to the Elections Committee chair at least 72 hours (not including weekends or holidays) before the opening of the polls for the Student Senate Elections. When received, the Elections Committee Chair must verify that the person submitting the request for removal is in fact who they claim to be. The Elections Committee Chair when receiving the request must sign the document and include the date and time at which it is received.*
- c. *It is the responsibility of the Elections Committee Chair to alert the appropriate administrators of the election that a candidate has dropped out. Such notice should be given no later than 48 hours (not including weekends or holidays) before the opening of the polls for the Student Senate Elections.*
- d. *A request for removal from the ballot removes the candidate only from those positions that they request to be removed from; if a student wishes to completely remove their name from the ballot in all races, they must specify in their request that they wish to do so.*
- e. *No Student who has requested Voluntary Removal from the ballot for a specific position may then be awarded that position, through any possible write-in voting, during that election cycle, nor can a candidate who requested voluntary removal from the ballot then request to be placed back on the ballot for the same position.*

2. Involuntary Removal

- a. *An involuntary removal may only be used when a candidate is ineligible or otherwise unfit for a position they are seeking, and the petition to have them added to the ballot has already been accepted and the candidate has been added to the ballot.*
- b. *In order for a candidate to be removed from the ballot without their consent, an official grievance regarding the candidate must be filed at least 3 full days (excluding weekends or holidays) before the opening of the Election polls.*
- c. *Grievance will be addressed in the same manner as grievances listed under Article 5 of this document, with specific focus on why the candidate is ineligible for a position (i.e., they fall under the minimum required G.P.A., aren't a full-time student at UW-River Falls, have violated and have officially been found in violation of the Student Senate Election Rules, etc.)*
- d. *If a candidate is discovered to be ineligible after the 3 day minimum time for filing a motion for removal, an official grievance must be filed within 48 hours of the posting of the election results. Any such grievance will be handled according to Article 5 of this document.*

- e. *If the candidate is found to be ineligible for a sought position, but are running for more than one position and are found to still be eligible for the other position(s), the involuntary removal shall refer only to the position(s) which the candidate is ineligible.*
- f. *A candidate who is involuntarily removed from a position cannot be awarded that position during the election cycle, including through a write-in campaign.*

Section I. Pre-Induction Resignation

- 1. *A candidate may, if they choose, not accept a position on the Student Association Student Senate even if they have won that position.*
- 2. *The candidate must submit in writing to the current-serving Elections Chair, their request to reject their position within three days(including weekends and holidays) of being awarded the position.*
- 3. *In a case where a candidate does not accept their awarded position, the position shall go to the candidate who received the next highest number of legitimate votes.*
- 4. *cases of vacancy in the presidency or vice presidency in the transition period between the election and their induction, all vacancies must be filled before the new senate is inducted in the spring of the year. It is the responsibility of the current Student Association Student Senate President and Vice President to ensure that the incoming Student Association Student Senate President and Vice President roles are filled.*

ARTICLE 5: Appeals Process

Section A. Grievance

- 2. *The Student Association Student Senate Ethics Committee shall meet with both the claimant(s) and the respondent(s), together or separate at the Chair’s discretion, to discuss the seriousness of the alleged violation giving cause to said grievance. ~~If the grievance is uncontested (i.e. the respondent admits to the allegation(s)), † The Student Association Student Senate Ethics Committee will make an official ruling on the filed grievance in time to come before the next Student Association Student Senate meeting. If the grievance is contested by the respondent(s), the Chair shall proceed to the Contested Grievance Procedure.~~*
- 3. *Both the claimant and respondent will have the opportunity to address the Student Association Student Senate and ask for an appeal to the Student Association Student Senate Ethics Committee’s ruling. If an appeal is asked for at this time, it will go to a vote before the Student Senate.*
- 4. *After the Student Association Student Senate Ethics Chair reports the ruling any senator will have the ability to ~~pull the ruling, to the grievance, out of the Student Association Student Senate Ethics Committee ruling.~~ *appeal the ruling of the Ethics Committee, to be voted on at the next Student Senate meeting.**
- 5. *To overturn or amend the ruling, two-thirds of the Student Association Student Senate *in attendance at the meeting and voting* is required.*
- 6. *If the Ethics Committee and the Student Association Student Senate disagree on the grievance (i.e. one fails it and the other passes it), either the complainant or the respondent may demand within 24 hours of Senate’s ruling that the complaint enter into contested grievance procedures.*

ARTICLE 6: Enforcement

Section B. The following penalties will be assessed for each individual rule breakage.

- 1. No person may engage in any campaigning on campus property (*except electronic and telephone*) during polling hours on the election days.
 - a. **Penalty— taking away the violators right to run in a Student Association election until after the first full election cycle after the current election cycle.**
- 2. No state tax dollars, tuition, or segregated university fee money may be used in connection with campaigning.
 - a. **Penalty—Monetary fine and taking away the violators right to run in a Student Association election until after the first full election cycle after the current election cycle.**
- 3. No person may personally or through another person make use of or threaten to make use of force, violence, or restraint in order to induce or compel any person to vote or refrain from voting at an election or vote or refrain from voting for particular candidate(s) or referendum(s).
 - a. **Penalty-- Possible criminal charges as in accordance with federal, state and local laws, as well as taking away the violators right to run in a Student Association election for life.**

4. No person may bribe, give, or lend anything of over a dollar in value in order to induce a person to vote or refrain from voting for or against a candidate(s) or referendum(s).
 - a. **Penalty-- Possible criminal charges as in accordance with federal, state and local laws, as well as taking away the violators right to run in a Student Association election for life.**

7. Campaign material cannot be posted until the petition due date has expired.
 - a. **Penalty-- taking away the violators right to run in a Student Association election until after the first full election cycle after the current election cycle.**

9. Any chalking located on staircases, buildings, and other non-said areas and chalking located beyond 4th, 3rd and 6th streets or any new chalking during election days.
 - a. **Penalty— A written reprimand and/or taking away the violators right to run in a Student Association election until after the first full election cycle after the current election cycle.**

Therefore, be it further resolved that these changes take effect September 30th, 2009.

Moved by: Director Okan
 Seconded by: Director Godes
 Executive Board Approved

IX. NEW BUSSINESS

SS-09-10-011

Whereas, there is no longer an East or West Area Council;

Whereas, both councils have been merged into the new Residence Hall Association;

Whereas, previously both the East Area Council and West Area Council had separate representatives on Student Senate;

Whereas, both councils are now combined, having two representatives on Student Senate is unnecessary;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Student Association Student Senate revise its bylaws as shown below:

ARTICLE I. Membership

Section A.

The Student Association Student Senate will consist of ~~26~~ 25 members.

Section B.

The membership of the Student Association Student Senate will consist of the President, Vice President, 7 At-large Senators, 4 College Representatives, 1 Non-traditional representative, 4 First year Senators, 1 ~~2~~ ~~Resident Hall~~ *Residence Hall Association* representatives, 1 Greek representative, 1 Diversity representative, 1 Athletics representative, 1 Military representative, the Facilities and Fees Board Chair, and the Allocable Fee Appropriation Chair.

ARTICLE III. Representative Duties

Section E.

Residence Representative Duties

1. Express the concerns and needs of Residence Hall Councils, ~~Department Of Residence Life~~ *The Residence Hall Association*, and students living in UWRP Residence Halls ~~on Representative's half of campus~~ in order to see positive development.
2. Attend monthly Hall Manager Meeting.
3. Perform all duties of a Senator as listed in Article II of this document.

Facilities and Fees Board

ARTICLE IV. Standing Committee

Section D.

~~Residential Living Committee~~ *Residence Hall Association (RHA)*

Therefore, be it finally resolved that these changes take effect immediately upon passage.

Moved By: Director Okan
Seconded by: President Brock
Executive Board Approved

X. ADDITIONAL ITEMS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

XI. ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting for the semester of the Student Association Student Senate will be Tuesday, September 29th, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Willow River Room of the University Center.