**Union Council Meeting**  
Minutes  
December 14, 2022

**Present:**

Lauren Damgaard

Saehin Kim

Jasmine Machhi

Brady Palzkill

Susan Dibbell

Mark Guthier

Heidi Lang

Jason Stephens

Christina Olstad

Reilly Coon

Sophie Salewske

Kevin Jacobson

Marie Tuchscherer

Reez Bailey

Steve Schaffer

**Guests:**

Danielle Brzezinski

Absent:

Jenny Faust  
Paul Peppard

Meeting called to order at 5:34 p.m.

Motion: Brady moved approval of the November 29, 2022, meeting minutes. Jasmine seconded the motion. November Meeting Minutes were approved.

Land Acknowledgement read by Lauren

Introductions

**Open Forum**

* **Open Forum-** no speakers.

**New Business**

* **Next Semester Meeting Dates and times:**
  + February 21, 2023, 5:30-7:30pm
  + March 7, 2023, 5:30-?- Officer Selection Meeting. Will be a late meeting.
  + March 28, 2023, 5:30-7:30pm
  + April 11, 2023, 5:30-7:30pm
* **Finals Week Programming Announcement – Lauren**
  + Lauren announced the programming that will be done for Final’s week.
  + They will be handing out bubbler 1-4pm during study days, and a late night breakfast will be offered at 10pm on 12/15.
  + There will be study rooms in each building for students.
* **Wisconsin Union Directorate (WUD) Budget Presentation- Jasmine/Brady**
  + Jasmine & Brady shared the WUD budget request for 2023-2024. Their presentation is available in box.
  + The request represents a 1.9% increase.
  + Mark shared that Union Council looks at Directorate recommendations, as it supports the mission of the Union. They would like the perspective of Council, which then helps to build the rest of the Union’s budget.
  + Heidi shared that Society and Politics budget is paid by a gift fund, which is why there are no numbers listed in their presentation.
    - **Motion:** to approve the Wisconsin Union Directorate budget for 2023-2024. Kevin first, Brady second. Vote was 12 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstain. The motion passes.
* **Homecoming Committee Officer Appointment- Lauren & Heidi**
  + Lauren & Heidi went through the Homecoming Committee officer appointments. This is in box to review.
  + Recruitment initiatives this year included: digital signage, emails to campus partners, communications to last year committee, students at org fairs, and CfLI newsletter announcements.
  + They received 21 applications for 5 executive and 5 leadership appointments. Lauren presented the executive member recommendations:
    - President: Katherine Reed
    - Vice-President: Mariana Ray-Hernandez
    - Director of Marketing & Communications: Amari Mbongwo
    - Event Co-Chairs:
      * Tatum Thompson
      * Ella Matz
* **Motion:** to approve the list of candidates as recommended executive members. Brady first, Saehin second. Vote was 12 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstain. Motion passed.
* **Officer Nominating Committee - Lauren**
  + Lauren discussed the officer nominating committee. The policy is in box to review, and Lauren read through it.
  + The nominating committee meets with the candidates in the first round of interviews and forwards candidates for the in-person interview with Union Council.
  + ASM and non-student reps need to be on this committee. Lauren then asked the group for any recommendations. Kevin Jacobson was nominated for the ASM rep. For the non-student member, Dean Olstad agreed to serve.

**Officer Reports**

* President- Lauren- they are wrapping up the semester, with a social tonight.
* VP of Internal Relations- Jasmine- WUD is doing a pre-exam social tonight. They also sent out feedback forms to reflect on the semester.
* VP of External Relations- Saehin- working with marketing on recruitment materials for 2023-2024 leadership positions.
* VP of Resources and Operations- Brady – encouraging directors to start their spring planning. The Late-night grant awarded over $9,000 to various programs.
* Secretary Update- Mark shared that the Provost has discussed possibly changing the grading of first year students. Held the budget kick off last week with staff. The Unions will close 12/22 and reopen 1/9.
* Treasurer Update- Susan shared that the October Financial statement is in box. The increase in wages, has caused the budget to be lower. Tomorrow night there is a film screening for Student Print’s 50th anniversary. The University Club will be opening in January, there will be several sneak previews prior to officially opening.

**Union Advisory Boards- Administration**

* **Admin- Jasmine** shared that they were busy working on the budget. They will be doing more subcommittee meetings in the spring.
* **Dining & Hospitality- Saehin-** They are working on a survey for the customer experience. They are discussing putting a QR code on receipts to make it easier to complete.
* **Facilities- Brady**- they completed their Reflection Room Survey. Brady shared the results of this survey. Every two years the Reflection room should be revisited. They got 27 responses. Most of the users are using it daily for prayer, for about 10 minutes at a time. There is an interest in a preparation station being put in the room. The recommendations are in box to review. Other recommendations include adding an arrow to show the direction to pray, increased cleaning plan, removing the chairs, replace the area rug, remove the rules sign on the outside and replace with something more welcoming, label shoe rack for shoe use only, add artificial plants, add warmer lights with dimmer switch, and then have Union Marketing to run a campaign to share the updates**.** Mark shared an idea for real plants vs. artificial. It was suggested to also update the marketing on the website with more details of the room.
* **Social Education- Lauren-** Lauren shared they updated position descriptions and expectations including language on number of days directors are expected to be at retreat. Ensure that the leadership training/retreats language is uniform on Hoofers position descriptions. Ensure that commitment to social justice and community engagement is stated. Number of associate directors were added to several committees. And then changes to General Responsibilities of a WUD Director.
  + **Motion:** to approve the changes that were made Performing Arts Committee Director position and all of the other changes. Reez first, Jasmine second. Vote was 12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. Motion passed.

**Updates**

* ASM Update- Reez shared ASM hosted the Mayor at the last meeting and discussed housing. ASM’s shared governance chair has stepped down, and they will be working to replace. The last ASM meeting for the semester is tomorrow.
* SSFC Update- Kevin shared that SSFC met yesterday to discuss the Union’s budget. It passed with 3 recommendations. They have wrapped up all their committee work for the semester.
* Dean of Students – Christina shared that ASM shared governance applications are open right now. Student Advising Group wants to change SOAR time for advising. On Thursday they will be handing out coco and coffee, as well as pizza with Bucky. They are also planning for Wisconsin Welcome events in January.

Adjourned at 6:40pm