

Committee on Oversight

Senate of the Associated Students

Minutes for Wednesday, October 19th at 4:00 P.M.

Presidents Conference Room, 3rd Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Speaker Teixeira called the committee meeting on Oversight to order at 4:09 pm in the President's Conference Room, 3rd Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding secretary, Andrea Godoy.

2. ROLL CALL

Speaker Teixeira and Senators Blair, Bradley, Eshenbaugh, Green, H. Jackson, Henderson, and Jordan were present.

Senator Feng was tardy excused.

A quorum was present.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

4. MINUTES

There were no minutes to be approved at this time.

5. REPORTS

a. Secretary of the Senate

Secretary Godoy said she brought points memos since there were some senators that were close to being eligible for censure but not yet ready. Also, they had some issues with senators adding to a committee but not being on the roll call sheet. If they knew of a senator that was added to their committee but the chair didn't say anything so to fix it the minutes will need to be amended. If they knew of someone that was added but wasn't on the roll call sheet, they need to make sure to tell their secretaries.

b. Speaker Pro-Tempore-Senator H. Jackson

Senator H. Jackson said the interns had been appointed and there were 20 of them. Tonight will be their first meeting after senate ends. She made folders with their names and included the volunteer paperwork and an article about the foundations. It's hard to do an entire foundations workshop with the schedule but the article is a snippet. She can send them the article if they'd like. She also included the tentative itinerary and pocket constitutions. Tonight, they will go over introductions and getting to know each other as well as putting them on committees. She sent them an email explaining what committees do and included the committees times; they will let her know what committees they want later. She will ask Raul to add them to listservs and will add them to the roll call sheets. With interns at committees, they can sit at the table and speak but they cannot vote. They will be on the roll

Posted at 1664 N. Virginia St. Reno, NV 89557 in the ASUN Center for Student Engagement inside the Joe Crowley Student Union, Frandsen Humanities Building, the Ansari Business Building, The Mathewson IGT Knowledge Center and online at www.nevadaasun.com.

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call so they must talk to chairs beforehand if they are not going to be present. Tonight they will be going over the structure of ASUN's government and the expectations and next week will be the social to pick mentors.

Speaker Teixeira said he will be a little late for the meeting.

- c. Chair, Committee on Academics-Senator Henderson
Senator Henderson the committee members were working on projects and the committee will be rewriting and restructuring the committee outline together.
- d. Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance-Senator Feng
- e. Chair, Committee on Civic Engagement-Senator Green
Senator Green said they will be writing resolution for civic engagement. Director Partridge asked the committee to sit on a planning commute for MLK day and will announce that. STAC is on Monday so if they are free, please come out and help them show kids around campus. They also tell the kids about their college experience and how they got to where they are. They might also be looking for keynotes so if they want that, let him know. He is pushing GivePulse and it is looking good. Dr. Ellis has not gotten back with the letter yet so he was still waiting for that.

Speaker Texiera asked for the time commitment.

Senator Green said it was from 9 am – 1 pm with one hour shifts.

Speaker Teixeira asked what time the speaker would go on.

Senator Green said they get there at 9 am so about 9:45 to 10ish; since they only speak for about 15 minutes.

Speaker Teixeira might be able to help

Senator Green said the keynote speaker only talks about their journey on how they got to college.

- f. Chair, Committee on Government Operations-Senator Jordan
Senator Jordan said they will be seeing legislation this week. There had been a big issue as to whether different department procedure manuals had to go through committees first and then senate or if they could go to Senate directly. He did some research on it and when the SAS says that something has to appear before Senate, the rules supersede the SAS. Under Gov. Ops, they were responsible for reviewing bills that dealt with the operations of the government. Under Second Reading, it said that all pieces of legislation must be read twice. Their manuals being presented to Senate are technically pieces of legislation so they need to go through committees first. Any legislation that gives the approval of Senate or is a check on the executive branch constitutes a need to go through two committees and be treated as any other piece of legislation.

Speaker Teixeira said they had that discussion because Director Long wanted to put something through but he wanted to go through Senate directly and gave him the understanding that the speaker had the discretion to decide if something needed to go through a committee or not.

Senator Jordan said that implied that senate must follow their own rules since it was in their own rules. Unless the legislation was fast-tracked, it must be read twice.

Speaker Teixeira said he won't fast-track since it will go through committee first.

Dr. Beattie said that previous bodies have gotten into the habit of fast-tracking since it is easier but it isn't necessarily proper. It was fine over the summer when the committees were not meeting, especially with hiring people but he would caution them against fast-tracking if it was not necessary. If a political agenda comes up and it involved something that will hit Carson without enough time for a committee then yes, they should fast-track. Outside of that, it is a lazy way to push things through.

g. Chair, Committee on Public Affairs-Senator Eshenbaugh

Senator Eshenbaugh said yesterday was awesome. Directors Beattie and Ayard helped them get the paperwork done for the luncheon and all the requests have been sent in. They are waiting to hear back for those. Inkblot got back to her and the graphic designer doing the work is ready to market. She was working on getting a speaker for the luncheon and President Boone was going to help.

Speaker Teixeira asked if President Boone was helping with that.

Senator Eshenbaugh said yes.

Speaker Teixeira said he might be able to help as well and will talk to her later

Dr. Beattie said that if they are planning a program, he can help them since he knew the process well. He directly advises them and can walk them through the paperwork; it won't take long.

h. Chair, Committee on University Affairs-Senator Bradley

Senator Bradley said they got a lot of work done; she met with Jenifer Lowman last week and they will be adding the game day question to the survey question before sending it out on November 1st. They will also be adding a link for It's on Us at the end of the survey for resources. As far as RHA, she is working with them and they are excited but they want to know what ASUN needs from them. They will need to make the decision of what their vision is. Ms. Lowman will table the first two weeks with a button machine for sexual assault. There will be some provocative sayings as well as more neutral things. They will also have some It's on Us sayings for the buttons. November 14th is the tentative date but that will be the open forum to have Justine Hernandez to moderate and talk since she was in charge of sexual assault on campus. Budget for Cocoa going through the committee this week and that will be the last time they do programming events. They will talk about expectations for the committee tomorrow to see how they can restructure themselves. They

will be going through past committees. They want to start meeting at different places on campus every time and is requiring that her committee sit on the liaison meetings rather than just talking once and disappearing. They need to see what is going on and offering to help. She did not attend the accreditation meeting but she did write legislation over the summer for it. She asked if they wanted to use it as a template.

Speaker Teixeira asked what he meant.

Senator Bradley said that over the summer, she wrote the resolution.

Speaker Teixeira said he remembered that and asked what she wanted them to do with it since they sent it to Dr. Ellis, President Johnson, and whoever else was listed.

Senator Bradley said it was never sent.

Speaker Teixeira said he sent it.

Senator Bradley said they were going to hold off on until the committee saw it first. They didn't want to send something saying they were in support of something if it wasn't true. It never went to the senate table either so she didn't remember it being sent to anyone.

Speaker Teixeira sent it to them but the email did say that it was not passed and that it would be sent officially after it did pass.

Senator Eshenbaugh asked if that resolution would have any impact now since the accreditation board was already here.

Senator Bradley was wondering the same thing and that is why she brought it up.

Speaker Texiera asked Dr. Beattie if they were still doing the accreditation all year.

Dr. Beattie said yes.

Speaker Teixeira said the accreditation didn't end just because the meeting ended.

Senator Blair said that there was a large number from RHA as well; there were a couple others but the main group was ASUN.

Senator H. Jackson was confused on what the resolution said.

Speaker Teixeira said the resolution was in support of the University's 7 year accreditation plan. He asked Senator Bradley if it was a synthesis of the accreditation plan, No Walls, and the Joint Vision.

Senator Bradley said yes. She wrote this resolution over the summer in lieu of knowing what the accreditation plan was doing. She knew that diversity was huge thing they were trying to address in the accreditation plan so she mentioned that ASUN had the Director of Diversity

and Inclusion. It was really a way to help align ASUN's goals with the plans the university was developing.

Dr. Beattie said that university comes up with the accreditation plan and that is what they wrote a resolution in support of. The accreditors are currently here to look at what the university does; they will be here for about a week. It was a team of people from different universities. They come back and recommend if the university should be accredited or not. By passing the resolution, they are saying that students officially support the plan.

Speaker Teixeira said that the accreditation was now happening, he could better communicate with Dr. Ellis.

Senator Blair said that because they did notice that the majority of people that attended the student meeting were from ASUN, they might feel they don't represent the students. If they did pass it, they needed to take other actions so that their constituents knew about the plan. They did ask how small their opinions could be skewed.

Speaker Teixeira asked if the accreditors were worried that students didn't support the plan or how they felt about the goals.

Senator Blair said they were worried that it was not truly reflective of the rest of the population.

Senator Jordan said there was no mention of the plan; it was more like questions on how they felt about the university.

Speaker Teixeira said that the difference between the meeting and this resolution was that the resolution was supposed to show their support for the plan, not their individual opinions of how the university was accomplishing their goals.

Senator Eshenbaugh agreed with Senator Blair. The resolution should be passed but they should also have data that showed that the students supported the plan. They can do a poll that lets students check off whether they knew about the different resources on campus since that was what they were looking at.

Speaker Teixeira said they were not talking about the services offered, they were talking about a goal of diversity.

Senator Bradley said it was a 200 page document that listed what the university planned on doing for improvements. The resolution didn't have to do with different resources.

Speaker Teixeira said it was the university saying they had goals that they wanted to accomplish 5 years from now. The resolution was saying they were in support of the university accomplishing those things.

Senator H. Jackson asked what the purpose of Monday was.

Senator Blair said the point was to see how students viewed the university. Because they were passing a resolution that said they were in support of the plan, they should show some transparency to make it a stronger resolution. They wanted a public voice but instead they got a bunch of representatives from two departments.

Senator Jordan said they were elected to go to those things so that students don't have to. They were supposed to be speaking in a way that reflected what students wanted, not their personal opinions.

Speaker Teixeira said they were elected as delegates and that meant that their voice was the students' voices. People coming in from other universities might have a skewed view of student government depending on how their student governments function. There are 21 elected officials but they might only speak for themselves. He knew that the senators on the Nevada campus all knew they represent a variety of students and would speak for them all.

Senator Feng entered the room at 4:31 pm.

Senator H. Jackson thought the purpose of them being there on Monday was for them to be there as students since the questions were all geared towards their individual experiences with the university. It would be beneficial to pass this resolution as a body so that they can fulfill their rolls to voice student concerns.

Speaker Teixeira said the plan was broken up into 5 standards. They are "Proponent of Student Services, Implementation of Programs and Building Growth, Effectiveness and Improvement, Lower Student to Faculty Ratios, and Mission Fulfillment, Adaptation and Sustainability." Those were all things they were doing.

Senator Eshenbaugh said there was no question as to whether they should pass the resolution. The question was that the accreditors asked them questions relating to their bias. From that, they understood that they are not every single student and they wanted more student voices. They should do something to make sure their voices match those of the student population.

Senator Bradley agreed.

Dr. Beattie said the accreditors wanted to inform their report to see if there was a bias. They probably will come back and do a poll to complete their report. Right now, they needed to decide if they wanted to pass the resolution or not.

Speaker Teixeira asked if they were here to poll students.

Dr. Beattie said yes.

Speaker Teixeira said that this time it just so happened that the poll of students they got this time was them.

- i. Special committee on Safety, Sustainability and Wellness- Senator Blair

Senator Blair said their Wolf Pack Wellness Project went really well and all the clubs that were there liked it. They also gave out all the flu packs. If they did the event again, they should make more. The Plant Club also did well and many students came back with their friends to buy plants and that brought them to other parts of the event. The health center gave out flu shots and they ran out also. For the fall safety project, they moved the day for the forum to November 4th. They also discussed the hard-waiver insurance issue and they really needed guidance. They didn't want to make a decision but wanted to do research. They were leaning towards putting the burden of research on their department but they also need to do their own to make sure the research was not skewed. Dr. Hug-English said they had no data on how that might affect undocumented students or low income students since they didn't ask those questions. That is why they should do their own research. They should create pool of money that people can use as a scholarship if that did go through.

Speaker Teixeira asked if they should wait on making a decision since there were so many variables or if they should make a decision now. He thought they should do their own research and then come back to it maybe in December.

Senator Blair said they didn't have to make a decision until one of their last meetings once everyone has done their research. This was a decision that affected many students after them; with the no new fees until 2019, this probably won't affect any of them. The resolution would be more of whether the 2019 senate should approve of the fee or not.

Senator Eshenbaugh asked if students could still go through private insurance companies.

Senator Blair said yes but Dr. Hug-English said that many of the bigger insurance companies were pulling out of offering insurance for college students. It was getting harder for college students to find affordable insurance on the private sector. Deductibles are also especially high.

Speaker Teixeira said that because of Obamacare there are more people going into doctor offices so wait times are through the roof. If the university no longer had health insurance then students would not be able to use the health center, increasing wait times in the community. He thought they also needed to see how the insurance played out on the national level as well.

President Boone said that on Wednesday, November 2nd at 10:30 am there will be a meeting regarding student health insurance.

Senator Blair cannot make it since she had class at 11.

President Boone can go and fill her in.

- j. Chair, Committee on Oversight-Speaker Teixeira
Speaker Teixeira said they will have two people come to senate to talk about the sexual assault climate survey to see what they can do for participation. He didn't have information on what the survey will say but it was probably the same thing that Senator Bradley had been working on.

Senator Bradley asked who it was.

Speaker Teixeira said Lisa Maletsky

Senator Bradley asked if she was from the same department.

Speaker Teixeira did not know but in the email later on, they CC'd Ms. Lowman so it was possible. There are two people coming and they want incentives for participation and to promote it on social media. He asked them to have ideas for the next meeting. They have two bills; one is to increase the number of interns for the Judicial Branch and the other was to change the posting locations. The next meeting will be full of legislation.

Senator Jordan said Senator Bradley will be taking the next meeting to discuss how University Affairs will be moving forward. He will be assigning senators on his committee to come to their committee meetings in the next two weeks so they can fix any SAS changes.

6. OLD BUSINESS

There is no old business at this time.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. The committee on oversight will have a discussion on civic learning initiatives that the speaker brings to the table.
Speaker Teixeira had a meeting with President Boone and Kevin Carman at 4 pm to discuss more civic learning opportunities. He will have an update on that next week.
- b. Speaker Pro-Tempore Jackson will give an update on the intern program

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Speaker Teixeira adjourned the meeting at 4:46 pm.