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Wisconsin Technical College Advocacy Group

Established 1972

[www.wsgtech.com](http://www.wsgtech.com)

**MINUTES**

**February 19, 2022**

**Madison Concourse**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Technical College** |  | **Technical College** |  |
| **Blackhawk** | X | **Moraine Park** | **X** |
| **Chippewa Valley** | X | **Nicolet** | **X** |
| **Fox Valley** | X | **Northcentral** | **X** |
| **Gateway** |  | **Northeast WI** | **X** |
| **Lakeshore** | X | **Northwood** |  |
| **Madison** | X | **Southwest** | **X** |
| **Mid-State** | X | **Waukesha** | **X** |
| **Milwaukee Area** | X | **Western** | **X** |

* **5:20 PM: Roll Call** 
  + **Katrina, called the in-person meeting at the Madison Concourse Hotel to order. John, called Roll. The results are shown in the chart above.**

* **5:22 PM: Welcome – Katrina Willis, WSG President** 
  + **Katrina welcomed the membership to the February meeting. She then invited the membership to give themselves a round of applause to congratulate themselves on all that they have accomplished this year.**
* **5:23 PM: Approval of Agenda and January 13, 2023, Minutes**
  + **5:23 PM: Midstate made a motion to approve the agenda. Nicolet Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
  + **5:28 PM: Northcentral made a motion to table the approval of the January 13th minutes to allow for more time for review. Midstate Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**
* **5:29 PM: Reports**
* **President’s Report – Katrina Willis**
  + **Katrina thanked the membership for all their hard work and dedication.**
  + **Due to time constraints, Katrina postponed her report on the recent updates of the W.T.C.S. to the April Meeting.**
* **AFO Report- John Krueger**
  + **John briefly discussed the financial status of WSG. His report included all transactions between the January and February meetings, a year-to-date profit loss showing a current net loss of -$1,722.28 and an explanation of the total assets of WSG, totaling $32,612.60.**
  + **Resource Director- Katie Brooks**
    - **Katie gave details about the next meeting which will be at Midstate Technical college on April, 14th. She mentioned that elections for officer positions will take place at this meeting which will be discussed later in the agenda. She also mentioned that the 2023-2024 Proposed budget would be discussed at that meeting.**
* **5:38 PM: Position Paper- Patrick Casper**
  + **Patrick read summarized and read excerpts from the position paper to the membership and discussed the 2 WSG Advocacy Positions.**

1. **WSG supports an investment of $1 Million over the next biennium to provide grants to each technical college for the creation of open educational resources (OER) which may be utilized by all colleges within the Wisconsin Technical College system to reduce the cost of textbooks which can help defray student debt.**
2. **WSG supports an increase of $11.8 million GPR in each year of the biennium to increase the average WTCS Wisconsin Grant award to $1,100 and to expand the pool of eligible students to those enrolled in at least 3 credit hours. Along with the increase of the grant award, WSG supports the replacement of the 10 semester and six-year caps with a maximum credit limit of 128 hours. This aligns with the Wisconsin GI Bill eligibility limit.**
   * **Moraine Park made a motion to Accept the position paper. Mid-State Seconded the motion. The motion Passed Unanimously.**

* **5:41 PM: WSG Updates- Brandon Trujillo** 
  + **Brandon thanked the members who helped with the bylaw work group. He then discussed the specific amendments made to the bylaws that implemented a succession plan for the executive board. The changes were distributed to the membership.**
  + **Brandon talked about the appointment schedule for students who would be interested in being appointed to the board of their college.**
  + **Discussed some of the important updates surrounding the executive budget that came out on Wednesday.**
  + **Brandon also gave some general guidance to the membership to assist them with their lobbying.**
* **5:57 PM: WSG Officer Election in April- Katie Brooks**
  + **Katie discussed the requirements and responsibilities of being an officer, the election criteria and the procedure for elections.**
  + **6:02 PM: Mid-State made a motion to table the rest of the election discussion [Specific duties of each officer position and Officer Testimonials] until April. Madison Seconded the motion.**
    - **North Central asked for an increase in time for the following meeting.**
    - **Katrina stated that there would be sufficient time at the April meeting to go over everything.**
  + **The motion passed unanimously.**
* **6:03 PM: Governor Reports**
  + **Governors from each of the colleges in attendance gave updates on recent events at each of their campuses. Details will be included at the end of the minutes.**
* **6:23 PM: Adjourn.**
  + **Midstate made a motion to Adjourn. Blackhawk Seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**GOVERNORS REPORTS**

**Blackhawk**

**Blackhawk organized several events for their students during the back-to-school period, including a welcome week with free coffee and a hygiene drive for the student cupboard. They also took their students on a day trip to the Art Institute of Chicago to visit the exhibit "The Language of Beauty in Africa." The college hosted the first part of their "Spring into Wellness" event series and is currently planning a diversity and inclusion summit. Blackhawk technical college is also focusing on mental health in coordination with WISCORE. In addition, they are excited to host their soul food luncheon, which will be the first time they’ve had this event since 2019. The menu will feature baked and fried chicken, fried catfish, barbecue ribs, collard greens, cornbread, and more, all prepared by their culinary art students.**

**Chippewa Valley**

**Chippewa Valley organized a successful welcome week for their students, providing food and intention bracelets. Student Life purchased t-shirts and gave them away along with minute to win it games. The college was able to recruit new students and invited 27 students from the Student Leadership Academy. Currently, they are preparing for March Midterm Madness, which will act as a finals week for students finishing their classes after the term.**

**Fox Valley**

**At the beginning of the semester, Fox Valley Technical College held a new vote for their governor, and a new president, Ntuhkem Fonkem, was elected. Additionally, they welcomed a new manager for student life. The college has organized a speaker series on February 21st for Black History Month, featuring Kyra Madison. They are also preparing for an S.G.A. banquet and a silent auction to raise funds to support students through the pantry. The college plans to use the funds to support students who cannot afford childcare and to create a business clothing drive for students who cannot afford clothing for interviews. Fox Valley Technical College has recently introduced sports, starting with a basketball club. Additionally, the Mong Student Union organized a noodle mike night for Valentine's Day.**

**Lakeshore**

**Lakeshore organized a winter carnival, which offered various carnival-themed foods such as pretzels and popcorn. The banker's club showcased their 3D printing skills, and there was also a tour of the E-sports room. The college has a hometown hangout event planned in Manitowoc, where students can play pickleball. Lakeshore Technical College plans to organize different hometown hangouts in various areas of their county in the future. In addition, they have an etiquette dinner coming up at Black Pig in Sheboygan, where students can learn professional etiquette in a dining setting.**

**Madison**

**Madison organized a welcome back event for new students by handing out coffee and helping them find their way around the campus. A survey was hosted by Phi Theta Kappa. In addition, the fitness center hosted personal trainer events to encourage students to improve their health. For Black History Month, several organizations hosted various events, including movie events at the United Common Grounds every Tuesday across campuses and black history month trivia day. Madison also started a student experience advisory committee and hosted a career kick start day, where students were able to get help with their resumes. Furthermore, the college started a family program and is looking for a student parent fellow to help cover tuition and related expenses. Lastly, Madison College has been hosting early voting events to ensure that their students can cast their votes.**

**Mid-State**

**Mid-State held a welcome week celebration in January where students were treated to coffee, donuts, snacks, and a BBQ pork lunch. They also distributed welcome bags and gave students the opportunity to win prizes by spinning their famous wheel. On February 7th, the third session of their leadership series took place, during which participants learned about their natural leadership styles and the different techniques required for various situations. For Valentine's Day, Mid-State served cookies and hot chocolate. During Black History Month, the Student Life Social Media Council invited people to read, watch, or listen to relevant articles, videos, and podcasts and participate in a dialogue. Additionally Mid-State's Global Education Department trip to New York has been fully registered, and 13 students will be heading to New York in April to learn about the different cultures that call the city home. Finally, Mid-State is launching a new Metal Fabrication program in fall 2023 to meet the growing local demand for skilled manufacturing professionals. The 29-credit one-year technical diploma will feature hands-on, lab-based work using state-of-the-art equipment that is currently used in local industry.**

**Milwaukee Area**

**Milwaukee Area has organized "Wellness Wednesdays" to address different aspects of wellness, such as physical wellness, with flu clinics being promoted at the Oak Creek campus. The student organization fest, which was held at the Oak Creek campus, was the biggest event that has happened in two years. MATC's food pantry has also been extended to all four campuses, whereas previously it was only available at the downtown campus. For Black History Month, MATC has organized various events, including giveaways and a drawing for tickets to the black Holocaust Museum, along with a soul food luncheon at the downtown campus. The college has also celebrated Valentine's Day with giveaways and refreshments. In addition, MATC is working to promote more in-person orientations for new students to meet with faculties and advisors and learn more about the services offered by the college. Furthermore, the district student government is organizing an event for working moms to network.**

**Moraine Park**

**Moraine Park had a welcome week that included virtual reality machines, racing simulators, caricatures and a visit from comedian Jack Jay Black. A musical performance by John Cassidy was held on all three campuses. Moraine Park participated in a Washington County Education Task Force, and Student Senate members shared their stories and opinions on student activities. They also hired a new student life advisor for their West Bend campus. The college also conducted a Christmas blanket event, which was followed by a donation to Children's Hospital. Team trivia competitions, Sing-go (musical bingo) events, and musical performances by EDM and looping artist Noah Hone were also held.**

**Nicolet**

**Nicolet will be shooting a Wisconsin Student Government recruitment video that aims to provide potential members with a better understanding of the organization. They also introducing a new lunch and learn series called "The Job I Never Knew I Wanted" which will highlight different businesses in the district and the opportunities available within them. In April, Nicolet is hosting a job fair in collaboration with young professionals to offer free LinkedIn headshots to students, with hopes to increase interest and participation. Additionally, they have experienced a boost in club participation since the start of the school year, and several clubs will be traveling in the coming months. Nicolet launched a food pantry in mid-January, serving 17 to 20 students per biweekly pickup. They also celebrated Valentine's Day by giving away treats to its students.**

**Northcentral**

**Northcentral welcomed back its students for the spring semester with a variety of events. Students were given giveaways for obtaining their student IDs and were provided with hot cocoa. Welcome tables were also set up to assist students in finding their classrooms. NTC also started an intramural indoor soccer league on January 16th. During Black History Month, NTC hosted a documentary viewing on the 13th. Valentine's Day was celebrated with trivia events. The college also promoted mental health workshops hosted by the Wisconsin Technical College System over Zoom. NTC has planned upcoming Winterfest activities, scholarship workshops, and an ice cream resource fair. The fair will showcase the different resources and services available to students at NTC.**

**NWTC**

**Northwest (NWTC) has recently undergone renovations at its Sturgeon Bay and Marinette campuses, creating almost identical room layouts for its esports program. This allows teammates to play from campus to campus, providing a recruitment advantage for the program, which is now accessible at three of the college's campuses. NWTC has also joined an esports association with multiple colleges within the WTCS, including Lakeshore and North Central. In addition, NWTC offers recreational sports programs, including volleyball and basketball rec sports, with enough teams to host multiple tournaments in each. The college also plans to begin soccer when weather permits.** **NWTC has successfully hosted two trips to Mexico and Barcelona this year and has upcoming trips to Scotland and Greece as summer approaches. The college is also sending a student externally to Tunisia, Africa. As part of its commitment to student mental health, NWTC has partnered with licensed health professionals from a company named Better Mind to provide virtual counseling sessions every day of the week, including weekends.** **Finally, NWTC recently hosted a student involvement trip to Milwaukee, which included visits to popular museums, a performance by the Peking Acrobats at their theater, and a visit to the Milwaukee Public Market.**

**Southwest**

**The Southwest Student Senate at the Southwest Technical College voted to support the dairy and livestock judging teams to be part of the athletic programs rather than a club to improve their funding. They also held a Diversity Week from January 30th through February 3rd, which included a display called "Black and White in Black and White" displaying photos from the early 20th century, and an Ebony Bell speaker titled "Black History is American History". On February 22nd, the Southwest celebrated Black History Month with various events. The esports teams achieved victories at a LAN event in Illinois, including first place in Fortnite, second place in Super Smash Brothers, and first in Call of Duty Modern Warfare. The collegiate cyber defense competition team also achieved wild card status for the state of Wisconsin, with further details pending.**

**Waukeshau**

**The Waukesha Student Government Association has been active in serving the student body, with ten students returning for the spring semester. They have completed their spring lineup of events, which included a spring luncheon, movie day, spa day and night, craft day, and bingo. They will also be present at various campus events, such as the open house, spring awards ceremony, and commencement ceremony. One of their recent events, "Donut Stress," gave out donuts and hot chocolate at both the Pewaukee and Waukesha campus on Valentine's Day. The SGA is also planning an event called "Evening Grabbing Go" on March 2nd to cater to evening students who can pick up dinner and meet their senators on the way to class. The SGA office is currently being remodeled, with an added E-sports area. They are also planning their annual elections to be held in late April, which is particularly important as three students will be graduating, and new senators will need to be in place for the planning of the 23-24 school year.**

**Western**

**On February 9th, Western Student Government hosted an event where loaded fries were given away to students. Additionally, on February 14th, a Valentine's Day social event was held where students were given protection packs, goodies, and carnations. Students were also able to create their own Valentine's cards at a card-making station. The student government held a logo design contest and after reviewing various submissions, a winning logo was selected and will be used to represent the organization in the future.**