

Senate of the Associated Students 82nd Session

Minutes for Wednesday, April 30th, 2014 at 5:30 P.M.

Rita Laden Senate Chambers, on the Third Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Speaker Fabbi called the meeting of the Senate of the Associated Students to order on Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at 5:30 p.m. in the Rita Laden Senate Chambers, on the Third Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding secretary Nicole Tomimatsu.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL

Speaker Fabbi and Senators Benford, Brooke, Bustos, Crook, Dominguez, Feenstra, Ferebee, Golez, Green, Hood, Jonas, Mack, McCrillis, Mojica, Petrillo, Ramirez, Sung, and Warner were present.

Senator Beaton was absent excused.

Senators Brounstein, Christensen, and Ramirez were tardy excused at 5:32 p.m.

A quorum was present.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Secretary Tomimatsu will email draft minutes ahead of time for the body to review.

Senators Brounstein, Christensen, and Ramirez entered the meeting tardy at 5:32 p.m.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. Dr. Marc Johnson, President of the University of Nevada, Reno

President Dr. Johnson discussed plans for the proposed student achievement center, the Pennington student endowment center that would be done in January 2016. He discussed the truth about the proposed tuition and fee hike and the preliminary expenditure plans for projected revenue. Projected expenditures included student financial aid, new tenure-track faculty, hiring of additional graduate assistants, and undergraduate research. He spoke about the anticipated enhanced enrollment and preparation to meeting expected demand to enhance quality of academics and student services. They would be asking for increased amount of state funds for higher education, requesting that they pay the regular state fund expenses in addition to asking for more funds per credit hour in the state formula funding.

Senator Jonas asked about sending more funds south to UNLV.

President Dr. Johnson said that the funding formula favors the University of Nevada, Reno because it favors faster growing institution and increased enrollment. They expected a significant increase and funds generated towards this University.

Senator Christensen asked if there were any circumstances that this preliminary plan might be changed.

President Dr. Johnson explained that this plan as is was sent to the Board of Regents. He did not anticipate any more fee increases in the next four years unless an emergency.

Senator Brounstein asked for a set proportion of increasing faculty and TA positions per department.

President Dr. Johnson said that they allow departments to make their case to find where the greatest need was on campus.

Senator Green asked about their projections.

President Dr. Johnson said that they had projected a 2% a year from 2011 to 2021. In actuality they grew 2% the first year, 2% the second year, and 3.5% the third year. They might reach their projected planning target earlier than anticipated.

Senator Green asked if the tuition increases were going to decrease the growth rate in student population.

President Dr. Johnson said that this tuition increase would place them in the middle within the Western states. They were coming up to the median of what other schools are charging for each student.

Senator Dominguez asked about the access aid.

President Dr. Johnson said that this aid was available to incoming and continuing students.

Shannon Ellis would have more flexibility with this access aid account.

Senator Ramirez asked about the new NSHE policy with the 15-credit minimum.

Shannon Ellis said that it was critical for students to meet with advisors through the course concierge system and encouraged students to sign up for wait lists. There is also a process where they can allow students to receive aid with 12 credits if they can make up the difference in the following semester.

Senator Brounstein: Enrollment is increasing, how much is out of state enrollment increasing.

President Dr. Johnson talked about two types of students that transfer through the western university exchange program and attraction to students that pay full out of state tuition. They were increasing traction transfer exchange.

Senator Feenstra asked about student employees and policy changes for a 15-credit minimum.

Shannon Ellis clarified that her office all students were required to be enrolled in 15 credits. New hires for student life student employment positions would be required to be enrolled in 15 credits.

Senator Crook asked about programs that had been cut with the recession, and if they had been brought back.

President Dr. Johnson said that they had made a commitment that those programs that had closed would not be reopened such as interior design and German. They would be hiring faculty to expand programs that they had preserved as these currently existing programs were attracting students.

Senator Ramirez asked about expanding work-study.

Shannon Ellis said that the Pennington building extended hours would be creating more student employment positions.

President Dr. Johnson added that the new fitness center would be creating new student jobs.

Senator Brounstein asked with the addition of three more residence halls, would the historic buildings Manzanita and Lincoln halls be conserved.

President Dr. Johnsons explained that they were currently looking into the seismic safety concerns. The facades of Manzanita and Lincoln will not be taken away, however they are considering what the buildings would be used for residence halls or office space.

Senator Brounstein presented a hypothetical scenario of a senior's last semester and they did not have the 15 credits to receive aid.

Shannon Ellis explained that this student could work with the director of financial aid to be able to receive aid to cover classes to graduate.

6. RECEIPT OF PETITIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE TO THE SENATE AND REFERRAL

7. REPORTS OF ASUN OFFICERS

a. President of the Associated Students, Jake Pereira

President Pereira's report

Board of Regents Special Meeting: On April 25, 2014 the Board of Regents held a special meeting in which I attended as a representative for the University of Nevada. Pertinent items discussed included biennial operating budgets for FY15-FY16 as well as capital improvements at NSHE institutions, appointment of the interim present at WNC, the employment contract of UNLV's basketball coach, and the tuition and fee increase.

University Tutoring Services: After hearing the budget proposal of the writing center, the math center, and tutoring center, and the performing arts center, the governing board decided to give a 2% increase to all centers. These funds may be insufficient for further operations without charge to students. Vice President Bybee and I are working on possible partnerships in this arena.

FY15 Budget: The FY15 budget has been sent to the Speaker as well as the Chair of Budget and Finance. I have asked that they distribute it to all members of the Senate on my behalf.

Senator Brounstein asked about the 2% increase.

President Pereira said the tutoring center had the most need for additional funds.

b. Vice President of the Associated Students, Alex Bybee

Vice President Bybee discussed a student representation on the committee that chooses which colleges require additional funds for faculty positions He attended a meeting for Wolf Pack Welcome and orientation to limit competition of event scheduling. He met with Assistant Director Koeckes on the ASUN component of summer orientation and perhaps doing an interactive tour component in the Center of Student Engagement offices. He attended a meeting to select the Editor of Brushfire and met with Wolf Pack Radio on their funding needs. He also met with Dr. Urban who leads the Tutoring Center, and spoke about a 4-session package for \$20 and potential figures to fund appointments entirely versus ASUN covering only the 30% of students that are Pel eligible. He also discussed the potential for edu emails for students and were looking for this program to be funded by Alumni, Provosts office, and ASUN. Edu emails allow emails for various discounts and fundraising and outreach efforts to contact alumni. He had met with President Pereira about budget justifications and the ASUN retreat.

c. Chief of Staff, Richard Corn

d. Director of Campus and Public Relations, Matt Lush

- e. Attorney General, Steven Kish
Attorney General Kish discussed procedure for impeachment hearing. By simple majority vote, the President can be sent to an impeachment trial to be chaired by the Chief Justice. Next week will be mostly fact finding. It is the ruling of the ASUN Judicial Council that the charges against President Pereira are valid in the rights of malfeasance in office and behavior unbecoming of an officer.
- f. Director of Programming, Ashley Hansen
- g. Director of Clubs and Organizations, Christopher Gomez
- h. Assistant Director of Legislative Affairs, Madeline Burak
- i. Elections Chair, Jake Flynn

8. REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES

- a. Report of the Chair of the Committee on Academics, Senator Golez
Senator Golez said the new Vice Chair was Senator Ramirez. Their goals were to contact Core Advisory Groups, partnering with University Affairs on major exploration day.
- b. Report of the Chair of the Committee on Budget and Finance, Senator Warner
Senator Warner said that they had elected Senator Brooke as vice chair. They discussed goals to be fiscally responsible. They wanted to encourage students to go to the Wolf Shop. The committee also wanted to make sure events are executed properly and that outreach for these events was successful.
- c. Report of the Chair of the Committee on Civic Engagement, Senator Ferebee
Senator Ferebee said they did not make quorum at the first meeting.
- d. Report of the Chair of the Committee on Government Operations, Senator Beaton
Senator Brooke said he the newly elected Vice Chair was himself. They wanted to increase engagement with ASUN events, elections, and in general being more involved. They discussed exploring the option of a bicameral legislative branch.
- e. Report of the Chair of the Committee on Public Affairs, Senator Christensen
Senator Christensen said Senator Brounstein was elected as Vice Chair. Their primary goal was centered around writing a resolution around the tuition increase. They also would look into a Democracy Plaza and Veteran's breakfast, proving more information about student government. They would be discussing the legacy binder at the next meeting.
- f. Report of the Chair of the Committee on University Affairs, Senator Feenstra
Senator Feenstra said that Senator Crook was elected as vice chair. They wanted to expand liaison positions. The committee wanted to bring attention to under utilized resources. Legacy binder would be coming soon.
- g. Report of the Chair of the Committee on Oversight, Speaker Fabbi
Speaker Fabbi said that the committee had met last week and discussed more in depth goals for all committees. Dead day meeting was planned at 5:30 p.m. and Oversight before this.

9. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

10. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK APPOINTMENTS

11. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF SENATORS AND ASUN OFFICIALS

The following nominations were submitted to the Speaker of the Senate on April 23rd, 2014 and were reported to the Senate either favorably or unfavorably through the Committee on Oversight on April 29th, 2014:

- a. **NOMINATION OF STEPHEN BEZICK TO THE OFFICE OF CHIEF OF STAFF**
- b. **NOMINATION OF MATT LUSH TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS**
- c. **NOMINATION OF DRAKE SACENTI TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMMING**
- d. **NOMINATION OF RUSSELL RICHARDSON TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS**
- e. **NOMINATION OF MADELINE BURAK TO THE OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS**

- f. **Senate Committee Changes**

Senator Green motioned to remove himself from Academics to Civic Engagement. Senator Golez seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Senator Sung motioned to remove himself from University Affairs and place himself on Government Operations. Senator Brounstein seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Senator Ramirez motioned to add Senator Benford on University Affairs. Senator Jonas seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

12. **ELECTION OF SENATE OFFICERS**
13. **VETO MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT**
14. **CONSENT AGENDA**
15. **FIRST READING OF LEGISLATION**
16. **MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK LEGISLATION**
17. **REFERRALS TO COMMITTEE**
18. **SECOND READING OF LEGISLATION**
19. **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

- a. **WTF Nevada ASUN**

Senator Crook gave some updates on previous projects.

Senator Crook explained that Lexi Jacobson had gotten the KC to order more anatomy models to address the issue: Libraries need more anatomy models.

Senator Dominguez confirmed that there were new models available.

Senator Crook presented an following old issue: Fixing/replacing washers and dryers in Nye Hall
Senator Benford volunteered to look follow up on this issue.

Senator Crook presented the following issues from last session: The back right desk in LME 316 squeaks at the slightest touch and it gets distracting and the Lights in Orvis Building room 102 are constantly blinking

Speaker Fabbi had worked on both issues last session and confirmed that both had been completed.

Senator Crook presented the following issue: Expanding Brita Hydration Stations around campus

Senators Dominguez, Jonas and Golez volunteered to look further.

b. FY 15 Budget Proposal from the President

Senator Jonas motioned to refer FY 15 Budget Proposal from the President to the Committee on Budget and Finance. Senator Golez seconded the motion.

Motion to refer to the Committee on Budget and Finance carried.

20. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Senator McCrillis wanted to be on the library committee and work to make the library to be open 24/7.

Senator Ramirez said he wanted to establish an alumni association for the College of Education. He had been contacting graduating seniors and Engineering faculty.

Senator Benford said she had been catching up on legal documents and planned to start her goals this summer.

Senator Warner said that he wanted to make sure Budget and Finance run smoothly to discuss the budget proposal. He wanted to make sure College of Business and Senate communication was clear.

Senator Booke said he wanted to get more students involved in elections and encourage students to appreciate ASUN.

Senator Jonas had been looking at other universities about Agricultural programs. He would be contacting University of Pacific and wanted to propose a similar plan for . He has been reaching out to friends to help encourage students to buy textbooks at the Wolf Shop.

Senator Golez said he was looking into a printer station in Nye. He also planned to talk to Dr. Blomquist about CABNR and its involvement in ASUN. He wanted to look more in the Undergraduate research journal.

Senator Bustos said he was meeting with DHS advisors and plans for this summer. She also attended the last Nevada Bound.

Senator Mojica discussed goals with Speaker Fabbi. She has been looking over ideas and generating goals.

Senator Petrillo said he was meeting with Senator Sung and Speaker Fabbi. He thought that general studies and undeclared would benefit from a major exploration day. He would be contacting Clubs and Orgs as he was appointed liaison.

Senator Brounstein said he was working to make a chemical engineering lounge. He was in contact with the differential fees committee and Dean of Engineering, and currently he was working to secure a room.

Senator Christensen said he was working to research the tuition increase.

Senator Hood was working with Senator Brooke in Budget and Finance. His biggest goal was outreach to constituents and getting students engaged in ASUN events. He has been talking to CABNR students who were looking to get involved in the internship program.

Senator Ferebee said that Civic Engagement would be meeting soon.

Senator Green said his goal was to have a fundraiser and wanted to set a world record for longest Ferris wheel ride at Scheels. He wanted to get local buildings to contribute towards fundraising. He wanted to hold this event on September 11th and donate proceeds to a Veterans organization.

Senator Dominguez said he had been researching for various side projects, including tuition increase. He was developing ideas for civic engagement projects. This summer he would be working with Christina Cho, who works for recruitment for the College of Science and Nevada Fit. He also wanted to promote science lectures.

Senator Sung said he asked his constituents about their opinion on major exploration day and had gotten feedback that students would go if there was one.

Senator Crook was looking into a general email about activities on campus. She wanted to work with other liaison positions and create a graph of everything at UNR.

Senator Mack said she wanted to continue the safety walk initiatives and had been meeting with former Senator Mack.

Senator Feenstra said her goal for the STEAM initiative and would be researching with Senator Christensen. She would be working with Senator Benford on a Senate blog.

Speaker Fabbi talked about one-on-one meetings, redesign to the Senate workroom, business cards, checking emails regularly, and stressed the importance of knowing where committee meetings are scheduled. Next Wednesday they would be discussing a resolution to move forward with an impeachment trial. Due to the appointments being pushed back, the ASUN road trip would be pushed back to a later date.

21. PUBLIC COMMENT

Director Rodriguez welcomed the body to this classroom. She talked about the importance of decorum.

22. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business to come before the body, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.