The Pointer bawks at SGA cuts

Budget cuts will hit students, their organizations, and the university the hardest

by Ron Wirtz

Picking up this week's Pointer, people will wonder 'What's the deal? Why so small? What? No hockey?' But there is a reason for it.

A little background

All student organizations went up for funding in front of the Student Government Senate this past weekend for its annual SGA financial allocation.

The process of receiving money from SGA first starts by submitting a budget for all expenditures and revenues to SGA. The difference between expenses and revenues equals an organization's request for SGA monies. This budget is then analyzed by the Finance Committee, who then make a recommendation to the Senate as to the justifiable allocation for each organization.

Weeks later, the Senate gathers for one day to formally decide the allocations of every student organization on one day. One by one, each organization comes in front of the Senate, and they are asked questions about the nature of their organization and its budget. Points and figures are debated, and each budget is passed by a majority vote.

Currently, there are 23 senators for 30 available seats. Of these 23 senators, 4 were missing the entire day, and a fifth for half of the day. This comes during a task which is arguably their most important duty of the entire semester. The SGA senate, on this one day, holds the future of many student organizations in their hands, because they control the money.

Budget problems

SGA allocates money collected through segregated fees charged through tuition. The past two years, SGA has had an approximately $310,000 to allocate to all the student organizations on campus. This past year however, they received over $100,000 in additional requests for money than last year.

So why the fuss?

Simple. SGA senate has for years had some inbred hostilities toward The Pointer, possibly lingering from the infamous 'Uncensored' issue from two years ago. Whatever the case, this staff feels we are not equitably treated. The biggest effect of this negligence is the fact that The Pointer is the student voice, it influences all parts of this university, and is a concrete representation of this campus. This is not a personal plight for the members of this organization, it is a protest against the Senate for neglecting a student organization which is trying to promote the social and conscious health of the entire university.

This issue is a formal protest against SGA, particularly the Senate, for its practices, and its inequitable handling of university monies.

A tale of two mediums

90FM and The Pointer both have budgets of about $88,000. 90FM's financial request was $49,000 (84% of their total budget). The Pointer's request for SGA monies was about $10,500 (18% of total budget). 90FM received $41,000, The Pointer received $3,500. Both received similar cuts in actual dollars, but proportionately, The Pointer's budget was cut 67% (7% of total; about 17%).

I think 90FM is a great station. They are one of the most reputable college radio stations in the country. This is in NO WAY an attempt to discredit them. What I mean to do is emphasize the point of equity. The Pointer saves this university $45,000 by collecting advertising, and gets no compensation. We don't ask for much, yet we receive even less.

 aren't you overreacting? Maybe. But this entire organization is tired of being disrespected and abused by SGA.

The paper is a service to this campus, and it is often utilized by SGA. This paper, looks for no favors, but does look for fair treatment. The Pointer is the only consistent source the university, as an institution, has to its student body. It is also the only place where student voice and opinion can be heard. The paper also provides the only source of news (particularly campus news) that many students receive.

Like The Pointer or not, believe it poor or well done, view it as credible or superfluous, it does one thing - it keeps students abreast of issues and topics on this campus - something no other organization can lay better (or any) claim to.

Aren't all student organizations being cut? Yes, university monies are tight all around, and student organizations need to tighten their belts. However, the Senate's process for making cuts show no priority or justification.

Last Sunday, there were 18 senators deciding the financial fates of organizations they knew little about. There are 30 student organizations on campus, and getting a personal look at each one is impossible. But in the same vein, budget cuts cannot be justified by ignorance.

During our hearing, Senator Krause was more interested in the fact that we printed the word "poon-tang" than in anything else, and was ready to zero fund using this as his justification. All work study was eliminated (40 hours/week), which is the cheapest use of student labor available. For every student hour worked, the organization pays about $1.30, and the remainder of the continued on page 2

SGA REQUEST AND ALLOCATION

$10,500 REQUEST

(18% of total Budget)

$3,500 ALLOCATION

(67% cut)

Chart by Brandon Peterson, UWSP Pointer

Typos in The Pointer you say?

by Eric Meyer

Copy Editor

As always I have done my best to edit the copy of The Pointer. The only difference is that this week I and the rest of the staff have worked without salary. We have done this as a show of united staff support and disagreement with the Pointer budget approved for next year by SGA.

For me and many members of the staff, hours put in for free are nothing new. Week in and week out I have worked up to 15-16 hours in a week and have been paid for 12 hours at university minimum. I never complained because I wanted the job and most of all because I have pride in what I do.

I enjoy reading the weekly articles and derive satisfaction from making people look their best in print. I am sorry that at least one senator on SGA feels that my work is trash. The appearance of the paper is, in part, a reflection of me and it is a representation of the university as a whole.

The job is rewarding despite its difficulty. Because of space constraints, what gets into the paper is only a small portion of the articles that are submitted for typesetting. Unfortunately the job requires more hours than I can afford to put in.

Saturday evening I listened as SGA turned down our request for an assistant copy editor position of eight hours per week. (About $35 per week in salary.) An aura of excitement came over me as Ron, our editor, articulately explained the importance of the position and the need for clear error free copy.

Nothing diminishes the credibility and reputation of a paper more than misspelled words and awkward sentences. Believe me, when the paper comes out Thursday afternoon I feel badly about every error I find.

continued on page 5

NEWSPAPER COSTS & REVENUE 1990-91 (WEEKLY AVERAGE)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COSTS</th>
<th>REVENUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1968</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$668 PRINTING COSTS</td>
<td>$1650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$1300 FIXED COSTS (Wages, capital expenditure, office supplies, maintenance, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chart by Brandon Peterson, UWSP Pointer

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE POINTER HOCKEY TEAM FOR ITS 3-PEAT NCAA III HOCKEY FIRST PLACE WIN LAST WEEKEND.
LOOK FOR FULL COVERAGE IN NEXT WEEK'S POINTER!
by Steve Schmidt

Outdoor Editor

It’s a sad time for UWSP, as in the fact that starting next fall your campus newspaper will be operating under strict budget restraints.

SGA has taken an honest budget proposal and whittled it down to a meager donation that will offer little support when next semester’s Pointer staff rides the turbulent financial waters.

What’s even more traumatic than operating on insufficient monies are the underlying consequences of butchering the Pointer’s funds. I predict the impact will affect every reader.

The Pointer staff (photo by Al Crouch)

Protest from page 1

wage is picked up by other financial aid sources. This is an inexpensive way to get additional people involved in the paper. The more people involved, the better the paper becomes. There was no justification given for its cut.

Senators also argued that students shouldn’t have to pay for trash that goes in the newspaper. Well, then they should have to pay for information, entertainment — the good things they do get from The Pointer?

An independent newspaper would normally expect to get subscription fees from readers. The $10,500 requested by this organization averages out to about $1.21 per student for the entire year — all of 4 cents per

Student organizations, the communications department and UWSP as a whole.

The effects of distributing a paper with limited coverage of news and events may be subtle at first, creating a sense of unconscioussness among the students. Soon, however, more problems will arise, and then more, each one an offspring of a starved foundation.

I suspect there will be a lack of attendance at some university events and programs. And there will be mood of dissatisfaction as students seek information which cannot be found in the barren contents of their campus newspaper. These problems, nonetheless, will be overlooked by SGA. They may not, at first, even suspect these problems exist.

It won’t be until the communications department begins losing its credibility that SGA will identify the importance of reasonable funding for The Pointer.

In comparison to the majority of campuses across the state, UWSP’s communications department is among the finest. Currently, it receives the respect it deserves. Why does it?

Its academic credibility exists because of its student-run organizations have the financial opportunity and support necessary for high-quality performance. Adequate funding in the past is another reason why the communications department lives in the spotlight of excellence.

The Pointer, for example, once received an excess of $50,000 from SGA. This sum of money enabled the Pointer to publish lengthy papers with little ad space. The reputation, therefore, of the communications department was built in part by adequate funding for the Pointer in years gone by.

Credibility, however, can be tarnished as easily as it was centered. All it takes is running, for a few semesters, a campus publication that resembles a pamphlet more than a newspaper. Prospective university students, especially communications majors, will shy away from enrolling in a university whose newspaper suffers the hardships of pathetic funding.

In addition, other student organizations will suffer from the onslaught upon The Pointer’s funding. Take for example, the University Activities Board (UAB) which depends on the weekly edition of The Pointer to advertise upcoming events. UAB directly sponsors many of these activities. And without The Pointer, they are drastically limited in the number of ways to efficiently dispense valuable information. Consequently, their reputation for providing large audiences at campus events and programs relies, for the most part, in the hands of the campus newspaper.

I think it’s vital that each and every student on this campus realizes the importance of this paper. The Pointer is the only form of campus media that provides students with the opportunity to freely voice their opinions. The Pointer is dedicated to expressing the opinions of the students it represents as well as the viewpoints of its staff. We exist for

Are we being reasonable in this reprimand?

Possibly not. But The Pointer has been too much maligned in recent years to stand it any longer.

The double standard here is that The Pointer accommodates many other student organizations, such as SGA being the only one on the list of beneficiaries. Yet this importance and service is repaid with insults, criticism, and total absence of support.

So who really loses here?

In the end, students and the university in general stand to lose much. Students lose the power of voice which The Pointer uniquely possesses, and the university stands to lose a paper that, if properly funded and supported, would be second to none.

Time to act

Students, clip the coupon (over 40) and take it to SGA offices in the lower UC. Show support for YOUR newspaper.

Conversely, if you don’t agree with The Pointer, just fill in a list for students not suitable to publication. All correspondence should be addressed to The Editor, Pointer, 104 Communications Arts Center, UWSP, Stevens Point, WI. 54481. Written permission is required for the reprint of all materials presented in the Pointer.

Letters to the editor will be accepted only if they are typed, single-spaced and not more than 100 words in length. Names will be withheld from publication only if an appropriate of UWSP students. The Pointer reserves the right to edit letters if necessary and to refuse to print letters not suitable to publication. All correspondence should be addressed to The

Editor-in-Chief
Ron Witz
Business Manager
Eric Simmons
Ad Design, Layout, and Graphics Editor
Brandon Pettis
Advertising Manager
Paula Schon
Assoc. Advertising Manager
Jim Cheko
New Editor
Joe O'Flaherty
Features Editor
Barry Radler
Outdoor Editor
Steve Schmidt
Sports Editor
Kris Kasins
Copy Editor
Eric Meyer
Photo Editor
Lisa Stubler
Photographers
Ali Crouch
Mark Petersen
Typsetters
Kelly Laddar
Michelle Dobberstein
Krisan Noel

Coordination
Pattie Boone
Senior Advisor
Pete Kelley

Take me to SGA offices, lower level UC.
You can't please everyone all of the time

by Barry Radler
Features Editor

"You have a lot of balls to ask, homeboy, but I like you. Ya know, come to think of it, I really dig scamming on all the bitchin' poontang around campus. Heh, heh. If all else fails during college, we have hell of a lot of cultural diversity--drugs and alcohol, yaknow...

Name: Zeb Myhigha
Age: 64
Major: Undeclared
Year: 40th year senior

What if Zeb Myhigha's response had been, "The spontaneity and bluntness of your inquiry does operate to bewilder my cognition, although my rational-emotive-intuitive process allows a communicative bond with you. I derive a relatively substantive amount of pleasure from the aesthetically appreciative physical components of the female Homo-sapiens. In a case where the former is denied due to chronological discrepancies, the wonderment is available through disrupting normal electro-chemical interactions of the nervous system using various psychoactive substances, legal and otherwise, offering diverse opportunities for self-exploration in a university setting."

If you wish for that kind of newspaper, you wish for no newspaper. They aren't written as dry, denotative and neutered rags towing an organizational line, especially the features/entertainment sections. I apologize for those people who were offended by Zeb's humor--for it was not bellicose or malevolent--and I apologize as well for a society in which the white, anglo-saxon, protestant, male is inherently viewed as a discriminating prosecutor, but I do not apologize to a person's paranoia.

If it were my wish to lash out at some institution I need not a forum such as the Pointer Poll; I write well enough to describe my feelings/thoughts in a manner leaving little room for misinterpretation. Thankfully, The Pointer exists as an opportunity for others as well.

A Short Explanation
- The reason for the clip art is the fact that I can't afford drawing tools due to SGA budget gashing.
- This cartoon now falls under mandatory social/ethnic balance as mandated by SGA law.
- The general lack of biting humor is due to new SGA resolutions that forbid any humorous material that anyone might find offensive because they are so tight-assed.
- The black student is also deaf, as mandated by the SGA requirement of at least one disabled student per cartoon.
- So as not to offend anyone with the suggestion of violence in this cartoon, the gun the Gestapo man is holding is loaded with non-lethal rock salt, not 00 buckshot like it should be for bad cartoonists like this one.
It's a threepeat!! So where's the coverage? Why don't you ask your student government?

by Kris Kasinski
Sports Editor

IT'S A THREEPEAT!! The UWSP hockey team has captured the Division III National Hockey Championship for the third consecutive year. This is not only incredible, it is almost unimaginable! Why is there no coverage in the Pointer?

Because we, at the Pointer, are setting a publishing budget, the University Student Government has cut our budget over 67 percent, this is just ridiculous. With the budget allotted the Pointer, this issue that you are reading would be equivalent (if not better) to the issues that we would be capable of putting out every week of next year.

Student Government does not realize that they are not only hurting the Pointer, but they are hurting the entire student body and faculty as well. In this case, they are hurting the national championships, the UWSP hockey team.

Obviously, there were a large number of you out there that were waiting to pick up the Pointer to get full coverage on the hockey championship. When you finally got this week's issue and found no coverage, you were probably very disappointed or very angry, or both. Believe me, I am definitely both.

Something of this importance deserves to be on the front page, as well as to receive full coverage in the sports section. I know that you were all expecting to see this, but you didn't.

The students will be angered at this. The faculty will be angered at this, the national championship hockey team and coaches will be angered at this, the numerous and loyal hockey fans will be angered at this, and I am angered at this.

Student Government has no right, and no reasonable explanation to take something of such value away from the students. Maybe they don't understand just how many people read and count on the paper every week. And unfortunately a happening as great as this championship not being covered is what it may have to take to get people to realize just how important this paper is to everyone.

Student Government has to make an analogy. That is understand-able. But there is no reason that an organization which serves the entire campus has to be cut by over 67 percent of its requested budget.

I think that Student Government needs to take a step back and look at the importance of the paper and just how many students, faculty and community members benefit from it, including themselves. The Pointer is important to SGA when they want an ad run or an announcement made, but I guess they were a little forgetful when they made budget cuts.

What would this campus do without the Pointer? What would Student Government do? With what they did to us, we may have to find out. Think about it SGA! I hope that enough of you out there are as pissed off as the Pointer staff is, and I hope that each one of you go directly to SGA and give them a piece of your mind. Tell them what you think about all of this. Something needs to wake them up!

I would like to apologize to the national championship hockey team, Coach Mazzeoli, Coach Baldarotta, and all the hockey fans out there for not covering the championship in this week's issue. There will be full coverage in next week's issue, please be sure to check it out.

Please do not be upset at the Pointer for any way for this, the people that you need to blame are in your Student Government.

Pointer
from page 2

you, the students, as an editorial tool with the power to create change.

Therefore, it's up to you to decide whether your freedom to speak shall be suppressed by this organization representing you, SGA.

For decades, SGA and The Pointer have had mixed relationships, phasing in and out of peace periods and war. Each organization holds conflicting expectations of what the newspaper should provide. And as a retired UWSP faculty member puts it, "SGA has always expected the Pointer to be their personal public relations arm."

We, the Pointer staff, believe that student government should have a different purpose, a purpose decided upon by journalism, not politicians who act in the fulfillment of self-interests.

As well as providing a solid foundation in which students can voice their remarks, we strongly feel obligated to inform and entertain.

However, SGA is greedy. They'd like nothing more than obtaining complete control of what fills the pages of each Pointer issue. And if SGA doesn't get what it wants in terms of media coverage, it manifests its anger through budget restraints. These are inexcusable actions by which SGA has been functioning for many years.

Odds are, if the Pointer agreed to cater to the requests of SGA, we would be one of the highest funded organizations on campus. Until we surrender to this false association, The Pointer will be faced with hard times.

But we will no longer stand for the inequitable treatment so generously dished-out by SGA. We hope you will support our efforts to address SGA with your personal comments in regard to their unjustified budget-cutting strategies. Voicing your opinions is a powerful tool that can ensure the survival of The Pointer.

Turn your apathy into involvement

by Brandon Peterson
Ad Design, Layout, and Graphics Editor

WEDNESDAY NIGHT AT BRUISERS
Step back in time to the "Oldies." Special low drink prices! Don't miss this creative new special. Stop in to our new lower level and see how it works!

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
35¢ Taps and 65¢ Rail Drinks

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS
Early Bird Specials - 2 for 1 6-10pm

DOORS OPEN AT 8:00
BRUISERS, downtown Stevens Point

BRUISERS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT AT BRUISERS
Step back in time to the "Oldies." Special low drink prices! Don't miss this creative new special. Stop in to our new lower level and see how it works!

TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS
35¢ Taps and 65¢ Rail Drinks

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS
Early Bird Specials - 2 for 1 6-10pm

DOORS OPEN AT 8:00
BRUISERS, downtown Stevens Point

HIS JOB, HIS HOME, HIS FAMILY.
SOME PEOPLE WILL PAY ANYTHING FOR COCAINE.

Cocaine really is expensive. Look what it almost cost this man.

He's getting help at a Drug Rehabilitation Center. They got help from the United Way. All because the United Way got help from you.

Your single contribution helps provide therapy for a child with a learning disability, a program that sends a volunteer to do the shopping for a 79 year-old woman, and a place for a 12 year-old to toss a basketball around after school.

Or, in this case, rehabilitation for a cocaine abuser. A man who, without your help, could very well have ended up paying the ultimate price.

United Way
It brings out the best in all of us.
SGA budget slashing wounds students

by Jodi Ott
News Editor

Obtaining a college degree is supposed to build a young adult into a well-rounded individual. I feel that Student Government Association is stealing that privilege from students and turning them into squares.

By slashing the budget for The Pointer, resources and needed manpower will not be available for the 1991-1992 school year. Students who wished to contribute to the paper now will not have that opportunity.

A miniscule budget robs the organization of work-study hours. Hours that enable students to work toward their career while still funding their college education.

A college education does not only exist inside the classroom. The experience I have gained from working four years with The Pointer is not something I could have learned in any classroom.

Often college students are told, "Wait until you get into the real world." I'm not saying that college students exist in some fairytale land where there are no rent bills, no parking tickets, no macaroni and cheese five nights a week, and no exams.

I am saying that being on staff gives students the chance to be a part of that so-called real world. A student can blow off class and it will only hurt them. (Well, maybe.) If a writer blows off an assignment, the whole staff suffers and the reputation of the paper is damaged. Deadlines not only teach time management but stress management. Classroom concepts now turn into real-life situations.

Students can put "work well with others" on their resumes but working on The Pointer shows if you can really do it.

The opportunities on staff are vast. A variety of activities benefit the individual and thereby the whole student population. There are few organizations on campus where the work of that group is seen by all. I feel that one dollar for The Pointer is one dollar for the whole campus.

The paper links students to students, faculty to students, other campuses to students and the community to students. Those links would all be broken without the needed money to hold them together.

The growing image of The Pointer has added credibility to the campus. That credibility was built by a dedicated and hard-working staff. Hopefully, such a staff will exist next year but that may be impossible without the money to fund such a staff.

The Pointer does as much for the Division of Communication as the new Health Enhancement Center does for the physical education department. We are not asking for $7 million, only $10,300.

That money will be used to develop inexperienced students into responsible, knowledgeable and well-rounded adults. That opportunity should not be denied.

Free Speech.

Get the AT&T Calling Card and your first call is free.

There's no better time to speak your mind. Because now when you get your free AT&T Calling Card, you'll get your first 15-minute call free.

With your AT&T Calling Card, you can call from almost anywhere to anywhere. And you can keep your card, even if you move and get a new phone number.

Our Calling Card is part of the AT&T Student Saver Plus program, a whole package of products and services designed to make a student's budget go farther.

So look for AT&T Calling Card applications on campus. Or call us at 1 (800) 525-7955, Ext. 655.

And let freedom ring.

AT&T: Helping make college life a little easier.
PRESENTS

BEER-MAKING MINICOURSE

Signup
CAO

must be 21

Fri. March 22
Native American Folk Rock

Bill Miller

*With Special Guest
SHANE TOTTEN
8:00pm
$2w/UWSP ID

the Encore

Thur. March 21
Teen Dabblers
HARDCORE PUNK
8:00pm
FREE

the Encore

Tues. March 26
The Spencers
Magic and Illusion
8pm $2w/UWSP ID PBR

SPECIAL LIMITED ENGAGEMENT! FOUR DAYS ONLY!
Friday March 22nd through Monday March 25th

$3.50w/ID
U.C. PBR
ALL NEW!
22 premieres from the producers of the International Tournees of Animation!

"THE STRONGEST ANIMATION EVENT IN MANY SEASONS... NOT TO BE MISSED."

STARTS TOMORROW!

STARTS TOMORROW
SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT
FOUR DAYS ONLY

UNIVERSITY CENTER
PROGRAM BANQUET ROOM • 346-2412

Daily: 7:00, 9:00
Saturday & Sunday Mat: 5:00
Friday & Saturday Late Show: Midnight

THE SECOND ANIMATION CELEBRATION THE MOVIE

©1989 Expanded Entertainment
WEEKLY WINNERS
Jody Marver
Pam Simon
If you are one of our lucky weekly winners just bring this ad in along with your Student I.D. Card by close of business on Sunday, March 24, 1991 to redeem your prize! A medium pizza with your choice of any one topping.

BONUS COUPON
5 Cups of Coke®
ONLY $0.99
Can be used with any other coupon!

WEEKLY WINNERS
John Okonek
Jason Perlman
If you are one of our lucky weekly winners just bring this ad in along with your Student I.D. Card by close of business on Sunday, March 24, 1991 to redeem your prize! A medium pizza with your choice of any one topping.

SMALL PIZZA
ONE TOPPING

$3.99

SMALL PIZZA
TWO TOPPINGS

$4.69

2 SMALL ONE
TOPPING PIZZAS

$5.99

2 SMALL TWO
TOPPING PIZZAS

$7.49

MEDIUM PEPPERONI PIZZA

$4.99

MEDIUM PIZZA
TWO TOPPINGS

$5.79

2 MEDIUM PIZZAS
ONE TOPPING

$8.99

2 MEDIUM PIZZAS
2 TOPPINGS

$9.99

LARGE PIZZA
ONE TOPPING

$5.99

LARGE PIZZA
TWO TOPPINGS

$6.99

2 LARGE PIZZAS
TWO TOPPINGS

$10.99

STOMACH STUFFER

Get a medium pizza with thick crust, pepperoni and extra cheese plus a FREE bottle of Coke® for only $6.49.

• Not good with any other coupon or offer
• Tax not included
Expires 4/11/91 Call 345-0901

• Not good with any other coupon or offer
• Tax not included
Expires 4/11/91 Call 345-0901

• Not good with any other coupon or offer
• Tax not included
Expires 4/11/91 Call 345-0901

• Not good with any other coupon or offer
• Tax not included
Expires 4/11/91 Call 345-0901

• Not good with any other coupon or offer
• Tax not included
Expires 4/11/91 Call 345-0901

• Not good with any other coupon or offer
• Tax not included
Expires 4/11/91 Call 345-0901

• Not good with any other coupon or offer
• Tax not included
Expires 4/11/91 Call 345-0901

• Not good with any other coupon or offer
• Tax not included
Expires 4/11/91 Call 345-0901

• Not good with any other coupon or offer
• Tax not included
Expires 4/11/91 Call 345-0901

• Not good with any other coupon or offer
• Tax not included
Expires 4/11/91 Call 345-0901