

# Committee on University Affairs

## 85<sup>th</sup> Session of the Senate of the Associated Students

Minutes for Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

President's Conference Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor JCSU

### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Senator Bussman called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM on Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup> in the President's Conference Room, Third floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union. Presiding secretary Madeline Iroz.

### 2. ROLL CALL

Senators Bussman, Mah, Paningbaton, Smith, Sarwar, Stopka, Cook and Se were present.  
A quorum was present.

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

### 4. MINUTES

There are no minutes to be heard at this time.

### 5. OLD BUSINESS

Senator Bussman said in the future, Old Business is where you would talk about any old business that anyone has on something that was talked about in a previous meeting. He is going to ask that everyone gives a report on what they have done since the last meeting and also be sure to answer any questions that other senators have.

#### a. Senator Updates

Senator Bussman asked Senator Cook if he was still interested in SJC, IFC, and PHC and asked that he give a report on it. He asked if Senator Cook has met with any of those departments yet.

Senator Cook said he hasn't met with them yet because he thought they were officially picking liaisons this meeting.

Senator Bussman said he wanted everyone to meet with the departments they were interested in so that they could get a good idea of if they actually wanted to do that one before it was confirmed. If Senator Cook is still interested in those three then he should just

POSTED ON OR BEFORE 8:00 a.m.

ON THE THIRD WORKING DAY BEFORE THE MEETING

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go for it and he should meet with them if there is an issue he wants to pursue. If he doesn't like it, he can always change liaisons. He asked Senator Cook if he had any goals for these liaisons.

Senator Cook said his main thing would be working with Gene Fitzimmons and Senator Smith. He wants to talk with him about the potential new playing fields and classes on the Quad.

Senator Bussman said Senator Mah was looking at a variety of different departments. He asked if he narrowed his list down.

Senator Mah said one he was looking at was working with Raul Rodriguez in Information Technology. He also had a meeting last Friday with Dr. Sagebiel about solar panels and how when the Joe was built, they installed solar panels. There is a website that shows all the current energy usage and the savings the panels give. He will probably be doing a lot of sustainability projects.

Senator Bussman said he spoke with Senator Paningbaton about Campus Escort and the Disability Resource Center.

Senator Paningbaton said he spoke with Campus Escort and they talked about ways they can improve the program. The director spot is currently empty for them right now so he may need to contact Amy Koekus. They came up with a couple ideas that he liked, including updating the fleet of cars that they currently have, maybe get some hybrids if they want to be a sustainable campus. They should also have better communication between Campus Escort and the Transportation department. He hasn't met up with the Disability Resource Center yet so he is planning on doing that next week.

Senator Bussman said Senator Sarwar was interested in Police Services and RHA.

Senator Sarwar said she has a meeting set up for next week and she will also be having a sexual harassment meeting as well. That meeting is May 2<sup>nd</sup>. She wanted to talk to incoming freshman about sexual harassment so that they have a plan of action and so that they are ore aware of that. Another goal she had that she wanted to talk to Dr. Beattie and Sandy Rodriguez about putting parameters on the Amway thing. She thinks that is a University Affairs issue.

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Senator Bussman asked if she wants to expand on that because it is very interesting.

Senator Sarwar asked if anyone had heard of Amway.

Senator Paningbaton said he was a part of it for a short time.

Senator Sarwar asked if he knew how it was kind of a scheme. It is basically a pyramid scheme where they recruit people on campus and brainwash them to join and drop out of school. She knows a couple people in her sorority who dropped out of school because of them. They are using university rooms and buildings to host these sessions. She went to one and they bring in tons of students and promise them money. If more people knew what was going on, they would not like these practices being done on university spaces. She wants to get something started to at least put perimeters on that because she is not sure they can ban them completely because these spaces are public.

Director Beattie said there is public speech area and a paid area. If it is an area that they paid for, they can't really do anything about that. If they are using a club or organization to get them that space for free, then that is an issue. There have been some things going around the federal government with credit cards. They have not banned credit cards but they are not allowed to give away free stuff to get people to sign up for credit cards. There is a whole act that can be read. There are certain things they need to do like letting the university know in advance and they need to hang their own marketing material. There may be some things they can do but he doesn't know the legal issues with this.

Senator Sarwar said her friend would go to the Knowledge Center and sign them up under her sorority and a lot of other clubs would too. When she went to their session they gave her free books. They are doing things that seem a little sketchy.

Senator Bussman asked Director Beattie if there was someone they could go to and talk about the legal part of that.

Director Beattie said they have to start with research and talk to a few people to see if there is any precedence in ASUN about this issue. The university has many people they can talk to about the legal side of this. They first need to gather what the current policy is and what has been done in the past. Morally, taking students right out of college to further their agenda is wrong but ethically, he's not sure if it violates any rules. Military seems to do the same kind of thing around campus but at least the military is willing to pay for college education. He

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needs to know what they are doing. The thing is that they are not selling anything. They are doing this on campus' all across the United States so they may have discovered a hidden niche. There were a whole bunch of religious groups and anti-abortion groups that set up tables last year and when another group heard about this, they set up their own table with what some would consider very inappropriate images of abortions and they couldn't do anything about it because they were covered by free speech. This won't be cut and dry.

Senator Bussman said they will come back to this topic when they have more information. He asked if Senator Se was still interested in Student Conduct.

Senator Se said he will look more into that. He hasn't met with anyone yet but h3e will be doing research on that. He will try to do that next week.

Senator Bussman said he actually has a meeting with Student Conduct on Wednesday so he will have more information then. He did see them in the Legacy Binder as a liaison because they have had things in the past that they wanted one for. They can reconnect as soon as Senator Se meets with them as well. He asked Senator Smith if he was only interested in Counseling Services.

Senator Smith said that is mainly what she wanted to focus on. She will work with Senator Cook to talk to Director Fitzimmons. She also reached out to Carla Branch who is the outreach coordinator but she is waiting for a response. She hopes to sit down with her next week. Right now she wants to just talk to her and see what Counseling Services has to offer. She has some goals in mind but she wants to talk with her first.

Senator Bussman asked Senator Stopka if there were any liaisons he was interested in.

Senator Stopka said he wanted to have Police Services and he has already met with them. He was also interested in Health and Wellness but he hasn't met with Director Fitzimmons yet but as a Kinesiology student, he is interested in that. He and his fellow DHS senators are going to be meeting with the dean of their college.

Senator Bussman said he met with Dir. Fitzimmons already and his main issue is intermural space. He wanted to take the John Saula fields and expand it so that they can turn it into an enclosed event space so that they can use it for intermural sports but also contract it out for other groups and events. It would then be producing revenue. He told Senator Stopka to press Dir. Fitzimmons about the infrastructure on that when he meets him because if it will

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not produce enough revenue, that is a very big expenditure at this moment seeing as the Joe Crowley Student Union is pushing for a student fee to expand their building.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Spring 2017 Liaison Position Assignments  
Senator Bussman said they do not need to do nominations for this.

Senator Paningbaton asked if it was possible to drop a liaison or transfer it to another senator if it became too much.

Senator Bussman said it will be on every agenda if that needs to happen. It is similar to committees in Senate.

*Senator Paningbaton- Campus Escort, Disability Resource Center*

*Senator Stopka- Police Services, Recreational and Wellness*

*Senator Sarwar- RHA, Police Services*

*Senator Cook- Panhellenic, IFC, MGC, Fraternity and Sorority Life*

*Senator Se- Student Conduct*

*Senator Smith- Counseling Services, Recreation and Wellness*

*Senator Mab- Technology and Resources, Sustainability*

Director Beattie said Senator Cook should take the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life if he is taking on the other three Fraternity liaisons otherwise it would be like giving a liaison to every other club or group on campus. Liaisons should be given to departments, not individual groups.

Senator Bussman said he thought it recognized student organizations as a liaison.

Director Beattie said it could. There are about 240 active organizations on campus but there can be even up to 300 in a year.

Senator Bussman said there will be no meeting next week. It would be tedious to have one every week. It is good to have that extra time to figure out what they want to do and to meet with their different liaisons. The next meeting is Thursday May 11 at the same time and in the same room. He asked everyone to submit goals for the summer so that they have something to bring back to the first meeting next semester. He does not expect everyone to

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come up with a big thing for legislation for each liaison so they need to look for other ways to use their time productively. In terms of time commitments when it comes to this committee, there are a bunch of outreach events and they will talk about that more when they talk about the Legacy Binder.

b. Discussion of Legacy Binder

Senator Bussman said he eventually wants to scan the binder so that they can put it in NevadaBox so that they can all have the information. He does not want to copy the whole stack of paper to distribute to everyone in the committee. Scans will be easier to work with anyway. He went through it but didn't see anything eye catching but he is going to explain what is in it so that everyone has an idea what they can expect to find in it. First, the binder has a project proposal form that breaks down all that would need to be done to create a new project. He said it would be good to use something like that if they come up with any projects.

Director Beattie said if they use that they need to include also supporting data and infrastructure.

Senator Paningbaton asked what projects they would use the forms for.

Senator Bussman said he is pretty sure that is what previous chairs have given to their committees at the end of the session and their committee writes up what they were working on or things that they wanted to do but didn't.

Senator Paningbaton said it was an idea box.

Senator Bussman said yes.

Director Beattie said they could take What to Fix Nevada as an example. That's a University Affairs program and say they are putting together this program and they started building infrastructure but for some reason it had to die. They would fill out what they had done so far, what still needed to be done and why they thought the project needed to be continued. They would then pass it on to the next committee who could then review it and then decide if they should do it or not.

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Senator Bussman said he thought that was a big part of this committee. There are so many different departments that if each person tried to propose something, they could probably come up with some really good ideas. The brainpower of the University Affairs committee is what makes it special because there are so many diverse and interesting things they can do that you don't really see in the other committees. There is an organizational chart in the binder. It is helpful to have visual organizational charts because most departments on campus have their own bubble charts of workers. If you look at the one for the university as a whole, it is massive. It would be interesting for everyone to see the bubble charts and to compile a more complete list of all of them to see what infrastructure exists on campus. There is also the description for the committee but that can also be found online. There is also the constitution, SAS, Rules of the Senate, and Nevada Open Meeting Law. There is agenda and legislation examples and templates for resolutions, bills and memos. There is a list of exactly everything that is in there. He is not sure what happened with the 84<sup>th</sup> Session because the binder contains mostly 82 and 83 Session legislation. There are ideas that are laid out. 84<sup>th</sup> Session went through and took a lot of stuff out so most of what is left is mostly programming ideas. With everything they are going to be doing this year, it would be very ambitious to add more programming things to the mix. He will have a better idea of what Programming will be involved with once he talks to the Executive Board and Carissa Bradley. Outside of that, there isn't much else to talk about. He opened up discussion about anything that pertains to the future of the committee or any goals they should have as a committee. He hopes to have a solidified vision at the next meeting so they can start planning. He asked how many will be in Reno to help with things.

Senator Smith asked what time.

Senator Bussman said any time. He said this pertains to planning for events.

Director Beattie said they have the software Go to Meetings so they can use that on a computer anywhere for brainstorming. The chair would have to be in a room where the public could come and take part. They probably won't though.

Senator Bussman said he is glad he brought that up because with the number of events that go through this committee, there is a lot of brainstorming that needs to be done. He can't plan an entire event by himself. He wanted to go through the outline of the events he is currently thinking about. For community outreach events, he introduced in his platform a Dunk-A-Senator event but he is going to change the name because if they want to have an ASUN outreach event, it should be about more than just the senators. The idea behind that

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is a dunk tank and get those students who don't care for interacting with ASUN official and have them take part in something with ASUN. They could also do something to piggy back off of the first outreach event. RHA works with ASUN for their Block Party event and he thinks it would be good to have a community outreach presence at the event. Freshman and sophomore students are the most accessible that they will ever be. That is why he is pushing to create things to target to freshman specifically through orientation. At the block party, it is a good idea to get ASUN established as a good thing in the freshman's minds. If you do that over four years, then we will have a full campus of people who trust ASUN. He wants to work with Senator Sarwar because she is the senator for RHA now but he asked if there was anyone else who would be interested in sitting down and listening and brainstorming with RHA.

Senators Mah and Smith agreed to sit in on the meeting.

Senator Bussman said they will do that at the first outreach event. He is looking to have two events a semester and the next one will probably be something food related. It is a really good incentive to get students out to an event. There will also be health and wellness events. He does not have a whole lot in mind for those events just yet but instead of just one health week a semester, he wants to split it to two separate events a semester. They can put all of their efforts into one event at a time so that they can have a great event each time for the different types of health they can address.

Director Beattie said he wants to encourage this Senate, Programming and everyone else to see that sometimes less is more. That doesn't mean spending less or doing less, it just means not doing a whole bunch of small things like giving out only band aids one day. They should be having fewer but more meaningful interactions. When looking at the SAS or thinking about the things you want to do, you are not checking off a list. It should all be meaningful and educational.

Senator Bussman said he thought it was easier to think of a great event then it is to have one. Marketing is a beast of its own and that is an important aspect of these events. If it is going to be a flop, then why have it in the first place and why use ASUN funds. That's why brainstorming is very important. He did want to work with Senator Smith since she is the liaison for Counseling Services but there is also a lot of other health related departments that they could get involved with for these events. Their main purpose is to put these events together but they also have to get all these other departments involved so that they can make

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it a full event and so they are attracting all different kinds of people. He asked if there were any volunteers who would want to work with the health and wellness events.

Senators Smith, Se and Cook volunteered.

Senator Bussman said the last thing he wanted to talk about was the WTF Nevada page. There was heated debate last session about how awful the program is and he agrees. He doesn't think it should be brought back as it is but they could bring it back where it works better. One thing that was not good about it was the name. When you frame something "what can you fix?" you are going to get a lot of work orders. That is not something senators should do on their time. They need to change the perspective to ideas rather than things that are physically broken. Second, he does not believe the WTF webpage was properly incentivized. The only incentive was students venting their anger. That is why it was focused on frivolous things before. If it is reinstated, it needs to be focused on things ASUN can actually work with. They are not here for quick fixes that can go through the dorms. That is the most interesting thing they can work with so he wants to put together a team to figure out how they could incentivize it, introduce it and market it. He also wanted to piggy back that off of the first block party. They will not only be introducing ASUN officials to the freshman class, but they are also introducing this program where they can give their feedback at any time. The accessibility of the program needs to also be worked on. He does not see why students would specifically go on Facebook to talk to ASUN. They need to look at other mediums like Twitter. If students could text ASUN at any time, it would be direct feedback that is very accessible and instant.

Senator Sarwar asked if they could add it as a button on Webcampus so people could see it and they wouldn't have to go anywhere else to voice their concerns.

Senator Bussman said that was a great idea.

Senator Sarwar said that was an idea she had in her platform. She said she thought it would go along well with his idea.

Speaker Jackson said they could do that or they could put it on the ASUN website as a tab.

Senator Bussman said other than that, there was a few other interesting things he wanted to bring up. He talked with Senator Paningbaton about Tech Services and he thought it would be interesting if when you go into orientation, students would already be signed up for

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ASUN text services and they can choose to opt out if they don't want to be involved. It is different having them sign up themselves rather than decide if they want it or not after they are signed up and it may increase the amount of students that use that service. That is where you engages the students who tend to only come to campus for their classes. Everybody goes to orientation so this may contribute to a more engaged student body.

Senator Sarwar said she likes the idea because it will set the freshman up on a good path and it may help close the gap between ASUN and the people. They can do that with older people to but it is a good thing to do with the freshman for sure.

Senator Stopka said he likes the idea to have texts rather than email because you are a lot less likely to opt out of a text service. They are not pesky. It is instantly on your screen unlike emails.

Senator Paningbaton said he was thinking of an option to have categories or filters that they could implement.

Senator Se said he thought they should try to reach out to the older students to re-opt in to the texts.

Senator Bussman said the reason they are so focused on orientation is because they are not yet "jaded" by ASUN's attempts to get them involved. He is not even sure how they could access the entire student body's phone numbers to do something like that.

Senator Se said he thought they should plan more events focused on the older students. He doesn't think many people know about the text system. This would give them opportunities to opt in if they wanted to.

Senator Paningbaton asked if they are making it mandatory.

Senator Bussman said he is not sure how it would work yet. They should have a list of all the student's phone numbers who will be going through orientation. They are the official student government for the university so he doesn't see why they shouldn't be allowed to have access to that information because this will be something that is beneficial to the students. It is their funding that is being used so they should be properly informed of what is going on. That is the issue with ASUN right now. They will have great events and then have very few people show up. Where things fall flat is marketing. Just two days ago there was a

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masculinity series. He thought it was a cool idea but they had a total of five men in the entire Joe Crowley auditorium watching a video. A good turnout relies on how well they market their events.

Senator Sarwar asked if in the first few weeks of school, each senator picks a couple of classes in their college and they reach out to the clubs and Greek Life to make a point of contact and ask them to include a slide about events with ASUN.

Senator Paningbaton said that goes against what they are trying to do. If you make it mandatory, it is less likely for them to opt out. He asked if they are trying to promote it more and make it mandatory.

Senator Bussman said even if they got all the freshman to sign up at orientation, they still have three other grades who are not involved to the same degree.

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment at this time.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Senator Bussman adjourned the meeting at 4:57 PM.

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