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Student Senate meeting minutes for April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Sara Duginske  
*President*

Joe Tyrrell  
*Student Speaker*

Nick Cibula  
*Vice President*

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The regular bi-weekly meeting of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay Student Senate was called to order at 5:05 P.M. in MAC-204 with SGA President Sara Duginske leading the meeting.

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Roll Call – *See Final Page*

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The Pledge of Allegiance

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Reports

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Presidential Report  
*Sara Duginske*

Sara said she has been working with Dr. Cheverle and working on a graduation pledge. Sara said she has some cards that say whoever signs it will take into the social and environmental decisions they make. Sara said a green ribbon will be given to all graduating seniors and hopefully the chancellor will recognize it. Sara said it has been a great year.

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Vice Presidential Report  
*Nick Cibula*

No report.

Senate Speaker Report  
*Joe Tyrrell*

We do have five returning senators. Those that are not returning, please do. That is all.

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Good Times Programming Report

Tonight there will be DMC in the Phoenix Rooms at 8pm. The first 100 get t-shirts. Doors open at 7:30. There will be a comedian next week, as well as a band. The last Pat McCurdy of the year is May 13<sup>th</sup>. Come out and have a good time.

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RHAA Report

There is one program left, Sand Scramble, which is a volleyball tournament this weekend. It's been a pleasure working with everyone this year.

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Academic Affairs Report

*Steven Schultz*

Quick meeting after tonight.

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Environmental Affairs Report

*Crystal Osman*

The Chancellor's cabinet is meeting tomorrow to present the UPASS.

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Health and Safety Report

*Joel Diny*

No report.

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SUFAC Report

*Brad Zuleger*

There is a meeting Thursday. The last meeting of the year.

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University Governance Report

*Ricky Staley*

(INSERT THE REPORT HERE)

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Athletics Report

*Kervin Blanke*

Jeff and I have been working on making an advisory committee. Everyone please just look the document over and if there are any questions.

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Equality and Diversity Report

*Andrei Varney*

No more meetings. The changes that have been made will be instituted over the summer.

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## New Business

A. Library Resolution - Ricky said he has a resolution from the library. Ricky said it is a request for increased funding to get students, faculty and staff to have more access to online reserves. Ricky said Madison has more opportunities than us, for example. Ricky said a funding increase hasn't happened for 10 years. Ricky said this will catch us up to where it should be. Ricky said this is word for word what was passed via faculty senate unanimously. Ricky read the resolution aloud. Ricky said this will allow more online opportunities for students, faculty and staff. Ricky said funding wasn't had since 1999-2001 biennium. Joel said since we are a university and the library is there to gain knowledge, UWGB is saying that he is contributing to gain knowledge and he has 100% support of the bill. Lynsy made a motion to approve. Tania seconded. Ed called the question. Motion passed 16-0-0.

B. Election Rules - Ryan said the court has been working on modifying the election rules. Ryan said the new rules have modified April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2008 at the bottom. Ryan said he highlighted the new parts. Ryan said the court will take care of the election fairly and according to the rules. Ryan said the big change was the contract was taken out because it is unnecessary

for write in candidates. Ryan said candidates who complete the biographical sketch can be placed on the ballot. Ryan said if forged signatures are found the candidate is disqualified. Ryan said section 2 part b was edited. Ryan said in the old election rules it is said that campaign resource report must be two hours before instead of after. Ryan said that is necessary to get the results out earlier. Ryan said all candidates are subject to candidacy of spending and physical campaigning. Ryan added that infractions were included. Ryan said that language came from the memo written earlier this month. Ryan said the next part focuses on write-in candidates. Ryan said it used to say that in order to be considered a viable candidate was a little tricky. Ryan said the wording was changed to in order be elected. Ryan said it was done for Senate, RHAA Chair and President. Ryan said all write-in candidates must adhere to rules in the election rules. Ryan said regarding spending, under part 5, this is in regard to a write-off which allows unused funds to be used as well as \$200 additional dollars. Ryan said physical campaigning, there were things added to campaign free zones. Ryan said GAC, library 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> floor, and any behavior that goes against private voting. Ryan said it would be a minor infraction. Ryan said if infractions are looked at, disqualified is better wording than removed. Ryan said at the bottom given that for whatever reason, a major infraction is the buying of votes. Ryan said complaints are talked about and the language came from the conduct

contract. Ryan said it includes matters regarding electronic voting procedures. Ryan said under referendum items it was moved to 30 days because of the electronic voting procedure. Ryan said the section regarding polls was cleaned up given the vagueness of the language. Ryan said only members of Student Court may prepare the ballots. Ryan said another major part is the representational issue with language from a memo in February. Ryan said in the event of a multi-ticket ballot the winner must have 40% of the total votes cast. Ryan said a runoff will be had of candidates if nobody earns 40% of the votes. Ryan said modification of election rules can only be made 30 days in advance of the election. Joel asked in regards to paragraph 5 under infractions, senate must also certify the rules for the election and which allows an overturning by senate or the Chancellor. Joel said this is kind of overruling the constitution. Ryan said that he thinks the SGA constitution allows Student Court to validate the elections. Ryan said if the court isn't the sole venue who is. Joel said the Constitution allows Senate as well as the Chancellor. Ryan said if anything has to be challenged, the Student Court must be asked first. Ryan said if Senate feels the Court messed up then there is authority to overturn it. Andrei said under the same section, under article 3 of the constitution, the court has jurisdiction under any issues or disputes. Andrei said he didn't know if that was all encompassing but it sounds like the Constitution is reaffirming the

Court's rights. Ryan said any and all challenges or problems it must come before the Student Court. Joel said it is confusing him. Joel said there are so many different articles to know who has the power to do what. Ryan said maybe it is being read differently and it seems clear that the Court was created for a couple purposes, such as regulating the election. Tania said she was curious what happens when a complaint or challenge is made against the Court. Ryan said if there is a complaint against the Court, then the Senate has the right to not certify the election. Mike S. said there are checks and balances. Andrei said there should be a statement that references the Senate Constitution in the Election rules. Sara said regarding the same issue anything should come before the Court under those rules. Sara said the check on the court comes to the Senate under Article 1, Section 2, line item 9. Joel said under spending, no student contribution can exceed \$50. Joel asked what about student groups. Ryan said contributions have to come from a student so the Court can account for the money. Rachel said the part added under spending could be personal funds. Ryan said the election rules have to be followed. Mike S said it could be raised out of pocket or raised via students. Joel asked if \$1,000 wasn't used can that be raised as well as \$250. Ryan said yes. Ryan said its for the candidate to make an extra push. Ryan said it isn't an arbitrary amount and the amount seemed reasonable. Tania said from personal experience \$250 is a correct amount. Tania said under infractions,

coercion of vote not limited to buying of votes, what does that mean. Ryan said handing out promotional items isn't buying votes. Ryan said buying votes is paying people to vote for the candidate. Andrei said in regards to spend, the maximum funds raised can be \$1,250 with a run off. Ryan said the additional \$250 is only for the run-off. Jeremy asked when it came to buying votes what if the court can be interpreted differently. Jeremy asked what if the \$250 is interpreted differently as well. Ryan said he isn't sure how to make it more specific. Ryan said it is only interpreted so far into something. Jeremy asked what if it said that the \$250 can be raised from the individual candidate or other students. Ryan said the wording is the way it is because it gives the candidate discretion on spending. Jeremy reiterated what he said. Mike S. said raise is the word that is throwing the Senate off. Andrei said for the run-offs, all the spending rules apply. Ryan said yes. Ryan said another spending report would have to be sent out as well as added in the rules. Lynsy made a motion to end discussion. Ed seconded. Ed called the question. Ed called acclamation. Ed made a motion to approve the rules. Nick seconded. Ed called the question. Motion passed 14-0-2.

### C. Constitutional Amendments -

Joe said every change can be approved or the Senate can package the changes to the Constitution. Joe said an entire article or section can be approved as well. Ed said all the changes have been discussed via e-mail or in the meeting. Joe said two have not and were realized after the

fact. Ed asked if those were included in the constitution send out. Joe said everything has been shown. Ed said it should be bundled. Joe said the changes that weren't talked about was RHAA having their budget approved by SGA President. Joe said he didn't know when that needed to be done. Joe said there isn't a purpose. Joe said what is in yellow should be eliminated. Joe said under Article 1 Section 3 line 12, a week is given to pass thru committee to be brought to Senate and the problem with that is that Ricky found out about it right then and there before Joel had to report. Joe said instead of one meeting perhaps two meetings is better used. Joe said then by the next senate meeting instead of during there is more time given to appeal. Joe said only campus residents may vote for RHAA and that is now in the constitution instead of being unwritten. Joe said in the event of the VP and President resign, the Senate Speaker would take over the duties. Andrei asked how does the computer know who can vote for RHAA. Mike S said the system picks it out. Joe said that is pretty much consistent and everything that is different or not exactly what was talked about. Tania said under SGA/RHAA the president wasn't deleted at the end of the sentence. Tania asked why the wording changed under Article 4 Membership Section 1 Sub-section 9. Tania said it changed to SGA instead of Student Government Association. Mike S said abbreviations shouldn't be used. Tania asked if this can be discussed instead of voted on tonight. Tania said anything that just showed

up should be discussed in the past meeting. Tania said the things discussed before. Andy said in accordance to what Ed said, the majority was discussed and looked at so the Senate is knowledgeable enough to vote on it. Joe said he wanted everyone to realize that the things he brought up were not discussed at the meeting 2 weeks ago. Andrei said that there are objections and it should be voiced. Joel said in the grand scheme this is time sensitive material and it should be discussed now and voted on. Tania said the objection is based upon Robert's Rules of Order and it needs to be followed. Ed said Tania makes a good point unless the changes are rule changes whereas they are just wording changes this time. Ed said it isn't a big deal. Chris said in Robert's Rules of Order the majority of senators can suspend the rules and pass this while following the Rules. Lynsy said she wanted a clarification of what majority meant, whether it was 18 senators or 12. Sara said it goes for quorum. Dan asked if Senate is supposed to be following Robert's Rules of Order. Joe said he thinks it has some wording as using Robert's Rules as a guideline. Joel said that Joe is correct. Mike S said under Article 6 Section 1, the rules of order will be Robert's Rules of Order. Mike S said Robert's Rules is needed. Dan said specifically in the constitution then Tania is write. Dan said the rules must be suspended to pass the new ones. Andy made a motion to suspend the Robert's Rules of Order. Dan seconded. Nick called the question. Tania objected. Tania said

on the grounds of looking at it, decisions are being rushed and Robert's Rules said it must be presented so all members can understand how rules may be changed. Tania said it is a protection for the members. Dan said at the same time there have been numerous emails and the constitution was emailed days in advance. Dan said the senator has a duty to read it and come to the meeting. Andrei asked if there could be one more meeting. Joe said the administration is done on Thursday. Andrei said the only option is to discuss now or suspend the rules. Ed said that we are students and classes are had outside of senate and papers must be written. Ed said he could use the time off. Ed said there has been discussion aplenty. Chris said wording can be discussed. Joe said he explained that in the beginning. Andy asked how many meetings has the discussion been talked about. Joe said the constitution has been brought up 3 times over 4 weeks. Andy said the senate knows what it is so perhaps it should be voted on. Nicki said every meeting something was changed or added. Rachel said even today it was different last week. Rachel said it seems it was rushed. Sara said that she understands everyones concerns but if it gets started now, things that were discussed can be changed. Sara said she wants to get moving with this. Andrei said he agrees. Joel said it would be irresponsible to send it to the next administration. Lynsy made a motion to end discussion. Dan said the question must be called again. Dan called the question. Motion

passed 11-1-4. Joe asked how does everyone want to proceed. Ed asked if there were any additional changes. Ed made a motion to bundle the changes. Ryan objected. Dan objected. Ryan made a motion to vote based on article. Tania made a friendly to vote on it by section. Chris seconded. Ryan called the question. Joe said the first changes are under Article 1 Section 2. Ryan made a motion to approve Article 1 Section 2. Andy seconded. Ryan called the question. Motion passed 16-0-0. Tania made a motion to approve Section 3 Subsection 1-11. Dan seconded. Sara said this is the addition of the Equality and Diversity committee. Dan made a friendly to include 12 as well. Tania rejected the friendly. Ryan called the question. Dan objected. Dan asked why isn't 12 included. Joe said because it wasn't discussed in the last meeting. Joe said Section 12 can be approved separately. Mike S said yes. Andy made a motion to approve Section 3 Subsection 12. Dan seconded. Chris called the question. Tania objected. Tania said it was rushed and doesn't close the loophole that a committee has to let others know if something has been passed. Sara said it worked out this semester. Ed said this makes it easier for others to object. Joel said two meetings is more than accurate because reports must let others know. Dan said at the same time it is every senator's duty to know the constitution. Rachel said that he told Ricky he passed it, yes that is supposed to be said but nowhere must it be point blank spoken what was done. Rachel said two meetings doesn't change

anything. Rachel said wording should have committees tell senate point blank. Ed said there are a few people however the full senate didn't vote whether it was approved. Ed said if it is shot down then it can be discussed moreover. Joe said the motion on the table is to approve Subsection 12. Tania said it can be brought up and it can be voted upon. Nick objected. Nick said two is way better than one. Ryan said he agreed as well. Dan called the question. Motion failed 10-6-0. Joe said moving on to Section 4. Dan made a motion to approve Section 4. Andy seconded. Ryan called the question. Tania objected. Tania said regarding Subsection 6, it was rushed. Tania said she wanted more logic regarding erasing the President for passing the RHAA budget. Lynsy said she wanted to yield time to Ellen. Ellen said with the budget what happens is the Exec Board writes a recommendation for the next board and Glen gives it to them. Ellen said the formula is done based on students living on campus and SGA is not involved. Ed said the changes being made is the informal way and making it formal. Ricky said this year there was no official review by the President and has that been historical. Mike S said it was never reviewed. Andrei asked if the board of RHAA has say regarding it. Ellen said the new board has the most say as well as a review by Glen. Ellen said the same thing is done every year. Ryan called the question. Motion passed 16-0-0. Joe said the next change under Article 2 is for having the Speaker take over if the VP and President resign. Lynsy made a

motion to approve Article 2 Section 1 Nick seconded. Dan called the question. Tania objected. Tania said it is not thoughtfully done. Tania said the constitution does outline the reappointment and more research should be done. Tania said more than 1 person should be making the decisions. Lynsy said when the e-mail was sent out that there would be a notification process be included into Section 1. Lynsy said there is no notification. Joe said it could be there. Mike S said there can't be changes. Andrei said the rules were suspended. Mike S said it is ill advised. Joel said it makes sense to have a line of secession drawn but he wants to caution the next administration because it becomes a mess. Ed said that it was discussed multiple times over the past few weeks. Ed called the question. Dan said everyone that the President old or new appointed must be confirmed through Senate. Rachel objected. Andrei asked when the Speaker becomes president does that assume a new administration has started. Mike S said any positions have to be confirmed via Senate. Ed called the question. Motion failed 9-5-2. Joe said under Section 3. Dan made a motion to accept section 3. Andy seconded. Ed called the question. Motion passed 16-0-0. Joe said the next changes are at-large and ex-officio under membership. Andy made a motion to approve Article 4 Section 1 in its entirety. Dan seconded. Ed called the question. Tania objected. Tania said it is ok but redundant because some by-laws already have at-large members approved by senators. Dan said the

constitution reigns supreme. Ricky said for clarification SGA committees would include SUFAC and RHAA. Mike S said yes. Ricky said any at-large member would also include all building representatives for RHAA. Ellen said community council is appointed by voting members. Ellen said there are too many members. Joel asked if RHAA can be excluded. Rachel said that this could persuade people not to join. Rachel said this may discourage membership because it requires people to do it twice. Nick said they shouldn't join if it will discourage membership. Lynsy yielded her time to Matt. Matt asked if ex-officio includes resource liaisons. Mike S said that has their own section. Matt said SUFAC has 7 as well as other committees having numerous. Andy K said coming before Senate isn't intense grilling. Ed said it has been discussed. Ed called the question. Lynsy said if RHAA is included it is over 50 people. Andrei said SUFAC isn't checked but because it will represent it needs to be accountable to other students on senate. Joe asked if there is any objection to discluding RHAA. Ryan suggested that at-large members just be approved through Senate. Joe said each committee has by-laws which must be followed as well. Joe said if a committee wants to do two votes it is allowed. Andy L said in regards to Andrei's SUFAC point, senators on SUFAC approve at-large member. Tania said senators sit on SUFAC board before At-large. Tania said senators on SUFAC have to approve at-large and it just trickles down, with senators in the majority of the at-

large members instead of the whole senate. Sara said the Speaker decides who joins the board. Sara said the Speaker could stack SUFAC for example. Dan called the question. Lynsy objected. Lynsy said in relation to SUFAC doesn't the at-large members exist to counteract senate power. Lynsy said senators can reflect the Speaker where as at-large members reflect the student body. Lynsy said it could be stacking of SUFAC if at-large have to be passed via Senate. Lynsy said the senators are on the board as well as at-large to check and balance the board. Joe said if 5 people wanted to join SUFAC and the Speaker doesn't want it, it is the final say of the speaker. Ed called the question. Ricky said in regards to being grilled by Senate how many times has anyone been grilled. Ricky said with the exception of Joel it is a few standard questions. Ricky said those who are on SUFAC will be passionate will know the characteristics necessary. Ricky said bringing someone before Senate doesn't mean grilling will be harder. Sara said it isn't designed for grilling but to answer questions. Joel said a few years ago there was a Senator who was shot down in nomination process in 2005. Andrei said what is the big objection besides SUFAC wanting more control. Ed called the question. Andrei said is better than safe than sorry. Rachel said SUFAC at-large members are held to the same standards. Joel said in regards to the by-laws they can be changed. Tania said this encompasses all committees but take away SUFAC's responsibility. Tania said Lynsy



pointed out that SUFAC needs responsible people and by having seven members approve they will know the best qualifications. Tania asked how many senators know what goes on in SUFAC besides those on the board. Tania said what if a majority white senate and SUFAC needs diversity and a minority at-large member is disapproved. Andrei said he doesn't see any problems with racial diversity. Andrei said every year senators are different. Joel said it is wrong to say that race comes into any play. Joel said it is making it more democratic. Dan said the point of the constitution is not to define what-if situations. Nick said SUFAC senators can bring up points at the Senate meeting. Joel said the supreme court is approved by Senate. Nick called the question. Andy objected. Andy said in regards to what Tania and Lynsy were saying, the senators approve at-large members via SUFAC and that is how it should be. Motion failed 8-8-o. Joe said that is it. Dan made a motion to reconsider approving that Subsection. Joe said it failed, nothing else can be done. Lynsy said if the motion is made for reapproval and the rules were suspended. Lynsy said it would be determined by rest of the senators would decide. Lynsy said if abstained or nays it would still fail.

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### Announcements

Ryan said there is a Court hearing in SS 2000 in 15 minutes involving SUFAC. Ricky said to senators who aren't on the ballot, we encourage

everyone to reapply. Ricky said he is very passionate for new members. Joe said he thanks everyone for joining Senate and enjoying Senate.

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### Adjournment

The Senate meeting was adjourned at 7:15 P.M. by Senate Speaker Joe Tyrrell.

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These fabulous minutes were submitted by

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Joy Hanneman