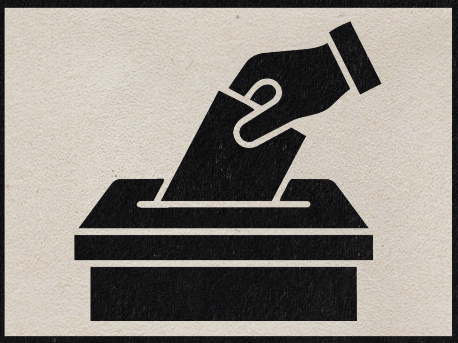
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MKZINE

STUDENT VOTER *GUIDE*



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Volume 1 / Issue 2 — *October 2026*

UWM POST / ABOUT US

The UWM Post is a student newspaper independently run by the students of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM). It brings original news, arts and culture, sports reporting and more to the UWM campus and greater Milwaukee area.

A goal for the UWM Post is to be a primary source and accessible public forum for students and the broader community to share news, opinions and artwork. If you have something to say or art to show, the newspaper is here to spread it to the masses.

Volume 1 / Issue 2 *Ocotber 28, 2026*

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DEAR UWM POST READERS,

Whether you're new to the UWM campus, a transfer student from another state or have recently moved from the residence halls into your first apartment, voting can feel confusing when election season arrives.

The good news? Voting is often much easier than it seems, and we've outlined everything you need to know in just a few simple steps.

STEP ONE: CHECK YOUR REGISTRATION

Verify that you're registered to vote by checking your registration status through MyVote Wisconsin. If not registered yet, don't panic. Wisconsin allows eligible voters to register at their polling place on Election Day. Make sure you have the required identification and proof of residence; then, you can register and vote during the same visit!

STEP TWO: FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE

Polling locations for UWM residents are listed below:

Sandburg Hall → UWM Lubar Entrepreneurship Center, 2100 E Kenwood Blvd
Cambridge Commons → Urban Ecology Center, 1500 E Park Place RiverView
Residence Hall → Gordon Park Pavilion, 2828 N Humboldt Blvd Kenilworth
Square Apartments → Charles Allis Art Museum, 1801 N Prospect Ave

Living off campus? Go online and simply enter your address at MyVote Wisconsin to find your assigned polling place.

STEP THREE: PREPARE YOUR VOTER ID & DOCUMENTS

If you need to register at the polls, bring:

Valid photo ID (driver's license, Wisconsin ID, REAL ID, or eligible student ID)
Proof of residence showing your current address

Proof of residence can include documents such as:

Utility bill, bank/credit card statement or pay stub
Other approved documents displaying your current address

If you're already registered, all you'll need to bring is a valid photo ID.

STEP FOUR: MAKE AN INFORMED CHOICE

Voting is more than filling in bubbles next to names on a ballot. Before making your vote, take time to learn about the candidates, ballot measures and issues. You've already taken a great first step by picking up this student voting guide, so consider continuing the conversation by encouraging others to stay informed.

STEP FIVE: MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

Every election is an opportunity to shape the community and have a say in issues that matter. From everyone at the UWM Post, thank you for taking the time to participate in the voting process. Your voice matters, and your vote does too.

Sincerely,

Charlie Skrade

Multimedia Editor

UWM Guidance on Political Activity On-Campus

In an interview with Chancellor Gibson that took place the week before his inauguration, the UWM Post spoke with him about protests on campus.

UWM POST: *There were some protesters on campus near the library. How do you recommend that students react when a bunch of different groups are coming on campus to protest in the middle of the school day?*

Chancellor Gibson: I didn't see the protests, but generally speaking, I believe that college campuses should be a marketplace of ideas. I think that we can learn from different perspectives, whether we agree with them or not. I think that members of our student body should be open to hearing different opinions about a number of different topics. And I think that collectively we should be supportive of freedom of expression.

UWM POST: *In these situations, it can get tense or highly emotional. What is the UWM policy and how do you take care of student safety in these situations? Should students be engaging in things like this or should they just be ignoring something like that?*

Chancellor Gibson: As I noted, student safety is a top priority for me and for UWM. I think healthy debate is fine and should be encouraged and allowed. I think when debate crosses the line and perhaps if it becomes threatening or physical in any way, I think the line is drawn at that point and folks have likely violated the university's code of conduct and perhaps even state laws. So, I would encourage students to be mindful of campus conduct policies as well as state policies when they're engaging with voices of dissent.

Statement From Keri Duce, CHIEF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS OFFICER AT UWM:

Each semester, we remind our UWM campus community to review the rules governing political activities on campus and use of university resources. The Universities of Wisconsin provides guidance on political activities for employees and students on all campuses. The webpage includes FAQs on a variety of topics.

University employees, including student workers, may not use work time or UWM resources to engage in political campaign activities. Activities such as sharing a petition or contacting a legislator for political purposes using your uwm.edu email address is prohibited.

Students and employees not on work time are free to engage in political campaign activities in public spaces, and organizations may rent UWM facilities to engage in these activities under the same rules that apply to those organizations for any other purpose.

The fall election is Tuesday, Nov. 3. Find your polling location at My Vote Wisconsin. You do not need to provide a driver's license number or photo to check your Wisconsin voter registration. If a text, email or website asks for either one to "verify" your status, do not provide it. Go directly to MyVote.wi.gov, where you can check your registration using your name and date of birth. Students may register to vote using their campus address.

Political campaigning is prohibited within 100 feet of a polling location building.

UWM is committed to the free and open discussion of ideas and encourages active civic engagement, including participation in the electoral process. Our Free Speech, Rights and Limits website includes the basics on free speech, students' rights, support resources and FAQs around the First Amendment, expressive activities and more.

UWM encourages all students, faculty and staff to be engaged in the political process and to vote in all elections. The university offers the Student Voter Information site to assist students with questions. Active engagement in the electoral process is civic engagement and is not considered political activity.

Understanding Proposed Amendments to the Wisconsin Constitution on Voter's November Ballot

BY ANNABELLE HERSHELMAN

Three proposed amendments to the Wisconsin Constitution will be on the voter's ballot on November 3, 2026, as a part of the 2026 Wisconsin gubernatorial election.

Each of the constitutional amendments are initiatives led by Republican lawmakers. In order to amend the state constitution, legislators must pass a proposed amendment twice; once during a two-year legislative term, and again during the following two-year legislature term, since representatives within the U.S. House of Representatives serve strict two-year terms. If the amendment manages to pass both times, it will come before the voters as a ballot question at the following upcoming election. Only if the ballot question is approved by voters will the amendment be enshrined in the Wisconsin state constitution.

These ballot questions, as ruled on by the Wisconsin Supreme Court in 2023, are technically allowed to be confusing or misleading, as long as they do not contain clearly false information.

According to the majority opinion (written by Justice Brian Hagedorn) in the 2023 Wisconsin Supreme Court case of Wis. Justice Initiative v. Wisconsin Elections Commission (in which former Justice Rebecca Grassl Bradley wrote a concurring opinion), voters have a personal duty to educate themselves regarding ballot questions, which "[do] not require any substantive discussion of [a specific proposed] amendment".

Therefore, the upcoming proposed amendments, and any constitutional amendment-related ballot questions voters will see, will only be approved and enshrined in the state constitution if a majority of voters vote "Yes" on approving them.

Wisconsin lawmakers have already passed each of these amendments both of the necessary times to get them on the ballot, and they want voters to approve and pass them.

What questions will be on the ballot?

The following ballot questions are written as they will eventually appear on November 3, 2026, according to the sample ballot provided by the Wisconsin Elections Commission.

State of Wisconsin Partial Veto Referendum – Question #1: *"Partial veto. Shall section 10 (1) © article V of the constitution be amended to prohibit the governor, in exercising his or her partial veto authority, from creating or increasing or authorizing the creation or increase of any tax or fee?"*

This proposed amendment would limit the constitutional powers of the Wisconsin state governor by barring them from using their partial veto power to create and/or increase any tax or fee. It would not, however, bar them from decreasing any tax or fee. This amendment was originally proposed after Governor Tony Evers, in 2023, used the governor's partial veto powers to raise school revenue limits by $325 a year for 400 years. The veto raises annual revenue limits, not any specific tax or fee.

State of Wisconsin Freedom to Gather in Places of Worship During an Emergency Referendum – Question #2: *"Freedom to gather in places of worship during an emergency. Shall section 18 of article I of the constitution, which deals with religious liberty, be amended to prohibit the state or a political subdivision of the state from ordering the closure of, or forbidding gatherings in, places of worship in response to a state of emergency, including a public health emergency?"*

Voting in favor of enshrining this amendment means that the state, or a political subdivision of the state, cannot bar people from gathering within a religious institution during a state of emergency, similar to the state of emergency issued during COVID-19. In addition, this would protect religious institutions from state-wide mandated restrictions on gatherings. If this amendment were to be enshrined, and people were able to gather at a religious institution during a public health emergency (despite the presence of other public state-wide mandates), the health and safety of those people could be at risk.

State of Wisconsin Governmental Entity Discrimination Prohibited Referendum – Question #3: *"Governmental entity discrimination prohibited. Shall section 27 of article I of the constitution be created to prohibit governmental entities in the state from discriminating against, or granting preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in public employment, public education, public contracting, or public administration?"*

Both Wisconsin state law and federal law already prohibit discrimination by government entities. This proposed amendment would not allow any governmental entity to give preferential treatment, or in other words, preference, special treatment, or benefits, to any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in public entities in matters concerning employment, education, contracting or administration.

Instead, this would focus on eliminating actions that give preferential treatment to individuals or groups who lack representation and who may face systematic barriers. Examples of what may be considered preferential treatment include, but are not limited to, health programs that address differing rates of illness and mortality for different groups like women, social support programs that operate shelters for the homeless and survivors of domestic violence, and curriculum that includes material related to diversity. Giving preferential treatment to people on the basis of sex may also eliminate protection (which may be considered special treatment) of gay marriage.





PPGenAction at UWM are activists organizing events on campus and in the community. Alongside Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin and Planned Parenthood Advocates of Wisconsin, this student organization advocates for reproductive healthcare and education.

UWM students can join or follow on Instagram (@ppgenatuwm).

POLITICAL OP-ED:

Deciding on David - Is Crowley the Right Choice?

BY PETER BURCH

"Nobody is coming to save us," said Democratic gubernatorial nominee David Crowley in front of a packed classroom in Bolton Hall at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. The gubernatorial candidate was addressing the College Democrats during a meeting at UWM on Thursday, Sept. 24.

It was a late addition to the event's itinerary, which had started as a meet-and-greet for Yee Leng Xiong, the Democratic candidate for state treasurer. Xiong had led the night off with a synopsis of his life, career and candidacy, prior to introducing Crowley, who followed a similar path before opening the floor for Q&A.

AI Data Centers

Many campus voters have been frustrated by Crowley's opposition to a Francesca Hong-proposed moratorium on AI data centers. "I don't believe the state should preempt any local community," Crowley said. "No community should be able to enter a non-disclosure agreement (with data centers)." Interesting of him to mention a stance against NDAs with data centers, as Tiffany has a similar platform.

"When it comes down to data centers, we have to protect ourselves," said Crowley. "I think that when a lot of people hear a moratorium, they think we're gonna stop data centers that are being built, and you can't do that. You can't stop what's already being built."

One student noted, "You can stop future projects."

"We can stop future projects based on the environmental standards that we're gonna put in place when I become the next governor," Crowley responded. This response doesn't give a clear plan of action to halt future construction or regulate already present data centers.

Crowley's answer fails to address the real concern that a moratorium would have met: preventing new construction from taking place going forward, giving a 12-month hiatus, allowing lawmakers to come to a consensus on regulation.

On the topic of data centers, those who oppose their presence in communities aren't really left with good options here. "Tiffany has called for repealing the state tax incentive for data centers, while Crowley has not. Both have called for stricter regulation," according to PBS.

It's important to note that Tiffany voted for the SPEED Act, which, as the name suggests, was designed to speed up the construction of data centers, per the Milwaukee Courier. As far as voting records go, Tiffany has supported data centers in the past.

Both candidates are interested in throwing jabs at each other on AI. However, as mentioned, their policies are similar; look no further than their respective websites. David Crowley's website states: "If local communities don't want a data center, they shouldn't be forced to have a data center. No ifs, ands or buts." While Tiffany's website says, "Give local communities the final say."

Other Policies

In fairness, we must look at the flip side of Crowley's showing at UWM. A gubernatorial candidate meeting with voters, taking questions and thanking supporters. I'd be remiss if I didn't highlight his stated plan of raising the minimum wage to $15 per hour immediately and $20 per hour statewide by 2030.

On the topic of ICE, Crowley said, "We will not allow them to come into our communities." Though it's worth noting that the governor doesn't have direct control over preventing ICE's entrance, as we saw previously with Tim Walz, when ICE raided Minneapolis.

Many students echo the exact concerns Crowley spoke on, though many may have more liberal views. Nevertheless, Crowley is a better option for liberal voters than a no vote, given his opponent's voting record.

"Come talk to me."

To those who voted for Hong in the primaries, and aren't planning on voting in November, Crowley urges them to "come talk to me." He has mentioned

numerous times that his door is open for those voters.

This invitation extends beyond leftists, going as far as to say "I'm speaking to people who want to listen." Crowley appears to be interested in making real changes to public policy. However, the issue of how you view these changes is for you, the voter, to decide.

CONCERNS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS: WHAT'S DRIVING STUDENT VOTERS IN THIS ELECTION?

"This is the most important election of our lives!" A statement everyone has inevitably heard at one point or another, only to hear it repeated in the next election cycle. While perhaps not life or death, this cycle matters because the governor's office is up for grabs for the first time in eight years, and with Evers' retirement, it's the first time since 2018 that a new Democratic candidate is running.

However, the importance of an election hinges on its voters. With that in mind, let's look at students' most prominent concerns here at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and what's driving them to vote. I went around the UWM campus asking five students about their top concerns heading into November's election.

Students' Concerns

"AI technology, gun regulation." One student told me when I asked about his main concerns heading into November. "We're kinda getting too divided right now," he added. The student said he's looking for someone "who can effectively navigate political polarization." When asked who he thinks is the better governor option to address those concerns, he told me, "Crowley, if I had to pick."

"Gas prices are pretty brutal right now," Gavin Wiess, a student at UWM, said. "AI regulation is up there." He specified later in the discussion that it's not just data centers that worry him; AI regulation in general is something he wants to see passed. Wiess hasn't decided on who to vote for yet, but these factors will undoubtedly play a part in this thought process.

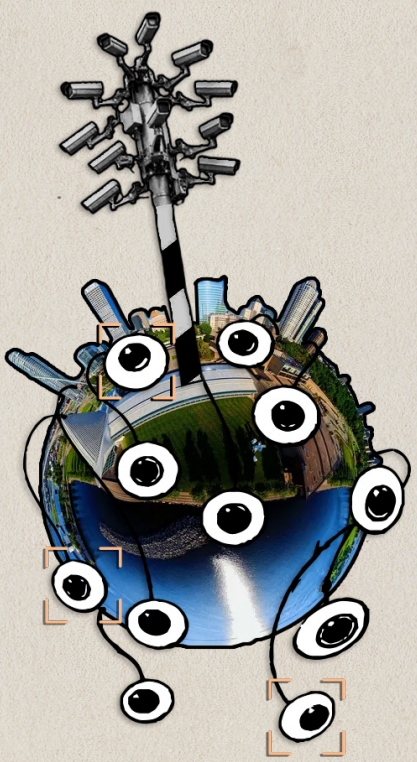
"Housing and job availability/lack thereof," Oliver Woodford, a first-year at UWM, expressed. "I'm actually right now in the process of getting employed to do canvassing for David Crowley."

When asked if this meant he supports Crowley, he was rather honest, saying, "Yeah, I'm doing it partially, mostly for the money at this point. Because they pay you well."

Oliver even mused, "I would campaign for anybody at that point, at $24 an hour. But no, I can get behind a lot of what he's trying to make happen with healthcare and everything. At this point, I'm never going to the dentist again because of the cost currently."

"One of my biggest concerns is the lack of support for endangered species right now," said Holly Nygren, a first-year studying biology at UWM. She also expressed concern for "deforestation and climate change." Nygren says that environmental factors are declining.

"Data centers," Hayden Alvarado, a first-year at UWM, said when asked about their concerns. "ICE is overpowered, and they don't follow the Constitution," Alvarado said. "I'll probably vote for Crowley."



Credit: Ariel Pershman

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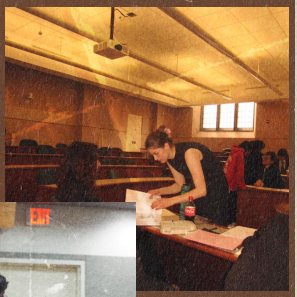
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STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:
Cato Crisci Calls on UWM Community To Help Animals

Come help build a new student organization at UWM to advocate for and educate your peers on behalf of animals. From puppies to rabbits used in research; from rhinos to elephants held hostage in zoos; from deer to ducks hunted for sport; animals need our help.

So why do we keep animals in captivity anyway? We like them and want to be around them. So, we capture them from their homes and lock them in cages for our amusement and to satisfy our curiosity. We restrict what they can do with whom they can socialize. We often separate them from their families and friends. We limit their movements, behaviors and ability to fully realize their higher-order needs.

Imagine being an African elephant with miles of wooded savanna to roam, in Sub-Saharan Africa, in 75-degree weather. Now, picture yourself standing in a confined area, at times behind metal bars, in a freezing Wisconsin winter at the Milwaukee Zoo. That is the reality for Belle, who is also the only elephant there. The average size for a home range is 20 square miles, although it's not unusual for a family range to reach 140 or more. Naturally, elephants are highly active, traveling up to 50 miles a day, and live in multigenerational, matriarchal herds. These magnificent creatures play a crucial role in shaping their ecosystems, known as a keystone species. Their feeding and browsing activities contribute to maintaining biodiversity and shape vegetation patterns.

The Milwaukee County Zoo, as a department of the county, answers to the Milwaukee County Executive and the Milwaukee Board of Supervisors. The Executive Zoo Director is chosen by the Milwaukee County Executive. The Board of Supervisors decides budgets and policies for county facilities. These facts make the upcoming state and local elections even more crucial to vote in as they determine Belle's release or continued captivity.

As a group, we would track current legislation affecting animals and take action. For example, the Wisconsin Animal Protection Society (WISAPS) recently posted on their website information about a bill recently introduced on September 21, 2026 called the COMPACT Act, which says that "no funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), can be used to support the purchase, breeding, housing, transportation or experimental use of dogs or cats, in covered biomedical research, including costs that materially facilitate those experiments."

Other pending litigation includes bills concerning the Endangered Species Act, other animals used in research in testing and the provision of funding for plant-based meals in schools.

In addition to tracking and spreading awareness of the legal status of animals, an animal activist organization would advocate for more plant-based options on campus and in the residence halls. We would like to hold semi-regular tabling events in the Union and Spaights Plaza, handing out flyers and sharing information through flyers and conversation. As the group grows, we'd like to hold events sponsored by UWM, including At the Table Dialogues, which foster connection and dialogue over a meal with students and faculty.

If you are interested in joining or have any questions about forming a student organization, please reach out to Cato Crisci (cjcrisci@uwm.edu).

DEFENDING OUR
VOTE

ACLU



Know Your Rights

You have the right to vote free from intimidation.

It is illegal for the government to send armed federal agents to the polls.

Mail-in voting remains a legal, safe, and secure voting method for this election.

If you feel intimidated at the polls, document your experience and call the Election Protection Hotline at **1-866-OUR-VOTE.**

Make a Plan *To Vote*

- Confirm that your voter registration is up to date.
- Find your polling place and make a plan for how to get there.
- Check your local voter ID requirements at **866ourvote.org**
- Consider voting early in-person or by mail.
- Encourage your friends and neighbors to make a plan to vote!

ACLU.ORG/VOTE









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